

Suggestions for 'Modern Food Gifts' to make in no time, B1

Westland Observer

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THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

School board: The Wayne-Westland school board meets at 7 p.m. at the district offices on Marquette in Westland.

Holiday exhibit: The Garden City Fine Arts Association will hold its Holiday Art Exhibit and Sale Dec. 8-13 in The Art Gallery/Studio at 29948 Ford, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt (in Sheridan Square), Garden City.

TUESDAY

Winterfest: The Westland Winterfest Committee will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Bailey Center. The committee is looking for ideas from the community for the upcoming Winterfest.

Protecting assets: Richard Bockoff, attorney for the Senior Justice Center, will address Westland senior citizens on protecting and preserving assets with four documents at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh.

WEDNESDAY

Holiday concert: The Westland Community Foundation will host a holiday classical concert beginning at 6:45 p.m. Wednesday at the St. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Westland.

THURSDAY

Forum: U.S. Rep. Lynn N. Rivers will be holding a town hall meeting 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday in the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey in Westland. The meeting will be an open forum.

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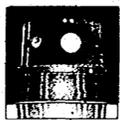
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Students mourn death of teen

■ Fourteen-year-old Alycia Madgwick died shortly before 3:30 p.m. Thursday after she was taken off of life support at the University of Michigan Medical Center in Ann Arbor.

BY DARRELL CLEM
AND MARIE CHESTNEY
STAFF WRITERS



Grief-stricken Livonia Franklin High School students are mourning the loss of 14-year-old Alycia Madgwick, a popular pompon squad member who died from injuries she suffered in a car that plunged into a Westland ditch on a rainy Wednesday night.

"She was always a happy, smiling person," 10th-grader Erin Huber said. "What I will remember most about her was she had the prettiest smile," 10th-grader Andrew Morales said.

Madgwick died shortly before 3:30 p.m. Thursday after she was taken off of life support at the University of Michigan Medical Center in Ann Arbor. The Westland girl's death came 20 hours after she and four friends were involved in a one-car accident on Joy Road at Ingram, west of Merriman.

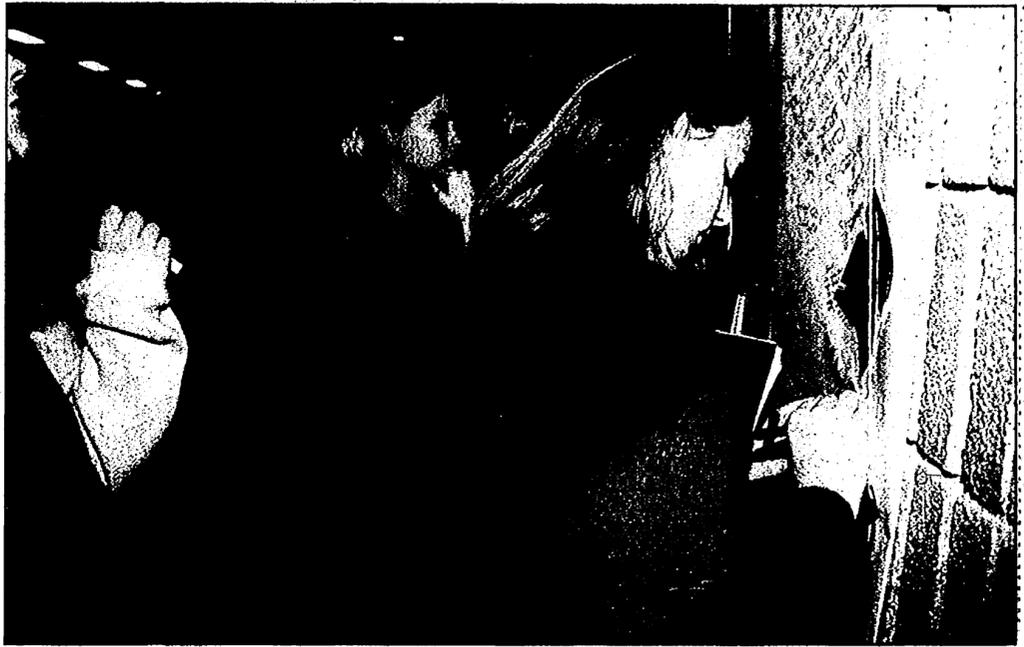
"Alycia will always be remembered for her smiling, sparkling personality," 10th-grader and pompon squad member Dana Toll said.

Franklin pompon coach Tesha Thomas said practice won't be the same without Alycia. "Every day at practice I could look forward to seeing Alycia's shining smile and her beautiful red hair," Thomas said. "But it wasn't just her looks that made her so lovely. She was one of the hardest workers on the team and never once complained.

"She was one of the sweetest girls I've known," Thomas concluded. "I will truly miss her."

On Friday, Franklin students hung two huge banners in a school hallway

Please see DEATH, A2



PHOTOS BY JERRY S. MIDOZZA



Remembering Alycia: Above, Franklin High School student Jaline Cartolano signs a special banner put up on the school wall Friday as a memorial to Alycia Madgwick who died Thursday following a Wednesday night traffic accident. Cartolano was a friend and fellow pompon squad member of the Franklin freshman. At left, a memorial was set up at the site of the accident.

Teen-ager pleads guilty in March fatal accident

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland teen-ager has pleaded guilty to charges stemming from a fiery March 10 car accident that killed a 14-year-old girl on Ann Arbor Trail near Hines Drive.

Joseph John Gackiewicz, 17, pleaded guilty Monday to a vehicular manslaughter charge stemming from the death of 14-year-old Nicole Mugurian, a Westland resident and Livonia

Franklin High School freshman.

Gackiewicz's decision averted a trial that was scheduled to begin Monday in front of Wayne County Circuit Court Judge David Kirwan.

Witnesses who saw the one-car accident came to court prepared to testify. "Everybody was there to testify, but he took the plea," Westland police officer Jack McIntosh said.

Gackiewicz faces sentencing Feb. 6. He could face a maximum sentence of

15 years in prison.

However, he won't face a second charge that has now been dropped, McIntosh said. The teen-ager had originally faced a second charge of causing a death while driving under the influence of liquor and marijuana, McIntosh said.

On the night of the accident, Gackiewicz lost control of a 1989 Buick Regal and slammed into a roadside tree. The car burst into flames.

Mugurian, who was a front-seat passenger, died in the 10:30 p.m. accident. Gackiewicz and backseat passenger Michael Mahdi Ayoub, a 17-year-old Livonia resident, suffered injuries but survived the accident.

Testimony during a May 20 hearing in Westland 18th District Court raised allegations that Gackiewicz had been drinking, using marijuana and speeding when he apparently lost control of

Please see GUILTY, A2

Children know toy story of what's popular

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

We staked out area stores to corner the experts on their picks for the hottest toys of the season.

And these young consumers — who prompt others to chalk-up millions of dollars in sales during the holiday season — know what they want.

Video games; remote control cars; Tamagotchis (the tiny pets from cyberspace that have to be fed and cared for); K'nex; laser tag games and anything to do with Barbie topped their lists.

Last year's most popular toy, Tickle Me Elmo, came up a winner again, too.

Walking down a short toy aisle in the boy's department at Sears, Chris Petersmark, a fourth-grader at Coolidge Elementary School in Livonia, said Legos are his first choice quickly followed by K'nex; Nintendo 64; Sega Genesis and "anything Star Wars."

His sister Caitlin, a sixth-grader, wants Sega Genesis, Nintendo and

"any" CDs.

A few feet away, Elliott McDonald, 7, liked just about everything he saw. His mom, Linda, will have an easy time shopping for his gifts.

When pressed to give his first choices, Elliott thought a moment and declared that he wanted cars and anything with motors. During a five minute tour of the aisle, however, he said "I like this, too" at least five times as he pointed to various emergency vehicle cars, especially a fire engine that lit-up.

The second-grader from Detroit was awestruck after he spotted a microscope laboratory kit. "Mom, I would really like this," he declared.

Jason, a Botsford Elementary School student from Livonia, who was shopping with his mom, Amy, and his 10-month-old baby brother, Justin, couldn't resist trying his hand at computers that were placed just within his reach.

Aside from computers, Jason, 5, wants a basketball net; Nintendo; Goody Louie; a water tag game and a



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

motorized Jeep.

At Jacobson's in Livonia, four-year-old Catherine Vollmerhausen of Grosse Ile said she likes Princess Barbie and Christmas Barbie.

Four-year-old Brandon Evans of

Family affair: Dad Tim Evans goes over the list in his notebook with sons Brad, Tad and Chad.

Dearborn had his eyes and hands on Brio train set pieces.

Amy Gulick said her 21-month-old son, Eddie, likes anything to do with

Please see TOYS, A6

Skating classes

Westland Sports Arena will have registration for its learn-to-skate program on consecutive Mondays, Dec. 8 and 15, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on two Saturdays, Dec. 13 and 20, from 9-11 a.m. Classes are available for skaters 4 years old to adult. Classes are available Monday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Seven-week sessions cost \$31.50.

Also at the sports arena, Santa Claus will visit for open skating 1-2:45 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13. Admission will be \$2.75 for students and \$3.25 for adults.

Poster contest

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland has announced winners of its first-anniversary

PLACES & FACES

poster contest, which had the theme "Inside These Doors: One Year Later." Winners in the kindergarten through second grade category were: first place, Brooke Cabe, second place, Emily Rodler, and third place, Brandon Cabe. Winners in the third through fifth grade category were: first place, Annette Mihailovich, second place, Michelle Mihailovich, and third place, Amanda Sparks. Winners received certificates, meal coupons and copies of their posters on slick poster paper. First- and second-place winners also received color bookmarks featuring their own design.

School helper

Auto body repair students at the William D. Ford Career/Technical Center will benefit from a mechanics tool chest donated by Husky Tool Corp. and from a complete set of tools given by Home Depot in Canton Township. Auto body instructor Scott Heim said the chest and tools are valued at more than \$1,200. Career/technical center principal Bill Richardson said, "Donations of new tools and equipment by local companies to any of our 23 training programs provide a wonderful opportunity for our students to train with state-of-the-art materials. They also provide some welcome relief for over-stressed school equipment budgets."

Death from page A1

for friends to sign - banners that will be given to Madgwick's family. Friends also started a memorial at the accident site.

Before she died, Madgwick, a Franklin freshman, was on her way to a hockey game between her school and rival Livonia Churchill High, Westland police officer Jack McIntosh said.

With five teen-agers in a 1996 Pontiac Sunfire, Madgwick was seated between two friends in the back seat when the driver, a 16-year-old girl, lost control while turning left onto Joy from northbound Merriman, McIntosh said.

"It was rainy, and visibility was pretty diminished," he said.

The accident occurred at 7:11 p.m. Wednesday in an area where Joy Road narrows from five lanes to two, and McIntosh said the Sunfire veered off the Livonia side of Joy, "fish-tailed" and crashed into a ditch on the Westland side of the road.

The car flipped over and the rear window broke, and Madgwick's body was half-ejected, McIntosh said.

"The vehicle came to rest on her head," he said.

The car landed upside down in a rain-soaked ditch.

Madgwick was believed to be dead at the scene, then doctors revived her at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia and arranged for her to be flown to U-M Medical Center.

But the outlook was bleak, and she succumbed to her injuries Thursday afternoon.

McIntosh said it will be the decision of county prosecutors whether to file charges against the driver, a former Franklin student now attending Walled Lake Western High School. But he stressed that alcohol was not a factor in the crash.

Madgwick was the only teen not wearing a seat belt, McIntosh said. The other teens, including two Franklin students and two Walled Lake Western students, escaped serious injury.

"They all got out of the car after the accident," McIntosh said.

He described all the teens as "good students."

Madgwick's death marked the fourth Westland fatality of 1997. One of those included another 14-year-old Franklin student, Nicole Murgian, who died March 10 in a one-car accident on Ann Arbor Trail near Hines Drive.

Meanwhile at Franklin, principal Michael Fenchel said news of Wednesday's accident was explained over the public announcement system to dispel rumors and ensure that students heard the facts. Written statements also went to staff members.

Some students sought help from counselors on Friday, one day after they had hoped for



On the squad: Fourteen-year-old Alycia Madgwick, a popular pompon squad member, died from injuries she suffered in a car that plunged into a Westland ditch on a rainy Wednesday night.

Madgwick's recovery as she lay unconscious in a hospital bed.

"Alycia was always there to listen," ninth-grade classmate Brienne Johnson said. "We would often go skating together."

Dana George, a 10th-grader, said Madgwick always worked tirelessly to achieve her goals.

"She was hardworking, energetic and never gave up," George said.

Services for Madgwick will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt, Westland. Burial will be in Roseland Park at Woodward and 12 Mile, Berkley.

Visitation will be 3-9 p.m. Sunday and noon to 9 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Madgwick is survived by her parents, David and Melanie Madgwick; an 11-year-old brother, Ryan; a 5-year-old sister, Shayna; and grandparents, David Sr. and Jane Madgwick, Mike and Helen Tocco and Victoria Reeves.

Program's funding knocked

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland city officials erred by spending \$10,000 to support a Wayne-Westland school district program that helps families get help for problems ranging from truancy to domestic abuse, a city resident said.

Westland City Council members shouldn't pay for Wayne-Westland programs unless they also give money to other districts, such as Livonia and Inkster, that serve portions of Westland, council watcher Dorothy Smith said.

"We're involved again with Wayne-Westland schools," she said Monday during a council meeting.

"I'm in the Inkster school district," she added later, "and I could care less about this in Wayne-Westland."

The latest city-school controversy came after Wayne-Westland school board member Mathew McCusker in November suggested that the city should spend

CITY NEWS

more money on youth programs.

McCusker said he wishes the city would spend as much money on youth programs as it does on the senior citizen Friendship Center, which he referred to as "the temple on Newburgh Road."

The council's vote Monday pertained to a \$10,000 allocation for a Family Resource Center based at Lincoln Elementary. The center steers local families to agencies that can help them with problems such as truancy, drug abuse and domestic abuse, among others.

James Gilbert, Westland housing/community development director, said the city agreed to help the Family Resource Center because Wayne-Westland officials considered closing it due to a budget shortfall.

"This is some special assistance that the council gave them," he said. But Smith threatened to

inform other school districts "if you continue to do this."

Gilbert said his department sometimes refers parents to the Family Resource Center, which he said meets a need in the Lincoln Elementary area. The city grant marks only a portion of the center's funding, he said.

"If they (school officials) had come to us and asked us to fund the entire program, we would have told them no," Gilbert said.

Mayor Robert Thomas said Wayne-Westland officials were told that they would receive help for only two years. The latest allocation marks the second year the city has donated to the program, he said.

The city provided the money not for the school district, but to help children and their parents, Thomas said.

But Smith insisted that the city is spending money that it shouldn't spend to support school district programs.

"I don't know why you insist on doing this," she said.

Stolen air bags recovered in raid

BY LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER

Police recovered 2,000 stolen air bags during a raid on an Detroit auto parts business Monday night.

The air bags have a retail value estimated at \$1 million, said Michigan State Police Lt. William Darnell of the Western Wayne Auto Theft Unit. The business which was raided, C & J Metro Automotive Supply, located in the Greenfield-Jeffries area, had paid an estimated \$200,000 for the air bags.

"Some of the air bags were identified with numbers. The ones we ran came back stolen," said Darnell. "The air bags are real popular to steal, big time. A guy can get \$65 or \$100 per air bag. For a couple minutes work he's got a \$100 in his pocket."

While the Western Wayne Auto Theft unit has taken over

the investigation which was initiated by the Metro Street Enforcement Team, which has officers from Westland, Garden City, Wayne and Inkster.

"Most of the credit goes to MSET. They got information on a guy possibly ripping off air bags," said Darnell. "They had him under surveillance and saw him walk into a place in Detroit with a bunch of air bags."

MSET surveillance units had been unable to locate the Detroit man but were keeping an eye on his girlfriend hoping she would lead them to the suspect, said Westland Sgt. James Ridener, who heads MSET.

"We didn't locate them together except for when they were fencing the air bags," said Ridener. "He was a suspect in air bag thefts in Farmington Hills, Wayne, Westland and Garden City. He had been arrested in

August in Livonia."

After the couple sold air bags to the auto supply business, Ridener said the man was arrested on outstanding warrants on charges including bad checks and breaking into autos. The investigation in this case is continuing and charges are pending.

"If the number of air bags is correct, \$1 million is probably conservative," said Ridener. "We ended up in Detroit so we'll let Western Wayne take over as the State Police. Autos are their area of expertise and forte."

Darnell indicated charges were unlikely against the auto parts business operators since they had complied with state law by obtaining identification from those selling the air bags and maintained proper records.

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THE **Observer**
NEWSPAPERS



1996 General Excellence Award

Concert to aid toy drive

The Westland Community Foundation needs people to support its effort to collect Christmas toys for needy children, foundation president Glenn Shaw said Friday.

The foundation is sponsoring a holiday classical concert at 6:45 p.m. Wednesday at the new St. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 36375 Joy Road, adjacent to the Hellenic Cultural Center.

Rather than charging an admission, the foundation is asking those attending to bring an unwrapped toy that can be given to a needy child at Christmas.

Performing during the concert will be the Franklin High School Choir and La Corda String

Ensemble. The choir will perform at 6:45 p.m., followed by a 7:30 p.m. reception.

The La Corda String Ensemble will perform at 8 p.m.

Anyone planning to attend should call 595-7727.

Also this season, the foundation is celebrating the holidays by donating its Christmas card budget to the children of Patchin, Edison, Lincoln, P.D. Graham, Hayes and Johnson elementaries.

Rather than buying cards, the foundation is giving money to the schools and having children design personal cards that are being sent out in the community.

Money given to the schools will, in turn, be donated to charities chosen by each school.



Gathering together: From left, Chris Casey, Brian Leach, Greg Green and Shawn Harshaw help gather food drive items at Marshall Middle School.

Marshall holds food drive

A Thanksgiving food drive at Marshall Middle School in Westland resulted in the collection of 2,040 food items.

Items were donated by the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students at Marshall from Nov. 10 to Nov. 21.

The food was donated to the Salvation Army to make food baskets for the needy.

The items were picked up by a Rotary Club member

who had to make two trips with his pickup truck, according to Trish Zupko, student council adviser.

Student Council also sponsored a contest between classes to see who could bring in the most cans.

The winning class won a pizza party.

"It's one of the community service projects that we do," Zupko said.

Guilty from page A1

the car and hit a tree alongside Ann Arbor Trail.

Witnesses also testified that the teen-ager drove into a right-side flare lane to pass another motorist when he lost control of the car.

Gackiewicz was driving eastbound on Ann Arbor Trail at the

time. He allegedly was driving in excess of 50 mph in the 35 mph zone.

He was identified as the driver by Westland police officer Jeff Jedrusik, among those who pulled the teens from the burning car.

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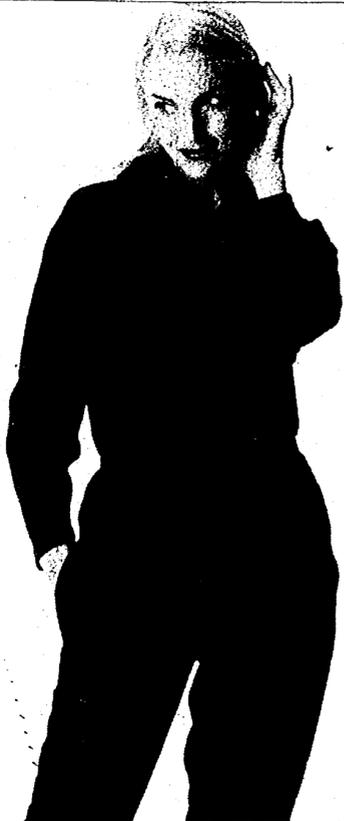
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holiday

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Favorite foods:
Fourth-graders Sarah Simonian (left) and Jessie Danielak sample some of the food such as Swedish meatballs and wish cookies, taco salad, hummus, African cornbread and pizza - to name a few. Sarah liked the taco salad and Swedish wish cookies and Jessie liked the Polish kielbasa.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Students herald heritage

Some fourth-grade students at Patchin Elementary in Westland got back to their roots recently. As part of national Family Heritage Month in November, the fourth-grade students in Barbara Dankert's class have researched the country of their ancestors. They also interviewed members of their own families to seek out traditions and family history, according to Dankert. Then on Wednesday, Nov. 26, the students displayed the artifacts and research materials for parents and guests. They also brought in prepared food from their ethnic origins. The buffet table held

Swedish meatballs and wish cookies, German gingerbread, strudel and wurst, Mexican tacos and pastries, Polish kielbasa, kolache, pierogi and kabushka, Irish corned beef, cabbage and potatoes, Puerto Rican rice and beans, Slovakian jam cookies, Czech cabbage rolls, African cornbread, Scottish shortbread and Italian pizza. Several students also dressed in native costumes and there was also a program of songs, poems, and readings from the students' ancestral countries. Patchin Elementary School is on Newburgh Road in Westland.



Making music: Fourth-grader Mara Magyarosi (left) sings ethnic songs along with her classmates.

WESTLAND ACHIEVERS

Heather Schultz of Livonia was selected by audition to sing soprano in Kapelle, the premier choir ensemble at Concordia University in River Forest, Ill. where she is a sophomore in the Director of Christian Education Program. Schultz is the daughter of Richard and Judy Schultz and is a 1996 graduate of Lutheran High School Westland.

Catherine A. Boldt, a 1993 graduate of John Glenn High School, was recently awarded the William Randolph Hearst Leadership Scholarship at the University of Houston Honors College Fall Convocation. The Hearst Leadership Scholarship was established with a gift of \$100,000 from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. The scholarship recognizes and encourages exceptional student leaders in addition to academic achievement.

The daughter of Carl F. and Janet Boldt, Catherine is currently a senior Spanish major. In January, Boldt will be working for the Boy Scouts of America as a district executive.

Dennis Lutz Jr. of Westland has enrolled in the Computer-Aided Drafting Technology program at ITT Technical Institute, 1522 East Big Beaver in Troy. The local campus is one of a nationwide network of 54 ITT Technical Institutes operated by Indianapolis-based ITT Educational Services Inc. The six-quarter program, which began in September 1997, will help Lutz prepare for an entry-level position in CAD.

Three Westland residents are among the 54 University of Michigan-Dearborn students gaining on-the-job experiences in positions related to their career

goals, through the university's College of Arts, Sciences and Letters Cooperative Education Program.

Frank Adams, a psychology major, is working at American International Airways. **John Campbell**, a communications major, is working at Ghafari Associates. **Carol Melancon**, a general studies major, is working at the city of Dearborn.

UM-Dearborn College of Arts, Sciences and Letters co-op students work at companies in southeast Michigan, gaining job experience and academic credit while earning money to help meet college expenses, according to Patricia Jones, co-op coordinator.

Albion College's **Julie P. White** is currently spending the fall semester studying in Aberdeen as part of Albion College's off-campus program.

Albion's off-campus programs allow students to study different cultures and work in professional environments with internships and studies offered in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America and the United States.

White is a senior majoring in biology. She is the daughter of James and Patricia White of Westland and a graduate of Churchill High School.

Albion College is a private, coeducational, liberal arts college in the south central Michigan town of Albion.

Kevin M. Johnson, a 1979 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School, received his commission as an officer in the U.S. Navy Reserves.

Johnson received a bachelor's degree from Madonna University. He is the son of Roland and Kathleen Johnson of Westland. He lives in Cohocta, Mich.

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
December 22, 1997

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and Council will hold a Public Hearing on December 22, 1997, at 7:20 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan for the purpose of holding a public hearing on the adoption of the proposed rezoning. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard. The proposed zoning is as follows:

To solicit public comments on the rezoning for 29470 and 29510 John Hauk from R-2 (Two Family Residential) to CBD (Central Business District).

Copies are available for inspection at the City Clerk's Office.

Posted: December 2, 1997
Publish: December 7, 1997

RONALD D. SHOWALTER
City Clerk-Treasurer

Schools fund computer glitch fix

**BY MARIE CHESTNEY
STAFF WRITER**

It will cost Livonia Public Schools at least \$720,000 to solve the "Year 2000" computer glitch. Left unsolved, the glitch would distort all the district's record keeping after the beginning of that year, including report cards, bus schedules and payroll

LIVONIA

checks. The district has set aside \$885,000 in its 1998-99 budget to cover the worse-case scenario in costs. "We have enough money budgeted this year to pay for it all," said Randy Liepa, assistant superintendent for business. "Any money saved up to now (before the 1997-98 budget) will be used to change classroom technology." To solve the problem, the district plans to spend at least \$377,000 to buy new Pentamation software and hardware. That cost could rise to \$483,000, depending on the number of software options the district buys. At the same time, it also plans to spend at least \$236,000 to buy new personal computers which would replace the 10-year-old ones now used by district employees.

This cost could rise to \$345,000, depending on the number of computers bought. The district expects to replace between 150-200 computers. It has been estimated that crossing into the next century could cost business and industry some \$500 billion worldwide. The arrival of the year 2000 will automatically turn many computer clocks back to the year 1900 because clocks are based on two-digit numbers (00 to 99). Without intervention, departments hit hardest in the Livonia school district would be accounting, warehouse inventory, food service inventory, payroll, student registration and student attendance, all of which handle a large number of dates. While knowing the glitch was looming, systems users like the Livonia schools have waited to see if old equipment could be upgraded or converted before investing in new systems, Liepa said. The Board of Education is expected to sign a contract with

Pentamation as soon as all details are worked out. Hardware would be installed in the summer of 1998. The system would then be tested for about six months. The district would then have one year to train employees before arrival of the year 2000. Solving the computer glitch issue jump-started replacement of the 10-year-old personal computers used by staff, Liepa said. "We would have liked to wait two-three years to change the old ones," he said. "We would have been forced into doing something sooner or later, because the old computers are obsolete. The old ones still work, but we can't run new programs on them. Their time has come. But we would have loved to push it out for another two years." By signing now with Pentamation, the district will get a 50 percent discount on software. "The closer you get to 2000, there will be no discounts," Liepa said.

SPOTLIGHT ON

Orthodontics

by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.

BAD BITES, INHERITED AND ACQUIRED

Bad bites, technically known as "malocclusions," are characterized by teeth and jaws that do not fit together or function well in concert. The underlying causes of malocclusions are usually inherited, but some are acquired. Examples of inherited problems include crowded teeth, too much space between teeth, extra or missing teeth, as well as a wide array of irregularities of the face and jaw. Acquired malocclusions can be caused by thumb- or finger-sucking, tongue thrusting, or premature loss of primary or permanent teeth. Whatever the cause, orthodontic treatment ensures that the alignment of the teeth and jaws can be corrected to lend better function to the bite and better appearance to the smile. Don't put off seeing the orthodontist because of some unsubstantiated fears. Our office uses state-of-the-art equipment to provide you with quality, gentle care. We also emphasize instrument sterility and infection control techniques. If you have crooked or crowded teeth, call THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP at 442-8885 to schedule a free consultation. Appointments are available days, evenings, and Saturdays. Our office is conveniently located at 19223 Merriman.

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Toy applications are available

Applications for toys from the Westland Goodfellows for West-

land residents only are available at the following locations:

- Dorsey Center (32715 Dorsey Road),
- Westland Chamber of Com-

merce (36610 Ford Road) and Westland City Hall (36600 Ford Road). Applications must be submitted by 3 p.m. Dec. 12.

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Canton 42007 Ford Rd. Between Lilly and Haggerty (313) 981-8700

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
December 15, 1997

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and Council will hold a Public Hearing on December 15, 1997, at 7:20 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan for the purpose of holding a public hearing on the adoption of a special use permit. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard. The proposed special use permit is as follows:

To solicit public comments on the introduction and approval of the Special Use Permit for 32843 Ford Road.

Copies are available for inspection at the City Clerk's Office.

Posted: December 2, 1997
Publish: December 7, 1997

RONALD D. SHOWALTER
City Clerk-Treasurer

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
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

Published November 30 and December 4 and 7, 1997

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
December 22, 1997

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and Council will hold a Public Hearing on December 22, 1997, at 7:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan for the purpose of holding a public hearing on the adoption of the proposed ordinance amendment. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard. The proposed zoning ordinance amendment is as follows:

To solicit public comments on the introduction of the Dance Studio Zoning Ordinance Amendment.

Copies are available for inspection at the City Clerk's Office.

Posted: December 2, 1997
Publish: December 7, 1997

RONALD D. SHOWALTER
City Clerk-Treasurer

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
December 15, 1997

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and Council will hold a Public Hearing on December 15, 1997, at 7:25 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan for the purpose of holding a public hearing on the adoption of a special use permit. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard. The proposed special use permit is as follows:

To solicit public comments on the introduction and approval of the Special Use Permit for 28856 Ford Road.

Copies are available for inspection at the City Clerk's Office.

Posted: December 2, 1997
Publish: December 7, 1997

RONALD D. SHOWALTER
City Clerk-Treasurer

EPA praises efforts to clean Rouge River

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

A federal official from Washington, D.C., met Wednesday with local government leaders, praising the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project.

Robert Perciasepe, assistant administrator for water with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, met with local officials, legislators, plus state and federal representatives, at Warren Valley Golf Club in Dearborn Heights.

"The beauty of the Rouge cleanup project is the way the 48 communities are working together to restore the viability of the river," said Perciasepe. "Each community along the river needs to work in conjunction with its neighbors, and this is what we're trying to push nationally."

"Looking at the problem and trying to attack it with a logical approach is a key point."

Nearly 100 people met to get an update on the comprehensive program to restore the water quality of the Rouge River. The program is funded through EPA grants, and Perciasepe believes the federal government will continue to support the project.

"I think federal funds will always be part of implementing these programs," revealed Perciasepe. "This project has received a lot of demonstration monies, to help the rest of the country learn."

U.S. John Dingell, D-16th District, warns that while the federal government is committed to the Rouge River project, there is only so much money to be received from the feds.

"The federal government plans to put up 55 percent of the estimated \$1.3 billion cost," said Dingell. "We now have about \$330 million of federal money in this. However, the local units of government and the state will have to start coming up with

huge sums of money, which could mean significant increases in water bills and sewage charges."

Redford Township Supervisor Kevin Kelley believes the gathering helped local communities get a message to the EPA.

"While we want to clean up the Rouge watershed, we can only foot so much of the bill," said Kelley. "Our message to Washington is that we need to have more considerations as it pertains to money and time frames. While we are working hard to clean up the Rouge, we can't have it done by their timetable of 2005."

Jim Murray, director of Wayne County's Department of Environment, said the participating communities were at a "crucial stage in the project."

"In the next year and a half, we'll be getting data on what we're doing, and what's going to be the next generation of pollution control," Murray said.

Tree booklet now available

The National Arbor Day Foundation has published a Conservation Trees booklet which is available to the public free of charge.

The Conservation Trees booklet uses colorful photos, illustrations and easy-to-understand descriptions to help people plant and care for conservation trees.

The guide's contents include:

- How to use shade trees and windbreaks to save energy in your home.
- How to attract songbirds to your home.
- How to save trees during construction.
- How to save topsoil and help farm profits with "shelterbelts."
- The right way to plant trees.
- The right way to prune trees.

"The National Arbor Day Foundation's Conservation Trees program encourages Americans to plant, manage and preserve trees to conserve

soil, energy, water, wildlife and the atmosphere," said John Rosenow, the Foundation's president.

"The Conservation Trees brochure is a central part of this educational project. It serves as a useful guide for people in all areas, whether they live in America's largest cities or in the country."

For a free booklet, send your name and address to: Conservation Trees, The National Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska, NE 68410

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LightFest visitors can win \$100 feast

If feeding all your friends and family during the holidays requires a federal loan — take note.

Visitors to the Wayne County LightFest on Thursday, Dec. 11, and Thursday, Dec. 18 will be eligible to win a \$100 holiday feast courtesy of WOMC-FM and Farmer Jack stores.

Winners will be announced following drawings on the Tom Ryan Show on Dec. 12 and 19 between 4 and 5 p.m. The contest is part of a schedule that includes seven Wayne County LightFest giveaways by four of metro Detroit's top radio stations during the month of December.

"This is the first time we've had this many giveaways at Wayne County LightFest," said Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara. "We're pleased that so many of our sponsors are in the holiday spirit of giving and we hope all of the visitors to LightFest will enjoy."

Wayne County LightFest giveaways and contests include the following dates:

■ Monday, Dec. 8 and 15 — The first 99 cars will get free CD's, t-shirts and other memorabilia courtesy of WYCD-FM.

■ Tuesday, Dec. 9 and 16 — Morning on-air personality Danny BonaCuce will give out merchandise and souvenirs from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 9, and the "Q Party Crew" will be on hand to distribute giveaways on Dec. 16 courtesy of WKQI-FM.

■ Wednesday, Dec. 10 — First 105 cars will receive complementary coupons courtesy of WCHB-FM.

■ Thursday, Dec. 11 and 18 — All vehicles traveling through Wayne County LightFest are eligible for a drawing for two \$100 holiday feast giveaways courtesy of WOMC-FM.

Wayne County LightFest is open nightly through Jan. 1, except for Dec. 25, from 7-10 p.m. Cars enter Hines Drive at Merriman Road in Westland and proceed eastbound exiting at Warren Avenue just east of Telegraph Road in Dearborn Heights.

A \$5 minimum donation keeps Wayne County LightFest operating. For more information on Wayne County LightFest or to arrange bus or limo tours, call (313) 261-1990.

parisian power shopping weekend

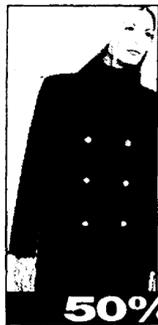
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on these great gifts sunday thru monday only plus extra savings throughout the store!



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Men's Architect flannel sport shirts. Reg. 39.00 0545

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Misses' and petite already-reduced merino wool separates: V-neck and turtleneck sweaters, skirts and pants. Orig. 54.00-108.00 sale 40.50-81.00 0216

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Men's fall collections from one of America's top designers. Reg. 25.00-250.00 0216

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sale 11.00
Architect mock-neck, turtleneck and henley tops for men. Reg. 22.00 07

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Already-reduced fall and holiday dresses in misses, petite and Parisian Woman styles from Macy's, Lane Bryant, and New York & Company. Orig. 69.00-170.00 sale 52.49-127.50 0216

50% off



sale 9.00-71.00
Playwear and outerwear for infants, toddlers, girls and boys. Reg. 18.00-140.00 0216

50% off



sale 20.00-65.00
A large selection of women's shoes and boots from Enzo, Unsa, Van El, Calco, Pappagallo, Prima Royale and more. Reg. 40.00-130.00 025 27 0216

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Read Observer Sports

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Goodie:
Justin
Priver of
Ply-
mouth
reaches
for Elmo
at Toys
R Us in
Livonia.



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Toys from page A1

Elmo. "Everything is Elmo, Elmo," according to the Wixom resident.

He already has two of the Sesame Street character that shakes, talks and sent parents into a frenzy last year as they tried to find them for their children. You don't have to be a baby to like Elmo.

Justin Priver, 6, a Plymouth resident and first-grader at Allen Elementary School, was at Toys R Us in Westland and couldn't resist a Tickle Me Cookie Monster that shakes and talks like Elmo.

"I like Tickle Me Elmo better," Justin clarified. It was just that Elmo was on a higher shelf and couldn't be reached as easily. He also wants Legos, a Tamagotchi, Play-doh and remote control cars.

Tim Evans of Livonia was previewing the merchandise with his three sons, Brad, 8; Tad, 6; and Chad, 4. The purpose of the 90-minute trip to the toy mecca was to get ideas for Christmas presents.

Prepared with a note pad and marker, Evans won't be wandering aimlessly when it comes time to buy presents.

"It's an idea night," Evans said. "I let one go (child) at a time and he gets to show me anything in the store and then we go onto the next one. It's a fun evening for them."

Brad wants radio control cars; Tad also wants radio control cars and they both want Star Wars items.

Two lanes down, Chad Fuller, 13, was shopping with his father. The Canton teenager, who attends Pioneer Middle School, wants Play Station video games, especially Gameday '98.

"I'm trying to get new games for Christmas," he said.

At Meijer in Canton, Lauren Price, 9, said she wants Tamagotchis; and Barbie dolls, especially Shopping Barbie, because the fourth-grader from Bird Elementary School in Plymouth, likes to shop.

Price also likes "baby dolls." Her father, Bruce, seemed to be taking mental notes about her choices as her three brothers, Kyle, 10, Devin, 5, and Alex, 2, finished grocery shopping with their mother, Kimberly.

Bruce knows exactly what his crew wants. The older boys like Laser Tag and the youngest wants Rugrats and Arthur toys.

Alyssa Guerin, 10, of Plymouth closely inspected Tamagotchis and Giga Pets. The fifth-grader from Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth wants Nintendo and Laser Challenge under the Christmas tree this year.

These gift ideas, from the people who know best, will certainly ring-in the holidays on area cash registers.

OBITUARIES

DIXIE I. QUILLEN BOGNAR

Mrs. Bognar, 67, of Westland died Nov. 29 in Oakwood Hospital Heritage Center.

Mrs. Bognar was a homemaker. Survivors include her daughters, Kathryn Celia Cogswell, Nikkie Miller, Taffee Lucas, Carol Bauer-Boik and Margie Payzant; sister, Pamela Dillon; brothers, Rick Quillen and Jack Quillen; 18 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services were Dec. 3 at the Uht Funeral Home, Westland, with the Rev. Roy Forsyth officiating. Burial was in Glenwood Cemetery, Wayne.

JEANNE C. HEATER

Mrs. Heater, 68, of Tempe, Ariz., formerly of Westland, died Nov. 23 in Desert Samaritan Hospital, Mesa, Ariz.

Born in Detroit, Mrs. Heater was a homemaker. She was a member of University Presbyterian Church and enjoyed gardening and antique car activities. She was a volunteer for community services for unwed mothers and abused children.

Survivors include her husband, Walter; sons, Thomas, Timothy, Warren and Lawrence; daughters, Marilee Wright, Patricia Heater, Wendy DeCarlo and Judy Heater-Unsworth; brother, Lester Harden; 13 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services were Dec. 6 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River, Farmington. The Rev. David Brown of Ward Presbyterian Church officiated. Burial will be in Acacia Park Cemetery, Birmingham.

LYDIA ELLA HUGHES

Mrs. Hughes, 98, of Southfield, formerly of Dearborn, died Dec. 2 in Henry Ford Hospital.

Mrs. Hughes was a retired aide. Survivors include her sons, Howard, Donald, Stanley, Darrell, and Moris; daughter, Ruth Ford; 22 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Arrangements were made by the Uht Funeral Home, Westland.

RONALD F. SAMLAND

Mr. Samland, 44, of Westland died Dec. 2 in University Hospital, Ann Arbor.

Survivors include his wife, Gloria; son, Marcus; daughters, Amy and Teri; brothers, Robert, Herman, Dan, James and William; sister, Mary Tidwell.

Services were Dec. 5 at the Uht Funeral Home, Westland, with the Rev. Larry Bartlett officiating. Cremation rites were recorded.

PAMELA B. GRIFFIN

Mrs. Griffin, 69, of Westland died Dec. 2 at home.

Mrs. Griffin was a homemaker. Survivors include her husband, Gerald; sons, Timothy, Ron and Jerry; daughters, Sharon Connelly, Sue Harrison and Chris Smith; brother, Bill and Albert Anderson; sisters, Alda Burns and Georgia Hill; 15 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Services were Dec. 5 at the Uht Funeral Home, Westland, with Deacon Bartley Connelly officiating. Cremation rites were recorded.

MAYNARD GENSLER

Mr. Gensler, 90, of Westland died Nov. 29.

Born in Fostoria, Ohio, Mr. Gensler was a retired millhand.

Survivors include his daughters, Jane Elwood, Bonnie Maki and Sue Szwed; nine grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Private services were held. Arrangements were made by the Care Memorial Society, Resurrection Funeral Home, Clinton Township.

BERNIECE C. FRADETTE

Mrs. Fradette, 89, of Westland died Dec. 3 in Ann Arbor.

Born in Minneapolis, Minn., Mrs. Fradette was a homemaker.

Survivors include son, Gary; daughters, Frances Mueller, Bonnie Green and Shirley Daymon; 11 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Services were Dec. 6 at the Santeiu Chapel of John N. Santeiu & Son Inc. Funeral Home with the Rev. Lawrence Witto of Hosanna Tabor Lutheran Church officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

Memorials may be made to Hosanna Tabor Lutheran Church and the Westland Friendship Center.

VIRGIL D. (CORKY) LAYMAN

Mr. Layman, 68, of Westland died Dec. 3 in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia.

Born in Detroit, Mr. Layman was a standard analyst for Michigan Consolidated Gas Co.

Survivors include his wife, Dolores; sons, Matt, Mark and Michael; daughter, Michelle Devlin; sisters, Barbara Smith and Mary Lou Megge; seven grandchildren.

Mass was celebrated Dec. 6 at St. Bernardine of Siena Catholic Church. Burial was in Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia.

(Sneak Peek!)

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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.

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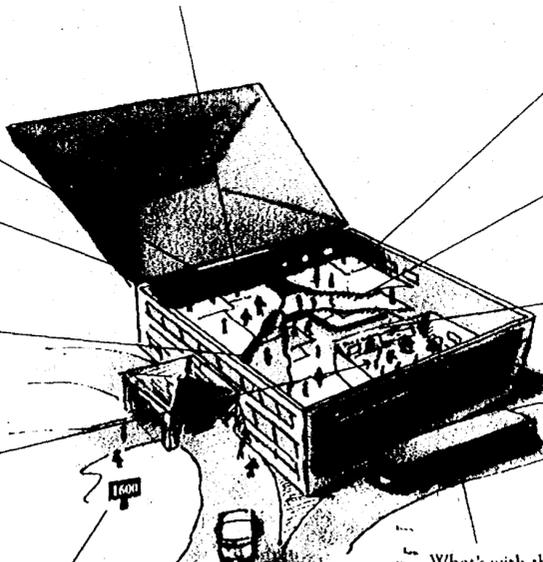
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The New Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Building
Opening in February!

Christmas lights should be checked

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Area fire officials say holiday lights and warm fires are a traditional part of the holiday season, however they want to make sure it's a safe time of year with some timely tips.

Canton Township Fire Marshal Dave Champagne says one of the most important rules homeowners can follow is making sure their store-bought lights are approved by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory.

"When buying lights, make certain they've been tested by groups such as Underwriters Laboratories or Factory Mutual," relates Champagne. "These non-profit testing agencies make certain the lights meet tough quality standards."

If you already have lights put away, make sure you examine them before putting them on the tree.

"Inspect them thoroughly, to make sure there are no bare wires, cracks or bad plugs," warns Champagne. "They're generally not repairable, so if you have any questions at all, dispose of them and purchase a new set."

"If you have a real tree, make sure it's freshly cut and watered regularly," Champagne reminds us. "Use additives that help the tree absorb water so it doesn't

'When buying lights, make certain they've been tested by groups such as Underwriters Laboratories or Factory Mutual.'

Dave Champagne
—Canton fire marshal

dry out, making it a fire hazard." Champagne says artificial trees should be flame resistant, and no lights should ever be put on aluminum trees. Opt instead for a colored spotlight.

Redford Township Fire Marshal Les Wedge notes that while people enjoy the look of holiday lights, they should make sure to turn them off whenever leaving the house.

"The heat generated in just one minute by the fire from a tree is enough to destroy an entire room," Wedge said.

"When purchasing lights from the store, read the package to determine how many strings can be plugged together," Wedge said.

"You may have to plug multiple strings directly into an outlet. And if you use an extension cord, make sure you use one that can handle the electrical load."

Wedge also reminds homeowners

'The heat generated in just one minute by the fire from a tree is enough to destroy an entire room.'

Les Wedge
—Redford fire marshal

ers to avoid heating ducts when putting up a fresh Christmas tree, because the heat will dry out the tree, making it more flammable.

For outside decorations, Champagne has these suggestions.

"Make sure the lights you purchase are intended for outdoor use, and be careful not to overload the circuit."

Many families like the warm crackle of wood burning in the fireplace during the winter.

"The number one problem with fireplaces is maintenance," said Bob Fields, Westland fire department's chief of the public education division. "We see a number of chimney fires related to a build-up of creosote, a by-product of burning wood, catching fire. Chimneys should be cleaned annually to avoid the danger."

Fields also reminds us "to keep the glass doors and screens

closed when using the fireplace to keep the embers from shooting into the house, causing a fire. Also, remember to open the flue, otherwise you'll force smoke into the room."

When using wood burning stoves, Livonia Fire Marshal Rockney Whitehead says homeowners "should burn it on hot for 15 to 30 minutes a day, to burn off the creosote build-up and lessen the dangers for a chimney fire."

And, while many homeowners want a clean wood burning stove, Whitehead has some suggestions.

"Keep a couple of inches of sand or ashes on the bottom of the stove," recommends Whitehead. "That will keep the heat from radiating to the floor, possibly causing combustible material from catching fire."

Concerning kerosene space heaters, Whitehead alerts us to be careful.

"Don't use them in closed rooms like a bedroom," he advises. "Use mainly in open rooms, like a living or family room, to decrease the chances of carbon monoxide poisoning."

"And, make sure you don't accidentally use gasoline, instead of kerosene," warns Whitehead. "That definitely could cause the unit to catch on fire."

Canton Economic Club hosts Valassis CEO

David Brandon, president and CEO of Valassis Communications, will be the keynote speaker at the Canton Economic Club luncheon on Thursday, Dec. 18 at Summit on the Park.

Brandon has been the chief executive at the Livonia-based company, which produces and supplies advertising inserts to newspapers on a worldwide basis, since 1989.

Brandon is responsible for strategic planning and day-to-day management at Valassis, which in recent years was selected as one of the "100 best companies to work for in America" by a national magazine.

David Brandon will be the keynote speaker at the Canton Economic Club luncheon on Thursday, Dec. 18 at Summit on the Park.



David Brandon

the University of Michigan.

Brandon's commitment to the community has included the establishment of the David A. Brandon

Foundation, a Michigan charitable organization that provides grants and other assistance to needy organizations. The foundation has provided funds for U-M projects; equipment and facilities for educational and social

service organizations; and money for annual holiday programs for needy families.

The luncheon begins at noon in the Summit banquet center.

The event is open to the Canton business community and the general public. Tickets are \$15 and advance reservations are required by Monday, Dec. 15. Call 453-4040 for reservations or information.

The economic club is run by the Canton Chamber of Commerce. Sponsors for the December luncheon are the Observer Newspapers and Rudolph/Libbe, Inc.

Guide highlights sites of Rouge contamination

A guide to sites of environmental contamination in the Rouge River watershed is available in 35 area libraries.

The Citizens Guide to Sites of Contamination was released by a subcommittee of the Rouge River Remedial Action Plan Advisory Council. It assists people in obtaining details on sites of environmental contamination. Information includes applicable regulations, health effects and appropriate contacts for local, state and federal agencies.

The material was compiled by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Wayne County Department of Environment and interested residents.

For more information, contact Cathy Bean, Rouge River Remedial Action Plan coordinator for the DEQ, at (313) 953-1441.



Dentistry

in the 90s



by Herbert M. Gardner, D.D.S. & Martha P. Zinderman, R.N., D.D.S.

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Trustees set Dec. 15 deadline for residents to apply for board

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

John Walsh officially leaves the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees on Dec. 31, but he attended his last official board meeting on Nov. 19.

Walsh received a certificate of appreciation from the board for his dedication to quality education and commitment to community colleges. Walsh was appointed to the board in February 1993 and then elected for a six-year term in June 1993.

Trustees commended Walsh for his time served on the board.

Board Chair Patricia Watson commended Walsh for his time served on the board, calling him an "ambassador" for the board.

"He was always willing to serve on committees," Watson said. "He has served and served well."

While Walsh is looking forward to sitting on the Livonia City Council, he said he was

somewhat saddened because he has enjoyed his time on the Schoolcraft board.

"I've made strong friendships and appreciate your support and comments," Walsh said.

Successor sought

Schoolcraft College is seeking a successor to John Walsh's seat on the board.

Trustees are accepting letters from interested candidates. The only qualifications are that they must live in the college district and they must be registered voters.

Persons wishing to apply for the position must be residents of the college district which includes the Plymouth-Canton, Livonia, Garden City, Clarenceville, Northville and part of the Novi school districts. The replacement will serve through June 30, 1999. The election for that seat will be in June 1999.

Trustees set a deadline of Dec. 15 for applications. Trustees also scheduled a Jan. 7 meeting to receive the applications, at which time they will discuss how to narrow that field. Tentative meeting dates were scheduled for Jan. 17 for interviews and Jan. 24, if the field of candidates is large enough to merit the need.

Trustees plan to approve a final candidate on Jan. 28.

Applicants will be asked to provide general biographical information and write a letter to the board on why they want to serve.

Applications are available in the Office of the President, Room 190, in the Administration Building. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For information, call (313) 462-4420.

Newspaper group joins SPRING

C & G Newspapers has joined the SPRING Newspaper Network, the organization that has brought many national and regional advertisers an easy, cost-effective way to reach suburban readers in the Detroit metropolitan area.

Founded in 1981 and headquartered in suburban Warren, C & G publishes 11 local newspapers serving 23 communities with an aggregate circulation of 375,000.

C & G replaces Independent Newspapers, which has resigned from the group.

"Compared to the old network, the new SPRING reaches more readers, provides better penetration, offers more concentration in the retail trading zone and delivers better demographics," said Fred Manuel, president of Heritage Newspapers of Southgate and one of the original SPRING founders.

The new SPRING network will offer 32 individual community newspapers with an aggregate total midweek circulation of 619,700 and Sunday distribution of more than 500,000. This breaks down midweek to 265,000 in Macomb County, 126,700 in Oakland County and 228,000 in suburban Wayne County.

SPRING Network also offers a "Greater SPRING" buy, which includes community newspapers serving Livingston, Monroe and Washtenaw counties. The "Greater SPRING" buy delivers a total circulation of 673,000.

"We recently conducted a group of studies through Pulse Research," said Jeff Demers, advertising director of C & G. "The research shows clearly that C and G publications are the best read community newspapers in Macomb County."

"We expect to continue unchanged our longstanding tra-

dition of excellent one-representative, one-order, one-bill, cost-effective service to our accounts," said Mike Wilcox, president of Michigan Community Newspapers.

"There may be other networks just starting up that claim to serve the entire metropolitan Detroit suburban market," said Richard D. Aginian, president of HomeTown Communications Network of Livonia, the corporate owner of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, another original SPRING founder.

"But no other network can offer coverage of all Macomb County, the best portions of Oakland County and all of suburban Wayne County. SPRING covers the entire Detroit suburban marketplace," he added.

For further information about SPRING, call Fred Manuel at (313) 246-0887.

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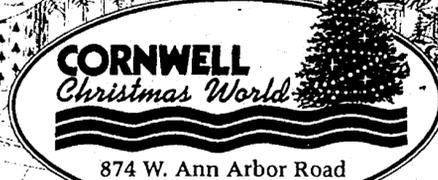
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Working magic with wine and food

Food is food and wine is wine, but magic can happen when you combine the two," says Simi Winery's Executive Chef Mary Evely. Evely has family roots in Michigan and in her just-published "The Vintner's Table Cookbook," she shares discoveries about why certain food flavors and textures pair magically with some wines and not with others.

Many authors have attempted to do what Evely has done. But they have either overwhelmed readers with technicalities or were so general in setting down principals that nothing they wrote was useful to the home cook.

Flavor and textures

Evely gets you going at the beginning by discussing flavor and texture, the major palate influences on food and wine harmonies. However, "sometimes a brilliant combination can be made by using contrasting rather than similar flavor or textures," she writes. She makes pairings based on color, using her trained artist's eyes and instructs readers on how to analyze a recipe for its potential wine affinity.

Calling them chameleon foods and recipes, Evely, ever so helpfully, notes recipes that can, with minor alterations, be made to work with more than one wine. She sticks to the basics and doesn't go overboard with esoteric wines. Recipes included in the cookbook pair food with sauvignon blanc, chardonnay, rosé and blush wines, pinot noir, zinfandel, cabernet sauvignon, merlot and meritage bottlings. Relations between wines and dessert form the concluding chapter.

Pinot noir

Because of our fondness for pinot noir, we focused on the usefulness of Evely's book and this wine. There are 14 recipe pairings for pinot noir and two "chameleon" recipes. Included are soup, salads, pastas, a gourmet pizza, seafoods, duck, beef and pork. This covers the gamut, sensitively recognizing options for those preferring meatless.

Nothing food affinities such as seafood, meat and poultry, herbs and spices, sauces, cheese and nuts plus vegetables and fruits, Evely names pinot noir food conflicts for all but meat and poultry. Pinot noir does not match oysters, smoked fish or sushi. It is in conflict with cilantro, cumin, curry, cream sauces, aged Gouda, blue cheese and cheddar. It is unfriendly to artichokes, asparagus and green beans.

Please see WINE, B2

Wine Picks

- Pinot noirs that work especially well with recipes suggested in "The Vintner's Table Cookbook" by Executive Chef Mary Evely: 1995 Davis Bynum Limited Edition Pinot Noir \$30; 1995 David Bruce Central Coast Pinot Noir \$18 (just released) and 1995 David Bruce Sonoma County Pinot Noir \$20.
- Exceptional cabernet sauvignons for grilled meats or savory, spicy stews: 1993 Martini Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon \$20; 1994 St. Clement Cabernet Sauvignon \$26; and 1993 Kunde Cabernet Sauvignon \$24.
- Premium chardonnays pair well with wild mushroom risotto, polenta or corn chowder: 1994 Simi Reserve Chardonnay \$28; 1996 Pine Ridge Carneros Chardonnay \$20; 1996 Kunde Chardonnay \$15; 1995 Silverado Limited Reserve Chardonnay \$38; 1996 Mirasol Chardonnay \$12; 1996 Hermitage Road Reserve Chardonnay, Hunter Valley Australia \$18; and from Italy, 1996 Ruffino Libalo \$10 (a delicious blend of chardonnay and pinot grigio).
- Great Sangiovese; great price: 1996 Ruffino Fonte Al Sole, Sangiovese de Toscana \$10.
- Knock your socks off red: 1994 Stega Leap Winery Petite Syrah \$23.

LOOKING AHEAD

- What to watch for in Taste next week:
- Win the holiday race
 - Main Dish Miracle

Wrap it up

WITH A FEW MODERN FOOD GIFTS

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Food - one size fits all - it's the perfect gift.

"If you're on a budget, it can be very cost effective," said Martha Gill, a graphic designer, and author of "Modern Food Gifts," (Longstreet Press, 1997, hardcover \$18.95). "It's more personal. It shows you went out of your way to do something special."

Gill who is the creative director, principal and owner of Gill Design in Atlanta, began giving food gifts out of necessity. "I was trying to say thank-you to clients, but I didn't have a lot of time, or money."

Her gifts were so popular that clients started calling to ask if she could put gifts together for them. Clever packaging is her secret - "freshening-up food gifts and taking them into the new millennium."

Instead of wrapping up shortbread in aluminum foil with a ribbon, Gill puts them into a pretty ceramic teapot. "If you want to spend your whole Saturday baking that's fine," she said. "Or, you could go to the bakery."

Some projects take more time than others, but you're sure to be inspired by Gill's recipes for a variety of sure-to-be-enjoyed and appreciated food gifts, and explanations for wrapping them up.

"The book also has a resource guide that tells you where we got everything so you won't go nuts trying to find everything," she said. "Use the book as a jumping off point for your own creativity."

Her list of "favored merchants" includes a number of stores in your neighborhood - Ace Hardware, The Home Depot, Linens 'N Things,



BRAD NEWTON

Thoughtful gift: (Left) Set out cruets filled with flavored sugar on your breakfast table, or surprise a friend at work. Flavored sugar is featured in "Modern Food Gifts" by Martha Gill. (Above) Cranberry Chutney in a Jam Jar is a quick to make gift that's sure to be enjoyed.

Michaels Arts & Crafts, Pier I Imports, Inc., Starbucks Coffee, Target and Williams-Sonoma.

"Remember, keep it simple and give the gift your own personal style," she writes. "Please don't make yourself crazy if you can't find the exact ribbon; a loosely tied shoestring will look great."

Flavored sugar - made by layering white or raw sugar with flavoring ingredients such as split vanilla beans, candied citrus fruits, and cinnamon sticks - is an example of what Gill calls "the quintessential modern food gift."

"Namely, that simple, inexpensive ingredients and everyday items can be combined in inexpensive ways to produce objects of wit and style."

"Flavored sugar is a good office gift," said Gill. "It's a small luxury. You can stir it into tea or coffee. Everyone's like 'oh we have

flavored sugar. It's special."

"Modern Food Gifts," is available at Williams-Sonoma, Barnes & Noble and other bookstores. Every gift idea is beautifully illustrated. It's a thoughtful gift by itself, or packaged with a gift certificate for one of the stores listed in the book.

Look for Gill's "Modern Cocktails & Appetizers" in the spring, and "Modern Parties," in the fall. "We're excited about the series," said Gill. "It's all about lifestyle. You can have splendor without the stress!"

"Home Made in the Kitchen: Traditional Recipes and Household Projects Updated and Made Easy," by Barry Bluestein & Kevin Morrissey, (Penguin Studio, 1996) is another source of creative gift-giving ideas. Bluestein and Morrissey also offer suggestions for attractively packaging your gifts, and a resource guide so you can find everything you'll need.

"In an era of dissatisfaction with the manufactured and the mundane, 'Home Made in the Kitchen' offers simple, quick and



LIVING BETTER SENSIBLY



BEVERLY PRICE

Very shortly, we will be ringing in the New Year. But first, we need to get through the upcoming holidays - Hanukkah and Christmas. Holidays produce a lot of anxiety for many individuals. You've worked hard all year in reforming your diet. Perhaps you lost a significant amount of weight or became a vegetarian. Many of my clients worry that they will undo everything positive that they have accomplished all year. How can you prevent yourself from falling into the holiday food trap?

Get a hold of yourself from the get-go. Develop a strategy to at least maintain your current weight during the holiday season. Here are some tips:

- Learn from your mistakes
- If you went to three different gatherings last year

and gorged yourself, think about how you felt afterward. At this year's holiday gatherings, have a plateful of what is being served and call it your meal. Make meat the side dish versus the main course, and fill up on side dishes. Avoid going back for seconds and thirds. If you want dessert, take a small piece. Research shows that you only taste the first, second and last bite anyway.

Think about how hard you have worked to keep your body fit

Picture your goal in one hand, and that piece of cheesecake in the other hand. Is a rich dessert worth that fleeting moment of bliss? Although an evening of indulging won't put your weight back on, a week or month of indulging could.

Bake healthy holiday goodies

You can use nutritious fat substitutes such as Wonderlim or Lighter Bake, which consist of pureed plums or prunes, in place of fat called for in a recipe such as butter or shortening. You can also use brown

rice syrup or barley malt in place of sugar in a recipe. In addition, use whole wheat flour in place of white flour - use 1/8 of a cup less of wheat flour. Your end product will be so much more nutritious.

Eat lightly before going to Hanukkah or Christmas dinner

If you save up all of your calories for the "big meal," you'll be so famished that you may eat everything in sight. Drink water throughout the day, too - sometimes we're actually thirsty, not hungry.

Relax

Give yourself some breathing room. Make time daily to deep breathe. This can redirect your energy, and improve digestion and uptake of nutrients. You can even listen to soft music or relaxation tapes.

Keep up with your exercise routine

It is important to take that exercise break, especially during this time of year. You will increase your

Please see WEIGHT, B2

Pair flavorful dishes with pinot noir wines

See related story on Taste front.

Recipes from "The Vintner's Table Cookbook" to pair with pinot noir wines.

MUSHROOM PANADE

- 3/4 ounce dried porcini mushrooms (available in Italian and specialty stores).
- 3 cups hot water
- 8 ounces shiitake mushrooms
- 12 ounces portobello, crimini and/or white mushrooms
- 1 large onion
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 or 2 bay leaves

- 2 (14-ounce) cans vegetable broth or defatted chicken broth

- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 8 ounces stale French or Italian bread, crusts removed
- 1/2 to 1 cup half-and-half (optional)

Soak the porcini in hot water in a bowl. Clean fresh mushrooms with a brush or paper towel and reserve a few for garnish. Chop fresh mushrooms.

Sauté onion in heated olive oil in a heavy saucepan over medium heat for 5 minutes, stirring occa-

sionally. Add fresh mushrooms and cook for 3 minutes longer, stirring constantly.

Add garlic, porcini with soaking liquid (strain first through a sieve lined with paper towel), bay leaf and broth. Simmer 20 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Stir bread into soup. Cook for 5 minutes until bread is moistened well. Discard bay leaf.

Purée soup in several batches in a food processor and return to saucepan. Add half-and-half and enough water to thin to desired consistency. Heat to serving temperature. Ladle into soup bowls. Slice reserved mushrooms to top

servings. Serves six.

ROASTED DUCK LEGS WITH POMEGRANATE

- 4 duck legs with thighs
- salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 1 pomegranate
- 8 ounces Brussels sprouts
- 4 slices lean bacon, cut into 1/4-inch strips
- 1/4 cup duck or chicken stock
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened pomegranate juice (avail-

able in health food stores)

Preheat oven to 400°F. Rinse duck and pat dry. Season with salt and pepper. Place skin side down in a heated sauté pan. Cook over medium heat until golden brown on both sides.

Remove duck to a small roasting pan. Roast for 40-60 minutes or until very tender and crisp.

Break open the pomegranate; separate and reserve seeds. Remove green outer leaves of Brussels sprouts. (Reserve cores for use in a soup).

Wipe the sauté pan used for browning duck. Add bacon and sauté until golden brown. Remove to paper towel with a slotted spoon. Drain pan, reserving 2 tablespoons drippings.

Stir-fry Brussels sprouts leaves in reserved drippings for 1-2 minutes. Add stock, vinegar and pomegranate juice. Cook for 1 minute longer, stirring constantly; leaves should remain dark green. Add bacon and pepper to taste.

Spoon onto warmed plates. Place duck on top and sprinkle with reserved pomegranate seeds. Serve immediately. Serves four.

Wine from page B1

"Pinot noir has the style to work equally well with an elegant dinner or a backyard grill," Evely notes.

Discussing her Mushroom Panade she explains, "I have always loved thick, hearty soups, and they are preferable with wine as they provide some contrast in texture. Using leftover

bread as a thickening agent appeals to my thrifty nature as well as to my interest in low-fat cooking. It also suits pinot noir, which can be overwhelmed by dishes with a lot of fat. Chicken or vegetable broth also keeps flavors in a more delicate range."

Evely has always been inter-

ested in the way her chef colleagues view matches. The idea for Roasted Duck Legs with Pomegranate comes from Richard Allen, Chef of the Willowside Café in Santa Rosa, Calif. "I tried this with a bottle of pinot noir and was blown away by the combination," she admits. "Keep your eyes peeled

for pomegranates in the market in December and jump on this. Pomegranate has just the right amount of delicate fruit and acidity to match that of pinot noir, giving a lift to the richness of the duck. In the recipe, the quick stir-frying of the Brussels sprouts leaves results in a totally different impression of this

member of the cabbage family."

"The Vintner's Table Cookbook" is \$29.95, and can be ordered by bookstores through Ingram Book Company ISBN-0-9658718-0-0 or directly from Simi Winery by phoning (707) 433-6981 Ext. 106. A handsome addition to the library of a wine

aficionado who cooks, it makes a thoughtful holiday gift.

Look for Focus on Wine on the first and third Sunday of the month in Taste. To leave a voice mail message for the Healds, dial (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864.

Weight from page B1

mental and physical energy as well as keep your metabolism up.

Set realistic goals
Putting things down on paper will give you more of a commitment to a new plan of action for 1998. Set a reasonable time frame on how you will go about achieving your goals.

Enlist the help of a professional to develop a personal health program

It's OK to say "I need some help." Ask questions of the professional you wish to work with - do they have credentials? What are their dietary and health habits like? Do they treat you as an individual? Or do you get the feeling that you're just another person seeking a low cholesterol diet?

Train your family and friends

Share new ideas such as bringing a healthy dish to pass at a party and start hanging around health conscious friends.

If you follow these tips, you will avoid waking up New Year's Day 10 pounds heavier.

Beverly Price is a registered dietitian and exercise physiologist. She operates Living Better Sensibly, a private nutrition practice in Farmington Hills that offers programs for individuals and corporations. She is the co-author of "Nutrition Secrets for Optimal Health," (Tall Tree Publishing.) Look for her column on the first Sunday of each month in Taste.

See related story on Taste front.

Recipes compliments of Beverly Price. Join her with guest chef Annabel Cohen for a healthy mouth-watering cooking class 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10 at Living Better Sensibly in Farmington Hills. The cost is \$45 per person, and includes delicious foods with recipes. Call (248) 539-9424 for registration information. Space is limited.

POTATO LATKES

- 4 very large potatoes
- 1 heaping tablespoon cornstarch and 2 tablespoons water
- 1 tablespoon salt (optional)
- Dash pepper
- 1 tablespoon flour

- 2 teaspoons grated onion
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder

Peel and grate potatoes, drain half the liquid. Add the rest of the ingredients and mix well.

Oven method of cooking: Set oven temperature on broil. Spray cookie sheet with nonstick cooking spray. Make 2 inch round potato cakes and place on cookie sheet. Broil for 5 minutes on each side until golden brown.

Range Stove Top Method: Spray nonstick frying pan with nonstick cooking spray. Heat frying pan on high for 1 to 2 minutes until hot. Place 2-inch potato cakes in pan and cook both sides until golden brown. Serves 50, 2-inch pancakes.

Per serving: 16 calories; 0g fat; 1g protein; 3g carbohydrate; 0mg cholesterol; 3mg sodium.

BANANA BREAD

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup Wonderslim Fat & Egg Substitute
- 3-4 tablespoons water
- 2 small or 1 large banana mashed
- 5 teaspoons non-fat sour cream
- 2 cups whole wheat flour sifted
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix all ingredients in a large mixing bowl with an electric mixer. Spray loaf pan with nonstick cooking spray, pour batter in loaf pan and bake for 45 to 50 minutes. Check middle with toothpick to assure the bread is completely done. Serves 10, 1/2-inch slices.

Per serving: 133 calories; 1g fat; 3g protein; 28g carbohydrate; 0mg cholesterol; 133mg sodium; 3g fiber.

CHRISTMAS JUMBLES

- 1/4 cup Wonderslim Fat & Egg Substitute
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 1/2 tablespoons water
- 1 1/4 cups whole wheat pastry flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 12-ounce package (1 3/4 cups) M&M semi-sweet or milk chocolate baking bits
- 1 cup raisins (optional)
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Heat oven to 350°F. In a bowl mix together the Wonderslim with the sugars and add water. Combine flour and baking soda; blend into the sugar mixture. Stir in M&M Baking Bits, raisins and

nuts. Coat cookie-sheets with nonstick cooking spray. Drop rounded tablespoonfuls of dough about 2 inches apart on cookie sheets. Bake 11 to 13 minutes. Cool 2 to 3 minutes on cookie sheets before transferring to wire racks to cool thoroughly. Store in tightly covered container. Makes 3 dozen cookies.

Per serving (1 cookie): 100 calories, 2.8g fat (0.7g saturated fat); 25 percent calories from fat; 0mg cholesterol; 21mg sodium.

Christmas Jumbles recipe from Betsey Kurleto, co-author of "Nutrition Secrets for Optimal Health."

Lighten-up Belgian waffles

AP - Belgian waffles don't have to be filled with fat and calories. Elaine Magee, an authority on health and nutrition, has created a low-fat version, using egg whites and 1 percent milk. Each serving of her Belgian Waffles contains 6.5 grams of fat and 290 calories.

The recipe is from her latest cookbook, "Lighten Up! Low-Fat Versions of More Than 100 of America's Best-Known and Best-Loved Recipes" (Fireside Books, \$12). She is also the author of "Fight Fat and Win" and "The Fight Fat and Win Cookbook."

BELGIAN WAFFLES

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 egg yolks
- 1-1/2 cups 1 percent milk
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 3 egg whites
- 6 tablespoons sugar

Combine the flour, baking powder and salt in a medium bowl.

In a large bowl, beat in the egg yolks well. Stir in the milk, butter and vanilla. Add the flour mixture and beat until smooth.

In a medium bowl, beat the egg whites until stiff but not dry. Slowly add the sugar, beating constantly. Gently stir one-third of the egg whites into the batter. Carefully fold in another third, then fold in the remaining whites.

Heat a waffle iron and coat with nonstick cooking spray. Pour 1/2 cup of the batter into the waffle iron, or follow the instructions on your waffle iron. Bake until golden. Repeat with remaining batter. Serve immediately. Makes 6 waffles.

Nutrition facts per serving: 290 calories, 1 grams fiber, 6.5 grams fat, 83 mg cholesterol, 443 mg sodium. Percentage of calories from fat: 20 percent.

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Bob will close at 4 p.m. Wed., Dec. 10th for employee Christmas Party. Thanks!

Prices Good DEC. 8 - DEC. 14

<p style="text-align: center;">BOB'S PREMIUM CUT BEEF</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Boneless-Extra Lean TOP SIRLOIN BEEF ROAST 1.99 LB. SAVE 1.20 LB. Cook like a Prime Rib Roast. "Ask Us."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TUES., WED., THURS. ONLY! DEC. 9, 10 & 11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Buy Now and Save for the Holidays WHOLE N.Y. STRIP LOINS 2.69 LB. Tied or Sliced Free! SAVE 80¢ LB.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Whole Boneless Center Cut PORK LOINS 2.39 LB. SAVE 11¢ LB.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ground Beef Made From GROUND SIRLOIN 1.29 LB. Fam. pak 5 to 10# (10# limit)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BOB'S PREMIUM CUT BEEF</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Just-The-Best Juicy-Tender N.Y. STRIP STEAKS 3.99 LB. SAVE 1.40 LB.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BOB'S PREMIUM POULTRY Fresh Cut Bone-in Split CHICKEN BREAST 1.22 LB. SAVE 67¢</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Boneless Lean English Cut CHUCK ROAST 1.77 LB. Goes great with Broccoli - 79¢ ea.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lean Tender Boneless RIB EYE STEAK 4.59 LB. Bone In Club STEAK 3.99 LB.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Boneless - Lean Top Sirloin STEAK 1.89 LB. SAVE 1.40 LB.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Make Your Own Sausage Whole Trimmed PORK BUTTS 1.29 LB.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lipari's PREMIUM TURKEY BREAST 2.29 LB.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lipari's DOMESTIC SWISS CHEESE 2.69 LB.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rubber's HONEY CURED HAM 3.69 LB.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kowalski Meat & Garlic BOLOGNA 2.69 LB.</p>

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Thoughtful 'Modern Food Gift's show you care

See related story on Taste front. Recipes from "Modern Food Gifts" by Martha Gill (Longstreet Press, 1997, \$18.95).

FLAVORED SUGAR

What you need

White sugar and/or raw sugar
Selection of flavoring ingredients, such as organic rosebuds, crystallized ginger, citrus fruits, cinnamon sticks, and split vanilla beans
Containers such as sugar dispensers, vinegar and oil cruets, flour shakers and bottles with stoppers
Fabric ribbons

Pour sugar into a container to a depth of half an inch. Add a small amount of your chosen flavoring ingredient. (If using cinnamon sticks to flavor the sugar, break the sticks into small pieces). Continue layering the sugar and the flavoring, ending with the sugar 1/4-inch from the top of the container.

Replace lid. Loosely tie a ribbon around the neck or top of the container.

CRANBERRY CHUTNEY

3 pounds of cranberries
Zest and juice of 2 oranges and 1 lemon
3/4 to 1 cup sugar
1/2 cup distilled vinegar

2 teaspoons chopped fresh ginger
1 to 2 teaspoons each of ground cumin, ground coriander seeds, and red pepper flakes

1 fresh mango, peeled and chopped into 1/4-inch chunks, or other fruits such as blackberries or strawberries

Wash cranberries and place in a medium saucepan. Add 1 cup of the sugar, the vinegar, and the zest and juice. Bring to a low boil and cook just until the berries burst. Add the ginger, spices, and mango or other fruit and stir once. Taste, adding additional sugar if necessary. (Mixture should be a little tart). Allow to cool. The chutney will keep for 1 week in the refrigerator. Makes about 3 cups.

How to package it - Pour prepared relish into jam jar. Put lid and spoon in place. Tie a ribbon around the lid.

SPICY GLAZED PECANS

1/2 cup sugar
1/4 cup (1/2 stick) unsalted butter
1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper
1 tablespoon water



TERRI TEAGUE

Wrapping it up: Cookbook author Martha Gill offers lots of creative ideas in "Modern Food Gifts"

1 1/2 cups pecan halves

1 1/2 teaspoons salt

Spread a 24 by 12-inch sheet of aluminum foil on a countertop and coat it lightly with vegetable oil.

Combine the sugar, butter, cayenne pepper, and water in a medium saucepan over medium-low heat. When the butter has melted, add the pecans. Continue to cook for about 10 minutes, stirring constantly.

Pour the pecans onto the prepared foil. Quickly spread out and separate the pecans. Sprinkle the salt over and let the pecans cool for 30 minutes.

The Glazed pecans can be stored in an airtight container for up to 2 weeks. Yield 1 1/2 cups.

MILK CHOCOLATE CASHEW CLUSTERS

3 1/2 ounces milk chocolate, broken up
2 tablespoons light corn syrup
1/2 tablespoon water
1 cup whole salted cashews

Line a baking sheet with wax paper. Coat it lightly with vegetable oil and set aside.

Combine the chocolate, corn syrup, and water in the top of a double boiler and heat over boiling water, stirring occasionally, until

Suggestions
Here are some ideas from Martha Gill author of "Modern Food Gifts."

■ **Confections in a Tin** - You can have some serious fun gathering and mixing lemon drops, gum balls, peppermints, jelly beans, and hard fruit candies. Pour them into round metal containers.

■ **Parmigiano-Reggiano In A Knot** - Tie a wedge of Parmigiano-Reggiano in a square of cheesecloth, package with a cheese slicer/grater.

■ **Fruits and Nuts in a Crate** - Put an eclectic assortment of dried fruits, pistachio nuts, and shredded coconut into individual pouches made out of paper or fabric. Package in a wooden crate and tie with a large silk ribbon.

■ **Winter Vegetables in a Bag** - Put your choice of 5 or 6 root vegetables in a cotton-mesh shopping bag. Include a decorative recipe card for roasted vegetables.

■ **Coffee and Tea in a Cigar Box** - Put a selection of coffee beans and tea (loose or in tins or bags) with accoutrements of your choice (tea ball or strainer, decorated sugar cubes, biscotti) in a cigar box. Clean box with a damp cloth, and let it air dry. Line with Japanese rice paper.

the chocolate has melted. Add the cashews and stir to mix.

Drop the mixture by teaspoonfuls onto the wax paper. Transfer the baking sheet to the refrigerator and chill for at least 45 minutes, until the chocolate coating on the nuts hardens.

Store the clusters in an airtight container in the refrigerator where

they will keep for up to 3 months. Yield 24 pieces.

Spicy Glazed Pecans and Milk Chocolate Cashew Cluster recipes from: "Home made in the Kitchen: Traditional Recipes and Household Projects Updated and Made Easy," by Barry Bluestein & Kevin Morrissey. (Published by Penguin Group, 1996, \$14.95).

Toss up a salad with the fruits of winter

Seasonal Salad: Tangerine Kiwifruit Salad with Cran-Berry Dressing is a refreshing start to a hearty winter meal.



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Winter is no time to abandon your goal of eating five or more servings of vegetables and fruits each day for better health. To find fruit at the height of flavor during the winter months, look for fresh cranberries, grapefruit, kiwi, pears, tangelos and tangerines.

Here's a hearty salad to try.
TANGERINE KIWIFRUIT SALAD WITH CRAN-BERRY DRESSING

Lettuce leaves
2 tangerines, peeled, thinly

sliced
2 kiwifruits, peeled, thinly sliced
Cran-Berry Dressing (recipe follows)
Tangerine peel strips (optional)

On 4 salad plates, arrange lettuce leaves. Arrange tangerine and kiwifruit slices over lettuce. Spoon dressing over salads. Garnish with strips of tangerine peel, if desired.

CRAN-BERRY DRESSING
1/2 cup whole-berry cranber-

ry sauce, canned
1/2 cup non-fat or low-fat strawberry or mixed berry-flavored yogurt

In a blender, combine cranberry sauce and yogurt. Cover and blend until smooth. Makes about 1 cup.

Nutrition information: Each of the 4 servings contains 125 calories and less than 1 gram of fat.

Recipe and information from the American Institute for Cancer Research.

Stop in and see our selection of holiday gift items!

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ROCHESTER HILLS (248) 656-6000	WESTLAND (313) 721-8700
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Search futile for a 24-hour pharmacy

My husband and I took our 2-year-old daughter to the emergency room about 11 p.m. on a recent Saturday night. She had a high fever that we couldn't bring down.

We left the hospital about three hours later with a very tired - but less feverish - little girl, and a prescription for an antibiotic that we needed to get filled in time for her next dose, which was due at 6 a.m.

We asked a nurse if we could get the prescription filled at the hospital pharmacy. She said she was sorry, but that it was closed.

We asked her if she knew where the nearest 24-hour pharmacy was. Again, she said she was sorry, but that she didn't know.

Oh well, we thought. We're bound to pass one on the way home.

But we didn't. Every drugstore we passed was closed.

When we got home, we put Kathryn to bed and got out the Yellow Pages. There were many pharmacy listings, but none of them said whether or not they were open 24 hours, and the seven or so that we called, were closed.

I decided to get on the Internet, hoping that it would speed up our search. I thought some of the chain pharmacies in our area might have store locator guides and sure enough, they did.

But, as with the Yellow Pages listings, none indicated whether or not they were 24-hour stores.

The Rite Aid site gave a 1-800 number to call for more information. I called it and had to go through its menu several times before a computer voice told me that it was going to connect me to Rite Aid's nearest 24-hour pharmacy.

Pay dirt, I thought. But the phone just rang and rang. Nobody answered, and I had no idea where that store was or what its outside phone number was - the computer voice never said.

So I called the 1-800 number again and went through the menu several more times until I finally reached a different extension at that same store.

"Where are you located," I desperately asked the woman who answered the phone.

"Six Mile and Newburgh," she said.

"Great," I told her. And then, just to be safe, I said, "You have a 24-hour pharmacy, right?"

"Yes, we do... but it's not open tonight," she answered.

"Why not?" I asked, in utter disbelief.

"Well, our pharmacist called in sick and we couldn't get anyone to fill in," she explained.

(Arrghh!)

She told me that the nearest 24-hour pharmacy was on Schaefer in Dearborn. But that's about 40 minutes from my house and by this time, it was 3:30 a.m. and I didn't trust myself to make that long drive because I was so tired.

Needless to say, Kathryn's next dose of medicine was late. I don't want this to happen to any other sick child - or adult, for that matter. So I decided to compile a list of 24-hour pharmacies in Wayne and Oakland counties.

I talked to spokespeople and representatives for Kmart, Kroger, Farmer Jack, Arbor Drugs, F & M, and Meijer, and was surprised to learn that none of them have a 24-hour pharmacy in Detroit. They do have some 24-hour retail stores in the area, but none of them include a 24-hour pharmacy.

To my knowledge, Rite Aid is the only company that has any all-night pharmacies in Detroit. Eleven of its locations are open 24-hours-a-day, 365 days a year.

Three of those locations are in the Observer & Eccentric's coverage area:

- Bloomfield Hills. Woodward at Square Lake Road. (248) 338-7191.
- Livonia. Six Mile Road at Newburgh. (313) 464-7960.
- Southfield. Greenfield at Nine Mile (248) 657-8350.

Top toys draw shoppers to the checkout



The quest for Ernie and Barbie have shoppers on the prowl this season, but leading toy stores assure Santa's helpers that their retail shelves are being stocked anew each evening.

BY BARB PERT TEMPLETON
SPECIAL WRITER

Wish lists are long and supplies often short, but landing a Sing and Snore Ernie, or Talk With Me Barbie, may prove worth the search for many toy shoppers this holiday season.

And if the customers are anything like the ones that greeted Lisa Rowland outside of the Target store in Rochester last week, it's safe to say many are very determined.

"It has just been phenomenal, we had customers lined up halfway around this plaza the day after Thanksgiving," said Rowland, who is the store's Toy Team Leader. "When we opened at 7 a.m. they just all ran towards the toys."

The infamous "Ernie" doll by Tyco retails for \$29.99 and Target has been

hard-pressed to keep any of them on their shelves for more than a few hours.

"We don't have any in stock right now. I wish we did," smiled Rowland. "But also fortunately for us, the merchandise has been flowing in pretty steadily and we can re-stock our shelves every night."

Star Wars action figures and Hot Wheels cars remain popular among the elementary school set but again a stuffed toy is harboring the top spot on many Christmas lists. The Real Bubba Bear by Tyco talks and interacts with the child. The chatty bear, which is dressed in overalls and a big straw hat, retails for \$39.99.

"We had some of the Bubba Bear come in here today and they just flew out of here," said Rowland.

The junior high set are desperate to find certain gifts under their trees this



Friday night fun: The Pressman Toy Co. has reintroduced *Carcers*, a 40-year-old board game of fame, fortune and happiness for a new generation of families. For 2-6 players, ages 8 and up, \$9.99 at Target, Toys R Us and Wal-Mart.

year too. Girls want the "Clueless" head set which is a hands-free phone spun from the popular movie of the same title. It retails for \$24.99.

Teen boys want Game.com by Tiger which costs \$69.99. The toy is a handheld computer game that can also be hooked up to a personal computer. The Talk With Me Barbie, and Barbie CD Rom, are in demand by both adolescent and pre-teen girls. They cost \$79.99 and \$29.99 each at Target, Rowland said.

Toys R Us spokesperson Michael Cullen said the retailer is much too busy this time of year to allow its managers to give media interviews regarding "hot" toys for 1997. Instead the retail chain provided a list of some of the most sought after items: Nintendo 64 and Sony Playstation Systems are at the top of the Electronics list while

Parker Brothers' Star Wars Monopoly and Milton Bradley's Chicken Croquet are the preferred games.

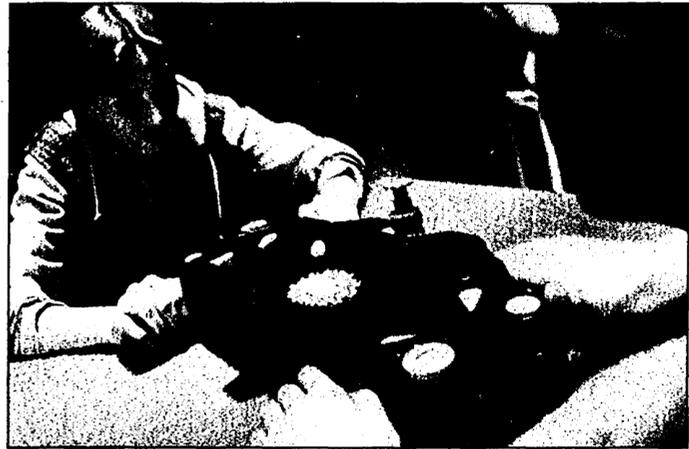
Target stores are experiencing a similar demand for games but their shelves are stocked with more than just the latest board games.

"I'd say the basic games, the oldies but goodies like Battleship and Clue are all selling well, too," Rowland said.

And Mall Madness is still popular with girls.

Bob It, an action-packed hand held verbal command game, is another game that's being purchased at a swiftness by Target customers.

"We just price cut that to \$16.99 and it's really selling fast," said Rowland. An annual toy study by D'ARCELLE let kids pick their favorite top 10. The full list is available by calling 1-800-Best-Toys.



Win or get wet: The ball speeds toward you, so strike your flip-pers and send it back to your opponent. Score, and your foe is sprayed with a fine mist of water. Winners must score five points. From Pressman, \$24.99, at Target and Toys R Us.

SUNDAY, DEC. 7

Holiday exhibit open

Through Dec. 31, stroll through Victorian England recreated in 23 animated vignettes portraying the Charles Dickens classic *A Christmas Carol*. The 8th annual holiday exhibit is presented by Hudson's during regular store hours. Group tours are available to classes, clubs. There is no charge for admission. Critics are calling this year's offering "the best so far."

Summit Place Mall

Elizabeth Lake/Telegraph. Waterford. (248) 683-5299.

Holiday Puppet Event

Children's Theatre of Michigan presents *Whose Ear-muffs are these anyway?* at the Pageant Wagon Theater in the Somerset Collection South rotunda, through Dec. 24 at 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Sundays 1, 3, and 5 p.m. Free.

Santa Claus photos in his three-story castle in Somerset North's Grand Court. Photo operation runs through Dec. 24 with option of Polaroid shot \$10, or roll of 35mm film for \$15, processed at parent's convenience. Appointments with Santa optional. A copy of the book "The Giving Season," available for \$19 at Ritz Camera with \$2 from each sale to Toys For Tots.

The Somerset Collection

Big Beaver/Coolidge. Troy. (248) 816-5484.

Village Santa

The local skating rink features children at play and forest animals with Santa Photos under a snow-covered pavilion through Dec. 24.

Meadow Brook Village Mall

Walton/Adams. Rochester Hills. (248) 375-9451.

Dept. 56 Village

Kids can send Santa E-mail messages from a computer station on the upper level, near JC Penney's. Santa visits and photos through Dec. 24. Snow Village by Dept. 56.

Oakland Mall. 14 Mile/John R. Troy. (248) 585-6000.



A scene from *A Christmas Carol* at Summit Place Mall.

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

Carousel Santa

A 36-foot tall holiday carousel imported from Germany in mall's center court amuses visitors waiting for Santa. Laser light shows in the food court, Thursdays/Fridays 6 and 7 p.m. Saturdays/Sundays 1 and 3 p.m. through Dec. 22. The 15-minute show features a car drive for the Michigan Humane Society.

Wonderland Mall. Plymouth/Middlebelt. Livonia. (313) 522-4100.

Santa photos

"Wishes Can Come True," theme with giant reindeer and Santa sleigh, photos (\$6.95) through Dec. 24. *Annabelle's Wish* video and plush toy, \$16.98, to benefit Make A Wish Foundation at Information desk.

Livonia Mall. Seven Mile/Middlebelt. (248) 476-1160.

Polar Bear Christmas

Digital image Santa photos through Dec. 24, giant polar bear decor.

Westland Center. Wayne/Warren. (313) 425-5001.

Crystal Forest Set

Santa will be in The Crystal Forest along with 136-life like animals designed and created by Ann Arbor artist, Ira Imbras-Jansen through Dec. 24. Exploration Station offers computer-activities for classrooms and groups.

Twelve Oaks. 12 Mile/Novi. (248) 348-9411.

Snowflake Express

Santa Claus photos plus an exhibit highlighting the December holiday traditions around the world.

Tel-Twelve Mall. 12 Mile/Telegraph. Southfield. (248) 353-4111.

Charlie Brown Christmas

See the Peanuts Gang in various holiday settings with an 18-foot high Snoopy doghouse featuring a 36-foot tree through the roof. Santa photos through Dec. 24. Special computer-animation/lesson field trips available for classrooms.

Lakeside. M-59/Shoehorn. Sterling Heights. (810) 247-4131.

Northstar Journey

Santa Claus gives kids a free coloring/story book based on the Boy and the Bear's search for the Northstar throughout the mall. Letters to Santa at Postal Station in Montgomery Wards Court. Trolleys on duty through Dec. 23 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with free boxed lunches between office buildings and shopping center.

Northland Center

Nine Mile/Greenfield. Southfield. (248) 569-6272.

Tree lighting

100 volunteers have been working all week to decorate for the 6 p.m. tree lighting in Kellogg Park. A downtown shopping event is set for Friday, Dec. 12 from 7-10 p.m. with activities, entertainment and a canned goods drive.

Ann Arbor Trail/Main. Plymouth. (313) 455-1453.

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

Toys For Tots Broadcast

Jim Harper and The Breakfast Club from WNCN radio airs their program from the mall 6 to 10 a.m. to collect new, unwrapped, Toys For Tots in the Lord & Taylor Court, lower level.

Fairlane Town Center

Michigan/Hubbard. Dearborn. (313) 593-1370.

Beauty Makeovers

Givency's Brigitte Schmitt works with customers 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment at Saks Fifth Avenue.

Somerset Collection South

Big Beaver/Coolidge. Troy. (248) 614-3337.

FRIDAY, DEC. 12

Holiday music series

Carolers and music groups perform Fridays through Dec. 20 from 2-4 p.m. in Lord & Taylor Court. Santa photos in Fountain Court.

Fairlane Town Center

Michigan/Southfield. Dearborn. (313) 593-1370.

Santa photos in the park

Santa Claus, poses for children photos Fridays, 5-8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. in Kellogg Park.

Main Street, Plymouth

(313) 453-1540.

Family fun

Byers Homestead and Country Store open house, noon to 8 p.m. Stroll through blacksmith shop, farmhouse, candy store and dress shop refreshments at the farm house.

213 Commerce Road. Historic Commerce Village. (248) 363-9795.

Artist visits

Native West welcomes Bruce Contway, 1998 *Indian Artist of the Year* through Dec. 14, to meet shoppers and sign pieces.

863 Ann Arbor Trail. Plymouth. (313) 455-8838.

SATURDAY, DEC. 13

Summit Place Holiday

"Is it Christmas Yet?" stories and sing-a-longs with Children's Theatre of Michigan, Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 21 from 4-8 p.m. "Wrens and Roosters" are the strolling carolers.

Summit Place. Elizabeth Lake/Telegraph. (248) 682-0123.

Skating champ visits

Meet Tara Lipinski at Nieman Marcus, 3:30-4:30 p.m. to promote the DKNY Children's Collection. Gift with purchase from the line.

Somerset Collection South

Big Beaver/Coolidge. Troy. (248) 643-3300.

Holiday concert

The Mercyaire perform everything from show tunes to holiday songs 3:30 p.m. west end of the mall. Free.

Livonia Mall. Seven Mile/Middlebelt. (248) 476-1160.

RETAIL DETAILS

Retail Details features news briefs from the Malls & Mainstreets beat compiled by Susan DeMaggio. For inclusion, send information to: Retail Details, c/o The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, or fax to (248) 644-1314.

Malls offer field trips

Attention teachers! Both Lakeside (Sterling Heights) and Twelve Oaks (Novi) are debuting interactive holiday decor programs created by Technomasters of Birmingham. Each event lasts about two hours and costs \$5 per student.

At Lakeside, children visiting the exhibit can design programs (grade level appropriate, PreK through Grade 8) that focus on computer literacy skills, view the Peanuts classic *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, design their own wrapping paper using Peanuts cartoons to take home; explore Internet sites where Peanuts animation comes to life; and work with computer quick cams to learn how movies are created.

At Twelve Oaks similar projects have the *Exploration Station* theme. Reservations can be made by calling Technomasters (248) 258-9075.

New CD benefits leukemia fight

Motor City Riffs a compilation CD of original songs recorded by Detroit-area musicians is on sale for \$10 at all Harmony House stores to benefit the Leukemia Society of America. The promotion is co-sponsored by WRIF and Miller Genuine Draft Beer.

Northland hosts blanket benefit

"Share The Warmth" to benefit the Salvation Army will be held at the Northland Center, Nine Mile and Greenfield in Southfield, Dec. 6-24. For every \$150 in mall receipts, Northland and Cotton Incorporated will donate a blanket to the shelter in the shopper's name. Redeem receipts at the Customer Service Center.

Boutique adds new line

Tender, 271 West Maple in downtown Birmingham, has added the Alicia Lawhorn collection to its selection of fashion forward merchandise. The ethnic-inspired designs are of rich, unevenly-dyed tones including hand-painted dresses, patchwork cardigans and denim suits trimmed in sequins.

Twelve Oaks adds horse patrol

The Oakland County Mounted Division reservists and their personal steeds will help monitor the Twelve Oaks shopping center parking lot in Novi, Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 24. The officers will assist shoppers with spotting cars or other car problems.

FYE opens at Wonderland

The multi-media store FYE (For Your Entertainment) is open at Wonderland Mall in Livonia, selling books, video, games, tapes and CDs in a 20,000-square foot emporium (in the former Woolworth's space.) The store is part of the center's west wing \$10 million renovation. Jeepers! a 25,000-square foot indoor, themed entertainment center, also opened in the west wing, a month ago.

FYE based in New York, is a division of Transworld Entertainment, which owns and operates the Record Town stores.

Spicy deal at Neiman Marcus

Neiman Marcus in The Somerset Collection South, Troy, introduced Frankincense and Myrrh scented products from Czech & Speake, including cologne, bath oil, soaps, scented candles, room spray, burning

sticks and oils from \$26.

Dept. 56 decor seminars

Hudson's hosts designers from Dept. 56 holiday villages/collectibles, offering tips on how to set up the merchandise with special offers on retired pieces for sale. Dec. 8 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Somerset Collection, Troy; 5-8 p.m. at Oakland Mall, Troy; Dec. 9 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Summit Place, Waterford; Dec. 10 from 5-7:30 p.m. at Briarwood, Ann Arbor.

Laurel Park Place news

Shoppers who spend \$200 or more at Laurel Park Place in Livonia receive a free, hand-blown, jewel tone ornament. Shoppers can also make a holiday contribution to Angela Hospice by buying an ornament for the Tree Of Life standing tall at the mall. New retail tenants include: Animal House, B'Silver Connection, Brookstone, Canadian Fleece, Day By Day, Jar Cakes, New England Home, The Gold Cart, Potpourri Pie, Santas Scribes, and Time Zones.

Plaza hosts photography exhibit

Shoppers to the Bloomfield Plaza, Maple/Telegraph in Bloomfield Hills, can see the images of photographer Monte Nagler on display through Dec. 29. One of his images, graces the jacket of the CD *Sounds of the Season* by the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra which is available at Harmony House and Borders.

Clearance furniture at Hudson's Northland Store

Hudson's opened a fourth floor Clearance Center with furniture discounted 30 to 50-percent off original prices at the Northland store in Southfield. The department hopes to move canceled special orders, floor samples and overstocks from Sealy, Nadeau and Bernhard. Deliveries are \$35.

Manager Larry Williams said the Marketplace on the lower level was also remodeled with a new deli and floor plan.

Additional changes include the opening of Guess? shops for men and women, and the move to the third floor for Larger Sizes, Kids and Juniors.



Santabear '97: This year, Hudson's presents a Nutcracker Santabear, \$35.95, at stores while supplies last.

New product features old craft



Quill art set: The 18th century hobby of paper filigree makes a comeback in this kit from Pastime Industries. Kids can make pictures, bookmarks and gift tags with paper strips, a quilling tool, glue, patterns and foam boards. For ages 8 and up, from \$6.99-\$14.99 at Toys R Us.

Where can I find?

This feature is dedicated to helping readers locate sources for hard-to-find merchandise in the marketplace. If you've seen any of the items in your retail travels (or basement) please call *Where Can I Find?* (248) 901-2555. Slowly and clearly, leave your name, number and message, and you should see your input in the following Sunday's column.

What we found:

- The game Cathedral can be ordered from World Wide Games, 1-800-888-0987.
- Unicure hair and skin conditioner can be ordered by mail through the company's Atlanta, GA, headquarters, 1-888-UNI-URE, \$3 per bottle, according to company owner Richard Tucker.
- Barb Thomas is looking for a 1995 Santa Bear and a plastic popcorn bowl with stripes on the side.
- The Wizard card game for Barb of Westland.
- Sarah, a picture of Elvis Presley on black velvet.
- Ruth needs a distributor who sells the "miracle cleaner" Swipe.
- The rustspot remover Magica for Michelle.
- Aziza crease resistant powder eye shadow base.
- Jean is desperately trying to come across a Cary Grant recording of Red Roses for a Blue Lady from many years ago.
- The Lone Ranger board game for Linda of Garden City.
- A Bell and Howell #850 slide projector with vertical carousel for Beverly Gillette.
- Replacement cutting blades for the Hair Wiz for Ron Petrella.
- Pleated rainbonnets that fold to 3-inches and pleated rainbonnets that have a snap on the bottom.
- A Hallmark 15" red, bean bag Santa bought in 1988, for a handicapped boy whose "favorite friend" is falling apart, according to his mom. "Santa's wearing black shoes and has green mittens."
- The old board game *Call My Bluff*, for Joe of Livonia.
- A filter for a Norelco clean water machine for Gertrude of Troy.
- A yellow, Answer Finder, to use with the *Scribbles Learn With Me Club* by Western Publishing for Sue of Canton.
- An original cast recording starring Albert Finney in *Scrooge* for Bill Jacobs.
- A 1941 copy of *Jolly Jingle Picture Book* by Rand McNally for Sharon Gage.
- The board game Cathedral "popular about nine years ago," for Mr. and Mrs. Elliot.
- A TV tuner adaptor for Game Gear and a hockey game for Game Gear for Colleen of Redford.
- Dick Clark cologne for Gloria of West Bloomfield.
- Lunch or dinner plates from Lynn Steimeist, *Colorways* pattern, for Joan Marinelli, who's also looking for small, glass windchimes.
- An instruction manual for the Apple LC II for Mary of Livonia.
- A basket for the crystal Frymaster, about 10 1/2-inches across for Shirley.
- Sega Genesis *Shining Force One* game for Norma.
- Toni permanent rollers, 4-inches long, for Mary Callahan.
- Bugle Boy elastic waist pants and elastic ankles with Velcro closures in child's size Large for Jo.
- Two toys, Weebels Treehouse and *Don't Go With Strangers* book for Mary Ann of Canton.
- Donna Karan's Toner body stocking in nude or black, plus a book about a black, Scottie dog, *Pieface* for Dottie of Plymouth.
- A rocking wooden kangaroo (in the spirit of the hobby horse) for Mary of Livonia. "I bought the last one from The General Store on 10 Mile/Meadowbrook, but they're no longer there."
- Helen is desperate to find a 1990 Santabear and has doubles of the '86, '87 and '88 to part with.
- Sharon is seeking the old cleaning product Tetra D from the Wyandotte Chemical Co.
- Kim Stack of Livonia is hoping to locate an expansion cartridge "Oscar" for the Sesame Street talking computer.
- We have several callers looking for dolls: the Mrs. Beasley, an Emmett Kelly, Baby Shivers, and a Drowsy Doll.
- Cindy Reed and her dad hope to find the Burl Ives songbook (or others) of *Sea Chantees*.
- Ed Gilroy needs the recording, "Now That We're In Love."
- Linda of Livonia wants to replace an old talking Cookie Monster and Oscar.

We're still looking for:

- Corelle dishes in the very old, gold butterfly pattern for Peggy.
- Barb Thomas is looking for a 1995 Santa Bear and a plastic popcorn bowl with stripes on the side.
- The Wizard card game for Barb of Westland.
- Sarah, a picture of Elvis Presley on black velvet.
- Ruth needs a distributor who sells the "miracle cleaner" Swipe.
- The rustspot remover Magica for Michelle.
- Aziza crease resistant powder eye shadow base.
- Jean is desperately trying to come across a Cary Grant recording of Red Roses for a Blue Lady from many years ago.
- The Lone Ranger board game for Linda of Garden City.
- A Bell and Howell #850 slide projector with vertical

Group sells gifts to help needy

Perhaps this year, Uncle Elmer doesn't need another tie. Maybe a business associate would really prefer something other than canned ham, mixed nuts or fruitcake.

If making a gift of charity would make the holiday more meaningful, there is an international relief organization, Alternative Gifts International, of Pasadena, California, that offers food, job training, medicines, eye surgery, solar cookers and even adoption of rain forest acreage.

AGI helps organizations, churches and schools develop alternate markets to sell trees, medicine, food, livestock, handmade crafts, tools and more. The gifts that donors give in honor of family and friends may bring new life and hope to people in the developing world and to people living in poverty in the United States.

Donors receive a gift card with their gift inscribed, to be mailed to the recipient of their choice.

For more information, call AGI at 1-800-842-2243.

Double-duty merchandise aids charities

Holiday shoppers at Hudson's may purchase special gifts that will return a portion of their sales to national charities.

Through a special holiday arrangement, six organizations that assist sick or dependent children and adults, will benefit from the project.

• Every cent of the \$13 retail price of M.A.C. Viva Glam and Viva Glam II lipsticks are donated to the fight against AIDS.

• Two cookbooks, exclusive to Hudson's, will benefit the United Way. *Potluck* for \$3,000, \$10.95 and *With Warmest Regards*, \$11.95.

• *Save the Children* sterling silver jewelry, \$20-\$30, donates a percentage of the profits to *Save the Children*, an international fund.

• These Christopher Radko holiday ornaments each benefit a different cause: *A Caring Clown*, \$36, benefits AIDS Awareness; *Kitty Cares*, \$30, benefits 1997 Pediatric Cancer research, and *Watch Over Me*, \$28, benefits the Polish Children's Home.

• The Ronald McDonald House ornament, \$7.50, benefits the "house that love built" for children with lengthy illnesses and their families.

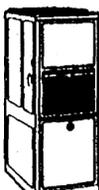
• Through a special program between Hudson's and Help Me Grow, each P. J. Huggabee teddy bear purchase buys two. You can brighten a child's smile in your life as well as a foster child in need of a smile.

Every time there is a purchase of P. J. Huggabee, \$20, another bear will be given to a child entering the foster care system in their state.

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MEDICAL BRIEFS

Saint Joseph Mercy opens Canton facility in early '98

The new Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Building, which will include urgent care, pharmacy, physician offices and other services is scheduled to open in February 1998. The facility is located at 1600 S. Canton Center Road at Summit Parkway, between Michigan Ave. and Ford Road.

The building will have a focus on women's health, including: specialists, service and educational programs for women of all ages. The facility also will be home to Michigan's first Interactive Health Education Center, set to open in Jan. 1999. The interactive center will draw visitors from across the state.

For more information, please call the Saint Joseph Mercy HealthLine, (800) 231-2211.

Correction: The Sunday, Nov. 30 column of Medical Briefs incorrectly named the Canton center as a facility of Providence Hospital. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Garden City Hospital rehab earns accreditation

Garden City Hospital proudly announces a Three-Year Accreditation award by CAFR...The Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission. This represents the highest level of accreditation achievable by hospitals. Garden City Hospital was recognized for accreditation in Rehabilitation Service programs.

This accreditation achieved by Garden City Hospital is awarded by CAFR, the nation's accreditation authority in the field of medical rehabilitation, behavioral health and employment and community support services. The accreditation results from findings during CAFR's recent on-site survey. Garden City Hospital has offered rehabilitation services since 1987.

Stop smoking clinic

The city of Livonia is sponsoring the Stop Smoking Clinic conducted by Dr. Arthur Weaver. The seven night program will be held at Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, just east of Farmington Road. No set fee is charged, although donations are accepted. Dates will include: Thursday, Jan. 8; Monday, Jan. 12 through Friday, Jan. 16; and Tuesday, Jan. 20. All sessions begin at 7:30 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. For more information, call Livonia City Hall at (313) 466-2535 weekdays.

Sunday health club

You know you will make another resolution to get in shape for the new year, so why not take action now? The winter session of Schoolcraft College's Sunday Health Club convenes from Jan. 4 through March 29 and offers 13 weeks of unstructured activity in a fully equipped physical education facility. Family and individual fees for club members include to gyms for basketball, volleyball, jogging; six handball, paddleball, or racquetball courts; wallyball courts, weightlifting machines, treadmills, exercise bikes and a cardio-theater with a personal headset to watch television or listen to the radio.

The club is open each Sunday from 1-5 p.m. For information call (313) 462-4413.

Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Miles roads in Livonia.

Items for Medical Briefs are welcome from all hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the Observer-area medical community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to:

Medical Briefs
c/o The Observer Newspapers
38251 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150
Or faxed to (313) 591-7279



CURATIVE OR QUACKERY?

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER

For an ancient Chinese "secret," magnets are attracting a lot of attention in some metro-Detroit health and sports circles these days.

Their "pull" is being felt in golf shops and by sports teams, through cable television infomercials and in some medical practitioners' offices - and even at the university level.

In the wake of claims by professional golfer Jim Colbert that magnets saved his career, at least two metro-area golf shops - Carl's Golfand of Bloomfield Hills and Gorman Golf Products, Inc., of Southfield - have begun selling magnets for backs and wrists and as shoe inserts.

And at least one chiropractor, Dr. Dave Taylor of Redford who practices in Garden City and Livonia, believes they're "the wave of the future, the missing link in the philosophy of chiropractic." (See related story.)

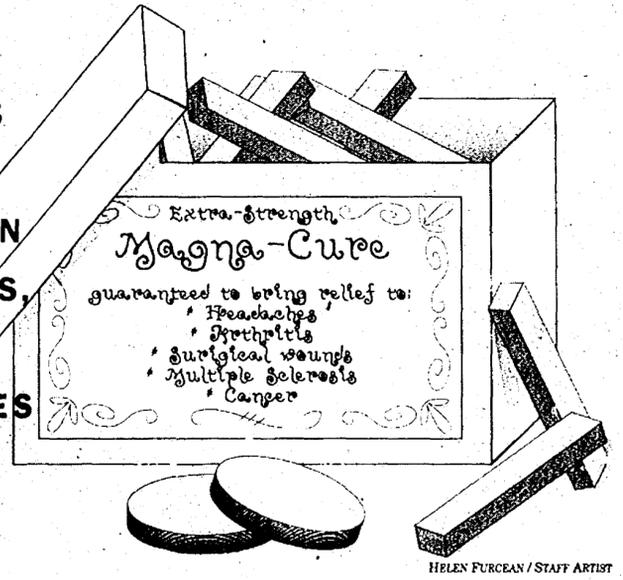
But despite that - and the fact magnets have been used as health and healing aids in the Orient and elsewhere for hundreds, if not thousands, of years - the question in Detroit and the United States remains: are they real or is it quackery?

Or, as a Dearborn Heights magnets user and believer said in trying to guess why the U.S. medical establishment is seemingly resistant, if not opposed, to using magnets: "There's a lot of snake oil out there."

Because of the general lack of scientific research in the U.S. on magnets and health - a fact lamented by a University of Michigan professor - most of the available information is "anecdotal," which has tended to leave the topic in the realm of so-called "alternative medicine."

Personal experiences have ranged from senior golfer Colbert - who was quoted in a Detroit publication as saying he was "driving farther" since

MAGNETS
ATTRACT
ATTENTION
OF SPORTS,
MEDICAL
COMMUNITIES



HELEN FURCEAN / STAFF ARTIST

wearing magnets to relieve back spasms - to everyday folk claiming relief from everything from insomnia and allergies to migraine headaches and arthritis. Others have claimed rapid post-operative healing while still others have even claimed being cured of, or at least seen diminished suffering from, such illnesses as multiple sclerosis and cancer.

Alternative medicine, which ranges from vitamins, minerals, herbs and other food supplements to a wide variety of therapies such as acupuncture and aromatherapy, has become a major medical phenomenon in the U.S., with billions of dollars being spent annually by Americans seeking answers they feel they are not getting from conventional medicine.

"People are turning in desperation" to such things as magnets, said Dr. Bill Evans, a chemistry professor at the University of Michigan who has been studying such alternatives "since I went off to college."

Evans, a solid-state chemist who has taught and researched at U-M for 27 years, has been a consultant to companies making magnetic coatings for computer diskettes and cassette tapes. While he believes magnets "probably are not useful in acute illness situations" such as MS or cancer, he does believe they have medicinal use.

For example, he said, magneto therapy "has been demonstrated to be effective in sports medicine" such as in treating ankle sprains: "Just lay a magnet on (the sprain) and it will stimulate the healing process," the professor said.

Indeed, rumor has it the Detroit Red Wings hockey team and Detroit Pistons basketball team have used magnets in therapy, although Evans could neither confirm

nor deny it.

He did say, however, "There is a scientific basis for using" magnets in healing.

He explained that blood and other liquids, which contain sodium and potassium that have dissolved-metal ions carrying electrical charges, are always moving inside the body. "Anytime a charge moves, there is the possibility of a magnetic field being generated, so when you bring another magnet upon these moving charges, the movement will be influenced."

"So if you have an injury and there's a wound there, and you're trying to take away decaying tissue and bring in the healing fluids of the body, then putting a magnet up to that injury site will influence the flow of the fluids," said Dr. Evans.

In arthritis, for example, "inflammation is fluid-flow to the joints" and either fluids are not getting to the area or are not getting out, he said. "You want to bring nutrients to the area and take away wastes and a magnet will influence that process."

Use of magnets "has been around for a long time," said Dr. Evans. It extends to an ancient Chinese practice known as geomancy, in which home builders as long as 3,000 years ago used magnets to decide where to build a house and which way it should face.

And one medical history book, he said, tells of an 18th-century English medical practitioner who built a magnetized conjugal bed to help conception.

Today, magnets are being promoted through network marketing and on television infomercials. Some companies offer only better sleep and more energy, while others have claimed medical cures.

However, the federal Food and Drug Administration has moved against the latter due to lack of scientific proof.

Today, in the absence of such proof, a person must take the stories with a grain of salt, said U-M's Evans, "because who's to say it's not a placebo effect" - a person feels better because he believes he will.

The bottom line is, said Evans, "Magneto therapy is here, whether we like it or not and we doctors and scientists have to put it on a sound basis in order to live up to our responsibility to the public."

He believes such research is coming. However, "At the moment, I think, except for some personal testimony, there is not a lot of basis" to claims about magnets.

"But look, if you're trying to get well, it doesn't really matter whether it's science or art" as long as



Magnetic power: Bill Evans, University of Michigan professor of chemistry, is posed with a spectrometer that allows researchers, like Evans, to study magnetic material and the compounds of which they are comprised. Evans says the spectrometer is one of the most powerful pieces of equipment available to study magnetic materials found in such things as therapeutic devices (shoe inserts, jewelry, magnetic patches).

Positive results turn skeptic into a believer

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER

Daniel McManaman of Dearborn Heights believes in the effectiveness of magnets.

When he came home from the hospital after quadruple-bypass open-heart surgery last year, "We put magnets all over him and he was off pain medication in three weeks," says his wife Nelda.

"He had cut way back on his medications even before that," she says. And when he went to his cardiologist six weeks after the surgery, "he was told he was two months ahead of schedule" in terms of recovery.

Daniel also uses them on his ankle to relieve the discomfort of the incisions from the vein grafts, says Nelda. "It keeps the swelling down and makes the discomfort go away."

Her husband "was skeptical at first," she says. "Like all guys - they kind of hold back," but once she put the magnets on him and they started working, he was a believer.

Nelda, who's been plagued for years by allergies and back problems, has been involved with "alternative health and nutrition," as she describes it, for 18 years and calls magnets "another wonderful alternative to help people enhance their lives and well-being."

She sleeps on a magnetic mattress and pillow, which she believes helps her body to better utilize

the various nutritional products she takes for her allergies. She says they've also helped her backaches.

A woman to whom she loaned some magnets said they helped her with jet lag on a flight to and from Italy.

Magnets, Nelda says, "keep the body in a harmonious state."

"It's not like taking a pill. It continues helping and enhancing your lifestyle, it puts balance in your lifestyle."

"My belief is that every human being needs magnetism - they just don't know it yet," she says.

However, magnetic therapy "is a kind of cloudy area in chiropractic," says Dr. Dave Taylor, an associate chiropractor with Gregg Chiropractic Life Centers in Garden City and Livonia.

"It's like massage therapy" in that it is "beyond the scope of the law, a kind of gray area."

While that keeps him from prescribing magnets in his practice, he nevertheless believes such therapy "is the wave of the future - the missing link in the philosophy of chiropractic."

The reason chiropractors touch people's backs is, he says, "we're nerve doctors, not back doctors" and it's through the nerves that electric current and magnetic current travel.

"But none of our (chiropractic) textbooks mention magnetic flow, and yet the most powerful force in

nature is magnetic flow."

He's seen magnets reduce discomfort and stress, "and we need to do everything we can to reduce stress." Getting a really good night's sleep - which he says magnets help provide - is one way to reduce stress, but the public hasn't been taught the importance of a good night's sleep.

"Sleeping on your stomach with six pillows on the mattress, making it soft and cushiony, is contraindicated as far as spinal health is concerned," says the doctor.

But he doesn't see a quick move anytime soon by medical men in the United States to embrace and prescribe magnets. "After all, it took the medical profession 200 years to accept the thermometer," he notes sardonically.

Is more research into magnets needed. "You can research something to death," he says.

Mike Fogarty, manager and buyer for Carl's Golfand in Bloomfield Hills, says his company sells magnets by Tectonics.

The magnetic pads can be worn in wraparounds for the back or taped to various areas like the neck, calf, knee and even the knuckles, and magnetic mattress pads are available.

Although the debate rages as to the effectiveness of magnets, Fogarty believes "there's some very good validity" to the argument for them.

MEDICAL NEWSMAKERS

Items for Medical Newsmakers are welcome from throughout the Observer area. Items should be submitted to Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Our fax number is (313) 591-7279.

Chaplain joins hospice

Julie Weber, MA, of Livonia has joined the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute's hospice

program as a spiritual counselor. Weber is a certified chaplain with the National Association of Catholic Chaplains.

"Losing a loved one is one of the most difficult things we experience in our lives," said Weber. "Everyone grieves differently, so counseling must be tailored to the unique needs of each individual."

Tree of Life

Angela Hospice of Livonia is extending an invitation to the community to honor and remember their loved ones this holiday season at the 10th annual "Tree of Life." The tree will be on display at Laurel Park Place through Dec. 31. Visitors may stop by to see the tree during mall hours and those wishing to

adorn the tree with an ornament bearing the name of a loved one are welcome to participate in this annual holiday event.

For more information on the Tree of Life, contact Angela Hospice (313) 464-7810.

Borovoy receives award

Marc A. Borovoy, D.P.M., is the 1997 recipient of the Meritorious Service Award from the

American Podiatric Medical Association

(APMA). The award, presented at the APMA Annual Conference is in recognition of his dedication, contributions and sacri-



Borovoy

fy for the advancement of podiatric medicine.

Borovoy, is the chief of podiatric surgery at Providence Hospital in Southfield and a noted author and lecturer. He has received the highest awards given to any podiatrist within Michigan earning the MPMA Southeast Division's "Podiatrist of the Year" award and MPMA's "Shining Star" award.

Medical Weight Loss organizes fund-raiser for Livonia woman.

Medical Weight Loss Clinic is donating five cents for every pound its clients lose during the next month, to Judy Busby, 34, of Livonia who is stricken with a disease which has spread to her legs, forcing them to be amputated.

Busby is suffering from chronic osteomyelitis-connec-tive disease. She also suffers from sensory neuropathy. The disease, which she has had since childhood, has infected her arm, which she will probably have to have removed.

Providence Hospital is helping Judy with medical treatment and expenses, however, her parents Mae and Bill Busby of Northville, have encountered severe financial problems trying to support Judy and her six-year-old son Corey.

"One of our employees knows the Busby family quite well and talked to us about helping them out this holiday season. "We decided to get our clients involved by donating five cents for every pound each client loses. We see thousands of patients who lose thousands of pounds," said Art Langer, vice president of Medical Weight Loss Clinics. Charts will be placed in each clinic tracking patient's weight loss.

Busby's "Weight Loss Drive" runs from now through Dec. 24. Individuals wishing to make financial contributions may drop off checks payable to Mae and Bill Busby at any Medical Weight Loss Clinic throughout Michigan.

Medical Weight Loss Clinics are located in Ann Arbor, Canton, Dearborn, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Novi, Pontiac, and Redford.

Support: Judy Busby, 34, of Livonia embraces her son Corey, 6. Busby suffers from a chronic disease that led to the amputation of her legs. Her parents are hoping the MWLC fund-raiser will alleviate some of the financial struggles they're facing.



VISION USA offers eye care for low-income workers

Low-income workers and their families in Michigan can sign up now to receive free eye care in March through a program called VISION USA.

Optometrists who are members of the Michigan Optometric Association are among nearly 8,000 optometrists nationwide who are donating their services through VISION USA to provide free comprehensive eye exams to low-income people in March.

To qualify for the free eye care, people must have a job or live in a household in which at least one member is working part-time; have no health insurance that covers eye exams; meet certain income criteria based on household size; and not have had an eye exam at a doctor's office within the last two years.

Individuals or families can obtain an application form by writing: VISION USA, 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63141. Completed forms must be postmarked by Jan. 23, 1998, according to Dr. Ross H. Williams, the VISION USA coordinator for Michigan.

HEALTH TIP

Applicants will also be screened for eligibility by phone only from Jan. 2 through 30th, 1998. The number to call then is (800) 766-4466. Phone lines will be open weekdays from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

"There is no doubt in my mind that many people in low-income families are being held down because they can't see well enough to do their jobs or to learn in school," said Williams. "Some also have eye health conditions that could cause blindness if left untreated."

The Michigan VISION USA coordinator said approximately 220,000 low-income children and adults have received free eye care in the first seven years of the program. Among the 20,000 examined last year, more than seven out of every 100 had eye health conditions and seven out of 10 needed a new eyeglass prescription.

CLARIFICATION

Three errors were made in the Sunday, Nov. 9, article regarding bunion surgery performed at the Canton Foot Specialists practice.

■ Dr. Steven Watson and Dr. Ellen Mady, D.P.M., did not "perfect" the tri-correctional bunionectionomy procedure. They are performing the procedure that was developed by Alan J. Selner, D.P.M., of North Hollywood Medical Center in California.

■ The clinic was not founded by Mady and Watson but in fact by Dr. James Kawwas approximately 10 years ago. Watson took over the practice from Kawwas when he took a medical leave. Mady then joined Watson in practice at the Canton Foot Specialists in November 1996.

■ Tri-correctional bunionectionomy is not a new procedure but an advanced technique of a procedure developed years ago, which is a modification of an Austin bunionectionomy developed 30 years ago.

Items for Medical Datebook are welcome from all hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the Observer-area medical community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to: Medical Datebook, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, 48150 or faxed to (313) 591-7279.

MON, DEC. 8

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT
LaLeche League of Livonia meets monthly for breastfeeding support and information. Babies and children are always welcome. Next meeting at 7 p.m. Please

call for location and/or additional information. Ask for Theresa 261-6814, Vicki 937-3011 or Michele 591-7071.

CELIAC SPRUE SUPPORT
Tri-County Celiac Sprue Support Group is a support group for persons who have been diagnosed with Celiac Sprue and Dermatitis Herpetiformis, their families, spouses and friends. Monthly meetings include information on testing, ideas for children and information from professionals at 7 p.m. at the Southfield Presbyterian Church located at 21575 West 10 Mile Road. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. For further informa-

tion call M. Campbell (810) 477-5953 or E. Lobbestagl (313) 522-8522.

GETTING THROUGH HOLIDAYS
For those grieving the loss of a loved one, the Angela Hospice Bereavement department offers a two-hour workshop designed to help these families cope with the holiday season. This free of charge workshop is open to the community and will be held on Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. The workshop will last ninety minutes and will be followed by a half hour of fellowship and refreshments. Call Angela Hospice at (313) 464-7810.

BASIC CPR/SUPPORT
This is an American Heart Association course that teaches CPR and the Heimlich maneuver on victims age birth to eight years. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 10 p.m. Call Livonia Public Schools for more information, (313) 523-9277. The fee for Livonia residents is \$23, others \$26.

HANDLING THE HOLIDAYS
We will discuss sensible, healthy suggestions for planning your holiday happenings. There is no cost to attend the December event at Henry Ford Health System's HealthCore Site, 22950 Michigan Ave. from

11 a.m. to noon. Call (313) 562-7800 for more information.

HOLIDAY EATING
Henry Ford Health Core will host a free seminar on "Handling the Holidays" at the Dearborn Health Core Store at 11 a.m. Health Core's registered dietician will speak on eating sensibly during the holiday season. For more information, call, 562-7800.

DEC. 8 - JAN. 26

CHILDBIRTH EDUCATION
Learn what to expect during pregnancy, labor and
Please see DATEBOOK, C3

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

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Datebook from page C2

delivery can make the entire experience more rewarding. The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia offers a six-week Childbirth Preparation Class based on the Lamaze method. A six week session will be held from 7-9 p.m. every Monday in the West Conference Room A. Cost is \$55. Preregistration for this class is required. For more information call, (313) 655-1100.

istration is required by Dec. 2. For more information call (313) 655-1100.

WED, DEC. 10

ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT
A support group for family members, friends and caregivers of person afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease or related disorders. Meetings provide mutual aid and support as well as affording the opportunity to share problems and concerns. Sponsored by the Alzheimers Association and is free of charge. Group meets at 7 p.m. on Dec. 10 in Classroom #1 of the Garden City Hospital Medical Office Bldg. Call 458-4330 for information.

BONE DENSITY SCREENING
Do you know if you are a candidate for osteoporosis? Find out with this simple, painless, non-invasive procedure. The cost is \$30 for members; \$35 for non-members and runs from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Please call (313) 458-7100 to register. Program is sponsored by MedMax of Westland; 35600 Central City Parkway.

SENIOR HEALTH FAIR
A senior Health Fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Dearborn Henry Ford Health Core store. Information on the importance of blood pressure monitoring, diabetic monitoring and home safety tips as well as healthy gift ideas for Christmas. Call. 562-7800.

DEC. 10, 17

COMMUNITY FIRST AID/SAFETY
This course teaches Standard First Aid (identifying and caring for life-threatening bleeding, sudden illness, and injuries) and Adult and Infant/Child CPR (recognizing and caring for breathing and cardiac emergencies for adults, infants and children). Three certificates are issued for successful completion. Course length is 10 hours. Fee includes course cost and materials (\$43). The Dec. 10 & 17 pro-

gram in Livonia runs from 6-9 p.m. To register for the American Red Cross program call (313) 422-2787.

GETTING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS
For those grieving the loss of a loved one, the Angela Hospice Bereavement department offers a two-hour workshop designed to help these families cope with the holiday season. This free of charge workshop is open to the community and will be held on Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. The workshop will last ninety minutes and will be followed by a half hour of fellowship and refreshments. Call Angela Hospice at (313) 464-7810.

THUR, DEC. 11

NEW, EXPECTANT FATHER CLASS
St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer a class for new and expectant fathers, "Just for Dads...Childbirth and Beyond," from 7-9 p.m. in the West Addition Conference Room B. Two-hour class helps fathers understand feelings and changes associated with the birthing process, how to become an active participant and the new role of fatherhood. Cost is \$15 per person and registration is required, call, (313) 655-1100.

DEC. 12, 19

COMMUNITY FIRST AID/SAFETY
This course teaches Standard First Aid (identifying and caring for life-threatening bleeding, sudden illness, and injuries) and Adult and Infant/Child CPR (recognizing and caring for breathing and cardiac emergencies for adults, infants and children). Three certificates are issued for successful completion. Course length is 10 hours. Fee includes course cost and materials (\$43). The Dec. 12 & 19 program in Livonia runs from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. To register for the American Red Cross program call (313) 422-2787.

SAT, DEC. 13

MERIT BADGE PROGRAM
St. Mary Hospital, in collaboration with Madonna University and the Livonia Family YMCA, is proud to announce the "Be Your Best" Merit Badge Program for all Brownies and Girl Scouts, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Madonna University. The girls will learn more about health and fitness and earn a merit badge. Enrollment is limited and pre-registration is required by Dec. 6. For more information and to register call (313) 655-2922.

DEC. 13, 20

STANDARD FIRST AID
This course teaches Standard First Aid (identifying and caring for life-threatening bleeding, sudden illness, and injuries) and Adult CPR (recognizing and caring for breathing and cardiac emergencies for adults). Two certificates are issued for successful completion. Course length is 7 hours. Fee includes course cost and materials (\$33). The Saturday, Dec. 13 program runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Dec. 20 from 9 a.m. to noon. To register for the Livonia American Red Cross program call 422-2787.

TUE, DEC. 16

SPINAL SCREENING AWARENESS
A complimentary spinal analysis with the Paraspinal EMG will be given from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. It will provide a vivid illustration of one's back, showing problem areas and any nerve interference in the spine. Please call (313) 458-7100 to register. Program is free of charge sponsored by MedMax of Westland; 35600 Central City Parkway.

STROKE/ANEURYSM SUPPORT
For those who have had or have a cerebral aneurysm or stroke. Family members/friends welcome. Group will meet at Garden City Hospital for a presentation and to promote a sharing interaction free of charge. Call 458-

4396.
ADULTS WITH INSULIN SUPPORT
The Adults with Insulin-Dependent Diabetes Support Group is an informal place to go for acceptance, encouragement and information. It meets the third Tuesday of every other month. The next meeting, a holiday get-together is at 7 p.m. For more information on this or related programming, call (248) 477-6100.

WED, DEC. 17

ADULT CPR CLASSES
Three hour evening class conducted at 7 p.m. at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road (between Ford and Warren Roads) teaching one person rescue through a film, lecture, demonstration and return demonstration. Registration is required. Call 458-4330.

BREATHERS CLUB
A support group for persons and/or families with respiratory problems. Meets at 7:30 p.m. in Classroom #2 of the Garden City Hospital Medical Office Building and is free of charge. Call 458-3481 for additional information.

LARYNGECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP
For people who have had or are going to have surgical removal of their vocal cords and their family and friends. In coordination with the Michigan Cancer Foundation Support Services. The group meets at 2 p.m. free of charge. Call 458-3381 for additional information.

THUR, DEC. 18

CPR REVIEW

Individuals with current CPR certificates can be recertified in Adult, Infant/Child, Community CPR or CPR for the Professional Rescuer. Certification and text is required to take this review course. Course length is four hours. Fee includes course cost and materials. Cost is \$16, Adults; \$20, community; and \$24 professional. To register for the Livonia American Red Cross program call 422-2787.

FRI, DEC. 19

PREMARITAL COUNSELING
Michigan law requires those applying for a marriage license to undergo education for sexually transmitted diseases. This course provides knowledge about STD's, HIV, and AIDS, with skills to separate facts from misinformation. Course length is one hour. Fee includes course cost and materials, \$12. Special appointments are available for \$20 per person. The Friday program runs from 6-7 p.m. For more information about the Livonia American Red Cross program call 422-2787.

DEC. 16 - FEB. 3

CHILDBIRTH EDUCATION CLASS
Learn what to expect during pregnancy, labor and delivery. The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia offers a Childbirth Preparation Class based on the Lamaze method. A six week session will be held from 7-9 p.m. every Tuesday in the West Conference Room A. Cost is \$55. To register by Dec. 9 call, (313) 655-1100.

DEC. 8, 15, 22

FIRST AID/SAFETY
This course teaches Standard First Aid (identifying and caring for life-threatening bleeding, sudden illness, and injuries) and Adult and Infant/Child CPR. Three certificates are issued for successful completion. Course length is 10 hours. Fee includes course cost and materials (\$43). The Dec. 8 program on Monday in Livonia runs from 6-10 p.m. and the Dec. 15 & 22 program from 6-9 p.m. To register for the American Red Cross program call (313) 422-2787.

TUE, DEC. 9

SPINAL SCREENING AWARENESS
A complimentary spinal analysis with the Paraspinal EMG will be given from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. It will provide a vivid illustration of one's back, showing problem areas and any nerve interference in the spine. Please call (313) 458-7100 to register. Program is free of charge sponsored by MedMax of Westland; 35600 Central City Parkway.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT
Susie Lucas of Unique Hair Designs, will be the guest speaker at the Marian Women's Center Breast Cancer Support Group from 7-8:30 p.m. in the West Addition Conference Room B. Lucas will give a presentation of wigs, baseball caps, and various hair coverings for patients undergoing chemotherapy. The support group meets the second Tuesday of each month. Pre-reg-

Don't go over the 'top' at holidays

The mad rush of the holidays can be like a dance in which we try to manage too many steps in too many directions.

"You can sidestep the holiday hustle, though," said Diane Lucas, representative of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly). "Just follow these three principles."

■ **Simplify:** "Streamline whenever you can," said Lucas. "This means different things to different people. It might mean you bake one kind of homemade cookies this year instead of a half-dozen varieties. Maybe it means that you take shortcuts on your decorating to achieve the effect you want without a lot of fuss."

■ **Set priorities:** Decide what's really important to you, and forego the rest. "What really gets people in over their heads,"

LIFESTYLE

said Lucas, "is when they can't say no to anything. And so they make the rounds of a half-dozen parties, ferry their kids to ten activities in two weeks, bake until they drop, and host several gatherings of their own. No wonder they're burned out."

■ **Cover the basics first:** Sensible eating, regular exercise, and adequate sleep are more important than ever during this busy period. They provide energy, stamina, and mental perspective for enjoying the holidays.

To learn more about TOPS, visit their Web site at <http://www.tops.org>. To locate a chapter in your area, call Barb Lamontagne at (313) 724-0603 or toll free 800-932-8677.

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BUSINESS CALENDAR

Business-related calendar items are welcome from the Observer area and should be sent to Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Our fax number is (313) 591-7279.

TUE, DEC. 9

ASQ GENERAL MEETING
The Greater Detroit Section American Society for Quality (formerly ASQC) will meet at the Livonia Marriott, 17100 Laurel Park Drive North in Livonia beginning at 5:45 p.m. with registration and networking. Carol Ward will facilitate section business at 6:15 with a sit down dinner at 6:45 p.m. (members \$20; non \$25) and the main speaker

at 7:15 p.m. Stephen Gill will discuss the role of evaluation in Human Performance Technology/Improvement and how that help companies plan programs to achieve their strategic goals.

WED, DEC. 10

EXECUTIVE WOMEN INT'L DETROIT
The Executive Women International Detroit-Windsor Chapter holiday business meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner following at 6:30 p.m. at Country Club of Detroit, 220 Country Club Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms. The cost is \$26 (U.S.) Special presentation: Martini Revival by Fris Vodka: The Perfect Martini. For more informa-

tion call Cynthia Hazard. (810) 448-8682 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

BUSINESS NETWORK INT'L
Business Network International, regular meeting of the Laurel Park Chapter from 7-8:30 a.m. at Richards Restaurant, Plymouth and Newburgh roads. Call BNI for more information, (313) 844-3432.

National Association of Career Women - Metro Detroit Chapter from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Southfield Marriott. For reservations call (248) 851-8130. The Marriott is located on the south service drive of Northwestern Highway between Lahser and Telegraph.

through the presentation process, laying out the fundamental elements of a presentation, and identifying the seven "must haves" for inspiring an audience. Admission is free, but seats are limited. To register call Rita Long at (810) 750-1766.

BUSINESS NETWORK INT'L
Business Network International, regular meeting of the Livonia Chapter from 7-8:30 a.m. at Senate Koney Island, Plymouth Road near Stark. Call BNI for more information, (313) 844-3432.

FRI, DEC. 12

CAREER PRESENTATIONS OF PROS
Tony Jeary, author of Inspire Any Audience: Proven Secrets of the Pros for Powerful Presentations, will be speaking from 8-11:30 a.m. at the Novi Hilton Kensington Room, located at 21111 Haggerty Road, Novi. The seminar walks participants

Career Women is currently building a west suburban chapter. We are looking for career women, including business owners, to come together for informative speakers, a super support and networking environment, and great company. We have an informative and enriching program: Elizabeth M. Lush, senior consulting psychologist with Plante & Moran will discuss team building, personal effectiveness, interviewing, and outplacement. The luncheons are held at Ernesto's Restaurant in Plymouth from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. For further information regarding upcoming meetings, programs or membership to NACW, please call Judie, (313) 453-7272, Ext. 223.

THUR, DEC. 11

PERSONAL LEADERSHIP STYLES
"A View of Personal and Leadership Styles," presentation by Christina Pitts of Pitts-Aldrich Associates will speak at the regular monthly luncheon meeting and networking session of the

BUSINESS MARKETPLACE

Marketplace features a glimpse of suburban business news and notes, including corporate name changes, new products, office openings, new affiliations, new positions, mergers, acquisitions and new ways of doing business. Items for Marketplace should be submitted to Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. The fax number is (313) 591-7279.

Shop and ship

The Post Office is coming to the nearest shopping mall near you to make it more convenient for shoppers to mail packages. Beginning the day after Thanksgiving until Jan. 4, the U.S. Post Office will be located in **Wonderland Mall** in Livonia offering full retail service, staying open Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (These hours are subject to change per individual mall hours).

The Wonderland Mall post office center in Livonia will be located across from For Your Entertainment and down the hall from the Information booth. There are also two permanent Post Offices mall locations at **Livonia Mall** in Livonia (near A & W open Monday - Friday 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) **Westland Mall** in Westland has an office by J.C. Penney open Monday - Friday 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

"The mall Post Offices are a great convenience for our customers, especially during the holidays," said Carl T. January Jr., Detroit district manager.

CPA merger

Livonia CPA firm, **Dickshott & Co.**, merged with Walsh Cenko & Haynes, P.C., a Bloomfield Hills CPA firm. The combined firm of sixteen professional will continue with offices in both Livonia and Bloomfield Hills.

Dickshott & Co. has served a variety of individuals and businesses located primarily in southeastern Michigan for over twenty-seven years.

Operating assets sale

Universal Self Care, Inc. of Livonia will sell substantially all of its assets to Gainor Medical Management, LLC.

Universal Self Care announced the definitive agreement Nov. 17 subject to shareholder approval. The seller is traded over NASDAQ. Gainor is closely held.

Under terms of the agreement, Gainor Medical Management

will acquire the operating assets of Universal Self Care, including the stock of its two principal operating subsidiaries - Diabetes Self Care, Inc. and USCI Healthcare Management Solutions, Inc.

DMS honored at convention

Atlas Van Lines Inc. honored **DMS Moving Systems Inc.** of Canton at Atlas' 50th Annual Convention. The local company was recognized for Sales Achievement, COD sales, Hauling Achievement and Hauling Excellence. Accepting the awards on the Canton agency's behalf were Rick Meyer and Kathy Phillips.

The COS Sales Award was earned by DMS, which ranked 1st among the top three revenue-producing agencies in this area.

GCS relocates

"It's Official... we're racing to our new facility," says GCS Service Inc. of Livonia. The business has relocated to 31829 W. Eight Mile Road, Livonia effective Nov. 24. For more information call (248) 426-9500, 800-772-2936 or fax (248) 426-7555.

Credit union, AutoInspect unite

The **Livonia Community Credit Union**, in cooperation with the Livonia-based company, **AutoInspect**, is providing its members with a member only discount for pre-purchase used auto inspections. Similar to a home inspection for members buying a house, AutoInspect's mobile service goes to the location of the used auto, conducts a bumper-to-bumper inspection and provides a written report of the auto's mechanical condition. Members of the credit union will receive a ten percent discount off the regular price of the used auto inspection.

For more information contact AutoInspect Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (313) 458-4937.

Canton Kroger grand opening

The **Kroger Co.**, will host a grand opening for its newest store located at 1905 Canton Center Road near Canton. A ceremonial ribbon-cutting took place Dec. 7 to officially open the new Kroger location. The store will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The new 63,500 square foot Kroger Food & Drug features customer conveniences including a full-service pharmacy, Comerica Bank Branch, Kid's Korner and One-Stop Meal Shoppe.



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Canton
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December 18 - 2:30 PM

Family Health
19020 Fort Street
Riverview
December 9 - 10:00 AM
December 16 - 10:00 AM

Oakwood Health Care
Center - North Westland
36555 Warren Road
Westland
December 10 - 9:30 AM
December 17 - 9:30 AM

Western Wayne Physicians
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Dearborn Heights
December 9 - 10:00 AM
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Bill Knapp's Restaurant
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BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS

This column highlights promotions, transfers, hirings and other key personnel moves within the suburban business community. Send a brief biographical summary, including the towns of residence and employment and a black-and-white photo, if desired, to: Business Professionals, Observer Business Page, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Our fax number is (313) 591-7279.

New mortgage company

Craig Olmsted, formerly vice president and general manager of Mutual Financial Services Inc. in Farmington, has formed a new home mortgage company - Home Loan Specialists, Inc. in Livonia.

The new home mortgage company, located at 17000 S. Laurel Park Dr., Suite 202, in Livonia,

specializes in programs for first mortgages, no cost refinancing, home equity loans and non-conforming loans for those people who have had some credit problems in the past.

For more information call (313) 953-LOAN (area code 734 after Dec. 13).

Wills named VP

Robert Wills was recently promoted to executive vice president at HDS Services of Farmington Hills, a Michigan-based foodservice and hospitality management company. A career-long employee, Wills was cited as being an integral part of HDS Services' development, beginning with responsibility for ten accounts in 1970 to more than 180 accounts HDS Services has today.

Internet use, speed up

The latest surveys now estimate that 56 million American adults use the Internet. That works out to almost 27 percent of the population 16 and older.

The survey, from the Intelliquest Information Group, says another 16 million are expecting to be online by this time next year. I put a lot of stock in this survey. Intelliquest has spent much of the past two years carefully measuring and tracking online user demographics, usage patterns and growth rates and their study has a sampling reliability of plus or minus 1.5 percent. What the company found is that the Internet has become a habit in many peoples lives. Fully two thirds of those 56 million Net users now have access from home.

"The thousands of users we have interviewed over the course of this study are telling us that the medium is becoming more mainstream in their lives," says Tom Fornoff, Intelliquest's managing director for Internet Services.

"They're getting online from more locations, spending more time online, performing a wider variety of activities and finding it to be a highly useful channel for shopping and buying."

The survey also shows that the amount of time spent online is also increasing, from just under seven hours a week last year to 9.8 hours today.

With so many now online, the number one need is speed. Speed of access. Modem speeds have indeed been increasing and with billions to be made in profits, the telecommunications giants are jumping all over themselves to repair and expand the Internet infrastructure. But there are some other exciting Internet access means available.

Satellite access

I just installed a new DirectPC satellite system from the Hughes Network Systems group. It consists of a 20-by-36-inch satellite receiving dish mounted on my roof and hooked directly into the back of my PC, using an adapter card that took all of about two minutes to install.

I have the DirectDuo system, that also provides over a hundred satellite-beamed movie and sports channels to my TV.

But it's the Internet access that intrigues me the most. Using their software, I dial into my regular Internet provider, make connection and then get patched through the Net to the DirectPC operations center, which, in turn, links my computer to a satellite.

What does that do? It gives me blazingly fast Internet service, nearly 14 times faster than my normal 28.8 modem connection. In practical terms, 2 megabyte movie clip that would normally take me about 9 minutes to download with a 28.8 modem takes about 40 seconds with my DirectPC satellite connection. Besides the vast improvement in download speeds, what I notice most about this is how fast web pages load, especially those with lots of graphics.

The installation costs around \$200. Technicians come to your home, install the dish, tune it into the satellite (you need a good clear view of the southwestern sky) and run the cables to your TV and computer.

But if you want to watch your local TV stations, you're going to need to buy and install an outside TV antenna. Depending on where you live, that can add another \$200 to the bill.



MIKE WENDLAND

PC TALK

And then there's the access fees.

Because you still need to have an account with an Internet Service Provider to make your dial-up connection, you'll be spending around \$20 a month for access. Add to that the \$50-a month cost for the DirectDuo connection and you'll be spending around \$70 a month for everything.

That sounds steep. Hey... that is steep. But when you consider that \$50 a month is what it costs in most places for cable TV access, the Direct Duo fee is not that outrageous because you're getting the extra TV programming and the fast Internet access.

The only area where I haven't noticed an improvement in downloading time is with e-mail. The DirectPC connection is actually slower in downloading my e-mail than my 28.8 modem. The help desk at DirectPC says that shouldn't happen.

But, on my system, it does. And they haven't been able to help me fix it.

Still, overall, I'm impressed. I use the Net a lot. I'm always downloading files. And the satellite link makes my net time a lot more effective.

You can spec out your system and learn more from the Hughes Web site at www.direcpc.com {{{CQ}}}

Cable TV access

This is increasingly becoming an attractive option in many parts of the nation and the Metro Detroit area as cable television companies make very high speed Internet access available over the same coaxial cable that brings television programs into your house. Cable television Internet access typically costs about \$49.95 a month. Right now, Cable TV speeds receive at very fast rates, even beyond that of a T1. But they send at slower speeds, about that of a 56 kbps modem. Check out www.comcast.com or www.mediaone.com for information on cable TV access.

Fast phone line access

There are two telephone services that provide fast Internet access.

The least costly is through a high-quality telephone line called an ISDN line, for Integrated Services Digital Network. An ISDN line is about four times as fast as a 28.8 modem. The phone company typically charges about \$50 a month for one of these lines.

Then there's another telephone line called ADSL, for Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line. These will run around \$100 a month, on top of a pretty hefty \$500 installation fee. ADSL connections operate at speeds from 10 to 50 times faster than an ISDN, or 200 times as fast as a 28.8 modem.

There is so much on the Net about both ADSL and ISDN that any good search engine like Alta Vista (www.altavista.digital.com) or Yahoo (www.yahoo.com) will give you tons of detailed information.

Mike Wendland covers the Internet for NBC-TV Newschannel stations across the country and can be seen locally on WDIV-TV4, Detroit. His "PC Talk" radio show airs Saturday afternoons on WXYT-Radio AM1270 and he is the author of a series of Internet books (call 888-222-1866). You can reach him through his Web site at <http://www.pcmike.com>

AT&T launches Digital PCS

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
STAFF WRITER

The telecommunications explosion has made it possible for consumers to be "untethered," says Bill Malloy, AT&T Wireless Services Central Region president.

AT & T Wireless Services launched its AT & T Digital PCS service in the Southeast Michigan phone market this past week equipping customers with "anyplace communications from an all digital network built from the ground up."

"We've reinvented wireless service to provide customers with a range of communications options that will allow them to stay connected with greater ease and convenience than ever before," said Malloy.

The all-in-one communications system provides individuals and businesses with voice, paging and e-mail messaging capabilities with added features such as enhanced voice quality, enhanced privacy and fraud protection, extended battery life, plus access to the "largest digital wireless network in North America."

Malloy said the state-of-the-art network is a reflection of the times and affords consumers anyplace communication options - particularly for those persons wishing to maintain a blend of business and home life.

"The digital wireless network offers an array of enhanced choices such as e-mail up to 150 characters per message, voice mail and Caller ID," said Malloy. "Other familiar features such as Call Waiting, Forwarding and Three-Way Conference Calling are still in place."

The expansion of AT&T's Digital PCS wireless network allows



Cutting edge: AT&T Wireless Services commemorated the Dec. 2 openings of five area stores with ribbon cuttings. Shown here is the store at Novi Town Center. From AT&T Wireless Services: (front, from left) Bill Malloy, Central Region president; Ken Childress; Maralisa Vidosh, store manager; Dave Marshall, marketing manager; Tammy Smith; Mekisha Page; Susan Snyder, Central Region vice president market operations; and Rackeline Hoff, external affairs manager.

individuals, heavy-use consumers and businesses uninterrupted quality calls by both the sender and receiver between and within wireless systems and traditional analog cellular service areas.

"You can count on clearer call clarity, more secure calls and e-mail right to your phone so that you have the ability to be mobile and continue to count on receiving the information you need without having to worry about interrupted service thanks to capabilities of our "smart phone," Malloy noted.

Other advantages of the new wireless network include: Flat roaming rate of 60 cents per minute of travel in most cities across the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Digital PCS "is competitively priced, offering a tier of monthly calling plans."

You are not required to sign an annual service contract, and

easy access to 24-hour AT&T Customer Care.

Five new AT&T Wireless Service store were opened for consumers and businesses including locations in Novi, Ann Arbor, Roseville Utica and Lathrup Village. Malloy said additional stores are expected to open in 1998 in Detroit and throughout Southeast Michigan. The retail stores offer Digital PCS phones, service and accessories as well as other AT&T services.

"Wireless communication creates more mobility for our customers and has allowed us to furnish them with a host of options and advanced features they've never had in one device before," said Malloy.

AT&T Digital PCS (available at the Novi store, 43267 Crescent Blvd., Novi Town Center. Store hours are Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sun., noon to 5 p.m.)

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ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Crafters turn promoting into art

She Smith and Molly Pemberton were tired of trying to sell their crafts at shows where promoters treated them with little respect, so the two Canton residents decided to strike out on their own.

After taking part in a shop run as a cooperative by crafters, they started the Handcrafters Arts and Crafts Show 16 years ago. Over the years, they've built this arts and crafters showcase into a profitable business.

"It was nice because I have three children and they were little at the time," said Smith. "My husband could stay home on the weekends while we produced the shows."

Upcoming show

If you're still in need of a few gifts for the holidays, don't miss their next show featuring 65 exhibitors Dec. 12-14 at the Northville Recreation Center, 303 West Main in Northville.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, until 5 p.m. Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is \$2. For more information, call (313) 459-0050.

Handcrafters is one of the few shows around, produced by crafters. Smith, who holds a patent on her work, creates wreaths from whole spices such as nutmeg, bay leaf, cinnamon, and star anise. Pemberton cuts and paints wood gingerbread men, snowmen and Santa ornaments.

"We understand what it's like to be crafters, how it feels to be turned down for

a show," said Smith. "People don't realize that crafts are a time-consuming job, 10 to 12 hours a day, not just a weekend show. These crafters are professionals so we treat them with respect."

Dennis Gerathy's vintage-looking signs are sure to be popular with University of Michigan fans. Gerathy crafts the signs in his Redford shop. Among the other works included in the show are hand painted dog and cat ornaments by Marlene DeFoor of Livonia; quilted and cross stitched ornaments, Roberta Baraszu, Plymouth; stained glass valances and boxes, Marsha Filipiak, Royal Oak, and seasonal florals, Sandy Callahan, Bloomfield Hills.

Variety

"We feel we have the best variety of craftsmen in the area," said Pemberton. "Our customers come back year after year. There's something for everybody's taste and pocket book from Victorian Christmas Carol dolls to porcelain Santas, and shadow boxes shaped into French gardens. There's ornaments for \$3 to larger Santas for a couple hundred dollars."

Handcrafters hosts six shows a year, three in Northville, two in Taylor and one in Mt. Clemens. Smith and Pemberton welcome artists and crafters to apply for entry in the juried shows. The two try to exhibit 25 percent new crafters at each show.

"We're looking for uniqueness in handmade items and a fine quality of workmanship," said Smith. "We like to think our show has craftsman you wouldn't see anywhere else. I exhibit in a lot of shows out of state, so I see some unique, one-of-a-kind items

Please see EXPRESSIONS, D2

Jazzy: The SCool Jazz and SCool Jazz PRIME ensembles are releasing a CD and cassette of selections performed during a Russian concert tour last summer.



What: A concert of jazz, madrigals and seasonal selections by Schoolcraft College's SCool Jazz, SCool Jazz Prime, and the Chamber Singers. Admission is free; donations accepted at the door go to music scholarships and funding future concert tours. For more information, call (313) 462-4417. To order "From Russia With Jazz," call (313) 480-7139.

When: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10.

Where: Radcliff Center, 1751 Radcliff Road, (south of Ford Road, between Wayne and Merriman), Garden City.

Ensembles groove on CD

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

The SCool Jazz and SCool Jazz PRIME vocal ensembles new CD brings back fond memories of the groups' Russian tour. Director Steven SeGraves and members of the ensemble were invited to tour Russia by Alexander N. Demchenko, Ministry of Culture, last June. The Schoolcraft College ensembles chose the selections according to the response of Russian audiences.

Recorded with Jack Brokensha in his home studio, the CD puts listeners in a mellow mood with jazz classics such as "Take the A Train," "I've Got the World on a String," "All the Things You Are," and "Angel Eyes."

"We narrowed it down by how the Russian people reacted to a song, if they loved it so much, they had us do it again," said SeGraves. "The group is financing the CD. We decided it was so important to put forth our own money because we want to get this music out there. It was a significant investment (\$5,000) but we're interested only in breaking even: It's a great stocking stuffer and people would be supporting college students."

The CD's (\$15) and tapes (\$10) will be on sale at the groups' annual "Jazz Up the Holidays" concert 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, in the community room at Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center in Garden City. The concert is free, but donations accepted at the door go toward music scholarships and funding future tours.

"When people hear the word jazz sometimes they get scared that it's wild and crazy," said SeGraves. "We use imaginative arrangements. It's like a big band that has been translated into voices. Ella Fitzgerald's and Louis Armstrong's scat singing were unique instruments."

"Vocal jazz is an art that many people don't

hear a lot about," said SeGraves. "It's difficult, challenging and rewarding."

SCool Jazz and SCool Jazz PRIME were the first American college jazz choirs ever to be invited to tour Russia. Before the trip, the groups received a letter from President Clinton congratulating them and relaying the importance of fostering understanding between the cultures.

For SeGraves, the highlight of the 12-day Russian tour was the folk and dance festival in Cheboksary where a crowd of 30,000 lined the Volga River. The groups marched in a three-hour parade leading up to the festival.

"The people were very warm and generous and kind," said SeGraves. "The Cheboksary festival was my favorite part of the tour because we had the chance to get in amongst the people. The people is where you really get a sense of Russia. There's more similarities than differences. The children are like children anywhere - some of them got into mischief, some didn't."

An American commodity, SeGraves says jazz is growing in popularity since its introduction during the years following the dissolution of the U.S.S.R. in 1991. The group performed middle-of-the-road arrangements so as to slowly acclimate its audiences to the fine nuances of vocal jazz.

"We did run into one Russian jazz band, but we were a unique thing there," said SeGraves. "People were fascinated with us as Americans. The young people love it because it has a beat and includes a band."

The groups traveled with an interpreter who, when the group asked if they could go down to the river, replied, "it's a free country." SeGraves said the interpreter repeated this phrase again and again.

"The impression I got was that they were happy with their freedom and wouldn't want to go back to the old days," said SeGraves.

When asked if they would like to tour Russia again, SeGraves replied enthusiastically.

"We would do it again in a heart beat," he said. "The CD came out of that. We were so pleased with the tour we decided to record the music to communicate the tour but also that's what quality groups do. It's also good publicity for the college and can be used as a tool in recruiting."

Founded by Bradley Bloom in 1968, SCool Jazz was formed so students could learn about vocal jazz, sing jazz, learn about its history and work on the singers' skills. SeGraves took over the group four years ago. The first year, he decided to divide SCool Jazz into two ensembles according to age and experience. SCool Jazz is primarily comprised of undergraduates ranging in age from 18 to 22 because Schoolcraft is basically a two-year institution and SeGraves sometimes only has students for one year. SCool Jazz PRIME is similar to a community chorus and consists of singers selected for their experience and talent.

The CD is the first the group has recorded. And if SeGraves has his way it won't be the last. The groups plan to perform at the 1999 Montreaux Jazz Festival in Switzerland pending approval by the school and available funds. It takes \$35,000 to \$40,000 to produce a tour.

"We want to thank the school for supporting us and helping with the more than \$30,000 in expenses," said SeGraves. "Jean Bonner, in particular, went to bat for us because she believed in us."

If you miss SCool Jazz and SCool Jazz PRIME's Dec. 10 concert, they'll be back singing during the annual Mardi Gras Celebration of jazz and creole cooking 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, at Schoolcraft College. For information, call (313) 462-4417.

ART SHOWS



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDELD

Mixing techniques: John Murphy lays clay in a mold and places it on a potter's wheel before building up a lip for his newest work, a wall hanging shield titled "Bullseye."

Artist molds international reputation

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

John Murphy could hardly believe the letter stating he was one of two American clay artists accepted into the fifth International Triennial of Contemporary Porcelain taking place June 12 through Oct. 11 in Nyon, Switzerland. Murphy is an advanced ceramics instructor at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. A jury of international ceramists and museum curators selected him and 13 other artists from 253 entries from 35 countries. Murphy and Wayne Higby will represent the United States.

"I'm very honored to be one of two chosen to represent this country in this international exhibition," said Murphy. "It's been worth the 20 years of hard work to find oneself in this position. This is really a great honor; I'm looking forward to sending my work."

Murphy credits his success as a clay artist to the fact he is responsible for every square inch of the work, a premise learned while studying for his master's degree

at Wayne State University. Even the insides and bottoms of the vessels are finished with Murphy's trademark black and white surface decoration.

"I use black and white as a symbol of good and evil, positive and negative," said Murphy. "I'm very aware of racial issues because my wife's African American. But I worked in black and white before I met her. Maybe it's subconscious, but I'm not consciously trying to make a statement that black and white can work together."

Murphy's first contact with clay came at a potter's wheel more than two decades ago. Over the years, throwing clay gradually evolved into a lengthy process which incorporates techniques consisting of hand building and forming works in molds. Murphy demonstrates the intricacies for visitors to his Old Redford studio.

After manipulating a hunk of clay to remove all of the air bubbles, Murphy begins to craft his newest porcelain work "Bullseye." The piece, reminiscent of a shield, is meant to hang on the wall. Black and white circular

Please see ARTIST, D2

Expressions from page D1



Crafty duo: Sue Smith and Molly Pemberton bring yet another of their popular arts and crafts show to Northville Dec. 12-14.

what I try to bring into our show. We want to make sure we have the \$5 items for a teacher's gift as well as a lot of personalized items. We also try to get

fine arts. The emphasis is definitely on fine arts but we do have fine arts, also." Smith display her wreaths in 30 shows a years. That's a full-

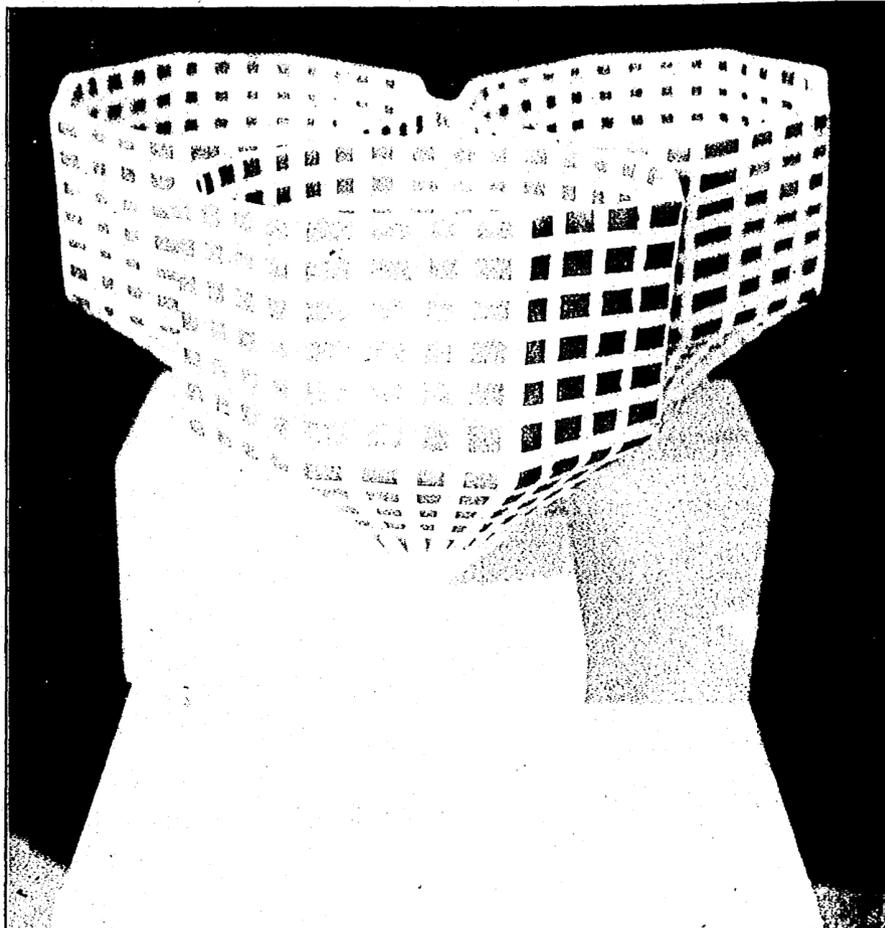
'We like doing our crafts, but the promoting part is our great love. We have artists and craftsmen who have been with us since we've started. They've become friends.'

Sue Smith

time business, in itself. So why do Smith and Pemberton continue to promote shows after all these years?

"We like doing our crafts, but the promoting part is our great love," said Smith. "We have artists and craftsmen who have been with us since we've started. They've become friends."

Linda Ann Chomin is an arts reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have an interesting idea for a story involving the visual or performing arts, call her at (313) 953-2145.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Sculptural clay: John Murphy created this work titled "Home." It is similar to a sculpture recently exhibited in a national show at Penn State.

Artist from page D1

lines zero in on the target.

"I'd been intrigued with shields in African art, more for their geometric shape than as a means of protection," said Murphy. "I thought it was fitting to hang them up on the walls because that's the way they're displayed in museums."

For the next step, Murphy places a mold on top of a potter's wheel. He rolls out the clay with a pin then places it in the mold.

"I've been changing the format from a vessel to sculptural closed forms to wall forms," said Murphy. "My work is constantly evolving."

One of the problems, Murphy encountered is designing the shield so that it could be displayed on a wall. He arrived at a

solution by laying the rolled out clay in the plaster mold. He then builds up a lip for the back by throwing the work on a wheel.

"I wanted the shield to be self-sufficient, to hang on its own," said Murphy. "This way the shield seals to the wall and is aesthetically pleasing even when viewed from the side."

Murphy utilizes repetition and geometric shapes in his work in an attempt to marry design elements.

"Even though I work in raku and stoneware, I love porcelain. It's clean and smooth and nice and white," said Murphy. "But porcelain is more difficult to con-

trol. It has a mind of its own."

Murphy's first shield evolved from a demonstration for his students at Schoolcraft College. He will teach advanced ceramics and raku during the winter term.

As a child, Murphy snuck into his father's workshop to use the tools. Later on in life, he crafted jewelry before turning to clay. Murphy's "always had this urge to work with his hands." But over the years, it's become a passion. In order to create art, he works full time building experimental engines for Ford Motor Company.

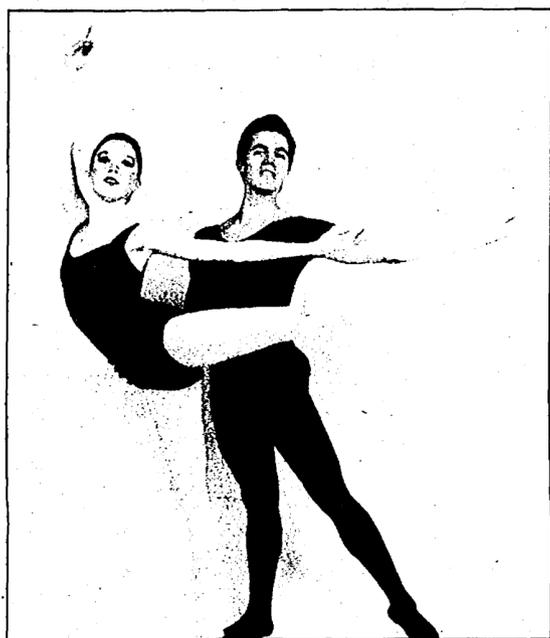
Is Murphy worried about shipping the fragile porcelain pieces to Europe? No, in fact several of Murphy's works recently were mailed to Penn State University for a national exhibition. Murphy says, he'll "just package them very carefully."

Murphy exhibits his work as often as possible. His clay art has been included in shows at Gallery Functionart in Pontiac; the Ann Arbor Art Association; San Angelo Museum of Fine Art, Texas, and Louisville Visual Arts Center, Kentucky.

His work is currently on exhibit in "Earthy Treasure," Pewabic Pottery's annual Holiday Invitational, which continues through Dec. 31.

Murphy's works are also on display at the Swann Gallery, Detroit, and in "Undefined the Holidays," a show continuing through Dec. 23 at the Detroit Artists Market.

Holiday Enchantment



Magical Moment: The Plymouth Canton Ballet Company and Plymouth Symphony Orchestra with principal dancers Dawnell Dryja and Mark Nash of the Cincinnati Ballet present Tchaikovsky's magical "Nutcracker Ballet Dec. 12-14, at the Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road at Canton Center Road in Canton. Dryja, an award winning dancer, graduated from Plymouth Canton High School. Tickets are \$15 for adults and senior citizens, \$8 for children K-12, and available by calling the symphony office at (313) 451-2112.

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MAKING CONTACT: Please submit items for publication to Frank Provenzano, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 or fax (248) 644-1314:

AUDITIONS / CALL FOR ENTRIES

B'HAM VILLAGE PLAYERS
7:30 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 10-11, auditions for "The Dining Room" by A.R. Gurney. Production dates: Feb. 18, 20-22, 25-28 & March 1. Cast: Three men, three women. Village Players, 752 Chestnut, corner of Woodward and Chestnut, downtown Birmingham; (248) 644-2075.

VERY SPECIAL ARTS MICHIGAN
Call for Art by people with disabilities for a juried exhibition. Deadline: Jan. 15. Contact VSAMI office, 21700 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI 48075; (248) 423-1080.

MISS MICH/MISS MICH TEEN
Now accepting applications to state preliminaries of "Miss USA & Miss Teen USA." Miss Michigan requirements: single, state resident between ages of 18-26; Miss Michigan Teen requirements: single, state resident between ages of 14-18. Competition categories: swim wear, evening wear, interview. (248) 334-7700.

MUSIC COMPETITION
The Bohemians Club, a.k.a. The Musicians Club of Greater Detroit, will hold its first annual Solo Concerto Competition for orchestral instruments. Prize money will be awarded. Contestants, between ages of 16-22, must submit performance tape by March 1, 1998. Send to: Herbert Couf, c/o The Bohemians, 37685 Russett Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48331.

DOCUMENTA USA
Slides, videotape (no longer than 15 minutes) for a three-month spring 1998 exhibit. Every submission will be presented. Artists of any medium, age free to participate. The Museum of Contemporary Art, 23 W. Lawrence St., Ste. 101, Pontiac, MI 48342.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13 & 20. Fifty voice choir includes both students and experienced singers of all ages. St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile Road (west of Inkster Road), Livonia; (248) 349-8175 or (313) 462-4435.

HARBOR BELLS
English secular hand bell choir has openings for ringers 18 years or older. Must read music. Rehearsals once a week. Sept.-June. (248) 681-6453.

NAT'L JURIED EXHIBIT AT PCCA
Paint Creek Center for the Arts seeks entries for national juried all media exhibition, March 27-April 24, 1998. Deadline for slide entries: Jan. 15, 1998. For prospectus send a SASE to PCCA/Exhibitions, 407 Pine Street, Rochester, MI 48307; (248) 651-4110.

17TH ANNUAL MICHIGAN FINE ARTS COMPETITION
Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association seeks entries for its statewide all media competition, March 6-27. For information and a prospectus, call (248) 644-0866.

BENEFITS

FRIENDS OF POLISH ART
6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, the annual Christmas Wigilia celebration, a traditional Polish Christmas Eve meal. Proceeds benefit the fine arts fund. Polish Century Club, 5181 E. Outer Drive, Detroit; (313) 455-6207.

MS THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD
A calendar of 12 images selected from a 87-piece international exhibit, and holiday cards and note cards. Write/contact the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 733 Third Avenue, New York, NY, 10017; (800) FIGHT MS.

CHOIR/CHORUS

NOVI CHORALAIRES
Novi's Community Chorus presents music for Christmas celebration - 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Church of the Holy Family, 24505 Meadowbrook Road, Novi. Donation: \$5, purchased at Novi Parks and Recreation office, or at the door. (248) 347-0400.

SCHOOLCRAFT CHOIR
"Alleluia, Rejoice!" featuring Christmas Cantata by Daniel Pinkham. Dates: 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 W. Church Street, Plymouth; 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road, Livonia; (313) 462-4435.

A CAPELLA
8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, "The Grunions," perform extensive repertoire including seasonal music. Sponsored by the Fair Lane Music Guild, Henry Ford Estate - Fair Lane, U of M Dearborn, Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen Road; (313) 593-5330.

TUESDAY MUSICALES OF PONTIAC
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, "Annual Christmas Concert," Central United Methodist Church, Waterford; (248) 673-6568.

CANTATA ACADEMY
"Holiday Favorites" - 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lake Shore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms; 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, St. Hugo of the Hill, 2215 Opdyke Road, Bloomfield Hills; (248) 546-0420.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT
4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, featuring nine choirs of the church along with brass and percussion. Proceeds benefit Farmington Families in Action Nardin Park Methodist Church, 29887 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills; (248) 476-8860.

VANGUARD VOICES
7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, "Christmas Concert," featuring Repgh's sequence of carols, "Laud to the Nativity of the Lord." St. Clement Roman Catholic Church, 5275 Kenilworth, south of Ford Road, Dearborn; (313) 317-6566.

HOLIDAYS REVISITED
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, the

Farmington Community Chorus presents its 18th annual winter concert. Traditional holiday favorites and contemporary seasonal selections performed by 80-voice choir. Farmington High School, 32000 Shawwassee, west of Orchard Lake Road. Tickets: \$8, adults; \$5, seniors/students; (248) 788-5322.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

PCCA WINTER CLASSES
Registration open for classes from 4 years old and up. Classes run, Jan. 19-March 4, 407 Pine Street, Rochester. To register, (248) 651-4110.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
Through March 5 - 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m., "Survey of World Art," Holley Room; Thursdays, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12 & 19, 4-6 p.m., "Drawing for Adults," Studio and Galleries; 10 a.m.-noon Saturdays Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, "Altering Spaces: Installation Art," Holley Room; 10 a.m.-noon Saturdays Feb. 21, 28 March 7, "From the African Loom to the African American Quilt." Fees vary. Classes and workshops require preregistration. To register call (313) 833-4249.

CLASSICAL

DSO'S BAROQUE HOLIDAY CONCERT
8:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, featuring conductor/violinist Jaime Laredo. Tickets: \$17-\$60. Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit; (313) 833-3700.

DETROIT ORATORIO SOCIETY
"Handel's 'Messiah'" - 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, St. Mary Catholic Church, 730 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. Tickets: \$25 preferred; \$18 general; \$10 students. (248) 650-2655.

UMS CHORAL UNION
"Handel's 'Messiah'" - 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, featuring conductor Thomas Sheets, soprano Nicole Heaston, counter-tenor David Daniels, tenor John Aler and bass Nathan Berg along with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Tickets: \$10-\$18. Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. (313) 764-2538.

LYRIC CHAMBER ENSEMBLE
3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, "Song and Style," featuring the Living Christmas Card Vocal Quartet. Tickets: \$30. At the home of Dr. William Kupski of Grosse Pointe. For details, call (248) 357-1111.

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL
3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, "Annual Christmas Concert," featuring Mercy High School vocal ensembles, the Mercy Orchestra and the Mercyaires. 29300 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills; (248) 476-8020.

DETROIT CHAMBER WINDS
"Holiday Brass," an annual seasonal celebration for large brass choir, including works by Handel, Mancini, Bizet and Gershwin. 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church; 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Christ Church Cranbrook. Tickets: \$20 general, \$16 students/seniors, \$10 children under 12.

DETROIT BRASS SOCIETY
3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, First United Methodist Church, 22331 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale; (248) 546-2503.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE
1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, "Holiday Celebration," conducted by Judith Prehm and accompanist Eleanor Whelan, including carols and seasonal songs featuring soprano Grace Ward, Joan Chandler Bowers and John Muller. Central Woodward Christian Church, 3955 W. Big Beaver at Adams Road, Troy; (248) 455-5978.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE
4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, "Classics on the Lake," featuring holiday favorites and jazz flutist Alexander Zonjic and a Detroit gospel choir. Tickets: \$12 & \$20; 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake; (248) 683-1750.

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT
8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, The Beaux Arts Trio, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. Tickets: \$5-\$40; (313) 833-3700.

CCC'S COMMUNITY CHORUS
8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, Vivaldi's "Gloria," for chorus and orchestra, conducted by Thomas Sheets of the University Musical Society Choral. Also, a holiday sing-a-long. Tickets: \$5, adults; \$3 students. 27055 Orchard Lake Road, just south of I-96, Farmington Hills; (248) 540-1540.

CONCERT BANDS

B'HAM CONCERT BAND
3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, "Holiday Concert," featuring seasonal favorites and inspirational music. Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple Road, Birmingham.

NOVI CONCERT BAND
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, "Annual Holiday Concert and Sing-A-Long," Novi Civic Center, 10 Mile Road, west of Novi Road.

DANCE

EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE
2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, "Holiday Spectacular." Tickets: \$6-\$10. Studio Theatre, Varner Hall, Oakland University, Rochester Hills; (248) 370-3013.

FLAMENCO
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, "Flamenco without Limits," featuring Omayra Amaya and her dance company. Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue, Detroit; (313) 833-7899.

CONTEMPORARY CIVIC BALLET
"The Nutcracker," under the direction of Rose Marie Floyd, with New York dancer Alexander Schlemmep, and Samantha Shelton. 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12 at Warren Woods Middle School auditorium East 12 Mile, west of Schooner.



Hot steps: Omayra Amaya and "Flamenco Without Limits" display the passion of Spanish flamenco at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Detroit Institute of Arts Theatre. The concert is presented by Musica Viva International; (313) 833-2323.

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 Freemasonry, in the Scottish Rite Cathedral Auditorium at Masonic Temple, Detroit. \$5 at the door. (248) 641-9063.

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With principal dancers Evelyn Cisneros and Anthony Randazzo from the San Francisco Ballet, and Kimberly Glasco and Aleksandar Antonovic from the National Ballet of Canada, along with members of Jacob 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 8 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 Shawwassee (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 Clarendonville 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.

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: 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. & 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12. (313) 983-6611. (248) 645-6666.

EXHIBITS (ON-GOING)

MACOMB CENTER
Through Dec. 8 - "Macomb Arts Council Prestige Art Show." 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Twp. (810) 286-2141.

PROVIDENCE MEDICAL CENTER
Through Dec. 8 - "Collective Visions," a group exhibit. 30055 Northstar Hwy at Inkster Road. (248) 865-4000.

BOOK BEAT
Through Dec. 10 - "Gods of the Spirit Haitian Vodou Flags and Objects." 26010 Greenfield. (248) 968-1190.

ARTSPACE II
Through Dec. 11 - "Gold Sculpture and Painting by Barbara Kovacs." 303 E. Maple, Birmingham. (248) 258-1540.

ARIANA GALLERY
Through Dec. 11 - "Platters That Matter," works by 30 artists. 119 S. Main, Royal Oak. (248) 546-8810.

COMMUNITY ARTS GALLERY
Through Dec. 12 - "Graduate Works in Progress." Wayne State University campus, 150 Art Building, Detroit. (313) 577-2203.

WETSAN COLLECTION
Through Dec. 13 - "Metals & Stone Common & Uncommon," works of Wendel Heers, Tom Madden, Hiroko Pijanowski, Karen Miller Thomas. 132 N. Old Woodward, Birmingham. (248) 645-6212.

HILL GALLERY

Through Dec. 15 - 6:30-8 p.m., "Carl Toth: Recent Works." 407 W. Brown Street, Birmingham; (248) 540-9288.

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Through Dec. 19 - "Fiber, Clay, Metal," alumni invitational exhibition. Ford Gallery Art Dept., 114 Ford Hall, EMU, Ypsilanti; (313) 487-0465.

WEARLEY STUDIO GALLERY
Through Dec. 19 - "Functional Things: Objects by Lisa Norton," associate professor of metals at the School of Art Institute in Chicago. 1719 W. Fourteen Mile Road, Royal Oak; (248) 549-3016.

WETSAN COLLECTION
Through Dec. 19 - Exhibition of four metalsmiths from metro Detroit: Wendel Heers, Thomas Madden, Hiroko Pijanowski, Karen Miller Thomas. 132 N. Old Woodward, Birmingham; (248) 645-6212.

ARNOLD KLEIN GALLERY
Through Dec. 20 - "Watercolors of Karin Klue." 32782 Woodward Avenue, Royal Oak; (248) 647-7709.

LAWRENCE STREET GALLERY
Through Dec. 20 - "From Nature's Mould," featuring eight artists from Michigan's Thumb area. 6 N. Saginaw, Pontiac; (248) 334-6716.

ROOM WITH A VIEW
Through Dec. 20 - "Photography of Russ Marshall." 803 N. Main, Royal Oak; (248) 548-1446.

MATRIX GALLERY
Through Dec. 21 - "Near and Far: Recent Landscape Paintings by Lauren Kingsley." thru Dec. 21, 212 Miller Avenue, Ann Arbor; (313) 663-7775.

U OF M - DEARBORN
Through Dec. 24 - "People Figures: Puppets, Robots, Transformers and Dolls," an assortment of vintage and contemporary toys and sculptures from several regional private collections. The Art Museum Project, UM-DeARBORN, 4901 Evergreen Road, 1165 AB, Dearborn; (313) 593-5058.

SUSANNE HILBERRY GALLERY
Through Dec. 24 - "Holiday Exhibition," featuring metal artist Darcy Miro. Show runs concurrent with "Downes, Phelan, Morley: Recent Paintings." 555 S. Woodward, Birmingham; (248) 642-8250.

CARY GALLERY
Through Dec. 27 - "Earth in Search of Water: Pastels by Sky Mikinak." 226 Walnut Blvd., Rochester; (248) 651-3656.

DAVID KLEIN GALLERY
Through Dec. 27 - "A Moveable Feast," featuring works of Breivik, Celmins, Crawford, Guston, 163 Townsend, Birmingham; (248) 433-3700.

G.R. N'NAMDI GALLERY
Through Dec. 27 - "Tyronne Mitchell: Recent Works." 161 Townsend, Birmingham; (248) 642-2700.

SWANN GALLERY
Through Dec. 28 - 6 p.m., "The Christmas Show," featuring works by Diana Garaman, David Mandberg, Vinndor Chaudhry. 1250 Library Street, Detroit; (313) 965-4826.

C POP GALLERY
Through Dec. 30 - "Nocturnal Planet. Paintings, Prints and Drawings by Glenn Barr." 515 S. Lafayette, Ste. D, Royal Oak; (248) 398-9999.

JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN MUSEUM/GALLERY
Through Dec. 31 - "Threads," an exhibit and sale of quilts, fabric art, textiles and tapestries. Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield; (248) 661-7641.

KNOLLWOOD GALLERY
Through Dec. 31 - "Food Art of David McCall Johnston." 6447 Inkster Road at Maple, Bloomfield Hills; (248) 626-9844.

OAKLAND COUNTY GALLERY
Through Dec. 31 - "50th anniversary exhibit of the Michigan Weaver's Guild." 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Second Floor, Executive Office Building, Pontiac; (248) 858-0415.

ZEITGEIST GALLERY/PERFORMANCE VENUE
Through Dec. 31 - "The Hi & Goodbye Show," paintings by Jacques Karamanoukian and sculptural woodcuts and prints by Karl Schneider. 2661 Michigan Avenue, Detroit; (313) 965-9192.

EXHIBIT OPENINGS

IMAN
Dec. 7 - 5:30 p.m., "Muslim Women Artists: An exhibit of contemporary and traditional artwork." thru Dec. 21, Oak Park Public Library, 13600 Oak Park Blvd., Oak Park. (248) 377-2266.

URBAN PARK GALLERY
Dec. 12 - 5:30-9 p.m., "Celebration of Color," by Michele Rooda. 508 Monroe Street, The Alley, Greektown Detroit.

ART LEADERS GALLERY
Dec. 13 - 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., the Holiday limited print collection of Thomas Kinkadee. 33216 W. 14 Mile Road, West Bloomfield; (248) 539-0262.

FESTIVALS

GUILD OF ARTISTS AND ARTISANS
11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, "Holiday Art Fair," presented by the Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans, who organize the Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair. Tickets: \$4 adults, free for children under 12. Oakland Community College, Bldg. H, Orchard Lake Road at 1636 Farmington Hills; (313) 662-3382. (248) 548-3779.

HOLIDAY ART GIFTS
10 a.m. - 8 p.m., featuring tiles, paper shells, stained glass, beads, furniture. Royal Oak Women's Club, 404 S. Pleasant, corner of Fourth Street, Royal Oak. (248) 549-4099.

HOLIDAY SALES SHOW

Through Dec. 13 - "Gifts of Art," featuring ceramics, glass, jewelry, wood, fibers, toys, wearables, ornaments. Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road, Birmingham; (248) 644-0866.

POTTERY SALE
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 18-20, "14th Annual Pottery Sale," student and professional potters featuring functional ceramic pieces. Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road, Birmingham; (248) 644-0866.

A.C.T. GALLERY
Through Dec. 20 - "RED," two and three dimensional work inspired by the color. The gallery is an artists' co-operative. 29 E. Grand River, Detroit; (313) 831-2862.

PAINT CREEK ART CENTER
Through Dec. 20 - 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 22, "Holiday Gift Gallery Party." Proceeds go to nonprofit art center. 407 Pine Street, Rochester; (248) 651-4110.

TOUCH OF LIGHT
Through Dec. 24 - Hand-blown glass show, featuring work of John Fitzpatrick, including ornaments. 23426 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale; (248) 543-1868.

ANN ARBOR ART CENTER
Through Dec. 26 - Holiday Gifts show, featuring 28 artists. 117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor; (313) 994-8004.

SILK PHOTOGRAPHY
Through Dec. 28 - "Annual Holiday Photo Sale." 14261 Nadine, Oak Park; (248) 544-1203.

GALLERY BIRMINGHAM
Through Dec. 29 - Holiday exhibit, featuring Manel Anoro, John Asaro, Sohil Hohn and Rick Laney. 390 E. Maple, Birmingham; (248) 540-8505.

CHRISTIE'S GALLERY
Through Dec. 30 - "Art Wear & Gifts," featuring jewelry, handbags, ceramic ornaments. 34649 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE
Through Dec. 31 - Annual gift show includes all media. Proceeds benefit the arts center. 47 Williams Street, Pontiac; (248) 333-7849.

MILLERS ARTISTS SUPPLIES
Through Dec. 31 - "Holiday Gift Bazaar," featuring works by local artists. 279 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale; (248) 414-7070.

MOORE'S GALLERY
Through Dec. 31 - "African Gift Items," including baskets, batiks, dolls, masks and jewelry. 304 Hamilton Row, Birmingham; (248) 64-3HONA.

PARK WEST
Through Dec. 31 - "Annual Holiday Show," featuring Linda Le Kneif. 29469 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield; (248) 354-2343.

PEWABIC POTTERY
Through Dec. 31 - Annual holiday show. "Earthy Treasures." 10125 E. Jefferson. Detroit; (31

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

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Canon 6
Ford Rd. 1/2 mi. west of I-275
(313)981-1900
Advanced same-day tickets available
*Denotes 17 Projections

GIFT BOOKS NOW ON SALE

THE RAINMAKER (PG-13)
DVD SCREENS
2.00 (4.50 @ \$3.50) 3.00, 7.00, 9.45

MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)
1.45 (5.00 @ \$3.50) 3.15
*BEAN (PG-13)
2.30 (4.50 @ \$3.50) 7.10, 9.35

***ALIEN: THE RESURRECTION (R)**
2.00, 2.30 (4.50 @ \$3.50) 4.30, 5.00, 5.30, 7.00, 7.30, 9.30, 10.30

***I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)**
1.50, 9.30

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (R)
11.00, 1.40, 4.00, 7.00, 9.40

Showcase Pontiac 1.5
Telegraph Sq. Lake Rd. W Side of Telegraph
810-352-0241
Bargain Matinee Daily
*All Shows Until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. THRU THURSDAY

FLUBBER (PG)
10.45, 11.15, 12.50, 1.20, 3.10, 3.40, 5.10, 5.40, 7.10, 7.40, 9.20, 9.50

RAINMAKER (PG-13)
12.30, 1.00, 3.30, 4.30, 7.00, 7.30, 9.40, 10.10

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (R)
4.00, 6.50, 9.30
BEAN (PG)
11.30, 1.30

Showcase Pontiac 6-12
2455 Telegraph Rd. East side of Telegraph
810-334-6777
Bargain Matinee Daily
*All Shows Until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. THRU THURSDAY

ALIENS 4 (R)
11.00, 11.30, 1.30, 2.00, 4.00, 4.30, 7.15, 7.45, 9.45, 10.15

ANASTASIA (G)
SUN 12.00, 2.10, 5.00, 7.50, 9.50
MON-THURS 12.00, 2.30, 4.40, 6.50, 9.00

SNEAK PREVIEW HOME ALONE 3 (PG)
SUNDAY 4:00 PM

THE JACKAL (R)
11.15, 2.15, 4.50, 7.30, 10.05

MORTAL KOMBAT (PG-13)
12.15, 2.40, 5.00, 7.20, 9.40

MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)
12.30, 1.45, 7.00, 10.00

EYE'S BAYOU (R)
11.45, 2.25, 5.10, 7.40, 9.55

Quo Vadis
Women & Waive Rds
313-425-7700
Bargain Matinee Daily
*All Shows Until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows FRI. & SATURDAY THRU THURSDAY

ALIENS 4 (R)
11.15, 11.30, 1.30, 2.00, 4.00, 4.30, 7.15, 7.45, 9.45, 10.15

ANASTASIA (G)
SUN 12.00, 2.10, 5.00, 7.50, 9.50
MON-THURS 11.40, 1.55, 4.00, 6.50, 9.00

SNEAK PREVIEW HOME ALONE 3 (PG)
MORTAL KOMBAT (PG-13)
11.15, 11.45, 1.45, 2.15, 4.15, 7.20, 9.20

BEAN (PG-13)
11.40, 2.00, 7.10

THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG)
4.40, 9.15

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (R)
4.00, 7.00, 9.35

Showcase Westland 1.8
6800 Wayne Rd.
One blk. S of Warren Rd.
313-729-1060
Bargain Matinee Daily
*All Shows Until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. THRU THURSDAY

FLUBBER (PG)
10.45, 11.15, 12.50, 1.20, 3.00, 3.30, 5.10, 5.40, 7.25, 7.55, 9.35, 10.05

ALIENS 4 (R)
11.00, 11.30, 1.30, 2.00, 4.00, 4.30, 7.10, 7.40, 9.45, 10.15

ANASTASIA (G)
2.30, 2.35, 4.40, 6.50, 9.00
8.11.45, 1.50, 3.55, 8.00, 10.00 (SUNDAY ONLY)

HOME ALONE 3 (PG)
SNEAK PREVIEW SUNDAY AT 4:00 PM

RAINMAKER (PG-13)
10.50, 12.20, 1.50, 3.40, 4.40, 7.00, 7.30, 9.50, 10.20

MORTAL KOMBAT (PG-13)
12.40, 1.10, 2.50, 3.20, 5.00, 5.30, 7.20, 7.50, 9.40, 10.10

MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)
1.00, 4.00, 7.00, 10.00

THE JACKAL (R)
11.10, 1.45, 4.25, 7.10, 9.45

BEAN (PG-13)
11.20, 1.40, 4.10, 6.30, 8.50

STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)
1.35, 9.10

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (R)
12.20, 3.20, 6.20, 9.20

EYE'S BAYOU (R)
11.50, 4.20, 6.40

Star Theatres
The World's Best Theatres
Bargain Matinee Daily \$4.00 All Shows Starting before 6:00 pm
Now accepting Visa & MasterCard
*Denotes No Pass Engagement

Star John B. Little
32283 John B. Road
(810) 545-2070
CALL FOR SATURDAY SHOWINGS
No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP FLUBBER (PG)
11.30, 12.30, 1.45, 2.45, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 7.15, 8.30, 9.30, 10.40

ANASTASIA (G)
11.00, 12.00, 1.15, 2.15, 3.30, 4.30, 5.45, 6.45 (Mon-Thurs), 8.00, 9.00, 10.15

WINGS OF THE DOVE (R)
11.00, 2.00, 4.45, 7.00, 9.15

STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)
11.45, 2.30, 5.30, 8.15, 11.00

BEAN (PG-13)
11.10, 12.45, 1.30, 3.10, 4.15, 5.15, 6.30, 7.30, 8.45, 9.45, 10.50

No 7:30 on Dec. 8

EYE'S BAYOU (R)
12.15, 3.45, 7.45, 10.30

No 7:45 Dec. 8, Dec. 9 & Dec. 11

Star Rochester Hills
200 Barclay Circle
815-2260
SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY
No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP ALIEN RESURRECTION (R)
11.00, 12.00, 1.30, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.30, 7.30, 9.00, 10.00

NO V.P. TICKETS

NP THE RAINMAKER (PG-13)
10.45, 11.45, 1.45, 3.30, 4.45, 6.45, 8.00, 9.45, 11.00

NO V.P. TICKETS

NP WINGS OF A DOVE (R)
11.25, 2.00, 4.30, 7.15, 9.30

NO V.P. TICKETS

NP MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)
11.15, 12.30, 2.45, 3.45, 6.00, 7.00, 9.15, 10.15

NO V.P. TICKETS

THE JACKAL (R)
12.45, 4.15, 7.45, 10.30

STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)
11.35, 2.15, 5.30, 8.40

BEAN (PG-13)
12.15, 3.00, 5.45, 8.15, 10.45

Star Southfield
12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern off I-96
248-353-STAR
No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP ALIEN RESURRECTION (R)
SUN 10.30, 11.30, 1.45, 2.50, 4.30, 5.30, 7.00, 8.15, 9.15, 10.50

MON-THURS 10.15, 11.15, 12.00, 1.00, 2.00, 2.30, 3.40, 4.45, 5.30, 6.20, 7.30, 8.15, 9.15, 10.10, 10.50

NO V.P. TICKETS

NP FLUBBER (PG)
SUN 10.00, 11.00, 12.15, 1.10, 2.30, 3.40, 5.00, 6.00, 7.20, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00

MON-THURS 10.15, 10.15, 10.30, 11.00, 12.15, 1.00, 1.45, 2.45, 3.30, 4.25, 5.15, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 8.35, 9.35, 10.35

NO V.P. TICKETS

NP THE RAINMAKER (PG-13)
SUN 10.00, 3.00, 6.30, 7.45, 9.30, 10.45

MON-THURS 10.10, 11.10, 11.30, 1.15, 2.25, 4.10, 5.40, 7.15, 8.40, 10.20

NO V.P. TICKETS

NP MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)
SUN 10.40, 2.10, 5.40, 8.50, 9.50

MON-THURS 10.50, 2.10, 3.15, 5.25, 6.50, 9.50

NP ANASTASIA (G)
SUN 10.10, 12.40, 6.05, 8.25

MON-THURS 10.05, 11.10, 12.25, 1.30, 2.35, 4.40, 5.50, 6.15, 7.10, 9.25

NP MORTAL KOMBAT 2: ANNIHILATION (PG-13)
SUN 10.45, 1.30, 4.10, 7.10, 8.00, 9.40, 10.20

MON-THURS 10.30, 11.10, 12.45, 1.25, 3.00, 4.00, 5.20, 6.45, 7.50, 9.00, 10.00

NO V.P. TICKET

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)
SUN 9.00 PM ONLY MON-THURS 8.30 PM AND 10.50 PM ONLY

THE JACKAL (R)
SUN 12.25, 3.20, 7.30, 8.40, 10.30

MON-THURS 11.20, 12.20, 2.15, 5.00, 6.00, 7.45, 8.45, 10.30, 10.30

STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)
SUN 12.55, 4.40, 7.40, 10.55

MON-THURS 11.00, 1.40, 4.40, 7.40, 10.10

BEAN (PG-13)
SUN 7.50, 10.15

MON-THURS 10.15, 1.10, 3.30, 6.05, 8.20, 10.45

THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG)
SUN 12.00, 1.40, 4.20, 7.20, 10.15

MON-THURS 11.05, 1.05, 1.35, 4.20, 6.50, 9.30

EYE'S BAYOU (R)
SUN 7.00, 10.10

MON-THURS 10.10, 12.10, 12.10, 2.15, 5.00, 6.00, 7.45, 8.45, 10.30, 10.30

SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW SUNDAY HOME ALONE 3 (PG)
4:00

Star Westchester
1135 S. Rochester Rd.
Westchester Mall
(810) 656-1160
No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP FLUBBER (PG)
11.15, 12.15, 1.15, 2.15, 3.30, 4.30, 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30, 9.30

NO V.P. TICKETS

ANASTASIA (G)
11.30, 12.30, 1.40, 2.40, 3.50, 4.50, 6.00, 7.00, 8.10, 9.10, 10.00

MORTAL KOMBAT 2: ANNIHILATION
11.00, 1.00, 3.00, 5.15, 7.40, 9.45

THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG)
12.00, 2.10, 4.20, 6.45, 9.00

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)
11.20, 1.50, 4.10, 6.50, 9.15

FAIRY TALE, A TRUE STORY (PG)
2.50, 5.00, 7.10

SEVEN YEARS IN TIBET (PG-13)
11.45, 9.20

United Artists Theatres
Bargain Matinee Daily for all shows starting before 6:00 PM
Same day advance tickets available
NV - No V.P. tickets accepted

United Artists Fairlane
Fairlane Town Center
Violet Parking Available
313-593-4790

ALL TIMES FOR SATURDAYS

BARGAIN MATINEES DAILY FOR ALL SHOWS STARTING BEFORE 6 PM. SAME DAY ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE

ALIEN RESURRECTION (R) NV
1.00, 4.00, 6.45, 9.15 & 1.45, 4.45, 7.30, 10.15 & 2.15, 5.15, 8.15

ANASTASIA (G) NV
1.10, 4.05, 7.00, 9.10

THE RAINMAKER (PG-13) NV
1.35, 4.20, 7.05, 9.55 & 2.30, 5.30, 8.30

STARSHIP TROOPERS (R) NV
1.15, 4.30, 7.15, 10.00

SOUL FOOD (R) NV
1.25, 4.10, 6.55, 9.25

THE WINGS OF THE DOVE (R) NV
1.30, 4.15, 7.20, 10.05

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)
1.55, 4.55, 7.25, 9.45

United Artists Oakland
Inside Oakland Mall
810-545-7041
ALL TIMES SUN-THURS

ALIEN RESURRECTION (R) NV
12.00, 2.30, 5.00, 7.30, 10.00 & 1.00, 3.30, 6.30, 9.00

THE RAINMAKER (PG-13) NV
12.30, 4.00, 7.00, 9.50 & 1.30, 4.30, 8.00

FAIRY TALE (PG) NV
1.00, 4.15

ONE NIGHT STAND (R) NV
7.15, 9.40

United Artists 12 Oaks
Inside Twelve Oaks Mall
810-545-7041
ALL TIMES SUN-THURS

ALIEN RESURRECTION (R) NV
1.15, 4.15, 7.15, 9.45

THE RAINMAKER (PG-13) NV
1.00, 3.45, 7.00, 9.55

BEAN (PG-13) NV
12.50, 2.50, 4.50, 6.45, 9.00

STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)
1.30, 4.30, 7.30, 10.15

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R) NV
7.40, 10.05

FAIRY TALE (G)
12.40, 3.00, 5.15

Waterford Cinema 11
7501 Highland Rd.
SE corner M-59 & Williams Lake Rd.
24 Hour Movie Line
(810) 666-7990
CALL 77 FILMS \$551
Stadium Seating and Digital Sound
Makes for the Best Movie Experience in Oakland County
\$5.25 (DVD-LITE) SHOWS DAILY

MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD & EVIL (R)
1.00 (4.15 @ \$3.25) 8.00

FLUBBER (PG)
1.20, 2.20, 3.30, (4.30 @ \$3.25) 6.50, 7.40, 9.00, 9.45

ALIEN RESURRECTION (R)
2.15, (4.40 @ \$3.25) 7.30, 9.55

ANASTASIA (G)
SUN 1.15, 6.00, 7.45, 9.30

MON-THURS 1.15, 3.20, (5.30 @ \$3.25) 7.30, 9.30*

MORTAL KOMBAT, ANNIHILATION (PG-13)
1.30, 3.40 (5.45 @ \$3.25) 7.50, 9.55

RAINMAKER (R)
1.00, (4.10 @ \$3.25) 7.00, 9.50

MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG)
1.40 (4.30 @ \$3.25)

JACKAL (R)
1.15, (4.30 @ \$3.25) 7.20, 10.00

STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)
6.45, 9.15

BEAN (PG-13)
2.00 (4.45 @ \$3.25) 7.20, 9.20

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)
1.10 (4.10 @ \$3.25) 7.00, 9.50

SNEAK PREVIEW SUNDAY HOME ALONE 3 (PG)
4:00 ONLY

Visa & Mastercard Accepted

Terrace Cinema
30400 Plymouth Rd.
313-261-3330

All Shows \$1 except shows after 6 pm on Friday & Saturday & 75¢ at shows Tuesday

SUNDAY - THURSDAY
Box Office opens at 4:00 pm
Monday - Friday only

Call Theatre for Features and Times

ID required for "R" rated shows

Main Art Theatre III
118 Main at 11 Mile
Royal Oak
248-542-0180
call 77-FILMS ext 542
Phone Orders 2 pm - 10 pm call (248) 542-5198
\$3.25 (DVD-LITE) SHOWS DAILY

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE OR ONLINE 810-542-0180
VISA AND MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

KISS OR KRIE (R)
12.00, 4.30, 7.30, 9.50

CONTEMPT (NR)
1.45, 4.15, 7.15, 9.40

THE WINGS OF THE DOVE (R)
1.30, 4.00, 7.00, 9.30

NP FLUBBER (PG)
11.30, 3.30, 5.40, 7.50, 10.00

NP ALIEN RESURRECTION (R)
2.40, 5.05, 7.30, 9.55

NP THE RAINMAKER (PG-13)
1.30, 4.10, 7.00, 9.50

NP MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD & EVIL (R)
3.40, 6.50, 10.00

ANASTASIA (G)
12.30, 2.35, 4.40, 6.45, 8.50

NP THE JACKAL (R)
1.45, 4.25, 7.00, 9.35

STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)
1.55, 4.35, 7.15, 10.00

BEAN (PG-13)
1.55, 3.55, 5.55, 8.00, 10.05

SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW SUNDAY ONLY
NP HOME ALONE 3 (PG)
4:35 ONLY

MPR THEATRES
\$1.00 Ford Tel. \$1.50
313-561-7200
\$1.50 TR 6 pm
After 6 pm \$1.50
Ample Parking - Telford Center
Free Refill on Drinks & Popcorn

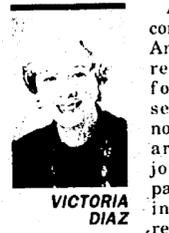
Please Call Theatre for Showtimes

AIR BUD (PG)
GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE (PG)

BOOKS

New Ann Arbor mystery explores history, family

Black Diamond
By Susan Holtzer
(St. Martin's Press, \$21.95)



VICTORIA DIAZ

Who committed this rather untidy crime? And why? And where has the "crazy" Gerald Swann been all these years? Soon, Zoe, Anneke and Lt. Karl Genesko of the Ann Arbor P.D. will be hot on the trail of the killer - a trail that will take them all the way to the forests of northern Michigan and eventually on trip into the state's rowdy past.

It's a big plus for this series that its star character seems to take on just a bit more life with each episode, and Holtzer usually manages to integrate this fleshing-out of Anneke Haagen rather seamlessly into her curlicued plots. With this story - much of which revolves around the intricacies of familial relationships - Anneke herself wrestles with the difficulties of parenting grown children, as daughter Emma refuses to accept her relationship with Genesko because she considers him a "dumb jock cop."

Speaking of Genesko, the former Wolverine linebacker is also taking on his own strong identity. Picture a teddy bear with a lively brain and a predilection for lamb vinaloo, and you begin to get the picture of what Anneke Haagen's intended is like. He participates so actively, by the way, in solving this crime that a reader may wonder why the book is marketed only as "A mystery featuring Anneke Haagen and Zoe Kaplan."

As to Kaplan, readers may also wonder if she's a permanent addition to the Haagen series. Whatever happens in that case, she's certainly a natural for this particular story which has as part of its focus a strong friendship between two women of the 19th century.

Holtzer's extensive research into Michigan's logging history is truly remarkable. And her ability to bring this background to life can be fascinating (if you'd like to get acquainted with Michigan's very own "wild west" era, start here). But her characters from the past - revealed as they are only through letters written years earlier - don't ever come alive the way most of her multi-dimensional, contemporary cast does, and this gives "Black Diamond" a slight, bothersome imbalance overall. (Two of her characters - train robber John Smalley and prostitute Cora Brown - are based on fact.)

It's all great fun, though. And nobody writes about Ann Arbor today like Susan Holtzer does. Don't miss it, especially if you're a fan of Michigan mystery novels.

Victoria Diaz is a Livonia freelance writer who specializes in book and theater reviews. You can reach her by voice mail at 953-2045, then press 1854.

Author traces her family's past through 3 generations of women

Where She Came From
By Helen Epstein
Little, Brown and Co., 1997.
\$24.95



ESTHER LITTMANN

Ours is a mobile society. We leave home to attend school, and later, to launch a promising career. But the pieces of our past - kinship, neighborhood, prized possessions - generally remain intact, ready to fall into place when we need to reconnect.

Not so for persons displaced by the devastation of war. Entire families are annihilated; the place of birth is either a distant memory or merely a spot on the map. Photo albums, family china, treasured books - even birth certificates - all are lost.

Such was the case for author Helen Epstein. When her mother died in a New York City hospital, she longed to take comfort in the knowledge of her roots. Yet the past lay in Czechoslovakia, where her great-grandmother, grandmother and mother had been born and raised. A series of political upheavals had all but obliterated the signs of their existence. Although Epstein's seamstress mother told many stories, she could never make the discrete parts fit, the way she could when attaching a bodice to a skirt.

"These dysfunctions fascinated me," writes the author of "Children of the Holocaust" and affiliate of Harvard University's Center for European Studies. Using sewing as a metaphor for storytelling, Epstein reveals, "I was never much interested in the construction of clothes but always drawn to the construction of stories, to what was said and what was withheld."

Thus, the former journalist began the long and arduous process of putting the pieces of her family history together through travel, research, and interviews that spanned three continents. The result is "Where She Came From: A Daughter's Search for her Mother's History." In this book she lovingly brings three generations of increasingly secular and liberated women to life and integrates their experiences with the political and social changes taking place in Czechoslovakia.

Epstein begins with great-grandmother Theresa, an innkeeper's daughter who came in daily contact with her father's mainly non-Jewish clientele. Before assimilation became the norm, she fell in love with a Christian but was hurriedly married off to a poor Jewish peddler. Crippled by despair when her oldest son died, she leaped from a fourth-story window, leaving three orphaned children behind.

Theresa's 8-year-old daughter became the charge of an orthodox aunt.

Dedication to her craft turned Pepi into a successful seamstress, with her own salon in Prague and frequent trips to the fashion capitals of Europe. Later, her talented daughter, Franci, attended the best French and German schools and followed in her mother's footsteps by entering the world of business and high fashion.

Theirs was a life of hard work but also of privilege and freedom. For Pepi and Franci, Judaism belonged to a past characterized by superstition and needless restriction. Under the liberal and humanistic leadership of Thomas Masaryk, they enjoyed an era of enlightenment and tolerance when creativity, not class or custom, determined one's value to society.

Yet their lives changed dramatically when Hitler's army marched into Czechoslovakia. When the first transports to the concentration camps of Theresienstadt and Auschwitz took place, neither Franci's loyalty to the Czech republic, nor her father's love of German music and literature, nor her mother's sterling reputation as a high-fashion dressmaker could save them. From then on, survival depended on chance plus an uncommon supply of mental and physical fortitude.

The author's attempt to reconstruct her family's history testifies to our human need for continuity. When we stitch the past to the present, Epstein seems to say, we make life more bearable and create hope for a more meaningful future.

Helen Epstein appeared at the Jewish Community Center for the annual Book Fair. "Where She Came From" is available at Barnes and Noble.

Esther Littmann is a resident of Bloomfield Township. She is a private tutor with Uno Dworkin and Associates. You can leave her a message from a touch-tone phone at (313) 953-2047, mailbox number 1893. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

BOOK HAPPENINGS

- Book Happenings features various happenings at suburban bookstores. Send news leads to Hugh Gallagher, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.**
- BORDERS (BIRMINGHAM, WOODWARD)**
Gary Graff editor of the MusicHound Blues, Observer & Eccentric rock music writer & Christina Fuoco and Mudpuppy. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at the store 34300 Woodward, Birmingham (248)203-0005
- BARNES & NOBLE BOOKSELLERS (NORTHVILLE)**
Richard Paul brings his book "The Magic Telescope," to life with puppets 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2, and 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3; a discussion of Martha Stewart's Healthy Quick Cook, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4 at the store 17111 Haggerty Road, Northville. (248)348-1420.
- BARNES & NOBLE BOOKSELLERS (WEST BLOOMFIELD)**
Children's hour features John Speirs "Happy Hanukah," 10:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 8, and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9; Joanne Bellaire of St. Mary's College lectures on "A Passion for Family," 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10 at the store 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. (248)626-6804.
- BORDERS (ROCHESTER HILLS)**
Tenor saxophonist Paul Vorn Hagen performs 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12; Bob Miller leads singing along 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13; fitness workshop, 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 at the store 1122 Rochester Road, Rochester Hills (248)652-0558.
- HALFWAY DOWN THE STAIRS**
Storytime features "A Creature's Christmas," 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 at the store 114 E. Fourth St., Rochester, MI 48307. (248)652-6066.
- SHAMON DRUM**
Geri Larkin discusses her new book "Stumbling Toward Enlightenment," 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7; Leslie Perlow discusses "Finding Time: How Corporations, Individuals and Families Can Benefit from New Work Practices," 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10; Ann Arbor Boys Choir performs 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 at the store, 313 South State Street, Ann Arbor

Art Beat features various happenings in the suburban art world. Send news leads to Linda Ann Chomin, Arts & Leisure reporter, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

SWEET DREAMS

If you missed the Livonia Symphony Orchestra's performance of "The Nutcracker," there's still time to experience Tchaikovsky's enchanted tale.

■ Livonia Civic Ballet Company, the official ballet of the city of Livonia, presents "The Nutcracker Ballet" 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Clarenceville High School auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, Livonia.

Tickets are \$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.

■ For a seventh year the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company join together to tell Tchaikovsky's classic story of "The Nutcracker" 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12-13, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road at Canton Center Road in Canton.

Tickets are \$15 adults and senior citizens, \$8 for children K-12, and available by calling the symphony office at (313) 451-2112.

A Sugar Plum Fairy Tea, where children will have a tea party with the Sugar Plum Fairy, the King and other performers, will be held after the Saturday, Dec. 13, and Sunday, Dec. 14, concerts. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door.

■ The Detroit Symphony Orchestra with principal dancers Evelyn Cisneros and Anthony Randazzo from the San Francisco Ballet, Kimberly Glasco and Aleksandar Antonjevic from the National Ballet of Canada, and members of Jacob 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. Sun-

day, Dec. 21, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets are \$14-\$53 adults, \$10-\$24 children and seniors, and available by calling (313) 833-3700.

This is the second year, gymnasts Hillary Bracht of Plymouth and Laura Hamilton, Northville will take the stage as acrobats in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's "Nutcracker."

FREE CONCERT

Pianist Louis Nagel will present a lecture/recital focusing on the "Fantasie in C Major, Opus 17" by Robert Schumann at noon Wednesday, Dec. 10 in the Recital Hall of the Forum Building at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads in Livonia.

Nagel, a performer and faculty member at the University of Michigan School of Music, is a graduate of the Juilliard School of Music. He has appeared in New York City recitals, at the National Gallery in Washington D.C., and on numerous college campuses.

Nagel has performed internationally in Jerusalem, St. Petersburg, Taichung, Sydney, Vienna, and Berlin. As the artistic director of the Detroit-based Lyric Chamber Ensemble, he performs with the group in extensive chamber music programs throughout the metropolitan Detroit area. He has recorded the Bach Partitas for Educo Records, Inc. and his CD "Four Centuries of J.S. Bach" on the SKR label has received critical acclaim.

HOLIDAY SALE

The Garden City Fine Arts Association holds its annual Holiday Art Exhibit and Sale Dec. 8-13 in The Art Gallery/Studio at 29948 Ford Road, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt (in Sheridan Square), Garden City.

An opening reception and awards presentation takes place 7-p.m. Monday, Dec. 8 at the gallery.

A variety of mediums including paintings, drawings, and three-dimensional art will be on hand. Don't forget to cast your ballot for the People's Choice Award.

Exhibit hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. For

more information, call (313) 261-0379.

"KIDS ONLY" FINE ARTS WORKSHOPS

Preschool sessions to make fine arts gifts ranging from watercolors to printmaking, and woodcraft begin Dec. 9 at D & M Studio's Once Upon An Easel, 8691 North Lilley Road at Joy in Canton.

Sessions for students and teens have already begun. For more information or to register, call (313) 453-3710.

While you're at the studio take a minute to view a display of student work. Portrait artists include Aaron Tone, a senior at the Center for Creative Studies. Tone works in pencil, pastel and watercolor and does portraits of pets and celebrities. Also view work by Shandy Buffington, an Eastern Michigan University student.

D & M's Artist Gallery features the work of owner Sharon Dillenbeck, Hugh Burley and Carol McCreedy. Also on display are hand painted ceramic ornaments by Sidney Boyce. The bulbs are painted green ware which is fired then coated with a mother of pearl glaze. In addition, visit the Studio Students Gallery where holiday art such as handmade cards, ornaments made from paper bags, and paintings are displayed.

CREATIVE GIFT WRAPPING

It may be a "riddle wrapped in mystery inside an enigma" or it might just be a toaster. Either way, all gifts, great and small, benefit from creative gift wrapping. Taught by Lisa Gleeson, owner of Gift Wrappers, Inc., this class shows you how to create great gifts using festive bows, decorative boxes and the latest wrapping papers 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9 at West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation Center, 4640 Walnut Lake Road, east of Farmington Road. Gleeson will also show you how to make a florist bow.

The cost is \$12 for West Bloomfield residents, \$15 for nonresidents. Advance registration is required, call (248) 738-2500.

HOLIDAY SAMPLER

The Lucile B. Conger Alumnae Group of the University of Michigan hosts its fourth annual market featuring over 30 artisans 9



ART BEAT

Gymnasts: Hillary Bracht (left) and Lauren Hamilton perform handstands in their role as acrobats with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's "Nutcracker" Dec. 12-21 at the Detroit Opera House.

a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 at the Barton Hills Country Club, 730 Country Club Road.

Ann Arbor. Admission is \$2. For information, call (313) 662-2746.

Choose from a Holiday Sampler of gifts for the home, family and you. Works include blankets and scarves; painted floor cloths; boiled wool garments and accessories; primitive folk art; stationary and paper goods; art dolls; contemporary and traditional

Santas, snow people and angels; dried floral arrangements and wreaths, and more.

The Lucile B. Conger Alumnae Group is actively involved in raising funds to provide need-based scholarships for students attending the University of Michigan. Proceeds from the show will support several scholarships.

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DANCE

Dancing in the neighborhoods

'Festival of Dance' spotlights emerging Farmington area

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

On the fifth floor gymnasium above Christ Church on Woodward Avenue in downtown Detroit, Barbara Selinger conducts a group of dancers slinking to a bewitching zydeco beat.

Selinger's Detroit Dance Collective has found a home in a rather strategic location in the heart of the region's burgeoning entertainment center, not to mention halfway between heaven and those who cast their spiritual appeals upward.

Back in suburbia at Eric Johnston's Dance Studio in Birmingham, the familiar swell of Tchaikovsky's sugar plum melody rattles the thin walls. It's a conspicuous sign that the former principal dancer of the London Ballet Company is preparing another production of "The Nutcracker."

By dancers' standards, Selinger, 50, and Johnston, 41 — both of Farmington Hills — are past their prime. By any other measure, however, they're not only hitting their stride, they're bringing a community of dancers along with them.

This week, their talent along with other dancers, choreographers and teachers will be on display during the First Annual Festival of Dance in Farmington, a celebration of ballet, jazz, modern, lyrical, folk and ballroom dancing.

"There just isn't much recognition of dance, yet we have more and more people interested in dance," said Johnston, who pro-

vided the original idea for the festival. "I want the art to be accessible. It's the only way to build an audience for dance."

The festival will showcase a range of dance while providing a public venue for local dancers. Ten local dance companies, including more than 50 dancers will participate at the Friday evening concert at Farmington High School.

"Some people feel you have to understand dance," said Selinger. "You just have to open yourself up and let the movement speak to you. It's like looking at an abstract painting. Everyone will go away with a different interpretation."

For those awaiting a sign of a dance revival, take note: prayers answered.

Now listen to the movement.

From the grassroots

The weeklong celebration of dance includes an open dress rehearsal of the Detroit Dance Collective and their concert, "Space, Time and Energy," which combines performances and teaching to students from Farmington, Farmington Hills, Berkley and Waterford school districts.

The festival culminates on Friday with performances by dancers from throughout the Farmington area, highlighted by an appearance of the Dance Collective, featuring Selinger, named 1997 artist of the year by the Farmington Arts Commission.

"The (festival) offers a paradigm for how cities can get together with schools and arts groups," said Steve Weikal, director Oakland County Arts & Humanities Council, which provided a migrant to the festival. "In a big city, the cultural

Farmington Festival of Dance

Where: Farmington High School, 32000 Shiawassee, (between Orchard Lake and Power Roads, one block north of Grand River).

Highlights:

- 5 p.m. — Monday, Dec. 8, "Open dress rehearsal of the Detroit Dance Collective, directed by Barbara Selinger"
- 10 a.m. — Tuesday, Dec. 9, "DANCEABOUT 1997," by the Detroit Dance Collective, a teaching-performance concert for students of Farmington, Berkley and Waterford schools, sponsored by Hudson's Corp.
- 9 a.m. — Thursday, Dec. 11, a master class in modern dance
- 8 p.m. — Friday, Dec. 12, a dance concert featuring the Detroit Dance Collective, and dancers from ten studios in the Farmington area, Farmington High School Auditorium.

Tickets: \$5, adults; \$2, students, for information call (248) 474-3174.



Rehearsing: David Guzman (left) and Susan Clayton practice their parts for the Farmington Festival of Dance.

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HOFFMEYER

activities usually come from art institutions," said Weikal. "In Oakland County, we have a strong community base, people from neighborhoods forming arts groups."

With the Festival of Dance along with Farmington's annual Festival of the Arts and City Founders Parade, the Farmington area is transforming its image as a suburban enclave.

"Farmington, just now, is finding its identity," said Johnston. "Can we make Farmington an arts-as downtown Royal Oak? Definitely."

Already, it seems, the Festival of Dance has become a catalyst for discussions about other art festivals in Farmington, including a film festival. On a pragmatic level, the Festival of Dance offer further proof that there isn't a central cultural district in Oakland County, but "areas of culture," such as Birm-

ingham, Pontiac, Royal Oak, Rochester and the Farmington area.

Participation and interest in the arts throughout the county, according to Weikal, is thriving. He cited 11 community theater groups, 12 art councils and over 100 historic preservation organizations in the county.

For more than two decades, the Farmington area has been home to many arts groups, including community symphonies, theater, dance and fine arts associations. In the mid 1970s, the success of the Farmington Arts Council inspired the state to establish the Michigan Council for the Arts.

Included in the 1976 Farmington Hills charter, for instance, was the establishment of an arts commission, a provision not present in the founding documents of many other municipalities.

Today, the Arts Commission, a

nine-member board, works alongside the restructured Arts Council, composed of representatives from 22 local arts groups with about 1,500 members.

Besides improved communication and networking among the various groups, the collaboration represents a growing populist trend in the arts.

"We have thousands of people saying, 'We want more cultural services in our community'" said Nanette Reid, who serves on the Arts Commission and the Arts Council.

In the Farmington area, according to Reid, they're building culture from the grassroots.

A master plan

"Many of the community bands, orchestras, choirs and arts groups were here before we were a city," said Dan W. Potter, director of special services, who oversees the parks and recreation department. "The nucleus for the arts has been here. But now, we're speaking with a unified voice."

Apparently, voters are also responding with a unified appeal.

With the overwhelming passage of a millage in November, \$1.6 million will be designated for senior and culture activities over the next 10 years, including funds for a full-time arts coordinator position to be filled in

1998. Currently, preparations are being made to draft a master plan for the arts in the Farmington area. Once in place, the plan would offer additional art instruction and public facilities. The criterion for drafting the plan includes circulating a community wide survey, conducting focus groups and holding public hearings.

Many Farmington area residents believe there's a need for a community arts center, in addition to the William Costick Activities Center, where many programs are currently held. Reid called the master plan a "first step in working toward an arts center."

A proposed performing arts center at Novi Road and Grand River Avenue is under consideration by the City of Novi, said Reid, who noted that partnerships in the arts could extend beyond city boundaries.

Considering that a new art center may cost as much as \$30 million, Potter is cautious about the possibility. "People aren't in a mood to support additional taxes," he said. "It might be down the line, but right now we're just in the walking stage."

For this week, Potter might want to change his assessment. Clearly, the current stage is all about dancing.

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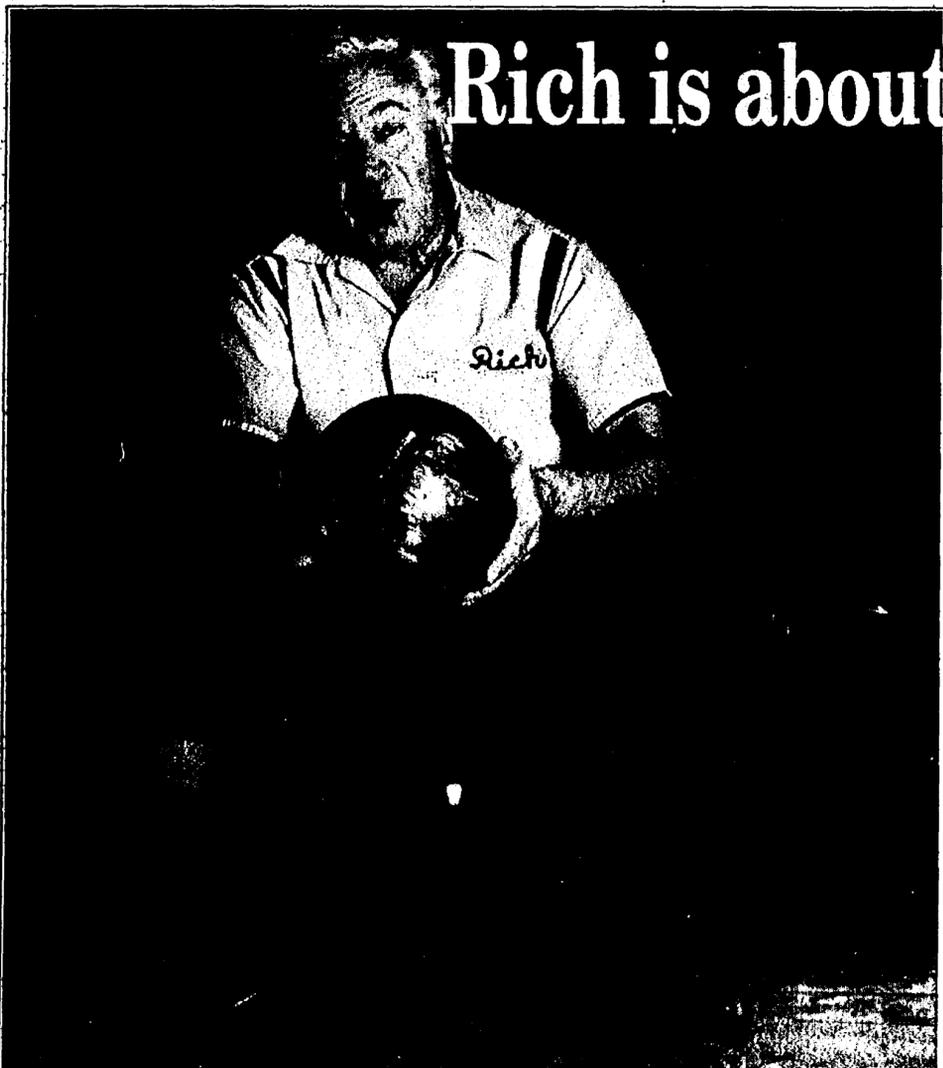
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THEATER

'Shiva Queen' is no Dolly

Jewish Ensemble Theatre presents "Shiva Queen," by Rebecca Ritchie, continues through Dec. 31 in the Aaron DeRoy Studio Theatre, Jewish Community Center, 6600 West Maple Road, West Bloomfield. Performances 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, and Sunday; 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets range from \$13 to \$23, discounts available for seniors ages 65 and older, and students, call (248) 788-2900. Special New Year's Eve Performances 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31. Tickets for the 7 p.m. New Year's Eve performance are \$35, includes champagne and hors d'oeuvres; 10 p.m. performance tickets \$50 also includes champagne, hors d'oeuvres and breakfast. Call for reservations/information.



World premiere: Charles McGraw (left to right), John Michael Manfredi, Michelle Mountain and Joyce Feuring in a scene from "The Shiva Queen."

BY BARBARA MICHALS
SPECIAL WRITER

Despite its intriguing title and billing as a comedy, the Jewish Ensemble Theatre's world premiere of Rebecca Ritchie's "The Shiva Queen" is neither clever nor funny. Instead, a very fine cast does its best with very mediocre material.

Act One is the exchange of letters between two singles who meet through a "personals" ad and write to each other's P.O. box numbers. Lee (Charles McGraw) is a hypochondriac geneticist so afraid of commitment that he hesitates to even give out his name to his pen pal, Shirl (Michelle Mountain), anxious to find a mate, is so wishy-washy that she offers to make herself into anything Lee wishes.

Five years later Act Two finds Shirl has been married and widowed. She now earns a living organizing the shiva, the traditional Jewish ritual period of seven days of deep mourning, for those too grief-stricken to handle the details themselves.

She has been called in to help Roger (John Michael Manfredi),

REVIEW

a successful endodontist who has just lost the wife he adored and turns into a helpless child when pounced upon by his overbearing all-business mother Bess (Joyce Fuerring).

Turns out that Bess is some sort of famous fatal expert, and when Lee calls at the house in pursuit of genetic research on the deceased, Bess's domineering personality brings out his devoted servility. Meanwhile, Shirl now has enough self-confidence to quietly stand up to Bess and thus earns Roger's gratitude and affection.

If there is a point to all this, it seems to be suggesting that one should be neither too weak nor too strong-willed. Perhaps there is comic potential here somewhere, but on opening night "The Shiva Queen" drew only an

isolated chuckle now and then. A "Hello Dolly" it is not.

All four players are very talented actors who make their characters as believable as possible, with Mountain meeting the greatest challenge in giving substance to Shirl. Under director Joanna Hastings Woodcock, nearly all aspects of the production seem as fine-tuned as the material allows.

The costuming is sometimes questionable, though. Putting Roger in his pajamas certainly enhances the image of him as a floundering child, but would a man really wear this on his way home just because he'd been staying overnight at the hospital with his dying wife? It's appropriately symbolic that Lee wears a facial mask to keep him apart from the families he interviews, but why a pointed mask that makes him look like a clown?

THE Observer & Eccentric Invites You to...

NEWSPAPERS



START A NEW YEAR'S EVE TRADITION!

One lucky reader (it could be you!) will receive a New Year's Eve Package of a Dinner for Two at Risata Restaurant and a pair of tickets to the early performance of The Second City's "Generation X Files."



313.965.2222

Two runners-up will receive a pair of tickets to the early performance of "Generation X Files" at Second City on New Year's Eve.

How to enter: Mail a postcard with your name, city of residence, and a



daytime phone number to: New Year's Eve at Second City, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Michigan 48150.

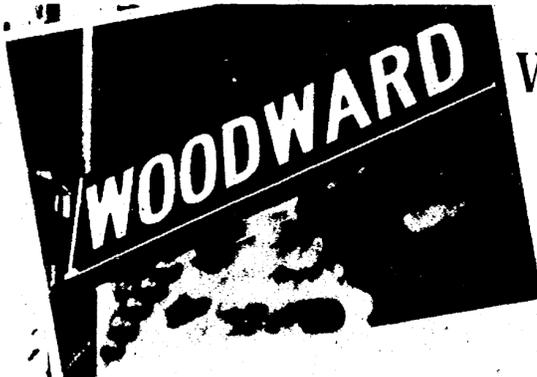
Entries must be received by Thursday, December 18, and three winners will be picked at random.

Winner's names will be published in the Observer & Eccentric on Sunday, December 21. All winners will be contacted by phone on Monday, December 22.

Employees of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Second City/Olympia Entertainment are not eligible to win.

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- 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)

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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.

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Happy Holidays from
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TRAVEL

Cruises take worry out of family trip

BY BETTY SWARTZ
TRAVEL AGENT
CRUISE SELECTIONS INC.

Do we take them or leave them when we choose to cruise. We're not talking about clothing - we're talking about children, families. Is a cruise appropriate for a family? By all means, so much so that those land vacations of past years may seem like nightmares.

Brochures do a great job of selling romance on the seas and all of the frills to ignite the spark. Yes, cruising is romantic but just imagine having the romance as well as having your children with you and sharing this great vacation experience with them; the memories will last for years to come. Today's families lead a lifestyle that is so demanding, which results in an absence of conversation around the kitchen table. Guilt may at times invade the mind when you're not able to be together, as a family, for any length of time. Consequently, the family vacation is an important event. However, a cruise may not come to mind to fulfill this need but it should be at the top of the list.

Cruising is no longer for older adults waiting in line for the shuffle board. Cruising is for everyone. Most major cruise lines, today, position themselves as family experiences. The extensive programs for children, geared to age groups 3 to 17 years, is indicative of the need to serve the younger set as well as adults. Playrooms, computer rooms and teen discos are just a few of the designated areas for children.

Parents may feel that their children will always want to be with them - just like home. Not so, once they see and meet their peers they will join in the fun provided by trained counselors. In fact, parents may feel abandoned by the children! That's the time they can enjoy being alone and being satisfied knowing the kids are having a great time - as the saying goes, "We're happy when our kids are happy."

Remember those land vacations when everyone wanted to eat at a different fast-food restaurant - those times certainly did not make for a happy

experience. In contrast, a cruise is great for a family - children don't have to eat gourmet food, as in the olden days of cruising. Today, children's menus are available to satisfy the young palate. Pizza parlors and buffet dining (not only for breakfast and lunch but also for dinner) are available in a casual atmosphere enjoyed by children and adults as well. Casual dining on board is becoming quite popular. Mom and Dad can accompany the children to a casual dining area, even prepare for a more formal dinner and get a sitter for the evening, if the ship does not provide evening activities for the kids.

Cruise lines have gone so far as to plan shore excursions geared to families. In fact, one cruise line has Alaskan shore excursions for "children only." Imagine the dinner conversations that night - everyone trying to get a word in about their day!

Yes, cruising is for families. Take the opportunity to expose your children to different places and different surroundings. A cruise will give them all of those experiences and more - watch their independence blossom. You're together but each is enjoying his or her own thing.

Prices are reduced for a third or fourth person sharing a cabin (sometimes a standard cabin will accommodate a fifth person, depending on the cruise line. Many of the new ships have family suites; they are not plentiful, so booking early is a must for those accommodations).

Don't forget the extended family. How long has it been since you were all together with Grandma and Grandpa, aunts, uncles and cousins? A cruise is a perfect vacation to get the family together for a happy and memorable time. Let the fun begin and start planning for that hassle-free vacation - a cruise.

Betty Swartz in a master cruise counselor with Cruise Selections Inc. of Troy. She can be reached at (248)643-6868 or on the web at <http://www.cruiseselections.com>

Families enjoy kid-friendly cruises

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

When someone mentions going on a cruise, the first thought might be of a romantic get-away - just the two of you. Or, maybe, if you're single a cruise is a chance to meet a stranger across a crowded deck.

But many people are finding that a Caribbean cruise makes the perfect, all-inclusive family vacation.

"We've never vacationed without him and didn't consider not taking him," said Suzanne Colvin, explaining why she and her husband, Dan, took their 3-year-old son, Thomas, on a cruise.

The Colvins of Farmington Hills sailed for four days in April on the Royal Caribbean's Sovereign of the Sea to the Bahamas and Key West. And while they enjoyed adult activities, Thomas had his own appointments to keep.

"They had a kids program every evening from 8 to 10 p.m. There was a special room where he could go and play just for 3- to 5-year-olds. They did crafts and talent shows. He looked forward to it. He got to play with other children," Colvin said.

Cruise lines have always emphasized that they take care of everything from dining to recreation to sleeping arrangements for a worry-free vacation. But the marketing has usually been directed toward couples, singles and older travelers.

Recently the trend has moved toward promoting family excursions (see the accompanying article by travel agent Betty Swartz). Even DisneyWorld offers a cruise ship/resort package.

"Every evening he went to the kids program was the perfect time for us to take in the show," said Colvin. "We had an early dinner, went to the show and picked him up."

For older children, like Julie and Scott Feintheil, going to the floor show was part of the fun.

Carol Feintheil of Bloomfield Hills treated her family to a cruise on the Sovereign of the Sea in February as a Christmas present. The family included Julie, 10, Scott, 12, husband, Jerre, and Jerre's parents, Gene and Lucy Feintheil.

"It was wonderful," Carol Feintheil said. "One entire level was devoted to children. There was a game room with ping-pong, a billiard table. There were activities all afternoon and evening, so if parents wanted to shop of take a nap they could, the children were under teen supervision, and the teens came from all over the country."

She said the children chose their own activities and made some new friends on board.

And when the children wanted to join the adults, they could.

"They took in two shows. The early shows were at a family level, no profanity, the jokes were understandable," Feintheil said. "There were jugglers and a unicyclist. It was fun and nicely done."

The children were also invited to attend the Captain's Dinner where they were served non-alcoholic drinks.

Marc Alent of Farmington Hills said his family enjoyed their first cruise in 1995 so much they went again in 1996.

"It was wonderful," Alent said. "We loved it so much we went again and will go again this year if prices are right. We had never been on a cruise before, but Carnival was offering a special deal, adults were about \$700 apiece but children free and the second year the kids were only \$129."

Alent, his wife, Grace, and children, Jeffrey, 9, and Diane, 7, sailed on Carnival's Sensation both times. Like Royal Caribbean, Carnival offers special programs appealing to children, called Camp Carnival.

"They would wake up and didn't want to be with us, they wanted to get to the programs," Alent said. "They ran from 6 a.m. to 10 at night. Certain other nights were sleepovers. The kids enjoyed it. It was well supervised and well organized."

Alent said his children also enjoyed the floor shows. He said the first two shows were "clean enough we could take the kids." A third, midnight show, was identified by Carnival as for adults only.

Children can also take in the shore programs.

Colvin said Thomas loves the water and Beach Day at Royal Caribbean's private island was his favorite. He also enjoyed the port stop at Nassau.

"We made the mistake of not bringing a stroller. But we went to an aquarium in Nassau and there was a lot of stuff for him to do," Colvin said.

She was expecting Thomas' brother, Jimmy, at the time of the cruise and she said when Jimmy, now 3-1/2 months old, is old enough she would consider another cruise.

The Feintheil's also took a tour of Nassau by taxi and visited the zoo and botanical garden. But the Feintheil children also enjoyed the all-day beach party on Coco Beach best of all.

The Alents took different routes on each cruise - Jamaica, St. Martin, St. Thomas, Cozumel and Nassau were stops.

"They enjoyed it, but they had more fun on the ship," Alent said. "Ocho Rios (in Jamaica) was good for kids because they



Family affair: Carol Feintheil, left, treated her family to a trip on the Sovereign of the Sea. Pictured, left to right of Carol, are husband Jerre, Scott, Lucy, Julie and Gene Feintheil.

climbed on the waterfall."

24-hour pizzeria, just in case.

And for those who worry if their children will eat on a cruise ship, Alent said he encouraged his children to try something different every day, and they liked it. But the Sensation also had a

For information on family programs by Royal Caribbean, Carnival and other cruise lines, contact a travel agent.



Sensational time: The Alents enjoyed their trip on the Carnival Sensation. Mark and Grace Alent and children, Diane and Jeff, liked it so much they went again.

GREAT ESCAPES

CHRISTMAS INN TOUR

The first annual Christmas Tour of Inns will be held 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, in Saugatuck sponsored by the Saugatuck/Douglas Convention & Visitors Bureau. Participating inns include The Red Dog B&B, The Maplewood Hotel, The Kingsley House, The Spruce Cutters Cottage and The Belvedere Inn. The tour will begin at the Timberline Motel

where tickets will be sold in the lobby for \$5 per person. For more information, call (616)857-1701.

RV AND FAMILY VACATION SHOW

The 15th Pontiac Silverdome Camper, Travel & RV Show will be held Jan. 21-25. The show will feature more than 100 exhibitors. Tickets for the show are \$6 adults, \$3 for children 6-14 and free for children 5 and under. Hours are 3-9:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

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Sports & Recreation

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Brad Emons, Editor 313-953-2123

on the web: <http://observereccentric.com>

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Cage Champs

The St. Colette Cougars won the St. Robert Bellarmine Thanksgiving Tournament on Nov. 30. After defeating S.S. Peter & Paul 44-8 and a tough Bellarmine team 35-30, St. Colette upset a good Our Lady of Victory team 35-26.

Team members include: Brandon Chitwood, Nick Ehlerdt, Tony Hobiack, Mike Huff, Brad Karas, Bill Marback, Jerry Murray, Jerry Shinkonis, Marshall Sied and tournament MVP Ryan Drolet.

Vardar III

The Vardar III under 12-year-old girls soccer team closed its fall season tied for the champion in the Little Caesar's premiere soccer league. Enduring a long fall schedule, the team ended with a 14-0-2 league record and outscored their opponents 72 goals to 9. The team's overall record including tournament play was 21-2-2. The U12 team won the Northwest Ohio tournament, won three games to advance to the semi-finals in the Troy Classic tournament, and won three games to advance to the quarter finals in the highly respected and recognized Washington Area Girls Soccer tournament in Washington D.C.

Local residents on the team included: Erin Deroo (Farmington), Kyle LaPorte (Livonia), Ashley Lynch, Michaela Pawlewicz, Erica Rose and Megan Mains (Farmington Hills).

LHA Ducks win

The Livonia Hockey Association Mite Ducks won their divisional Farmington Hills Thanksgiving Hockey tournament. The Ducks, which is made of 8 and 9-year-olds, split their first two games, but finished strong relying on strong defense to win their final two games and capture the championship. The Ducks are coached by Jerry Harbowy and Tim Jahn.

Team members include: Kyle Bridges, Chad Cezon, Joseph Cummings, T.J. Gosselin, Jacob Harbowy, Ryan Hewitt, Mike Jahn, Justin Krauziewicz, Sean O'Neil, Matt Petrul, Josh Sidor, Mike Sherron (goalie-tourney MVP), T.J. Stencel, Marcus Voran (top scorer), Michael Voran and Jacob Wagaman. Assistant coaches include: Mark Voran, Richard Sherron, Kevin Hewitt, Jerry Cummings, Al Bridges and Don Sidor.

Tennis

Livonia residents Brady Crosby (boys 14), Erin Mazzoni (girls 12) and Kristen Palombo (girls 14) were invited to attend the United States Tennis Association Training Center (USTA) from September until May. The Detroit Area Training Centers are two of the 118 USTA Centers throughout the country.

Forty of the most talented and promising boys and girls in the 12 and 14 and under groups were chosen based on their SEMTA and Western Rankings. The Training Center is an intense camp that is well coached by specially trained and selected group of coaches.

Crosby and Mazzoni are in the seventh grade, at Holmes Junior High and Palombo is an eighth grader at St. Michael in Livonia. They play at the Sports Club in West Bloomfield.

Michigan United soccer

The Michigan United U13 boys of the Wayne-Westland Soccer Club took first place in their open select division for the fall season.

Team players include: Wesley Boyde, Andy Brown, Steve Cox, Ryan Fazio, Mike Goethe, Ryan Leach, Chris Peck, Steve Thornton of Canton; Phil Garber, Alan Holt, Brad Karas, Jesse McCaffrey of Livonia; Clay Welton and Daniel Wong of Plymouth; Andy Rodger of Romulus and Carl Bednark and K.C. Dahn of Westland. Coaches are Jim Thornton and Mike Brown.

CC Grapplers Win

Redford Catholic Central's wrestling team opened its season with a victory Friday by trouncing Hazel Park, 46-21.

Highlights for the Shamrocks were pins by Ed Lendrum and Mitch Hancock. Lendrum recorded his fall at 1:50 in his match at 119 pounds, while Hancock nailed his opponent to the mat in 1:29 in the match at 135.

Comet smashing

Bishop Borgess crushes Kalamazoo Christian 77-36 for trip to 'C' final

STATE PLAYOFFS

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Kalamazoo Christian basketball coach Bill Hoffman could stand watching the film of Redford Bishop Borgess' Class C state quarter final game against Sandusky.

He probably won't ask to see reruns

of Friday's semifinal between his team and Borgess, played in Central Michigan University's Rose Arena.

Borgess sprinted to a 31-9 halftime lead and cruised in the second half to a 77-36 victory before 1,310 fans.

The win put the Spartans, 26-1 overall, in the finals for the fourth time in the last five years. They played the winner of Friday's other semifinal between Hancock and Shelby in the championship game Saturday.

This wasn't the same Borgess team

Hoffman saw on film methodically beat Sandusky, 41-26, three days earlier.

"I thought coming in we had a shot based on what we saw on film," Hoffman said. "What we saw tonight. They didn't shoot a lick against Sandusky and tonight they shot the way they're capable of every night. We also saw tenacious half court defense."

Borgess made 30 of 47 (64 percent) and limited the Comets to 10 of 44 (23 percent), including 2 of 14 in the first half.

Borgess enjoyed a 34-25 rebounding edge and had 14 steals that led to fast break points. Junior forward Tiffany Simon had a game high 19 points and senior forward Koren Merchant had 18 points on 8 of 9 shooting.

Senior guard Christina Anderson had 12 points and six assists and junior forward Shermaine Drake had nine points and six steals.

The Borgess attack was so strong it needed only six points and five

Please see **BORGESS**, E3

Zebras ready for life without Guess

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

There are no 'Guessing Games' in area boys high school basketball for the first time in four years.

Lorenzo Guess, and his twin brother LaVelle, have gone on to college from Wayne Memorial high school.

That's a loss for fans of quality play and good kids, but feel no pity for Coach Chuck Henry of the Zebras.

Henry has coached more than 300 winners during his superlative high school career and a good two-thirds of them came before the Guess brothers appeared on the scene.

"This is the first year without Lorenzo in four years," said Henry, who loses four of five starters to graduation. "The first year in three without the others. They played as sophomores."

"We'll coach the kids who are here, and hopefully teach them some good things. The greatest thing is to see them succeed when they go on."

"You love to see them get degrees and be successful in whatever they chose."

All of Wayne's departed starters have gone on to college ball, not surprising since the core of the team produced some 60 victories in three years and were habitually regional champions.

With Lorenzo Guess now apparently in line for some significant playing time as a freshman at Michigan State, the mantle of the area's best player falls to Michigan-bound center Chris Young of Detroit Catholic Central.

The Shamrocks have a nice mix of size, speed, post play, inside strength, experience and youth. They should be a poll power all season long.

Whether they emerge as a state power won't be known until March. Because CC is in the state district as Detroit Redford again this year and Redford has four starters back from the team which bumped them off last year.

Livonia Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson are in the second seasons for new coaches Rick Austin, Dan Robinson and

HOOP PREVIEW

Tim Newman, respectively.

All three must replace 3-5 starters but all three report positive things happening in their programs as they seek to restore Livonia basketball to a place of prominence in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"I think Romulus is just loaded," said Henry, who is in the highest level (Red Division) of the Michigan Mega Conference. "I'm sure Plymouth Salem is looking for a big year with all the returning people they have."

"You have to start with who has the most coming back. Those are two that I know of."

"Our (WLA) conference is going to be very strong again," Franklin's Robinson said. "I think Salem has to be a front runner. Walled Lake Central and Farmington Harrison will both be very tough as well."

"It's going to be a competitive league. We're really going to have to play well and play as a team to be successful."

"There are a lot of good programs in our league, where coaches do a good job of teaching the kids, teaching fundamentals. That's what we're trying to establish at Franklin."

Churchill's Austin believes "Salem has got enough to run away with the conference title, but it's going to be real close for the next few spots."

"It's going to be interesting. Our kids feel they can play with anybody now."

Stevenson's Newman feels the WLA is blessed with "quality teams and quality kids. Walled Lake Central has to be the front runner. They've got just about everybody back."

"The Plymouth schools, Canton and Salem, will be tough and Westland John Glenn has good athletes."

"You've got to be ready every night. And that's fun."

Westland John Glenn has the talented

Please see **BOYS BASKETBALL**, E3



STAFF FILE PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Fresh start: Wayne Memorial boys' basketball coach Chuck Henry has many new faces in his lineup.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Show me the puck: Livonia Churchill's Jason Turri battles Franklin's Jeremiah White for control of the puck in Wednesday's battle of city teams. The Chargers went on to win the game easily, 7-2.

Churchill dominates Franklin icers by five

The Livonia Franklin hockey team will have Jan. 23 circled on its calendar.

That will be the next time the Patriots get a chance to play rival Livonia Churchill and avenge Wednesday's 7-2 defeat.

Franklin was forced to play without five players in uniform and proved to be undermanned in its loss to the Chargers at Eddie Edgar Arena.

One of the players who missed the game was Franklin standout Greg Job, who was serving a suspension after being disqualified in the previous game.

Juniors Chuck Leight and Dan Cook score two goals apiece for Churchill, which improved to 3-1-1.

Leight opened the scoring just 1:34 into the game after scoring on a pass from Felix Jentzmlk. The Patriots tied the game three minutes later after a tally by Trevor Skocen (assisted by Erik Rakoczy).

Goals by Ed Rossetto and Cook gave the Chargers a 3-1 lead after one period.

Churchill scored three more unanswered goals in the second period to take a commanding 6-1 lead. The second goal of the period was a shorthanded goal off the stick of Matt Grant. The play was set up by Brandon Martoia. A power play goal by Leight with two minutes left in the period gave Churchill its 6-1 lead.

HOCKEY

The Patriots (2-2 overall) scored its final goal on a power play. Tony Saia found the net after passes from Dave Tyler and Brandon McCullough. Churchill's B.J. Tehan countered with a power play goal to end the game's scoring. Jentzmlk recorded his third assist of the game on the play.

"The guys really got up for the Franklin game and it means a lot to them," Churchill coach Jeff Hatley said. "I thought we played well, but we have to do a better job staying out of the box (Churchill was called for seven penalties)."

The Chargers outshot Franklin, 39-20.

"We played very well against a very good hockey team," Franklin coach Terry Jobbitt said. "We adjusted some of our systems due to our short bench and Churchill's skills. There is no doubt that the next time we play Churchill that we will give them all they can handle."

•**STEVENSON 8, DEARBORN UNITED 3:** The Spartans rebounded for a defeat earlier in the week with the help of a second-period hat trick by John May.

Junior Matt McLeod made his first start in goal Friday night at Eddie

Please see **HOCKEY**, E3

BOYS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Churchill, Franklin look for jump in WLAA standings; CC strong

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Chuck Henry, 21st season.
League affiliation: Michigan Mega Conference (Red Division).
Season opener: 7 p.m., Tues., Dec. 9, vs. Canton.
Last year's overall record: 24-2 (District, Regional champions).
Notable losses to graduation: Lorenzo Guess (MSU), LaYelle Guess (Kalamazoo Valley CC), Richard Rashad (Saginaw Valley), Rodney Hurst (Albion).
Leading returnees: Karl Calloway, 6-2, forward; Brian Williams, 6-2, guard.
Promising new starters: Quentin Turner, 6-7, forward; Shomari Dunn, 6-3, swing; Reddick Borkins, 5-8, guard; Alf Williams, 6-2, forward.
Henry's 1997-98 outlook: "I think it's going to be a fun season. There's a challenge. It's almost like a mystery — even I don't know what's going to happen."
 "We're an untested team. And our schedule is the toughest it's been since I've been at Wayne."
 "Our early schedule includes two of the top five teams in the state — Romulus and River Rouge. Plus we play Belleville, Ypsilanti, Willow Run and Inkster."
 "It's going to be fun from the standpoint that every game is going to be a challenge."
 "I say it's going to be fun. I hope it's going to be fun."

DETROIT CATHOLIC-CENTRAL
Head coach: Rick Coratti, fourth season.
League affiliation: Detroit Catholic League (Central Division).
Season opener: 7:30 p.m., Tues., Dec. 9, at Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher.
Last year's overall record: 15-8.
Notable losses to graduation: Marc McDonald (Loyola, Ill.), Matt Martinez (Madonna), Brian Teesey (Wayne State football).
Leading returnees: Chris Young, 6-11, center (transferred to Michigan); Joe Jonna, guard; Nick Moore, 6-1, junior, guard; Dave Lusky, 6-2, junior, guard/forward; Don Slinkster, 6-3, forward.
Promising newcomers: Rob Sparks, 6-2, sophomore, guard; Justin Ockerman, 6-9, freshman, center.
Coratti's 1997-98 outlook: "We have a chance to be a pretty good team, if things fall into place. If all the young kids come along."
 "With Chris, Nick Moore and Joe, they played almost 32 minutes a game last year, so the kids have a lot of experience. And everybody's healthy."
 "It's going to be spread around a little more with Marc McDonald gone but we'll

probably go to Chris a little more. He was our second-leading scorer and should emerge this year."
 "Chris improved between his sophomore and junior years and he's improved again. He's getting stronger. He's finishing up almost everything inside now."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Mike Schuette, fourth season.
League affiliation: Western Lakes Activities Association (Lakes Division).
Season opener: 7 p.m., Tues., Dec. 9, at Ann Arbor Huron.
Last year's overall record: 9-13.
Notable losses: David Jarrett, John Becher, Brad Wide graduated. Returning starter Justin Berent will miss season with a football knee injury.
Leading returnees: Jason Crofton, 6-1, forward; Reggie Spearmon, 5-10, junior, guard; Eric Jones, 6-0, sophomore, guard; James Harden, 6-2, forward.
Promising newcomers: Ty Haygood, 6-4, junior, forward/center; Yahu Moton, 6-7, sophomore, center; Cornelius Murray, 6-3, junior, forward; Devin White, 6-0, junior, guard; Stevon Lawson, 6-0, junior, guard.
Schuette's 1997-98 outlook: "The kids have worked real hard. They're doing a real good job in practice and seem to be coming together real good. They're working together well."
 "There's a brand new attitude. We should be competitive this year."
 "We'll be quick. We'll run. We'll get it down the floor real quick with our guards. And we should be able to do a good job under the boards."
 "The key to our season is how well we stay together. If we play as a team and hustle, create some mistakes and capitalize on them, we'll do all right."

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Rick Austin, second season.
League affiliation: WLAA (Western Division).
Season opener: 7 p.m., Tues., Dec. 9, vs. Dearborn.
Last year's overall record: 3-18.
Notable losses to graduation: Shawn Wolozyn, Kevin Renaud, Matt Van Buren.
Leading returnees: Corey Cook, 6-3, forward; Dale Smith, 6-2, forward; George Keith, 6-3, junior, guard; Lamar Smith, 6-1, guard; Eric Uhlinger, 6-0, guard.
Promising newcomers: Randall Boboige, 6-0, sophomore, guard; Ryan Kearney, 6-1,

junior, forward; Michael Kennedy, 6-5, junior, center; Ryan Vickers, 5-10, junior, guard; Justin Jakes, 5-11, junior, guard; Jeff Palazzo, 6-0, junior, forward.
Austin's 1997-98 outlook: "We're a lot more athletic than we were last year."
 "We've developed a nice core of athletes. Our seniors, led by Corey Cook and Smith, will be excellent post-up players."
 "I think so far they've done an excellent job in the low post, screening and blocking out and doing the fundamental things."
 "Our best outside threat, Lamar Smith, has really improved his jump-shooting ability."
 "Randall Boboige looks to be a good offensive threat as well. He's got great range and jump shooting ability."
 "Right now the kids want to work hard. They believe they can finish in the top three in their (WLAA) division. Their goal is to make the conference tournament at the end of the season, be one of the top eight teams."
 "Defensively, we'll continue to be aggressive. Our defense kept us in games last year."
 "Now that we've developed some offensive firepower, we look to be much more competitive."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Dan Robinson, second season.
League affiliation: WLAA (Western Division).
Season opener: 7 p.m., Tues., Dec. 9, at Garden City.
Last year's overall record: 10-11.
Notable losses to graduation: Matt Baum, Pete Sosa, Paul Terek, Mike Klisz.
Leading returnees: Nick Mongeau, 5-8, guard; Brian Facione, 6-3, guard; Eddie Wallace, 6-0, guard; Jay Fontaine, 6-3, forward.
Promising newcomers: Dustin Kuras, 6-4, junior, forward; Jacob Goedde, 6-3, forward.
Robinson's 1997-98 outlook: "We lost a lot from last year, of course, by losing a Division I player plus several other key players."
 "We're definitely not as big as we were last year. However we should be quicker. We need to use that to our advantage."
 "We're inexperienced, so I've been telling people we're teaching an old dog new tricks."
 "We can't really play the way we have in the past. The faster we pick that up, learning the new styles, the more successful we can be."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Tim Newman, second season.
League affiliation: WLAA (Lakes Division).
Season opener: 7 p.m., Tues., Dec. 9, vs. Wyandotte.
Last year's overall record: 6-14.
Notable losses to graduation: All five — Scott Babinski, Ed Szumlanski, Tyrone Davidson, Wayne Bowers, Mike Potempa.
Leading returnees: Mike Blazaitis, 6-0, guard; Bill Bauer, 6-1, guard; Bryan Schief, 6-3, forward; Mike Voutsinas, 6-4, forward.
Promising newcomers: Dave Stando, 5-11, junior, guard; Matt Freeborn, 6-0, junior, guard; Ryan Tobin, 6-2, junior, forward; Brett

Koch, 6-2, junior, forward; Paul Bowers, 6-4, junior, forward; Brian Vermillion, 6-4, junior, forward; Marty Kennedy, 5-10, junior, guard; Brad McCroy, 6-0, junior, forward; Keshia McChristian, 6-0, sophomore, guard.
Newman's 1997-98 outlook: "We just want to keep improving."
 "The league itself was a little bit more balanced last year. There seems to be a bigger split this year. There are a lot of teams with a lot of kids returning. We're not one of them."
 "It's how quickly they can buy into what we're doing and improve, so we can be competitive. That's what we're looking for at this point. Our kids are working real hard right now, and that's encouraging."
 "We'll pretty much do what we did last year — go up-tempo when we can, picking and choosing our spots. We'll run a variety of defenses, depending upon whom we play, what we need to do."
 "We have very little game experience, so we don't know how quickly these kids are going to come around."

LUTHERAN WESTLAND
Head coach: Dan Ramthun, second season.
League affiliation: Metro Conference.
Season opener: 7 p.m., Tues., Dec. 9, vs. Dearborn St. Alphonsus.
Last year's overall record: 11-10.
Notable losses to graduation: Joe Pruchnik, Kevin Wade, Ben Meyer.
Leading returnees: Brad Woehike, 6-5, forward; Jake Hatten, 6-0, guard.
Promising newcomers: Scott Randall, 5-9, guard; Tom Habitz, 6-2, junior, forward; Jason James, 6-0; center; Dustin Campbell, 5-8, guard; Brian Spoljarick, 6-0, guard.
Ramthun's 1997-98 outlook: "We're a smaller, inexperienced team than a year ago."
 "But overall we're a quicker team. We could be a better overall ball-handling and shooting team. Hopefully our team quickness and speed might allow us to do some different things from a defensive standpoint."
 "If we get there (11-10) again, it would be a pretty good accomplishment."
 "But we've got a lot of seniors, they've been working pretty hard and they're pretty good leaders. So who knows?"

HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Head coach: Bill Ohlsson, first season.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.
Season opener: 7:30 p.m., Tues., Dec. 9, vs. Taylor Light & Life.
Last year's overall record: 1-18.
Notable loss to graduation: John Nielson.
Leading returnees: Jeremy Zahn, 5-10, senior, guard; Tom Husby, 5-10, senior, guard; Jared Ridenour, 6-0, senior, center; Nick Wisniskie, 5-8, senior, guard; Jason Bytner, 6-1, junior, forward/center; Adam Davidson, 5-10, junior, guard; Brian Johnson, 6-4, junior, center; Pat Hoepner, 5-10, junior, guard.
Promising newcomers: Alan Kleinke, 5-11, sophomore, forward/center.
Ohlsson's 1997-98 outlook: "We have a nice group of nine players that we will rotate in and out and we won't be losing much."
 "We won't overpower anybody with size or height, but we're a quick team and very balanced."
 "We have some good outside threats with Jeremy (Zahn) and Tom (Husby), and I think Brian (Johnson) and Alan (Kleinke) are improved and a pair to watch for this year."
 "We'll be aggressive and look to push the ball any chance we get. We'll be a pressing team which should lead to some easy baskets. There's a new attitude on the team and the guys are working extremely hard and getting in good shape."



He's back: Wayne Memorial's Brian Williams will be one of the Zebras' leaders in 1997-98.

Marian, Country Day advance to state finals

The girls basketball teams from Birmingham Marian and Detroit Country Day were one win away from state championships in their respective classes after winning state semifinal games Thursday and Friday.
 Detroit Country Day, the 1995 Class B state champion, defeated Flint Powers Catholic, the defending Class B champ, in Friday's semifinal game 59-42 at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena.
 The Yellow Jackets (26-1) met Saginaw Swan Valley (25-2) in yesterday's Class B state championship game.
 The Class B semifinal was close throughout the first half with the Yellow Jackets holding a slim 29-28 halftime lead. The teams traded baskets through the first three minutes of the third quarter before DCD went on a 13-0 spurt to break the game open.
 Powers did not score until the 6:28 mark of the fourth quarter and by that time Country Day had a 12-point lead (48-36).
 "Their desire and attitude that they had all year showed in the third quarter," DCD coach Frank Orlando said. "They weren't going to be denied. I felt all along we were going to win."
 Jennifer Thomas played another strong game for Country Day. The junior center scored a game-high 23 points and cleared 11 rebounds. She netted 12 of those points in the fourth quarter while playing with four fouls.
 Junior forward Katharine Hanks finished with 18 points and seven rebounds. Freshman forward Suzanne Morrison grabbed nine rebounds and sophomore guard Lindsey Smith had eight assists.
 Birmingham Marian, the defending Class A state champion, qualified for this year's title game with Thursday's 56-52 overtime victory over Detroit Martin Luther King at Rose Arena. The Mustangs (22-4) played undefeated Grand Rapids Christian (27-0) yesterday in the Class A state championship game.

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Borgess whips K'zoo 77-36

Continued from E1

'I think we're the best team in the state so we should beat everybody by 35.7 points, I guess.'

*Koren Merchant
—Borgess basketball player*

rebounds from Miss Basketball Aiysha Smith.

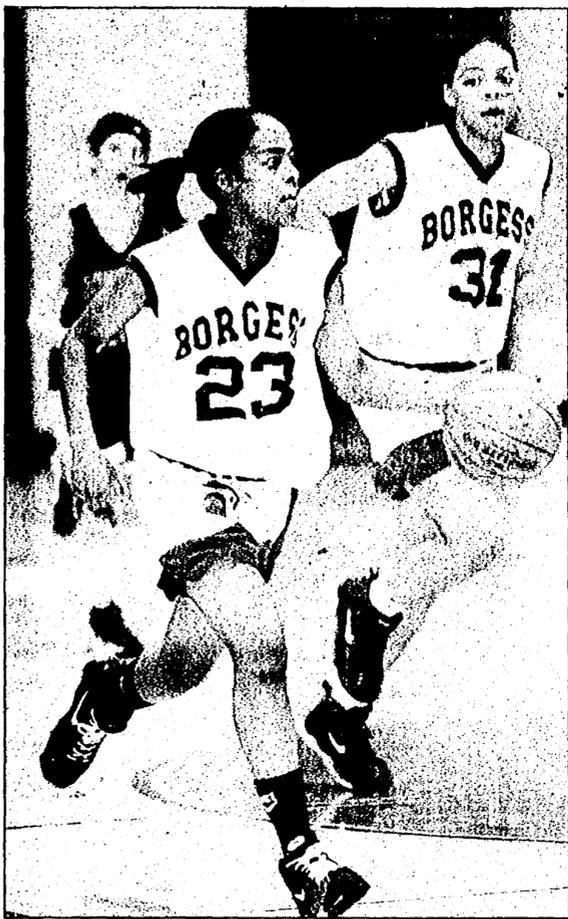
Borgess has now beat its six playoff opponents by an average margin of 35.7 points.

A 19-point win over Riverview Gabriel Richard in the region semifinal was the closest margin.

"I think we're the best team in the state so we should beat everybody by 35.7 points, I guess," said Merchant. "In practice, coach (Dave) Mann told us our motto was, 'in defense we trust.'"

"If we don't make our shots its alright, just make sure they don't make one."

Candace Kool scored 11 points for the Comets, which finished 23-4 overall.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

MovIn': Bishop Borgess' Christina Anderson scored 12 points against Kalamazoo Friday night.

Hockey from page E1

Edgar Arena and turned back 16 of 19 shots.

"It was his first start and he played with a lot of confidence," Stevenson coach Mike Harris said. "We're glad to be back on the winning track."

Stevenson took a 3-0 lead after one period was was up 8-2 after two. Mike Zientarski, Mike Radakovich and Willie Wilson scored in the first period as the Spartans piled up a 13-4 margins in shots.

Ryan Sinks sandwiched goals around the first goal of May's second-period hat trick.

Sinks and May also had assists in the opening period. Tim Allen, Wilson, Bill Marshall and Mike Walsh also had two assists in the game.

Zientarski, Roy Rabe, Mike McCowan, Steven Anderson and Darin Fawkes each recorded one assist. The Spartans had 37 shots on net.

"It was a combination of many things," Harris said. "It was a solid team effort. Our kids realized it was a conference game. They played like they're capable of playing."

"They showed a lot of intensity. When we play like this, we should win many, many, many more."

"May was outstanding, but it was a bigger night for Matt McLeod."

Stevenson improved to 5-0 in the league and 5-2 overall.

CHURCHILL 3, TROY 3: On Thursday, the Chargers played to a tie in front of a packed crowd in Troy.

Brandon Martoia recorded a playmaker (three assists) as Churchill rallied from a 2-0 deficit.

Matt Wysocki got the Chargers on the scoreboard on a power play goal midway through the second period. A shorthanded goal by Matt Grant early in the third period tied the game at 2-2.

The Chargers took the lead when Dan Cook scored 5:28 into the final period (Martoia and Adam Krug recorded the assists). Troy tied the game with six minutes remaining.

"We dominated the game, but their goaltender stood on his head and made some great saves," said Hatley, whose team held a 40-20-shot advantage.

The Troy squad combines players from both Troy High and Troy Athens, with each school enrolling

more than 2,500 students. The combined school format doesn't bother Hatley.

"We're not opposed to playing combined schools even though they have more students to draw from because we want to play the best competition," the Churchill coach said. "We feel fortunate that we don't have only one team from Livonia. There are good athletes at Churchill and we don't need to be in that situation."

•REDFORD UNION 7, WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 2: Redford Union took an easy victory over visiting Walled Lake Central Thursday.

Joel Halliday netted three goals and an assist for the Panthers (2-4) and net-minder Mike O'Keefe stopped 21 Viking shots for the win. Redford Union led 3-0 after one period and took a 5-0 lead into the third.

Other Panther goal scorers were: David Aird, Andy Dornfried, Mike Karath and Tim Kennedy. Jarrett Noble and Brad Geister added assists.

For Walled Lake Central (1-4), Brian Shelfery and Chris Pyzik each had a goal.

•BIRMINGHAM UNITED 7, STEVENSON 5: Late-game lapses cost the Spartans on Wednesday's non-conference game at Eddie Edgar Arena.

A pair of late second-period penalties let Birmingham United start the final session with a two-man advantage, trailing 5-3.

Two power play goals deadlocked the score, 5-5, and Birmingham cashed in on another penalty to take a 6-5 lead. Stevenson pulled its goalie late in the game even though it was short-handed at the time and Birmingham notched an empty net goal with 16 seconds to play. Sophomore Chris McComb played goal for the Spartans.

Ryan Sinks scored Stevenson's lone goal in the first period, which ended 1-1.

Darin Fawkes scored twice with Jeff Lang and John May also notching goals to give the Spartans a 5-3 lead after two periods.

Fawkes also had two assists while Lang, Sinks, May and Mike Walsh had one piece.

"This was a perfect example of being undisciplined," Coach Mike Harris said. "When you take unintelligent penalties, they come back to haunt you."

Madonna drills Albion by 32

Madonna University's women's basketball team continued its stellar play, jumping on top of visiting Albion College by 20 points by halftime Thursday en route to an 85-53 non-conference triumph.

The win pushed the Lady Crusaders' record to 5-2. Albion is now winless in five games.

Again, junior guard Katie Cushman — who was named Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference player of the week after averaging 28 points and 7.5 assists in two victories — helped jump-start Madonna.

Cushman scored 15 points (on 6-of-8 shooting, including 3-of-4 on three-pointers), dished out four assists and had three steals in the triumph. She shared center-stage with Chris Dietrich, who connected on 7-of-9 shots (3-of-4 on threes) while scoring 20 points.

All nine of the remaining Crusaders scored as well in the rout, in which Madonna led 45-25 at halftime. Neither Cushman nor Dietrich played

COLLEGE HOOPS

more than 22 minutes.

Dawn Pele added nine points and eight rebounds; Angie Negri added nine points, six assists and two steals; and Mary Murray totalled six points, seven rebounds and seven steals.

Schoolcraft 126, Lambton 54 (men): Schoolcraft College's men's basketball team ran its record to an impressive 6-2 with an easy victory over visiting Lambton (Ont.) University Wednesday.

Five Ocelots reached double-figures in scoring as SC got off to its best start to a season in more than a decade.

Kevin Melson led the Ocelot barrage with 31 points. David Jarrett (from Westland John Glenn) scored 20, Emeke Okonkwo and Dan Gomez chipped in with 12 apiece, and Jamar Eddins totaled 10.

Nov. 29 against the Oshawa Generals. It took overtime for the Whalers, but they did prevail by a 4-3 count.

The game-winner came from team captain Andrew Taylor. He didn't waste much time, either, knocking home the winning goal just 27 seconds into OT.

David Legwand continued his offensive assault for Plymouth, collecting two goals and assisting on a third. Legwand still leads the first-year players in the Ontario Hockey League in scoring with 26 goals and 15 assists for 41 points. He is fifth in the OHL in scoring.

Whalers top Oshawa Generals

It's nice to be home.

Certainly the Plymouth Whalers are developing a warm feeling for their 15-month-old residence, Compuware Arena. And why not? The Whalers are riding an 11-game winning streak on their home ice.

The latest in this streak came

Boys basketball from page E1

Eric Jones, a sophomore who after just one season has become one the area's top talents.

The Rockets will have guards and young frontcourt personnel and might be a team that will be a lot tougher by February. John Glenn suffers from being in the same division of the WLAA as Salem and Walled Lake Central but that could be a blessing by season's end.

Rick Coratti at Detroit Catholic Central has the same goals his WLAA counterparts have — a conference title, post-season tournament and the state tournament.

"We take it a step at a time and build it from there," he said. "The Detroit Catholic League is important to us. And we're the three-time defending champions. The state tournament is important to everyone. You build to that."

Part of that building is putting some meat in your pre-conference schedule. This year Coratti has CC in the River Rouge holiday tournament (Dec. 26-27).

"That should be tough. River Rouge and (Detroit St. Martin) de Porres are in and we play de Porres in the opener."

"Redford Bishop Borgess is

1997-98 HOOP PREVIEW

going to be very good. (Warren) DeLaSalle is supposed to be pretty good and Birmingham Brother Rice is a big rival for us — besides all the others."

In the Metro Conference, Lutheran Westland's Ramthun believes "Hamtramck will probably be the favorite again. (Grosse Pointe) University-Liggett and (Harper Woods) Lutheran East will probably be right up there also. That looks like the top three."

Bill Ohlsson takes over for Tod Bartholomew at Huron Valley Lutheran. He tabs Fairlane as the team to beat in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

He has 18-point scorer Jeremy Zahn, who holds the school single-game record of 43 points, as his key returnee.

"It should be different this year," Ohlsson said. "There is a new attitude and the guys are working hard. We're a balanced team with nine players. We're fast but not big."

Rules changes of note include not permitting 'players to

encroach on the paint area (the lane) during free throws until the ball touches iron.

Teams also had a full timeout taken away, replaced with a pair of 20-second timeouts, during which players must remain on the floor.

"I don't think the rules changes are going to matter," Coratti said. "The biggest one is the free throw rule."

"It's going to be interesting with the 20-second timeout. It could be a momentum changer. There are a lot of times in game where you want to stop the game. That's going to be nice."

The new free throw rule, Austin said, could aid quickness.

"We enforced it at summer camp," he said. "It livens things up in the key on free throws. It used to be that the defensive team challenged for most of the rebounds."

"It's not going to be that way. Guys with quick hands and quickness will be getting a lot of buckets off free throws."

"Kids will learn. They're flexible and they adapt."

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North Farmington pitching ace signs with Michigan

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

One way or another Jeff Trzos is headed for a dream team.

The 6-foot-5 North Farmington left-handed pitcher has signed a national letter of intent to throw baseballs for the University of Michigan next fall.

"Over 130 colleges were recruiting Jeff to play baseball," said his father, Ron Trzos. "All the top 20 that you hear about all the time, the Southern schools, were really after him.

"Ninety offered him a complete education. He really had a choice."

It's that way when you're left-handed, buzz a fastball in excess of 90 miles per hour — with control — can break off a nice curve and mix in a changeup.

But first the multi-talented athlete must negotiate his high school season. And maybe a professional baseball contract after that.

The major league teams are more than a little interested.

Right-handers who throw in the 90s can be found on every big league roster. Lefties who can

bring it are as rare as January sunshine in Fairbanks, Alaska.

"I'll listen, definitely," Trzos said. "I'm anxious. You're not really sure where you're at until the draft comes around.

"It would be hard to turn down a college education, though. That would be a tough decision. Luckily, I've got a couple of months to make it."

Coach Geoff Zahn of Michigan, who last year lost recruit Ryan Anderson to the pros, has a bundle of hot prospects in his bid to make the Wolverines a national power in collegiate baseball.

"He's made the recruiting coups of the century," Ron Trzos said. "He's telling people that if football equals Pasadena, baseball equals Omaha (site of the College World Series)."

Among the recruits Zahn has allegedly assembled are Andy Brown, a southpaw similar to Trzos who comes from Bloomington, Ind., and possibly another North Farmington southpaw, Kirk Taylor.

David Parrish, a catcher like his famous father Lance, has a shot to start as a freshman this spring and the Wolverines reportedly have a hot-shot shortstop, Scott Tousea, a junior college transfer.

Brighton's Drew Henson signed a football tender

but his pitching and hitting credentials probably will get him drafted in the first round by some team.

"I hope the pros don't get too many of them," Ron Trzos said. "I'd like to see them take Michigan back to its former glory. But the money is just incredible."

Trzos has gotten a lot of help from Jeff Kaiser, former major league pitcher who now helps kids out of the Downriver Baseball Center.

Kaiser is a left-hander who's seen the ups and downs of major and minor league life. He pitched with Oakland, Detroit and Toronto as well as in the Tigers' minor league system.

"He's really a nice guy," Ron Trzos said. "Jeff started seeing him some time ago. He really made some very demonstrable strides."

"He helped me with my mechanics overall," Trzos said, "my balance, weight transfer, arm motion, making sure I'm square to the plate when I follow through."

He's made the necessary adjustments at every level to get where he is today. Now he's got to push even harder to continue his climb.

Coming from a family of athletes and scholars should help there.

Ron Trzos played baseball as a youngster but couldn't get anywhere with it because "I ran in the same spot too long, as they say."

Older brother Bill preceded Jeff at North Farmington and is majoring in criminal justice, with an eye on an FBI career, at Michigan State University.

An even older sister also went to Michigan State, graduating in microbiology and psychology and continuing her education.

Staying close to family is one of the things that influenced Jeff to stick close to home with his choice of a college.

Michigan won out over UCLA, Pepperdine, Stanford and Florida Atlantic.

"The Florida schools all said, 'You're going to be playing the top teams in the country if you sign with us,' Ron Trzos said. "The Texas schools and the California schools all said, 'You're going to be playing the top schools in the country if you sign with us.'"

"But Zahn said, 'We're going to play the best schedule we can (in the spring), then come back and play in the Big Ten and then try to get to the College World Series.' They're going to play all the teams he would have been playing anyway."

Canton could be facing first rebuilding season in years

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR

Time's up, Dan Young.

The Plymouth Canton basketball coach is entering his fourth season as head coach, and for the

first time he's doing so without a proven, dangerous lineup.

"We're kind of redoing the whole thing," said Young, who has taken Canton to one Western Lakes Activities Association

championship, three-straight WLAAs Tournament titles (they've won four in a row) and a pair of state district tournament championships.

In his three previous years, six players have gone on to play college-level basketball.

What the Chiefs lack this year is that stand-out kind of talent. Only one player returns from last year's top seven: Joe Cortellini, a 5-foot-11 junior guard who averaged about seven points a game, with a high of 21 vs. Farmington Harrison.

"He's a good shooter and a

smart player," said Young.

Six seniors have graduated. One who's back is Eric Larsen, a 6-4 post player who saw limited playing time last season. "He's a good rebounder and a good athlete," said Young.

Replacing those six graduated players, from a 16-7 team, will not be easy. Young admits it will take time to develop his team and determine roles.

"It's a new group, but they're working hard," he said. "I have a lot of young kids. They're good players, they just haven't been through it yet."

"I think we'll see a real lot of improvement as the year goes on. We'll build as the season goes and hopefully, we'll be able to compete by season's end."

Three juniors Young will be looking to for some help are Scott Samulski, a 6-5 forward who's "a good perimeter player, but he must improve his defense and rebound for us"; Nate Rau, a 6-2 swingman who's "strong around the basket"; and Jason Dařow, a 6-4 forward who Young wants "defense and rebounding" from.

There are some sophomores

who will get a long look, too. Jason Waidman, a 6-4 forward with size and shooting ability. Dan McLean, a 6-2 swingman, who has displayed a good feel for the game; and Justin Romer, a 6-foot guard who's a good, solid worker.

A pair of freshmen — Nick Cabauaton, a 5-10 guard with good quickness and shooting; and Oliver Wolcott, a 5-11 guard with strong shooting and decision-making skills — could get some playing time as well.

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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.
St. Alphonsus at Luth. W'sid 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 vs. 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.
L'Wsd at Annapolis, 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. Franklin, 7 p.m.
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 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 p.m.
Allen Park Invitational, 8:30 p.m.

South Lyon Invitational, 8:30 p.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?

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Outdoor Calendar

DATES/DEADLINES

BASS
Bass season ends statewide on Dec. 31.

DEER
The second archery season runs to 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 through Dec. 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.

FISHING CLUBS

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.

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, Thursdays 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 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 Sunday, Dec. 7, plus Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 13-14 at Kensington. Tickets are \$5 each and available by advance purchase only. A similar program will be held Sunday at Indian Springs.

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.

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.

Perfect game requires lots of skill

Everyone knows that it takes 12 strikes in a row to bowl a 300 game. Easy to say, but not very easy to do.



AL HARRISON

A perfect game requires a lot of skill, concentration and perhaps a certain amount of luck. The long string of consecutive strikes creates an excitement in this sport that is truly unique to bowling.

Even with the high-tech equipment available to bowlers, the 300 game is still quite a feat — but what about two in a row? It happened last week at Bowl One Lanes in Troy by 63-year old Hurston "Wally" Wallace.

Wally started play in the Frank Gavia Supply Senior Classic League with a 220 game, and yes fellow bowlers, that is a decent game. Now the rest of the story.

Wally finished the first game with three strikes and went the rest of the day without having to make a spare for he kept throwing strikes — 27 in a row.

He admitted he was just hoping to achieve his first 800 series, which he did with an 820, but around the middle of the last game, he started thinking about another 300.

Wally credits Bud's Pro Shop in Waterford for setting up his Columbia "Boss" just right. The right equipment at the right time can do some amazing things on the lanes.

Wally, a Lake Orion resident,

does not know if his feat set any records for a senior league bowler, or for any bowler at the tender age of 63.

•The All-Star Bowlerettes at Cloverlanes in Livonia also had some 300 games to get excited about as Hall-of-Famer Aleta Sill rolled a perfect game last Monday in the first game.

When asked how many perfect games she had recorded, Sill responded "about 26 or so, I think." Even with that many 300 games the thrill is still there and it makes for an exciting evening.

The evening became more exciting when Detroit's Rose Edwards fired her very first 300 game. Edwards, who is a fifth grade teacher, is a veteran bowler and this was her greatest thrill.

Edwards is a member of the Riverside Ford Team which had enjoyed a perfect game several weeks earlier, courtesy of teammate Gwen Finley.

Edwards was averaging 191 in the league, but her 724 series will boost that average up a bit.

Lisa Bishop gave the girls a run for the money with 279 and 278 games and a 763 series, but that was topped by Karen Hagan's 783 series, which included a 269 game. Other top games were turned in by: Mickey Webb, 279; Consuela Cleveland, 269; Lisa McLenahan, 256; and Carmen Allen, 256.

It was a hot time on the lanes last week.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL

Super Bowl (Canton): Super Tuesday — Todd Spitz, 299/748; Rick Lang, 290/764; Jim Jesson, 270/726; Dennis Archer, 269/784; Jack McGrail, 267/734; Mickey Higham, 269/715; Terry Edwards, 258/718.

Mike Troy, 244/725.

Plaza Lanes (Plymouth): Powertrains — Dale Ling, 277-198-214/689.

Waterford Men — Tom Truxal, 266-266-233/765; Mike Langston, 254-233-226/713; Andre Roy, 244-204-243/691; Russ Belanger, 279-255-227/761; Rich Planko, 266-205-255/726; Jon Demeter, 237-243-224/704; Bob Healy, 245-267/703; Chuck Morris, 235-235-225/695.

Keglers — John Tursell, 248-245-256/749; Den New, 247-231-233/711; Jim Griffin, 208-247-233/688.

Guys and Dolls — Josh Lanning, 242-258/691.

Burrough's Men — Glen Kime, 258-229-237/724.

St. Colette's Men — George Cadovich, 257-278/728; Greg Meister, 244-245-203/692; Ted Bushey, 242-247/683.

Mayflower Lanes (Redford): Good Neighbors — Stella Sarnocki, 199-196/553; Gail Galitz, 220/552.

Wednesday Men's Senior Classic (Nov. 26) — Bill Britton, 279/629; Phil Horowitz, 238-217-227/682; Roy Lince, 246-255/693; Howard Davis, 215-238-212/665; Tom Pawlowski, 268/648.

Wednesday Men's Senior Classic (Dec. 2) — Walt Arsenault, 214-245-266/725; Jim Hunt, 245/604; Ted Kress, 234-215-223/672; John Bierkamp, 246-225/652; Phil Horowitz, 247-255-269/771.

Friday Seniors — Owen Southard, 229/655; Gene Pike, 235/650; Chet Zajac, 239/632; Roger Dinsmore, 243/603 (85 pins over avg.); Stan Wesner, 235/600.

Town 'n Country Lanes (Westland): Intercity Mixed — Chris Brezovsky, 261; Kelly

Rusinek, 649.

Saturday Night Mixed — Tiffany Harvey, 703.

Thursday Gals — Tammy Wilbur, 600.

Men's Friday Night Invitational — Robbie Cook, 300; Bill Reynolds, 300.

Wednesday Merchants — Derrick Jasper, 300.

Men's Junior Classic — Rick Arbogast, 300; Kurtis Paul, 298.

Thursday Night Men's Trio — Jim Gaines, 300/801.

Saturday Morning-Teens — Evan Reich, 644; Chad Campbell, 244/637; Darrin Turner, 224/649; Jason Horden, 245/628.

Saturday Morning Preps — Jamie Garrett (age 6, 65 avg.), 154; Brittany Burke, 107.

Westland Bowl: Tri-City Invitational — Rich Spaustinn, 300/593; Mike Mitchell, 279/803; M. Anderson, 259; P. Coshatt, 255; J. O'Donnell, 289; N. Dominques, 257; John Hurley, Jr., 845; Lew Ansara, 300; Lee Snow, 300.

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The George Foreman Lean Mean Fat-Reducing Grilling Machine on sale for \$49.99 on page 63 of the Christmas Sale will not be available due to the manufacturer's inability to deliver the merchandise.
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YOU AND THE LAW
by Stuart M. Feldheim
Attorney at Law
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Brian Lewis
Farmington Harrison



Noah Swartz
Westland John Glenn



Matt Lawson
Livonia Franklin



Mike Fisher
Farmington Harrison



Don Slankster
Catholic Central



Ricky Bryant
Farmington Harrison



Justin Villanueva
Livonia Clarenceville



Eric Jones
Westland John Glenn



Jared Hopkins
Farmington Harrison

State champions dominate All-Area team

FOOTBALL

1997 ALL-OBSERVER FOOTBALL TEAM

LINEMEN

Sr. Brian Lewis (6-1, 250) Farm. Harrison
Sr. Noah Swartz (6-5, 288) John Glenn
Sr. Matt Lawson (6-6, 290) Liv. Franklin
Sr. Mike Fisher (6-3, 255) Farm. Harrison

TIGHT END

Sr. Don Slankster (6-3, 225) Redford CC

WIDE RECEIVER

Jr. Ricky Bryant (6-1, 155) Farm. Harrison
Sr. Justin Villanueva (6-4, 190) Clarenceville
Soph. Eric Jones (5-11, 183) John Glenn

QUARTERBACKS

Sr. Jared Hopkins (6-3, 200) Harrison
Sr. Adam Tubaro (6-2, 198) Redford CC

RUNNING BACKS

Jr. Reggie Spearmon (5-9, 175) Wd. Glenn
Sr. Chris Dueweke (6-1, 225) Redford CC
Sr. Anthony Grech (5-9, 185) Liv. Franklin
Sr. Kirk Moundros (6-2, 205) North Farm.

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Jr. Brett Foster (6-1, 205) Farm. Harrison
Sr. Chuck Spolsky (5-11, 200) Redford CC
Sr. Matt Struble (6-2, 195) Farm. Harrison
Sr. Mike Carroll (6-1, 215) Redford CC

LINEBACKERS

Sr. Sean Heard (5-10, 225) John Glenn
Jr. Mike Hoad (6-1, 200) Farm. Harrison
Sr. Sean Clark (5-11, 215) N. Farmington
Sr. Joe Sgroi (6-0, 215) Redford CC
Sr. Brett Wells (6-2, 215) Liv. Churchill
Sr. Brett Burleson (6-0, 190) Ply. Salem

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Sr. Zack Cornwell (5-10, 175) Harrison
Sr. Joe Jonna (6-0, 180) Redford CC
Sr. Jeff McKian (6-4, 185) Ply. Salem

SECOND TEAM

LINEMEN

Jr. Rob Alderton (6-0, 210) Redford Union
Sr. Mike Davidson (6-0, 215) Redford CC
Sr. Chris Gadjev (6-0, 240) Farm. Harrison
Sr. Ben Yowell (6-1, 235) Farmington
Sr. Tim Baron (5-8, 205) Red. Thurston
Sr. Kyle DiFatta (5-11, 172) Lutheran Wid.
Sr. Kevin Mroczka (6-1, 240) Ply. Canton

TIGHT END

Jr. Ryan Tobin (6-1, 175) Liv. Stevenson

QUARTERBACK

Sr. Justin Berent (6-6, 200) John Glenn

RUNNING BACKS

Sr. Chris Ghannam (5-7, 175) Harrison
Soph. Mike Macek (6-0, 215) Red. Union
Sr. Chris Opatka (6-0, 230) St. Agatha
Jr. Walter Ragland (6-1, 195) Clarenceville
Sr. Jake Hatten (5-11, 172) Lutheran Wid.
Sr. Kevin Jordan (6-0, 180) Red. Borgess
Jr. Cameron Mingo (5-9, 175) Wayne
Sr. Nick Dedeluk (6-0, 190) Red. Thurston

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Jr. Bryan McGhee (6-1, 235) Harrison
Sr. Anwar Crutchfield (5-7, 175) Salem
Jr. John Abshire (6-1, 190) Redford CC
Jr. Lou Willoughby (6-0, 230) Redford CC

LINEBACKERS

Jr. Casey Rogowski (6-3, 215) Redford CC
Sr. Matt Walker (6-2, 200) Farm. Harrison

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Sr. Kareem Smart (6-0, 165) Harrison
Jr. Dave Lysky (6-2, 195) Redford CC
Sr. Charlie Leverenz (6-0, 185) Wayne

PUNTER

Sr. Jason Hamilton (6-1, 180) Redford CC

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jim O'Leary-North Farmington High School

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Stevenson: Chris Goins, Dave Tuer, Jason Sorge, John VanBuren, Dan Shay, Chris Dattolo, Franklin: Bryan Regner, R.J. Tibus, John Furmanski, Churchill: Vinnie Asplone, Nick DePetro, David Deriglotti, Ryan Kearney, Corey Cook, John Glenn; Clarenceville: Tim Atkins, Josh Fritsch, Craig Rose, John Schiffman, John Wallace; Lutheran Westland: Scott Archer, Jason James, Matt Meyer, Bob Fox; Farmington: Todd Richardson, Nick Colson, Steve Economy, Mark Ostach; Harrison: Jason Sharp, Joe Ghannam, Tom Salley; N. Farmington: Matt St. Charles, Amran Gowah, Kent Taylor, Tom Moran, Nathan Eoij, Lance Sitto; Salem: Charlie Schmidt, Eric Peterson, Teoné Wilson, Jason Lukaski, Matt Fair, Tony Bernhardt, Andy Kocloski; Canton: Mark Popejoy, Nick Allen, Eric Frezer; Brian Müsser, Corey Reardon; Thurston: Nick Murchison, Hazen Longthorn; Redford: Scott Genodi; Redford Union: Eric Newton, Adrian Beayer, Nick Vaghy, Clint Stibole, Matt Rigley; St. Agatha: Tyann Maddox, Tim Kennedy, Wesley Shaw, Shaun Manar; Redford CC: Nick Brozinski, Joe Saah, Justin Cessante, Brock Naysmith; Garden City: Mike Yrobel, Chris Barner, Matt Carson.

By DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

North Farmington's football program has struggled through losing seasons in recent years, but the Raiders came roaring back in 1997.

After finishing 1-8 a year ago, North Farmington rebounded with a 6-3 record this year.

It was the school's first winning season since 1991 and a fitting farewell to coach Jim O'Leary, who retired after 15 years as head coach.

O'Leary has been named Observerland Coach of the Year for the job he did getting the

Raiders turned around this year.

"I couldn't have written a better script unless we had won one more game," O'Leary said. The Raiders would have made the

Class A playoffs if they had. "We had a winning season with a team no one expected to have a winning season. The kids played as hard as they could and believed in themselves. It was a great group of seniors to graduate with."

O'Leary, 55, will continue to teach biology classes at North. He coached football there for 33 years and had a 75-61 record as a varsity head coach.

Observerland can boast of having the Class A and AA state champions, and the coaches of those teams, John Herrington (Farmington Harrison) and Tom Mach (Redford Catholic Central), deserve recognition, too.

Herrington's Hawks (13-0) won the Class A crown and their eighth state title. Mach's Shamrocks (12-1) are the AA winners and five-time state champions.

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

Brian Lewis, lineman, Harrison: Lewis was a three-year starter on the offensive line, playing center the last two years, and called all of the blocking schemes.

He also started two years on defense, moving from end to tackle this year. Lewis had 63 total tackles and led the team with eight sacks. His last game, in the Silverdome for the state championship, might have been his best. He had eight tackles, stole the ball from a Midland Dow back to set up a TD and recovered another fumble.

"He was a great team leader; we could always count on him," coach John Herrington said. "He was a leader on and off the field. He always knew who to block and was very tough to move when playing defense."

Noah Swartz, lineman, John Glenn: Swartz was a devastating blocker and dominating player at offensive tackle. He made nearly every post-season honor team and will play college ball. Toledo has already offered a scholarship.

"He's one of the best linemen we've ever had at John Glenn," coach Chuck Gordon said. "He has good balance, quick feet. He just keeps getting better and better."

Matt Lawson, lineman, Franklin: Lawson was a two-tackle for the Patriots and a repeat selection on the All-Observer first team. He carries a 3.3 grade point and is destined to play college ball. Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Toledo and Michigan State have expressed interest.

"He was the No. 1 guy on our team and one of the reasons we did have some success," coach Rick Lee said. "He was a lot more aggressive this year. He got after people; he was quicker and stronger."

Mike Fisher, lineman, Harrison: Fisher was a three-year starter at right tackle on offense and a major reason the Harrison offensive line was so effective and highly regarded by opposing coaches.

He was a force on defense, too. As a two-way tackle, Fisher helped make the Hawks strong against the run. He was fourth on the tackle chart (67) and third in sacks with six.

"He's a big-time prospect," Herrington said. "For a lineman, he could operate in the open field whether blocking or tackling. He was a captain who led by example, a very solid player."

Don Slankster, tight end, Redford CC: Slankster wasn't just a blocking tight end; he caught 28 passes for 485 yards and 12 touchdowns. He was second in scoring behind Chris Dueweke.

"He probably made more big plays for us as a receiver than anyone I can remember," Mach said. "He made tremendous catches when we needed them. When we got down, we usually went to him; he was so reliable. His speed and hands really made him a threat."

Ricky Bryant, wide receiver, Harrison:

Bryant was Harrison's big-play, deep-pass threat. A three-year starter on offense, he had 42 receptions for 858 yards and nine touchdowns.

He also returned punts and kickoffs. He had a punt return for a TD and one rushing touchdown. He was third in scoring with 72 points.

Bryant has also started for two years at free safety. He was first in interceptions (five) and fifth in tackles (65).

"Overall, Ricky is the most talented player on our team," Herrington said. "I think he has a chance to make All-America next year. That's saying a lot. I know, but he has the talent. He'll be a four-year starter, and not even John Miller did that."

(Miller played four years on the varsity from 1981-84 but didn't start as a freshman.)

Justin Villanueva, end, Clarenceville: He caught 26 passes for 919 yards and eight touchdowns. He also returned two kickoffs for touchdowns and averaged 27 yards per kick return, 19 on punts.

Villanueva was an outside linebacker on defense and made 36 tackles.

"He's an electrifying football player," coach Chuck Donaldson said. "He was a threat to go all the way every time he touched the ball. He mixes size with speed; he's 6-foot-4 and runs well."

Eric Jones, wide receiver, John Glenn: There was no such thing as a sophomore jinx for Jones, who made 38 catches for 597 yards and six touchdowns.

"He was excellent at catching the ball in traffic," Gordon said. "He was a key guy on our team; he was a game-breaker. He just got better as the year went along."

Jared Hopkins, quarterback, Harrison: Hopkins was a three-year varsity player who became a starter this year and performed as well as Harrison quarterbacks before him, leading the Hawks to an eighth state championship.

He completed 59 percent of his passes (100 of 169) for 1,691 yards and 19 touchdowns. His TD pass to interception ratio was nearly 3-to-1 with just seven picks.

"He had an outstanding senior year, and he was a good team leader," Herrington said. "He was very good at throwing out of the pocket. He handled the offense well and made some excellent automatic calls."

Adam Tubaro, quarterback, CC: Tubaro also stepped into a starting role as a senior and led the Shamrocks to a state championship. CC was more of a passing team, too, with Tubaro throwing for 1,229 yards and 17 touchdowns with only five interceptions. He completed 86 of 163 pass attempts for 53 percent. Tubaro also rushed for 223 yards and two touchdowns.

"He's like an extra coach on the staff," Mach said. "He does such a fine job of leading and setting an example for the rest of the team. He has all the qualities to become a good quarterback in college. He made plays when we had to have them."

Reggie Spearmon, back, John Glenn: Spearmon carried the ball 219 times for 1,259 yards and 11 touchdowns. It was his second-straight season over 1,000 yards. He also caught 13 passes for 100 yards. Spearmon played defense, too.

"We ask an awful lot of our tailback," Gordon said. "He rarely came off the field. He played well all the way around for us."

Chris Dueweke, back, Redford CC: Dueweke filled the role of the hard-running back in CC's ground-oriented offense and was the go-to guy for most of the season. He rushed for 1,025 yards and 13 touchdowns on 233 carries.

"Chris gave us a strong, inside running game," Mach said. "He upheld that tradition of a strong fullback at CC. He did a tremendous job, showing toughness, getting an extra yard when we needed it."

Anthony Grech, back, Franklin: A three-year varsity player, Grech broke six school rushing records. He set career standards for rushing attempts (527) and yardage (2,563), season marks for carries (218) and yards (1,141) and single-game records for carries (38) and yards (222).

He has the third-longest touchdown run in school history (80 yards). Grech rushed for seven touchdowns this year and had one receiving touchdown. He also had 1,432 all-purpose yards.

"He was our most explosive back since Joe Ransley," Lee said. "He worked hard to get ready for his senior year and was very dedicated."

Kirk Moundros, back, N. Farmington: Moundros set a single-season rushing record with 1,399 yards and 13 touchdowns on 226 carries, breaking Todd Anderson's mark of 1,353 yards.

He also returned kicks and punts, caught 16 passes and set another single-season record with 2,041 yards in total offense. His two-year total of 3,254 all-purpose yards is a career record, too.

"He was the difference this year on offense," O'Leary said. "After the first game, everybody knew who was going to get the ball, and teams still had a difficult time stopping him."

"He was a great team player. He never cared about individual stats; he had no idea, until the end of the year, he was close to any kind of record. He just went out and played the game like it was supposed to be played."

FIRST-TEAM DEFENSE

Brett Foster, lineman, Harrison: Foster, the strongest player on the Harrison team, started at left guard and defensive end.

He's a former fullback who volunteered to fill a need on offense as a sophomore.

Foster was tough against the run, finishing third with 71 tackles. He also recovered a fumble for a key touchdown in the WAAA championship game and had an interception.

"He was outstanding at pulling and blocking on the corner," Herrington said. "As a defensive end, he was very tough to move. His technique was excellent."

Chuck Spolsky, lineman, Redford CC: Spolsky was a two-year starter who played offensive guard and defensive tackle. He had 58 tackles (20 solos) and five sacks. His interception in the state final led to CC's first touchdown in a 23-7 victory.

"He was a great two-way player," Mach said. "He has great quickness and tenacity; a couple times he almost dominated the game. He played much bigger than he was. He did a heckuva job against people who outweighed him."

Matt Struble, lineman, Harrison: Struble became a two-way starter this year and played well on both sides of the ball as an offensive guard and defensive end.

He made 65 tackles and was second in sacks (seven).

"He comes from a family of good football players," Herrington said. "He was the smallest of our linemen but did an outstanding job. He could stop the screen pass and was a good pass rusher. He stayed home to handle the reverse and counters."

Mike Carroll, lineman, Redford CC: Carroll was a tough, aggressive player at defensive end and a major reason the Shamrocks were so good on defense again. He made 82 total tackles (21 solos), including six sacks.

"He has great speed, a nose for the ball and great tenacity," Mach said. "He doesn't know when to say quit. You've got to love a guy like him who wants to get to the ball that bad. He chases guys down and does whatever is necessary to get the job done."

Sean Heard, linebacker, John Glenn: Heard was his team's leading tackler for the second year in a row with 61 first hits and 63 assisted tackles.

A three-year varsity player, he also played some fullback on offense, rushing for 126 yards and two touchdowns.

"He's a very smart player who really knows the game," Gordon said. "He's tough, physical and a good blocker."

Mike Hoad, linebacker, Harrison: Hoad was his team's leading tackler with 95 total hits (56 solos) and three sacks. He also had two interceptions.

Hoad has started for two years at tight end, making 15 receptions for 326 yards and five touchdowns this year.

"We think he's one of the best linebackers we've ever had," Herrington said. "He has tremendous sense for where the ball is going. He's one of our toughest hitters on defense — and he's coming back!"

Sean Clark, linebacker, N. Farmington: Clark was the leading tackler in Oakland County with 70 solo stops and 61 assists. His 268 defensive points broke a 25-year-old team record (210).

He also had five sacks, blocked two kicks, caused four fumbles, recovered two fumbles and had one interception. He started for three years on the offensive line.

"When he steps on the field, he's totally different," O'Leary said. "He's not the mild-mannered kid I see quit. You've got to love a guy like him who wants to get to the ball that bad. He chases guys down and does whatever is necessary to get the job done."

"He's probably the best linebacker I've ever coached because of his dedication. His knowledge of football, the amount of time spent studying film, is beyond anything we've had."

Joe Sgroi, linebacker, Redford CC: Sgroi was the heart of the CC defense at middle linebacker, leading the Shamrocks with 102 tackles. He was a blocking back on offense but also carried 23 times for a 7.1 average and one touchdown. Sgroi was CC's long snapper, too.

"When he hits you, he hits you with great authority," Mach said. "He was the emotional leader on defense. He's also a very intelligent player. He made the calls on the field and the adjustments to different formations teams would give us."

Brett Burleson, linebacker, Salem: Burleson was a three-year starter and a three-time, all-division player. He led the Rocks with 98 total tackles from his middle linebacker position. As a fullback, he rushed for 264 yards on 56 carries.

"He's one of the few three-year starters we've had (in 25 years)," coach Tom Moshimer said, adding Burleson was the captain of the front seven. "He had to read formations and get us in the right places. He'll certainly be hard to replace after three solid years."

Brett Wells, linebacker, Churchill: Wells was his team's leading tackler with 53 first hits and 30 assisted tackles. He also played tight end and made 12 receptions for 223 yards and three touchdowns. Wells caught the attention of recruiters and will likely play some college football.

"Any improvement we made is largely attributable to Brett," coach John Filltraut said. "He anchored our defense and was our go-to guy on offense."

Zack Cornwell, back, Harrison: Cornwell, who played quarterback as a freshman and golf as a sophomore, returned to football as a junior and became a two-way starter as a senior.

As the monsterback, he had 38 tackles and four interceptions. As a fullback, he

finished a lot of scoring drives. He rushed for 582 yards and 17 touchdowns on 81 carries. He was the leading scorer with 154 points, which included three field goals; he was 31-of-34 on extra points.

"He's one of those guys who doesn't get a lot of praise, but you need him to win. He's always doing something to help your team."

Jeff McKian, back, Salem: McKian had 18 solo tackles and 36 assists. He intercepted three passes and broke up five others, recovered three fumbles and caused another and blocked three kicks. He was a wide receiver on offense with 14 receptions for 214 yards and two touchdowns.

"Jeff was our coach in the secondary," Moshimer said. "He kept all the guys in the right place. We thought he would be a dominant player, and he came through even more than we expected."

Joe Jonna, back, Redford CC: Jonna did a little of everything for the Shamrocks as a defender, receiver and return specialist, and he could have played quarterback if needed. He had six interceptions, 18 solo tackles and 17 assists. He also caught 20 passes for 304 yards and three touchdowns.

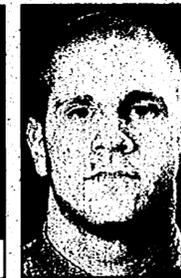
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