CC wins fifth-straight title, C1

Thursday
December 4, 1997

Westland Observer

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

COUNTY NEWS

Remembering: *Former Detroit Mayor Coleman Young's death Saturday prompted reaction from government leaders who worked with Young.*/**A5**

Meeting voters: *Former Michigan Department of Commerce director Doug Ross, who served under Gov. James Blanchard, was in Westland wooing Democratic voters. He hopes to become governor.*/**A7**

COMMUNITY LIFE

Holiday cheer: *AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center has made its list and is checking it twice in hopes that the community will help make the holidays merrier for the nonprofit center and its many clients.*/**B1**

AT HOME

What's the buzz? *Plug into some gift ideas for the electronics lover on your holiday list.*/**D8**

ENTERTAINMENT

Books: *Everybody knows Dick and Jane. They were our road to reading and, they're back, at least temporarily, as an exhibit at the Southfield Public Library.*/**E1**

Ice show: *If you liked "Aladdin" the movie, you're going to love it on ice. This beloved story comes to life in "Walt Disney's World On Ice – Aladdin."*/**E1**

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Youths implicated in beatings

Teen-agers from Garden City were implicated in a beating that severely injured two Westland men. The court hearing will continue in January. The teens are free on bond.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Statements read aloud in court Wednesday implicated a group of Garden City teenagers in a brutal Hines Park beating that severely injured two Westland men.

Defendant Brian Alan Wiatr admitted in a statement to Westland police that he and other suspects fought with victims Robert Sumey, 20, and Kevin Baker, 19, on a wooded path leading from Hines Park to Floral, a dead-end street near Inkster and Warren.

A separate statement made by defendant David Ryan Kozakowski also accused some of the suspects of beating Sumey even after he was unconscious.

The statements, read aloud by Westland police Sgt. Tom Kubitskey, unfolded during an 18th District Court hearing for Wiatr, Kozakowski and defendants James Thomas Domagalski Jr., Kyle Anders Tingstad and Christopher Totten.

The suspects, who sat side by side in the courtroom Wednesday, are 17 except for Totten. He is 16.

A sixth suspect, Tingstad's 15-year-old brother Kent, has been separately petitioned to juvenile court for the beating.

In an unexpected snag, Judge C. Charles Bokos halted the hearing and ordered it to resume Jan. 7 after he learned that Westland police inadvertently failed to provide defense attorneys with copies of some police documents about the 3:30 a.m. Oct. 4 incident. Wednesday marked the second delay; the hearing originally began on Nov. 6.

The hearing will determine whether Wiatr, Kozakowski, Domagalski, Tingstad and Totten should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court on charges of assault with intent to commit murder and assault with intent to do great bodily harm. They could face maximum sentences of life in prison if convicted.

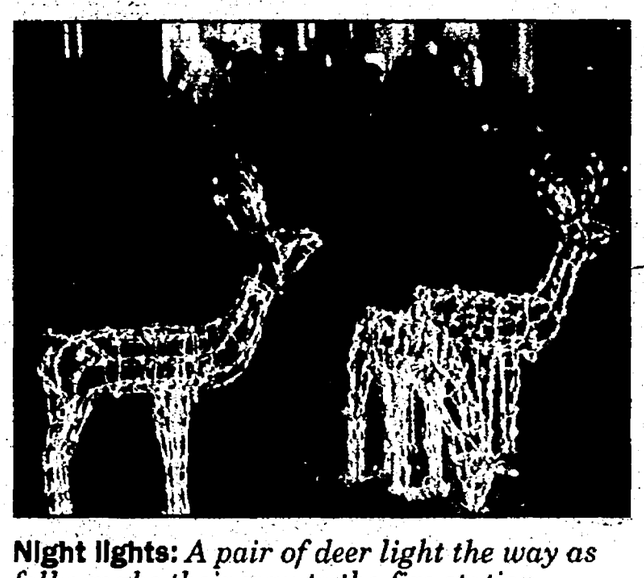
Wiatr admitted in his statement that he hit Sumey's head from behind with

Please see **BEATINGS**, A2

A view from above

STAFF PHOTOS BY JIM JAGDFELD

Seasonal singing: *People of all ages join in the sing-along before Santa's arrival at Westland City Hall on Monday evening.*



Night lights: *A pair of deer light the way as folks make their way to the fire station.*

Tree-lighting signals season

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Six-year-old Amy Selewski giggled Monday night as she stood among some 250 people on Westland City Hall's front lawn, singing Christmas carols, watching for Santa and waiting for thousands of holiday lights to illuminate City Hall trees.

Her 4-year-old brother, Danny, seemed equally awestruck viewing the crowd from atop the shoulders of his mother, Gail Selewski.

Please see **TREES**, A2

Pension decision delayed

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland City Council decision on possibly eliminating retirement pensions for part-time council members suffered a delay Monday, amid increasing public interest in the issue.

City resident Jim Chuck urged the seven-member council to consider ending the system because "part-time people typically do not earn pensions."

Current council members, paid $11,000 annually in their elected posts, stand to receive pensions as high as $43,000 when they retire.

Councilman Glenn Anderson, pushing to eliminate a system that he said wastes tax dollars and fuels public distrust of elected officials, called for a council vote as soon as possible.

"I hope the delay will be minimal," he said Monday. "Hopefully soon we can deal with this."

Council president Sandra Cicirelli had indicated in November that she would place the issue on Monday's agenda for a vote.

However, she said she delayed the vote because of roadblocks in scheduling a study session, requested by Councilman Charles Pickering.

Cicirelli said a study session has been elusive because all seven council members haven't been available simultaneously, partly because Councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin was vacationing in Florida.

Still, Cicirelli said she hopes to schedule a session this month amid hopes of moving toward a decision.

"That's fair," Jim Chuck said after hearing why the vote was delayed.

Anderson and colleague Richard LeBlanc are counted among the most vocal critics of council pensions. On the same night LeBlanc was elected Nov. 4 to a four-year council term, he told the Observer he wants the issue decided.

Council members already vested with six years of city service wouldn't be affected by a decision to strike down council pensions; former council members also would be exempt.

Please see **PENSION**, A2

First King birthday tribute in planning stages

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A local NAACP activist said he is encouraged that the city of Westland – for the first time ever – will honor the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday in 1998.

"It's a step," Jim Netter said. "It's a wise step."

Mayor Robert Thomas announced Monday that the city will pay tribute to King's birthday, observed on the third Monday of January. He said he has formed a committee to study the issue.

"We haven't finalized what we're going to do yet," Thomas said during a Westland City Council meeting.

Netter said he hopes Westland will eventually join cities that close down on King's birthday to allow citizens of all races to do volunteer work in churches, senior citizen homes and other places.

"It's not just a holiday for African-Americans," he said. "It's about humanitarianism."

Netter, who chaired the western Wayne County NAACP branch's first-ever Freedom Fund Dinner in October, has long pressed for local communities to observe King's birthday.

Communities such as Wayne, Van Buren Township, Romulus, Inkster and Dearborn, among others, are closed for the holiday, and Netter said he wishes other cities would follow suit.

"It's foolish to have a national holiday and ignore it totally," he said, referring to cities that historically have done nothing to honor King's birthday. "It's almost an insult to the American people. This is not just a black holiday."

Netter said King helped pave the way for civil rights that helped not only blacks, but women and others.

Netter noted that President Bill Clinton, in a recent speech, called on Americans to make positive use of

Please see **KING**, A6

City's finance director to leave post Dec. 31

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland Mayor Robert Thomas is losing his top finance official.

Finance Director Michael Gorman, 53, confirmed Monday that he will leave his post Dec. 31.

"I regret leaving the mayor's staff. He does a great job," Gorman told the Observer. "I've made a lot of friends here, but it's time for a change."

Gorman's decision ends a 12-year stint in Westland and a 28-year career in municipal finance. He also worked in Wayne, Canton Township and Detroit.

Hinting that he may not be retiring altogether, he said it is premature to discuss his plans because details aren't completed.

"My plans aren't finalized," he said.

Gorman gained the trust of his colleagues and often made them laugh with his quick wit.

That wit remained intact Tuesday. When asked his age, Gorman divulged that he not only is 53, but also "extremely good-looking."

Not only did he make others laugh, but he, too, laughed heartily when an occasional joke eased the otherwise serious tone of Westland City Council meetings.

But Gorman was serious about his work, becoming one of the best finance directors that Thomas said he could hope to have working for him.

"I threatened to chain him down and not let him leave," Thomas said prior to a council meeting Monday.

Thomas also commended Gorman publicly during the meeting.

"I even told him that if he would stay, I'd let him catch the biggest fish the next time we went fishing," Thomas said.

Council members praised Gorman after hearing word that he planned to leave his job.

When Councilwoman Sharon Scott heard the news, she said, "It just depressed me."

She commended Gorman for being a top-notch finance director and "a good human being."

Councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin said he was "sad" to hear of Gorman's departure, but "happy" for him on a personal level.

He labeled Gorman "a great employee."

Beatings *from page A1*

a log and that Kozakowski hit one of the victims with a beer bottle, although Wiatr had described himself as "frightened."

Testimony from other teens indicated that a drunken Sumey had provoked verbal disputes and tried to assault Kent Tingstad during a bonfire party attended by some 20 people in Hines Park. Sumey suffered a weeklong coma following the attack and, according to doctors, may suffer permanent problems from head injuries.

Kozakowski admitted in his statement that he used a beer bottle during the assault, although he told police he was "scared," Kubitskey testified.

Kozakowski also told police that Domagalski climbed on top of Sumey and "stomped his face" and that Totten then attacked Sumey.

"He (Sumey) was already knocked out before Jimmy (Domagalski) and Chris (Totten) started hitting him," Kozakowski said in his statement.

Bokos noted that statements made by individual defendants won't be used against other defendants when he decides whether to order the teen-agers to stand trial.

Three of the defendants' friends also testified Wednesday, sometimes contradicting earlier police statements. Some testimony focused on what the suspects said as they left the scene with several friends in a pickup truck driven by Totten.

Teen-ager Joseph Kawood said he heard Wiatr state, "I hope we didn't kill them." But, Kawood added, "it wasn't in a bragging way. It was like he (Wiatr) was worried about them."

Kawood also said he overheard Domagalski say, "I think all the bones in his face are broken," although Kawood wasn't sure which victim Domagalski meant.

Kawood also said Tingstad admitted to hitting one of the victims in the face with his fist, but only to protect himself and his younger brother.

Teen-ager Jamie Morneweck testified that she didn't remember seeing Wiatr and Kozakowski take firewood from the pickup truck before the assault, although she named them in an earlier police statement.

Morneweck didn't see the attack but said she heard "what I thought was a beating" in the woods. When she left with others in the pickup truck, she said she overheard someone say, "I hope we didn't kill them."

STAFF PHOTOS BY JIM JAGDFELD

Holiday scene: *Stacie and Jake Thomas and their two daughters, Olivia, 2, and Lindsey, 3, stop to view the nativity scene on their way to the fire station and a visit with Santa.*

Pension *from page A1*

But Chuck urged the council to eliminate pensions for future part-time elected officials, noting that Westland is "a young city" that could avoid big-ticket pensions in coming years. Westland became a city in 1966.

Critics say taxpayers shouldn't have to pay hefty pensions that siphon money from other uses.

Critics oppose a system that rewards some part-time council members as though they are full-time employees – if they ever held a full-time post.

Consider Griffin, who currently stands to receive an annual city pension of $43,680 even though he worked full time for the city only four years, when he served as mayor in 1986-89. He has 26 years of service counted toward his pension, but a majority of those years stem from part-time council service.

Pickering's current $32,928 pension level stems from 24 years of service, although 14 years of his service has been full time as a former mayor and parks department employee.

Other council members now stand to receive $2,688 or less because they've never worked full time for the city.

Resident Chuck told the council Monday to "grandfather" their own pensions, but to halt pensions for their successors.

Pension levels are reached by determining an average salary based on the best three years of city earnings. That average is multiplied by 2.8, and the new figure is, in turn, multiplied by years of service.

It disturbs critics that part-time service is treated as full-time service if council members have ever held full-time city jobs.

Griffin, a retired Michigan Education Association staffer, has questioned whether current council members should vote to eliminate pensions for future public servants. He said council members already can opt out.

Winterfest seeks input

The Westland Winterfest Committee will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, at the Bailey Center.

The committee is looking for ideas from the community for the upcoming Winterfest.

Trees *from page A1*

It marked their first time attending the city's annual tree-lighting ceremony.

"I came to see the Christmas lights and sing Christmas songs," Amy, an Edison Elementary first-grader, said. "And I want to tell Santa Claus that I want Melanie's Mall."

A clueless reporter turned to Amy's mother.

"It's a little store with an elevator in it," Gail Selewski said. "All I know is it has an elevator in it."

Standing on City Hall's front porch, city leaders and other dignitaries joined the crowd in singing Christmas carols as Scott Veldhuis, city economic development director, strummed his guitar.

Imagine a Peter, Paul and Mary rendition of "Jingle Bells."

Westland grandmother Shirley Elrod accompanied her son James (the city's assessor) and her grandchildren Mitchell, 3, and Michael, 15 months.

"I came to help care for my grandchildren, but I really enjoy this," she said.

And what is her Christmas wish? "Continued good health and all that."

Switching on: *Essay contest winner, Alison Sanders, applauds the display of lights after she and the mayor threw the switch to light the display.*

Meanwhile, the crowd's singing seemed to attract the attention of a certain jolly man dressed in red, although he was clearly missing his sleigh and reindeer.

Santa descended on the crowd from a Westland fire truck ladder bucket, swiftly ascending to the stage to accept the key to the city from Mayor Robert Thomas.

The key, Thomas said, "will unlock all the hearts and minds of all the children of Westland."

Santa brought his usual message of encouraging the crowd to help their less-fortunate neighbors this holiday season.

Moments later, Mayor Thomas and youngster Alison Sanders jointly pulled a switch that turned on thousands of holiday lights, illuminating the trees along Ford Road in front of City Hall.

"Oooooh!" the crowd roared in unison.

Alison was chosen to help the mayor because she placed first among youngsters who entered a city essay contest on "What Christmas Means To Me." Chelsie Wagner placed second and Candice Lane third.

As he left the crowd, Santa moved toward the city's main fire station next door, where children followed him to talk and enjoy snacks.

Was he whisked away later in the same fire truck that brought him there? Or did his reindeer and sleigh finally show?

Only the true believers knew for sure.

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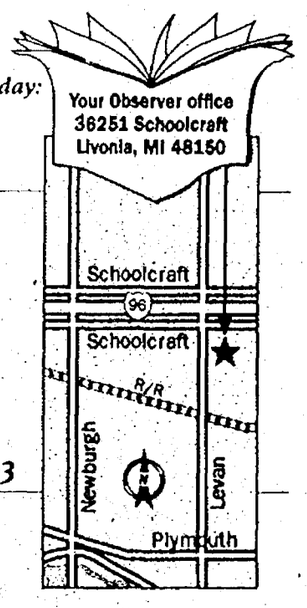

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Bids will be received until 10:00 A.M. on the 16th of December, 1997 at the Board of Education Maintenance Department. At this time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read. Vendors are encouraged to attend.

Bid security in the amount of 5% of the total proposal, in the form of Bid Bond or Certified Check must accompany each bid. Performance Bond and payment bond will be required of the successful bidders.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part in the interests of uniformity, design, equipment, delivery time or preference, to waive any informalities and to award to other than the low bidder, with rationale to support such a decision.

Livonia Board of Education

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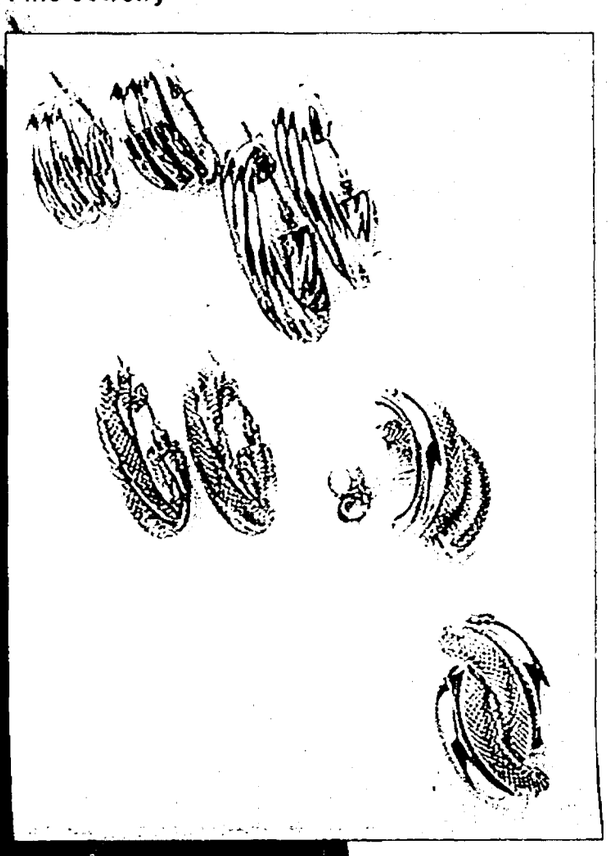

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STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Dance steps: *Irene Dunham has a good time dancing with Birgetta Walker at the 1940s dance at the Four Chaplains Nursing Care Center.*

Singing solo: *Mabel Gray sings "My Blue Heaven" at the 1940s dance at the Four Chaplains Center in Westland.*

Sweet song: *Pearl Workman, 102 years old, sings "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" with Ray Heldenbrand at the dance.*

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Band together: *Betty Flanders of Northville, lead singer for "Betty and The Boys," entertains residents at the Four Chaplains Center. Behind her are Fred Bentz on the bass and Howie Schumann on the drums.*

Dance takes residents back to '40s

"Where Were You in 42?" was the theme of a ball for residents and staff of the Four Chaplains Nursing Care Center in Westland recently.

The musicians, Betty and the Boys, brought back memories with music at Four Chaplains, located on Joy Road in Westland, during the Nov. 20 ball.

Residents were dressed in '40s-era attire and danced to the vintage tunes.

There were also solo performances, one of which was "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," sung by 102-year-old Pearl Workman.

The dance was the conclusion of a day spent reminiscing about life and times during the 1940s. Memories included child rearing, teen-age years, dating and sending loved ones off to war, according to Pam Cohen, activities director at the center.

Dance time: *Volunteer Ron Hurlburt dances with Leona Stefanac.*

'He was a fighter'

Young leaves legacy, memories for those who worked with him

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

In 1970, Ed McNamara was a candidate for lieutenant governor and sought support from Michigan Democrats.

McNamara met one day with the black caucus of state lawmakers, chaired by Coleman Young.

Young greeted McNamara at the door. McNamara expected the caucus members to give him a difficult time about various issues, but Young reassured McNamara to "leave everything to me."

"He then started an argument about something insignificant," McNamara recalled. By the time the argument ended, the caucus members ran out of time to ask McNamara questions and a potential rift within the Democratic Party was averted.

County Executive McNamara, who knew Young while McNamara was mayor of Livonia, was one of several elected or retired officials who remembered Young after learning of the former Detroit mayor's death. Young, 79, died Saturday of respiratory failure after a long illness.

Young will lie in state from 7 a.m. through 5 p.m. today in the Hall of Ancestors at the Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren at Brush in Detroit. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at Greater Grace Temple, 19161 Schaefer at West Seven Mile in Detroit.

Young was accessible

McNamara said Young was always accessible. Both mayors used each other's local clout to lobby for state appropriations and bills.

"He'd call me and say 'I need one Republican and two Democrats to get these bills through,' and he would contact the Detroit lawmakers when I needed something. We had that kind of a relationship."

As a county executive, McNamara found Young to be protective of Detroit's "gems" when McNamara thought they should

Coleman Young

be regionalized.

"He had an attitude about the (Detroit Department of Transportation)," McNamara said. "Belle Isle was a gem, the

Please see YOUNG, A12

Legislation limits lawsuits against police for chases

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Police departments would be partly shielded from lawsuits resulting from their pursuits of fleeing suspects under a state Senate-passed bill.

The Senate Nov. 13 passed the main measure 34-0, but rejected amendments by Sen. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township, to allow more product liability suits.

"It deals with police pursuits," said Sen. William VanRegenmorter, R-Jenison, seeking to shut off debate on Peters' amendments.

"We need to revisit this because we now know that we made a mistake last year," said Peters, pointing to heart damage done to people taking the appetite depressant drug Phen-Fen.

The Senate, on almost party-line votes, rejected Peters' amendments. Then, at the urging of Sen. Mike Bouchard, R-Birmingham, it passed SB 163 without opposition. Three members, including the hospitalized Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion, were absent.

Suits limited

Purpose of the VanRegenmorter bill is to limit lawsuits against police agencies resulting from injuries during chases. Key provisions:

■ Non-economic damages (pain and suffering) would be limited to $1 million.

Please see LEGISLATION, A9

Read Entertainment on Thursday

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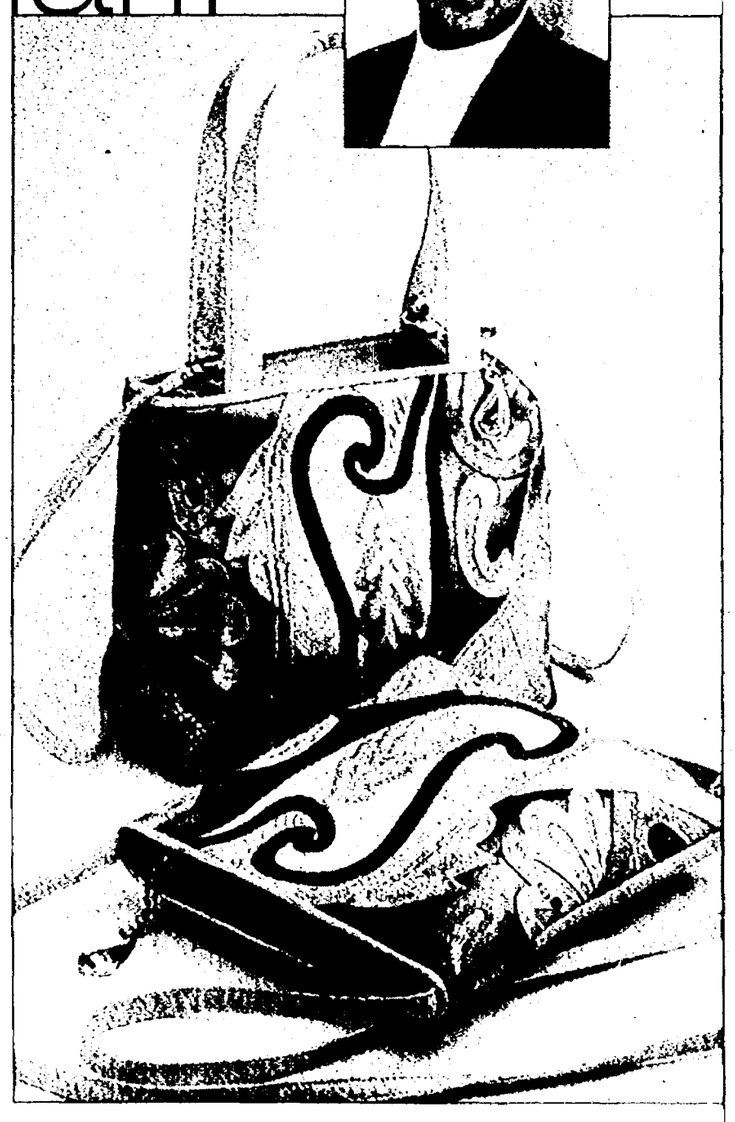

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PLACES & FACES

Senior address

Richard Bockoff, attorney for Senior Justice Center, will address Westland senior citizens at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. His topic will be, "Protect and Preserve Your Assets with Four Documents."

He will address the center's investment-financial planning group, which meets the second Tuesday of each month to discuss financial issues and share experiences on issues such as buying funds for grandchildren's college and retirement income.

King *from page A1*

King's birthday. Netter said Thomas appears to be "joining other leaders" in saying the holiday deserves recognition.

Last year, Westland paid tribute to King only by announcing the holiday on a sign in front of City Hall.

"I applaud the mayor for finally saying that the city should do something," Netter said Tuesday.

He added that King's observance can be used by all races "to try to figure out how to get along" and by all people to do volunteer work.

"Go work in the churches. Go work in the community. Go help the senior citizens," Netter said.

Wayne-Westland schools last year closed for the first time ever to observe King's birthday. The NAACP has honored former student Ecole Barrow and her mother, Sandra, for pressuring Wayne-Westland officials to honor the holiday.

Ecole Barrow raised the issue after she was penalized for missing a test on King's birthday. She stayed away from school in honor of the slain civil rights leader, and her mother supported her actions.

Netter said he hopes the city of Westland eventually will close for the holiday. He conceded that such action would require negotiations between the city and its employee bargaining units.

"Let's start the negotiations," Netter said, "and Westland will be better for it."

OBITUARIES

RALPH H. DELAP

Ralph H. Delap, 80, of Romulus died Nov. 25 in Wayne.

A native of Felton, Minn., Delap was a consumer loan officer with a finance company. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II.

Survivors include: daughter, Patricia Apsley of Westland; son, Michael Delap of West Bloomfield; grandchildren, Lisa Delap, Paul and Shannon Apsley.

Services were Saturday, Nov. 29, at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Westland with the Rev. Neil D. Cowling of Kirk of Our Savior Church, Westland, officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the American Lung Association, 18860 W. 10 Mile, Southfield 48075-2689.

GERALDINE J. CZARNIOWSKI

Geraldine J. Czarniowski, 58, of Westland died Nov. 23 in Rochester Hills.

Born in Detroit, she was a purchasing agent.

Services were at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Howell with the Rev. David Speicher officiating. Burial was at St. John the Baptist Cemetery in Howell.

Survivors include: sons, Eric John, Gregory John and Joseph John; daughter, Carrie Lynn Ternes; sisters, Marlene and Diane; brother, Dennis; mother, Jane Kosakiewicz; and 11 grandchildren.

ARDIS R. ATKINSON

Ardis R. Atkinson, 81, of Westland died Nov. 28.

Born in Cadillac, she was a homemaker.

Services were Tuesday at the Vermeulen Funeral Home with the Rev. Thom Burbridge officiating. Burial was in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Livonia.

Survivors include: sons, William G. Atkinson of Canton, Donald J. Barbersek of New Windsor, N.Y., and Ralph E. Barbersek of Lakeland, Fla.; and a sister, Lorna Kuckering of Ann Arbor. She was preceded in death by her father, Oscar J. Chapman, and mother, Anna-Belle Chapman.

Memorials may be made to Arbor Hospice, 3810 Packard Road, Suite 200, Ann Arbor 48108.

LOUISE M. BIAS

Louise M. Bias, 74, of Westland died Nov. 28 in Livonia.

Services were Monday at Vermeulen Funeral Home with the Rev. Leonard Partensky officiating. Burial was in Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

Born in Mann, W.Va., she was a homemaker.

Survivors include: sons, Terrance G. of Wixom and Timothy J. of Milford; and daughters, Sandra S. Minore of Harrison Township and Linda L. Rice of Phoenix, Ariz.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association West Metro Region, P.O. Box 721129, Berkley 48072-0129.

LOUELLEN PORTER

LouEllen Porter, 86, of Westland died Dec. 1.

Services were planned for today at Uht Funeral Home in Westland with the Rev. Joseph Jones officiating. Entombment is in Knollwood Memorial Park, Canton.

She was a homemaker.

Survivors include: sons, Jimmy, Frank, Johnny, Charles, and Vinc[illegible]; daughters, Betty McFall, Barbara Berry, Patricia Porter, and Donna Tepfenhant; brother, Luis P. Lafferty; and 39 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by husband, Oliver, and sons, Delmar, the Rev. Bobby and Roger.

DIXIE I. QUILLEN BOGNAR

Dixie I. Quillen Bognar, 67, of Westland died Nov. 29

She was a homemaker.

Funeral services were Wednesday at Uht Funeral Home in Westland with the Rev. Roy Forsyth officiating.

Burial was in Glenwood Cemetery, Wayne.

Survivors include: daughters, Kathryn Celia Cogswell of Westland, Nikkie Miller, Taffee Lucas, Carol Bauer-Boik and Margie Payzant; sister, Pamela Dillion; brothers, Rick and Jack Quillen; 17 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

GRACE E. BRENNAN

Grace E. Brennan, 95, of Westland died Nov. 30 in Westland.

Born in Victoria, Ill., she lived in Plymouth for many years.

Funeral services were Tuesday at the Vermeulen Funeral Home with the Rev. Drex Morton officiating. Burial was in Roseland Park Cemetery in Berkley.

Survivors include: daughter, Wilma J. Sedore of Westland; grandson, Leslie Sedore of Westland; great-grandsons, Aaron and Jason Sedore of Westland. She was preceded in death by husband, William Brennan, father, John England, mother, Blanche England, and sister, Margaret Hjorth.

Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Association Michigan Affiliate Inc., 23100 Providence Drive, Suite 400, Southfield 48075-3680.

OLLIE MAE RICHARDSON

Ollie Mae Richardson, 83, of Westland died Nov. 27 at home. Funeral services were Monday at Uht Funeral Home with the Rev. Terry McIntosh officiating. Interment was in Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth.

She was a homemaker.

Survivors include: daughters, Vergie R. Richardson, Gracie Barnes, Sarah Curtis, Gwen Crocker, Janet Phillips; sons, Jessie, Cleatous, and Harris; sisters, Dorothy Wilson, Faye Napier, Gracie Taylor and Margaret Campbell; 31 grandchildren; 50 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harrison.

The family suggests that memorials may be made to the donor's choice.

NELSON E. GILBOE

Nelson E. Gilboe, 75, of Westland died Dec. 2

Born in Canada, he was a sales representative for the automotive industry.

Cremation was at Heavenly Rest Cemetery in Windsor.

Survivors include: wife, Bette J. Gilboe; son, Kenneth; two brothers; and one grandchild.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
MICHIGAN

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that sealed proposals will be received at the Office of the City Clerk, in the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt, Garden City, Michigan 48135 (Telephone: 313-525-8814), on or before WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1997, at 2:00 p.m. for the following:

SIGN MACHINE SUPPLIES
WATER SERVICE PARTS
WATER MAIN REPAIR SLEEVES

Proposals must be submitted on forms furnished by the City Clerk, in a sealed envelope endorsed with the name(s) of item(s) bid.

The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part and to waive any informalities when deemed in the best interest of the City.

R.D. SHOWALTER
City Clerk Treasurer

Publish December 4, 1997

LT50619

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
December 9, 1997 - Board of Review

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on Tuesday December 9, 1997 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to correct mutual mistakes of fact or clerical errors. PA74 of 1995 authorizes the December Board of Review to hear appeals for poverty exemptions, but not for poverty exemptions denied by the March or July Boards of Review. This applies to current year only.

RONALD D. SHOWALTER,
City Clerk

Publish November 30 and December 4 and 7, 1997

LT50732

Applications available

Applications for toys from the Westland Goodfellows for Westland residents only are available at the following locations:

- Dorsey Center (32715 Dorsey Road),
- Westland Chamber of Commerce (36610 Ford Road) and
- Westland City Hall (36600 Ford Road).

Applications must be submitted by 3 p.m. Dec. 12.

(Sneak Peek!)

The New Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Building

Family Doctors and Specialists—Right in Your Neighborhood.
The physicians you've visited at our current Ford Road building will be moving here — all the pediatricians, OB/Gyns, and Internal Medicine physicians — and they'll be joined by St. Joe's specialists, giving you access to more services, knowledge, and expertise while cutting down on your travel time! The Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Building will include cardiologists, allergists and oncologists — to name a few.

Urgent Care Services–365 days a year.
We know that at times someone in your family needs to see a doctor NOW. The same trusted Urgent Care physicians you've visited on Ford road will be moving here in February 1998.

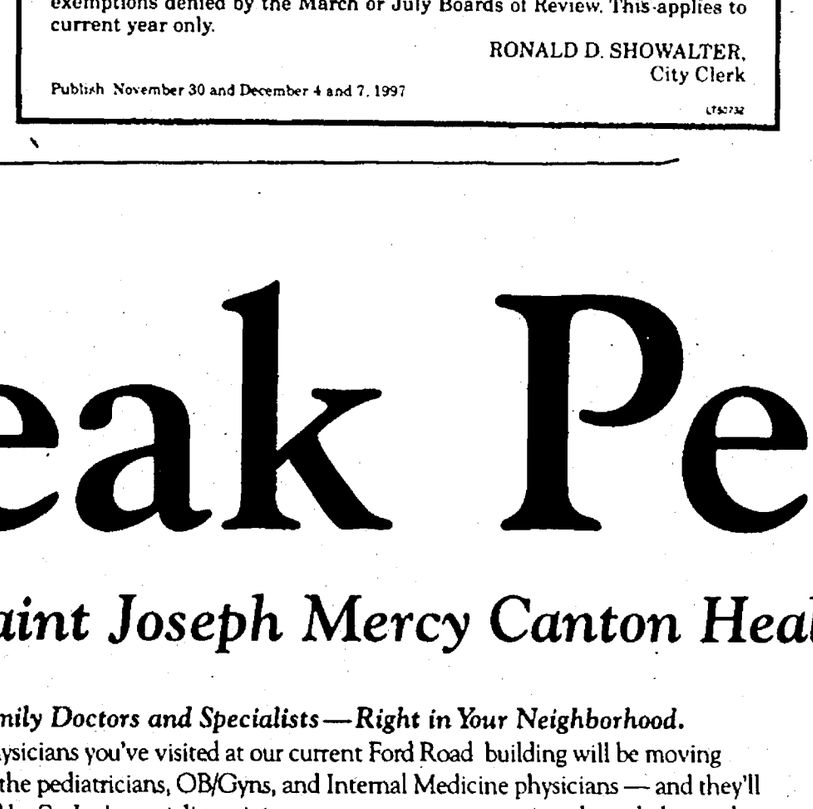
On-Site Lab and Radiology Services.
You're busy, and you want test results as quickly as possible— that's why the new Canton Health Building will include complete on-site lab and radiology facilities.

A Pharmacy Right Inside!
Pick up prescriptions after your appointment without the extra drive! A full-service pharmacy, staffed with knowledgeable, experienced pharmacists will fill your prescriptions and answer your questions.

Focus on Women's Health.
St. Joe's has always played an important role in getting and keeping women healthy. Our Canton Building will have specialists, services and educational programs dedicated to helping women of all ages make informed decisions for their better health.

St. Joe's Business Health Services.
Businesses need healthy employees, and The Saint Joseph Mercy Health System is at the forefront of coordinated business health programs. We'll even have a dedicated business health program in our new building.

Physical Rehabilitation Services.
Medical care shouldn't always end after a hospital discharge. St. Joe's Rehabilitation Sports Medicine Services will be part of the Canton facility to provide ongoing care in a close-by setting.



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Gubernatorial candidate visits Westland Democrats

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Doug Ross knows he has work to do, a fact he acknowledged while visiting the Westland Democratic Club on Nov. 25.

The 55-year-old gubernatorial candidate hopes to unseat Gov. John Engler next year, but first Ross must win the Democratic nomination over Larry Owen in the primary.

That means Ross must overcome organized labor's endorsements of Owen. He realizes that, and doesn't cower from the challenge.

"A substantial number of voters are not union members," Ross said. "A majority of union members think for themselves. Powerful ideas matter more than old-style endorsements."

Issues are roads, education

Ross told the 30 Westland Democrats he wants to improve education and roads.

"A lot of your children and grandchildren will be the first generation who will not do better than their parents," Ross said. "That would be terrible."

Ross vowed to recommit lottery money to education to help young people receive diplomas. Ross promised to send that generation to college.

Ross also criticized the state's use of road money to build new roads when the current ones are in such bad condition. "That's like putting an addition on your house when your roof is falling down."

Ross told the crowd that the Democrats need to be more active and "expose (Engler) for who he is."

"I think it's time to say, 'Promises made, promises broken,' " Ross said, poking fun at Engler's campaign slogan from three years ago. Still, Ross realized an Engler defeat won't happen without a united front from Democrats.

"He's tough to beat," Ross said of Engler. "He's a serious candidate."

Ross also directed attention to many retirees in the audience. "Today we have a governor running to Washington to change Medicare and Social Security," Ross said. "You can't change the rules for someone who's retired. I will commit to you to do that. You've earned it, and no one has the right to take it away from you."

Please see ROSS, A9

Doug Ross

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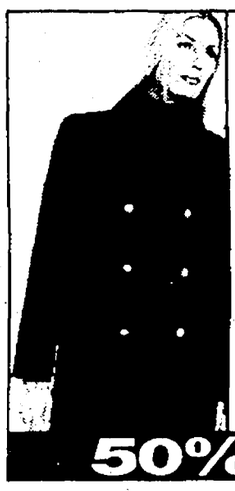

now 55.00-325.00
Already-reduced coats for misses, petites and juniors. Orig. 110.00-650.00 sale 82.50-487.50 D71 73 74
50% off

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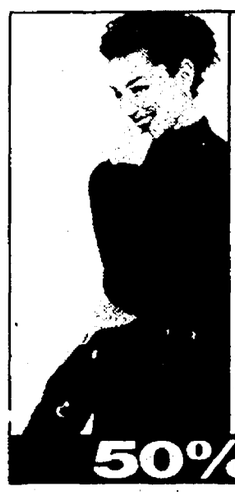
Men's already-reduced reg. lined suits and fall sport coats. Orig. 225.00-625.00 sale 159.99-449.99 D[illegible]
50% off

sale 19.50
Men's Architect flannel sport shirts. Reg. 39.00 D545
50% off

sale 10.00-60.00
All our sterling silver jewelry. (Excluding designer styles.) Reg. 20.00-120.00 D176
50% off



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sale 11.00
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Stalemate expected over benefits

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

A House Democratic bill to raise unemployment benefits is probably dead on arrival when the Republican-controlled Michigan Senate returns to work Dec. 2.

The Democrats' gift to organized labor came Nov. 6, three weeks after Republican Gov. John Engler announced that jobless benefit taxes on employers will be cut 10 percent, or $50 million, in 1998.

"Irresponsible," said House minority leader Ken Sikkema, R-Grandville, of the Democratic bill. "In two days' time, House Democrats recklessly undid several years of work fixing a troubled system that was desperately in need of repair."

"This is a major step in correcting the injustice perpetrated two years ago by a callous, mean-spirited, Republican-dominated state Legislature," said Frank Garrison, president of the state AFL-CIO.

Republicans control the Senate 22-16 with the victory of David Jaye in a Macomb County district to fill a vacancy. Democrats have a 58-51 margin in the House with Jaye's departure.

The stalemate means that Public Act 25 of 1995, passed when Republicans controlled both chambers, is still in effect.

House Bill 5303, sponsored by Rep. Rose Bogardus, D-Davison, is aimed at restoring jobless benefits to the pre-1995 level. Her changes:

- Restores the benefit rate to 70 percent of after-tax earnings. The GOP (current) law pegs them at 67 percent.
- Raises the maximum benefit to 58 percent of the state average weekly wage of $591.18, or $342.88. That's $42.88 more than the current law. The Bogardus bill restores cost-of-living indexing because "the buying power of a $300 unemployment check is less and less each year," she said.
- Allows seasonal workers to qualify for jobless benefits.
- Reduces the amount a worker must earn to qualify for benefits. Ironically, the threshold was raised when the Legislature in 1996 hiked the minimum wage from $3.35 to $5.15 per hour.

■ 'Through hard work, we've erased that ($417 million) debt entirely and built a $2 billion surplus.'

Gov. John Engler

Engler announced Oct. 16 that an automatic 10 percent tax cut for employers would take effect in tax year 1998 because the state had a higher-than-anticipated balance in its Unemployment Trust Fund.

"The trust fund owed the federal government a $417 million debt in 1991. Through hard work, we've erased that debt entirely and built a $2 billion surplus," Engler said.

Michigan's balance had to be at least $2.077 billion to trigger the reduction. The U.S. Treasury Department said Michigan's mid-1997 balance was $2.088 billion with no outstanding debt.

Michigan employers pay unemployment insurance taxes are assessed against the first $9,500 of wages of an employee. The maximum tax rate has been 10 percent. In 1998 it will 9 percent.

Jim Barrett, president of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, said a major chamber goal is to "preserve the (1995) reform measures. It would be irresponsible to drain the UI Trust Fund when we've finally built up an adequate surplus to protect unemployed workers during the next economic downturn."

Under an executive order issued Aug. 6 by Engler, jobless benefits are now handled by the Department of Consumer & Industry Services. Job finding services are handled by the Jobs Commission.

The GOP's Sikkema credited the 1995 changes with "prompting record declines in unemployment and welfare cases while expanding job opportunities for working men and women and fueling Michigan's economic expansion."

Open registration continues

Madonna University's open registration for Winter '98 term continues through Friday, Jan. 2 for new and returning students.

Office hours will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and until 7 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, with the exception of Dec. 15, 18 and 22 when the office will close at 5 p.m. and Christmas (Dec. 24- Jan. 1).

Classes begin the week of Jan. 5.

Students may enroll in day, evening and weekend classes, and non-admitted students must obtain a permit-to-register from the admissions office. Transfer students are welcome.

There is no application fee.

For more information, call the Admissions Office at (313) 432-5339.

Awards banquet set for Friday

The Arab-American Chaldean Council will host its Fifth Annual Civic and Humanitarian Awards Banquet at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman Road, in Livonia at 6:30 p.m. Friday.

The keynote speaker will be Candice Miller, Michigan's secretary of state. More than a thousand civic and community leaders are expected to attend. The awards banquet will acknowledge and celebrate the contributions made to the community by the honorees.

The ACC is the largest Arab-American human service agency in the United States. Call (248) 559-1990 for information.

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Ross *from page A7*

Accomplishments cited

Ross talked about some of his accomplishments, one of which was saving consumers $10 billion in taxes on groceries and prescriptions, a drive he helped spearhead in the early 1970s with the Michigan Citizens Lobby.

"We also passed the first generic drug law in America," Ross said. He also helped protect car owners from expensive car repair bills by pushing for the Auto Repair Protection Act, which also called for auto mechanic certification.

Ross helped draft the president's GI bill for working Americans to provide comprehensive job training for laid-off workers. Ross served as assistant secretary for employment and training in the U.S. Labor Department from 1993-95.

Ross also served as the Michigan's commerce director in the Blanchard Administration from 1984-89. From 1978-82 Ross served as a state senator from Oakland County. Ross also led The Citizens Lobby from 1972-75 and 1976-78, a group he also founded. It organized a successful petition drive to repeal the sales tax on food and medicine.

Ross is currently a visiting lecturer at the University of Michigan in the School of Public Policy.

More thoughts

After the meeting, Ross said if he is elected, he wants to establish job skills accounts to provide state residents with post-secondary training. "If (workers) are laid off or downsized, we will give you $2,500 to 'buy' skills that are in demand from a community college, training institute or trade school," Ross said.

The program would be financed through funds now used through the Job Training Partnership Act.

Ross also wants the single business tax repealed and replaced with a corporate income or a profits tax. "I believe (the single business tax) discourages people from starting a business and from hiring new people. If you hire more people and your income stays the same, your tax goes up."

Ross said the profits tax would go across-the-board on businesses.

■ '(People) want want someone who is independent and is not owned by any interest group.'

Doug Ross
—gubernatorial candidate

Ross likes chances

Ross likes his election chances.

"(People) want someone who is independent and is not owned by any interest group," Ross said. "I've always insisted on doing what I think is right and independent. To do that you need a large, 'grass roots' support and you get that support from a broad base of people."

Westland Democratic Club Chairman John Franklin said he loves to hear Ross speak, calling him a man who cares about people.

"He's a Democrat and he speaks like a Democrat," Franklin said.

Legislation *from page A5*

■ The $1 million cap could be lifted if the police agency were guilty of "gross negligence," defined as "conduct so reckless as to demonstrate a substantial lack of concern for whether an injury results."

■ Economic damages could be fully recovered, but a jury or judge would have to itemize economic losses.

■ A person injured while fleeing police could not sue.

A companion measure, House Bill 4039, would establish a panel in the Law Enforcement Council to draft a model pursuit policy. The protections in SB 163 would apply only to agencies that adopted the model policy and used trained pursuit drivers.

No figures were available for total payouts in the tri-county (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb) area. Here are figures from the other 80 counties:

■ In the past years, 11 payouts resulting from police chases cost $4 million, according to the Michigan Municipal League Liability Pool.

■ In 11 years (mid-1988 to October 1997), 22 deaths and 24 serious injuries resulted from 39 police chases; payouts totaled $22. million, according to the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority.

Peters, a freshman lawmaker and member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, was criticized by VanRegenmorter for failing to introduce his amendments during committee hearings.

Sen. John Cherry, D-Clio, minority leader, rose to Peters' defense and blistered Republicans for refusing to discuss the merits of the Peters' amendments.

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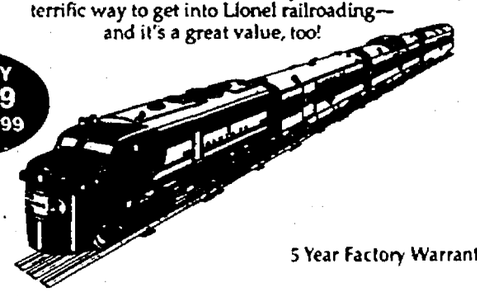

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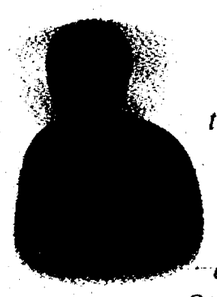
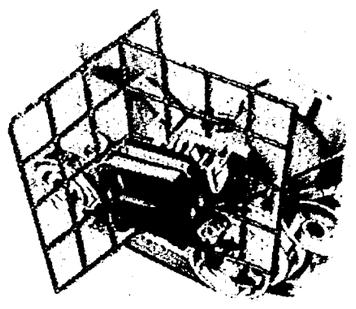
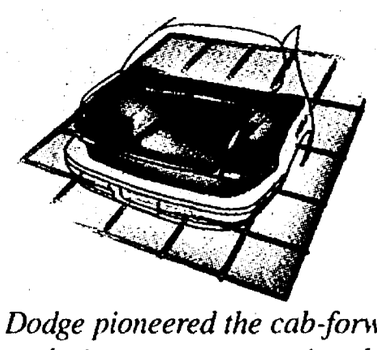


Do you have to choose between the convenience of an automatic transmission and the performance of manual shifting? Or can an available AutoStick® transaxle shift an automatic a little more toward fun?

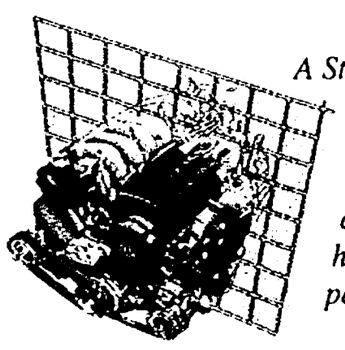


Take something as simple as an engine mount – a combination of steel and rubber that holds the engine to the frame rail. Can we mount a good argument that a device filled with liquid could minimize engine vibration and help make things quieter?

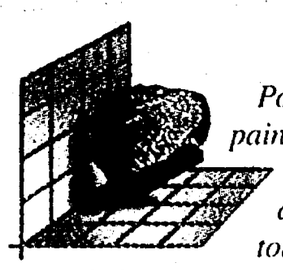
These are the questions.



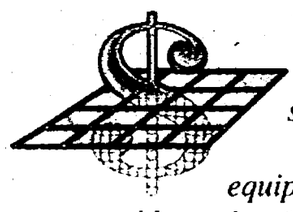
Dodge pioneered the cab-forward design concept – moving the wheels out to the corners and sliding the passenger compartment forward. Can cab-forward roominess create more room even in the trunk?



A Stratus ES has an available 2.5L, 24-valve V-6. Can lightweight aluminum cylinder heads enhance performance?



Powder-coat paint technology will give you a paint finish tough enough to help protect a car's shiny overcoat from flying gravel. When it comes to what you'll expect down the road, do we have things pretty well covered?



Dodge Stratus is $14,375 for starters, $18,345 impressively equipped.† Now, if we told you that "impressively equipped" includes AutoStick transmission, anti-lock brakes and a 2.5L V-6, would you be surprised?

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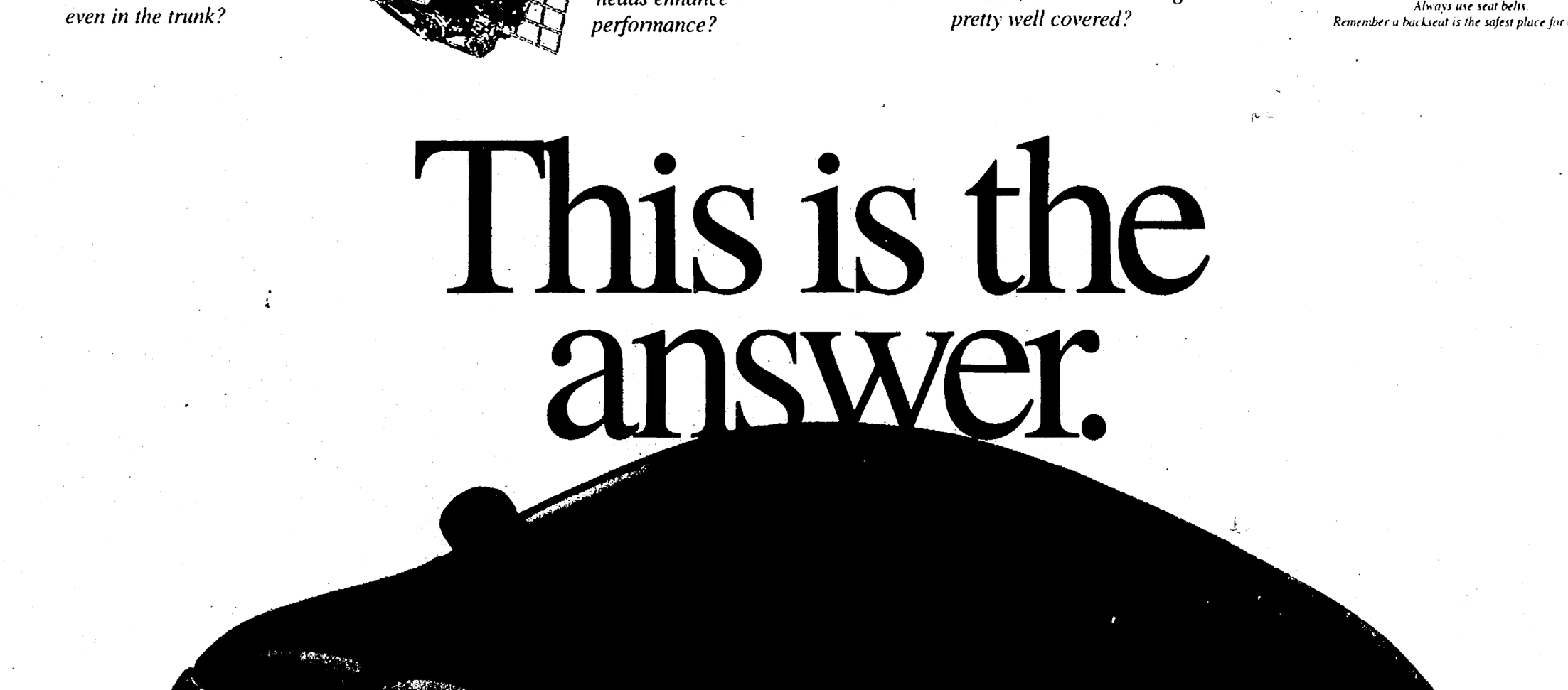

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STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Parade helpers: *Bob and Saundra (Sam) Florek of Canton Township have volunteered for 14 of the Livonia Holiday Parade's 15 years. The Floreks spend several hours before the parade making sure participants are prepared to march. Bob Florek is retired from GSE Inc. in Farmington Hills, where he was an application engineer. She is dean of Marketing and Development at Schoolcraft College.*

Parade aid

Canton couple helps with event

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The Livonia Holiday Parade is a sure sign of the Christmas season. And as sure as the parade is to the season, so are some of the volunteers who make it happen.

For 14 of the parade's 15 years, a Canton Township couple has been a fixture, making sure the procession gets off without a hitch. Bob and Saundra (Sam) Florek are about as much a fixture as the floats and bands in the parade.

"I knew Jeanne Hildebrandt (manager of the Livonia Mall), and she asked if I would volunteer to help with the parade the mall was sponsoring," Sam Florek said. "I had to say 'yes' because how could you say 'no' to someone who volunteers much of her time?"

That was the beginning of a long relationship with Hildebrandt and the parade. And where Sam goes, most likely you'll find Bob.

"It's not the first time it's happened," joked Bob Florek. "I quite often hear, 'I need help.' I can't say 'no' or I wouldn't eat for a week."

He makes sure all the bands are ready for their turn, and has gotten to know them quite well.

"We've had most of the bands in the parade for a long time, so I've gotten to know many of the band directors," Florek said. "We have to keep them moving, considering the traffic problems with seven bands, with about 50 kids each. And, there is always additional traffic with parents dropping off some of the band members.

"We keep them in order, and moving in the right direction. Of course, these aren't little kids, so they help make it easy."

The Floreks are basically in charge of choreographing the parade, spending several hours beforehand making certain there aren't any problems."

"It's fun, mainly because of all the kids," Sam Florek said, referring to such groups as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts that participate. "We get there early with our long underwear, which by the way seems to be getting tighter every year."

"I usually just take orders," her husband said. "But really, it's a lot of fun to watch the kids. They have such a great time, and it becomes infectious."

Bob Florek is retired from GSE Inc. in Farmington Hills, where he was an application engineer. Sam is dean of Marketing and Development at Schoolcraft College.

"Bob is the silent volunteer," she said. "He helps me a lot with Schoolcraft's golf outings, craft shows, the culinary extravaganza, and many other projects that I volunteer to help."

The Floreks have been married 32 years, and volunteering side-by-side almost as long.

"We enjoy many of the same things, and it keeps us together," she said.

Young artists can enter contest

Young artists from Michigan can go for the gold by entering an Olympic-theme poster in the 1998 International Aviation Art Contest.

"This is a great creative opportunity for budding young artists to explore the many avenues of air travel that play such an important role in our economy and quality of life," said James DeSana, state transportation director.

This year's contest involves creating a poster for "Air Sports in the Olympics." The poster may include all types of sporting and recreational aeronautics, including ballooning, gliding, parachuting, aerobatics, hang gliding, paragliding, microlight/ultralight flying, model aircraft, light aircraft and helicopter flying.

Sponsored at the state level by the Michigan Department of Transportation bureau of aeronautics, the competition is open to students age 6 to 17. The program encourages young people to become familiar with the many facets of aviation and aeronautics. Other contest sponsors include the National Aeronautic Association, the National Association of State Aviation Officials, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Federation Aeronautic Internationale.

Entries will be judged in three separate age categories, with first-, second- and third-place winners selected in each. First place winners in each category will advance to the national competition in Washington D.C.

National winners will compete with entries from other nations late next spring.

For the first time, this year's contest features a separate competition for computer-generated art. Computer art will be judged at the state and national levels only.

The Bureau of Aeronautics is accepting entries through Feb. 6, 1998. For a copy of the contest brochure, including contest rules and an entry form, write to: Michigan Bureau Aeronautics, Attn: Aviation Art Contest, 2700 E. Airport Service Drive, Lansing MI 48906, or call (517) 335-9977. Contest details can be obtained from the Bureau of Aeronautics web site at http://www.mdot.state.mi.us/aero/.

State police report decline in holiday traffic deaths

Michigan State Police reported that 11 persons were killed in nine fatal traffic crashes this Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Last year 23 persons lost their lives in crashes during the same period.

Of the 11 persons killed, two were pedestrians. Out of the remaining nine persons who had safety belts available, only two were belted. Alcohol was a known factor in three of these facilities.

"These preliminary numbers show this was the safest Thanksgiving holiday weekend in the last 25 years," said Col. Michael Robinson, director of the Michigan State Police.

"In addition, the fact that seven of the nine persons killed were not wearing their safety belts means we still have work to do to educate the public. Buckling up is the simplest way to prevent needless injuries and deaths."

Young from page A5

Detroit Zoo was a gem, the art museum was a gem, the water system was a gem."

"It just wasn't his philosophy. He was a unique guy. He had no fear. He was probably more compassionate than people thought he was."

McNamara actually was fired from the Detroit Water Board by Young after McNamara criticized water rate hikes allocated to the suburbs and the lack of audits on the water board. Young had appointed McNamara to that post.

McNamara visited Young about a year ago. "We had a nice conversation, but he was lost. He just didn't have any challenges anymore."

Didn't mince words

Carl Pursell of Plymouth called Young an "active voice" for the city of Detroit. Pursell, a Republican, represented western Wayne County and served with Young in the state Senate before Young was elected mayor of Detroit in 1974.

Pursell later served in U.S. Congress representing the Second District, which included Livonia and Plymouth and several Oakland County communities. Pursell remembered the Chrysler bailout in the early 1980s.

"The bailout was pretty much nip-and-tuck for a while," Pursell said. "Many Republicans were against it, but some of us felt we could take our chances. It was a matter of trust, and it worked out for the best.

■ 'Although you didn't always agree with him, you respected his opinion.'

Carl Pursell
—former congressman

"Coleman Young was very active in that."

Pursell called Young a fighter. "He didn't mince any words."

Pursell believed that Young wasn't always the adversary to the suburbs. "He worked well with Gov. (William) Milliken and suburban legislators."

"He worked with the Michigan (congressional) delegation pretty well. He fought for what Detroit was entitled to with dollars and numbers. I enjoyed his personality. Although you did not always agree with him, you respected his opinion."

Death is a 'tragic loss'

Ricardo Solomon, chairman of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners, called Young's death a tragic loss for the city of Detroit and the state of Michigan.

Solomon knew the mayor for 20 years and worked as one of five campaign coordinators for Young in 1974. Solomon learned from Young to "be true to your beliefs and stand up for your beliefs." "(I learned from him to) work hard and always be a fighter," Solomon said. "He believed that the people who put you in office always come first."

■ 'He was probably more compassionate than people thought he was.'

Ed McNamara
—county executive

Solomon cites Young's accomplishments in integrating the police department, giving blacks opportunities during his 20 years in office and Detroit's economic development, such as the construction of Joe Louis Arena and remodeling of Cobo Hall.

"People also forget he was the president of the National Conference of Mayors, which was a group of black and white mayors, and led the Democratic platform committee," Solomon said. "He worked closely with Gov. Milliken and Max Fisher.

"He was a fighter. He believed when you get knocked down, you get back up and help those who are less fortunate."

For black Detroiters, Young "instilled a sense of pride and a sense of can-do," Solomon said.

"He was an individual that no matter what your skin color was, you could achieve. The reason he got involved with the labor movement was the unity of African-Americans and whites."

Style 'confrontational'

Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Roman Gribbs was mayor of Detroit for one term immediately preceding Young.

"He was energetic and forthright, as was his style," Gribbs said. "He was very direct and very forceful."

When asked to comment on what he thought of Young's performance, Gribbs said, "I leave that to history. There's some pluses and minuses.

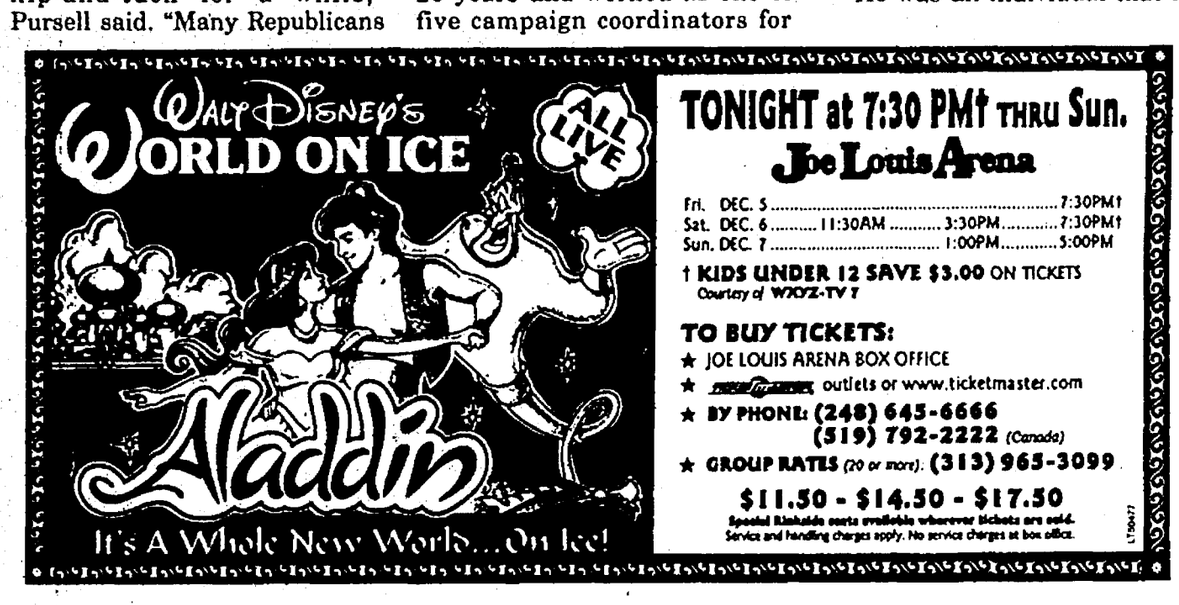
"His style was a bit too confrontational, which may have worked for him when he was first elected. But unfortunately, he kept that style. Contrast that to his successor (Mayor Dennis Archer) who is conciliatory and cooperative, and he has cooperation with all the communities.

"I don't criticize (Young), that was just his nature."

Gribbs also invited Young to a funeral of a police officer, who was killed in the line of duty just weeks before Young officially took office.

"He was grateful for that," Gribbs said about Young's appreciation for Gribbs' gesture. " He was not insensitive to the dangers of good police work."

Young memories: *In a photo taken in the late 1970s, then Livonia Mayor Ed McNamara jokes with Detroit Mayor Coleman Young. In July 1989 Young addressed a luncheon group in Plymouth.*



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U-M gifts are No. 1 on many Christmas lists

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

It appears that anything with the block M of the Michigan Wolverines is a hot item this holiday season.

"We didn't think about last Friday being the busiest shopping day of the year, because we've been that busy for the past three weeks," said Wendy Roberts, manager of the M Den store at Laurel Park Place in Livonia. "We've been doing inventory daily, and twice a day on the weekends, just to make sure we're ordering merchandise before it runs out."

One of the hottest gifts is an instant replay music box.

"It looks like a jewelry box, and replays four sound bites from big games," noted Roberts. "Of course, hats and sweatshirts with the Rose Bowl insignia are going well. And, we carry the line of clothing that the coaching staff and players wear, which is also selling well at this time."

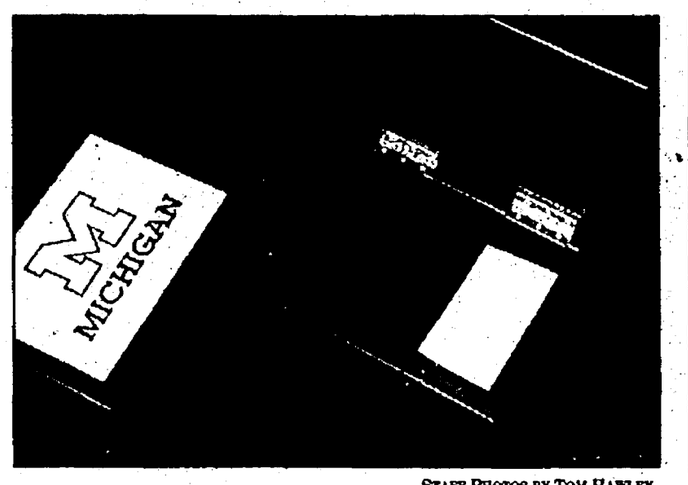
Roberts is looking to keep busy, right up to New Year's Day, when the Wolverines take their No. 1 ranking against Washington State in the Rose Bowl.

Meanwhile, at JC Penney in Westland Center, athletic apparel manager Tom Kjellstrom says business has certainly picked up since the Wolverines won the Big Ten championship.

"The Michigan stuff is selling like crazy," said Kjellstrom. "We've gotten some of the better fleece and embroidered sweat shirts, and they're selling well."

Kjellstrom says sales of Michigan items were going slow, until the Sunday after the Wolverines beat Ohio State.

"Sales really took off, and we've been reordering to keep from running out," noted Kjellstrom. "Officially licensed sweat shirts, caps and anything with Nike on it are selling like hotcakes."



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Rosy holidays: *Merchants are cashing in on the University of Michigan's success on the football field. Some of the hot holiday gift items include an instant replay box (above) at the M Den at Laurel Park Place, Rose Bowl paraphernalia (right) and an authentic football helmet.*

Volunteers sought to recruit, screen families for program

A student exchange program offered through the American Scandinavian Student Exchange International is looking for volunteers to serve as area representatives in their local communities.

ASSE provides academic year exchange programs in the United States for Scandinavian, German, Swiss, British, Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, Czech and Slovak Republics, Polish, Japanese, Brazilian, Australian, New Zealand, Mexican and Canadian students who are 15-18 years old and have met all academic and character qualifications.

Area representatives recruit and screen prospective host families, interview students to study abroad, and supervise the visiting exchange students. Area representatives are reimbursed for their expenses.

ASSE's primary goal is to contribute to international understanding through exchange programs to enable students to learn about other languages and cultures through active participation in family, school and community life.

For further information about becoming involved with ASSE Student Exchange, contact Pat Hagen Juhl at (414) 781-4811 or call Kari at 1-800-736-1760.

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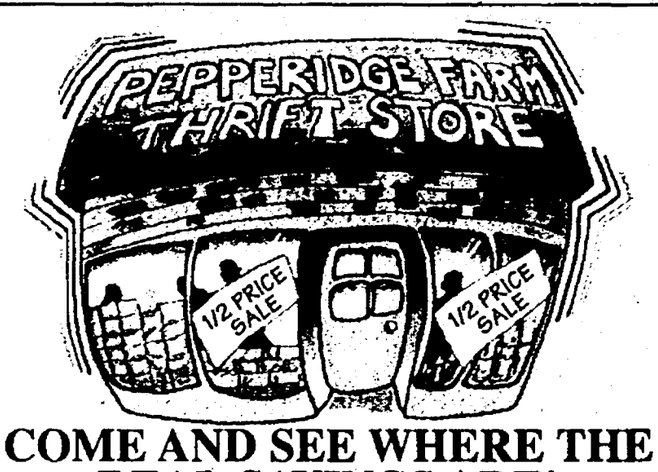

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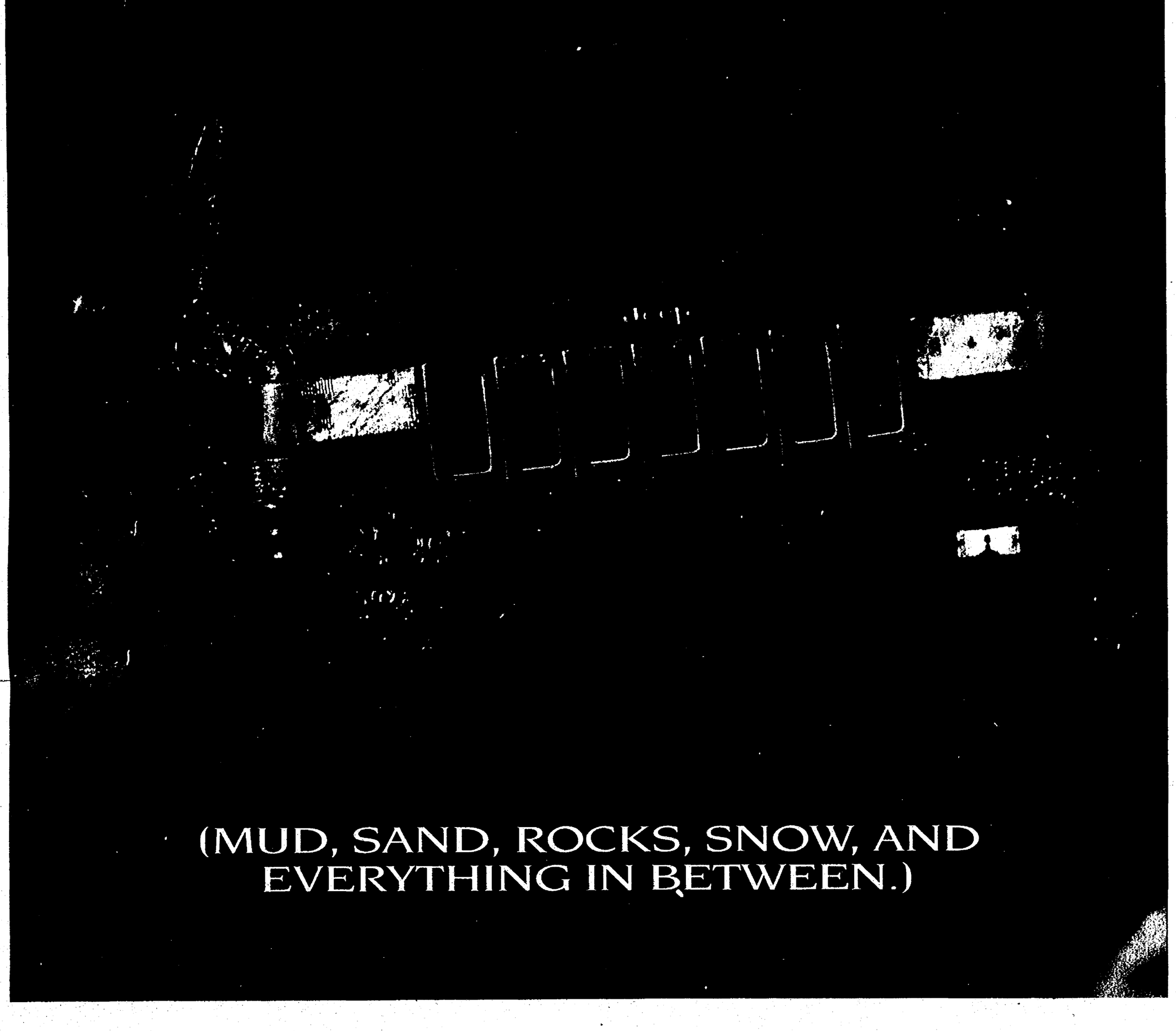

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Ski SAVINGS **$518**

K2 NORDICA

K2 MGX Two 12.0 Carbon Skis	$395.00
Nordica AFX 56 M/L	$225.00
Marker M-28 V-Tech	$180.00
Scott Signature Poles	$44.00
Total Retail	$844.00

Ski SAVINGS **$458**

ROSSIGNOL NORDICA

Rossignol STS/STSL VAS Skis	$399.00
Nordica 56 AFX BIO M/L	$225.00
Rossignol FD-60 Bindings	$180.00
Scott Signature Poles	$44.00
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Ski SAVINGS **$368**

ROSSIGNOL NORDICA

Rossignol Cut Super 10.4 Skis	$439.00
Nordica 56 AFX BIO M/L	$225.00
Salomon 600 Quad Bindings	$180.00
Scott Signature Poles	$44.00
Total Retail	$898.00

Ski SAVINGS **$554**

ELAN SALOMON

Elan PSX PC/PC Lady	$450.00
Salomon 4.0 Symbio M/L	$250.00
Salomon 600 Quad Bindings	$180.00
Scott Signature Poles	$44.00
Total Retail	$924.00

Ski SAVINGS **$524**

K2 NORDICA

K2 Reflex Lady Skis	$360.00
Nordica Trend 03 Lady	$280.00
Marker M-28 V-Tech	$180.00
Scott Signature Poles	$44.00
Total Retail	$864.00

Ski SAVINGS **$574**

ATOMIC NORDICA

Atomic Mega Carvx 3.2 Lady Skis	$375.00
Nordica Trend 03 Lady	$280.00
Marker M-28 V-Tech	$180.00
Scott Signature Poles	$44.00
Total Retail	$879.00

Ski SAVINGS **$554**

OLIN SALOMON

Olin DTSL/DTV Super Skis	$500.00
Salomon 4.0 Evolution M/L	$275.00
Salomon S 700 Quad Spheric	$190.00
Scott Signature Poles	$44.00
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Ski SAVINGS **$674**

DYNASTAR SALOMON

Dynastar Big Max 2/Max Lady	$475.00
Salomon 4.0 Symbio M/L	$250.00
Marker M-28 V-Tech Bindings	$180.00
Scott Signature Poles	$44.00
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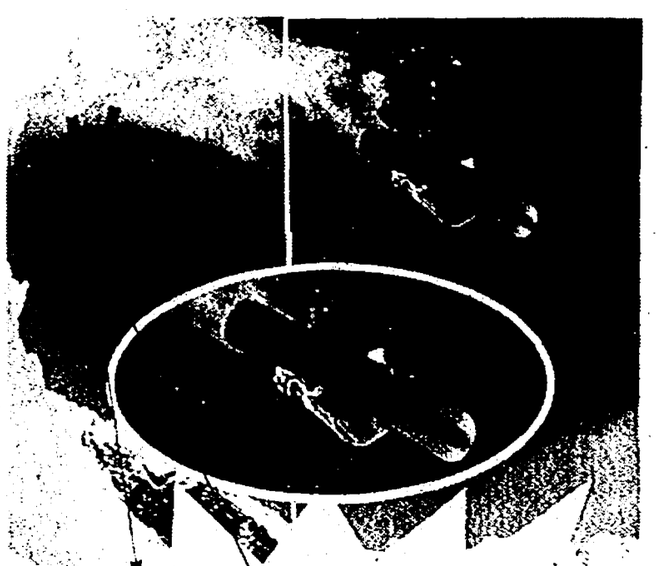

ELAN NORDICA

Elan Team Cap Jr. 88-158cm	$140.00
Nordica Super No.01 205-255	$125.00
Salomon Quadrax 300 Bindings	$120.00
Scott Classic Uni. Jr. Poles	$29.95
Total Retail	$414.95

Ski SAVINGS **$255**

ROSSIGNOL NORDICA

Rossignol Energy Cut 9.3 Jr.	$219.00
Nordica Super No.01 205-255	$125.00
Marker M-19 V-Tech Bindings	$140.00
Scott Classic Uni. Jr. Poles	$29.95
Total Retail	$388.95

Ski SAVINGS **$266**

K2 SALOMON

K2 Merlin J 130-140 Jr Skis	$180.00
Salomon Team 3.0	$125.00
Salomon Quad 300 Bindings	$120.00
Scott Classic Uni. Jr. Poles	$29.95
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Elan TC Skis	$550.00	
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Salomon S800 Allum		
Total Retail	$825.00	

OLIN MARKER

Olin Kinetic 13mm Skis	$450.00	
Marker M-51 Graphite	$275.00	$598
Salomon S800 Allum		
Total Retail	$725.00	

ROSSIGNOL SALOMON

Rossignol 9X9 9 Cut VAS Skis	$699.00	
Salomon S800 Allum	$225.00	$768
Marker M-51 Graphite		
Total Retail	$974.00	

OLIN SALOMON

Olin Axendo 7 Skis	$515.00	
Salomon S800 Allum	$225.00	$528
Marker M-51 Graphite		
Total Retail	$740.00	

K2 MARKER

K2 Merlin IV Skis	$695.00	
Marker M-51 Graphite	$275.00	$728
Salomon S800 Allum		
Total Retail	$970.00	

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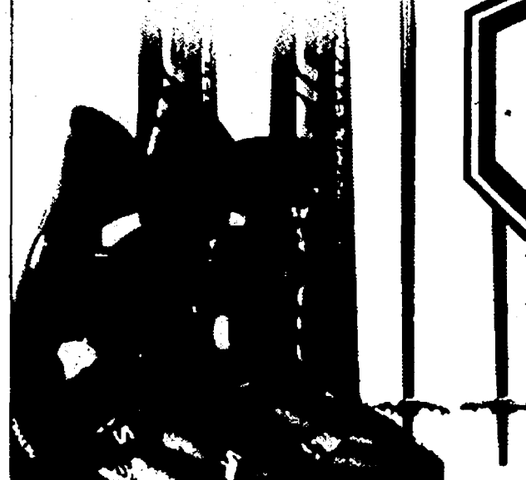

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Westland Observer
OPINION
36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

Pension problem?

Council must take close look

Some Westland City Council members want to eliminate council pensions that some say are too lucrative for part-time elected officials. Current council members qualify for pensions as high as $43,000.

Council members are planning a study session on the situation, and we think that is a good idea.

Some aspects of the system, at least on the surface, appear to be troubling, and we think it deserves a close look. Part-time pensions can quickly escalate if council members ever work full time for the city.

Council members who are already vested with at least six years of city service wouldn't be affected under the proposal. That means current pensions as high as $43,000, for Councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin specifically, would be protected. He has served part time for many years but worked only four years full time for the city, as mayor in 1986-89.

Former council members also would be exempt from changes.

Some elected officials demanding change say that taxpayers shouldn't be expected to continue to shell out hefty pensions that can fuel public cynicism.

Critics raise a valid point in opposing a pension system that rewards part-time council members as though they are full-time employees. They also raise a valid point by noting that some of the money could be used to improve city services, rather than easing the retirement years for officials based on part-time service.

Maybe there's more to the picture, but it should be closely studied for possible changes. We know it's a touchy issue that already has caused controversies in a few other cities.

"Who's there on the side of the taxpayers?" Councilman Glenn Anderson asks.

We hope all council members are on the side of the taxpayers. We'll find out as the council addresses this important public issue. Citizens should pay close attention as their elected officials are at work.

Young's record has 2 sides

Coleman Young's death Saturday triggered strong emotions within his beloved city and throughout its suburbs.

As expected, his supporters praised Young's accomplishments as mayor of Detroit for a record 20 years – ignoring that his style alienated many potential backers.

Many of those years occurred during two economic recessions (termed depressions in Detroit where the jobless rate soared to more than 15 percent).

While he can be credited for many accomplishments, many suburban political leaders and residents had a different view of Young's record. Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson was quoted saying bluntly, "He was responsible for the demise of Detroit."

In public, their comments were softened and muted to avoid being accused of racism. But in private, many suburban leaders had strong negative reactions to Young and what they saw as his divisive policies and abrasive style.

Young spent his life fighting against racial intolerance, dramatically standing up to the House Un-American Activities Committee and taking a leadership role in other racial confrontations.

He saw things through his own racial prism, based on his experiences growing up in a racially divided Detroit, its public schools and the church in the 1920s and '30s. His views were hardened by his military experience. Young made no bones in public that he felt Detroit's problems were caused by a white power structure that had taken its money and abandoned Detroit.

His foes felt just the opposite – that they wanted to help Detroit but were rebuffed by Young and his confrontational approach to problems.

But Young managed to accomplish many positive things for the city he loved, especially in the early years.

After the second economic recession (from 1979-82), Young's administration did the land assembly for General Motors Corp. Poletown plant on the Detroit-Hamtramck boundary, which helped preserve the jobs of thousands of Detroiters. He also worked with Chrysler on the expansion of the Jefferson plant.

He pursued a program to develop the city's waterfront, already launched before he took office with the development of the Renaissance Center by Henry Ford II and others. Young's administration expanded Cobo Hall and developed Joe Louis Arena. Work on the restored Detroit Opera House was started during Young's final years.

■ Coleman Young saw things through his own racial prism, based on his experiences growing up in a racially divided Detroit, its public schools and the church in the 1920s and '30s. His views were hardened by his military experience. Young made no bones in public that he felt Detroit's problems were caused by a white power structure that had taken its money and abandoned Detroit.

He bailed out the People Mover when the regional transportation authority had no money to operate it.

Tiger Stadium, threatened with abandonment early in Young's administration, was saved for the balance of the 20th century by the sale to the city.

He promoted full integration of the Detroit Police Department and created programs that dramatically reduced complaints about police brutality.

He expanded City Airport.

Many, in the city of Detroit and in its suburbs, can rightfully complain about the rapid decline of Detroit's neighborhoods and the school system, as well as the rising crime rate, but those problems started long before Young took office. Though, it is fair to say Young's response was not always the most astute or productive.

While the Observer felt that Young often created as many problems as he solved on major policy issues, suburban residents should also remember his accomplishments.

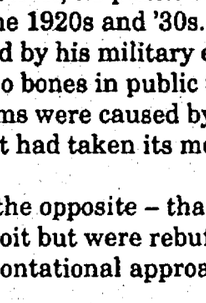
Young gave the majority black residents of Detroit a strong voice in the region and state, and he was not one to back down or give in. His abrasive style eventually paved the way for the more politically sensitive and less confrontational Dennis Archer.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

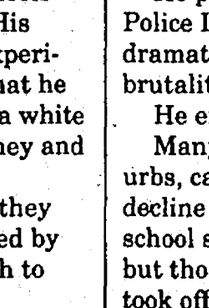
With the holiday season here, where's your favorite place to shop?

We asked this question at the Westland post office.



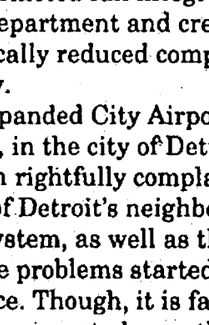
"Probably Twelve Oaks Mall. There's more variety, and it's a nice area."

Carol Matuszewski



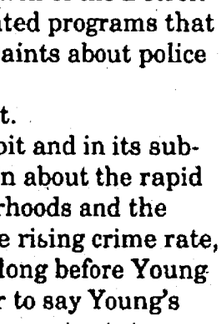
"I really don't shop. The wife does all the shopping."

Mike Buvia



"Mail order."

Kathy Roussey



"Westland mall."

Tracy Chovanec

'Tis the season

For shopping: *Shoppers got down to business on the Friday after Thanksgiving as the holiday shopping season began. Lisa Cieslak (center) and her two daughters Angela (left) and Alisha (right) carry several bags of Christmas presents from the Westland Center on Friday.*

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

LETTERS

Never fully informed

The Nov. 20th letter to the editor from Beatrice Scalise of Westland was a good one. I especially liked her observation of how people would wait in line for a free bucket at Sears, but don't bother to get in line to vote. I too resent the tax dollars given away to Sears and will not shop there because of it.

Clearly our priorities are out of whack.

I also concur with her description of Westland as a city with a "small" mentality. Just look at the antiquated decision to continue with 40 more years of incineration with but a token effort toward recycling of our natural resources. The complete contractual and full financial ramifications of the waste-to-energy project have never been fully disclosed to the public.

Because of that fact I don't totally blame people for not revolting against this long-term plan; for many it is just too complicated. Even today, despite over five years of planning and negotiations, our own Westland representatives have difficulty with even the basic information such as, "just how much will we pay and for how long?"

But if people can remember one thing, remember this; those from outside the authority communities of Westland, Garden City, Wayne, Inkster and Dearborn Heights, those outsiders who decide to send their trash to the incinerator, they will get "competitive" prices so as to entice them away from area landfill operators. This has been stated publicly. We on the other hand will continue to pay the higher tipping fees, we who must also accept all of the legal liability for the increased tons of leftover ash. (And the monofill will not last 40 years).

I say, let those elected officials, both past and present, and their appointees, and even their heirs, (should they leave Westland before the 40 years are up) let those who promoted and supported this deal pay the higher tipping fees. I accept the fact that we must pay the past bond debt, fine, but beyond that, I and others who either did not support this plan or were never fully informed about this plan, resent this ripoff of our hard-earned money. The more I learn about this the sicker I feel, maybe I need to get one of those buckets after all.

Cheryl Graunstadt
Westland

Let seniors enjoy life

I disagree with the article printed in the Westland Observer on Thursday, Nov. 13, 1997, where school board Vice President Mathew McCusker referred to the new addition added to the Westland senior center (Friendship Center) as "the temple." He said, and I quote the article: "McCusker said he wishes city officials would spend as much money on youth programs 'as they do on the temple on Newburgh Road,' referring to the senior citizen Friendship Center." He said "Fair is fair." I disagree for the following reasons.

The temple, as he called it, was approved by the city council. We, the seniors, were asking Sylvia A. Kozorosky-Wiacek, director of the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), for more space. She, in turn, spoke to Mayor Robert Thomas. The mayor brought this matter to the attention of the city council. Months later, it was approved. Many seniors contributed donations to the building program. What's fair is fair.

More and more seniors are becoming members for the following reasons: the activities that take place at the center. I will name a few: euchre; pinochle; line, Hawaiian and ballroom dancing; free blood pressure screening; bingo; free legal advice; and trips to Frankenmuth and many other places. The Friendship Center is considered one of the best senior centers in the United States by the federal and state government as shown by the many commendations received.

Mathew, "Fair is fair."

A number of seniors volunteered their time for the new play area near City Hall. At Christmas time each year, the seniors at the Friendship Center donate gifts for the needy children. Who should know more about children than seniors? Children are the investment in life.

The majority of the seniors live on a fixed income (Social Security). I happen to be one of them. Each day, the senior center provides us with a hot meal. Many seniors volunteer their time delivering food to homebound shut-ins through Meals on Wheels.

Mathew, we seniors do not have a monopoly on life. Let us enjoy our leisure years. There aren't many left for us.

Mathew, in conclusion, when the new "temple" is completed, I invite you to the opening ceremonies, but you must bring your shillelagh, and I will bring a baseball bat. Then we will have a donnybrook and later sit down to a good dinner of Irish stew and good Polish sausage chavena, wieprzowe nozki w galariecie or zimne nogie and czarina soup.

God bless you and your family.

Jan Stanley Plonski
World War II veteran
chairman of the Veterans Committee
UAW Local 157

Westland Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Selection of holiday toys more than child's play

Just down the street from me in November a woman was tortured before she choked to death on her own blood at the hands of a West Bloomfield mother of two and her boyfriend.

Recently, 70 people, including 60 foreign tourists, were killed by six gunmen who ambushed them as they visited the 3,400-year-old Temple of Hatshepsut in Luxor, Egypt.

And, as I write this, the United States is positioned for air strikes against Iraq should that be necessary to continue U.S. participation in critical United Nations weapons inspections of Iraqi sites.

Against this backdrop, it seems inconceivable that thinking adults would deliberately go out and purchase a violent toy for a child whom they love. But some will.

To make us think twice about it, Women's Action for New Directions joined by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom held a peaceful demonstration and petition drive against war toys outside Toys R Us in Southfield. The signed petitions will be sent to toy manufacturers.

For 12 consecutive years, WAND and other peace marchers have targeted the Friday after Thanksgiving because it is the busiest shopping day of the year. And they have targeted the Toys R Us store because it continues to carry toys that encourage aggressive behavior.

Of course this year, Toys R Us is defending itself against some allegedly aggressive behavior of its own. Michigan has joined 36 other states in a lawsuit alleging price-fixing by Toys R Us and four toy makers: Mattel, Hasbro, Tyco Toys and Rubbermaid's "Little Tykes."

West Bloomfield resident and WAND activist Jean Prokopow knows that buying a boy or girl a gun, battle-style video game or Power Ranger won't necessarily turn him or her into a violent person. And after raising

JUDITH DONER BERNE

four children and teaching for 20 years, she knows that "some children will use their fingers or sticks to make pretend guns, and no child should be made to feel like a scumbag because of this."

But, she also knows that "buying toys of violence tells our children that we condone them and accept violence as a solution to our problems. Better choices should be made."

These include: dinosaur toys, puzzles, blocks, books and board games; art supplies, musical instruments, records and tapes; aquariums, maps and globes; cameras and photo equipment; science, cooking, gardening and sports equipment; tickets and passes for bowling, Rollerblading, roller or ice skating, concerts, museums, theater, opera, ballet and skiing; play-acting toys such as dressup clothes and wigs, puppets, face paints, masks; starting or adding to a collection; tool boxes and construction sets.

Dolls make both the buy and don't buy list. Prokopow and her fellow peace activists also warn against dolls that promote sexism, stereotyping and physical violence.

We'll probably have to wait until next year to see if the new Barbie doll makes the do or don't list. Barbie is reportedly being remodeled to more realistic proportions, including a wider waist, smaller bustline, straighter hair and less makeup.

In addition to buying toys that encourage children's creative growth, we can choose to patronize our local toy stores that have a policy against carrying war toys. They include: Adventures in Toys, Birmingham; Children's Emporium, West Bloomfield; Doll Hospital and Toy Soldier Shop, Berkley; Marmel, Farmington Hills; Noodle Kidoodle in Southfield, Farmington Hills and Rochester Hills; Peggy's Dolls, Toys & Miniatures, Rochester; Your Toy Box, Rochester.

The U.S. has the highest homicide rate in the world, by far. The adult crime rate has declined slightly, but the juvenile rate is climbing. And we have a high rate of domestic abuse, of both children and spouses.

WAND's message takes the form of a question to each of us: "Toys are the tools for learning. What do you want to teach?"

Judith Doner Berne, a West Bloomfield resident, is former managing editor of the Eccentric Newspapers. You can comment on this column by calling (313) 953-2047, Ext. 1997.

Hillsdale district's weapons policy isn't worth emulating

"No BB gun, Ralphie. You'll shoot your eye out!"

In the seasonal classic movie, "A Christmas Story," young Ralph is told by his teacher, his mother and even a male Santa Claus he can't have a Red Ryder BB gun.

Here is a true story that is a little more chilling, stemming from a March 1996 incident at Davis Middle School in Hillsdale. Jim Meyer and Chris Crall, students at Davis, brought a BB gun onto school property. Another student told administrators, who called the cops.

The state Court of Appeals record doesn't indicate whether they fired at anything or anyone. Nor does it indicate whether Jim and Chris had been problem kids where this incident could be called "the last straw." "After an investigation and a disciplinary hearing," said the court, the boys were expelled.

Their parents and guardians sued. A trial judge issued an injunction prohibiting Hillsdale School District from enforcing the expulsion. The school district appealed and, last month, won in the Court of Appeals.

There are some intriguing points.

First, the school policy. It prohibits "dangerous weapons" in school buildings, buses and grounds within 1,000 feet of a building. Dangerous weapon includes a firearm. "For purposes of application and enforcement of this policy, a BB gun is considered to be a firearm," says the policy.

Whoa, said the parents and trial court. The school policy is lifted mainly from state law, but the law doesn't include a BB gun on the weapons list. Hillsdale School District added the BB gun sentence itself.

The appeals court upheld the school. "School boards enjoy broad discretion in fashioning rules ... Indeed such power is basic to the operation of

TIM RICHARD

schools. . . Thus, it is beyond question that defendant had the authority to prohibit B-B guns on school property ..."

So the rule seems to be that a school district, a creature of the state, may fashion a local rule more restrictive than state law.

Second, the punishment. The policy says the board "shall permanently expel a pupil from attending a school in the School District ... if the pupil possesses a weapon in a weapon-free school zone. Such expulsion is mandatory."

Here, I think, we run into trouble.

A kid who violates the policy is booted not just from Davis but any school in the district. Permanently. He can't transfer to another building. As a practical matter, his parents must pay for a private school, make travel arrangements for him to go to another district, or move out of town.

Now, suppose an adult had brought a BB gun onto school property. He would not be violating MCL 380.1311, the law on which the school policy is based. Maybe the local cops could nail him under the disorderly conduct ordinance; the judge would have some discretion in punishing him.

The points are 1) the punishment against the kid is harsher and 2) the kids' judges have no discretion.

Something is amiss. I seem to recall a U.S. Supreme Court appeal, *In Re Gault*, in which a minor was punished more severely than an adult for the same transgression.

BB guns can be dangerous. I would fault the makers of "A Christmas Story" for failing to have Ralphie's dad, played by Darren McGavin, show the kid how to make a backdrop with a stack of newspapers or straw so his shots wouldn't ricochet. The movie dad lets Ralphie into the yard with no instruction whatsoever. Ralphie fires at a metal target, and he does get hurt.

Meanwhile, it would behoove local school districts not to copy Hillsdale's mandatory permanent expulsion rule.

Tim Richard reports on the local implications of state and regional events. His Touch-Tone voice mail number is (313) 953-2047, Ext. 1881.

University boards important

For decades, political insiders have been shaking their heads in wonder at Michigan's odd and virtually unique system of selecting members of major education boards.

By state constitutional mandate, candidates for the State Board of Education and for the boards of the Big Three universities – University of Michigan, Michigan State and Wayne State – are nominated at party state conventions and elected statewide on the partisan ballot in November.

The usual result is that those so selected are virtually unknown and largely ignored by a news media preoccupied with other, sexier races. In turn, this lends a certain random quality to the outcome of elections, with winners generally riding on the coattails of Democratic or Republican candidates for governor or president.

That's too bad, because these boards, although largely unknown, have a considerable impact on Michigan public policy and shouldn't be selected merely on somebody else's coattails. The State Board of Education, for instance, oversees the contentious charter school experiment, while the U-M Board of Regents is at the center of the far-reaching lawsuit challenging the university's practice of using affirmative action in admissions decisions in order to achieve a diverse student body.

For years, however, this system has worked pretty well in practice. The key to making the process work has been sensible and far-sighted board members who, well in advance of their party's conventions, have recruited able candidates and worked to wire the conventions by selling their candidates to the party leaders and interest groups.

Sometimes the system doesn't work. Absent good early candidates and a pre-wired convention, the urge to play ticket balancing or interest group politics becomes uncontrollable. I remember sitting in on the Democratic Party's "Midnight Caucus" some years ago when people started talking seriously about how important it was to find a female Pole from the Upper Peninsula to run for the MSU board.

In recent years, the Republican Party has experienced considerable trouble with educational nominations, in large part because the political litmus test required of all candidates by Right to Life, the predominant interest group in the GOP, is an unquestioned anti-abortion position.

Two years ago, for instance, Judy Frey, an experienced civic worker from Grand Rapids, was recruited by Gov. John Engler to run for the U-M board. Engler even gave her nominating speech. But Frey lost the nomination to Mike Bishop, an unknown lawyer from

PHILIP POWER

Rochester Hills whose main claim to fame was serving as president of his fraternity while an undergraduate at U-M.

The issue was abortion. Frey was pro-choice; Bishop, whose late entry into the race was orchestrated by Right to Life and the religious right, was pro-life.

Sen. John Schwarz, the leading legislative authority on higher education, is angry about it. "Judy Frey was treated shabbily, shamefully, by my party," Schwarz says, arguing that it is "not only wrong but absolutely wrong" to choose university trustees solely on the basis of their ideology on abortion or the services they have rendered to powerful party interest groups.

And Schwarz, who chairs the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on higher education, wants to do something about it. It's tough, he admits, to change the Michigan Constitution, which specifies that university boards shall be elected statewide.

But at a recent meeting of the Michigan Association of Governing Boards of State Universities, Schwarz proposed a legislative statute specifying primaries rather than conventions as the means of nominating candidates for state university posts. Legislation to that end could be passed to take immediate effect without going through all the trouble of amending the Michigan Constitution.

Schwarz's idea received a mixed reception. Carl Pursell, a veteran Republican legislator and now serving as (an appointed, by the governor) regent of Eastern Michigan University, predicted "his bill won't fly."

But Schwarz has performed an important public service by bringing into sharp focus an important aspect of the soft underbelly of Michigan politics. His ideas deserve a fair hearing.

Phil Power, a member of the University of Michigan Board of Regents, is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (313) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@oeonline.com.

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Community Life

The Observer

Sue Mason, Editor 313-953-2131 | on the web: http://observer-eccentric.com | Thursday, December 4, 1997

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JACK GLADDEN

Zero tolerence has zero room for child's play

It may be Norman Rockwell America, but it's not acceptable behavior today. If that Saturday Evening Post illustrator were still alive, he'd probably be painting pictures of kids sitting in detention rooms instead of frolicking on the playground.

I was thinking about this after rereading the story of that 6-year-old boy in North Carolina who was placed in solitary confinement (the school said he was placed in a room apart from his classmates) for violating the school's sexual harassment policy. The boy said a girl on the playground asked him to kiss her and he gave her a peck on the cheek. A teacher witnessed the "incident" and reported it to the principal, who decided the boy should be punished.

He was placed in a room alone, where he missed out on coloring and playing with his friends and was not allowed to attend an ice cream party honoring students with good attendance. The boy's mother said he was just expressing friendship with the kiss.

"Can't you just imagine children skipping down the hall holding hands?" she asked. "Isn't that Norman Rockwell America?"

Not according to a school district spokeswoman, who said the sexual harassment policy is clear: *"A 6-year-old kissing another 6-year-old is inappropriate behavior. Unwelcome is unwelcome at any age."* (Emphasis added.)

A 6-year-old Flint boy learned the same lesson earlier this year. He was playing tag with a female classmate and during the game he touched her on the bottom. The girl reported the "incident" to a teacher and the boy was given a one-day, in-school suspension for, again, violating the sexual harassment policy.

"These are little kids playing tag," the boy's mother said. "It's ridiculous."

But the school principal had a different interpretation.

"It used to be that boys and girls could play that game," she said. "But times have changed. *The kids don't think it's a problem, but the adults do."* (Emphasis added.)

Same-sex harassment?

And in a related "incident," a first-grade GIRL in Delaware managed to beat the rap after she gave a female teacher a "love pat" on the teacher's behind.

"It's something she and I do," the girl's mother said. "I never dreamt it would come to this."

But the teacher reported the "incident" to the principal, who called the superintendent, who called the state attorney general's office to get clarification on a state law against "offensive touching." Eventually it was decided that the "love pat" was not a criminal act and did not deserve punishment.

In the meantime, however, the student's mother said her daughter "did nothing but cry" after school officials had said they were considering suspending her. "... she has no idea why she is in trouble."

Yes, indeed, in American classrooms times have changed. And the zero-tolerance policies aren't just limited to weapons, drugs and sex.

When the dye bottle comes out, schools and students can both have bad hair days. More than one student has been suspended or threatened with suspension after showing up with green or purple hair. It's considered "disruptive to the educational process."

That's what a couple of Arkansas students were told after showing up at school with pink hair. The two ninth-grade girls had dyed their hair for Halloween, and even though the father of one of the girls said she had tried her best to redye it with brown dye before returning to school, it was still too pink to suit a vice principal, who told her to change the color or

Please see GLADDEN, B2

Curtain call

Production has 'Tickets' for coping

■ In a season filled with music and good cheer, one church is offering dessert and drama aimed at the heartache that the holidays tend to bring out in some people.

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Aside from the usual Christmas fare, some holiday celebrations are filled with heartache. If there's any hint of a family problem, it will usually come to a head.

Canton Community Church is hoping to show that it's possible to resolve those problems with its Christmas presentation, "Four Tickets to Christmas."

"It touches a nerve," said the Rev. Eric Moore, a Plymouth resident and pastor of Canton Community Church. "For a lot of people, the holidays are not a pleasant time. Many people don't like going home for Christmas. They just want to get there, spend a couple hours and leave.

"This play reflects that but it brings a peaceful resolution through the process of forgiveness."

"Four Tickets to Christmas" will be performed in a dessert theater setting at Canton Community Church, 41600 Ann Arbor Trail between Haggerty and Mill, at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, and 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 13-14.

The $6 tickets are available at Agape Bookseller, 44720 Ford Road, Canton – (313) 453-9400 – or through the CCC Creative Arts Department at (313) 414-9741.

Set at the turn of the century, the Broadway-style musical follows the holiday experiences of an out-of-work family performing group – Henry and Lucille Richmond and their children – who unexpectedly must spend Christmas with his parents, Chester and Eleanor Richmond.

"There's a lot of tension between Henry and Chester because of old issues," said Jen Lombardo, drama director at the church, and a Plymouth resident. "The father always expected more out of his son. He wanted him to work on the farm but Henry wanted to become a musician.

"There was no 'I love yous' or anything."

The 25-member cast of "Four Tickets to Christmas" includes Moore as Chester Richmond and Pattie Dooley of Canton as his wife, Eleanor. Ryan Ballard of Macomb, a student at William Tyndale College in Farmington Hills, is his son, Henry, and Diane Cassidy of Westland plays Henry's wife, Lucille.

PHOTOS BY JERRY MENDOZA

Offering hope: *In "Four Tickets to Christmas," the holiday starts out in conflict for father Chester Richmond, played by Eric Moore (bottom photo, at left), and son Henry Richmond (Ryan Ballard) that is eventually resolved (top photo). Also appearing in the production is Diane Cassidy of Westland as Henry's wife, Lucille.*

During the course of the play, Chester Richmond starts a choir for the church.

"The pastor think he's sent from the Lord to create this program."

The turning point in the musical is, after a fight between Henry and Chester, the church burns down and Henry severely burns his hand. That's when they begin mending their broken relationship.

The score, Lombardo explained, blends ragtime, parlor music and a barbershop quartet with a mix of traditional and new Christmas music.

"We really felt overall the music is well-written and very powerful lyrically but it's a lot of fun, too," he said. "Dramatically, the message of forgiveness and restoration really comes through."

"Four Tickets to Christmas" is Canton Community Church's first dessert theater. A selection of cheesecakes as well as coffee and punch will be served.

Lombardo said that this presentation is significant because it is the first full-staged musical in its permanent facility. The church moved into the location in July. Previously, it had been conducting services in Plymouth Canton High School.

"It's very nice; before we had to do rehearsals at Kim's house and at people's basements. They were not on stage until the day of production," Lombardo said.

For "Four Tickets to Christmas," the church was able to put some people in leadership roles who haven't been involved.

Lombardo and Kim Moore, the church's creative arts director, said that reflects the focus of the church.

"We have a team focus here at the church," Kim Moore said. "It's all of us coming together and working on it."

Lombardo hopes that people will be uplifted by the performance.

"Our prayer is that people will be able to experience the love of Christ and what Christmas is all about," she said. "It has a message of forgiveness, healing and grace not only with relationships with one another but with Christ."

Center needs help to make holidays merry

STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Sorting things: *Plastic Rubbermaid bins are stacked five high in the material goods room of the AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center, where volunteers like Vicki Harkey spend their time sorting the donations of baby clothing and supplies that are given to its clients free of charge.*

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

With the help of donations, the AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center in Livonia is able to fulfill its mission of ministering to women experiencing unplanned pregnancies.

A Christian ministry started in 1974, the agency offers positive alternatives to abortion by meeting the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of the sexually active.

But the influx of financial donations and material goods tends to have a seasonal bent. In the warmer months, donations are plentiful, and the winter is the hardest time for bringing in money and material goods.

In addition to free pregnancy testing, counseling, support programs community education programs and evangelism, the center provides its clients with layettes and supplemental baby clothing, diapers and formula for the first year after birth. All of the items are donated to the center by supporters through Giving Trees at Christmas, baby showers and garage sales throughout the year.

"Everything is paid for by donations," said Ginger Bloomfield, administrative director. "Forty-nine percent of our funding comes from churches and individuals, 49 percent from fund-raisers and 2 percent from designated programs.

"Everything (material goods) that comes in is donated; everything that is donated we give away free of charge."

One way of meeting expenses is through its gift certificate project. The center sells gift certificates in $20 denominations for both Meijer and Kroger, receiving $1 for every certificate that's redeemed. For a family that spends $400 a month at those stores, using the certificates would translate into a $20 contribution to the center.

Even though it is tucked away in a courtyard of a small shopping plaza at Inkster and Schoolcraft

Please see ADOPT A FAMILY, B2

Adopt a Family from page B1

roads in Livonia, women in need are finding AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center. A lot of that is because of word of mouth about the free maternity and baby items and the counseling, according to Bloomfield.

The center has a paid staff of four full-time and one part-time employees and about 100 volunteers, less than what a center its size should have, according to Bloomfield.

"It's a miracle we get things done," she said. "For a crisis pregnancy center our size, we should have a staff of four full-time people."

Helping families

And in an effort to help families in crisis, the agency is turning to the community to support its third annual Adopt a Family Program and Giving Tree.

For Adopt a Family, the center matches up churches, individuals and families with clients facing difficulties at Christmas. Last year, 50 families were adopted. Mothers are asked what's needed for their children, such as toys they would like to receive, and what food or grocery items may be needed. Adopting families have the option of delivering the gifts or being anonymous donors.

Bloomfield is coordinating the Giving Trees program. Christmas trees are decorated with ornaments that contain items from the material goods department's wish list.

Items needed include disposable diapers (small, medium and large), Isomil and Similac formulas (with iron or low iron), pacifiers, regular and Playtex bottle nipples, newborn clothing only, size large onesies, crib sheets and blankets (heavy and receiving), feeding supplies (bowls, cups and spoons), bath supplies, child safety items (doorknob and outlet covers, safety latches and gates) winter maternity clothing, metal shelving and Rubbermaid storage containers.

■ 'Our caseload has changed significantly over the last few years. Our budget three years ago was $36,000; it went to $106,000 this year. We can't see that many people and do what we do without the resources.'

Dave West
–executive director

Also needed is a Pentium 133 computer, a Canon Bubblejet printer model BJC 620, overhead projector, combination TV/VCR and a copier. The computer would complement three others the center acquired and permit the staff to network between the offices, which straddle the courtyard, according to Bloomfield.

Information about the programs is available by calling Bloomfield or Ashe at (313) 425-1826 or material goods at (313) 425-1826.

Faced with an increasing caseload – executive director Dave West estimates the center will work with 2,068 clients this year, up from 1,967 last year – and budget (monthly expense are projected to top $12,000 next year) the center is trying to build up its donor base.

"Our caseload has changed significantly over the last few years," West said. "Our budget three years ago was $36,000; it went to $106,000 this year. We can't see that many people and do what we do without the resources."

Expanding resources

One way of expanding that base is through a trust fund. The center is looking for 1,000 people to give $1,000 each. The $1 million would serve as a nest egg, with the dividends and earnings used for operations. Only 995 more donors are needed, according to West.

"We'll accept any donation, but if we can have $1 million we'll have all we need to run on," West said. "Over the year, the investment would take care of this year's budget. It also would take the burden off the people who already are giving."

The center's biggest need is have all its services under one roof, and it's also the biggest project it's facing. The center set goal last year of doubling its space within two years, and the search is under way to find something that will suit the center's needs – a 3,000-4,000-square-foot building with reduced or free rent in the area near the I-96 expressway.

Through walkathons and banquets, the center is hoping to raise money to purchase a building. The hope is for AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center to be in its own building by its 25th anniversary in May 1999.

"We're trying to improve on what we have and build relationships with new people," West said. "We're stepping up our marketing to make people aware of who we are and what we do. The more we do that the larger our donor base will be."

The AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center is at 27592 Schoolcraft, Livonia. For more information or to make a donation, call the center at (313) 425-8060.

Gladden from page B1

face suspension. The girl used a black dye to get rid of all the pink.

First Amendment rights

She said she wasn't going to make an issue of the matter until she read in her civics textbook that dress and grooming fall within the freedom of expression clause of the First Amendment. She said the school was being hypocritical to threaten her with suspension over the color of her hair while teaching about freedom of expression.

The school principal said "upon reflection" that the girls probably wouldn't have been suspended, but he did say that a student's right of expression is balanced against the school's duty to preserve order and an "effective learning environment."

And speaking of freedom of expression, the father of a Virginia fourth-grader filed suit in federal court after a teacher confiscated a book from his son during a period set aside for reading. The father claimed his 9-year-old son's free speech rights were violated when the school confiscated his copy of "The Way Things Ought to Be," by conservative talk show host Rush Limbaugh.

But the federal judge upheld the school, ruling that the book contained material that the fourth- grader did not understand and that made it "counterproductive" during a time set aside to help students develop enthusiasm for reading. He also wrote that the court must strike a balance between the traditional rights of parents in rearing their children and the interest of the state in controlling public schools.

I wonder what the school and the judge would have done if the book had been a collection of Norman Rockwell paintings?

Jack Gladden, a copy editor for the Observer Newspapers, is a Canton resident.

CRAFTS CALENDAR

Listings for the Crafts Calendar should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (313) 591-7279. For more information, call (313) 953-2131.

SENIOR HOUSE
Senior House of Livonia will have its eighth annual Christmas bazaar 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at the retirement residences, 11525 Farmington Road, south of Plymouth Road. There will be a bake sale, white elephant booth, new gift items, decorations and ornaments. For more information, call (313) 425-3050.

ALDERSGATE UM
Aldersgate United Methodist will have an arts, crafts and candy Christmas bazaar 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the church, 10000 Beech Daly Road, south of Plymouth Road, Redford. There will be a wide variety of bazaar tables, ranging from fresh pine roping, wreaths and specialty craft wreaths to ceramic figures and pins, handmade Indian jewelry and doll clothes. Drawings will be held throughout the day and a luncheon counter will be available. Admission will be $1. For more information, call (313) 561-5145.

ST. KEVIN'S
St. Kevin's Church will have an Christmas bazaar 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, in the church social hall, 30053 Parkwood, Inkster. Table rental will be $15. There will be artists and crafters, Santa's living room, bake sale, lunch and snacks and hourly raffles. For more information, call (313) 728-2470 or (313) 595-1305.

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL
"Treats and Treasures," a sale at Meadowbrook Congregational Church, will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the church, 21355 Meadowbrook Road (between Eight and Nine Mile roads, west of I-275), Novi. Holiday cookies and other baked goods, Christmas decorations, jewelry, attic treasures, cutlery, and more will be featured. Admission is free. For more information, (248) 348-7757.

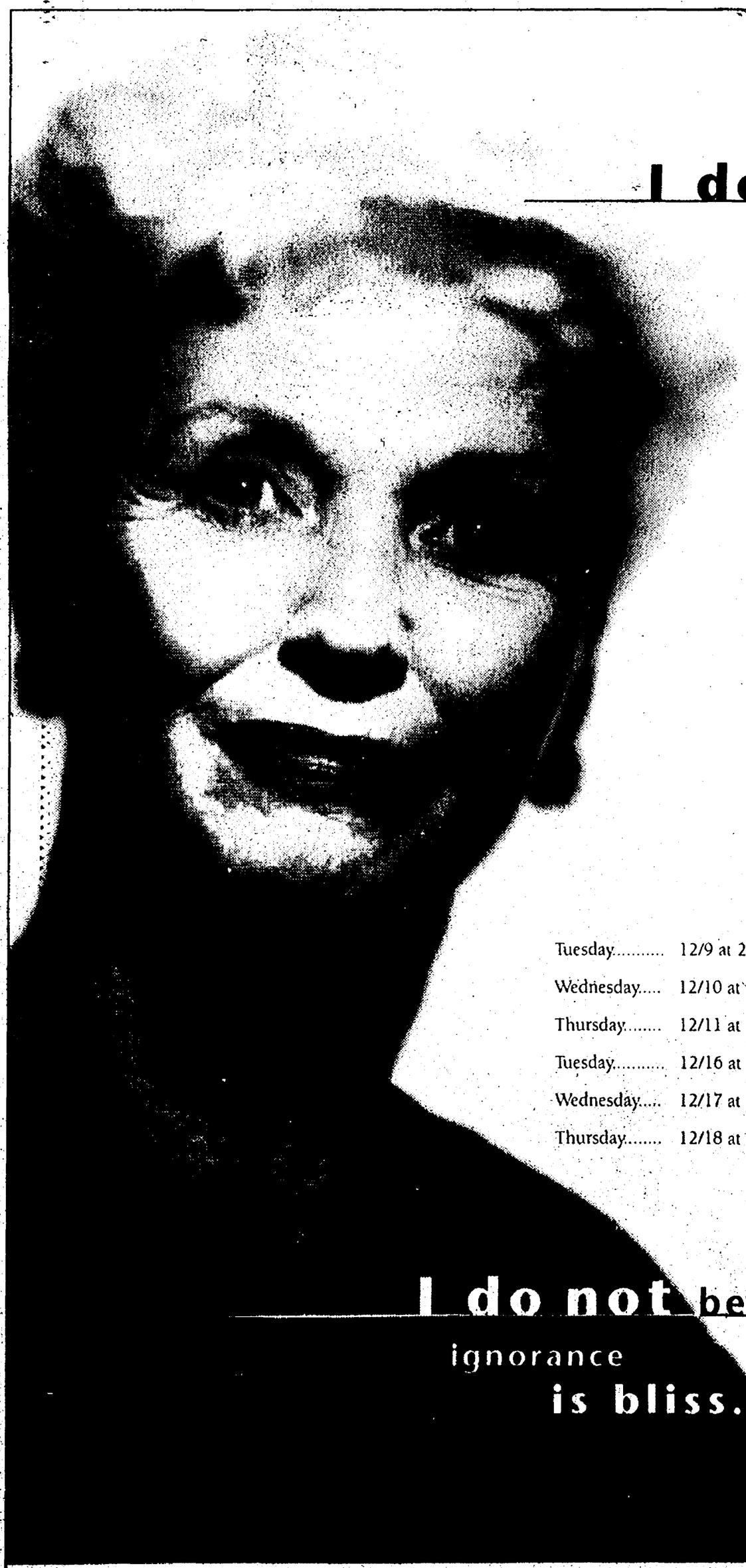
BISHOP BORGESS
Bishop Borgess High School still has table space available for its 17th annual holiday bazaar on Sunday, Dec. 7, at the school, 11685 Appleton, Redford. For more information, call Amy Nanni at (313) 255-1100.

PLYMOUTH PARKS
The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department still has openings in its annual arts and crafts 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 6 and noon-5 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St., Plymouth. Admission and parking are both free. For more information, call show director Carol Donnelly at (313) 455-6620.

GRAND COURT
A crafts show will be held 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, in the main lobby of Grand Court, 36550 Grand Rive Ave., Farmington Hills.

HANDCRAFTERS
Handcrafters will sponsor its 16th annual Christmas arts and crafts show Dec. 12-14 at the Northville Recreation Center, 3030 W. Main St., Northville. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 13 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 14. There will be more than 70 juried artisans displaying their works. Lunch will be available. Admission will be $2; no strollers allowed. For more information, call (313) 459-0050.

UNITY OF LIVONIA
Unity of Livonia is hosting a Christmas bazaar and bake sale from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, and Sunday, Dec. 15, at the church, 28660 Five Mile Road, Livonia. There will be crafts, tree ornaments, and other items available for Christmas. For more information, call (313) 421-1760.



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WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Schollett-Gildhaus

Valerie June Gildhaus and Marc Anthony Schollett were married June 7 at Central United Methodist Church of Traverse City by the Rev. Dean Bailey.

The bride asked her sister, Beverly Wayne of Canton, to be her matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Anne Gilmore, Kerie O'Donnell and Kinzie Thomas.

The groom, the son of Frank and Jan Schollett of Traverse City, asked Andrew Hittle to serve as best man, with groomsmen Bill Gildhaus, Mike Pietraszak and Jeff Ramsey.

The bride is a 1994 graduate of the University of Michigan and a 1996 graduate of Rush University in Chicago with a master's degree in health systems management.

The groom also is a 1994 graduate of the University of Michigan and recently completed work on a master's degree in biology at Loyola University in

Chicago.

A reception was held at The Bowery at Bowers Harbor Inn in Traverse City.

Following an Alaskan cruise, the couple is living in Traverse City.

Pydyn-Bidolli

Daniel and Elizabeth Pydyn of Plymouth Township announce the engagement of their daughter, Christy Renea, to Peter Anthony Bidolli, the son of Kathleen E. Bidolli of Plymouth.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Lutheran High School in Westland and Madonna University. She is employed by Providence Hospital as a registered nurse.

Her fiance is a graduate of Divine Child High School in Dearborn and Lawrence Technological University. He is employed by General Motors as a mechanical engineer.

A May 1998 wedding is planned in Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Detroit.

Gotham-Boman

Nancy Boman and Greg Gotham were married June 28 at Bethlehem United Church of Christ in Ann Arbor by Dr. Orval L.E. Willimann.

The bride is the daughter of Richard and Betty Boman of Ann Arbor. The groom is the son of Bryon and Alice Gotham of Livonia.

The bride is a graduate of Ann Arbor Huron High School. She is employed by the University of Michigan School of Information.

The groom received his bachelor of science degree in business administration from Madonna University and a master of business administration degree from Eastern Michigan University. He is employed as a financial services manager at Rima Manufacturing Co. in Hudson.

The bride asked Laurene Steinaway to serve as maid of honor with Kim Kyro, Jennifer Serttunc, and Valerie Boman as her attendants. Junior bridesmaid was Alicia Kozub, with Beth Boman as the flower girl.

The groom asked Jim McDowell to serve as best man with Greg Wlosinski, Jeff Cherenzia, and Jack Boman as attendants. Rich Boman was the ringbearer.

The couple received guests at Weller's Carriage House in Saline before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Hawaii. They are making their home in Britton, Mich.

Griess-Karshneski

Dr. Jerald Griess of Ann Arbor announces the engagement of his daughter, Karen, to Richard Karshneski of Livonia, the son of Anthony and Irene Karshneski of Inkster.

The bride-to-be, also the daughter of the late Roberta Griess, is an Eastern Michigan University graduate. She employed as a contract technical writer and graphics specialist at Ford Motor Co. in Dearborn.

Her fiance, who attended Henry Ford Community College, works as a global EDI coordinator at Ford Motor Co. in Dearborn.

A spring wedding is planned.

McCabe-Tarpley

Mary Margaret Tarpley and Daryl Clayton McCabe were married Sept. 27 in St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church in Wyandotte by the Revs. John Hedges and Edmond Ertzbischoff.

, The bride is the sister of Gearl Tarpley II of Ann Arbor and goddaughter of Lorraine Schwartz of Trenton. The groom is the son of Lloyd and Marilyn McCabe of Canton.

The bride earned her bachelor and master degrees in psychology from the University of Michigan. She is the founder and owner of Advance Center for Psychological and Counseling Services of Dearborn.

The groom is a graduate of Thurston High School and Wayne State University. He is employed by Ford Motor Company.

Robin Marie Tarpley-Misuraca served as matron of honor with bridesmaids Ann Marie Tarpley-Provencio, Dawn Connolly, Kelly McCabe, Amy Stevens and Amanda Provencio. Kelsey Johnson served as flower girl.

Michael Renner served as best man with groomsmen Bill Partykula, Bob Biggs, Gary McCabe, Tom Sousa and Joseph Provencio. Jordan Provencio served as ringbearer.

The couple received guests at the Dearborn Inn before leaving on a trip to Marco Island, Fla.

They are making their home in Ypsilanti Township.

Francis-Kumm

Amy Kristen Kumm and Darin P. Francis were married Sept. 5 in the garden of the Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills. A reception followed in the inn's Coach House.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kumm of Westland. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Francis of Troy.

NEW VOICES

Douglas and **Monique Dingeldey** of Chesterfield Township, announce the birth of twin girls, **Miranda Grace** and **Madison Mary** Oct. 8. Grandparents are Mary and Jake Dingeldey of Canton and Grace and Marvin Zurek of Caseville.

Rena Brock of Garden City announces the birth of **John Zachary** Sept. 24 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital.

Ron and **Becky Pritchard** of Wayne announce the birth of **Kaitlyn Amber** Oct. 11 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. Grandparents are Jim and Michele Pritchard of Alamo, Texas, Bill and Judy Steinhauer of Redford, and Jackie Martin of Dearborn Heights.

Dewey Frady Jr. and **Lori Potter** of Westland announce the birth of **Collin Manuel Frady** Sept. 25 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a brother Daniel, 8, and Emily, 3. Grandparents are Dewey and Carole Frady of Westland.

Steven and **Lisa Smith** of Westland announce the birth of **Logan Scott** Oct. 5 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins a sister, Brittany Paige Smith. Grandparents are Roger and Phyllis Smith of Westland, and John and Lucretia Griswold of Brighton.

David and **Connie Boyd** of Westland announce the birth of **Rebecca Lynn** Sept. 26 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins a sister, Hannah-Mae, 15 months. Grandparents are Hattie Boyd, John Lear, and Hannelore Lear, all of Westland.

Ron and **Wendi Way** of Wayne announce the birth of **Brett Joseph** Oct. 7 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins a sister, Chelsi. Grandparents are James and Martha Burgess of Wayne, Jimmie Way of Westland, and Patricia Hamilton of Northville.

George and **Angela Steeves** of Canton announce the birth of **Devin Michael** Sept. 27 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a brother, Nickolas, 9, and a sister, Angel, 6. Grandparents are George and Karen Steeves of Farmington Hills, Nicholes and Sandy Sesan of Dusseldorf, Germany, and David and Stephanie Clark of Naples, Fla.

John Currey and **Karen Sitler Currey** of Connecticut, formerly of Livonia, announce the birth of **Nicole Michelle** July 23 at the Birthing Center at Providence Hospital. She joins a brother, Jacob. Grandparents are Marilyn Sitler of Livonia, and Pam and John Currey of Brighton. Great-grandparents are Ed and Elnora Bousch of Aida, Ohio.

Mark and **Estelle DeWalf** of Livonia announce the birth of **Laura Ann** Sept. 27 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins two brothers, Michael and Robert, ages 4. Grandparents are Michael and Barbara Hills of Ann Arbor and Faye and Robert DeWalf of Westland.

Jim and **Cindy Wertz** of Garden City announce the birth of **Kristy Marie** July 14 at Providence Hospital. She joins a brother, Danny, 7 1/2, and a sister, Julie, 3 1/2. Grandparents are Harold and Mary Brick, and George and Peggy Wertz, all of Garden City.

Patrick and **Becky Stoliker** of Westland announce the birth of **Penelope Faye** Oct. 2 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins siblings, Kimberly, 23, Jamey, 21, Ashley, 8, Brittany and Bridget, 7, and Chelsea, 5. Grandparents are Bob Hankins and Penny Coffey, both of Wayne.

Kevin and **Melissa Henderson** of Grass Lake Township, formerly of Canton Township, announce the birth of **Benjamin Terrance** Sept. 14 at University Women's Hospital, Ann Arbor. Grandparents are Robert and Debra Beebe, and Barbara Henderson, all of Canton. Great-grandparents are Vic and Mary Loritz of Lincoln Park.

Daniel and **Lynn Linderman** announce the birth of **Hunter William** Oct. 3 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins two sisters, Jessica, 3 1/2, and Rachel, 1 1/2. Grandparents are William Balogh and Lee Balogh, both of Redford, and Pat Linderman of Chicago, Ill.

Randolph and **Lynette Mann** of Plymouth announce the birth of **Chad Earl** July 30 at St. Mary's Hospital, Livonia. He joins three brothers, Ryan, 8, Jason, 6, and Scott, 2. Grandparents are Earl and Priscilla Mann of Highland and Lawrence and Lois Woodrum of Westland.

Jeff and **Anna Lawley** of Farmington Hills announce the birth of **Thomas Joseph** Oct. 4 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins siblings, Lindsay, 10, Jeffrey, 8, Alexandra, 6, and Elise, 4. Grandparents are Dr. and Mrs. George Lawley of Bloomfield Hills and Mr. and Mrs. Americo Peticca of Livonia.

Bob and **Kari Sawle** of Redford announce the birth of **Lauren Alyssa** Oct. 8. She joins a brother, Ryan, 4. Grandparents are Al and Barbara Bailey of Westland, and Ed and Judy Sawle of Redford. Great-grandmothers are Helen Penberthy, Nancy Baird and Elizabeth Bailey.

Scott and **Dawn Hamby** of Westland announce the birth of **Brendan James** Oct. 2 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a sister, Ariel Nicole, 3. Grandparents are Jonas and Bonnie Peters of Canton, Kathy Linder of Westland, and James Hamby of Ecorse

Mitchell and **Patricia Piner** of Wayne announce the birth of **Emily Rose Michelle** Oct. 24 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She joins siblings, Joshua, Preston, Trista, Marisa and Tyler. Grandparents are Steve and June Coxs of Westland, and Linda Crowell of Brownstown Township.

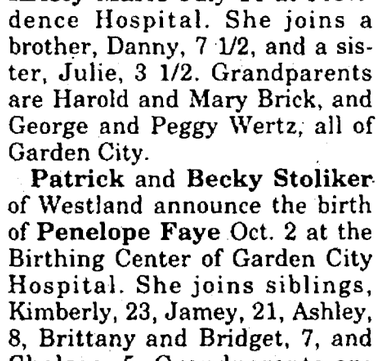
Children's '97 Directory

Education

Skatin' Station II
Canton
OPEN SKATING 1 pm-4 pm
December 22-January 2
313-459-6400

Personal Editions
Your Child Becomes the Star of Each Book!
Holiday Book Sale!
Call 313-451-2622

New St. Mark Montessori Educational Center
12 mos. - 5 yrs.
7 am - 6 pm
(313) 541-4410 • 24331 W. Eight Mile
Latchkey Available: January 5, 1998



Children have many special needs... and because parents don't always have a lot of time, the Observer & Eccentric has created this unique directory to make life just a little easier. For more information about advertising
Call June at: 313-953-2099

Over the Grand River and through the Novi woods to Grandmother's house we go. The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh...

Wishing you and yours a Happy Holiday Season

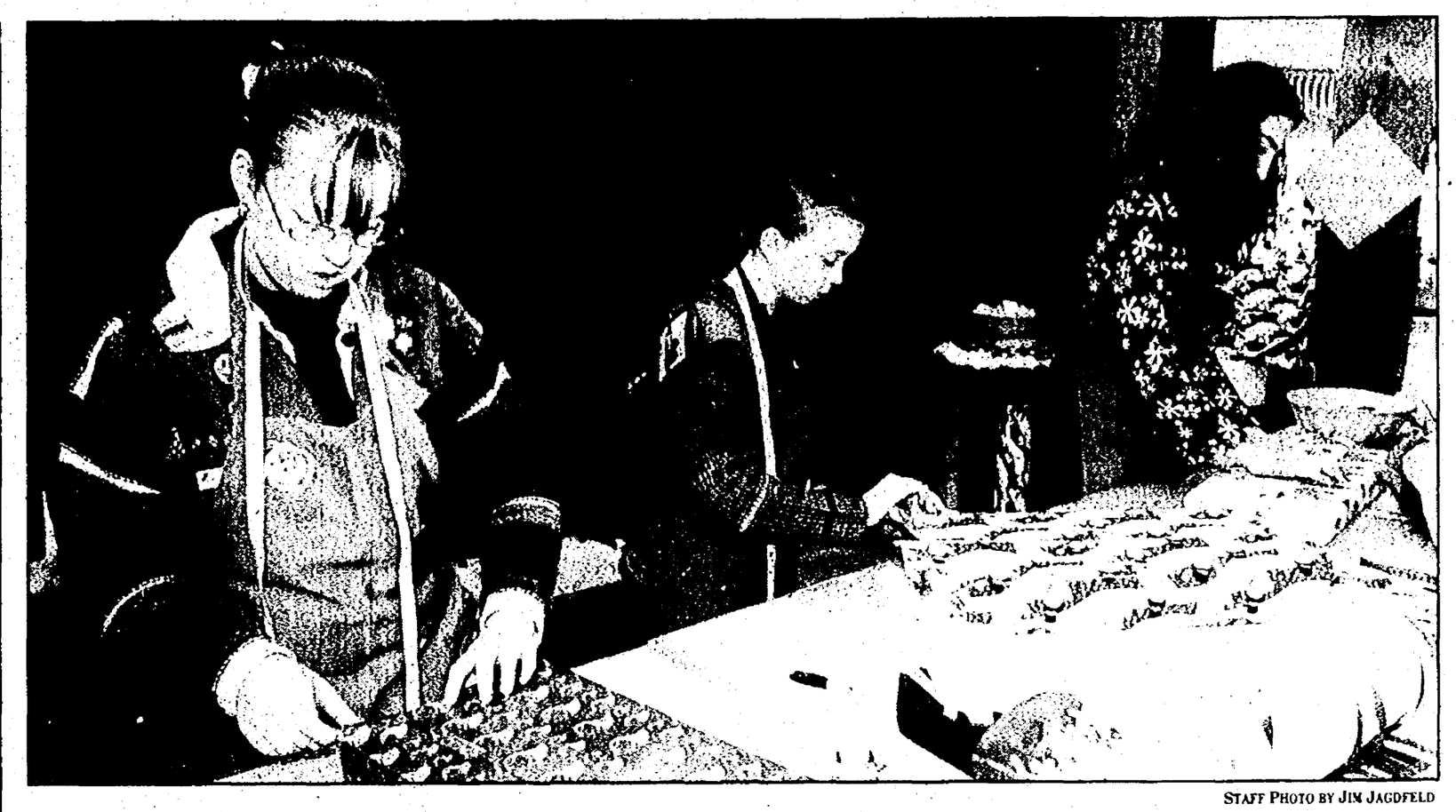
Duck the Halls!

The GRAND COURT

Rental Retirement Communities

THE GRAND COURT NOVI
45182 West Road, Novi, MI 48377
(248) 669-5330

THE GRAND COURT FARMINGTON HILLS
36550 Grand River, Farmington Hills, MI 48335
(248) 476-7478



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

All wrapped up for Christmas: *Twelve Girl Scout troops from Livonia, Westland, Redford, Novi, Farmington Hills, Inkster and Detroit are once again wrapping presents at Wonderland Mall in Livonia during mall hours through Tuesday, Dec. 24. The proceeds go toward scout activities and end-of-the-year trips. The gift wrapping isn't limited to gifts purchased at the mall. Gifts can be brought in from other stores. On the busy Thanksgiving weekend, Girl Scouts Julie Bergendahl, Christin Bay and Jackie Ryan were busy wrapping gifts. Christin chose snowman paper for one customer's gift. In order to participate in the fund-raiser, Girl Scouts and adults are required to attend a three-hour training session to learn how to measure, price and wrap gifts.*

Estate in Dearborn sets holiday events

The Henry Ford Estate in Dearborn has brought Christmas to life this holiday season with its historic rooms adorned in Christmas splendor by area florists.

The estate sponsors several holiday programs, inviting visitors to tour the buildings and grounds of the national historic landmark. Public and group tours are welcome through Dec. 31.

Special programs include holiday luncheon concerts, Tea, Tour and Christmas Treasures, Candles and Carols dinners, Santa breakfast, Santa's Workshop and candlelight tours.

Public tours are available during December at 10 and 11 a.m. and 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Saturday tours are available every hour 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., while Sunday tours begin at 1 p.m. and are available every half hour until 4:30 p.m.

The Pool Restaurant at the estate is open for lunch Monday through Friday. The Estate Shop sells souvenirs and memorabilia related to the Fords' life at Fair Lane.

For tickets or more information, call Kathleen Haag at (313) 593-5590.

A part of the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Henry Ford Estate is at 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn.

THE WEATHERVANE "Olde Tyme Folk Art Shows"
- presents -
Christmas in the Country
Flint, Michigan
December 5, 6 & 7, 1997
ENJOY COUNTRY SHOPPING AT ITS FINEST! Baskets • Teddy Bears • Rag Dolls • Dried Flowers • And More!
Fri., Sat. & Sun. 9-9 pm Adm. $5 | Sat. 10 am-5 pm Adm. $4
Sunday 12-5 pm Adm. $4 | Children up to 12 years Adm. $2
New This December! Meet the American Country Folk Artisans and see their original work...Collectibles of Tomorrow
Present this ad for $1.00 off parking, Fri. & Sat. One ad per vehicle. Please!
Also the last in a series of our Designer Showcase & Mini Lecture Series Featuring Gramma's Loft of Flint, MI And Other Fine Businesses!
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Wrap Up Your HOLIDAY SHOPPING
STOREWIDE SAVINGS 10-65%
Viking Collectibles, Inc.
Gift Certificates Available
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 A.M.-9 P.M.; Sat. 9-12; Closed 12-24 thru 12-31
30175 Ford Rd. • Garden City • 421-5754
Between Middlebelt & Merriman Roads

Consigning Women
33475 W. 8 Mile, just West of Farmington Rd.
LIVONIA (248) 442-8568
Upscale Resale Ladies Fashions
Good Selection of Petites and Plus Sizes
Check Out Our Furs and Holiday Wear
20% Off One Full Price Item
with coupon, expires 12-31-97

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Get Ready for Winter
Includes: Labor, Fluid & Gasket
(Filters not included)
• Automatics • Sticks • Fwd • Rwd • Transfer Cases • Rear Ends • Axles
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Intermediate Two-Stage — Starting At $899.99 — 5.5 or 7hp engines, 22" or 24" clearing widths — Rated #1 by a leading consumer magazine
Large Frame Two-Stage — 8 & 9 or 10hp engines, 24", 26" or 30" clearing widths — Starting At $1,179.99
LE Single-Stage — Starting At $549.99 — 5hp 2-cycle engine, 20" clearing width
SX Single-Stage — Starting At $419.99 — 5hp 2-cycle engine, 17" or 19" clearing widths
SNAPPER SNAP-CREDIT 90 DAYS SAME AS CASH
Subject to approval on Snap Credit. Finance Charges will accrue at a rate which will vary. The APR in effect on December 1 1996 was 20.05%. A minimum 50 cent finance charge will be assessed except in NC (Zero minimum) an 18% APR will not vary in CO IA, ME, NC, and WI. If your promotional purchase and any optional insurance charges are paid in full by the due, all accrued finance from date of purchase until promotional due date will be removed from your account.
4 DOUBLE TIME WARRANTY
SNAPPER SNOW WITH MOWERS
LEGENDARY QUALITY
Canton — Tourle's Sales & Service — 7775 Sheldon Rd. — 313-416-8886
Dearborn Heights — Studz Hardware — 4457 South Telegraph — 313-563-1058
Livonia — H & R Lawnmower — 27430 Joy Road — 800-261-5161
Plymouth — Tony's Mower Shop — 40970 Five Mile Rd. — 313-420-9083
Southgate — Southgate Bike & Mower — 13563 Northline — 313-282-3783
Trenton — Carefree Lawn Center — 2805 Van Horn — 313-675-4745
Westland — Dave's Engine & Mower Shop — 8513 Inkster Rd. — 313-427-6444

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The Garfield Inn — RESTAURANT & LODGING — 8544 Lake Street, Port Austin, MI 48467 — 517-738-5254 • FAX 517-738-6384 — 800-373-5254

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Bed and Breakfast and more! Quite the romantic getaway! Delightful atmosphere, attentive staff, tantalizing tastes from the menu and the wine cellar. Just for the two of you, a private Polynesian spa, canopy waterbed, sauna or steam bath. Little things to waken the romance.
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Holiday Gift Certificates Now Available
• Plan ahead for that special occasion!

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1997 Winter Candlelight Tour Weekends
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WITH 20 LUXURIOUS ROOMS
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South Haven, MI 49090

To place an ad in this directory, Please Call:
June 313-953-2099
Rich 313-953-2069

Adoptive parents help other parents with Russian adoptions

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

John and Linda Hinkle dreamed of having children of their own, but infertility stood in their way.

Faced with a risky medical treatment, they decided to take a different route to parenthood, and now, two years later are the proud parents of Jonathon and Ashlynn.

The Hinkles chose to adopt their children in Russia, a costly venture that they "begged, borrowed and stole" to finance, says John, an employee at Ford Motor Co.'s Wayne Assembly Plant in Wayne.

"We went there because there's long waiting lists here and because Linda had a fear of the birth mother showing up like baby Jessica," said John, helping Ashlynn play with his office computer. "Unless we were to tell you they were adopted, you wouldn't know."

Because of their experiences – Jonathon's was a "cake walk," Ashlynn's was fraught with "misguided and improper procedures" – they have decided to help other couples achieve the dream of parenthood through Russian adoption, opening up their own agency, Adoptees Help Adopt International Inc. in Westland last month.

Licensed with the State of Michigan, the Hinkles started putting together the pieces of their adoption network in April after the Russian facilitator for Ashlynn's asked if they could help so the adoption process could be done right.

They have employed a chief administrator who worked for the state's Family Independence Agency and its predecessor, Child and Family Services, for 20 years, to oversee what they do, and a social worker to do the home study.

"Being adoptive parents ourselves, we've left nothing overturned," John said. "We do everything we can to bring a child home to a family and to enrich that family life. We can do everything from A to Z, and we'll help every step of the way."

The Russian connection

On the Russian side, the agency is based in Nizhniy Novogorad (Gor'kiy), where the Hinkles are working with the facilitator who asked for their help. John spent 12 days in the city setting up the network, finding flats for adoptive parent to stay in during their mandatory visit to the country and lining up a staff of lawyers and interpreters.

"Our facilitator is our partner and friend and lifesaver," John said. "If not for him, we would not have our daughter."

Under the Russian system, youngsters who go to an orphanage must remain on its data bank for six months. They are available for adoption for three months in the region and then three months in the entire country before they become available internationally.

According to the Garden City couple, the first step for adoptive families after signing on with the agency is to begin the necessary paperwork with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Those document can take up to 1 1/2 months to obtain.

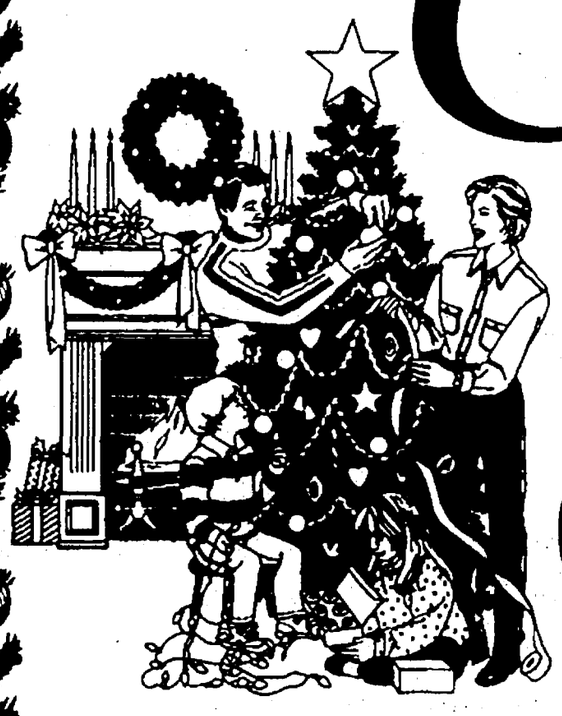
The family also needs the home study; that can take up to a month to complete. The couple is interviewed together, once in

Please see **ADOPTION**, B9

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Family life: *John and Linda Hinkle of Garden City share their work at Adoptees Help Adopt International Inc. in Westland with their two children Jonathon, 6, and Ashlynn, 1 1/2, whom they adopted from Russia.*

Christmas Tree Guide



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CLARKSTON EVERGREEN NURSERY
Selling live & cut trees 3-7 ft. & fresh handmade wreaths, swags & grave blankets.
HOURS:
Mon-Fri 2pm - 9:30pm
Saturday Noon - 9 pm
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WATERLOO TREE FARM
Take I-94 to M-52 North 3 miles, left on Waterloo Rd 5 miles to Village of Waterloo, then follow tree signs.
PICK FROM 35 ACRES OF TREES
• Spruce • Pines • Firs • Potted Trees
• Balled & Burlapped • U-Cut & We Cut
Wreaths • Hot Chocolate • Hot Dogs
Sat. & Sun. In December Santa comes to visit his live reindeer Dancer & Prancer
Sat. - Sun. 9-dark Weekdays 1-dark
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Open 7 days a week
Enjoy Winter Hayrides
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Roping, Wreaths and Tree Stands
97-7

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From Nov. 28, 1997
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North 4-miles to Farm

Braun's Tree Farm
Fraser Fir • Douglas Fir
Blue Spruce • Scotch Pine
White Pine
Prices are $10.00 and up
We shake and bale.
Location: 786 Warren Rd.
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Cut your own Scotch Pine $20.00
Fresh cut Douglas Fir Spruce & Pine
• Tree Shaking • Live Wildlife Exhibits on weekends • Hayrides • New building w/crafts, wreaths, roping & refreshments
*All proceeds benefit the Nature Center
Hours 9-5, starting November 28th
• Santa arrives 1st 2 weekends in December
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1005 Triangle Lake Rd.
1 mi. E. of Howell @ I-96, E. of Dtj

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Choose & Cut your own
• Blue Spruce • Pine
Saws Provided • Trees Machine Cleaned
★ Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
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80,000 Christmas Trees
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Come Prepared.
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Wreaths, roping, centerpieces
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U-Choose • We Cut
Scotch Pine, Blue Spruce, Douglas Fir and White Pine
ALSO
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Roping • Wreaths
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Includes baling and tree bag
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Once again we have a fine selection of trees. All sizes.
Lots of premium....
Douglas Fir, Frasier Fir, Balsam Fir, Scotch Pine & White Pine.
Come early for a better selection.
Wreaths of many sizes. Cedar & Pine Roping.
Excellent selection of Grave Blankets.
34yrs. in same location.
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1000's to Choose From
Scotch Pine, Blue Spruce, White Spruce & Balsim Fir
Free Wagons to Fields
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Large Selections of Fraser Fir, Douglas Fir, Wreaths and Roping
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8 Varieties of Fir, Spruce & Pine
All Prices, All Sizes
Tree Wrapping, Wreaths, Garland & Gifts
FREE rides, animals, snacks.
ANIMATED TOY HOUSE
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Daily 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
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Fri., Sat., & Sun.
Thru CHRISTMAS - 9 till Dark
WALDOCK TREE FARM
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(517) 546-3890
I-96 to Exit 137 (D-19), South to Coon Lake Rd West to Dutcher Rd. approximately 8.7 miles.
FOLLOW SIGNS

Candy Cane CHRISTmas Tree Farm
Choose & cut a beautiful tree at one of our two locations. Fresh wreaths & roping. FREE tree wrap, saws & tree sleighs provided.
OXFORD - 4780 Seymore Lake Rd (between baldwin & Sashabaw. Take I-75 to Exit 89 N on Sashabaw for 5 mi. E on Seymour Lake for 3/4 mi. Farm on right.)
Choose from 9 varieties including Fraser Fir, 6-8 ft., $18-$55. Visit our new emu exhibit. Warm beverages.
Open M-F noon-8, Sat & Sun 9-5.
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Need a BIG tree for a high ceiling? This is the place. Thousands of beautiful spruce & pine up to 14ft.. Only $5 per ft. In Lapeer! Open Sat & Sun 9-5.
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$2 off tree with this ad.

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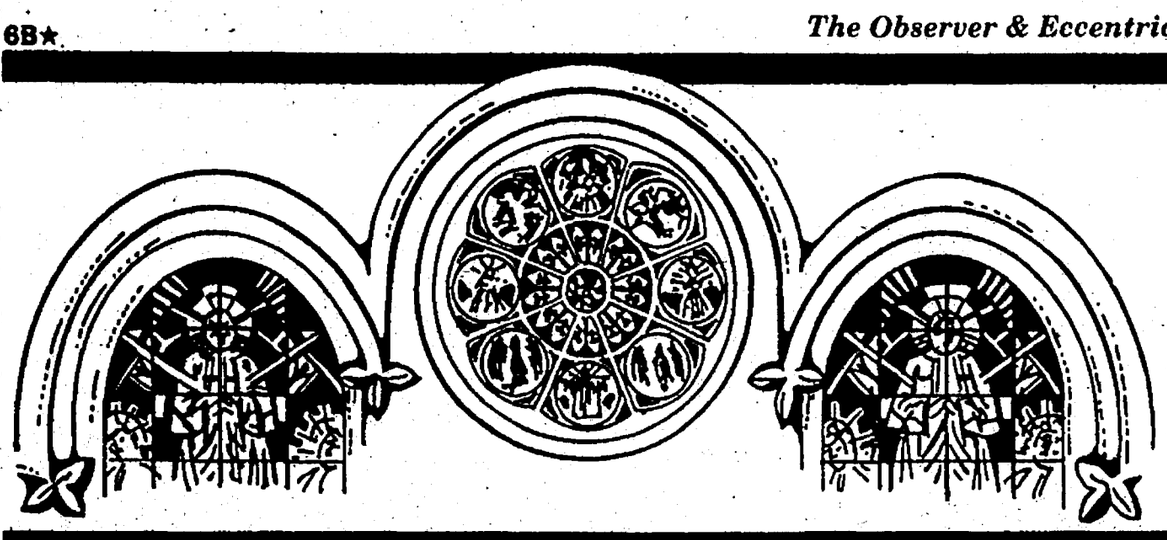
Rich 313-953-2099 • Fax 313-953-2232



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BAPTIST

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE
29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia
525-3664 or 261-9276

YOUTH AWANA CLUBS

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.

Pastor & Mrs. H.L. Petty

December 7th
11:00 a.m. "Something New"
6:00 p.m. "Cave Men"
Christmas Contata: Dec. 14th 6:00 p.m. & Dec. 21st at 11:00 a.m.

"A Church That's Concerned About People"

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
5403 S.Wayne Rd.•Wayne, MI
(Between Michigan Ave. & Van Born Rd.)
(313) 728-2180
Virgil Humes, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 -8:00 p.m.

BAPTIST

First Baptist Church
45000 N. Territorial
Plymouth, 48170

Same Location
Same Friendly People

New Meeting Times:
Sunday School
9:30 am
Morning Worship
11:00 am

The end of your search for a friendly church!

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
(810) 661-9191

NOW OFFERING TWO WORSHIP SERVICES!

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. *and* 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages - 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Child Care provided for infants through preschoolers
Wednesday evenings - Activities for All Ages

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Society of St. Pius X
Traditional Latin Mass
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121
Priest's Phone (810) 784-9511

Mass Schedule:

First	Fri.	7:00 p.m.
First	Sat.	9:30 a.m.
Sun. Masses		7:30 & 9:30 a.m.

Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass

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

Masses: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 A.M., Sat. 5:00 P.M.
Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M.

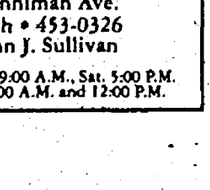
RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187
451-0444
REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO
Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Come Join Us In Our Celebration
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!
St. Al's...Where People Come To Belong

Mass Schedule
Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 9 am & 11 am
Monday 7:30 pm
Mass for Peace

Thanksgiving Eve Mass
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Church of St. Alexander
Rev. James B. Wright
Pastor
27835 Shiawassee
Farmington Hills, MI

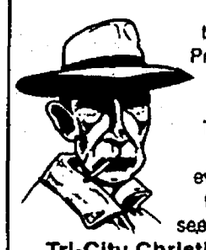


248-474-5748

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

You Don't Have to be a Great Detective

You don't have to be a great detective to discover the life changing principles taught in church. Principles that will return joy to living. These principles are free to everyone. Join us this Sunday and see what we mean.



Tri-City Christian Center
Michigan Ave. & Hannon Rd
326-0330
Sun. 9 am, 11 am, 6 pm

EPISCOPAL

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
18360 Hubbard Road
Livonia, Michigan 48154
421-8451

Mon-Fri. 9:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Dinner & Classes
Saturday 5:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist

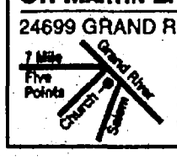
Sunday 7:45 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist
10:00 A.M. Christian Education for all ages
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available

The Rev. Robert Clapp, Rector

Every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Phil. 2:11

EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the HOLY SPIRIT
9083 Newburgh Road • Livonia • 591-0211
The Rev. Emery F. Gravelle, Vicar
Sunday Services:
8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
& Sunday School
A Barrier Free Facility for the Handicapped

ST. MARTIN EPISCOPAL CHURCH
24699 GRAND RIVER, DETROIT, MI



313-533-3600
Sunday Service 10:15
• Nursery Care Available
• Free Parking

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

9415 Merriman • Livonia
Sunday Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study/Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
School Grades Pre-School - 8
Church & School office: 422-6930

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia
(313) 261-1360
May thru October • Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Study & Sunday School 9:45 A.M.

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church
14750 Kinloch • Redford Twp.
532-8655
Pastor Gregory Gibbons
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m.
Now accepting applications for 1997-98 school year.
WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

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 am &
11:00 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
(313) 522-6830

CANTON
46001 Warren Road
(West of Canton Center)
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
(313) 414-7422

Visit our Web Site at http://www.ccaa.edu/~lcmcos

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
20805 Middlebelt (corner of 8 Mile & Middlebelt)
Farmington Hills, Mich.

WORSHIP SERVICES
Saturday Evening 6 p.m.
Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30

Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

Risen Christ Lutheran
46250 Ann Arbor Road
(1 Mile West of Sheldon)
Plymouth • 453-5252
Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Family Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN
Church & School 5885 Venoy
1 Blk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland 425-0260
Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Class & SS 9:30 A.M.
Monday Evening Service 7:30 P.M.
Gary D. Headapohl, Administrative Pastor
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Jeff Burke, Principal/D.C.E.

CHRIST THE GOOD SHEPHERD
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
42690 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
981-0286 Roger Aumann, Pastor
Worship 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.
Bible Class & SS 9:20 A.M.
Preschool & Kindergarten

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY
532-2266 REDFORD TWP.
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
Rev. Victor F. Halboth, Pastor
Rev. Timothy Halboth, Assoc. Pastor

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9600 Leverne • So. Redford • 937-2424
Rev. Lawrence Wittlo
WORSHIP WITH US
Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:45 a.m.
Thursday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Christian School: Kindergarten-8th Grade
937-2233

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

New Life Lutheran Church
Sunday Worship-10 a.m.
(with children's message/nursery)
Youth & Adult Education: 9 a.m.
Our Lady of Providence Chapel
16115 Beck Rd. (between 5 & 6 Mile Rds.)
Pastor Ken Roberts (ELCA)
313 / 459-8181

Timothy Lutheran Church
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Adult & Children's
Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Family Worship

CHRISTADELPHIANS

CHRISTADELPHIANS
Sunday - Memorial Service 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School 11:30 A.M.
Bible Class - Wednesdays 7:30 P.M.
Sunday, Dec. 7th - Lecture 2:15 P.M.
"The Kingdom Of God: What Will It Be Like?"
36516 Parkdale, Livonia • 425-7610

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH
291 E. SPRING ST.
2 Blocks N. of Main - 2 Blocks E. of Mill

SUNDAY	WEDNESDAY
Bible School 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.
Worship 11:00 A.M. AND 6:00 P.M.	(Classes for all ages
(Nursery Provided in A.M.)	

Pastor Frank Howard - Ch. 453-0323

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 Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room - 845 S. Harvey, Plymouth
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Thursday 7-9 p.m.
453-1676

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

AGAPÉ FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER
"A PRACTICAL CHURCH ON THE MOVE"

New Location and Service Times
45081 Geddes Road, Canton, MI 48188 • (313) 394-0357

Sunday Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.

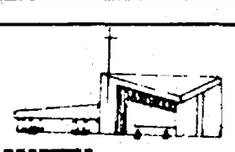
Agapé Christian Academy - K through 12

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Brightmoor Tabernacle
Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor
26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI (I-696 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn) • 352-6200
9:15 a.m. Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:00 p.m. "Family Night"

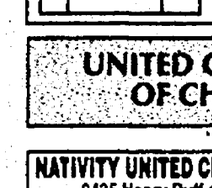
10:30 a.m. Pastor Calvin C. Ratz
6:30 p.m. Children's Musical, "The Best Christmas Gift"
Join us for prayer service every Friday at 7:30 p.m.
24-Hour Prayer Line 810-352-6205

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN



TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.
From M-14 take Gottfredson Rd. South
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
8:00
Praise & Worship 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

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
17000 Farmington Road
Livonia 422-1150
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor
Worship Services
Sunday School
8:00, 9:15, 10:45 A.M. and 12:05 P.M.
Evening Service 7:00 P.M.
Shuttle Service from Stevenson High School for All A.M. Services *Except 8:00 A.M.*



Nursery Provided
Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. WUFL-AM 1030

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 453-1525
Sun. BIBLE STUDY & WORSHIP - 9:00 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.
Sunday School - 10:05 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
FAMILY NIGHT - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
Arthur C. Magnuson, Pastor
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-3196

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago
Livonia 48150 • 421-5406

Rev. Donald Linteman, Pastor
9:15 Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship Service and Youth Classes
Nursery Care Available
-WELCOME-

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A)

ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH
16700 Newburgh Road
Livonia • 464-8844
Sunday, Dec. 7th
Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday School for All Ages: 9:30 a.m.
Family Worship with Communion : 11:00 a.m.
Sermon Title: **"The God Who Is There"**
Rev. Dr. Janet Noble, Pastor
A Creative Christ Centered Congregation

GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
5835 Sheldon Rd., Canton
(313) 459-0013
Sunday Worship & Church School
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Education For All Ages
Childcare Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Resources for Hearing and Sight Impaired

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
(313) 422-0494
Worship Service & Sunday School
10:30 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided
We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor
Rev. Ruth Billington, Associate Pastor
Visit our Website at www.geocities.com/~rosedale

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Main & Church • (313) 453-6464
PLYMOUTH
Worship Services 9:00 a.m & 11:00 a.m.
Church School & Nursery 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Dr. James Skimins, Senior Minister
Tamara J. Seidel, Associate Minister
David J.W. Brown, Dir. of Youth Ministries
Accessible to All

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

PLYMOUTH SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
PLYMOUTH ADVENTIST ACADEMY Grades 1-8
4295 Napier Road • Plymouth
(313) 455-3580
WORSHIP SERVICES
SATURDAY: Sabbath School 9:15 a.m.
& Divine Worship 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
Pastor Mike Doucoumes (313) 844-8660
School (313) 459-8222

REFORMED

Reformed - Adhering to the Westminster Confession of Faith
Presbyterian Free Church
30025 Curtis Ave., Livonia 48154
off Middlebelt between Six and Seven Mile
Sunday Services - 11am and 7 pm
Wednesday Bible Study - 7pm
Pastor - Kenneth Macleod - tel 313-421-0780

UNITED METHODIST

Clarenceville United Methodist
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
474-3444
Rev. Jean Love
Worship Services 10:15 AM, 6:00 PM
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 AM
Office Hrs. 9-5

NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
29887 West Eleven Mile Road
Just West of Middlebelt
248-476-8860
Farmington Hills
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Worship, Church School, Nursery
"Look Out"
Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack, preaching
Senior Minister:
Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack
Associate Minister:
Rev. Kathleen Groff
Minister of Visitation:
Rev. Robert Bough

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
422-0149
Worship Services & Sunday School
9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
December 7th
"Lacking Love's Light"
Rev. Thomas G. Badley, preaching
Rev. Thomas G. Badley Rev. Melanie Lee Carey
Rev. Edward C. Coley

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
Chuck Sonquist, Pastor
10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes
Nursery Provided • 422-6038

"Where You Belong..."
Worship 9:00 and 11:00 a.m
Church School 10:00 am
- Help In Daily Living
- Exciting Youth Programs
- Child-Care Provided

Pastors: Dr. Dean Klump, Rev. Tonya Arnesen
First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
(313) 453-5280

Catch the Spirit at
Aldersgate
United Methodist Church
10000 Beech Daly, Redford
Between Plymouth and W. Chicago
Bob & Diana Goudie, Co-pastors
313-937-3170
3 Styles of Creative Worship
8:00 a.m.-Cozy, Traditional, Basic
9:30 a.m.-Contemporary, Family
11:00 a.m.-Traditional, Full Choir
Emphasis: Advent: Hope
Scripture Focus: Isaiah 7:10-17
Rev. Bob, preaching
Sunday School
11:00 a.m.-Children-Youth-Adults

Come Worship With Us

RELIGION CALENDAR

Listings for the Religion Calendar should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (313) 591-7279. For more information, call (313) 953-2131.

NEW BEGINNINGS

New Beginnings, a grief support group held year-round at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile Road, east of Merriman Road, Livonia, continues with its monthly speaker series on Thursday, Dec. 4, with the program "Handling the Holidays" and on Jan. 8 with "Moving On." There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. For more information, call the church office at (313) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (313) 462-3770.

'THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS'

Temple Baptist Church will present its annual musical production, "The Glory of Christmas: A Holiday of Hope," at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays Dec. 6, 12-13, and 19-20, and at 6 p.m. Sundays Dec. 7, 14, and 21, at the church, 49555 N. Territorial, Plymouth.

Tickets are priced $6 to $10 and can be purchased at the church's ticket office, by mail (orders will be processed until 10 days prior to the performance), or Visa/MasterCard by calling the ticket hotline at (313) 414-3980. No children younger than age 4 will be admitted to the performances.

A special performance for the deaf and hearing impaired will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4. Tickets are $10. For more information about that show, call TTY (313) 414-3992 from 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays for reservations.

NEW PROGRAM

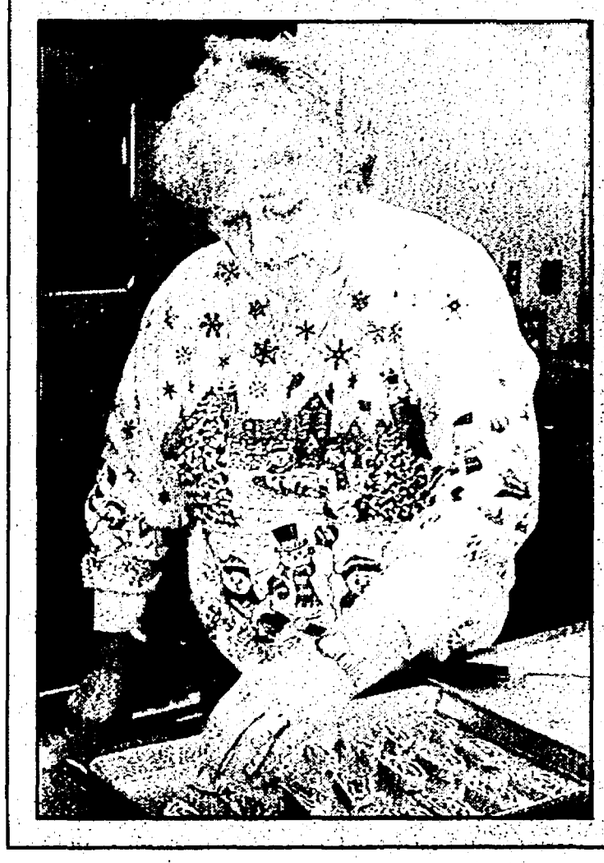
St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church is offering a new adult education program that encourages participants to come and learn about orthodoxy from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays through Dec. 11. Speakers and topics include: "What We Believe About Scripture and Tradition" Dec. 4 by King, and "What We Believe About Heaven and Hell" by Father Shalhoub Dec. 11. The church is located at 18100 Merriman Road, Livonia. For more information, call (313) 422-0010.

ADVENT CLASS

Kindergartners, first and second graders are invited to an Advent class 4-6 p.m. Thursdays, Dec. 4, 11 and 18, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Activities include making ornaments, gifts, cooking, stories and worship. Participants should bring a sack supper; milk will be supplied. For more information, call (313) 422-0149.

It's cookie time

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY



At St. Michael's: *A few days before the annual cookie walk at St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Redford, Ann Telep was busy making more cookies, while Matushka Jane Barna, Gloria Wheeler and Ann Telep were showing off a sample of homemade delectables.The cookie walk will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the church, 26355 W. Chicago Road, between Beech Daly and Inkster roads, Redford. A popular event, organizers are advising people to shop early to get the best selection of holiday cookies, including miniature nut rolls, homemade fudge and chocolates.*

HOLIDAY PARTY

The 50-Plus Club at Redford Baptist Church will have its annual holiday party at noon Thursday, Dec. 4. The event will feature a catered luncheon, music by the Jubilee Trio, a sing-along, and a visit from St. Nick. Call (313) 533-2300 for reservations before Friday, Nov. 28. Transportation is available.

YOGA CLASSES

The Unity of Livonia Church, located at 28660 Five Mile Road in Livonia, hosts yoga classes from 10-11:30 a.m. Thursdays throughout November and December. The class, taught by Linda Haught, is offered on a love offering basis. For more information, call the church at (313) 421-1760.

CHRISTMAS FEAST

Newburg United Methodist Church will have a Christmas Feast, a candlelight dinner and musical program presented by the Youth Choir as a fund raiser for its tour, at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Tickets cost $12.50 and are available from the church office. For more information, call (313) 422-0149.

SUP AND CELEBRATE

Trinity House Theatre presents community theater in a festive tradition – with a double bill and shared meal of bread bowls, hot soup and cider – 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5-21, at the theater, 38840 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia.

The Bayards celebrate 90 years of family relationship in Thornton Wilder's "The Long Christmas Dinner," while three bumbling shepherds search for a lost sheep and find the wonder of Christmas in "The Sheep Thief," a comic adaptation by Ford Ainsworth of "the Second Shepherd's Play."

Seating is limited to 50 and tickets cost $8, not including the shared supper. For more information, call (313) 464-6302.

NEWBURG SINGLES

The Newburg Church Single Ministries will meet at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the New Peking Restaurant, 29105 Ford Road, Garden City.

COOKIE WALKS

Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church is having its cookie walk at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at the church, 36075 W. Seven Mile Road (between Newburgh and Farmington roads), Livonia. Homemade holiday cookies will be sold by the pound. Apricot, poppy seed, and nut rolls, along with sweet breads, kraut and potato pierogies will also be available. For more information, call (248) 476-3432.

• Faith Lutheran Church of Livonia is having a cookie walk for its members 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Participants must bring six dozen cookies to the church between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. All cookies must be homemade Christmas cookies. No tollhouse cookies allowed. For more information, call (313) 421-7249.

ADVENT COMMUNION BREAKFAST

The Detroit Presbyterian Men's Council is hosting its 17th annual Advent Communion Breakfast at 8 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort St., at Third Street, Detroit. The guest speaker will be Lewis T. Hickson, the executive director of the Capuchin Fathers Outreach and Soup Kitchen Programs. Tickets are $6 and are available from the Detroit Presbytery office. For more information, call (313) 345-6550 or George Irwin at (313) 425-3024.

LAS VEGAS NIGHT

The Notre Dame Council of the Knights of Columbus will have a Las Vegas Night 6 p.m. to midnight at 35100 Van Born Road, Wayne. Admission will be $2. There will be a cash bar and kitchen. Cash prizes will not exceed $500 per person. Proceeds will go to the council's building fund. For more information, call (313) 728-3020.

GUEST SPEAKER

The Rev. Robert Hoskins, on special assignment with "Book of Life International" for the Assemblies of God Division of Foreign Missions, will be the featured guest speaker at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services Sunday, Dec. 7, at Northville Christian Assembly, 41355 Six Mile Road, one mile west of I-275, Northville. "The Book of Life," developed for children's evangelism, is a harmony of the Gospels in story book form that chronicles the life of Jesus; it is presented in easy-to-read format and is followed by 100 questions. An associate pastor for two years before going into evangelism, the Rev. Hoskins has held crusades in Europe, Latin America, the Middle East and Africa. For more information, call (248) 348-9030.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Special holiday events at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene will kick off with the children's Sonshine Choir, under the direction of Steve and Tina Moore and Tina Tomakowsky, presenting "Mission Possible" at both the 8:30 and 11 a.m. worship services Sunday, Dec. 7. "Mission Possible" is a musical adventure in which kids uncover the clues to help carry out God's mission to deliver Christ to the world.

The Detroit First Church Sanctuary Choir, led by Don St. John, will present "O Come Let us Adore Him," a musical celebration of Christmas, at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 14.

On Sunday, Dec. 21, the Fami

Please see RELIGION, B8

INTERNET ADDRESS DIRECTORY

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O&E ON-LINE!

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Haig Galleries ---- http://rochester-hills.com/haigg
ART GALLERIES
Elizabeth Stone Gallery ---- http://esgallery.com
The Print Gallery ---- http://www.everythingart.com
ART MUSEUMS
The Detroit Institute of Arts ---- http://www.dia.org
ASSOCIATIONS
Suburban Newspapers of America ---- http://www.suburban-news.org
Suspender Wearers of America ---- http://oeonline.com/swaa
AUDIO VISUAL SERVICES
Slidemasters ---- http://www.slidemasters.com
AUTOMOTIVE
Huntington Ford ---- http://www.huntingtonford.com
Ramchargers Performance Centers http://www.ramchargers.com
Shelton Pontiac Buick ---- http://rochester-hills.com/shelton
Universel Bearing Co. ---- http://www.unibearco.com
AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURERS REPRESENTATIVES
Marks Mgmt. Services ---- http://www.marksmgmt.com
AUTO RACING
KC Racing ---- http://www.kcracing.com
BAKING/COOKING
"Jiffy" Mix—Chelsea Milling Company ---- http://www.jiffymix.com
BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
Mr. Sponge ---- http://www.mrsponge.com
BICYCLES
Wahu! Bicycle Company ---- http://rochester-hills.com/wahu
BOOKKEEPING PRODUCTS
BIG E-Z Bookkeeping Co. ---- http://www.bigez.com
BOOKS
Apostolate Communications ---- http://www.apostolate.com
BUSINESS NEWS
Insider Business Journal ---- http://www.insiderbiz.com
BUSINESS STAFFING
Elite Staffing Strategies ---- http://rochester-hills.com/elite
CERAMIC TILE
Stewart Specialty Tiles ---- http://www.specialtytiles.com
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
Livonia Chamber of Commerce ---- http://www.livonia.org
BirminghamBloomfield Chamber of Commerce ---- http://www.bbcc.com
CHILDREN'S SERVICES
St. Vincent & Sarah Fisher Center ---- http://oeonline.com/svsf
CLASSIFIED ADS
AdVillage ---- http://advillage.com
Observer & Eccentric Newspapers ---- http://observer-eccentric.com
CLOSET ORGANIZERS/HOME STORAGE
Organize-It ---- http://www.organizes-it.com
COMMERCIAL PRINTING
Colortech Graphics ---- http://colortechgraphics.com
COMMUNITIES
City of Livonia ---- http://oeonline.com/livonia
COMMUNITY NEWS
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Logix, Inc. ---- http://www.logix-usa.com
COMPUTER HARDWARE/PROGRAMMING/SOFTWARE SUPPORT
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BNB Software ---- http://www.oeonline.com/bnb
Mighty Systems Inc. ---- http://www.mightysystems.com
COMPUTER PRODUCT REVIEWS
HORSERACING HANDICAPPING SOFTWARE
CyberNews and Reviews ---- http://oeonline.com/cybernews
CONSTRUCTION
Frank Rewold Construction ---- http://rochester-hills.com/rewold
CORPORATE VIDEO/WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT
NetWorth Internet Marketing ---- http://netvid.com
DUCT CLEANING
Mechanical Energy Systems ---- http://www.mes1.com
EDUCATION
Dorsey Business School ---- http://rochester-hills.com/dorsey
Fordson High School ---- http://oeonline.com/~fordsonh
Global Village Project ---- http://oeonline.com/gvp.htm
Oakland Schools ---- http://oakland.k12.mi.us
Reuther Middle School ---- http://oeonline.com/~rms
Rochester Community Schools Foundation ---- http://rochester-hills.com/rcsf
The Webmaster School ---- http://rochester-hills.com
Western Wayne County Internet User Group ---- http://oeonline.com/wwciug
ELECTRICAL SUPPLY
Caniff Electric Supply ---- http://www.caniff.com
Progress Electric ---- http://www.pe-co.com
ELECTRONIC SERVICE AND REPAIR
ABL Electronic Service, Inc. ---- http://www.ablserv.com
EMPLOYEE LEASING COMPANY
Genesys Group ---- http://www.genesysgroup.com
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Employment Presentation Services ---- http://www.epsweb.com
ENVIRONMENT
Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of SW Oakland Co. ---- http://oeonline.com/rrrasoc
EXECUTIVE RECRUITERS
J. Emery & Associates ---- http://www.jemeryassoc.com
EYE CARE/LASER SURGERY
Greenberg Laser Eye Center ---- http://www.greenbergeye.com
FLOOR COVERING
The Floor Connection ---- http://www.floorconnection.com
FROZEN DESSERTS
Savino Sorbet ---- http://www.sorbet.com
HAIR SALONS
Heads You Win ---- http://www.headsyouwin.com
HEALTH CARE
Family Health Care Center ---- http://oeonline.com/ehrmann
HERBAL PRODUCTS
Nature's Better Way ---- http://oeonline.com/nbw
HOME INSPECTIONS
GKS Inspection ---- http://www.gks3d.com
HOSPITALS
Botsford Health Care Continuum ---- http://www.bosfordsystem.org
St. Mary Hospital ---- http://www.stmaryhospital.org
HYDRAULIC AND PNEUMATIC CYLINDERS
Hennells ---- http://www.hennells.com
HYPNOSIS
Full Potential Hypnosis Center ---- http://oeonline.com/hypnosis
INDUSTRIAL FILTERS
Elixaire Corporation ---- http://www.elixaire.com
INSURANCE
J. J. O'Connell & Assoc., Inc. Insurance ---- http://www.oconnellinsurance.com
Whims Insurance ---- http://rochester-hills.com/whims
INTERACTIVE CD ROM PUBLISHING
Interactive Incorporated ---- http://www.interactive-inc.com
JEWELRY
Haig Jewelry ---- http://rochester-hills.com/haigj
MANUFACTURED HOUSING
Westphal Associates ---- http://rochester-hills.com/westphal
MORTGAGE COMPANIES
Mortgage Market Information Services ---- http://www.interest.com/observer
Village Mortgage ---- http://www.villagemortgage.com
NEWSLETTERS
GAGGLE Newsletter ---- http://oeonline.com/gaggle
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Notary Service & Bonding Agency, Inc ---- http://www.notaryservice.com
NURSING EDUCATION
Michigan League for Nursing ---- http://oeonline.com/mln
PAINTING
Al Kahn Painting ---- http://oeonline.com/alkahn
ORIENTAL RUGS
Azar's Oriental Rugs ---- http://www.azars.com
PARKS & RECREATION
Huron-Clinton Metroparks ---- http://www.metroparks.com
PERSONAL GROWTH
Overcomer's Maximized Living System ---- http://www.overcom.com
PLANNING AND TRAFFIC CONSULTANT
Birchler Arroyo Associates, Inc ---- http://www.birchlerarroyo.com
POWER TRANSMISSION
Bearing Service Inc ---- http://www.bearingservice.com
PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR
Profile Central, Inc ---- http://www.profile-usa.com
REAL ESTATE
REALnet ---- http://oeonline.com/realnet.html
Birmingham Bloomfield Rochester South Oakland Association of Realtors ---- http://www.justlisted.com
Chamberlain REALTORS ---- http://www.chamberlainrealtors.com
Cornwell & Company ---- http://www.michiganhome.com/cornwell
Marcia Gies ---- http://s0a.oeonline.com/gies.html
Hall & Hunter Realtors ---- http://s0a.oeonline.com/hallhunt
Langard Realtors ---- http://www.langard.com
Mary Ferrazza ---- http://www.milistings.com
Max Broock, Inc. ---- http://www.maxbroock.com
Sellers First Choice ---- http://www.sfcrealtors.com
Bob Taylor ---- http://www.bobtaylor.com
Western Wayne County Association of REALTORS ---- http://www.michiganhome.com
REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL
BBRSOAR Appraisers Committee - http://justlisted.com/appraisal
REAL ESTATE - COMMERCIAL/INVESTMENT
Property Services Group, Inc. ---- http://www.propserv.com
REAL ESTATE EDUCATION
Real Estate Alumni of Michigan ---- http://www.ramadvantage.org
REAL ESTATE-HOME WARRANTY
HMS Home Warranty ---- http://oeonline.com/hms
RELOCATION
Conquest Corporation ---- http://www.conquest-corp.com
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
Midwest Fertility and Sex Selection Center ---- http://www.mfss.com
RESTAURANTS
Mr. B's ---- http://rochester-hills.com/mrb
Monterrey Cantina ---- http://rochester-hills.com/mrb
Memphis Smoke ---- http://rochester-hills.com/mrb
Steve's Backroom ---- http://www.stevesbackroom.com
RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES
American House ---- http://www.american-house.com
Presbyterian Villages of Michigan ---- http://www.pvm.org
SHOPPING
Birmingham Principal Shopping District ---- http://oeonline.com/birmingham
SURPLUS FOAM
McCullough Corporation ---- http://www.mcfoam.com
SURPLUS PRODUCTS
McCullough Corporation ---- http://www.mcsurplus.com
TOYS
Toy Wonders of the World ---- http://www.toywonders.com
TRAINING
High Performance Group ---- http://www.oeonline.com/~hpg
Virtual Reality Institute ---- http://www.vrinstitute.com
TRAVEL AGENCY
Cruise Selections, Inc. ---- http://www.cruiseselections.com
UTILITIES
Detroit Edison ---- http://www.detroitedison.com
WELD GUN PRODUCTS
C.M. Smillie Co. ---- http://www.smillie.com
WHOLISTIC WELLNESS
Roots and Branches ---- http://www.reikiplace.com
WOMEN'S HEALTH
Asghar Afsari, M.D. ---- http://www.gyndoc.com
PMS Institute ---- http://www.pmsinst.com
WORSHIP
St. Michael Lutheran Church ---- http://www.stmichaellutheran.org

Creches celebrate Christmas

The true meaning of Christmas will be the center of attention Friday through Sunday, Dec. 5-8, at The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints in Livonia.

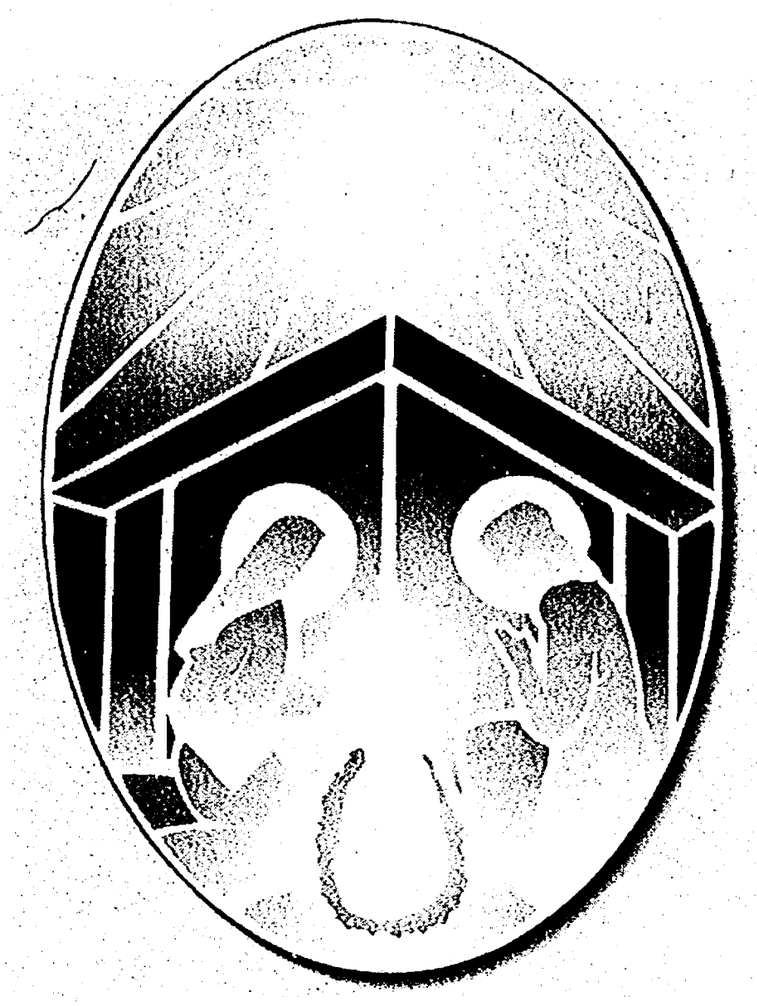
More than 600 nativity scenes from more than 30 countries will be presented as part of the 11th annual creche exhibit at the church, 31450 Six Mile Road at Merriman Road.

The nativities are made from a variety of materials, including clay, stone, porcelain, fabric, metal, gingerbread, chocolate, corn husks, shucks, Israeli olive wood and even mud and dung.

"We look forward to providing this service to the community each year," said Shirley Hutchinson chair of this year's exhibit. "It's amazing to see everyone with their diversities coming together to celebrate one magnificent event."

In addition to the nativities, there also will be hour-long Christmas concerts, featuring local talent, at 7 p.m. each evening and a display of hand-pieced, hand-appliqued quilts belonging to members.

The recreation of the nativity is one of the oldest and most sacred Christian traditions. St. Francis of Assisi created the forerunner of the modern creche in the Italian village of Greccio in 1223.



According to the story, he saw shepherds sleeping in moonlit fields one December night and recalled the first Christmas. Inspired by the sight and desiring to see the Baby Jesus in the manger with his own eyes, he set about reenacting the Bethlehem scene with real people and animals.

Today, artistic representation of the birth of Jesus has many different names. In France, it is called "creche," while in Italy it's "presepio," in Spain "nacimiento," in Germany "krippe" and in Ireland "manger."

The exhibit is free of charge. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Monday and 1-9 p.m. Sunday.

"We look forward to opening the Christmas season with this wonderful display and all who join us," Hutchinson said.

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ly Christmas service will be held at the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services. Children will be included in the service with special recognition of "Baby's First Christmas" at which time babies born since last Christmas will be introduced and a special gift presented to each child. Between services, the children's department will host a Christmas open house 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene is at 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 348-7600.

REUNION CELEBRATION

St. Martin Episcopal Church, 24699 Grand River Ave., Detroit, is planning a reunion celebration Sunday, Dec. 7, with a 10:15 a.m. church service followed by a special coffee hour with photos and videos. The Very Rev. Canon William Logan and the Revs. Robert Miller and Margaret Haas will concelebrate the service.

'JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM'

Experience the sights, sounds, smells and tastes along the road that Mary and Joseph took to Bethlehem during Newburgh United Methodist Church's presentation of "Journey to Bethlehem," 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Come to the sanctuary for Christmas carols, stories and to meet your tour guide who will lead you on a journey back in time. For more information, call (313) 422-0149.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

St. Aidan Youth Group is raising funds in December by selling the Entertainment Ultimate Book which contains discounts on dining, travel, shopping, movies, special events and sports. The books cost $40 with a portion of the proceeds going to help fund youth conferences and workshops. For more information, call (313) 425-5950 or (248) 474-1396.

• St. Matthew United Methodist Church is also selling the 1998 Entertainment book . The cost is at $40 with $8 going to the church's Mission Committee. To order, call Dick Horie at (313) 522-4856.

SUNDAY LESSONS

Scott Kalechstein will lead a workshop on "Finding Your Passion and Living Your Purpose," 12:45-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at Church of Today West in Village Oaks Elementary School, 23333 Willowbrook (between Haggerty and Meadowbrook roads), Novi. The registration fee is $15. "Love in Action" will be the lesson at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. The church also offers youth education, a course in miracles at 7 p.m. Tuesdays and others courses in 4T, meditation and unity basics. For more information, call (248) 449-8900 .

IN CONCERT

The Schoolcraft College Community Choir, under the direction of Donald Stromberg, will perform "Alleluia, Rejoice!" at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 W. Church St.

The program will feature "Christmas Cantata" by Daniel Pinkham, accompanied by the Solid Brass ensemble, a variety of seasonal works and a traditional carol sing-along.

Tickets are $4 and are available at the door. For more information, call the church office at (313) 453-6464.

• The choir will also perform "Alleluia Rejoice!" a t8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road, Livonia.

Donations will be accepted during the intermission. For more information, call the church at (313) 422-6038.

DIVORCECARE

DivorceCare, a special video seminar and support group, has begun a 13-week session, 7:15-9:15 p.m. Sundays at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon Road, Canton Township. The series features nationally recognized experts covering such topics as "Facing Your Anger," "Facing Your Loneliness," "Depression," "New Relationships," and "Forgiveness." Child care is available. Call (313) 459-3333 for more information.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

The radio series, "What is This Christian Science and Who Are These Christian Scientists?" is being broadcast at 1:30 p.m. Sundays of WQBH-AM 1400. The topic will be "What are these Reading Rooms all about?" on Dec. 7, "What does Christian Science say about sin?" on Dec. 14, "How can anyone have that much faith?" on Dec. 21, and "Just what is a Christian Science practitioner?" on Dec. 28.

"The Christian Science Sentinel-Radio Edition" also can be heard at 9:30 a.m. Sundays on WAAM-AM 1600. The conversational program discusses current public topics as well as shares healing through prayer from people all over the world.

BLOOD DRIVE

There will be an American Red Cross blood drive from 2-8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at St. Timothy Presbyterian Church, 16700 Newburgh Road, 1/4 mile south of Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (313) 464-8844 for more information.

The bloodmobile also will be a Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, 7:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. Call Sandy at (313) 464-8286 or Larry at (313) 522-1977 for a blood donation appointment.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Plymouth Baptist Church will present the Christmas concert, "Everlasting Light," at 7 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Dec. 12-14, at the church, 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, west of Haggerty Road, Plymouth. The fully staged production will feature a variety of dynamic vocal and instrumental music. There is no admission charge, however, a Salvation Army kettle will be available for donations following the concert.

Children under age 5 will not be permitted in the auditorium, however, full nursery and preschool care will be provided. For more information, call the church at (313) 453-5534.

'RAISING CHILDREN'

"Raising Solid Rock Children (in a Less Than Steady World)" will be the title of a seminar presented 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at Alpha Baptist Church, 28051 W. Chicago, Livonia. Terry LaDuke will teach what it means to be a successful parent and the principles the Bible gives to raise godly children.

Lunch will be provided to those who preregister by Dec. 10. Donations will be accepted to help cover expenses. To register or for more information, call the church office at (313) 421-6300 or Dot Shepherd at (313) 422-9918 after 4 p.m.

NEW SERIES

Pastor Eric Moore of Canton Community Church will begin a new series, "Facing the Millennium – What the Bible Says About the End Times" at 9:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 and 14, at the church, 41600 Ann Arbor Trail, between Haggerty and Mill Street, Canton.

Moore will explore such questions as what is the New World Order and is the Bible Code valid? For more information, call the church at (313) 455-6022.

CHRISTMAS TEA

The United Methodist Women of St. Matthew's United Methodist Church will have a Christmas Tea for members and guests 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, at the church 30900 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia. The musical program will be by Ken Marks, and new officers will be installed. Admission will be two dozen (or more) cookies. Child care will be available by reservation by calling Linda Dorton at (313) 525-7213.

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Adoption from page B5

the home and once at the agency, and individually at the agency as part of the home study.

References also are needed from non-relatives that addressed how long they have known them, if they would be good parents and if there are any substance abuse problems in the home.

Once their dossier is complete, it is sent to Russia, where it is translated. The translations are done there, according to John, so if there are any questions they can be answered before they are presented to the court.

The dossier is presented to the Ministry of Education and then the Ministry of Health before the facilitator takes it to the orphanage where a child is selected and a videotape made to show the prospective parents.

"We try to get as much information as we can about the child," John said. "You have to take clothes because the orphanages don't have enough to exist."

Setting the date

The facilitator also asks for a letter which verifies that the child has been in the system for six months and an application to adopt. Once the letter and grant to adopt are received from Moscow, the paperwork is filed with the court in Nizhniy Novogorod and a court date is set.

Both adoptive parents are required to travel to Russia and appear before the judge, so the ageney has lined up flats in the area for them to live in during their stay of about two weeks. The flats, according to John, are far nicer than the best hotels in the city.

The cost of the adoption, including the home study, attorney services, lodging and transportation in Russia and the Russian facilitator, is $19,600. In addition, adoptive parents must pay for the airfare to and from Russia, all ministry and court fees, the cost of passports and any gift they may want to buy.

With airfares to Russia are a costly proposition, the Hinkles want to give the family a 21-day notice of their court date so they can get as cheap an airfare as possible. Short notice on Ashlynn's court date left them with costs of $1,800 per ticket.

The adoption is finalized in Russia, but the agency does a six-month followup to see how the transition is going.

"When you get on that plane to come home, that child is yours," John said. "No one can come and take him away."

The new kid on the block when it comes to adoptions, the Hinkles hope the fact of no waiting list will attract clients. Open the first week of November, they were still waiting for their first family by month's end.

"We're focused on helping people who want to adopt," said Linda, who was adopted as a child. "We want to help fill their emptiness and fill those kids' emptiness."

"Over there, the No. 1 request is 'Send me a momma and poppa,'" John said.

Linda, who as an adult, met her birth family, which lives in Roseville, is manager of the office at 5955 N. Wayne Road, between Ford Road and Hunter in Westland. Its hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. The telephone number is (313) 467-6222.

"We want to get as many families over there and back as soon as we can," John said. "If we get just one family, it makes this all worthwhile."

'Gifts of Hunger Relief' help Forgotten Harvest

Southfield-based Forgotten Harvest, metropolitan Detroit's only prepared and perishable food distribution program, is offering a charitable way of gift giving.

Friends, family and business colleagues can be honored during the holiday season through a tax-deductible donation to Forgotten Harvest made in their name.

The organization's holiday tribute cards are simple, nonsectarian and come with a holiday message, telling the recipient that hungry people are being helped in their honor. The minimum suggested donation is $5.

Through holiday giving, patrons can give the "gift of hunger relief" to thousands of people in the Detroit metropolitan area. For each $1 given, one hungry person can be fed.

Forgotten Harvest transports more than 60,000 pounds of donated, perishable surplus food each month to soup kitchens and shelters. According to food industry standards (one pound equals one meal), this is equivalent to 720,000 meals per year.

For more information, call Forgotten Harvest at (248) 350-FOOD (3663).

Join the 3-2-1-SOLD! club.

How often have you been out in the garage, down in the basement or up in the attic and said to yourself, "Gosh, I'd love to get rid of some of this stuff, but it would cost too much to advertise it?"

Our 3-2-1—SOLD! offer is just what you need when you have things to sell for under $200.

Here's how it works:

1. You get **3** lines to describe your item (remember, you have to be asking less than $200)
2. You get to run your ad for **2** days (one week)
3. You get **1** low price—just $19.26. That's only $3.21 per line!

You could say our **3-2-1** plan is as easy as **1-2-3!**

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Clarkston, Lake Orion, Oxford: 248-475-4596 **Rochester-Rochester Hills:** 248-852-3222

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CLASS REUNIONS

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

BLOOMFIELD HILLS LAHSER
Class of 1987
March 21 at Doubletree Guest Suites, Southfield.
(248) 360-7004, press 2
Class of 1978
Aug. 1 at Somerset Inn, Troy.
(248) 366-9493, press 3

CHERRY HILL
Class of 1983
Reunion and alumni family picnic is planned for August 1998.
(313) 729-6783

DETROIT CASS TECH
Class of 1968
Looking for classmates for a reunion in 1998.
Pam Yee Gianola, 1243 Smith Road, Beulah, Mich., 49617-9493 or e-mail at mie-nai@aliens.com
Classes of 1980-82
Are planning a reunion.
Stephanie Bradford Wright '80, 1753 Cornell, Southfield 48075, (313) 945-8473; or Dylan Warmack '81, 2131 Bryanston Ct., Detroit 48207, (313) 963-7665
Class of 1988
Is looking for names and addresses of classmates.
(313) 896-0736, (313) 859-0261 or (313) 882-1632
Class of 1978
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 442-9320, by fax at (248) 442-8830 or Sharon Law-Williamson, 28479 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia 48152

DETROIT KETTERING
Classes of 1971-72
Is planning a reunion.
Send names, addresses and telephone numbers to Ron or Pat (Tish Mack) Matthews, P.O. Box 7647, Bloomfield Hills 48302, or call (810) 745-8422, (248) 696-6342 or (248) 857-6043.
Class of 1978
Is planning a reunion.
Send name, address and telephone number to Chrystal Esaw, 27930 Berkshire Dr., Southfield 48076, or call (248) 358-5236, (313) 526-8667, (313) 839-9858 or (313) 372-3159

DETROIT PERSHING
Classes of 1949-53
Are planning a reunion.
(248) 471-5609 or P.O. Box 530-244, Livonia 48153-0244
January-June classes of 1952
A fall 1998 reunion is being planned
(248) 623-2454, (810) 771-9810 or (810) 979-4594

DETROIT WESTERN
Class of 1949
Is planning at 50th reunion.
(313) 274-3214

FARMINGTON HARRISON
Class of 1988
A reunion is planned for July at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, Westland.
(248) 442-2862

FRASER
Class of 1972
A reunion is being planned for Fraser Steffens Park.
(810) 293-2160

GARDEN CITY
Class of 1987
A reunion is planned for October.
(810) 765-1380 or (313) 513-6071

HIGHLAND PARK
Class of 1969
Is planning a reunion.
(313) 864-5943, (313) 583-5418 or (313) 867-3201
Class of 1978
Planning a 20-year reunion for July 1998. Seeking classmates.
Fax info to C. Jones (313) 836-5302 or write to HPCHS reunion committee, c/o P.O. Box 760484 Lathrup Village, MI 48076.

MADISON
Class of 1948
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 548-5470 or (810) 264-9191

MARIAN
Class of 1982
11:30 a.m. Dec. 27 at the Fox & Hounds Restaurant, Bloomfield Hills.
(248) 644-1750

OAK PARK
Classes of 1957-59
Is planning a reunion for November 1998.
(248) 559-1746 or (248) 354-0092

PLYMOUTH CANTON/SALEM
Classes of 1988
A joint reunion will be held June 20.
CEP Class of '88, P.O. Box 5356, Plymouth 48170

ST. ALPHONSUS
Class of 1958
A reunion is being planned for 1998.
(513) 878-7483 or (313) 455-1277

ST. HEDWIG HIGH
Class of 1958
Is planning a reunion.
(313) 953-1011

ST. JOSAPHAT
Class of 1943-46
Are planning a reunion.
(313) 886-0770 or (810) 783-6889

STERLING HEIGHTS
Class of 1978
July 25 at Gino's Surf Ristorante, Harrison Township.
(248) 360-7004, press 6

WARREN WOODS TOWER
Class of 1988
Is planning a reunion.
(810) 790-4214 or (810) 771-7328

WATERFORD KETTERING
Class of 1968
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 628-3926, (248) 681-1768 or (248) 623-6057

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Class of 1983
Sept. 26 at the Roma Banquet Center, Garden City.
(248) 360-7004, press 1

Capuchin Kitchen holds toy drive

Community groups, businesses, church organizations and individuals look for ways to celebrate the holiday season by helping those less fortunate can do with the Capuchin Christmas Toy Drive.

Last year, the Capuchin Christmas Toy Program aided more than 1,100 needy families in the Detroit area, providing food for the entire family and a few toys for the children. More than 4,500 children received three Christmas toys from the program, offered by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

Months before Christmas, Capuchin Services counselors pull families from their case loads who are eligible for the program. The families are notified via telephone or mail that they have been selected to be recipients and a pickup date is issued for the family to come to the Capuchin Services Building in Detroit to select a few toys for their children and a food basket for the family. Distribution days are Dec. 22-24.

The Capuchin Soup Kitchen, however, needs community support to conduct this program. All types of toys are needed for boys and girls up to age 13. New toys should be unwrapped. Used toys in very good condition and properly packaged are also accepted.

Stuffed animals and tactile/developmental toys are recommended for infants and young children. Board games and dolls which express ethnic backgrounds are popular, as are sporting goods, such as basketballs and footballs. An educational or skill-building emphasis is encouraged while toys which have a violent orientation, especially guns, are discouraged.

For more information about the Capuchin Christmas Toy program, call Roy Hoelscher at Capuchin Services at (313) 925-1370, ext.. 101, or Rick Samyn at (313) 579-2100, Ext.. 211.

Donations also can be dropped off at the Capuchin Services Building, 1620 E. Grand Blvd., (enter off Mount Elliott Avenue), Detroit. The Capuchin Services Building is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

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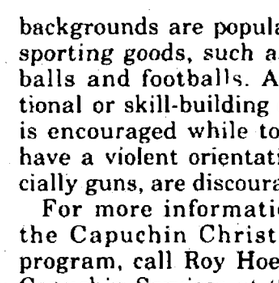

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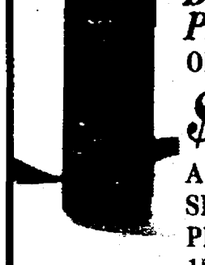
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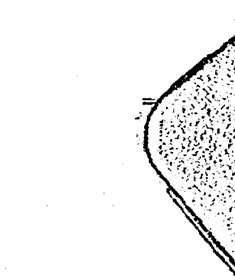
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Observer Sports

The Observer

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Madonna hoop, C8

L/W Page 1, Section C

Brad Emons, Editor 313-953-2123 | on the web: http://observer-eccentric.com | Thursday, December 4, 1997

CC quarterback earns high marks

STEVE KOWALSKI

Adam Tubaro credits his success as Detroit Catholic Central's quarterback to not having any average Joe's – or Don's or Nick's, for that matter, as receivers.

That kid in a candy store feeling comes from having wide receivers Joe Jonna and Joe Saah to throw deep to and tight ends Don Slankster and Nick Brzezinski over the middle.

And yet there are insecurities that come with being a kid, which may explain Tubaro keeping his state championship ring – the one he won as a sophomore – under his pillow when he went to bed during the state playoffs.

Tubaro can rest easy now as the Shamrocks won their second Class AA championship in three years and fourth in the 1990s with a 23-7 win over Ann Arbor Huron on Saturday afternoon at the Pontiac Silverdome.

Maybe that ring under the pillow routine was symbolic of something else we did as kids. Remember leaving the tooth you lost under the pillow to get a dollar from the "Tooth Fairy?"

Only in this scenario, Tubaro's father Eddie (he must have been a silly-looking Tooth Fairy in his day) will gladly leave the 1995 ring with his son and add another to his collection.

Tubaro, who played his entire sophomore year as a backup defensive back on the '95 CC state champion team, and Jonna are the only seniors with two rings.

"The other seniors were envious to the point where 'We want one,' " Tubaro said. "To get one this year is totally different because it's 'Our senior year.' "

Tubaro has films of each game the Shamrocks played this year, watching the 24-20 loss to Orchard Lake St. Mary's the most to learn from his mistakes.

It'll be the second-most watched film now.

A perfect ending

Tubaro is to CC's football team what Brian Griese is to the University of Michigan: Someone who came from obscurity to lead his team with a confident, yet controlled style that produces few mistakes.

Tubaro passed for more than 1,300 yards and 17 touchdowns. Impressive numbers for anyone and almost unheard of for a CC quarterback.

Getting coach Tom Mach to add the pass to his run-oriented offense is akin to asking Rush Limbau to turn liberal.

"One thing I pride myself on is making as few mistakes as possible," Tubaro said. "We all expected the passing game to go well, it was just a matter of coach Mach letting us go with it. I have receivers I can throw the ball to who adjust and make a mediocre throw look great."

Toughness is a Tubaro trait, probably from his background as a defensive back. He was starting two-ways this year before a shoulder injury against Warren DeLaSalle scared Mach more than the forward pass used to.

"I don't avoid contact at all," said Tubaro, who carries a 3.1 grade point average and scored a 26 on his ACT. "I enjoy it."

Tubaro decided against coming out for his fourth season on CC's basketball team to concentrate more on his improvement in football. He hopes to play collegiately.

Maybe his neighbor in his new Livonia neighborhood, former Central Michigan University tight end Pat Bonk, can still run a pass route or two for him in the offseason.

In good company

It's been billed as the Year of the Quarterback in Michigan and though Tubaro isn't in the Fab Five group headed by Brighton's Drew Henson, he's near the top of the next list.

Ironically, Tubaro started his football career as a lineman in the sixth grade at St. Gemma's in Detroit.

He was taking after his dad, who was a lineman at Detroit Benedictine. Adam couldn't listen to all his advice.

"I played when they allowed head slaps," Eddie Tubaro said.

Wasn't that before they had facemasks?

Tubaro always had a strong arm, even as a toddler, his mother, Marie, remembers.

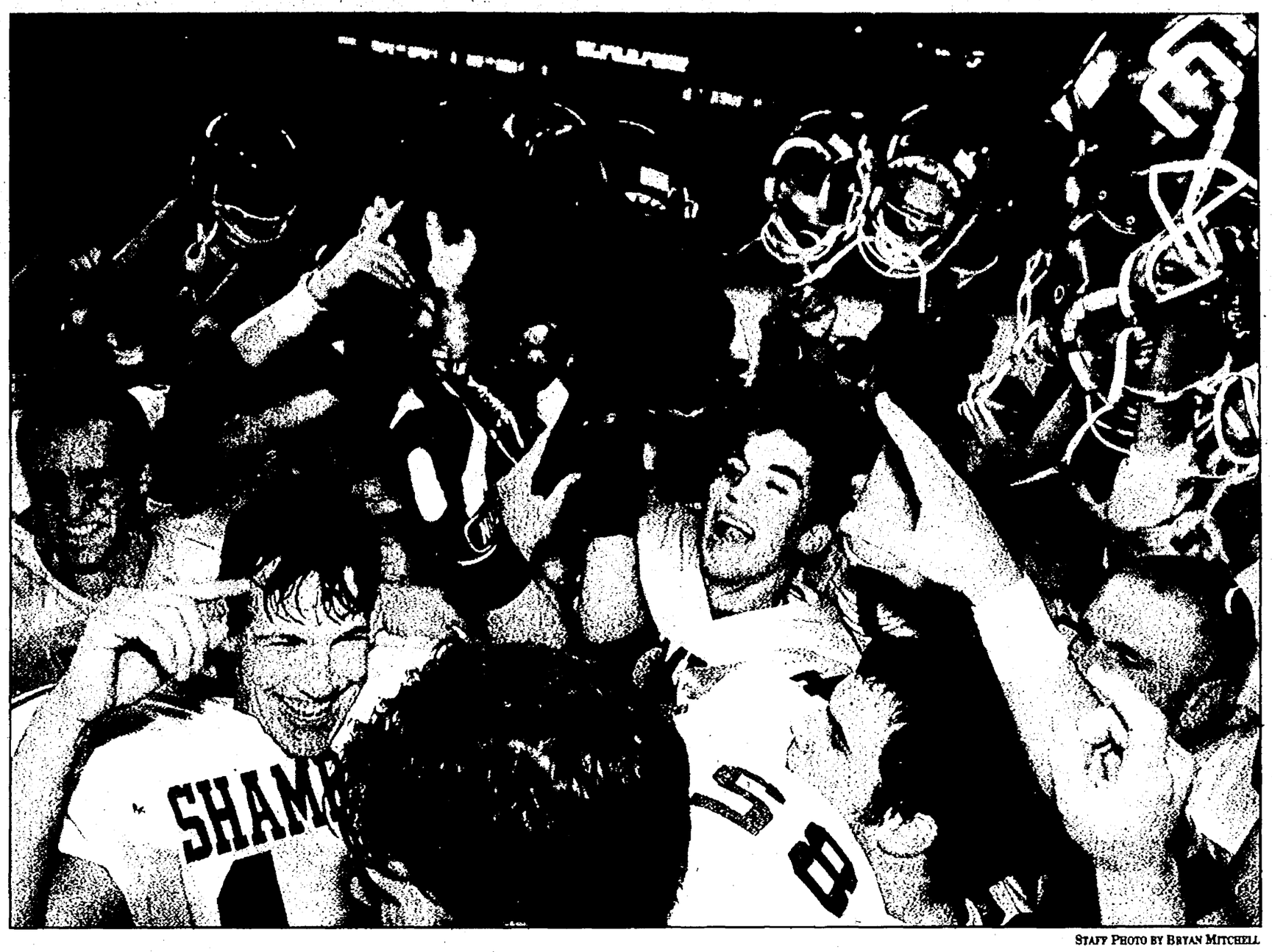
"He'd play whiffle ball in the house with his dad but I had to cut it out because his throws kept deflecting off pictures," Marie Tubaro said.

The Tubaros lived next door to the Baaki family, whose boys Bill and Brian attended CC, near Telegraph and Schoolcraft roads.

Adam and Brian were buddies growing up, which meant they fought a lot.

"And 10 minutes later, we'd be back out playing," remembers Adam.

Judging by his 11 of 15 performance in a snowstorm during the 21-3 regional final win over Troy, Tubaro probably never lost a snowball fight to Baaki.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Champs: *Redford Catholic Central won its fifth state title Saturday by dominating Ann Arbor Huron 23-7 at the Pontiac Silverdome. The Shamrocks scored the go ahead touchdown early in the third quarter.*

CC wins 5th state crown

Defense triggers 23-7 victory over River Rats

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

College and professional coaches receive phone calls from the President while celebrating championships.

Detroit Catholic Central football coach Tom Mach, standing in a crowded Pontiac Silverdome Press Room Saturday afternoon, settled for a direct link with a Detroit radio station.

That's as presidential as it gets at this level.

The Shamrocks scored 16 unanswered points in the second half and beat Ann Arbor Huron, 23-7, before 15,147 for their fourth Class AA state championship and fifth state crown overall.

"The credit goes to the kids, the coaches just came along for the ride," said Mach, whose teams have reached the finals eight times in his 22 years as coach. "I'm real happy for the guys. They did a tremendous job, improved every game."

Actually, Mach and his staff deserve much of the credit, utilizing a diversified offense and an attacking defense designed by defensive coordinator Rick Coratti.

The Shamrocks held a 16-7 edge in first downs and limited Huron to 133 total yards.

Defensive tackle Chuck Spolsky and defensive back Dave Lusky had one interception each and the Shamrocks also got a big game out of junior defensive end Brian Beardsley, who sacked Huron quarterback Joel Przygodski twice for a loss of 22 yards.

The River Rats' only points came on a 26-yard touchdown pass from Przygodski to Nate Johns with :26 left before halftime to tie the score at 7-7.

Huron's Cinderella season ends with a 12-1 record. The River Rats won three games in the post-season despite going in as underdogs each time.

"My hats off to their defensive line," said Huron tailback Patrick Johnson, who had 46 yards in 13 carries. "It seemed like every time I got the ball one of their guys was in my way."

CC senior quarterback Adam Tubaro, who played the entire way despite suffering a slightly sprained ankle in the first half, threw a 34-yard touchdown pass to tight end Nick Brzezinski and scored on a four-yard run.

Senior tailback Josh Christenson, who led the Shamrocks with 107 yards on 27 carries, scored the other touchdown on a four-yard run. Spolsky and Chris Respondek combined to sack Przygodski for a two-point safety and senior placekicker Aaron Rock made all three of his extra point attempts, including one from 35 yards out after a CC penalty.

Senior fullback Chris Dueweke complemented Christenson's running with 60 tough yards of his own on eight carries, including a long of 23.

"Chris was our number one back all year but starting with Sterling Heights Stevenson teams started keying on him and that's when our depth showed," Christenson said.

The Shamrocks went ahead to stay, 14-7, after taking the second-half kickoff and needing only five plays to drive 69 yards for a score.

Please see CC, C2

Borgess advances, 41-26

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Sandusky girls basketball coach Al DeMott knows it would have been a real coup for his program to beat heavily-favored Redford Bishop Borgess in Tuesday's Class C quarterfinal at Troy Athens.

Borgess coach Dave Mann, meanwhile, had a Koo on his mind as well – that is, senior forward Koren "Koo" Merchant, arguably the most talented player in the state whose game has a habit of mysteriously leaving her at times.

Merchant began the game in Mann's doghouse on the bench and played so-so once she got in, but the Spartans still had enough to win 41-26 and earn a fifth-straight trip to the Final Four.

The Spartans, who were Class C champions in 1993 and '94, will play Kalamazoo Christian at 6 p.m. Friday in a semifinal game at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena.

Admission to the semifinal session is $4; the finals cost $5.

Christian beat Parchment 54-30 in another quarterfinal game Tuesday night. If the Spartans win the semifinal, the championship game is scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday, also at Rose Arena.

Borgess senior center Aiysha Smith, named Miss Basketball earlier in the week, scored eight of her 10 points in the first half and led all rebounders with 12. Joining Smith with 10 points were junior forward Tiffany Simon and Merchant, who has been averaging near 20 per game lately.

"Koren did not play well and we hope she plays better Friday," Mann said.

Despite a big height advantage, the Spartans outrebounded Sandusky only 28-21. Merchant and Shermaine Drake helped out on the boards with four rebounds each.

Merchant's teammates know a third-state championship will be a lot easier to come by if Koo is at her best.

"Sometimes she's in a good (rhythm), sometimes she's in a daze, then she's back to the normal Koo, scoring and everything," Smith said.

Sandusky used exactly what Mann expected – a patient offense and packed in zone defense, both of which worked well the first quarter, anyway.

Sandusky led 6-4 early before the Spartans scored the last four points of the first quarter and the first seven of the second for a 15-6 lead.

A three-point shot by Sandusky cut the deficit to 15-9 but the Spartans outscored the Redskins, 6-2, the remainder of the half for a 21-11 lead.

"I have a great appreciation for what coach DeMott and his kids did," said Mann, who also coaches the women at University of Michigan Dearborn. "When I coach at U of M Dearborn, that's exactly what we've got to do – come up with some sort of a wrinkle (strategy) to have a chance and they did. That's a team that executed it well and is hard to defend. I guarantee you whatever they're offense is they don't spread it out as much."

The Spartans' senior point guard Christina Anderson was held two field goals and six points.

STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Moving on: *Christina Anderson.*

Senior guard Jennifer Green led Sandusky with 12 points. Teammate Kristy Mitchell added 11.

Sandusky finished with a 23-2 overall record, losing only to Harbor Beach during the regular season.

"The kids know they're very good and Smith's a very good player," said. "The kids did a good job. Borgess is very well disciplined, well coached and spread it out on us. They are so quick defensively."

Sandusky committed 22 turnovers to Borgess' 17.The Spartans missed their first six shot attempts from the floor and finished 15 for 45 for 33 percent. Sandusky was eight for 27.

Smith made only five of 13 shots but winning Miss Basketball had nothing to do with her performance.

"It's not gone to her head," Mann said. "She just did not play well. She's not the one walking around with the big head."

Stevenson icers fall to Rice 3-2

Livonia Stevenson lost a non-league hockey game to Birmingham Brother Rice, 3-2, on Saturday at Compuware Arena.

The Spartans, who never led, lost for the first time in five games. The Warriors are 2-0.

Mike McCowan and Jeff Lang scored goals for the Spartans. Darin Fawkes and Mike Walsh earned assists.

The Spartans enjoyed a 22-11 shots on goal advantage.

Stevenson trailed 1-0 after one period and 3-1 through two.

Maris Prieditis, Chris Cassidy and Chris Sikorski scored goals for Rice.

Stevenson tied the score with a goal by McCowan, assisted by Fawkes only 26 seconds into the second period.

The Spartans cut their deficit to 3-2 when Lang scored less than a minute into the third period, assisted by Walsh. Stevenson pulled its goaltender, Chris McComb, in the final minutes to add an extra attacker.

The Spartans enjoyed a 22-11 shots on goal advantage. Rick Bartley was the winning goalie.

"We just ran into a hot goaltender," Stevenson coach Mike Harris said. "You got to give credit where credit is due. This Bartley is a good goaltender. We played a good game, just couldn't put the puck in the net."

WRESTLING PREVIEWS

Salem, CC boast strong returning lineups

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

The music of choice for area wrestling coaches this year is the blues. Nearly all are singing it, too.

All the members of the Western Lakes Activities Association coaching fraternity must be ex-quarterbacks, the way they're handing the ball off to Plymouth Salem as the league favorite.

"Mr. Salem, he's got the monkey on his back," said Livonia Stevenson's Don Berg. "I'm predicting right now, he's the front runner. He'll tell you he has holes, but I'd like to have his holes.

"Seriously, he's worked hard. And if you work hard, you'll generally find that it pays off in the end."

"He's got a lineup, that's for sure," agreed Coach Marty Altounian of Livonia Churchill. "You ask him for his key returnees, he'll probably just list his whole team."

Unlike a year ago, no area team is loaded with returning superstars. Most have quality wrestlers returning, but lost more than they return or have depth problems. Virtually all are young.

Outside of Plymouth Salem, the best area team before first pin is made is Detroit Catholic Central, also heavy with returning talent.

Biggest adjustment this year is to the new Michigan High School Athletic Association rules enacted to guard against wrestlers being forced (or forcing themselves) to lose copious amounts of weight to make their classification.

It's caused no small amount of grumbling, but more because of the paperwork involved than over the philosophical intent.

Slimmed down, the rule requires every wrestler to undergo a physical examination which involves weight-for-height and body fat.

The wrestler cannot be below 7 percent body fat and is told by the doctor the lowest weight he (or she) can wrestle at.

"The state is basically telling us where kids are going to wrestle," the Chargers' Altounian said. "This isn't exaclty new because we had a dry run last year.

"But I think you'll probably see a few voids in a lot of lineups this year."

This isn't a cut-and-dried thing, though. There are exceptions.

Doctors can issue exemptions for kids who have had extremely low amounts of body fat their whole lives and parents can sign permission slips for minor variations.

This documentation must be submitted to the MHSAA and then returned to the school before the wrestler can compete.

Coaches traditionally have scrambled to find kids to fill voids in their lineups early in the season. Now the paperwork must be completed, too.

The outlook for each area team, in no particular order:

REDFORD CATHOLIC CENTRAL

Coach Mike Rodriguez welcomes back a load of talent.

His captain is Detroit Catholic League champion Matt Petersen, who will move from 130 pounds to 145 this season.

Rodriguez expects good things from four other seniors: Andy Lendrum (130), Brendan Burns (140), Jeff Pasco (160) and Rob Wentworth (171).

Junior Brocc Naismith, who placed eighth among state heavyweights, drops down to 215 this year. Junior Casey Rogowski, who was second in the regionals, will wrestle heavyweight.

Sophomore Mitch Hancock, a Catholic League champion and district runnerup, will go at 135.

The Shamrocks boast two freshmen with older brothers on the team, Chris Petersen (112) and Ed Lendrum (119). In addition, freshman Chris O'Hara's (103) older brother Dave was CC's captain last year.

Sophomore Sean Bell (152) wrestled last year while the team should be improved because Andy Conlin (189) has outwrestled John Abshire for a spot in the starting lineup. Also being counted on is Matt Goward (125).

"We're a pretty solid team," Rodriguez said. "We're heavy at the top. We've got some kids that have been there for awhile, especially in the upper weights."

Catholic Central opens today against powerful Temperance-Bedford in an assembly match in front of its student body.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

It's going to be a learning year for Churchill's wrestlers.

Coach Marty Altounian just hopes his team learns how to overachieve.

"We're going to be real lean this year," he said. "Real lean. We're going to have a real young team.

"Whatever the kids are going to achieve this year, it's going to be a lot more than what I'm expecting.

"I'm not expecting a lot because this is going to be a learning season for them. So whatever they get, it's going to be that much better."

The second-year coach lost some key personnel off last year's team, including Bob Fowler, who was fourth in the state at 215 pounds.

The Chargers also lost regional qualifiers Joe Ramlawi (189), Nick McGowan (145) and Nate Muchow (152).

Key returnees include senior Vinnie Ascione at 171 pounds, 160-pound senior Brian Panczyszyn, junior Steve Vasiloff at 119, sophomore Mike Carter at 152 and 145-pound junior Brandon Lapointe.

Co-captains of Altounian's team are Vasiloff and Panczyszyn.

Other leading returnees include senior Brian Kramer at 112 and sophomore Ryan Cannon at 140.

Churchill will be relying heavily upon its juniors and sophomores to come through.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Three empty weight classes could keep Livonia Franklin from filling its cup with victories.

"We do not have wrestlers at 112 (pounds), 215 or heavyweight," said Coach Gary Glashauser, who takes over for Tim Templeton this season. "We're going to keep trying to recruit somebody to fill those weight classes. We'll keep beating the bushes.

"We should be close to .500. With only three seniors coming back, I look for us again to be roughly around .500.

"If we could put a full lineup in there, I think we could do a little bit better. But voiding three (weight classes), we're really handicapped. We're strong from 135 to 160."

Templeton gave up the job as Franklin's wrestling coach because he felt he wouldn't be able to devote the amount of time it requires due to a change in job duties. He still intends to help out as time permits.

The Patriots had six seniors last year but a load of sophomores.

Glashauser, who assisted Templeton last year, has named his three seniors co-captains and is looking for leadership from all of them.

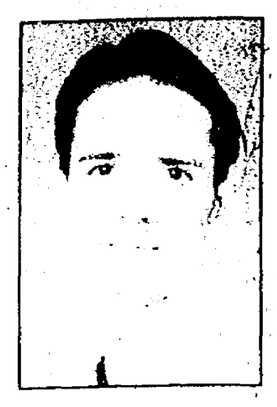
Aaron Haddad will wrestle at 135 pounds while Jon Hirzel goes at 140 and Joey Moritz at 160.

Other returnees include Derek Azzopardi at 125 pounds, 140-pounder David Fry, Ryan Shiplett at 145, Alan Duff at 152, 171-pounder Steve Myslynski and Adam Hughes at 119.

Key first-year performers include Lee Warren at 103 pounds and Pat Broderick at 189.

Dan Seder: Moves from 125

Katsuhiko Sueda: Second in the state



Craig Rose: A two-time state qualifier

LIVONIA STEVENSON

Youth will be served, sometimes whether it's ready or not.

That's kind of the case at Livonia Stevenson this year where Coach Don Berg has eight sophomores, many of whom will be called upon to play key roles for the Spartans.

"All of our sophomores lettered last year as members of our regional and league champions. They had a smattering of varsity and a lot of junior varsity experience.

"Now it's their turn. It's how a program is built, gaining experience from year to year. Some will be rushed into battle sooner than others.

"But this is a good group of kids. They had a great football season. I think they lost one game as sophomore football players. They're athletes.

"Hopefully we'll have the same results as we have had in the past. I'm not saying we will, but that's our goal."

The Spartans lost some talent from last year's team. Mike Allison (160) placed third in the regionals to qualify for the states and is now at Alma, where he plays football.

Also gone is heavyweight Rich Bramer, who placed fifth in the state last year, and Nick Petryk (145), who placed seventh in the state. Petryk is at Michigan State but is not wrestling.

The cupboard is not bare. Few of Stevenson's cupboards ever are.

Katsuhiko Sueda, who finished second in the state a year ago, comes back to wrestle at 112 pounds this year. He was a member of the All-Observer team last year at 103 pounds.

State qualifier Dan Seder, also an All-Observer wrestler, moves from 125 up to 135 or 140, state meet qualifier Jeff Brach will go at either 140 or 145 while Chris Goins will try 119 or 125 pounds.

All four are returning seniors and Spartan co-captains.

Juniors Joe Moreau and Brian Barker are expected to play key roles also.

The sophomores are Nick Coffman, Mike Falzon, Josh Gunterman, John McFarland, Eric Puninske, Mike Radley, Joe Zawacki and Waleed Haddad.

"They'll wrestle from 130-180," Berg said. "They filled in here and there as freshman.

"They're going to have to step up and wrestle if they want to continue the Stevenson tradition. We're heavily laden with young kids this year.

"We also have a freshman who will probably fill in.

"We have no 215-pound wrestler at this time and our heavyweight is a brand new recruit as a junior, George Tsoukalas."

"If we can recruit a 215-pounder, I'll be glad to have him."

Berg won't just put someone in to fill the void, though. He'd rather give up the points than get someone hurt by wrestling up or down at that weight level.

WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Committee on Health and Human Services of the Wayne County Commission will hold a Public Hearing on a proposed Ordinance to amend Section 5 of the Enrolled Ordinance 93-610 to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to make separate grants to cities and townships when service by a master contract is impractical.
The meeting will be held:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1997 AT 10:00 A.M.
Wayne County Commission, Hearing Room 402
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Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Commission Clerk's Office, 406 Wayne County Building, 600 Randolph, Detroit 48226. (313) 224-0903.

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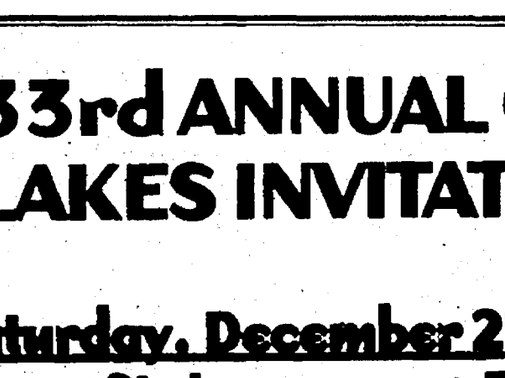

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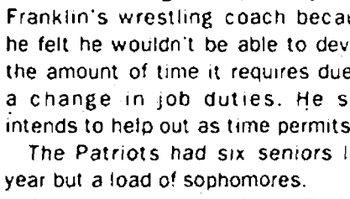

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CC *from page C1*

Tubaro completed two passes to Brzezinski on the drive, including a 34-yarder for a touchdown over the outstretched arms of one of the Huron defensive backs.

The play was a confidence builder for Tubaro, who threw two first-half interceptions. The two interceptions were the only passes Tubaro didn't complete to his team.

He finished five of seven for 91 yards through the air.

"We've been running that play all year," said Tubaro. "We fake the counter and catch the defensive backs coming up hard."

The Shamrocks were called for an uncharacteristically high 11 penalties for 117 yards, but the interpretation of one of those flags worked in their favor at a crucial time.

Leading 14-7, the Shamrocks were called for a personal foul after hitting Przygodski out of bounds following an eight yard run on fourth down to CC's 25.

The referees ruled the foul occurred after the whistle, meaning no automatic first down. The five-yard penalty left the River Rats short of the first down, turning the ball over to CC.

The Shamrocks sealed the outcome with a 62-yard 10 play drive that ended with Tubaro's four yard run with 2:24 remaining.

So much for a sprained ankle.

"This was the state championship and something like that can't keep you down," Tubaro said.

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Big plays add spice to Spolsky's dream season

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Detroit Catholic Central senior Chuck Spolsky got his hands on the football and also had some heroics in the end zone in Saturday's Class AA state championship game at the Pontiac Silverdome.

Sounds like the kind of day his brother John, a sophomore on the Air Force Academy's football team, used to enjoy as an all-state fullback at CC.

But Spolsky, a 5-foot-11, 195-pounder, wouldn't dare suggest he should have been used as a ballcarrier the last two years. Spolsky was quite content opening holes for the running backs as an offensive lineman and stuffing holes as a tackle on defense.

Still, it was refreshing seeing some of Chuck's plays lead to points in the Shamrocks' 23-7 victory over Ann Arbor Huron.

His interception at Huron's 15 yard line early in the second quarter led to the Shamrocks' first touchdown, a four-yard run by Josh Christenson with 9:18 left in the half.

Spolsky also combined with Chris Respondek on a safety, sacking Huron quarterback Joel Przygodski in the end zone with 2:02 remaining in the game to finish the scoring.

Spolsky went to the turf immediately after making his interception.

"Coach (Roy) Dudas says 'Smell the skunk.'" Spolsky said. "I was fortunate enough to catch it. So I just fell on it. I didn't want to press my luck."

Sign of the times: A sign on the wall in the tunnel at the Pontiac Silverdome said: "Hey CC, Alls was down. Stevenson rules."

Tubaro: CC leader

The sign was in reference to the week before when CC's Joe Sgroi recovered a fumble by Joe Alls on a punt return leading to the go-ahead touchdown in a 21-17 Class AA semifinal playoff victory.

There was a question of whether Alls was down before he fumbled the ball.

After beating Huron for the Class AA championship it's safe to say the sign wasn't anything the Shamrocks would read and weap over.

Flags galore: The Shamrocks were penalized 11 times for 117 yards to Huron's seven for 55 yards. Mach can't remember the Shamrocks ever being penalized that much, crediting some of the infractions to "overenthusiasm" on his players' part.

The officials also called several delay of game penalties on both teams.

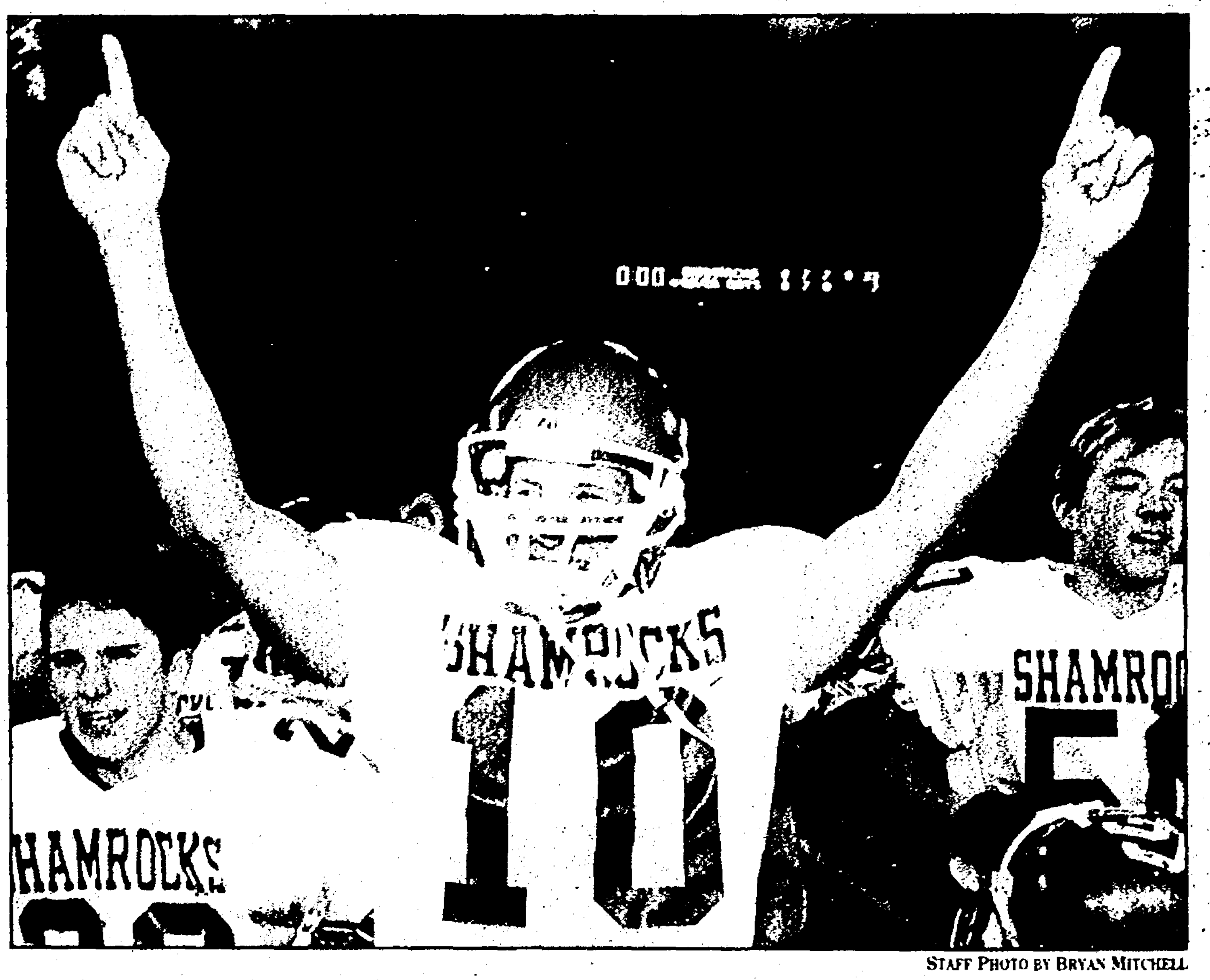
"It was unbelievable the amount of penalties we had," Mach said. "The referees were spotting the ball quicker than in the history of spotting the ball, and I'm not a computer – I was trying to call the plays as quick as possible."

Team effort: Senior quarterback Adam Tubaro was the undisputed leader on offense and senior linebacker Joe Sgroi the same on defense, but Mach can't single out any of the members of the 1997 team.

The Shamrocks were ranked among the top 10 in Class AA throughout the season but had to wait until the championship game to stake their claim as the No. 1 team.

"Not a lot of people gave them too much credit early, and they decided in their own minds they'd be state champs," Mach said. "They believed in them selves 100 percent. It's an easy group to coach, and had fun going to practice. I didn't have one bit of problem with anybody this year. It was a great year from a great bunch of kids. They listened, learned, did what you said. There's nothing more a coach could ask."

Stats and stuff: CC led in time of possession, 28 minutes, 10 seconds, to Huron's 19:50...The Shamrocks were six of 10 in third down conversions compared to the River Rats' two for nine...CC senior defensive end Mike Carroll led the Shamrocks with 11 tackles and senior linebacker Joe Sgroi had nine... Junior defensive end Brian Beardsley had three of his seven tackles for losses of a total of 32 yards...Two of Chuck Spolsky's four stops were for losses of nine yards...Senior Jason Hamilton punted four times for CC for an average of 39.3 yards with a long of 42 early in the fourth quater when the Shamrocks led 14-7...Mach is now 11 wins shy of 200 for his career with a 189-42 record in 22 seasons. A return to the state title game would almost assure the magical 200th victory.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Winning feeling: *Adam Tubaro, flanked by teammates Tim Finnerty (left) and Tony Piotrowski, raises his hands and flashes the No. 1 sign that Ann Arbor Huron painfully learned Saturday at the Pontiac Silverdome.*

OUTDOOR CALENDAR

DATES/DEADLINES

BASS
Bass season ends statewide on Dec. 31.

DEER
The second archery season is Dec. 1-Jan. 1 statewide. Muzzleloading seasons are Dec. 5-14 in Zone I and Dec. 12-21 in Zones II and III. A special late antlerless only season will be held Dec. 20-Jan. 4 on private land only in Zone III.

DUCKS
Duck season runs through Dec. 9 in the South Zone.

GOOSE
The second part of the Canada goose season runs through Dec. 7 in the South Zone outside the five Goose Management Units. Check the 1997 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide for dates of the season in the GMU's.

MUSKIE
Muskie season ends Dec. 15 on Lake St. Clair the St. Clair River and the Detroit River.

PHEASANT
A special late pheasant hunt will once again be offered in southern Michigan Dec. 1-15. Check the 1997-98 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide for exact boundaries of the hunt area.

SQUIRREL
Fox and gray squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

RABBIT
Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

ARCHERY

JUNIOR OLYMPICS
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

JUNIOR ARCHERS
A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

OUTDOOR CLUBS

SOLAR
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation, a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

FISHING CLUBS

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Citizen's Center in the Livonia Civic Center. Call Jim Kudej at (313) 591-0843 for more information.

FISHING BUDDIES
Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. Call (810) 656-0556 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION
The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Dearborn Civic Center. Call (313) 676-2863 for more information.

SHOOTING RANGES

BALD MOUNTAIN
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are noon to sunset on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursday's and Fridays and 10 a.m. to sunset on Wednesdays. On Saturdays and Sundays the rifle and pistol range is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the sporting clays course is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd. (three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

PONTIAC LAKE
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (810) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION
Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 22 are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (810) 693-6767 for more information.

POINTE MOUILLEE
The rifle and pistol range at the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area in Rockwood has been closed due to environmental concerns. Call (313) 379-3820 for more information.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS
Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

1998 PERMITS
The 1998 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are $15 and $8 for senior citizens. The annual boat launching permits are $18 and $9 for senior citizens. Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

TOYS FOR TOTS
The Huron-Clinton Metroparks are serving as collection sponsors for the Toys for Tots program. The program is conducted annually by the United States marine Corps Reserve to serve needy children in local communities by providing new, unwrapped toys during the holidays. Anyone wishing to donate a new, unwrapped toy of a non-violent nature can do so through Dec. 17 at any Metropark office. Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

SNACKS WITH SANTA
Kids can visit with Santa and enjoy a snack and a hay ride during this program, which will be held Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 6-7 and Dec. 13-14 at Kensington. Tickets are $5 each and available by advanced purchase only. A similar program will be held Sunday at Indian Springs.

WRAPPING PAPER
Learn to make your own holiday wrapping paper during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Saturday at Kensington.

BIRDING BASICS
An introduction to bird identification, field guides, binoculars and techniques will be offered beginning at 1:30 p.m., Sunday at Kensington.

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS
Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

Please see OUTDOORS, C4

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4 FOR $410 4) 30X9.50R-15 COMANCHES & 15X8 CHROME DIRECTIONALS
4 FOR $420 4) P185/70R-14 PERFORMANCE RADIALS & 14X6 PRIMAX 362's
4 FOR $420 4) P185/60R-14 PERFORMANCE RADIALS & 14X6 AMERICAN EAGLE 24's
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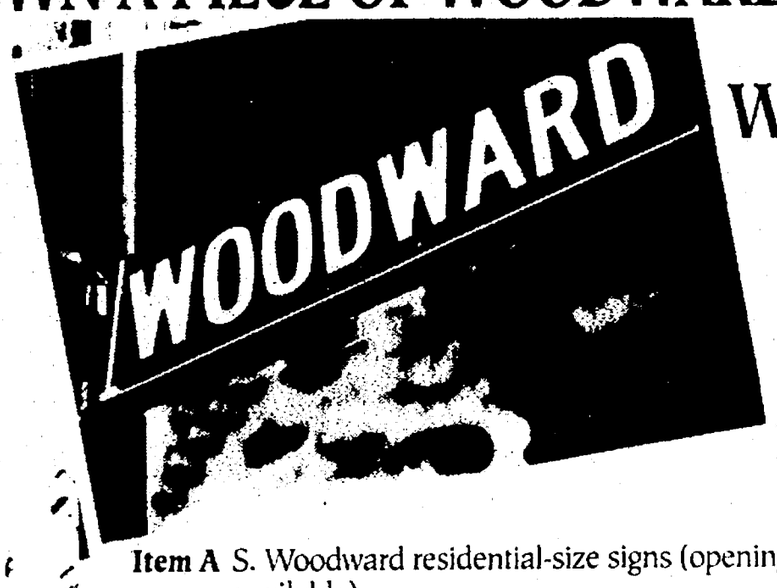
Outdoors *from page C3*

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS
Create hand-made gifts for the holidays during this craft session, which begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Independence Oaks.

STATE PARKS

STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS
Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area and Island Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and additional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2433. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7067.

OWN A PIECE OF WOODWARD HISTORY...



WOODWARD SIGNS FOR AUCTION!

Item A S. Woodward residential-size signs (opening bid price is $40: 15 available)
Item B N. Woodward residential-size signs (opening bid price is $40: 10 available)
Item C Woodward residential-size signs (opening bid price is $40: 9 available)
Item D Hunter residential-size signs (opening bid price is $40: 18 available)
Item E Tree sign (three signs on sign-post top) showing Ring Rd./E. Brown/S. Woodward, opening bid is $60; only one available
Item F **Large median signs: miscellaneous N. Woodward, S. Woodward and Hunter (opening bid is $60; total 13 available)**
Note: Signs are actual street signs and are weathered.

How to Bid:

1. Telephone bids accepted beginning Thursday, December 4, 1997. Auction closes at 5 p.m. Monday, December 15.
2. Auction by voice mail: Call the Woodward Avenue Action Association at (248) 399-3933. You may call 24 hours a day until 5 p.m. December 15, 1997.
3. Leave your name, day time telephone, type of sign desired and bid amount.
4. Top bidders in each category will be contacted to arrange for pick up in Birmingham. All calls will be logged by date and order received. In the event of a tie, earlier call wins. **Sign payments are tax deductible with proceeds going toward beautification efforts on Woodward in south Oakland County.** All winning bidders will be published in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers January 8, 1998.

Members of the Woodward Avenue Action Association Board of Directors and association employees are excluded from participation.

Presented By:

WOODWARD AVENUE ACTION ASSOCIATION

Sponsored By: THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

LT 50860

When you combine Witts, you bag bucks

OUTDOOR INSIGHTS

BILL PARKER

It seems like the 1997 firearms deer season just started yesterday and already it has come to an end. If you were fortunate this fall and put some venison in the freezer during the bow or firearms season give me a call and report your success. Then watch future editions of the Observer & Eccentric newspaper for those results to be published.

Several area hunters reported success during the firearms season.

■ Jeri Sutherland believes in including his children in his hunting trips and that's exactly what the Westland resident was doing on the second day of the firearms season when he tagged the "buck of a lifetime." With his 10-year-old son Weston at his side, Sutherland arrived at his deer blind in Washtenaw County early in the morning on Nov. 17. At 6:40 a.m. a doe stepped into a cut hay field, but Sutherland was unable to get off a shot.

"Five minutes later the big buck stepped into the hay field and I whispered to Wes, 'Here comes a buck, stay real still.' The buck stopped once, then stopped a second time just 25 yards away," explained Sutherland. "He was looking right at us and he was getting nervous. I knew now was our chance so I put the sights on his neck and squeezed the trigger."

The rack on the 9-point buck sported a 17-inch spread and featured an 11-inch tine.

"As we approached him carefully I realized it was the buck of a lifetime and the best part was that my son was with me," said Sutherland. "Not only will we enjoy the venison all year, but we will cherish the moment for a lifetime. Special thanks to my brother Bill who put us in this spot and who has taught us to never give up. Your time will come if you invest time in the hunt."

■ June Smith of Troy is gaining a reputation of being a crack-shot. Hunting near Hubbard Lake, Smith shot a 4-point buck at 10:30 a.m. on opening day. But that's not the whole story. She dropped the buck with one shot - at 90-yards and on the run.

"This is the third running shot for her out of the 10 bucks she's taken," boasted her husband, J. William Smith.

■ It took four years for Livonia native Gary Witt to convince his father, Bob, to join him in the Upper Peninsula for the opening of Michigan's firearms deer season.

"This is his last year at college at Michigan Tech," explained Bob. "Gary has been trying to get me to come up there deer hunting and I finally went this year, now that he's a senior."

The trip proved to be tremendously successful. Hunting on state land in Houghton County, Gary shot a nice 4-point on opening day to get the season started. Bob followed that up on Nov. 19 by shooting a beautiful 8-point at 9:15 a.m. That buck dressed out at 170 pounds and sported a symmetrical rack with a 16-inch spread.

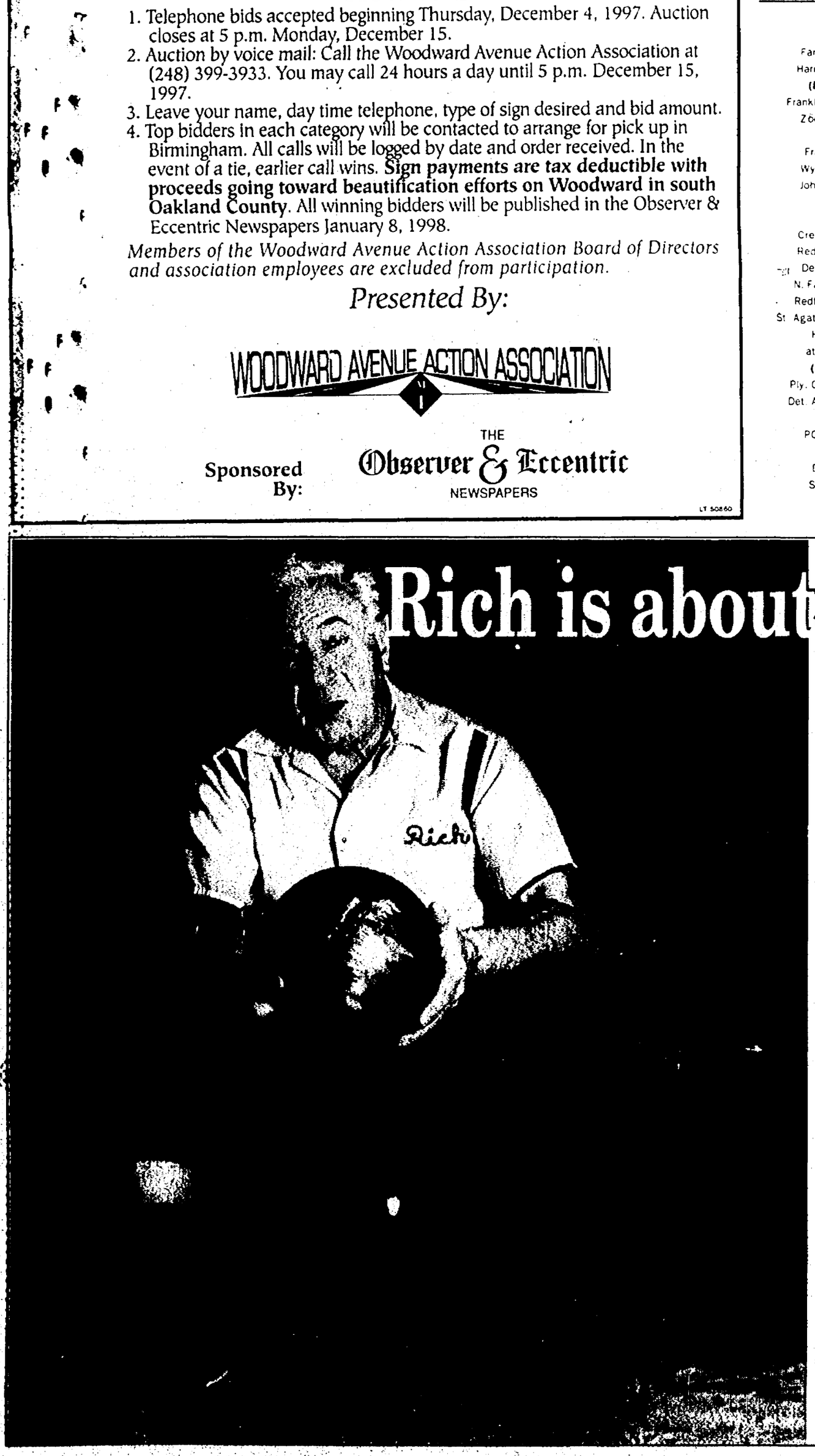
Not to be outdone by his father, Gary, who is majoring in civil engineering, bagged a fantastic 14-point buck at 5:15 on the 19th. Gary's buck dressed out at 192 pounds and the rack had a 20-inch spread.

Bob also shot a 200-pound bear in October.

Anglers and hunters are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI. 48009. Fax information to (810) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (810) 901-2573.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Monday, Dec. 8
Farmington at Wat. Mott, 7 p.m.
Harrison at Wat. Kettering, 7 p.m.
(PCA Eagle Kick-Off Classic)
Franklin Road vs. Westside, 5:30 p.m.
Zoe at Canton Agape, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 9
Franklin at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Wyandotte at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at A.A. Huron, 7 p.m.
Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Salem at Monroe, 7 p.m.
Crestwood at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Redford Union at Thurston, 7 p.m.
Dearborn at Churchill, 7:30 p.m.
N. Farm. at Lapeer West, 7:30 p.m.
Redford CC at Gallagher, 7:30 p.m.
St. Agatha at Fairlane Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Huron Valley vs. Light & Life at Marshall Jr. High, 7:30 p.m.
(PCA Eagle Kick-Off Classic)
Ply. Christian W. Highland, 5:30 p.m.
Det. Academy vs. Macomb, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 11
PCA Eagle semifinal, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12
Dearborn at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Fordson, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Salem at A.A. Huron, 7 p.m.
Lakeland at Churchill, 7:30 p.m.
Monroe at Canton, 7:30 p.m.
Clarenceville at St. Agatha, 7:30 p.m.
PCA Eagle semifinal, 7:30 p.m.
Huron Valley at MLHS Tourney, TBA.
Saturday, Dec. 13
Andover at Farmington, 2 p.m.
PCA Eagle championship, 7 p.m.
Huron Valley at MLHS Tourney, TBA.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Wednesday, Dec. 10
Madonna at Wayne State, 7 p.m.
Schoolcraft at Owens Tech, 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12
OCC at K'zoo Valley Tourney, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13
OCC at K'zoo Valley, 2 or 4 p.m.
Grand Rapids at Schoolcraft, 7:30 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Thursday, Dec. 11
Wayne State at Madonna, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13
Madonna at Lake Superior, 5:30 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Wednesday, Dec. 10
Churchill vs. Redford Union, Franklin vs. Lapeer West at Edgar Arena, 6 & 8 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12
Stevenson vs. W.L. Central at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 13
RU at W.L. Western, 2:20 p.m.
Stevenson at Royal Oak, 8 p.m.
Redford CC vs. Wyandotte at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Sunday, Dec. 7
Ply. Whalers vs. Erie Otters at Compuware Arena, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 11
Ply. Whalers at North Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12
Ply. Whalers at Sudbury, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 14
Ply. Whalers at Toronto, 1:35 p.m.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Saturday, Dec. 13
Madonna Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
Allen Park Invitational, 8:30 p.m.
South Lyon Invitational, 9 a.m.
Harrison Invitational, TBA
TBA — time to be announced



Rich is about to join the 3-2-1-SOLD! club.

Rich was up in the attic the other day and saw his old bowling gear. He'd like to sell it along with his wife's Vaughn Monroe record collection and a couple of other things, but doesn't want to spend a lot on an ad. Who does?

Our 3-2-1—SOLD! offer is just what you need when you have things to sell for under $200.

Here's how it works:

1. You get **3** lines to describe your item (remember, you have to be asking less than $200)

2. You get to run your ad for **2** days (one week)

3. You get **1** low price—just $19.26. That's only $3.21 per line!

You could say our **3-2-1** plan is as easy as **1-2-3!**
Rich did.

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A HomeTown Communications Network™ publication

SPORTS ROUNDUP

IMPACT PLAYER

It's been two years since Tara Overaitis (Livonia Ladywood/Dearborn Divine Child) has played basketball, and three years since she was a player of impact.

That was in her senior year at Divine Child. Since then, she has spent a year at Michigan State and a year on the bench as a redshirt after transferring to the University of Toledo.

Seems the time away from on-the-floor competition didn't hurt Overaitis much. In Toledo's first three games, two of them victories, the 5-foot-11 sophomore forward has averaged 8.3 points and 5.3 rebounds per game while making 52.4 percent of her shots. She ranks second on the Rockets in scoring and is third in rebounding and minutes played.

Adriane Bryant (Redford Bishop Borgess), a sophomore guard, is averaging 3.7 points and 2.3 assists in 17 minutes of action per game.

TOP OF THE LIST

The Detroit Rockers moved a game over .500, and they did it against the team leading the National Professional Soccer League's North Division, beating the Buffalo Blizzard 19-14 Saturday at Joe Louis Arena.

The win pushed the Rockers' record to 4-3, good for second place in the North. Buffalo was still in first at 6-3.

Second in scoring for Detroit is Travis Roy, from Livonia (Stevenson HS). Roy had five two-point goals, one one-pointer and three assists for 14 points. He has one game-winning goal.

Other local players with the Rockers are Jeff Gold (Plymouth Salem), who has one two-point goal and three points, and Lars Richters (Livonia Stevenson), who has one two-pointer to his credit. Richters' 17 blocks is second on the Rockers and fourth in the NPSL.

SCORING LEADER

There are good reasons Schoolcraft College's men's basketball team is off to one of the best starts in school history, with five wins in its first seven games.

There names are Kevin Melson and Pete Males.

Both are statistical leaders in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association's Eastern Conference. Melson leads all scorers, averaging 29.4 points per game; Males (Garden City) has helped Melson reach that lofty position (the second-highest scorer is Joe Kozel of St. Clair CCC with a 21.6 point average) by leading the conference in assists, with a 7.0 average.

Melson is also tied for third in rebounding (8.4 per game) and ranks third in field-goal percentage (61.4 percent).

There are other Ocelots who have compiled admirable statistics. Derek McKelvey is third in scoring (17.7 points), three-point shooting (45.6 percent) and free throw accuracy (86.9 percent), and Emeka Okonkwo is 12th in scoring (12.5), fourth in floor shooting (58.3 percent), fifth in free throw shooting (80 percent) and sixth in three-point shooting (42.8 percent).

David Jarrett (Westland John Glenn) is tied for sixth in the conference in rebounding with an average of 7.5 per game.

As a team, SC ranks first in free throw (70.8 percent) and floor (54.9 percent) shooting, is second in three-point shooting (38.7 percent) and is second in scoring defense (74.67 points allowed).

The Ocelots play at Siena Heights College against the Saints' junior varsity at 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

USED SPORTS STUFF

Canton's Parks and Recreation Services will sponsor its annual used sports equipment sale from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 at the Pheasant Run Golf Club's clubhouse.

The public is invited to sell their sports or recreational equipment at prices they set (minus 15 percent which goes to the Parks and Recreation department). Items can be dropped off 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4 at Pheasant Run; volunteers will be on hand to do the selling the following Saturday.

Money or unsold items can be picked up from 1-2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6.

Country Day downs Dexter in semis, 52-40

BY JOE KYRIAKOZA
STAFF WRITER

BASKETBALL

Jennifer Thomas decided to take matters into her own hands Tuesday.

After a quick feeling-out process of Dexter's defensive scheme, which was to shadow every move Thomas made with three to four defenders, the junior forward went on the offensive.

Thomas made all the plays necessary to pilot Country Day to its second Class B state semifinal appearance in three seasons with a 52-40 conquest of Dexter at Carleton-Airport.

Thomas, a stalwart at both ends of the floor, foiled Dexter's attempt at shutting her down by collecting numerous offensive rebounds and playing tenacious defense.

"In the beginning, it looked like it was going to be a difficult night for us," Country Day coach Frank Orlando said. "(The Dreadnaughts) said 'We're not gonna let Jennifer beat us.'"

The Yellow Jackets fell behind 13-4 in the first half, but Thomas stepped up to the challenge and scored 11 straight DCD points in the second quarter.

"Jennifer's intensity changed the game," Orlando said. "She looked like a Big Ten guard out there. She's that kind of player. She has that kind of intensity and courage."

Country Day, for the most part, goes as Thomas goes, so her scoring was imperative.

"I'm used to being double-teamed," said Thomas, who paced all scorers with 23 points. "It was a lot harder this game. I just had to get my points in other ways.

"They tried to stop me in the post, so coach brought me out and put Katharine (Hanks) inside."

Countless forced turnovers, thanks to a full-court press, also helped DCD at the offensive end.

"I think the thing that opened it up for us was the press," Orlando said.

"Our coach told us in the pregame they didn't like pressure defense," Thomas said.

The pressure, though, fell on Country Day early on as the Yellow Jackets faced an 11-4 deficit after one quarter.

But Thomas' hustle resulted in three consecutive steals and an 8-2 run, cutting Dexter's lead to 15-14 midway through the second quarter.

After taking a two-point lead into halftime, Country Day grabbed a 12-point advantage at the end of three quarters, 39-27, on a layup by freshman Suzanne Morrison. Country Day reached its largest lead of 14 with 2:33 left in the game.

Thomas led the Jackets with 10 rebounds and five steals, while Hanks had 13 points, nine rebounds and two blocks. Junior Katie Blazewski added 10 points and four boards.

Senior Kelly Bitters led Dexter with 14 points and three steals. Junior Caitlyn Kennedy scored nine points and junior Shawna Shafer seven.

Country Day plays in the semifinals Friday afternoon at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena.

Orlando praised Dexter's effort.

"They had a great game plan," Orlando said. "I give Dexter a lot of credit. They're well-coached. That should be recognized."

Thomas was determined not to yield an opportunity to grab another state title, which the Jackets earned in 1995.

"I told the team we weren't going home today," Thomas said. "This has been our goal throughout the year."

Thomas and Orlando realize that this year's squad differs from the championship team two seasons ago, but has the capability of going all the way.

"This team is not as experienced as the championship team," Thomas said. "We had six seniors. This year we have none, but we know what it takes to win."

It's a Byers market as Marian advances 61-48

BY MARTY BUDNER
STAFF WRITER

In the market for a Final Four? Call on Kelly Byers. That's what Birmingham Marian did and it paid huge dividends Tuesday.

The defending Class A champions defeated a fearless but outmatched Lapeer East squad, 61-48, in a quarterfinal game played at Waterford Mott High School.

The Mustangs (21-4) next meet Detroit Martin Luther King (24-2) in the state semifinals scheduled for 2:50 p.m. today at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena.

The winner of that game plays for the Class A state championship 2 p.m. Saturday at the same site, and the Mustangs hope to be there.

"I'm happy we made it (to the Final Four)," Byers said. "That's been our goal since Day One and we achieved it."

Byers has played a big role off the bench for Marian all year, and it was no different against the Eagles.

The Marina junior not only scored a game-high 18 points but was instrumental in keying a third-quarter onslaught that virtually buried Lapeer East.

Halfway through the quarter, Marian held a 40-36 advantage. Although the Mustangs were in control, they couldn't shake a Lapeer East team (22-4) that had a size, depth and experience disadvantage. That is, until Byers took matters into her hands.

Marian went on a 9-0 run to take a 49-36 lead. Byers accounted for seven of those points, including a clutch three that concluded the run of points. Breean Walas scored the other basket on a layup after a turnover.

By the end of the third quarter, Marian owned a 49-38 lead and maintain a comfortable advantage throughout the fourth quarter.

Byers, who also scored a big basket in the regional championship victory over Plymouth Canton, said the all Marian players "picked up" their games knowing what was at stake.

"I felt real good in that third quarter. I felt like I was in a zone," Byers said. "If they started to come at me, I started to penetrate and take the short jumper. I just wanted to play my game.

"I decided to step my game up and play all out. As a team, we all really wanted to go to Central Michigan."

Veteran Marian coach Mary Lillie-Cicerone figured Byers would play a key role with her outside shooting to help attack the Lapeer East zone defense.

"All along I knew I wanted Kellie, because we knew they were going to play a zone against us," she said. "And Kellie has been shooting the ball real well all season, especially in the tournament. So we wanted to get her in there and break down that zone for us.

"And she did step it up again for us tonight and didn't let us down."

Byers was Marian's leading

Plaese see MARIAN, C7

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CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND WESTLAND

SPECIAL EVENTS

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE
Applications for toys from the Westland Goodfellows for Westland residents only are available at the following locations: Dorsey Center (32715 Dorsey), Westland Chamber of Commerce (36610 Ford Road) and Westland City Hall (36600 Ford Road). Applications must be submitted by 3 p.m. Dec. 12.

TOWN HALL MEETING
U.S. Rep. Lynn N. Rivers will be holding a town hall meeting 7-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 11, in the Dorsey Community Center at 32715 Dorsey in Westland. The meeting will be an open forum at which attendees are free to discuss a wide range of subjects with the congresswoman. Rivers will begin the program by discussing recent actions in the 105th Congress. She will then open the floor to questions. The program is designed to provide participants with an opportunity to raise issues, offer concerns and become informed about current congressional activities. For more information, call Michelle Heikka in Rivers' district office at (313) 722-1411.

SHOPPING SPECIAL
Senior citizens and shoppers with disabilities can shop from 7-9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 5, at Mervyn's California in Westland. The event will include a 10 percent discount on purchases, personal shopping assistance, refreshments, entertainment, and free gift wrap. A bonus free gift will be given to the first 100 shoppers. Mervyn's California is at 35555 Warren Ave., west of Wayne in Westland.

CHRISTMAS DINNER
The Salvation Army will be having its annual Senior Christmas dinner for senior citizens living in Wayne, Westland and Romulus from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, at AMVETS Post 171 Memorial Hall, 1217 Merriman in Westland. This dinner is free. Participants must be 55 or older. One ticket per person. Transportation will not be provided. To pick up a ticket, come to the Salvation Army at 2300 Venoy, Westland. For more information, call (313) 722-3660.

TREE OF MEMORIES
A Tree of Memories will be on display until Wednesday, Dec. 24, during mall hours at Wonderland Mall in Livonia. For a donation, patrons can buy golden angel ornaments in memory of loved ones and then hang the ornaments on the memory tree. The event, in its eighth year, is run by and all proceeds benefit Community Hospice and Home Care Services Inc.

HOLIDAY JAZZ
"Jazz up the Holidays," an evening of madrigals, jazz and seasonal offerings, will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 10, at Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center, 1751 Radcliff Road in Garden City. Donations at the door. Free refreshments.

WINTER CONCERT
A Winter Concert, featuring the Schoolcraft College Wind Ensemble performing seasonal works, will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Radcliff Center, 1751 Radcliff Road in Garden City.

CHAMBER EVENTS

BOWLING OUTING
The Westland Chamber will be hosting the Winterfest Bowling Outing from 1-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, as part of Westland Winterfest '98. (313) 326-7222.

RECREATION

RECREATION AND FUN
A recreational get-together for teens and adults who are disabled will be the second Friday of each month at the Westland Bailey Center. (313) 722-7620.

FIGURE SKATING
The Westland Figure Skating Club is forming an Adult Introductory Precision Team. The team is for those who want to have fun with other skating adults and get good exercise. Practices are 6-6:50 a.m. Saturdays. All levels are welcome. For information, call (313) 722-1091.

VOLLEYBALL
Open volleyball is offered for those age 18 and older 6:30-8 p.m. the second and fourth Friday of each month at the Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, Westland. All skill levels play just for fun. There is no charge. Baby-sitting is provided. For information, call (313) 722-3660.

SCHOOLS

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM
The Wayne-Westland Community Schools has ongoing registration for the preschool programs at Stottlemyer Early Childhood and Family Development Center, on Marquette between Wayne and Wildwood. Programs include an Early Intervention Program, Head Start, Kids/Plus Preschool, a Pre-Primary Impaired program and Sparkey Preschool. Registration is ongoing from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call (313) 595-2660 for information.

CHURCH PRESCHOOL
The Westland Free Methodist Preschool has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in the morning and afternoon sessions. The younger pupils attend Tuesdays and Thursdays with the other pupils attending Mondays and Wednesdays. A Friday enrichment class is also available. The preschool is at 1421 S. Venoy, Westland. (313) 728-3559.

YWCA READINESS
The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is at 26279 Michigan Ave., Inkster. (313) 561-4110.

CHARTER SCHOOL
The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves kindergarten through seventh grade. The school emphasizes a basic education with business and entrepreneurial skills. The school offers a foreign language class, music and art, a dress code and a computer lab with Internet. Call (313) 722-1465 or (248) 569-7787.

LITTLE LAMBS
Little Lambs Preschool, on Farmington Road in Livonia, has openings in the Monday-Wednesday-Friday afternoon session for 3- to 5-year-olds. For information, call (248) 471-2077.

FRANKLIN PTSA
The Franklin High PTSA is seeking new members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and community, and members aren't required to have a student in the school. Price is $3 for students, $5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy, Livonia 48150.

TUTORIAL PROGRAM
A free tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy, Westland. The program is for students in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. It will meet 3:30-6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. For information on participating or volunteering, call Shabaura Cobb, (313) 722-3660.

HISTORY ON VIEW

WESTLAND MUSEUM
The Westland Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays at 857 N. Wayne Road, between Marquette and Cherry Hill. (313) 326-1110.

FRIENDS MEET
Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet 7 p.m. on the second Tuesdays of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Westland Meeting House, 37091 Marquette between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Information, president Jim Franklin, (313) 721-0136. Everyone is welcome.

FOR SENIORS

GRANDMA'S ATTIC SALE
Grandma's Attic Sale will be at the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh Road, Westland, daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also included in this sale are hundreds of ceramic molds and hundreds of pieces of greenware and a kiln. For information, call 722-7632.

TRAVEL GROUP
The Travel Group meets 12:45 p.m. every Friday in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, unless a trip or program is planned. Programs include speakers, films, celebration of birthdays and weekly door prizes. There is a $3 membership fee for residents, $12.50 for non-residents. (313) 722-7632.

CARD GROUP
The Friday Variety Card Group at the Westland Friendship Center meets at 2 p.m. Players enjoy euchre, pinochle, bridge, Uno, rummy and poker. Light refreshments are served. Call (313) 722-7632 for information or just show up to play cards. The Friendship Center is at 1119 N. Newburgh Road.

DYER CLUB
The Dyer Seniors' Center Travel Club meets the first and third Thursdays of each month in the center, on Marquette between Wayne Road and Newburgh.

MONTHLY MEAL
The Wayne Ford Civic League schedules its senior meal 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month at the league hall, on Wayne Road, two blocks south of Ford, for people 50 and older. Cost is $5 for members and $7 for nonmembers. The meal includes beer, beverages, dancing to Big Band music, and door prizes. (313) 728-5010.

DANCE FUN
Westland Shopping Center hosts a senior citizen dance 11 a.m. the first Monday of each month in the lower level auditorium, Wayne and Warren roads. Coffee and refreshments will be served at 12:30 p.m. The dance will end 2 p.m. The dance is held on the first Monday, with the exception of holidays.

SENIOR DANCE
Senior dances will be noon to 4 p.m. the first Sunday of every month at the Wayne Ford Civic League, 1651 N. Wayne Road, Westland. There will be dinner, a live band, beer and pop. Members $5, nonmembers $7. (313) 728-5010.

WORK REFERRAL
Information Center Inc. refers workers to seniors who need help. The program is for people interested in providing transportation, yard work, house work, etc. Workers can specify the type of work they are willing to do and the communities they want to serve. Chore Worker Program, (313) 422-1052.

DYER CENTER
The Wayne-Westland School District's Dyer Senior Adult Center has activities Monday-Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, Kitchen Band, 10 a.m.; bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.; a Hawaiian dance exercise class will be held at 1 p.m. every Wednesday in the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh, Hall A. Instructor is Kammo Oris. Sign up at the front desk or call (313) 722-7632.

VOLUNTEERS

BOY SCOUTS
A few good young men ages 11-18 are needed to work with Boy Scout Troop No. 865 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays at Hamilton Elementary School, corner of Avondale and Schuman in Westland. Monthly campouts will be featured. For information, call (313) 729-1283.

PET-A-PET
The Pet-A-Pet Club, which offers pet visits to nursing home residents, needs special pets and people. Pets undergo a slight screening and need proof of shots to participate. Local sites include Camelot Hall Convalescent Center (Debbie McDermott, 427-3791, 10 a.m. the second Saturday of the month), Garden City Rehab (Stacy Suida, (313) 422-2438, second Thursday of the month at 3 p.m.) and Roosevelt-McGrath School (Lynn Eichbrecht, (313) 591-3347, the last Wednesday of the month). Information is available from Ruth Curry, (313) 535-0410, or Daisy Doran, (313) 565-1981. There is a $5 membership charge.

BINGO

DEMS' BINGO
The Metro Wayne Democratic Club sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Joy Manor Bingo Hall, on the south side of Joy, east of Middlebelt. Proceeds are used by the club to sponsor Little League baseball teams, the Salvation Army, School for the Blind. (313) 422-5025 or (313) 729-8681.

DEMS' BINGO
The 13th Congressional District Democratic Party sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, in the M.J. Hall, 35412 Michigan Ave., next to Farmer Jack, in Wayne. (313) 421-1517.

BINGO AND SNACKS
The VFW Post 3323, Westland, serves snacks and hosts bingo at 1 p.m. every Sunday in the post hall, 1055 S. Wayne Road at Avondale. Doors open 9 a.m. (313) 326-3323.

SHAMROCK BINGO
There will be bingo at 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 35100 Van Born, east of Wayne Road, Wayne. Doors open 9 a.m. Food available. Proceeds go to charity. (313) 728-3020.

SMOKELESS BINGO
"Smokeless" bingo meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday, at Sts. Simon and Jude Parish Hall, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. Offered are three jackpots of $400, $300 and $200.

NO SMOKE
"No smoking" bingo will be 1 p.m. every Tuesday at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh Road, Westland. Residents from Westgate Towers, Taylor Towers, Greenwood Towers, Liberty Park, Presbyterian Village and Carolon Condos, etc., are eligible for transportation to bingo if they have a minimum of five players. (313) 722-7632.

JAYCEES
Westland Jaycees host bingo games at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, Westland. Three jackpots paying $250, $300 and $300, progressive. Call the Jaycee Information Hotline at (313) 480-4984.

PUP TENT BINGO
The MOC pup tent 18 bingo will be held 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the VFW Post Hall, 1055 S. Wayne, Westland. A snack bar is available. Doors open at 2 p.m. (313) 326-3323.

CLUBS IN ACTION

VFW AUXILIARY
Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Ladies Auxiliary Grand River Post 1519, is open. Relationship to a veteran of combat on foreign soil will insure eligibility. Make reservations by calling membership recruiter Dolores M. Griffin, (313) 427-2791. Meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 27555 Grantland, Livonia. Current Post 1519 Ladies Auxiliary members include individuals from Westland, Livonia, Redford, Detroit and surrounding areas.

WEEKENDERS
The Weekenders family campers meet the second Wednesday of the month in Franklin High School, on Joy east of Merriman. (313) 531-2993.

FREE CLASSES
The Showman's Dog Training Organization sponsors free junior showmanship classes for dog owners ages 7-17 at the AMVETS Hall on Merriman near Avondale at 8:30 p.m. the first and second Tuesdays of each month through September. Call (313) 729-7580.

HOST LIONS
The Westland Host Lions Club meets 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month in Mary's Family Restaurant. Information, (313) 326-2607.

MOTHERS OF MULTIPLES
For information on a Mothers of Multiples Club in your area, call Shelly Weir, (313) 326-1466.

AT THE LIBRARY

TRAINING
Training sessions are held 10:30 a.m. each Saturday to train library patrons on the use of the public access catalogs. The computers are the modern-day equivalent of the traditional card catalog. These training sessions take about 15-20 minutes. Library staff will teach the fundamentals regarding use of the public access catalogs and will be available for questions. This training is free and no registration is required.

DECK THE HALLS
Deck the halls on Saturdays in December. Each Saturday at 2 p.m. will feature a seasonal craft for children that is sure to light up your house with holiday cheer. In the Children's Activity Room. No registration required. Dec. 6 Holiday wreath, Dec. 13 Gingerbread/snow person, Dec. 20 Stained glass ornament, Dec. 27 New Year calendar.

WINTER BREAK SPECIAL
Children ages 4 to 10 are invited to make a collective craft project to keep in the Children's Services area of the library. The program will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29, in the Children's Activity Room. No registration required.

FREAKY FRIDAY
Friday, Jan. 2, wackiness will take over the Children's Services Area. If you can find 10 things in the department that seem freaky on that day, you'll get a prize. The event goes on all day Jan. 2 in the Children's Services Area.

CREATION STATION
Get crafty at the Creation Station on the first Saturday of January and February. Designed for ages 4-10 years. At 2 p.m. Jan. 3 and Feb. 7 in the Children's Activity Room. No registration required.

READ TO YOUR CHILD
Feb. 14 is "Read to Your Child Day." Come to the Children's Services Area and read with your child for 10 minutes. For sharing the gift of reading with your child you will both receive a small prize. The event goes on all day in the Children's Services Area.

See Santa

At library: *Santa Claus will be at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, and Wednesday, Dec. 10. Stop in and tell him your holiday wishes in the Children's Services Area.*

CALENDAR FORM

The Observer Newspapers *welcome Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI. 48150, or by* **fax to 313-591-7279.** *Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2104 if you have any questions.*

Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional Info.:

Use additional sheet if necessary

Marian *from C5*

scorer, but she was not the only double-digit player. Junior center Nicole Anaejionu finished with 16 points and 12 rebounds, and Walas added 13 points.

Each team had two three-point baskets, but Marian made four more field goals (22-18) and five more foul shots (11-6).

Marian outscored Lapeer East in three quarters, and each team netted 16 second-quarter points. The Mustangs held a slim, 33-29 halftime lead.

"Marian is the best team we've played this year," East coach Mike Halstead said. "(Byers) played a real good game for them. They have so many weapons, and they're very hard to stop."

If the Mustangs have their way, they hope to use those weapons to charge into the state championship game for the second straight season.

Lillie-Cicerone has been to the Final Four on four different occasions. Each trip to finals is an exciting time, she said.

"This is my fourth time in the state semis, and it feels just as good as the first time. It's just so exciting, so much fun."

Lillie-Cicerone's teams have captured three Class A championships in her 15 years as head coach.

"It's too bad all the players in the state can't do that," she said. "And I tell the girls that. I tell them there is nothing more fun than this right now."

ICE SKATING

'Eldridge and Friends' coming to Palace

BY MARTY BUDNER
STAFF WRITER

The United States Figure Skating Championships are in sight and the 1998 Winter Olympic games in Nagano, Japan is a short jump later. But, for the moment, those two world-class events are not a major concern for Todd Eldredge.

The 1996 U.S. National Men's Figure Skating champion is concentrating on his inaugural figure-skating show – an exhibition billed as 'Todd Eldredge and Friends'. The Cook Champagne-sponsored charity outing not only will feature Eldredge's special talents, but also showcase some highly-skilled local and national figure-skating talent.

The show is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8 at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Eldredge will be joined by fellow Detroit Skating Club members Tara Lipinski, the current World Champion, Elizabeth Punsalan and Jerod Swallow, the current national ice dancing champions and three-time pairs National Champions Jenny Meno and Todd Sand.

Olympic silver-medalist Paul Wylie and two-time U.S. Champion Scott Davis are scheduled to appear. Some local performers slated to skate are Erin Pearl of Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham-area ice dancers Eve Chalom and Matthew Gates and Danielle and Steven Hartsell from Westland.

"I'll be introducing some acts and we'll have different groups dancing with some singles skaters," said Eldredge after practice Monday afternoon at his home-away-from-home – the Detroit Skating Club. "It should be a lot of fun.

"I think it's good for this community to see all the athletes here and see the ones who can be potential Olympic athletes," he said. "There are a lot of good skaters around here and I think it's good that the area here can see how good they really are."

Eldredge, who is nearly fully recovered from a shoulder injury suffered during the recent Skate America contest in Detroit, said he is not worried about further injury or fatigue heading into the U.S. championships and the Olympics.

"It's not that big of a deal," he said. "This is an exhibition for fun. It's more for fun and to have the audience enjoy the skaters. It's a relaxed atmosphere and I think everyone needs that now because there have been so many competitions lately."

Tickets are priced at $37.50 and $27.50 reserved are now on sale at The Palace Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets. Children 12-under and seniors 62-over receive $5 off their ticket price.

TEAM ELAN IN SHOW: Team Elan, Detroit Skating Club's world-class precision skating team, will join Eldredge Monday evening at his show. The 24-member precision group will skate a Latin dance medley, its new long program for the 1998 season. As the national Senior Division silver medalists, Team Elan will represent the U.S. in the International Cup in Milan, Italy Feb. 12-15. Team members include Renee Botens, Kristina Koesters and Christie Skoczek (Berkley); Katie McBroom and Kyle Jones (Beverly Hills); Rita Polidori (Dearborn); Emily Chase (Birmingham); Shelley Danner, Jennifer Iavarone, Courtney Patton and Kristen Van Heest (Bloomfield Hills); Liesl Eckhardt (Lake Orion); Kim Steffey (Oxford); Sara Jack and Christina Pavlock (Rochester); Amy Larkin and Stefanie Solano (Rochester Hills); Beth Swanson (Royal Oak); Erin Bridge, Allison Dolehanty, Jennifer Freese and Erica Vader (Troy); Merrijo Wesolowski (Sterling Heights); Tara Warezak (Utica); Tara and Beth Williamson (Southgate); Michele Demers (St. Clair); and Janeen Adamski (Warren). The team is coached by precision director and choreographer Jeannine Cullen (Rochester Hills).

CHARITY CHALLENGE: Todd Eldredge & Friends, a made-for-TV exhibition sponsored by Cook's Champagne, is a benefit for the City of Hope and is scheduled to be aired on ESPN in late December. Also, Eldredge has given special meaning to the term 'Cook's Triple Challenge'. For every triple jump he lands this skating season leading up to Olympics, Cook's Champagne will donate $1,000 to the City of Hope which supports cancer research. So far, he has landed 20 triple jumps.

SPECIAL FRIENDS: Todd Eldredge practiced with a few young skaters while posing for photographers during Monday afternoon's press conference at the Detroit Skating Club. The youngsters taking tips from Eldredge were Amanda Adelson, 10, of West Bloomfield; Adrienne Becker, 13, of Waterford Township; and Nick Krol, 7, of Beverly Hills.

FOOTBALL

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Harrison's victory celebration Friday was the ultimate tribute to former player Shawn Mayberry, who died last summer.

"It's a happy but sad moment," coach John Herrington said after the Hawks defeated Midland Dow to win the Class A championship at the Silverdome, 21-6.

"First, I won't get to coach these (seniors) again. We also lost one before the season started. Hopefully, he knows we won."

The Hawks had to regroup mentally and emotionally when Mayberry, a starting noseguard on last year's team, died a week before practice was to start.

But they dealt with that loss as well as the pressure that came from being No. 1 all season and being a marked opponent by other teams.

"There were so many obstacles and adversity we overcame," senior Zack Cornwell said. "We fought through it.

NOTEBOOK

"Since last year, we wanted to get back here and win it. We didn't come here just to play; we came here to win and we did. It's the greatest feeling right now."

Before leaving for the Silverdome Friday, players paused to think of Mayberry at the tree that was planted in his memory near the concession stand at Buller Field.

"There wasn't a lot of talking; we just stood there," senior Brian Lewis said. "It was a moment to reflect how far we came and acknowledge the fact he's been with us the whole time.

"We didn't say we were going to win it for Shawn, but we felt he's been there all along."

Mayberry's intensity was an inspiration to the Hawks throughout the season.

"It's amazing how this team came together," senior Jared Hopkins said. "We'd say 'Let's get this first down for him, because he's looking down on us.' A piece of his heart is in everyone one of us."

The Hawks also were motivated by last year's 24-17 loss to Grandville in the state championship game.

"That game pushed us to work harder," senior Mike Fisher said. "Each week we got better. We knew (Dow) was a team that could come back. We had to keep playing hard; we couldn't let down at all."

HISTORY LESSON: Farmington Harrison has won eight state championships after defeating Midland Dow Friday at the Pontiac Silverdome, 21-6, but still trails Detroit DePorres by two.

The Hawks won titles in 1981 (B), 1982 (A), 1988 (B), 1989 (B), 1991 (BB), 1993 (A), 1994 (A) and 1997 (A).

Harrison's 11th appearance in the state finals is an all-classes record. DePorres is 10-for-10 in championship games. Harrison 8-for-11.

The Hawks, who also made the finals in 1976 (A), 1987 (B) and 1996 (A), are 1-1 against Dow, which defeated Harrison in the 1976 championships, 36-27.

"I never wanted a team to win more than this team," Harrison coach John Herrington said. "I wanted John Miller's team to win, too, but the current team is always the one you think about. No team could've worked any harder than this team did."

TRADITION CONTINUES: In the first 12 years of the state playoffs, Harrison played in the finals three times and won twice.

In the last 11 years, the Hawks have advanced to the championship round eight times and captured six titles.

"Last year's seniors wanted to win just as bad as we did," senior center Brian Lewis said, referring to a 24-17 loss to Grandville in 1996. "We won it for them, too. We draw from that tradition."

Former Harrison players gathered at Buller Field to play the annual Turkey Bowl game Friday morning and gave the 1997 Hawks a send-off as they departed for the Silverdome.

"As we were walking to the bus, they were cheering us on," Lewis said. "You can really feel (the tradition). It's something real special."

OPPORTUNISTIC TEAM: The Hawks continued to capitalize on opponents mistakes Friday, turning a botched punt and a fumble into Harrison touchdowns. The Hawks also drove the ball 99 yards in 13 plays while taking six minutes off the clock.

"When we get the ball, we usually do something with it," coach John Herrington said. "Back in '88 when we had (all-state quarterback Mill) Coleman, if anybody fumbled the ball, we threw a touchdown pass. We get the job done in a lot of ways."

EXPERIENCE COUNTS: Harrison has been to the state finals 11 times, Dow two. That makes a difference, especially since the Hawks were just there last year, according to Chargers coach Frank Altimore. Dow hadn't played in a championship game since defeating Harrison in 1976.

"There's a certain aura to playing here," he said. "You look up (at the surroundings) and it's different. We had just played three weeks in the rain and snow."

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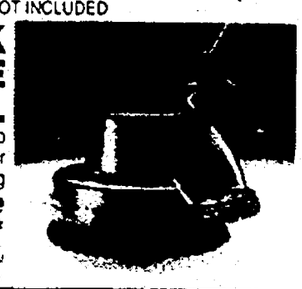

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Lady Crusaders win 2 down South

■ COLLEGE HOOP

Katie Cushman sparked a second-half comeback for Madonna University's women's basketball team that resulted in a 99-92 triumph for the Lady Crusaders over St. Cloud State Friday at the University of Tampa.

Madonna's momentum carried over to Saturday against host Tampa. The Crusaders nailed 40-of-62 shots from the floor (64.5 percent) in posting a 97-94 victory.

The two wins improved Madonna's record to 4-2. It was St. Cloud's first loss of the season after three wins.

In Friday's game, a six-point run by St. Cloud in the final minute of the first half put the Crusaders down by five, 42-37, at the intermission.

But they exploded for 62 second-half points, led by Cushman, who poured in 24 of her game-high 34 points in the final 20 minutes. She hit five three pointers in the second half, finishing with seven (in 14 attempts) for the game.

Cushman was 11-of-21 from the floor in the game. She also had eight assists and five steals.

Madonna trailed by seven early in the second half, but that quickly changed with the Crusaders rolling on a 16-2 run in the next four minutes. Cushman had two triples in that rally.

Five players reached double-figures in scoring for Madonna. Angie Negri collected 14 points, four assists and two steals; Lori Enfield had 13 points and 12 rebounds (in 21 minutes); Chris Dietrich scored 12 points; and Mary Murray had 10.

Christine Williamson and Teri Watkins each scored 23 points to pace St. Cloud.

On Saturday against Tampa, Cushman was again provided the ignition. The junior guard made 8-of-12 shots from the field (66.7 percent), including 5-of-9 three-pointers (55 percent), and dished out seven assists.

She got plenty of help. Dietrich added 20 points and four assists; Dawn Pelc connected on 7-of-9 shots (77 percent) to score 14 points, and she also had six rebounds and four assists; Negri had 10 points, six boards and five assists; and Murray had 10 points.

Chevera Smith topped Tampa with 28 points.

Huntington 87, Madonna 54 (men): A combination of factors led to Madonna University's demise Friday at the Walsh College Tournament in North Canton, OH.

First, the Fighting Crusaders poor shooting (22-of-53, 41.5 percent). Second, their defense against Huntington College's shooting (34-of-57, 59.6 percent).

Mark Hayes led the Crusader scorers with 18 points. Nick Hurley (from Plymouth Canton) contributed 11 points and five rebounds.

Huntington got 25 points from Jeff Shepherd, 14 from Joe Gaff (on 7-for-7 shooting) and 12 from Ryan Ripke.

Centennial 85, Madonna 83 (men): The Crusaders played better in their second game at the Walsh College Tournament, against Centennial College Saturday. But the result was still a defeat, Madonna's seventh in eight games.

The Crusaders made 50 percent of their shots (28-of-56) and got balanced scoring, led by John-Mark Branch's 16 points. He also had seven rebounds. Jason Maschke (Livonia Franklin) and Hayes added 15 points each, Hurley scored 14 and Narvin Russaw finished with 13 and eight boards.

Duane Elder, who hit 8-of-15 threes, led Centennial with 34 points. Shawn Palmer added 15.

Madonna outrebounded Centennial, 34-29, but couldn't match their opponents long-range accuracy (9-of-20, 45 percent on threes; Madonna was 5-of-14, 35.7 percent).

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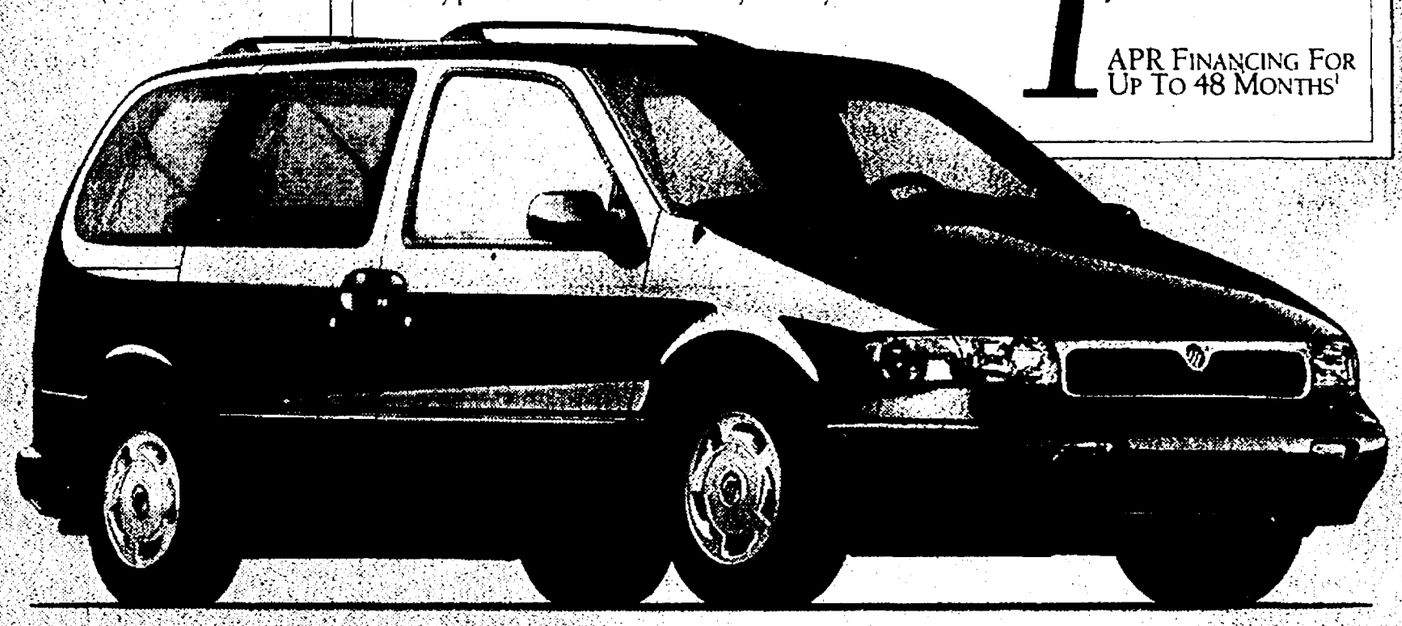

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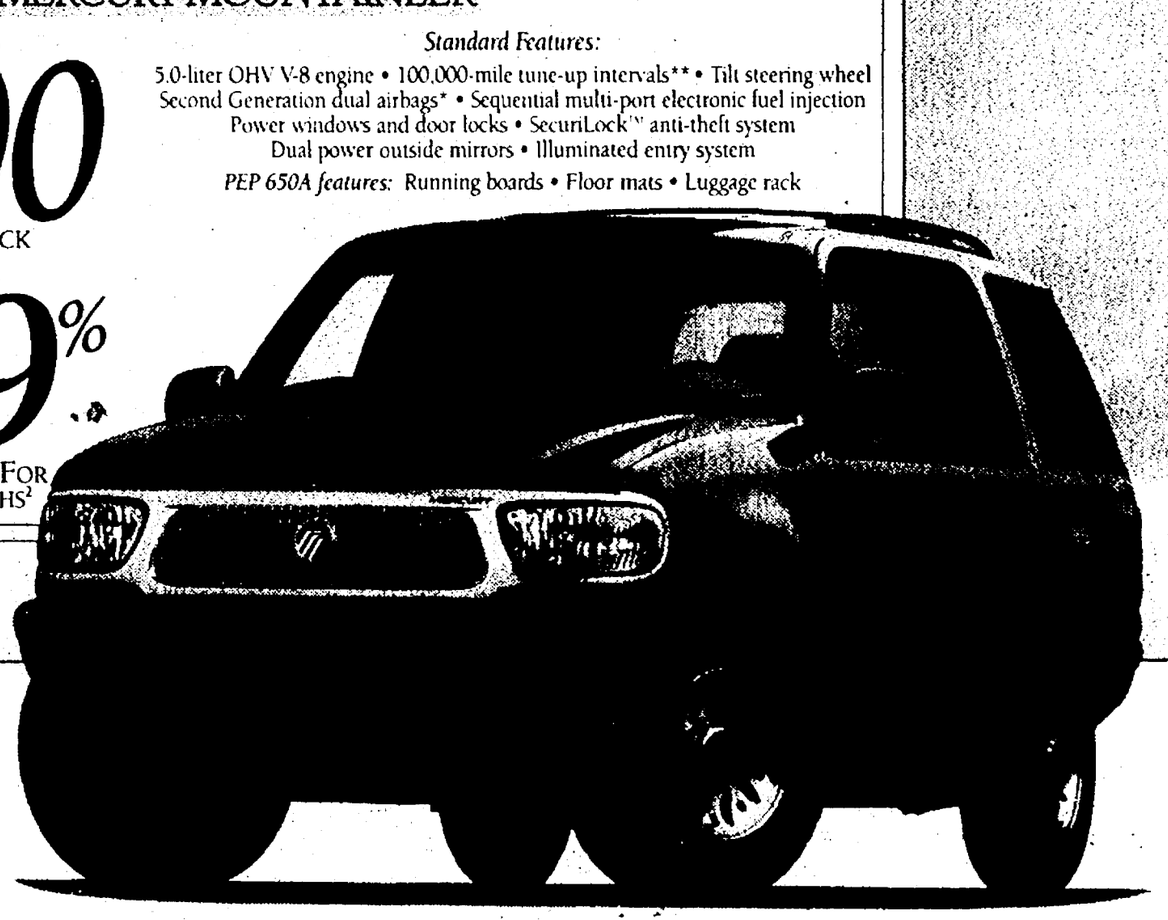

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Entertainment

The Observer

Page 1, Section E

Keely Wygonik, Editor 313-953-2105 | on the web: http://observer-eccentric.com | Thursday, December 4, 1997

THE WEEKEND

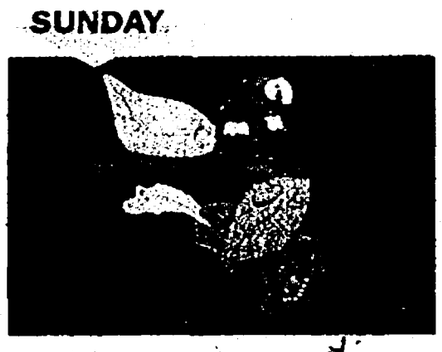
FRIDAY

Village Players of Birmingham open their season on a musical note with "Sweet and Hot" 8 p.m. at the playhouse, 752 Chestnut Street, (248) 644-2075.

SATURDAY

Join the Festival Singers in celebrating the holiday season during Noel Night, 5-9:30 p.m. in the University Cultural Center, call (313) 577-5088 for information.

SUNDAY



The Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans presents a Holiday Art Fair 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland University, Building H, Orchard Lake Road at I-696 in Farmington Hills, (313) 662-3382.

Hot tix: *Kenny Rogers tells the tale of "The Toy Shoppe," and sings popular Christmas carols Friday, Dec. 5-Sunday, Dec. 7, at Masonic Temple Theatre, (248) 645-6666.*

Collectibles

Did you know?

- There were seven editions of Dick and Jane Textbooks: 1930, 1940, 1946, 1951, 1956, 1962 and 1965?
- That there were 2 million copies printed of the 1930 edition?
- That 6 million Think-and-Do books were printed in 1951?
- That the clothes in illustrations came from Sears and Roebuck, so that the family appeared mainstream and not elitist?
- That Dick and Jane books are now collectibles?

See Dick, see Jane see, see, see at Southfield Library

What: The Story of Dick and Jane.

Where: The Southfield Public Library, 26000 Evergreen Road

Hours: Exhibit opens Monday, Dec. 8 and continues through Dec. 30. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, (closed Dec. 24-25); 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday (closed Dec. 21 and 28).

For more information: (248) 948-0487.

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Everybody knows Dick and Jane. They had a little sister named Sally, a dog named Spot (run, Spot, run), a cat named Puff and parents who were always impeccably dressed.

Of course, in the early years, they lived in an all-white suburban neighborhood.

They were always happy and repeated themselves a lot.

Of course, Dick and Jane were up to serious business. They were our road to reading and, in their day, a revolutionary shift from the traditional phonics to a method called "look-say" or whole language reading.

These educational revolutionaries are back, at least temporarily, as an exhibit at the Southfield Public Library, 26000 Evergreen Road, beginning Dec. 8 and continuning through the end of the month.

"The Story of Dick and Jane" began in 1994 as a special exhibit at the Richmond Public Library in Richmond, Va. In 1995 it won the American Library Association's John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award after it proved to be a solid hit with library patrons. The exhibit is now on a five-year, cross-country tour of U.S. libraries.

"It was a project that evolved out of the Friends of the Richmond Public

Please see **LIBRARY, E2**

Disney brings life to 'Aladdin'

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

If you liked "Aladdin" the movie, you're gonna love it on ice.

"No one walks away without a smile on their face," said Robert Stoker, performance director for "Walt Disney's World on Ice – Aladdin," at Joe Louis Arena through Sunday, Dec. 7. "To do this live on ice makes it all that more exciting. It's a better sound track. Music was enhanced and expanded, it was specially recorded for the show. It's better than the original."

An international cast of "very successful figure skaters" brings Disney's rags-to-riches story of Aladdin to life.

"I've been with the company for 10 years, six as a skater," said Stocker who was born in Sydney, Australia. "I watch every performances to make sure everything looks good – the choreography, scenery, sound and lighting."

Movie fans will recognize the voices, but because this "Aladdin" is live, some scenes are expanded. For instance, "'You Ain't Never had a Friend Like Me' with Aladdin and the Genie builds into a big colorful production number," explained Stocker in a phone interview from Rochester, N.Y. "There are lots of surprises."

Jaime Eggleteon plays the determined Aladdin who falls in love with

Please see **ALADDIN, E2**

"Walt Disney's World on Ice – Aladdin"

When: Continues through Sunday, Dec. 7. Performances 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 4-5; 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6; 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7.

Where: Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Drive, Detroit.

Tickets: $17.50, $14.50, and $11.50. Save $3 on tickets for children under 12 for 7:30 p.m. performances, Dec. 4-6. Special $30 rinkside seats also available (no discounts on these tickets). To charge tickets call (248) 645-6666. For more information, call (313) 983-6606. For 24-hour information on accessible seating and special needs call (313) 396-7902.

Magical moment: *It's an Arabian night to remember for Aladdin and Jasmine at "Walt Disney's World on Ice – Aladdin."*

COMMUNITY THEATER

Join Trinity House for 'The Long Christmas Dinner'

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Think about your life in relation to Christmas, or holiday dinners you've shared with family members. These celebrations are markers by which we can measure our passage from childhood to adolescence to adulthood, births and deaths.

Thornton Wilder chose "The Long Christmas Dinner," to illustrate 90 years of life in the Bayard family. The one-act play opening Friday at Trinity House Theatre in Livonia, is being presented with "The Sheep Thief," a comic adaptation by Ford Ainsworth of "The Second Shepherd's Play."

Guest director Thomas Malcolm Olson of St. Paul, Minn., has been working to create an ensemble cast that will make the audience feel like they're part of the show.

"We're all in this together folks," is the message Olson and his cast wants to send.

Only 50 people will be admitted to each performance, and the audience, if they choose, can enjoy a shared meal of bread bowls, hot soup and cider with the cast in a sort of progressive dinner. The scene will be set as you enter the theater. Actors will hand out bread bowls, and soup and cider will be served during intermission.

Believing that theater is a "mirror to the community, which provokes thought," Trinity House Theatre is trying to blur the boundary where theater begins and ends with these productions.

Drama: *Paul Henry (as Charles) and Colleen Hayes (right, Leonora) rehearse a scene from "The Long Christmas Dinner" by Thornton Wilder. Hayes has just learned her son Sam was killed in the war.*

A ramp extends from the stage to the seating area, which helps link the make believe world of theater and the real world.

"The audience has a role in community theater," said Olson. "There's an intimacy of space, and we embrace this. You cannot watch these productions like TV. We try to commune with the audience, they're part of the play."

As you join the Bayard family during "The Long Christmas Dinner," you'll be reminded of your own. From the first Christmas dinner you ever spent in your new house with grandma to the last after your children have grown, and left to build houses of their own. Time goes very fast. There are deaths, marriages, and births, yet a certain familiarity prevails.

The "sermon was lovely, I cried and cried," says Lucia, one of the characters, year after year. There are shared memories, as history is passed generation to generation.

"It's not all happy memories," said Olson. "There are confrontations between family members who disagree. Sometimes this escalates into violence."

"There's a very keen sense of reality," said Colleen Hayes of Farmington Hills portrays Leonora in "The Long Christmas Dinner," and a Snow Maiden in "The Sheep Thief." "There are tender moments, and some bittersweet, but that's how life is – there is good and bad."

In "The Sheep Thief," the second play to presented, three bumbling shepherds fight sleep to protect their flock, fail, and search for their finest lamb, which is stolen.

Many lines rhyme sing-song in this medieval play, and the script is very funny. Mak the thief takes a lamb home to his wife Gil. They pretend the lamb is a baby when the shepherds come to retrieve it, along the way they discover the miracle of Christmas.

"This play's in verse form," said Olson. "There's a

Please see **TRINITY, E2**

Trinity House Theatre

What: "The Long Christmas Dinner," by Thornton Wilder and "The Sheep Thief," a comic adaptation by Ford Ainsworth of "The Second Shepherd's Play."

When: Friday, Dec. 5 to Sunday, Dec. 21. Performances 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays; 4 p.m. Sundays. Seating limited to 50 people.

Where: at the theater, 38840 W. Six Mile Road, (northwest corner of Six Mile Road and I-275) Livonia.

Highlight: Shared meal of bread bowls, hot soup and cider.

Tickets: $8, food extra. Bread bowl and hot soup $3, apple cider hot or cold, $1.50. Group rates available. Call (313) 464-6302 to reserve your ticket in advance.

Library from page E1

Library discussions of how to best use the materials we have and bring attention to our children's library," said Elena Siddall, a former Richmond library board member and exhibit coordinator.

"Nobody had ever done an exhibit on textbooks and, really, they're a snapshot of the culture, where society was heading. We instantly had the idea of doing a Dick and Jane exhibit."

Dick and Jane was created by Zerna Sharp in 1930 and published by Scott Foresman as an alternative to the traditional phonics method. In look-say, simple words were repeated over and over again until they were learned. The series was eventually used in 85 percent of America's schools, including special versions for Roman Catholic and Seventh Day Adventist schools.

The Richmond exhibit features approximately 100 original Dick and Jane books; 100 color reproductions featuring a walk down memory lane as the images changed over four decades; life-size color reproductions of the 1946 version of Dick, Jane and Sally; the original teachers guides from 1946 and 1951; and other memorabilia. The Southfield Library will have Dick and Jane posters for sale in the Friends Library Store.

Mounting the exhibit wasn't easy. Siddall said when the library decided to do the show, they found they didn't have any Dick and Jane books. They solicited donations and loans from residents (eventually receiving books from throughout the United States) and went to Scott Foresman.

"They've been very protective of Dick and Jane, but I needed to have permission to reproduce material for publicity," said Siddall.

Scott Foresman has been protective about anyone using the famous images for commercial purposes. They have also been sensitive to criticism of the books since the last edition was released in 1965. The series was taken out of circulation in the mid-'70s except for a few Amish communities.

Dick and Jane were the targets of severe criticism from the late 1960s on. The series was attacked as being less effective than phonics and it was also attacked for its portrayal of a sterile, standardized, white suburban environment.

"The idea was to take the seven editions over 4 1/2 decades with blowups emphasizing several themes: the look of the family, the appearance of the house, the cars. It's a snapshot of what people looked like," said Siddall.

While developing the exhibit, Siddall said she discovered that a video, "Whatever Happened to Dick and Jane," was being prepared by Dave Thompson, whose aunt had worked as a consultant for Scott Foresman. His video led to another Dick and Jane exhibit featuring original art done over the years. Siddall said Richmond received a lot of valuable material from Thompson.

"The show has a lot of nostalgia. There has been criticism of the whole language approach instead of phonics and complaints of dumbing down and also comments on the sexism and racism of the books. But mostly it's been extremely positive," said Siddall.

Siddall said the exhibit has been a rewarding experience for her and the library. When it completes its tour, she said, the library will fold the material into its permanent collection

An amusing folder put out by the Richmond library has some fun with Dick and Jane (a title of one of the early books and later used for a Jane Fonda movie).

"Oh, oh. See the 1960s.

"See women's groups accuse Dick and Jane of stereotyping gender.

"See civil rights groups attack Dick and Jane for being too white. See Dick and Jane all of a sudden appear terribly out-of-date. Surprise, surprise.

"Change, Dick and Jane, change. See Scott Foresman publish a multi-ethnic edition of Dick and Jane in 1965. See it try to appease everyone. See it appease no one. See the beloved primer that had taught every baby boomer in America to read disappear.

"Goodbye, Dick.
"Goodby, Jane
"Goodbye, Dick and Jane.
"Goodbye, goodbye."

Aladdin from page E1

Princess Jasmine, an exotic beauty portrayed by Lynda Downey.

Shae Green skates the part of the Sultan of Agrabah who is controlled by his advisor, Jafar, and wisecracking parrot, Iago. Alexandre Kortchach is Jafar, the sorcerer driven by a lust for power.

Christopher Phipson is the all-powerful Genie, who materializes from a magic lamp to help Aladdin learn the lessons of loyalty, integrity, and his own self-worth.

" 'Aladdin' is much, much more than the traditional ice production that audiences have come to expect from Walt Disney's World on Ice," said producer Kenneth Feld. "This production is actually musical theater presented on ice, complete with comedy, action and drama."

A bi-level stage set design with two performances areas, one on the ice, and the other 13 feet high atop the proscenium, helps transform a bare ice arena floor into a magical setting.

There are lots of high-tech props including a serpent that is programmed with smoldering red eyes that glow out at the audience through a swirl of simulated smoke, an evil genie that rises 13 feet and the myriad of jewel- and fruit-laden vendor charts displayed in a scene resembling a Middle Eastern bazaar.

Story moods and themes are communicated through costumes designed to enable skaters to execute difficult jumps, spins and lifts. Jafar is cloaked in black and red. Aladdin always appears in white or pale colors.

There 25 male and 23 female professional skaters in this show, and an average of four costume changes per performance for each skater.

"For a traveling ice show it's one of the biggest in the world," said Stoker. "It caters to many different areas of interest, and ages, there are glamorous costumes, and it's theatrical. Even if you don't know the story of Aladdin you'll enjoy it."

Trinity from page E1

real melody, and a Vaudeville, slapstick quality to the humor, but when the angels enter the mood changes "radiantly."

"It's very silly and light-hearted," said Hayes.

P.W. Henry of Westland portrays Charles in "The Long Christmas Dinner," and the shepherd Col in "The Sheep Thief."

"It's been a lot of fun," he said. "It's not like work. I really enjoy working with Tommy. Did you know he had over 200,000 miles on his car when he drove here from St. Paul, Minn. to direct these plays? It shows his love for theater."

"The Long Christmas Dinner" is serious drama, but Henry says "The Sheep Thief," is a chance for the audience to have some fun, and see the birth of Jesus in a different light.

For Laura Gumina who also appears in both shows, working with Olson has been a joy. "Tommy is real inspirational," she said. "I've never seen anyone work this way. We all put in our opinions. A lot of suggestions by cast members are incorporated. The cast has a higher process of ownership."

"I'm only as brilliant as my collaborators," said Olson. "I don't care who comes up with the ideas, everyone has experience."

While working together on the play Hayes said the cast has become close like a family.

"We have a real good sense of working together as a team," she said. "It's going to be a good opportunity for audience participation, not anything to be scared of. They can come and share our Christmas dinner with us."

Refurbished 'Les Miserables' is now more enjoyable than ever

"Les Miserables" continues through Jan. 4. at the Fisher Theatre, Grand Boulevard, Detroit. Performances 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. matinees Saturdays and Sundays. Special holiday performances 1 and 7 p.m. Nov. 26 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 31. No performances Dec. 24 or Jan. 1. Tickets $15 to $58 available at the Fisher Theatre Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets. To charge tickets by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

"Les Miserables" is back for a sixth triumphant run in Detroit. And a number of subtle changes make it an even more enjoyable theatrical experience.

"Les Miz" has become almost a ritual event for Detroit theater goers and it's easy to see why. This is musical theater with deep emotion, continuous action, lush music and vivid color. It is the perfect way to introduce young people to the special qualities that separate theater from movies.

I also suspect that the revolutionary setting of 1830s Paris is reminiscent of the 1960s for many baby boomers and the sentimental yearnings expressed in the Alain Boublil-Claude-Michel Schonberg musical match the feelings of many former "student revolutionaries."

This "Les Miz" production has a new light system which is more dramatic and eye-popping; a new sound system that is clear, warm and totally void of the usual annoying feedback of most miked theater; bright new costumes; and subtle, but appropriate, changes in the play itself. All of these add up to a road show with more zest, more visual dynamics and richer sound than most Broadway productions.

But what really makes this "Les Miz" special is a uniformly excellent acting company, a company that wrings all the emotion necessary without becoming too cloying, even in those moments which threaten to go over the top.

"Les Miserables" was Victor Hugo's gigantic novel exposing the injustices of France in the early 1800s. It centers on the story of Jean Valjean, a petty thief with a temper who becomes victimized by the French penal system. He finds redemption and a new path through the kindness of a bishop, but he is continously hounded by the self-righteous police officer Javert.

Gregory Calvin Stone is a strong, vital Valjean. His soaring tenor sometimes falters, but it has rich emotional qualities, especially on "Who Am I" and "Bring Him Home." Todd Alan Johnson is a worthy adversary as the rigid Javert. Johnson has a Puritan minister's gaze that is appropriately chilling and a voice that is expressive.

Holly Jo Crane delivers a strong performance as Fantine, especially on her wrenching "I Dreamed a Dream."

But "Les Miz" is not all dire sentimentality. It also has comedy in the wickedly worthless Thenardiers. J.P. Dougherty lights up the stage as he romps joyfully through "Master of the House" and Aymee Garcia keeps a saucy pace as his equally notorious wife. They are especially a hoot as the "Beggars at the Feast."

Rona Figueroa gives a vivid, emotionally expressive performance as the sad, rejected Eponine. Rich Affannato is a fervent Marius, and gives a fine reading to "Empty Chairs at Empty Tables."

In fact everyone in this cast is outstanding from the young children (Ryan Rumbaugh as Gavroche, Lalaineok as the young Cosette) to Kate Fisher as Cosette to all the young student revolutionaries.

But what sets "Les Miserables" apart for many theater goers is the dramatic staging. Here every element is perfect. Sentimental death bed scenes and a roaring street battle, a steam choked sewer and a swirling city streetscape, a tenement house and a garden gate are all moved in and out seamlessly, one continous, fluid, beautiful motion.

"Les Miserables" will undoubtedly be back for many more engagements.

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Viper Room emphasizes intimate club atmosphere

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Redford resident Alex Handy hopes that his new nightclub The Viper Room Detroit will provide visitors with a comfortable alternative to the "mega clubs" found throughout the area.

"It's a good intimate club that gives people a chance to get away from the mega-club atmosphere and to be treated really well with good service," said Handy, a 29-year-old 1986 Redford Thurston High School graduate.

"There's so many mega-clubs going on between the Motor Lounge, Industry, Clutch Cargo's, and on and on. The Velvet's (Velvet Lounge in Pontiac) kind of cool, but that's a totally different thing. As far as live music and a dance club, there's no mid-sized ones, especially on the east side. That's what sets it apart."

This weekend, The Viper Room Detroit, 17320 Harper (between Moross and Cadieux roads), Detroit, is celebrating its grand opening with performances by 3 Speed, Hopper, Monkeychuck, and Elephant Gerald on Friday, Dec. 5, and Trail, Fletcher Pratt and Less Than Useful on Saturday, Dec. 6. For more information, call (313) 881-3611.

Handy admits that a "mega-club" is "cool once in awhile but sometimes you just want to hang out in a club where you get to know the bartender, you know the doorman, or you get to know the people who are there – the DJs, the musicians or whatever."

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL HANSEN

New club: *Alex Handy of Redford recently opened The Viper Room Detroit which hosts dance nights and live bands five days a week.*

Handy has been in the building for a couple of months stripping the former Impound club of its carpet, painting the floors and the walls, redoing the bathrooms and the stage, and adding new sound and lighting equipment.

"I'm basically trying to overcome The Impound's notorious past. We basically went in there and gutted the whole inside and repainted it, redid the whole outside. I want to give a decent venue to the east siders."

"Basically, I've transformed the beer-splattered interior into something respectable."

With its purple and black motif, the club is open Tuesday through Saturday to those ages 18 and older. There is a different theme each night.

Tuesdays are drum and bass/techno night with DJ Charles English. Wednesday is the hip-hop oriented "bring your own records" night with DJ Rec and Family.

"It's not about the lifestyle of these artists. It's about the art of hip-hop and the kids care about it too. It's not a gangster thing. I haven't had one fight."

Thursdays bring in local club promoter Sterling and special guest national and international DJs for old school funk night.

"He was one of the people who started City Club. He does stuff for the Sardine Bar. He's one of those guys who everybody seems to know. He's really hooked in with all that underground stuff. We're trying to throw a Thursday night party that's going to draw the twentysomethings and thirtysomethings," Handy said.

The Viper Room Detroit hosts live bands Fridays and Saturdays.

"We have bands that range from everything from pop alternative to heavier alternative type of music. There's no heavy metal just mostly straight-forward alternative stuff."

Working with a booking agency out of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Handy has hosted a variety of local acts along with Wesley Willis and Touch and Go recording artists U.S. Maple.

"I want it to be the only club in the Detroit area that actually works with the scene as far as the bands promoting the club and the club owner promoting the bands. One of my plans is a year from now I want to put out a compilation by the bar called The Viper Room Compilation that will have some of my favorite bands that have played over the last year. I'll send it out to the artist with no cost."

"All the clubs seem to be on the take, not really giving a care about the bands and stuff. Detroit's in a real unique situation where we have an opportunity to shine nationally. We're starting to with bands like Hoarse, Sponge, and The Verve Pipe. I think it's the club owner's responsibility as much as it is the band to help the scene in general."

Also in the future, Handy is considering following in the footsteps of The Velvet Lounge and Mill Street Entry and starting a swing night.

"People from Harper Woods, St. Clair Shores and the Grosse Pointes, a lot of them go up to the Velvet. Yeah, it's a swanky place. But the old swing clubs of the '20s and '30s weren't swanky. They were dark rooms during the Prohibition. It wasn't a real flashy thing. It was their underground scene, basically."

Honoring winners

The Viper Room Detroit, which carries the same moniker of the notorious California nightclub where actor River Phoenix died, was instead named after the hockey team which plays at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

"I was kind of rushed into the deal and it was hard to come up with a name. I was thinking of the Detroit Vipers because they won their version of the Stanley Cup. No one gave a crap that the Vipers had won."

The Viper Room is Handy's first club. He comes from a family of politicians. Father Roger Handy was a township trustee for 20 years, and his brother Miles is a current township trustee. His mother Maggie Jane Prey is a real estate agent and a member of the Redford Chamber of Commerce.

"I've shied away from politics. The one thing I did get from politics is the gift of gab. I like interacting with people. I think maybe that has a parallel with politics."

Having worked as a runner for Cellar Door Productions in Northville, Handy said he has the connections to run a prosperous club.

He said he "got the bug" to open a club when he returned to the Detroit area in 1994 after living in Atlanta and Los Angeles.

"I went out to Los Angeles for awhile as a musician. I was kind of humbled by the longshot of actually making it in a band," he said.

He turned his aspirations toward the business of music and moved to Atlanta where he graduated from the Music Business Institute.

Moving back to the Detroit area, Handy worked for Cellar Door from 1995 to 1997 with a variety of artists including Elton John, Nine Inch Nails, and The Artist.

"I would be a personal assistant to the tour manager and the artist. So if they needed a ride to the hotel, or wanted to go out to a club afterward or needed something special done, I would take care of it."

That, he said, goes along with the mission of the club.

"I want to have people in there who feel comfortable and who could have a good time. I want a good mix of people. I want people to feel comfortable no matter what they're into or how old they are. I want it to be a club for everybody."

'Spectacular' show brings 'A Little Christmas' to Detroit

"The Radio City Christmas Spectacular" continues through Saturday, Dec. 27 at The Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Performances 8 p.m. Dec. 4-6, Dec. 9-13, Dec. 16-20; Dec. 22-23, and Dec. 26-27; 1 p.m. 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 7, Dec. 14, and Dec. 21; 2 p.m. Dec. 24. No show Christmas Day. Tickets are $10-$50 and can be purchased at the Fox Theatre Box Office and all Ticketmaster locations. To charge tickets by phone, call (248) 433-1515. For more information, call (313) 983-6611.

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

After seeing "The Radio City Christmas Spectacular," starring the Rockettes at the Fox, a lot of people are hoping it will become an annual holiday tradition.

There's more to "The Radio City Christmas Spectacular" than the Rockettes, although they do play a starring role. It's a "Spectacular" variety show with lots of surprises, and everyone in the audience opening night, Nov. 28, loved it.

The cast includes Santa and Mrs. Claus, elves, skaters, an ensemble of singers and dancers, and a young boy and girl who perform holiday music written just for the show. Against a backdrop of colorful, creative sets, this multi-talented cast, dressed in dazzling costumes, celebrates cherished holiday traditions in eight different scenes beginning with "We Need A Little Christmas."

Each scene tells a story, which is introduced by a narrator. The applause was thundering as the Rockettes stepped out on stage carrying rings of gold garland.

"The Nutcracker" puts an interesting twist on this familiar classic. Clara joins a cuddly cast of roly poly characters for "A Teddy Bear's Dream."

With military precision, the Rockettes perform – The "Parade of The Wooden Soldiers." As a cannon fires, they fall backward like dominoes, without falling out of formation.

"Christmas In New York," features carolers in Central Park, falling snow, and two figure skaters dressed in white who twirl around gracefully on a platform of real ice. The Rockettes make their entrance through the doors of a taxi.

There are visits to "Santa's Candy Castle," where the Rockettes tell everyone – "Santa's got Bizzaz," and to "Santa's Workshop."

Bells in many different sizes peal joyfully in "Carol of the Bells," as the cast sings "Hark How the Bells." The Rockettes steal the show as they chime in by tapping on little gold xylophones attached to the back of their costumes.

The Living Nativity closes this magnificent program, and it is something you'll remember forever. Live animals – sheep, a donkey, and two camels – parade across stage with shepherds and wise men as "The Greatest Story Every Told," unfolds.

Kicks: *Rockettes Erica Bromm (left) of Farmington Hills, and Denise Caston of Clarkston, perform with "The Radio City Christmas Spectacular."*

Except for a few distracting sound system glitches, "The Radio City Christmas Spectacular," lives up to all the excitement it has generated. It's a fast-paced show, and children will not be bored. They'll love the towering jack-in-the-boxes, and other surprises such as the little white dog who is taken out of a box as the cast opens their presents.

The Rockettes are truly a kick – it's amazing how they perform in perfect unison without ever missing a beat.

Producers of "The Radio City Christmas Spectacular" put "The Holiday Spirit in Christmas," and keep the focus where it belongs – on celebrating the season with family and friends, and remembering what happened so long ago in that "Little Town of Bethlehem," on a "Silent Night."

You'll want to make "The Radio City Christmas Spectacular" part of your holiday tradition.

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A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

AVENUE PRODUCTIONS/ATTIC THEATRE
"A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline," featuring Susan Arnold as "Patsy" singing 20 of Cline's most memorable songs with a five-piece band, through Sunday, Dec. 14, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. $22 Thursdays and Sundays, $27 Fridays and Saturdays, with group rates available. Dinner theater packages at a 20 percent discount available for most Pontiac-area restaurants. (248) 335-8101
FISHER THEATRE
"Les Miserables," through Sunday, Jan. 4, Fisher Theatre in the Fisher Building, Detroit. 8 p.m. Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and special holiday performance 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31. No performances Wednesday, Dec. 24, or Thursday, Jan. 1. $15-$58. (248) 645-6666/(313) 871-1132
MEADOW BROOK THEATRE
"A Christmas Carol," 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays and 2 p.m. Wednesdays ($23), 8 p.m. Fridays ($27.50), 2 p.m. Saturdays ($23), 6 p.m. Saturdays and 8 p.m. Saturdays ($33.50), 2 p.m. Sundays ($23), and 6:30 p.m. Sundays ($27.50) through Sunday, Dec. 28, at the theater, Wilson Hall at Oakland University (Walton Boulevard and Adams Road), Rochester. Student, senior and group discounts available. (248) 377-3300
WINDSOR BENEFIT PRODUCTIONS
"A Multicultural Christmas," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Chrysler Theatre, Cleary International Centre, 201 Riverside Dr. W., Windsor, Ontario. (800) 387-9181

COLLEGE

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
"Guys and Dolls," 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4-Saturday, Dec. 8, Quirk Theatre, 103 Quirk, Ypsilanti. $5 bargain night Thursdays, $10 general admission Fridays and Saturdays, $7 and $5 for Mainstage members, $8 and $6 for EMU students in advance. Add $2 for tickets purchased at the door. (313) 487-1221
HFCC THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES
"The Prince and the Pauper," 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the college, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. $5, $3 children. (313) 845-9900
U-M DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE
"Henry V," by William Shakespeare, reformulated by U-M's John Neville-Andrews, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4-Saturday, Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. $14 and $18, $7 students. All ages. (313) 764-0450
WSU BONSTELLE THEATRE
"A Christmas Carol," 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays, running Friday, Dec. 5-Sunday, Dec. 14, at the theater, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $8-$10, $5 children ages 12 and younger, with group discounts available. (313) 577-3960

COMMUNITY THEATER

COLINA FOUNDATION
"The Seventh Dream," a look at violence told through the personal writings of more than 1,000 young people, 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, Lincoln Park High School, 1701 Champaign, Lincoln Park. Admission is a donation of a non-perishable food item to be donated to area Goodfellows. (313) 283-8847
DEARBORN FAMILY THEATRE
"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Edsel Ford High School auditorium, 20601 Rotunda (at Pelham Road), Dearborn. $10, $9 seniors, with group discounts available. (313) 561-0599
HARTLAND PLAYERS
"Christmas Fantasy II," featuring music, holiday readings and the nativity, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Hartland Music Hall, 3619 Avon, Hartland. $8, $7 students and seniors. (810) 220-3521
LIVONIA REDFORD THEATRE GUILD
"Nunsense," 8 p.m. Fridays, Dec. 5 and 12-Saturdays, Dec. 6 and 13 and 2 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 7 and 14 at the playhouse, 15138 Beech Daly, Redford. $12, group rates and senior discounts available. (313) 531-0554
LAKELAND PLAYERS
"Babes in Toyland," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, and Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Mason Middle School, 3835 W. Walton Blvd., Waterford. $7, $6 students and seniors, with group rates available. (248) 674-4738
THE NOVI THEATRES
"A Christmas Carol," 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. $8, $7 seniors and students younger than 12. Tickets purchased in advance are discounted $1. (248) 347-0400
VILLAGE PLAYERS
"Sweet and Hot," a musical review of music by Harold Arlen, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20, at the theater, 752 Chestnut St. (at Woodward Avenue, south of Maple Road), Birmingham. $14, $12 students. (248) 644-9667

YOUTH

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
The Concert Winds and Symphony Orchestra paint a rainbow of colors in concerts for school children, featuring Britten's "Young People's Guide to the Orchestra" and other selections, 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, at Pease Auditorium, West Forest at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. (313) 487-2255
MARQUIS THEATRE
"Aladdin," 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, and Jan. 3-4, and 2:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Monday, Dec. 29, Tuesday, Dec. 30-Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Friday, Jan. 2, at the theater, 135 E. Main St., Northville. $6.50. (248) 349-8110
NEW YORK'S THEATREWORKS/USA
E.B. White's classic tale "Charlotte's Web," 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, recommended for families with children ages four and up, at the Michigan Theater, 603 East Liberty, Ann Arbor. $10, Michigan Theater members $8.50. (313) 763-TKTS
STAGECRAFTERS YOUTH THEATRE
"The Velveteen Rabbit," Thursday, Dec. 11-Sunday, Dec. 14, Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. Sold out. Tickets available for final dress rehearsal, Wednesday, Dec. 10. $5. (248) 541-4832
WILD SWAN THEATER COMPANY
"The Town Mouse and The Country Mouse," Saturday, Dec. 6-Sunday, Dec. 7, Saturday, Dec. 13-Sunday, Dec. 14, Saturday, Dec. 20-Sunday, Dec. 21, Saturday, Dec. 27-Sunday, Dec. 28, and Friday, Jan. 2-Sunday, Jan. 4, Henry Ford Museum's Anderson Center Theater, 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn. (313) 271-1620
WHISTLE STOP PLAYERS
"Babes in Toyland," the Victor Herbert Musical, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6-Sunday, Dec. 7, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon (at Junction), Plymouth. $5. (313) 416-4278
YOUTHEATRE
"Turtle Dog's Holiday Gift," from Pink, Inc., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, as part of the Wiggle Club Season for children ages 3-6, at Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. $7 in advance, $8 at the door. Group rates, birthday parties, season tickets, and drama workshops available. Children younger than 3 not admitted. (313) 963-7663

SPECIAL EVENTS

FRANKLIN VILLAGE HOLLY DAY
Holly Day, Franklin's traditional celebration of the holiday season, features ice sculptures, Hanukkah dreidel game, visit from Santa, The Mercy Mimes, children's craft program, high school caroters, and carriage rides, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, throughout the village. (248) 855-4613
"WINTER CARNIVAL OF FUN"
Indoor amusement park, 4-11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Cobo Conference/Exhibition Center. (313) 923-7400
TODD ELDREDGE AND FRIENDS

Figure skating exhibition featuring Eldredge, Tara Lipinski, Elizabeth Punsalan and Jerod Swallow, and Jenny Meno and Todd Sand, 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. $37.50 and $27.50 reserved, $5 off both ticket prices for kids ages 12 and younger, seniors 62 and older, and groups of 15 or more. (248) 377-0100
SILENT FILM AND ORGAN CONCERT
The 1920 silent film "Way Down East" starring Lillian Gish, with Lance Luce performing on the Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. $10. (248) 541-6430
TRADITIONAL POLISH CHRISTMAS TREE
On display 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Mondays-Fridays through Thursday, Jan. 1, American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple Road (at Dequindre Road), Troy. (248) 689-3636
WASSAIL FEST
A re-creation of the legendary Winter Court of England's Queen Elizabeth I, 6:30-10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11-Saturday, Dec. 13, and Thursday, Dec. 18-Saturday, Dec. 20, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $150 (discounted $15 on Dec. 11 and Dec. 18), $135 per ticket for tables of 20 or more. (313) 833-4005

FAMILY EVENTS

CELEBRATION OF LIGHT
Open House, storytelling by Barbara Schultz, performance by the Junior String Orchestra from the Ann Arbor School of Performing Arts, hands-on activities including making bird feeders, fruit and candle centerpieces and pine cone fire starters, 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 at the University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor. Free. (313) 998-7061
CHENILLE SISTERS
11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Borders Books and Music, 612 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Free. All ages; 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Borders Books and Music, 43075 Crescent Boulevard, Novi. Free. All ages; 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 2800 Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. Free. All ages. (313) 913-1100/ (248) 347-0810/(248) 853-9855
DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With conductor David Alan Miller, actress Nina Kircher, and the combined choruses of Chippewa Valley/Dakota High School chorus, Detroit Country Day Upper School chorus, Detroit High School for the Performing Arts Mixed Ensemble, and Southfield-Lathrup Class Act performing "How Music Saved the Holidays," 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $17-$27. (313) 833-3700
DETROIT ZOO'S "WILD LIGHTS"
Light show featuring more than 50 animated animal displays along a half-mile trail, 5:30-8 p.m. through Tuesday, Dec. 30 (except Christmas and Christmas Eve), at the zoo, I-696 and Woodward Avenue, Royal Oak. $3 adults, $2 children 2-12, free for children younger than 2. DZS members' admission, $2 adults, $1.50 children 2-12. (248) 541-5835/(248) 541-5717
YPSILANTI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
Featuring miniature train rides and horse-drawn wagon rides, 6-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Sunday, Dec. 7, Friday, Dec. 12-Sunday, Dec. 14, Friday, Dec. 19-Sunday, Dec. 21, Wednesday, Dec. 24-Thursday, Dec. 25, 6 p.m.-midnight Wednesday, Dec. 31, Riverside Park along the Huron River, Ypsilanti's Historic Depot Town. Donations accepted. (313) 483-4444 or http://www.ypsi.org

Holiday Show: *Kenny Rogers tells the magical tale of "The Toy Shoppe," and sings hits from "The Gift" and popular Christmas carols 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 and 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at Masonic Temple Theatre. Tickets $35, $30 and $25, call (248) 645-6666.*

CLASSICAL

BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE
"Holiday Celebration," featuring the choral ensemble, organ and soprano soloists, 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Central Woodward Christian Church, 3955 W. Big Beaver (at Adams Road), Troy. Free. (248) 475-5978
DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With conductor and violinist Jaime Laredo, violinist Emmanuelle Boisvert, and cellist Marcy Chanteaux performing Christmas songs from Corelli, Bach, Mozart, Albinoni, and Bach, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5-Sunday, Dec. 6, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $17-$60. (313) 833-3700
"AN EVENING OF MUSIC FOR FLUTE AND PIANO"
With flutist Philip Dikeman and pianist Michele Cooker, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. $8, $5 students, $12 for seats in rows 1-5. (313) 769-2999
TODAY'S BRASS QUINTET
Holiday concert, 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. $9, $12 for seats in rows 1-5, includes croissants from The Moveable Feast, coffee and juice. (313) 769-2999

Family concert: *Children's folk-singing duo, Gemini will perform the premier concert in the Millennium Centre's new Family Arts Series with two performances 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. Tickets are $3.50, call the box office, (248) 552-1225, or Ticketmaster, (248) 645-6666. The center is at 15600 J.L. Hudson Drive, Southfield.*

POPS/SWING

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With conductor David Alan Miller, the Madrigal Chorale of Southfield and its director Robert A. Martin, and Highland Park Baptist Church Choir and its director Gary Matthews, performing Christmas Pops concert, 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $17-$60. (313) 833-3700
FARMINGTON COMMUNITY BAND
"Winter Winds" concert featuring holiday and classic band music, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Harrison High School, 29995 W. 12 Mile Road (between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake roads), Farmington Hills. $3, $2 students, $8 family, free for senior citizens. (313) 261-2202 or http://www.mystery.com/fcb
THE GRUNYONS
The 16-member a capella group sings holiday songs, 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, Henry Ford Estate, 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. (313) 593-5590.
DEREK HOOD
As part of Noel Night, 4-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4605 Cass Ave. (at Forest) on Wayne State University's campus, Detroit. Free. (313) 872-2427
IMPERIAL SWING ORCHESTRA
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (swing) (313) 485-5050
MIMOSA
With harpist Susan Hedler, marimba/percussion player Dr. Baby Elmo, and guitarist Eric Hamilton, 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. $7, $5 students, $10 seats in rows 1-5. (313) 769-2999
ANNE MURRAY
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Chrysler Theatre in the Cleary International Centre, 201 Riverside Dr., W., Windsor, Ontario, Canada. $45 and $40 including G.S.T. (Canadian) (800) 387-9181
NOVI CONCERT BAND
Holiday concert and sing-along, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile Road, Novi. Free. All ages. (248) 349-0720

ORGAN MUSIC

THOMAS MURRAY
Performs his transcription from the full orchestral version of Edward Elgar's "Severn Suite," and works by J.S. Bach, Josef Rheinberger and Louis Vierne, during the inaugural organ recital, 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, Christ Church Cranbrook, 470 Church Road (off Lone Pine Road, one mile west of Woodward Avenue), Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. Rescheduled from September. (248) 644-5210

AUDITIONS

FULL CIRCLE DANCE COMPANY
Auditions for Diamond Jubilee Performance 2-3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, in the dance studio, lower level athletic building at Henry Ford Community College, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. Fall 1998 term, day class and rehearsals required; scholarships available. (313) 845-6314
LIVINGSTON PLAYERS
Auditions for "Murder By the Book," 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, and Tuesday, Dec. 9, Millpond Theatre, 400 Cedar St., Brighton. Roles are available for two women and three men. Performances are Feb. 21-22, 27-28, and March 6-7. (313) 483-3906.
PLOWSHARES THEATRE COMPANY
Auditions for "A Raisin in the Sun" and "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, David Adamany Undergraduate Library, Wayne State University, Detroit. For "A Raisin in the Sun," auditions will be held for Karl Lindner, a white man aged 40-50, and Travis Younger, a black boy age 10 or 11. For "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," auditions will be held for Rutherford Selig a white man age early 50s, Zonia Loomis, a black girl age 11, and Reuben Scott, a black boy age 11. Auditionees must prepare a 2-minute monologue. "A Raisin in the Sun" opens March 12, and "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" opens April 30, both at the Museum of African American History. For an appointment, (313) 872-0279
RENAISSANCE CHORUS
Looking for singers for the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America. The chorus rehearses 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail (1/2 mile east of Newburgh Road), Livonia. The ability to read music is not required. It is preparing for its Christmas season performances and its annual show in March. (313) 981-6342

VOCAL MUSIC

ACADEMY SINGERS
Singers and dancers from The Vocal Arts Academy's annual Christmas concert, 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, Oakland University, Varner Recital Hall, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester. $8 adults, $5 seniors, children and students. (248) 625-7057
"COME TO THE CABARET"
An evening of barbershop quartet, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. $10. All ages. (313) 761-1451
DETROIT LUTHERAN SINGERS
Concert of sacred Christmas choral music, 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, 1345 Gratiot Road, Detroit. $10, $7 seniors and students. Advanced tickets required for 3:30 p.m. show; 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. $10, $7 seniors and students. (248) 988-0604
DETROIT TOGETHER MEN'S CHORUS
Holiday concert featuring the music of Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Solstice and Christmas, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Southfield Center for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road, Southfield. $12 in advance, $15 at the door. $10 for seniors and students. (248) 544-3872
FORT STREET CHORALE
Performs Handel's "Messiah," 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, performed in the 147-year-old Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort St., Detroit. $12, with group rates and patron seating available. (313) 961-4533
KIRK IN THE HILLS
Handel's "Messiah," 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 626-2515
THE MADONNA CHORALE
Christmas Chorale Concert featuring "Ceremony of Carols" by Benjamin Britten, accompanied by harp, and "The Infant Savior" by Dietrich Buxtehude performed with strings and organ, traditional Christmas carols, and audience sing-alongs, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, the Felician Sisters' Motherhouse Chapel at Madonna University, I-96 and Levan Road, Livonia. Admission is by donation to the music scholarship fund. (313) 432-5713
MADRIGAL CHORALE OF SOUTHFIELD
Holiday concerts featuring Berger's "Magnificat," Dawson's "Mary Had a Baby," Rutters's "Candlelight Carol," and some traditional caroling, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Southfield Presbyterian Church, 21575 W. 10 Mile Road, Southfield; 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Old St. Mary's Church in Detroit's Greektown. $10, $8 students and seniors. (248) 445-6199
PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS
Performs Christmas favorites and inspirational carols, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Plymouth-Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road, Canton. $8. (313) 455-4080
SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR
Holiday program "Alleiula, Rejoice!" 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 W. Church St. (at Main Street), Plymouth. $4. All ages. (313) 462-4435
SCOOL JAZZ AND SCOOL JAZZ PRIME
Schoolcraft College's jazz vocal ensembles and the Chamber Singers present "Jazz Up the Holidays," an evening of madrigals, jazz and seasonal songs, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10 at the Radcliff Center, 1751 Radcliff Road, south of Ford Road, between Wayne and Merriman, Garden City. Free (donations at the door go to music scholarships). (313) 462-4417
UMS CHORAL UNION
With the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra perform Handel's "Messiah," 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. $10-$18. (800) 221-1229

JAZZ

DWIGHT ADAMS TRIO
9 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (trumpet, piano, bass trio) (248) 645-2150
SEAN BLACKMAN AND JOHN ARNOLD
8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Royal Oak Brewery, 215 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 544-1141
SANDRA BOMAR TRIO
8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (vocal, piano, bass trio) 9248) 645-2150
DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER
8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10-Thursday, Dec. 11, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. $20 in advance. 21 and older. (313) 662-8310
RON ENGLISH TRIO
7-11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (guitar, piano, bass trio) (248) 645-2150
HENRY GIBSON TRIO
8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (piano, bass, drums trio) (248) 645-2150
KIMMIE HORNE
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, D.L. Harrington's Roadhouse, 2086 Crooks Road (at M-59), Rochester Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (jazz/R&B) (248) 852-0550
MIKE KAROUB'S CELLO JAZZ
8-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, and Friday, Dec. 12, Tuscan Cafe, 150 N. Center St., Northville. Free. All ages. (248) 305-8629
KOG'S KATS
7-11 p.m. Saturday in December, O'Mara's, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley. Free. 21 and older. (248) 399-6750
KATHY KOSINS
7:30-10:30 p.m. Wednesdays in December except Dec. 24, and at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, Oakland Grill, 32832 Woodward Ave. (south of 14 Mile), Royal Oak. (248) 549-7700
DAVE KOZ
With Brenda Russell and David Benoit, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. **Cancelled.** (313) 872-1000
SHEILA LANDIS
With Rick Matle, 8-11:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Coffee Beanery, 152 N. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 646-6022
THE MATT MICHAELS TRIO
With bassist Dan Jordan, drummer Jerry McKenzie, and special guest Morry Cohen, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, and special guest Jack Brokensha, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River, Farmington Hills. $5 cover waived with dinner order (served 6:30-9 p.m.) plus a $5 drink minimum. 21 and older. (248) 474-4800
LARRY NOZERO DUO
6:30-10:30 p.m. Tuesdays, and the Larry Smith Trio 7:30-11:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Oakland Grill, 32832 Woodward Ave. (south of 14 Mile), Royal Oak. (248) 549-7700
PAUL VORNHAGEN TRIO
7-11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (sax and vocal, piano, bass trio) (248) 645-2150
JIM WYSE'S JAZZ QUINTET
8-11 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Sunrise Sunset Saloon, 15222 Charlevoix, Grosse Pointe Park. Free. 21 and older. (313) 822-6080
ALEXANDER ZONJIC
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus, Smith Theatre, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. $12; 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, and Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Thai-Chi Express, 630 Woodward Ave. (two blocks north of Jefferson Avenue), Detroit. $7:50. 21 and older. (248) 471-7667/(313) 963-8424

NEW AGE

WINDHAM HILL'S WINTER SOLSTICE
With Tuck and Patti, Liz Story, David Arkenstone and Lisa Lynne, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. $26.50. All ages. (313) 872-1000

WORLD MUSIC

BUJU BANTON
With Jahmali, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $20 in advance. 18 and older. (313) 833-9700
BEAUSOLEIL
7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. $17.50. All ages. (cajun/zydeco) (313) 761-1451
IMMUNITY
10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Kodiak Grill, 45660 Mound Road, Utica. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Union Lake Grill and Bar, 2280 Union Lake Road, Commerce Township. Free. 21 and older. (810) 731-1750/(248) 360-7450

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

PAT DONAHUE
Music director of "Prairie Home Companion," 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. $11, $10 members, students, seniors. All ages. (313) 761-1451
HILLS, HERDMAN AND MANGSEN
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. $12.50. All ages. (313) 761-1451
HOT TUNA
With Jorma Kaukonen, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. $17.50. All ages. (313) 761-1451
JAN KRIST
Performs a Christmas concert, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. $10, $9 members, students, seniors. All ages; 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 761-1451/(313) 861-8101
RFD BOYS
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. $11, $10 members, students and seniors. All ages. (bluegrass) (313) 761-1451
JO SERRAPERE
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 861-8101

SPOKEN WORD

FRIED BLUE ICICLES HOLIDAY FESTIVAL
With storytellers LaRon Williams and Debra Christian, folk musician and spoken word performance artist Whitley Setrakian, poet Decky Alexander, and Ann Arbor Morris and Sword Dancers performing a traditional "Olde English Christmas Mummers' Play," 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7.

Please see next page

8 days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Christina Fuoco; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (313) 591-7279

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U-Club, first floor of the Michigan Union, 530 S. State St., Ann Arbor. $7, $5 for students and seniors with ID, $3 kids 6-12, free for children ages 5 and younger. (313) 763-3202

DANCE

CONTEMPORARY CIVIC BALLET
"The Nutcracker," under the direction of Rose Marie Floyd, with New York dancer Alexander Schlemepp, and Samantha Shelton, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12 at Warren Woods Middle School auditorium, East 12 Mile, west of Schoenner, Warren. $8 at the door, (248) 641-9063/546-7484. 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 (presented by Valley of Detroit-Scottish Rite of Freemasonary, in the Scottish Rite Cathedral Auditorium at Masonic Temple, Detroit. $5 at the door. (248) 641-9063.

CONTRA DANCES
First Friday Square and Contra Dance, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Salin Road (1/2 mile south of I-94), Ann Arbor. $6 adults, $3 children. (313) 665-8405 or jbfreema@umich.edu; Open jam sponsored by the Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance, 4-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Road (1/4 mile south of I-94), Ann Arbor. Free. All string band members invited, all levels welcome. (313) 662-3371; , 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Pittsfield Grange. $6. (313) 769-1052; Lovett Hall Holiday contra dance, 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Lovett Hall ballroom, Greenfield Village, 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn. $7. (313) 982-6100, ext. 2262; English Country Dancing, 7-9:45 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, Chapel Hill Condominium Clubhouse, 3350 Green Road (north of Plymouth Road), Ann Arbor. $4. (313) 663-0744/(313) 662-5158

DEARBORN BALLET THEATRE
Under the direction of Loni Lane, with the National Ballet of Canada's Rebecca Rimsay as the Sugar Plum Fairy and Johann Perrson as the Cavalier, and Dance Detroit's Don Mazzola as Herr Drosselmeyer and Stephen Hadala as the Snow King, and the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Churchill High School Auditorium, 8900 Newburgh (north of Joy Road), Livonia. $12.50. (313) 421-1111/(248) 645-6666

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With principal dancers Evelyn Cisneros and Anthony Randazzo from the San Francisco Ballet, and Kimberly Glasco and Aleksandar Antonijevic from the National Ballet of Canada, along with members of Iacob Lascu's Dance Detroit perform "The Nutcracker" ballet, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, and 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. $14-$53 adults, $10-$24 children and seniors. (313) 833-3700

ERIC JOHNSTON'S DETROIT BALLET
2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 at the State Theater on Wayne Road in Wayne. Tickets are $8 adults, $5 children and available by calling the theater at (313) 721-7400; 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19 at the Harrison High School auditorium on 12 Mile between Orchard Lake and Middlebelt roads in Farmington Hills. $8 adults, $5 children. (248) 473-9570. The 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 and Friday, Dec. 19 productions are set to the music of the Detroit Ballet Orchestra, under the direction of Christopher Keen.

FARMINGTON FESTIVAL OF DANCE
With the Detroit Dance Collective, and members of the WSU Dance Company, Michigan Classic Ballet Company, Stardust Ballroom Dance Studio, Annette and Company, Main Street Dance Company, Barbara Hatch School of Dance, Michelle Millman, Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet Company, and the O'Day School of Dance, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Farmington High School auditorium, 32000 Shiawassee (west of Orchard Lake Road), Farmington. $5, $2 seniors and children. (248) 473-9570

THE HARLEM NUTCRACKER
Donald Byrd's jazzy version of the holiday tale featuring a live jazz orchestra, regional gospel choir and children's casts, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10-Friday, Dec. 12, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13-Sunday, Dec. 14, Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. $16-$34. (800) 221-1229

HURON CIVIC THEATRE
"The Nutcracker," with the Taylor Ballet Americana and the Southern Great Lakes Symphony Orchestra, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the theater, 32044 Huron River Dr., New Boston. $14, $10 children ages 10 and younger. (313) 782-5380

LAKES AREA CIVIC BALLET
"The Nutcracker" 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at West Bloomfield High School auditorium on Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. $10, $8.50, special rates available for community organizations purchasing 15 tickets or more. (248) 666-1971

LIVONIA CIVIC BALLET
The official ballet of the city of Livonia, presents "The Nutcracker" 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Clarenceville High School auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. $12 adults, $9 seniors/students, $6 children ages 5-9, $6 each for groups of 12 persons or more. (313) 427-9103/(248) 477-0520

LIVONIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
This year's holiday concert marks the return of the Nutcracker Ballet with guest artists Rebecca Rimsay and Johann Perrson from the National Ballet of Canada. Don Mazzola and Stephen Hadala of Dance Detroit will play Herr Drosselmeyer and the Snow King. Elizabeth Riga of the University of Michigan is the Snow Queen. The Churchill High School Choir provides the background sure to make this traditional holiday ballet a truly enchanting program, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Churchill High School Auditorium, 8900 Newburgh north of Joy, Livonia. All tickets $12.50. (313) 421-1111/(248) 645-6666

MICHIGAN BALLET THEATRE
The company (under Cornelia Sampson) joins the Warren Symphony for "The Nutcracker," 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13-Sunday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, with guest artists Michele Wiles, 1996 Gold Medal winner of the International Ballet competition in Varna, Bulgaria, and currently with American Ballet Theatre II, Sergio Brindusa, a Romanian dancer who freelances and trains at the prestigious Kirov Academy in Washington, Sean Stewart of the American Ballet Theatre, and Casey Herd, American Ballet Theatre II, at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Hall Road (M-59) and Garfield, Clinton Township. $22, $20 seniors and children under age 12; $18 for groups of 20 or more for main floor seating, $17 for balcony. Call (810) 286-2222/(248) 645-6666

PLYMOUTH CANTON BALLET COMPANY
"The Nutcracker," under the direction of Dawn Greene, featuring principal dancers Dawnell Dryja and Mark Nash of the Cincinnati Ballet, and the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12- Saturday, Dec 13, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road (at Canton Center Road), Canton. $15 adults and senior citizens, $8 for children K-12. A Sugar Plum Fairy Tea, where children will have a tea party with the Sugar Plum Fairy and other performers, will be held after the Saturday, Dec. 13, and Sunday, Dec. 14 concerts. $5 in advance, $6 at the door. (313) 451-2112

THE RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR
Numerous performances through Saturday, Dec. 27, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $10-$50. All ages. This week's performances: 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12. (313) 983-6611/(248) 645-6666

COMEDY

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
Rabbi/stand-up comic Bob Alper 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 at the center, 6600 West Maple Road, West Bloomfield. $15 advance, $18 at door. (888) 483-3297

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB
Jim Meyers, Manny Shields and Joey Bielaska, Thursday, Dec. 4-Saturday, Dec. 6; Joey Kola, Rich Guzzi and Joey Bielaska, Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays. Cover charge changes according to show. (313) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S
Pablo Franciso, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4 ($10, $21.95 dinner/show package), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6 ($12, $24.95 dinner/show package); 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

MAINSTREET COMEDY SHOWCASE
The Incredible Boris, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, and Thursday, Dec. 11 ($9), 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, and Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13 ($12), and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 14 ($9, $4.50 for kids younger than 16), at the club, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (313) 996-9080

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE
Q95's John Heffron with Brian McCree, 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3-Thursday, Dec. 4 ($6), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6 ($12), and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 ($6); Fred Greenlee "The Nickel Guy," with Mark Sweetman, 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10-Thursday, Dec. 11 ($6), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13 ($12), and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 ($6), at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. (248) 542-9900 or http://www.comedycastle.com

TOUR

MEADOW BROOK HALL
"Set for the Holidays" 1997 holiday walk, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily through Sunday, Dec. 7, at the historic house at Oakland University, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester. Tours also available of Knole Cottage, the six-room, 3/4 scale mini mansion near the hall. $10, $5 children ages 12 and younger, $5 OU affiliates with ID for Meadow Brook. Discounts available for groups of 20 or more, $1 Knole Cottage; Black tie gala dinner, 6:30 p.m. with 8 p.m. candlelight dinners followed by dancing and an afterglow, Thursday, Dec. 4-Saturday, Dec. 6. $175 for patrons, $250 for benefactors. (248) 370-3140.

POPULAR MUSIC

AFTERTASTE
With D-GOD, Blindfold, Tragic Methods, and Immortal Sins, 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12 as part of Battle of the Bands at Wayne-Ford Civic League, 1661 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Cover charge. All ages. (hardcore) (313) 728-5010

SEBASTIAN BACH
With Caroline's Spine, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Harpo's,14238 Harper, Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. 18 and older. (metal) (313) 824-1700

JOHNNY BASSETT AND THE BLUES INSURGENTS
9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800/(248) 543-4300

THE BIZER BROTHERS
8 p.m.-midnight Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, and Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, The Rattlesnake Club, 300 River Place, Detroit. Free. All ages. (pop) (313) 567-4400

BLACK FUZZ
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (313) 485-5050

BOTFLY
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (funk rock) (313) 485-5050

BRILLIANT
11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Sardine Bar, 2548 Franklin St. (two blocks south of Jefferson Avenue, four blocks east of the Renaissance Center), Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (pop) (313) 831-9269

BUGS BEDDOW BAND
9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, Beale Street Blues, 8 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older; 8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Fox and Hounds, 1560 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-7900/(248) 644-4800

THE BURROS
10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Mount Chalet, 4715 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (roots rock) (248) 549-2929

BUTTERFLY
With dbass, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Motor Lounge, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. $5. 18 and older. (psychedelic trippy rock) (313) 369-0090

CHICAGO PETE
With members of the Chisel Bros., 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

CHISEL BROS. FEATURING MIMI HARRIS
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St. (at Orleans), Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 259-2643

DANNY COX
10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Tuscan Grill, 222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages. (acoustic) (248) 652-1600

"CY-FUNK-O-RAMA TOUR"
With DJ Supa Dimitri from Deee-Lite, and DJ Silver, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Motor Lounge, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. $10 in advance. 18 and older. (techno) (313) 369-0090

BILLY RAY CYRUS
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. $25. All ages. (country) (248) 645-6666

DEEP SPACE SIX
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older; With Soulsun, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. $5. 18 and older. (Deadhead) (313) 485-5050/(248) 544-3030

DEFTONES
With Limp Bizkit, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. $13. All ages. (hardcore rock) (248) 333-2362

"DETROIT ARTISTS GROUP"
Danny Cox, Jill Jack, Michael King, Jan Krist, Jason Magee (formerly of the Restroom Poets), Kristin vonBernthal, and Sister Seed, 8 p.m.-midnight Monday, Dec. 8, Royal Oak Brewery, 215 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak, as part of a benefit for My Sister's Place, a local domestic violence shelter. $5 or an unwrapped Christmas toy. 21 and older. (248) 544-1141

DOMESTIC PROBLEMS
With Plumloco, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. $4. 19 and older. (rock) (313) 996-8555

THE DUVALLS
With Flying Saucers, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $6 in advance. 18 and older. (rockabilly) (313) 833-POOL

GLEN EDDIE BAND
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

ENCHANTED IRIS
9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. $3. 19 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 996-8555

FOOLISH MORTALS
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Kodiak Grill, 45660 Mound Road, Utica. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (810) 731-1750

FORGE
With Heavy Water Factory, 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. $6 in advance. All ages. (rock) (313) 961-MELT

STEWART FRANCKE
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Borders Books and Music, 30995 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Free. All ages; 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Borders Books and Music, 45290 Utica Park Place, Utica. (rock) (248) 737-0110/(810) 726-8555

THE FRANTIC FLAT TOPS
With Swingin' Demons, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $6 in advance. 18 and older. (rock) (313) 833-POOL

GOVERNMENT HONEY
10 p.m.-2 a.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Sunday, Dec. 7, Bullfrog Bar and Grill, 15414 Telegraph (one block north of Five Mile Road), Redford. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 533-4477

"HOLIDAY HOOTENANNY"
With The Cure, Toad the Wet Sprocket, Big Head Todd and the Monsters, Duncan Sheik, and Huffamoose, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. Sold out. (alternative rock) (248) 377-0100

"HOUSE OF BLUES TOUR"
Featuring Dr. John, Charlie Musselwhite, Robert Jr. Lockwood, and Alvin Youngblood Hart, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. All ages. (blues) (313) 833-3700

HR
Former Bad Brains singer, with Majek Fashek, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $12.50 in advance. 18 and older. (rock/world music) (313) 833-9700

JILL JACK
10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River, Novi. Free. 21 and older; 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Woodward Avenue Brewers, 22646 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Free. 21 and older; 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, Royal Oak Brewery, 215 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (roots rock) (248) 349-9110/(248) 546-3696/(248) 544-1141/(248) 543-4300

JACKOPIERCE
Farewell tour, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. $12.50 in advance. 19 and older. (guitar-based rock) (248) 335-8100

MONTELL JORDAN
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, The Palladium, 17580 Frazho Road, Roseville. $20 in advance, $25 at the door. (R&B) (810) 778-6404

MIKE KING
10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cover charge. 21 and older; 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Royal Oak Brewery, 215 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 861-8101/(248) 544-1141

JOHN D. LAMB BAND
9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Mr. B's, 48550 Van Dyke, Shelby Township. Free. 21 and older; 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, Rock on Third, 112 E. Third St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older; 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (singer/songwriter) (248) 731-0700/(248) 542-7625/(248) 349-9110

THE LOOK
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Kodiak Grill, 45660 Mound Road, Utica. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (810) 731-1750

THE LOVEMASTERS WITH BOOOTSY X
Celebrates release of CD with party and performance 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, during Rock 'N' Bowl, Garden Bowl Lane, Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 833-9700

MACHINA
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older; With Left Undone and The Magnificent Ambersons, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. $5. 19 and older. (rock) (313) 485-5050/(313) 996-8555

MADCAT AND KANE
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St. (at Orleans), Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 259-2643

MOTOR JAM
9 p.m. Tuesdays in December, Karl's Country Cabin, 9779 Gotfredson Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 455-8450

MUDPUPPY
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River, Novi. Free. 21 and older; As part of author Gary Graff's booksigning of "MusicHound Blues," Borders Books and Music, 34300 Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages; 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Beaver Creek, 1609 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (248) 543-4300/(248) 349-9110/(248) 203-0005/(313) 722-5330

MYSTERY TRAIN WITH JIM MCCARTY
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 543-4300

STEVE NARDELLA
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, and Saturday, Dec. 6, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

19 WHEELS
With 3 Speed, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. $4. 19 and older. (roots rock) (313) 996-8555

NOBODY'S BUSINESS
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Moby Dick's, 5452 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rockabilly) (313) 581-3650

ROBERT NOLL BLUES MISSION
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, Goose Island Brewery, 1538 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor. Cover charge: 21 and older. (blues) (248) 682-4566

OPIE'S DREAM
With The Schugars, 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, New Way Bar, 23130 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. $3. 21 and older. (classic rock/pop) (248) 541-9870 or http://www.izzy.net/~mic

ORANGE 9 MM
With Man Will Surrender, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. $5 in advance. All ages. (hard alternative rock) (313) 961-MELT

ROBERT PENN
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

PHISH
7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. $23.50 in advance, $25 day of show. All ages. (rock) (248) 377-0100

PORTISHEAD
With the Andy Smith Band, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. All ages. (ethereal depressing pop) (313) 961-5451

PULL
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 349-9110

PURPLE FLY
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River, Novi. Free. 21 and older; With Rubber Soul, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (funk) (248) 349-9110/(313) 832-2355

GARY RASMUSSEN
10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, and with Jody Raffoul, 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Tuscan Grill, 222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages. (blues) (248) 652-1600

A.C. REED AND THE SPARKPLUGS
With Mystery Train featuring Jim McCarty, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 543-4300

SGT. ROCK
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Woodbridge Tavern, 289 St. Aubin, Detroit; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Lakepointe Yacht Club, 37604 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Cover charge. 21 and older. (classic rock covers) (313) 259-0578/(313) 591-1868

SAVE FERRIS
With Marcy Playground, Fuel and the Eclectics, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. $5.90 in advance. All ages. (ska/rock) (313) 961-MELT

SHELTER
With Man Will Surrender, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. $9 in advance. All ages. (punk) (313) 961-MELT

SWITCHBLADE SYMPHONY
With Rhea's Obsession and Black Ocean Drowning, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. $12.50 in advance. 18 and older. (goth) (313) 833-POOL

3 SPEED
With Hopper, Monkeychuck, and Elephant Gerald, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, The Viper Room Detroit, 17320 Harper (between Moross and Cadieux roads), Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (313) 881-3611

TILES
With Fate's Warning, 10 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, JD's Macomb Theater, 31 N. Walnut; Mount Clemens. Tickets at Ticketmaster. 18 and older. (progressive rock/rock) (810) 465-5154

TRALE
With Vehicles Invisible, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older; With Fletcher Pratt, and Less Than Useful, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, The Viper Room Detroit, 17320 Harper (between Moross and Cadieux roads), Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (313) 833-6873/(313) 881-3611

VAL VENTRO
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Union Lake Grill and Bar, 2280 Union Lake Road, Commerce Township. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 360-7450

VIETNAM PROM
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 875-6555 or http://www.lilis21.com

RANDY VOLIN AND THE SONIC BLUES
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, Goose Island, 1538 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Hoops, 2705 Lapeer Road, Auburn Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 682-4566/(248) 373-4744/(313) 451-1213

VUDU HIPPIES
8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (alternapop) (248) 543-4300

WAILIN' INC.
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5-Saturday, Dec. 6, Moby Dick's, 5452 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 581-3650

THE WALLFLOWERS
With The Jayhawks and Maypole, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Hill Auditorium, 530 S. State St., Ann Arbor. $20 in advance. All ages. (rock) (313) 764-8350

WKQI "Q CARES HOLIDAY CONCERT"
With Shawn Colvin, Sister Hazel, Edwin McCain, Stewart Francke, and Mitch Ryder, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. $13.95 in advance, benefits St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Farmington Hills. 21 and older. (pop) (248) 546-7610/(248) 546-6410

ZOORU
With Fez, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. $5. 19 and older. (rock) (313) 996-8555

Noel Night celebrates holidays

For an evening this weekend, the urban streets will be transformed into a winter wonderland.

Seasonal songs of carolers will echo through downtown Detroit's University Cultural Center. There'll be carriage rides, a symbolic lighting of a Christmas tree and enough holiday festivities to conjure the Yuletide spirit in the crankiest Scrooge.

This Saturday's "Noel Night" commemorates the 25th annual gathering of choirs, artists and communities in an international, multicultural celebration of the Holidays.

The celebration begins with a concert by the Oakland Singers and Boychoir of Ann Arbor in the Cathedral Church of St. Paul. From there, a diverse range of concerts, exhibits, interactive demonstrations and theatrical performances will take place in 20 locations within the University Cultural Center.

Locations include Center for Creative Studies, Children's Museum, Detroit Association of Women's Clubs, Detroit Historical Museum, Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit Public Library, Detroit Science Center, International Institute, Museum of African American History, Scarab club, Wayne State University Community Arts Gallery and Bonstelle Theatre.

The multi-event celebration offers plenty of entertainment and a chance to do some artsy holiday shopping.

Weather forecasts predict plenty of glee and good tidings.

What: "Noel Night," a 25th Annual Holiday Celebration. Concurrent activities in 20 locations within the University Cultural Center, Detroit
When: 5-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6
Where: University Cultural Center between Ferry and Warren on the north and south, and between Cass Avenue and John R. on the west and east. For information, (313) 577-5088.
Highlights:

- 4:30 p.m. – Kick-off concert featuring Oakland Singers with Boychoir of Ann Arbor, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward Avenue.
- 5-9 p.m. – Student and alumni arts and crafts sale, Center for Creative Studies, 201 E. Kirby.
- 6 & 8 p.m. – Panetarium shows; 6:30, 7:30, 8:30 p.m. Renaissance High School Jazz Band performs. Photos with Santa, $2.
- 7:30 p.m. – Voices of Tomorrow Choir, Mosaic Youth Theater, St. Malachy Choir. Other activities: write letters to Santa with Mrs. Claus and the elves. Detroit Historical Museum, 5401 Woodward.
- 6 & 7:30 p.m. – The Detroit Concert Choir Cabaret Singers, Kresge Court; 5:30-6:30 p.m. American Russian Theatre/Puppet Art, "Firebird," Prentis Court; 6:45 p.m.: DSO Civic Orchestra ensemble, Prentis Court; 8-9 p.m. Piano concert by Anton Anderssen, Woodward entrance. Kresge Court open for light dinner. Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue.
- 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 & 8:30 p.m. – "Dance of the Toy Soldier" and "Jingle Bells" by Anna Marie Casali's Kaleidoscope Dance Company. Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward.
- 5:50, 6:55, 7:55 & 8:55 p.m. – 3-D Holiday laser shoes in Exhibit Hall; 5:10, 6:20, 7:20 and 8:20 p.m. Interactive science demonstrations in the Discovery Theater; 5:10 p.m. "Super Speedway," 5:10 p.m. Omnimax Theatre, admission: $4.75.
- 5-9 p.m. – Christmas ornament making workshop; 7-8:30 p.m. "Soulful Gospel Christmas Concert," Multipurpose Room. Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren Avenue.
- 5-9 p.m. – Horse-drawn carriage and sleigh rides depart ever 10 minutes. Adults: $5, children, $2. Park Shelton (Lobby), 15 E. Kirby at Woodward.
- 5-9 p.m. – 85th Annual Gold Medal Exhibition and Holiday Sales show, second floor lounge. Scarab Club, 217 E. Farnsworth.
- 8 p.m. – "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. Wayne State University Bonstelle Theatre, 3424 Woodward. Call for tickets, (313) 871-1667.
- 6 p.m. – Tree lighting ceremony, featuring MSU Discords, Henry Ford High School Concert Band, Community Sing-Along with the Salvation Army Band.

NOTE: 11 a.m. – Pre-Noel Night Entertainment, the Young People's concert, "How Music Saved the Holidays," with conductor David Alan Miller. Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue.

Parking available at participating institutions. Shuttle service also available.

MOVIES

French director resurrects the 'Alien' saga

TICKETS PLEASE

JOHN MONAGHAN

The last time we saw Warrant Officer Ellen Ripley, she was taking a dive into a fiery inferno that seemingly put an end to her and to the "Aliens" movie franchise. Two hundred years later, she has been cloned and from her an alien offspring has been surgically removed.

That's the premise behind "Alien Resurrection," though it hardly matters. Somehow, the title creature will break loose and shred a few fresh victims before Ripley (Sigourney Weaver) and the group of misfits she's currently stuck with can stop it.

What made me come aboard (and actually look forward to) this follow-up to that miserable third entry was the visuals. And in the able hands of French director Jean-Pierre Jeunet, "Alien Resurrection" doesn't disappoint.

Jeunet (with collaborator Marc Caro) created two of the decade's most spectacular-looking films, the hyperkinetic "Delicatessen" and the eerie, atmospheric "City of Lost Children." Enlisting him for this fourth installment of the "Alien" series proved an inspired idea.

Here, military scientists want to exploit the monster by breeding it with humans and thus creating superbeings. Of course, this new breed of alien escapes and it's up to Ripley to blow them off the ship, which is quickly speeding back to Earth.

I didn't get much farther in the scientific intricacies of the plot, but I did deduce that Ripley is some sort of grandmother to the various creatures that she dispatches throughout the film.

The buff military types that made "Alien 2" such a hoot are replaced here by a scurvy band of intergalactic pirates, among them Ron Perlman and Michael Wincott. Also along for the ride is Winona Ryder, who doesn't seem especially comfortable in her first action movie. Weaver, meanwhile, continues to evolve in her role as Ripley.

This time she's part Alien herself, and you can see the mixed emotion about the job she's doing. By this time, the space-weary Ripley has seen it all, even death itself.

The special effects are better than ever, especially in a thrilling underwater chase, the movie's best set piece. Torpedoeing through impossibly blue water in the flooded ship's galley, the creatures show their sea legs as their human prey struggle to reach oxygen.

Even though Jeunet keeps the movie at well under two hours, the second half drags a bit. It's another case of wondering which of the characters will die before the survivors find their way back through the steaming maze of hallways that comprise the ship.

Better are the early scenes, like the basketball court introduction that finds Ripley getting the better of Perlman and his pals. Perlman, who was also in "City of Lost Children," has such a long, interesting face (he could a clone for Tom Waits) that it would be nice to see his character fleshed out in the next installment.

Because you can bet that there's already and "Alien 5" in the works. And I'm thinking, if it's half as clever and quirky as this, count me in.

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To leave John a voice mail message, dial (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1866.

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.

Baldwin Theatre 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. Call (248) 541-8027 for information. ($10)

"Way Down East" (USA) 1920). 8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 6 -7. The D.W. Griffith classic, in which a young woman (Lillian Gish), shamed by an unscrupulous man, leaves with her baby to try and start a new life. This is the one with the famous "ice flow" climax, where Gish jumps along chunks of ice heading for a waterfall. Organ accompaniment provided by Lance Luce.

Detroit Film Theatre Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 833-2323 for information. ($5.50; $4.50 students/seniors)

"Jerusalem" (Sweden-1996). Friday-Sunday, Dec. 5-7 (call for showtimes). The new epic from Bille August ("Pelle the Conqueror") is a true story about a small village visited a century ago by a charismatic preacher. Co-starring Max Von Sydow and Olympia Dukakis.

"Project Grizzly" (Canada-1996). 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8. In this kooky Canadian documentary, outdoorsman Troy James Hurtubise concocts more and more elaborate suits so he can get closer than anyone alive to a wild grizzly bear.

Main Art Theatre 118 N. Main Street at 11 Mile, Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday, unless noted otherwise. Call (248) 542-0180 for information. ($6.50; $4 students, seniors and matinee; $3 twilight)

"Washington Square" (USA-1997). Jennifer Jason Leigh and Albert Finney star in this adaptation of a Henry James novel about an awkward rich girl in turn-of-the-century New York caught between her over-protective father and a penniless suitor.

"Wings of the Dove" (Britain-1997). More Henry James. This time the turn-of-the-century romantic entanglement occurs between a conniving woman (Helena Bonham Carter) and a handsome journalist (Linus Roache). They devise a plan to have him woo a dying woman and thus inherit her fortune.

"Kiss or Kill" (Australia-1997). In this grifters movie from the Land Down Under, an outlaw couple used to robbing businessmen ends up on the run when one of their victims dies.

Magic Bag Theatre 22918 Woodward, Ferndale. Call (248) 544-3030 for information. ($6)

"Gummo" (USA-1997). 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. From Harmony Korine, writer of the controversial "Kids," comes an even more disturbing look at white trash juveniles in Xenia, Ohio. Definitely not for all tastes.

Redford Theatre 17360 Lahser (at Grand River), Detroit. Call (313) 537-2560 for information. ($2.50)

"The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" (USA-1947). 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5 and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 (organ overture begins a half hour before showtime). Cary Grant and a teenaged Shirley Temple star in this pithy romantic comedy about a judge (Myrna Loy) who orders a man to wine and dine her little sister so the girl will lose her crush on him. Not as sparkling as other Grant comedies of the period, but still a lot of fun.

Star Southfield 12 Mile Road (west of Telegraph), Southfield. Call (248) 372-2222. ($6.50; $4.50 before 6 p.m.)

"The Ice Storm" (USA-1997). A film adaptation of Rick Moody's confessional account of life in the 1970s, starring Kevin Kline, Sigourney Weaver and directed by Ang Lee ("The Wedding Banquet," "Sense and Sensibility").

Windsor Film Theatre, 2135 Wyandotte Street West, Windsor, Canada. Call (519) 254-FILM. ($5.25 Canadian; $4 U.S.)

"Stolen Moments" (Canadian-1996). 7 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 4-7. A cultural history of lesbianism by Canadian filmmaker Margaret Westcott and narrated by Kate Nelligan.

"Screwed" (Canada-1997). 9:15 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 4-7. Al Goldstein, publisher of New York City's longest-running X-rated weekly, is the subject of this documentary.

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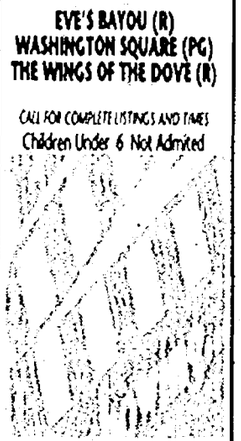

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STREET SCENE

Save Ferris' 'Eileen' cover wins support of fans

CHRISTINA FUOCO

The pop/ska/swing band Save Ferris believes in following public demand.

On a whim the Orange County, Calif., band played its rendition of Dexy's Midnight Runners' 1983 hit "Come on Eileen" one night at a show. Its popularity spread like wildfire.

So, while Save Ferris was recording its debut album "It Means Everything" (Epic), its members decided to throw it on.

"It's like one of those things. We never had any intention of doing a cover. We started doing the song live, and the reaction was really good," said Eric Zamora, alto sax player.

"A couple of radio stations were asking for a live version of it, and we get a lot of requests for it. We just went with the demand from the public and it worked out really well."

The first single off the album, "Come on Eileen" has put Save Ferris in the spotlight.

Save Ferris, named after the title character in the John Hughes' movie "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," dabbles in a variety of genres on "It Means Everything" including swing, cool jazz and ska. The seven-member band is led by singer Monique "Mo" Powell who is formally trained in opera and jazz singing.

Besides paying homage to Dexy's Midnight Runners, Save Ferris gives a nod to an unlikely subject – Spam.

"Spam, it's pink and it's oval," she sings. "Spam, it's made in Chernobyl."

Save Ferris' members, all of whom are in their early 20s, remember the days when they couldn't get into clubs to see shows and recall it in "Under 21." It describes the misadventures of a music lover who can't get into a free show because she's not old enough.

Zamora said that releasing a cover song as a first single has its good and bad points.

"Some people like the original version better, but a lot of people like this one. It's just something we're using as one of those things to say 'hi.' Now that we've released that song, we can move on to our own."

Save Ferris, Marcy Playground, Fuel and the Eclectics, perform at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Tickets are $5.90 in advance for the all-ages show. For more information, call (313) 961-MELT.

• Ann Arbor-based rock band Getaway Cruiser just wrapped up its debut album for Sony/550 Music.

Working in Philadelphia with producers the Butcher Brothers (Urge Overkill, Cypress Hill), Getaway Cruiser also brought on board Pras from the Fugees and Cool Keith from Ultramagnetic MCs and Dr. Octagon.

"Working with him was amazing," said Getaway Cruiser's Chris Peters, formerly of West Bloomfield. Peters described the album as a "Small Faces, New York Dolls, Rolling Stones meets T-Rex meets all the hip-hop stuff that we love."

The album, he said, should be out in the spring. Meanwhile, Getaway Cruiser is planning on touring most of 1998.

Peters said it's important that listeners know that his band is a rock 'n' roll band.

"We're a rock 'n' roll band that listens to tons and tons of lots of music. We want to make it very clear we're a rock 'n' roll band. It's about being a great live band. The one thing that we bring to the table is a heavy R&B influence. The songwriting on this record (reflects what) we've been listening to which is a lot of Faith Evans and Missy Elliott."

Playing St. Andrew's: *Save Ferris – from left, Marc Harismendy, Eric Zamora, Jose Castellanos, Bill Uechi (seated), Brian Mashburn, T-Bone Willy, and Monique Powell.*

If you have a question or comment for Christina Fuoco, you may leave a message for her at (313) 953-2047, ext. 2130, or by writing to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150, or via e-mail at CFuoco@aol.com. Listen to Christina Fuoco's Friday at 5 p.m. with Millen on WKRK-FM (97.1).

Students learn about the creative process

BACKSTAGE PASS

ANN DELISI

Over the course of about one and a half seasons of *Backstage Pass*, we've looked at a lot of art – dance, theater, poetry, cinema, the visual arts and music of every kind. Now, you'd think that this would provide some insights into the creative process. And it has. Once you observe enough artists, each one becomes like a dot in a painting by Seurat. As you back away for perspective, an image begins to emerge.

The picture that congeals shows certain constants about those precious people who create the art we all enjoy. Dedication to their form. Focus on their work. An ear for and trust of their creative inner voice. But, ultimately, the creative process remains a mystery. Creating art isn't a cheap mail-order trick, it's perhaps the one true magic we have left.

Even a comparison to magic cheapens art. Could you imagine taking a class in "magic appreciation?" (Chapter One: Which one is Siegfried and which one is Roy?) Yet classes in art appreciation fill up at campuses all over the world. Sure, the more you know about art, the more deeply you can appreciate it. But what you "like" will always pass through a complex subjective filter of preferences, attitudes, experiences, mood and mystery.

Now, take the leap to the other side of the canvas. How do you teach somebody to be an artist?

Seems impossible, which is probably why so many people say artists are born, not made. But with all the art schools in the world, it must be true that art can not only be taught, it can be learned. The Detroit area is home to some of the best art schools on the planet, and at an upcoming exhibit at Gallerie Blu in Birmingham, you can see the results of not only the artistic process, but the process of teaching the artistic process as well.

The show will feature student work resulting from a class at Detroit's Center for Creative Studies (CCS) called "Art and Artifact." The course is taught by professor Susan Aaron-Taylor explained, "I wanted the students to get inspiration from outside themselves." Before accepting students into her class, Aaron-Taylor interviewed each one to not only make sure their personal artistic direction had been established, but to determine their interest in archeological research and anthropological objects. "I wanted them to see the beauty in the objects which sometimes means experiencing the symbolism within the piece."

So students were given special access to the non-exhibited collections of Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills. Students donned white gloves and sifted through the science and natural history museum's collection of old post cards, shrunken skulls, Egyptian amulets and all manner of artifacts. They were required to select a prehistoric or historic item, study it and then create an art piece or series of work in any medium inspired by the object.

The exhibition will reflect the diversities of medium, approach and also the array of objects to which individual students were drawn. Donna Maskill, a CCS senior living in Ferndale, was intrigued by bombillas, which are straws used to drink a South American tea, called "mate."

Maskill explained how she found her artifact. "I was instantly attracted to the bombillas. They were exquisite to look at and remarkable to hold. The drinking of mate is a cultural tradition in South America and while the straws were all used for the same thing, each one was a little different. I found connection and separateness in this."

Some quick housekeeping: *Backstage Pass* is off the air this week and next to make way for Detroit Public Television's Winterfest '98 pledge drive. We'll be back for one show on Dec. 18 at 9:30 p.m. on Detroit Public Television, Channel 56, before we're then bumped by the holidays.

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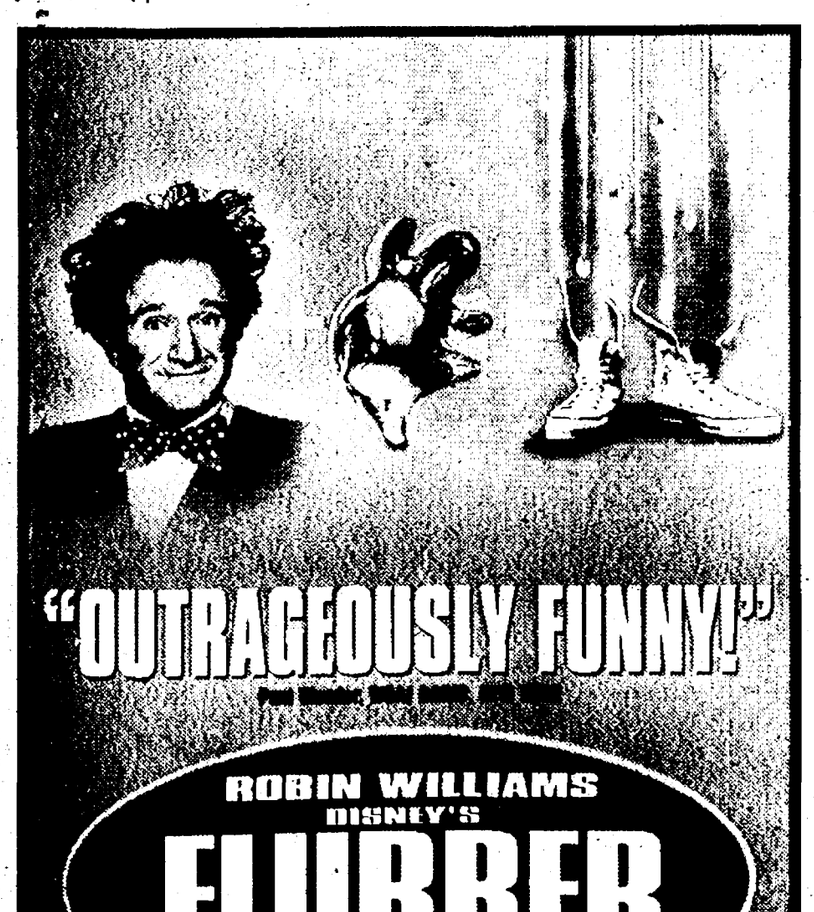

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QUO VADIS ✦	RENAISSANCE ✦	SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS ✦
SHOWCASE PONTIAC 6-11 ✦	SHOWCASE STERLING HEIGHTS ✦	STAR GRATIOT ★
STAR LINCOLN PARK ★	STAR ROCHESTER ★	STAR SOUTHFIELD ★
STAR TAYLOR ★	UNITED ARTISTS FAIRLANE ✦	UNITED ARTISTS OAKLAND ✦
UNITED ARTISTS 12 OAKS ✦	UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER ✦	✦ dts ★ SDDS

SORRY NO PASSES DURING REGULAR ENGAGEMENT

DINING

Area restaurants offer festive holiday atmosphere

BY ELEANOR & RAY HEALD
SPECIAL WRITERS

Looking for the most festive holiday dining spots? With the number of high-profile restaurants and excellent chefs in the area, we understand the dilemma. Taking their well-appointed dining atmosphere a step further with holiday decorations or Hanukkah celebrations, the following restaurants have special features; some on certain days, so reservations are advised.

■ Big Rock Chop & Brew House – 245 S. Eton, Birmingham (248) 647-7774.

Big Rock's master brewer Dean Jones rolls out "Winter Welcome" ale, made only once a year to do what its name implies. This incredibly flavorful, full-bodied, 10 percent alcohol brew with rich maltiness lends itself to easy drinking. It is best enjoyed among the moose, elk, deer and other game trophies creating Big Rock's lodge atmosphere, all decked out for the holidays. Served in its own distinct glass to accentuate its sipping qualities, Jones suggests its phenomenal duality be experienced with Big Rock's standing bone-in filet mignon or with Flying Buffalo Stout Cheesecake as a dessert beverage.

■ Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro – 26053 Town Center, Novi (248) 380-8460

Decorating for Christmas is a 44-year-old tradition for Diamond Jim's. The extensive regular menu featuring "Little Plates," always appealing for grazing, is featured for the holidays. It is complemented by a host of house specialties served with Caesar Salad or Baby Greens Tossed with Sundried Cranberries and Pinenuts, dressed with low-fat citrus vinaigrette. As highlights, there's Beef Wellington $18; Dijon and Herb Coated Salmon $15, Chicken Isabella $15; and Honey-Roasted Pork Loin $13.25.

The holiday highlight is a Gingerbread Story. Sous chef Sue Walker, an apprentice in the Culinary Arts program at Oakland Community College, is making gingerbread cookies for Christmas. Proceeds from the cookie sale will help pay Walker's tuition so she can continue in the culinary program.

"Every holiday season, my mother would stay up late on Christmas Eve and fill the entire kitchen table full of frosted gingerbread cookies," she explained. "This year, I am carrying on the family tradition. I love the memories that come with baking gingerbread cookies."

■ Excalibur – 28875 Franklin Road, Southfield (corner of 12 Mile Road and Northwestern Highway), (248)358-3355.

It's hard to beat the holiday ambiance here. Chef/owner Marty Wilks offers an ambitious menu with every imaginable appetizer. You can make a whole meal with the Baby Back Ribs. Whether it's flown-in-daily seafood, meat, poultry, pasta or vegetarian, selections are so broad, you hardly know what to choose. Appetizers range $10-14 and entrees average $25. Twin lobster tails or surf and turf are $33.

■ Fox & Hounds – 1560 North Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, (248)644-4800.

The holiday mood at Fox & Hounds begins as one drives onto the grounds with its European-style hunting lodge outlined in white lights. The flag pole supports a 20-foot multi-colored Christmas Tree and the front entrance displays a large French Horn. The holiday spirit is carried through the dining rooms with exquisite decorations and the warmth of fireplaces. Executive Chef Terry Shuster is offering many traditional specialties including individual Chateaubriand, Chicken Wellington and combination platters of roasted prime rib and individually split Alaskan King Crab Legs.

■ The Lark – 6430 Farmington Road, West Bloomfield (248)661-4466.

The December Old English Holiday Feast is the most popular monthly theme dinner at the Lark. As such, Mary and Jim Lark are offering it on more evenings this year: Tuesday and Wednesday, December 9 and 10; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 15, 16 and 17; and Monday and Tuesday, December 22 and 23. The fitting holiday repast, $95 per person, will be accompanied by equally appropriate live music, including madrigals and carols. A wine bouquet to accompany the seven-course feast is available. Among courses are Beignet of Dover Sole, Oysters in Champagne Sauce, Lobster Bisque, Halibut Bristol with Dublin Bay Prawns, Roast Goose with Port Wine Sauce ending with a Yule Log accompanied by Guernsey Island Ice Cream and Rum Sauce.

■ Stage & Co. – 6873 Orchard Lake Road (south of Maple), West Bloomfield (248)855-6622. In honor of its 35th anniversary, Stage & Co. is treating diners to "35 Days of Customer Appreciation" through Dec. 27. Tuesday through Sunday, the restaurant and deli is featuring celebratory activities ranging from menu promotions and magic shows to caricatures and handwriting analysis. Sunday brunch for four is $35. Celebrate Hanukkah December 23 with 35 1/2-size latkes for $19.62. The December 24 special is 2 pounds of corned beef or pastrami and rye for $19.62. Stage and Co. is open Christmas Day.

If your restaurant is not included in our holiday round-up, fax information to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, (313) 591-7279, or send to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

STAFF PHOTO JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Holiday atmosphere: *Executive Chef Terry Shuster and restaurant owner Kevin Downey at Fox & Hounds where the holiday spirit is carried through the dining rooms with exquisite decorations and the warmth of fireplaces.*

RESTAURANT SPECIALS

Restaurant Specials features theme dinners, menu changes, and restaurant openings. Send news items to: Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

Clarkston Cafe – 18 S. Main, Clarkston, (248) 625-5660.

Dickens Singers will perform 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 10 and 17 to get diners in the holiday mood.

These are the same singers who perform at the Village of Holly's Christmas celebration. To go along with the theme, a special menu will focus on English entrees including cider-glazed Cornish Hen, Pecan Turkey with warm cranberry sauce, Trout with apples and toasted hazelnuts, Ham and Chicken Pie, Roasted Pork with apricots and sweet spices and Peppered Beef Top Round. Prices on these specials range from $11 to $20. Children's menu available.

Eagle Tavern – Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Call (313) 271-1620 for reservations and information.

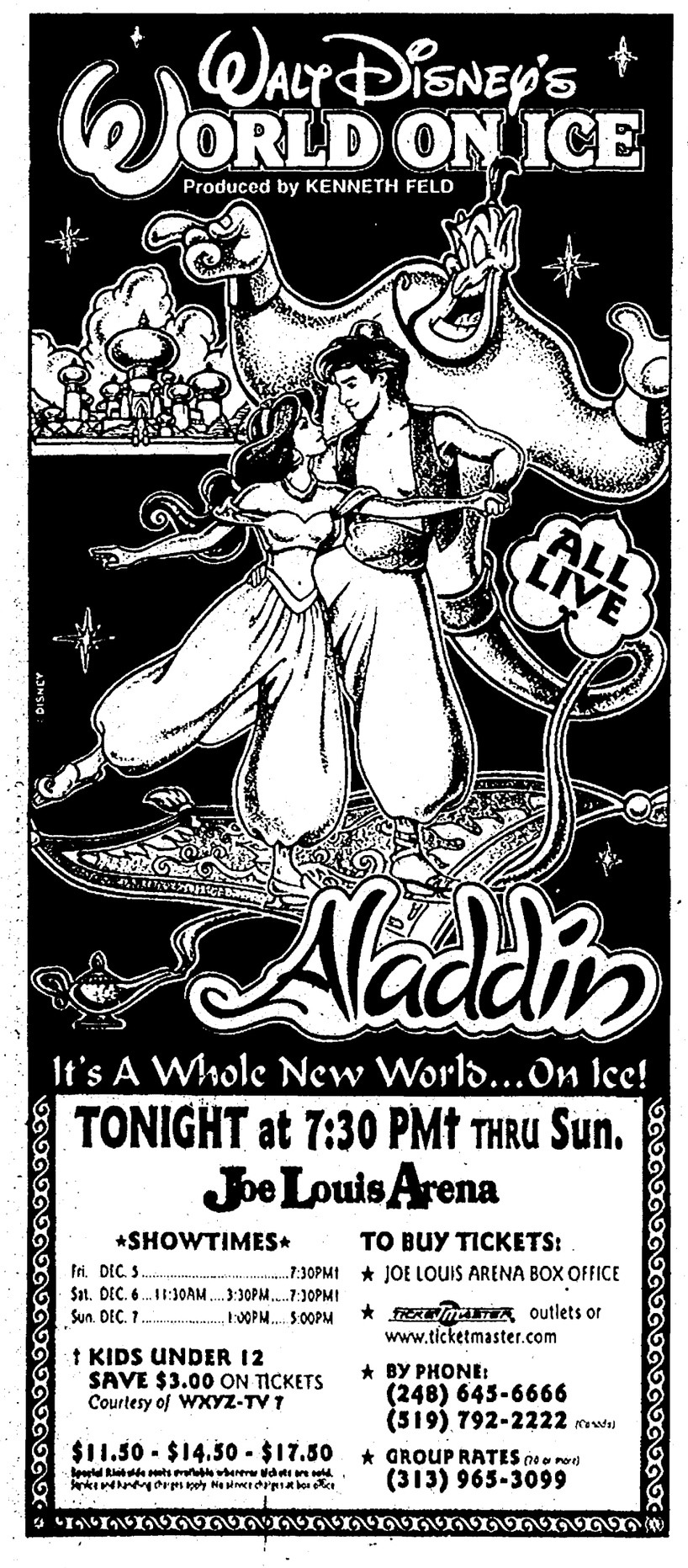
Open on select evenings during the holidays, serving food and spirits that were prepared from mid-19th century.

Henry Ford Estate – on the campus of The University of Michigan, Dearborn, Call (313) 593-5590 for reservations/information.

A variety of special events will be offered at the Henry Ford Estate during the holidays including, Breakfast with Santa, 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, $9; Holiday Luncheon Concerts, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5; Thursday and Friday, Dec. 11-12, $19.50; and Candles and Carols Dinner 6:30 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 7 and 14, $38. The Pool Restaurant is open for lunch weekdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Limited lunch menu Dec. 24 to Jan. 2, closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Valentine Dinner/Dance at Schoolcraft College

The perfect gift, tickets to the Valentine Dinner/Dance Saturday, Feb. 14 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Dinner menu includes tomato bisque, artichoke hearts and watercress salad, roasted beef tenderloin, heart shaped potato leek pie, asparagus, and cheesecake with raspberry sauce. Then dance the evening away to the music of Johnny Trudell. Tickets $37.50 per person. Gift tickets purchased before Friday, Dec. 19 will be packaged in a special envelope. Call (313) 462-4417.



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Make A Night Of It! Get the holidays off to a festive start the weekend of December 5 & 6 or 12 & 13 with our very special Santa Package. It includes a spacious two-room suite stocked with amenities, complimentary prepared-to-order breakfast and 2-hour beverage reception, free home-made pizza, movie rental, sodas, popcorn, pool toy (great for our indoor pool!), and four Vipers hockey tickets, not to mention a special visit from the jolly old elf himself during breakfast from 9:30-11:00 a.m. For reservations, call your professional travel agent, 1-800-HILTONS, or the Auburn Hills Hilton Suites at 248-334-2222.

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www.hilton.com Beverage reception included in suite price, subject to state and local laws. Offer valid December 5, 6, 12, &13, 1997. Limited availability, advance reservations required. Rate does not include tax or gratuity and does not apply to groups, meetings or conventions and is subject to change without notice. Other restrictions may apply. The Hilton logo and logotype are registered trademarks of Hilton Hotels Corporation. ©1997 Hilton Hotels.

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