

Westland Observer

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IN THE PAPER
TODAY

COUNTY NEWS

On the move: Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara, U.S. Customs and Northwest Airlines officials officially dedicated an expansion Tuesday of the Berry International Terminal at Detroit Metro Airport. The expansion will allow the airport to process more international travelers./A5

OPINION

Accountability: Allowing cameras into the courtroom helps to guarantee the integrity of the judicial process./A12

COMMUNITY LIFE

Different way: It was Italy's first woman doctor, Maria Montessori, who came up with the educational philosophy of teaching the child, not the subject, that is being celebrated during National Montessori Education Week this week./B1

AT HOME

Harmonious arrangement: Keep positive energy flowing in your home and office through the ancient art of feng shui./D6

ENTERTAINMENT

Theater: One-act plays take center stage at the Theater Guild of Livonia/Redford's Festival of One-Act Plays, and Heartland Theatre Company's One-Act Play Slam./E1

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City spruce-up studied



A new study by Beckett & Raeder Inc. (BRI), an Ann Arbor consulting firm, suggests far-reaching changes in the commercial district along Ford Road and Wayne Road south of Ford to Glenwood in Westland.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

An ambitious new study recommends sprucing up Westland's aging commercial corridors. The price tag: \$18.6 million.

"I think we're five years away from seeing any real meaty improvements," Mayor Robert Thomas said Tuesday.

A new study by Beckett & Raeder

Inc. (BRI), an Ann Arbor consulting firm, suggests far-reaching changes along two roads:

- The entire 3-mile stretch of Ford in Westland.
- The southern strip of Wayne from Ford to Glenwood, about 2½ miles.

Westland officials hope to spruce up businesses along Ford and Wayne, rid the city of blight and draw new companies to commercial areas — all the while

expanding the city's tax base.

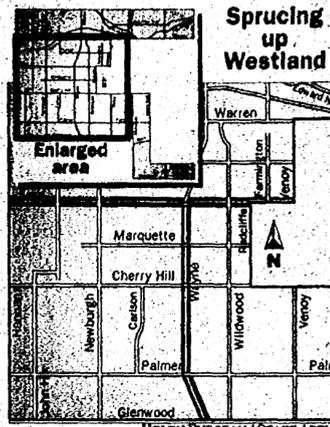
New growth would provide some tax revenues to help pay for future improvements in the targeted Downtown Development Authority (DDA) district. A city-appointed DDA board will steer revitalization efforts.

State dollars, grants and private dollars also could potentially be used to pay for DDA improvements.

"It's not going to happen overnight," Councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin said.

His remark came during a Monday night study session as BRI consultant

Please see DDA, A2



HELEN PURCEAN/STAFF ARTIST

Shot on goal



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Pickup hockey: Goalie Brad Combs, 16, (left) a ninth-grader at John Glenn High School, attempts to stop Chris Doan, 15, (right) a 10th-grader at John Glenn, from scoring in a pickup up hockey game on the tennis courts near the Bailey Center. Students are on winter break this week. Not pictured are Chad Prosis, Bill O'Rourke, and Rick Houk also from John Glenn High School.

Students to get one-room history lesson soon

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland students could start attending classes in a one-room schoolhouse — much like their ancestors did — by this spring.

Local historians who led the renovation of the 1856 Perrinsville schoolhouse at Warren and Cowan are preparing to open it for student field trips and group tours.

"We're all anxious to put it to use," said Jo Johnson, who serves on the Perrinsville School Restoration Committee and the Westland Historical Commission.

A precise opening day for student field trips isn't yet known, but Johnson said Monday night during a Westland City Council study session that classes could start as early as this spring.

Community group tours are expected

PERRINSVILLE

to start even sooner. (Call the Westland Historical Museum at 326-1110.)

Virginia Braun, another local historian who helped lead the charge for restoring Perrinsville, noted Monday that the startup of tours and classes in the one-room brick school will culminate a seven-year effort.

The school with the old-fashioned bell tower had become dilapidated until efforts began to restore it and to preserve part of the community's history.

Some local students and teachers are eager to spend a day at Perrinsville, using some reprinted textbooks from a bygone era and learning how their ancestors got an education.

Youngsters also will play games and

Please see HISTORY, A2

House OKs ferret bill suggested by local man

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Two Westland ferrets apparently led their celebration becomes a little rowdy Tuesday after the state House passed a ferret-protection bill suggested by their owner, Jerry Kovach.

"The ferrets have stolen the phone and hidden it somewhere," Kovach's answering machine said Tuesday after

the House passed the bill.

But little Coco and Memphis apparently did little harm — and certainly didn't bite anyone — as they celebrated a bill that now goes to the Senate.

Legislation sponsored by state Rep. Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, provides for a 10-day rabies quarantine period for pet ferrets who bite people.

Kovach suggested the bill to DeHart

after reading that ferrets are routinely beheaded and examined for rabies after biting humans.

"It was amazing to me that this was actually happening to the ferrets," Kovach told the Observer even before the House debated the issue. He attended Tuesday's session.

DeHart's bill extends to ferrets the same 10-day quarantine period already

given to dogs and cats. It would save healthy ferrets from certain death.

"Jerry's involvement on this issue shows that our constituents are the real bosses," DeHart said. "I appreciate his information and involvement with this legislation."

It became legal to own a ferret in Michigan in 1994, and the small ani-

Please see FERRET, A2

Bray's serves up expansion plans

BY RENEE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER

Bray's Hamburgers will soon do more of what it does best — make the best darn burgers in Westland.

At a recent meeting, Westland City Council members gave unanimous approval to John Bray's plans to build a new, larger restaurant with a drive-through on the same site on Ford Road just west of Wayne. Bray's father, Gordon, a hamburger man since the 1950s, started flipping his legendary burgers there in 1963.

John Bray, who took over in 1974, said the old restaurant will stay open while the new one is under construction. He hopes groundbreaking will be this spring. At this time, there is no completion date, but Bray is aiming for fall.

Bray's restaurant will expand from 1,000 square feet to 2,550 square feet and include three new grills and a replica of a 1947 Wurlitzer juke box. Bray assured burger-lovin' council members that his menu will remain the same. So will the chrome stools. "I think it's the stools. You get to come inside and talk to everybody. There aren't many places that have stools. It's the gathering place of the city's neighborhood."

And what about the donkey that's towered above Bray's entrance for many years? Bray said he plans to give the legendary landmark a place just inside the new restaurant's entranceway. "I'm glad you're keeping the donkey," said Councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin.

Please see BRAY'S, A3



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JACOBFIELD

Landmark: Bray's restaurant will expand from 1,000 square feet to 2,550 square feet.

Ferret from page A1

males are said by the pet industry to be the third most-popular house pet in the United States.

New research shows that ferrets who bite should be quarantined for 10 days, DeHart said. Ferrets that remain healthy during that period are considered safe from rabies.

DeHart has said the practice of routinely destroying ferrets "is

cruel for the animal and for the owner, as well."

Meanwhile Tuesday, there was no indication when Kovach's phone might be returned to its place.

"But the answering machine is still here," his voice said. "So leave a message while you still can."

Man's death called suicide

A Westland police officer found a suicide victim after stopping to investigate a car parked outside of a Cowan Road business at 3:30 a.m. Monday, police Lt. Marc Stobbe said.

The man, who was shot in the chest with a .38-caliber revolver, was identified as Daniel Missig, 23, of Wayne, Stobbe said.

Missig, who had been depressed over marital prob-

lems, was found in front of Office Max on Cowan west of Wayne Road.

"He shot himself in the chest," Stobbe said. "He had been despondent over a pending divorce."

Early television reports of the incident fueled speculation that foul play might have been involved, but Stobbe said Missig took his own life.

Agency: Incinerator appeal filed late

BY BETH SUNDRLA JACHMAN STAFF WRITER

It came in too late so it doesn't count.

That is the contention of a state agency after an area woman filed an appeal of the permit for a proposed change at the incinerator that serves five communities, including Westland and Garden City.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Friday sent out a statement that an appeal filed by Sandra Yerman of Romulus was filed too late, according to Lynn Fiedler, supervisor of the thermal process unit in the permit section of MDEQ.

The statement was sent to the Environmental Appeals Board of the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C., to meet a Feb. 23 deadline for a

response.

Yerman filed an appeal of the permit for the Central Wayne Energy Recovery Limited Partnership which reached Washington on Jan. 5.

The deadline to appeal was Dec. 29 and Yerman contended that since she had the appeal postmarked on Dec. 29 that it met the deadline regardless of when it reached Washington.

But in January the appeals board then asked Yerman to explain why the appeal was late. She filed an explanation earlier this month. Yerman could not be reached for comment.

MDEQ and incinerator partnership officials disagree with Yerman that the appeal should still be considered. The decision is now up to the Environmental Appeals Board. The board has no set timeline to make a decision,

according to Eurika Stubbs, a clerk for the board.

If the board decides to accept the appeal, MDEQ will have until March 13 to respond to the substance of the appeal, according to Fiedler.

Yerman is appealing a plan to convert the incinerator into a waste-to-energy facility and increase its capacity. The incinerator is located in Dearborn Heights and also serves Westland, Garden City, Inkster and Wayne.

In her appeal, Yerman contends that MDEQ's risk assessment must include Lake St. Clair and all of the Great Lakes watershed, not just Belleville Lake, Newburgh Lake and Orchard Lake. MDEQ hasn't started working on a response to the substance of Yerman's appeal, Fiedler said.

The incinerator partnership is proceeding forward with financing of the project in the hopes that the appeals board will throw the appeal out as too late, according to Thomas Barnett, project manager of the partnership. If the board throws the appeal out soon there will be no delay in the incinerator project, Barnett said.

If the board doesn't throw out the appeal by March 13 the partnership will be filing arguments explaining why the appeal doesn't raise any issues of importance, Barnett said. He estimates that process would take several months, he said.

Barnett said he doesn't know how long it will take the Environmental Appeals Board to decide if the appeal was timely. "We hope they will do it in a hurry," he said.

DDA from page A1

Deborah Cooper unveiled a wide array of DDA suggestions to council members and DDA board appointees.

New study

BRI has drafted a new 37-page study - complete with DDA-area maps - that calls for far-reaching changes in how the Ford and Wayne commercial corridors look.

"I endorse what's being done here," Councilman Richard LeBlanc said. "I think it looks great."

Following are some of the ways Cooper said the city can improve commercial corridors:

- Decorate major intersections, such as Central City Parkway and Ford, with landscaping that includes low-rise brick walls and flowers. Place traffic lights

'I endorse what's being done here, I think it looks great.'

Richard LeBlanc
Councilman

and street signs on decorative poles and reduce overhead wires.

- Have fewer entrances/exits to strip centers and other businesses, and seek conformity among signs.

- Improve entrances and parking lots at businesses such as Kmart at Wayne and Cherry Hill by spurring tree-lined drives and other landscaping.

- Hang Westland banners along major corridors, particularly to let motorists know they are entering the city.

- Use similar signs to mark all public buildings and parks and to point motorists toward them.

- Line Ford and Wayne roads with similar trees and street lights.

"We've got 20 different signs in this town," LeBlanc said.

The city will need to convince local businesses to support the DDA plan, Cooper said.

Moreover, some aesthetic changes will need to occur on private property, she said, "and obviously that has to be bought into by the property owners."

A proposal to eliminate huge billboards along Wayne and Ford could meet resistance, some council members fear.

Some officials suggested legislation to prevent new billboards, along with negotiations to buy older ones and tear them down.

"It's really getting to be an eyesore," Councilman Glenn Anderson said.

City example

DDA and city officials believe that existing business owners may be more likely to spruce up their properties when they see the city is making strides to improve the area.

"We have to do a sales job in the business community," DDA

chairman Kim Shunkwiler, a local chiropractor, said.

Local officials also hope to draw support from one neighboring community, Garden City, to spur landscaping and street-lighting changes along Ford. Westland and Garden City share a boundary along a portion of Ford between Venoy and Wildwood.

"There's nothing on the table yet," Scott Veldhuis, Westland economic development director, said.

City officials concede it may be a few years before the DDA plan has enough money to make any widespread changes.

Veldhuis said the DDA captured just \$50,000 in tax revenues for the last fiscal year that ended June 30, 1997. He is predicting another \$73,000 for the current fiscal year and \$100,000 for 1998-99.

Mayor Thomas said Tuesday he is "totally supportive" of DDA plans he has seen. Most officials appear to agree that the DDA is a positive step toward upgrading major corridors.

Shunkwiler conceded the project could take many years to complete, but, he said: "That journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step, doesn't it?"

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CITY OF GARDEN CITY
1998 BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on the following date and time to receive and examine the assessment roll for the current year:

Tuesday	March 3, 1998	9:00a.m.
Monday	March 9, 1998	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.
Tuesday	March 10, 1998	1:00p.m.-9:00p.m.
Wednesday	March 11, 1998	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.
Thursday	March 12, 1998	1:00p.m.-9:00p.m.
Friday	March 13, 1998	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.

The Board of Review will meet in session on the following days and times to hear appeals on the 1998 Assessment Roll:

Monday	March 9, 1998	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.
Tuesday	March 10, 1998	1:00p.m.-9:00p.m.
Wednesday	March 11, 1998	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.
Thursday	March 12, 1998	1:00p.m.-9:00p.m.
Friday	March 13, 1998	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.

Appeals by appointment or write-in. Write-ins must be received by Monday March 9, 1998.

Tentative ratios and factors for the 1998 tax year are:

Commercial Ratio	49.51%	Factor 1.0000
Industrial Ratio	49.48%	Factor 1.0000
Residential Ratio	45.47%	Factor 1.0996
Personal Property Ratio	50.00%	Factor 1.0000

Taxes are paid on taxable value, which is the lower of assessed value or capped value, unless there is a property transfer. The capped value is based on the CPI (Consumer Price Index) which will increase 2.7% for 1998. As a result, residential taxed values will increase only 2.7% unless there has been a transfer of ownership or an addition to the property.

The 1998 Assessment Roll will be open for public inspection from March 4, 1998 through March 6, 1998 in the assessment office from 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m.

STEVEN SMITH, City Clerk-Treasurer

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THE Observer
NEWSPAPERS

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BEST FOOD IN TOWN!

History
from page A1

sing songs common to 1890's classes.

Classes from Wayne-Westland and Livonia districts - which serve Westland - will have top priority in scheduling field trips, along with parochial schools in the city.

"Westland schools will get first choice," Johnson said. "But we aren't refusing other schools if they want to attend."

All-day field trips will cost \$3 per pupil to help cover expenses. Shorter visits for community groups will cost \$1 per person.

All visits could eventually be free, but for now Perrinville supporters need to raise some money.

"It would be nice if the children could come for free, but right now we can't see it," Johnson said Monday.

A school coordinator is being hired on a part-time basis to open the school, greet visitors and then return at the end of the day to close the building.

Councilman Glenn Anderson said Monday that his son's class at Nankin Mills Elementary is excited about Perrinville.

"As soon as possible," he said, "they'd like to go to the school and make a field trip out of it."

Wings alumni, police game to aid DARE

Westland police are DARE(ing) to challenge Red Wings alumni to a hockey game.

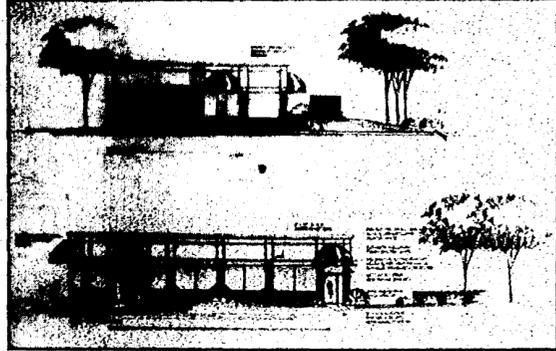
The two sides will head for the ice at 7 p.m. March 14 at Westland Sports Arena, 6211 N. Wildwood.

The winner won't necessarily take it all, however. All proceeds will go to DARE - a program that teaches local students about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse.

Tickets to the game are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. The event also will feature a bake sale, door prizes and raffles. For tickets or for more information, call 722-DARE.



Bigger Bray's: John Bray stands behind the counter at Bray's in Westland. He plans to build a new, larger restaurant with a drive-through on the same site on Ford Road just west of Wayne.



Expansion plans: Drawings show the planned expansion at Bray's.

Bray's from page A1

When Councilman Glenn Anderson expressed concern over the noise of a drive-through speaker, Bray said he wasn't about to jeopardize his long relationship with the neighbors. "We'll take care of any noise like that."

Councilman Richard LeBlanc said he's glad Bray's is expanding. "Bray's is an institution, spoken by a person who has belied up to the counter many times." Councilwoman Sharon Scott said Bray's was "the topic of discussion at the beauty shop last week."

Board of Appeals commissioner who's fond of taking a bag of 10 Bray's burgers out to his boat yard, has been eating the burgers for almost 30 years. "They have the taste of the home-cooked hamburger, with onions and dill pickles. They have an excellent taste to them."

Gibbons can't imagine life without Bray's. Even though John Bray said his service shouldn't be interrupted by the new construction, Gibbons is worried. "Oh, Lordy, I hope it doesn't take too long," he said.

Michael Gibbons, Westland's Zoning

STAFF PHOTOS BY JIM JACOPFIELD

Who's online?

"Lakeshore Lines," the Lakeshores (Wis.) Library System newsletter, recently ran an article on the use of home computers and the Internet. According to the newsletter, a recent survey by the Software Publishers Association shows that 38 percent of homes in the United States have personal computers. Half of these use online services. Of that half, 31 percent use e-mail, 31 percent use research/reference tools, 24 percent have Internet access and only 7 percent for e-mail shopping.

Business Information

The American Business Disc is a CD-ROM that offers instant access to information on more than 10 million U.S. businesses. In addition to company name, address and phone number, this CD-ROM contains the number of employees, estimated sales volume; credit rating code; headquarters, subsidiary or branch information; stock ticker symbol and line of business. The CD-ROM may be searched by city, state, yellow pages heading as well as by company name.

Web site of the week

<http://www.wwed.com/prices.html>
World Wide Collectibles Digest provides a price guide to all sports collectibles, including baseball, basketball, hockey and football trading cards and memorabilia. It also features a sports "Site of the Week."

Programs for adults

7 p.m. Monday, March 16
Adult Book Discussion Group
Laurie King, "The Beekeeper's Apprentice" in Community Meeting Room A. Paperback copies are now available. Call today to reserve a copy.

Programs for children

7 p.m. Monday, March 9
Sleepytime storytime
This family storytime includes stories, books, movement activities, and more that will help the family share a love of reading. No registration required.

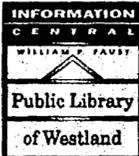
1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3
Toddler Tales
Community Meeting Room A
Preschool Time
Children's Activity Room

10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 4
Toddler Tales
Community Meeting Room
Preschool Time
Children's Activity Room

10 a.m. Saturday, March 21
Parent-Child Internet Class
This class teaches a parent-child team to surf the Net safely and productively. Community Meeting Room. Registration is required. Register at the Reception Desk.

Friends of the Library

Is fondue "out" for you? Is owning the "Joy of Chocolate" distracting you from your diet? Well, fret no more. The Friends of the Library are looking for donations of used cookbooks to round out the selection of used books available for sale in the Friends Shop. If you have cookbooks, children's books or current fiction books in good condition, consider donating them to the Friends of the Library. Your donation is tax deductible (the library gives a receipt, the donor values the books donated). Donations may be made at the Reception Desk anytime the library is open.

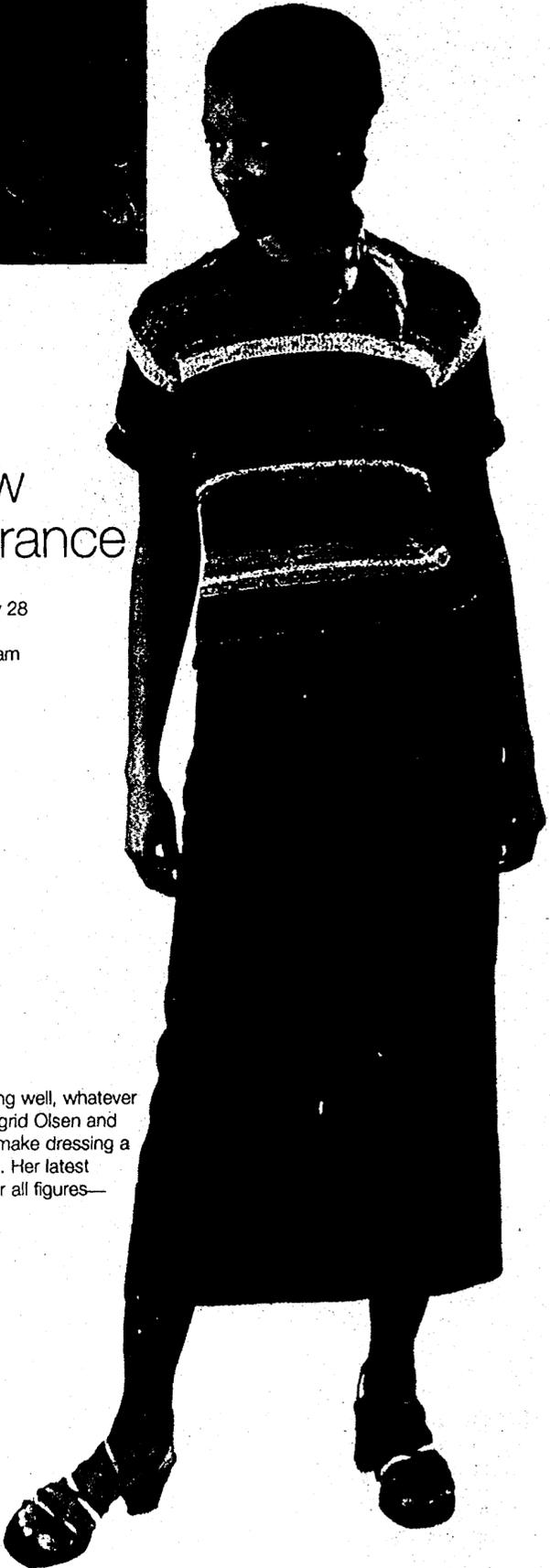




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collection show
& personal appearance

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10:30 am Livonia
1:30 pm Birmingham
Sportswear



Simplicity is the key to dressing well, whatever the season. Meet designer Sigrid Olsen and preview casual fashions that make dressing a simple, revitalizing experience. Her latest collection has easy shapes for all figures—in fabulous fabrics and colors that delight the eye.

Students to compete in auto skills test

Student auto technicians from the William D. Ford Career Center will compete against other teams statewide.

Students will compete in the first qualifying round to determine Michigan's top student auto technicians in the fourth annual Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills National Quality Care Challenge.

The written portion of the state exam takes place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 5, at the center, 36455 Marquette, in Westland. Students from 34 other schools will take part in simultaneous testing across the state at 10 other sites.

"The test will determine the top qualifying teams who will compete in the hands-on state finals in Dearborn on May 2," said Jerry Basch, Community Safety Services manager for AAA Michigan.

Each participating state vocational or high school entered in the written test also is eligible to win a vehicle for its automotive program from co-sponsor Ford Motor Co. Winner of the vehicle will be determined by the highest six-member team score from the written exam portion of the competition. The second-highest scoring team will receive automotive components such as engines and transmissions, plus smaller systems.

The state's top team determined after the hands-on portion will go on to compete in the national finals June 15 in Washington, D.C.

"Automotive service is one of the most environmentally friend-

The written portion of the state exam takes place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 5.

ly fields today," Basch said. "The knowledge technicians must have to quickly diagnose and repair today's hundreds of high-tech car makes and keep them running at peak efficiency with the lowest emission is expanding every year," Basch said in a press release. "The need for highly skilled men and women will become even more acute as more advanced vehicles with technology being developed now, from hybrid electrics to fuel cells, arrive in dealer showrooms in the next 10 years."

"The student auto skills event also is a terrific opportunity for students to advance their education by winning scholarships, and for Michigan's schools and tech centers to earn new, top-of-the-line equipment as teaching tools," Basch said.

In addition to the vehicle giveaway, instructors statewide will be invited to a technical training seminar sponsored by AAA Michigan and Ford on March 9. All high school automotive instructors are invited, whether or not they participate in the Auto Skills Challenge.

Nationwide, about 6,000 students are expected to compete in this year's Student Auto Skills contest from more than \$9 million in scholarships and prizes.

Jacobson's

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Local resident gets dose of Mexican politics

BY MARIE CHESTNEY
STAFF WRITER

It was winter break last week in Livonia Public Schools, a time for teachers to get a week's reprieve from the classroom.

For Westland resident Nancy Spinelle of Hoover Elementary, the week turned into an escape from books and kids into a world of paramilitary troops, makeshift villages, guns, police roadblocks and Mexican politics.

Along with Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of the Archdiocese of Detroit and 11 other Americans, Spinelle spent the week trying to tell native Indians recently involved in a massacre in the southern state of Chiapas that the world beyond Mexico cared about their plight.

"I wanted to do something beyond laying on the beach during winter break," said Spinelle, who teaches reading at Hoover and generally travels to Florida to visit her family.

"We wanted to bring medicine to these people and give them moral support and hope, to show them that someone out there cares."



New home: After their homes were burned, the Indians settled in makeshift camps atop an isolated mountain top.



No home: The children of displaced Indian villagers gathered to meet a group of visitors who came to their isolated refugee camp in Mexico.

PHOTOS BY NANCY SPINELLE

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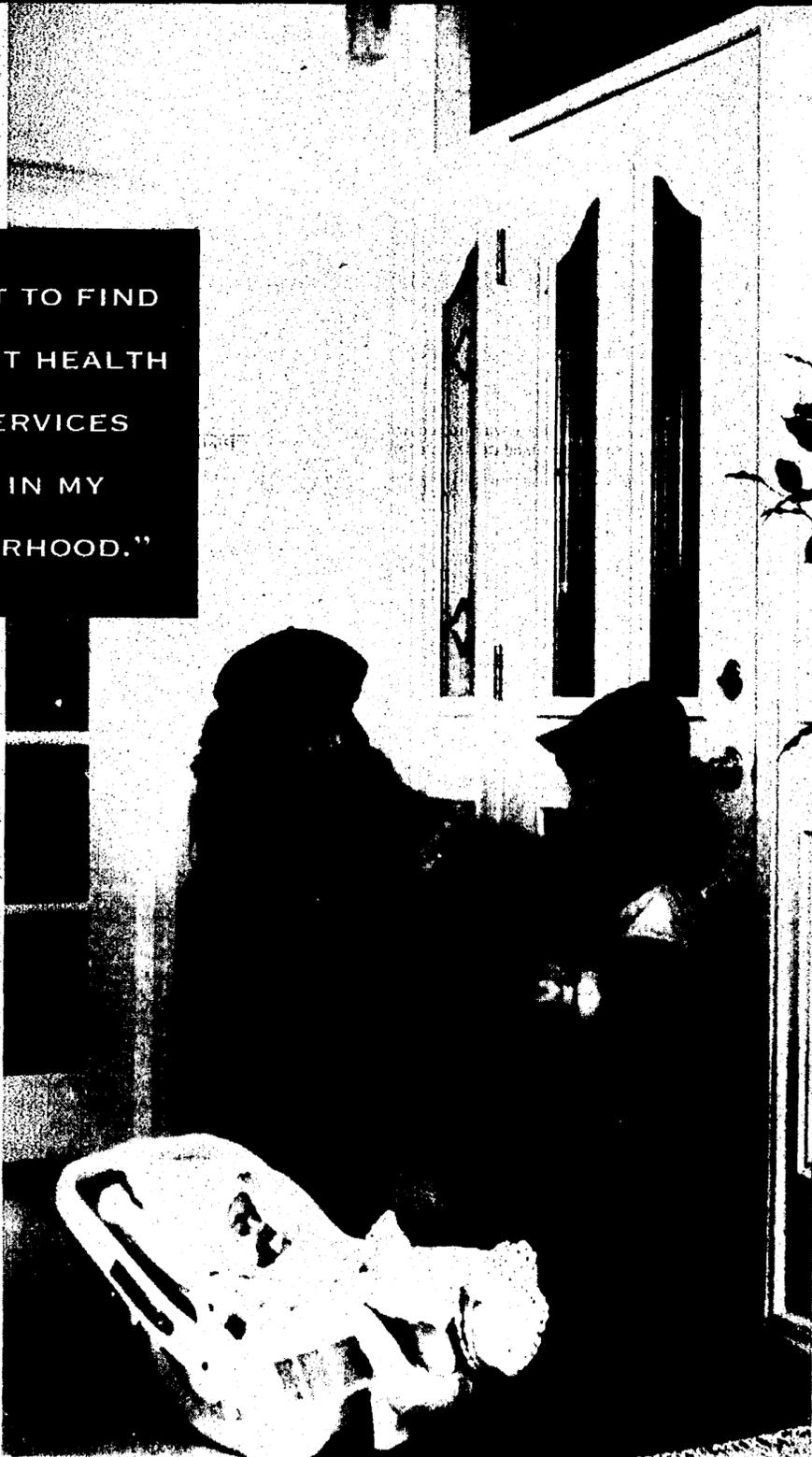
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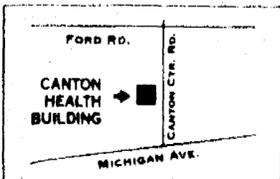
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Trying to help

The impetus for the peace and mercy mission was the Dec. 22, 1997, massacre of 45 mostly women and children in a small church in the Mexican village of Acteal.

Since the killings, the village has been cordoned off by government paramilitary troops. Spinelle and her group hoped to penetrate the blockade, talk to the isolated villagers and give them medicine.

Blocked by police, they never got to complete their mission.

But they did get a slice of what life is like in a country where masked Zapatista rebels and government soldiers fight each other throughout the mountainous countryside near the Guatemala border.

Spinelle and Gumbleton - the two members of the group from the Detroit area - flew from Mexico City to Tuxtla and then took a 45-minute taxi drive up a steep, curving mountain to the cobble-stoned village of San Cristobal.

"On the way, we saw a gathering of what we later learned were hundreds of masked Zapatista rebels and their supporters," Spinelle said. The rebels wear black ski masks to hide their identity and avoid reprisals to their families.

Meeting with locals

At San Cristobal, the duo hooked up with the other Americans, most of whom spoke no Spanish and communicated through an interpreter.

The group spent hours meeting with local church officials who explained the politics of the conflict.

They then set off for the highlands of Chiapas.

"With backpacks filled with medicine and bottled water, we climbed up a winding 2-mile trail to find a refugee camp," Spinelle said. "We passed barricades of armed soldiers that seemed out of place on such beautiful countryside. Atop the isolated mountain was the makeshift camp crowded with hundreds of displaced families."

These families, she said, were neutral to the conflict. They just wanted to be left alone and live peaceably. Instead, she said, they were harassed, had their homes burned, and now struggled to survive in makeshift camps.

On the way to Acteal - the site of the massacre - the group was stopped by a roadblock manned by police. The police collected passports and visas and inspected them.

The group was broken up into smaller groups; most were interrogated. Two visas were confiscated. They were then ordered back down the mountain.

"We left discouraged by the government politics, disturbed by the injustice to human rights, and saddened by the presence of military troops," she said.

Spinelle fears the mass killing at Acteal will escalate into more killings as the two forces continue to battle it out.

Still, Spinelle found pieces of hope in the mountainous Mexican countryside. She found it in the faces of the displaced native Indians who, amid chaos and while cautious of strangers, still found reason to smile at visitors, talk to them, and offer them food.

"I left with a new respect for these caring people," she said.

Taking credit

Income tax breaks expected to quadruple for some families with college students

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

One key senator is taking a very hard look at Michigan's income tax credit for college tuitions, hinting it should go.

"It looks like it's robbing Peter to pay Paul," said Sen. John J.H. Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, chair of the Appropriations subcommittee on higher education budgets.

"Maybe after the election, when we're all objective again," he said as his panel listened Feb. 20 to its first testimony from university presidents in Ann Arbor.

In tax year 1995, Michigan gave \$8 million in income tax credits to families paying tuition to 27 public and private colleges.

But by tax year 1998, tax credits will quadruple to \$35.3 million to families of students in 37 colleges.

In that time, legislators have engaged in a bidding war to win taxpayer favor. The first tax credit in 1995, sponsored by Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, was limited to \$250 per student - 4 percent of tuition and fees - in families with a household income below \$200,000. Currently, the credit is up to \$375

per student - 8 percent of tuition and fees - to a larger group of families, those with adjusted gross income below \$200,000.

Big winners this year will be students' families at private colleges. Most will get tax credits of \$250 per student. Credits for public community college students will be around \$70 apiece; and for public universities, \$150 or less (except for the University of Michigan and Michigan State).

And this December may be the time to kill the tuition tax credit, Schwarz figures, because many families will lose it anyway. The tax credit is granted only where the student's college holds tuition hikes below 2.3 percent, the official inflation cap in the consumer price index.

"There may not be anybody qualifying with a state appropriate at 1.5 percent (increase) and upward pressure on tuition," Schwarz said.

College officials agree they'll have a tough time holding tuition hikes below 2.3 percent because Gov. John Engler is proposing an across-the-board increase of 1.5 percent in state aid: to \$1.46 billion from the current

\$1.44 billion.

Schwarz argues that \$35 million could be put to better use by boosting general fund aid to universities. "Is the tuition tax credit appropriate public policy?" he asked one witness after another.

"It wouldn't be my first choice," said a cautious Jay Wortley, economist with the Senate Fiscal Agency.

University of Michigan President Lee Bollinger said, "We'd have to raise tuition by 5.6 percent" to raise U-M's total revenues by 3.7 percent, the amount personal disposable incomes are rising statewide.

Added Dr. James Renick, chancellor of U-M Dearborn: "If state appropriation increases are at or below the rate of inflation, 1998-99 student tuition and fees are expected to increase in the range of 5 percent or higher."

Renick said the Dearborn campus' growth in master's degree enrollments, new technology and deferred maintenance are pushing costs above the CPI rate, though some is being offset by private and corporate gifts.

Please see CREDIT, A6

County, U.S. Customs officials open expanded international terminal

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Contrary to popular belief, Detroit Metro Airport is "alive, well and functioning."

With that introduction Tuesday afternoon, Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara - along with other county, U.S. Customs and Northwest Airlines officials - officially dedicated an expansion of Metro's Berry International Terminal.

"We are doing all we can to make the current airport as convenient as possible for our passengers," McNamara said. "The 30,000-square-foot terminal addition is estimated to increase

METRO AIRPORT

the processing capacity of U.S. Customs, Immigration and Agriculture from 800 and 1,200 passengers per hour."

Initiated in April 1997, the \$13 million project also increases the baggage area, allowing for quicker arrival of passengers from Europe and Asia.

McNamara credited Northwest and Metro's other airlines for the expansion.

"The expansion of this terminal is one of the many cooperative projects between Wayne County and the airlines to

improve the facilities and ease the congestion at Detroit Metro Airport," McNamara said. "We are in the process of building a world-class airport together, and this is just one of the interim steps on the way there."

Here are some of the improvements:

■ Ticket counters and lobby areas for passengers and airport staff to meet and greet passengers were expanded.

■ A new circular baggage carousel was added which can accommodate twice as much luggage

than pre-expansion era.

■ The bus shuttle and transfer corridor has been expanded, including additional counter space for checking and transferring luggage and an additional security screening area.

■ Federal inspection areas for U.S. Customs, Immigration and Department of Agriculture have been redesigned and expanded, allowing for improved traffic flow.

■ The entrance road in front of the terminal was widened by adding a lane of traffic. County officials say it has helped ease the curbfront congestion in front

Please see AIRPORT, A6

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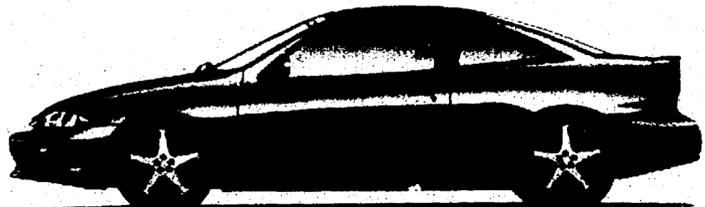
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Credit from page A5

A similar 5 percent tuition hike was predicted by U-M Flint Chancellor Charlie Nelms. For fiscal 1998 (beginning Oct. 1, 1997), tuition tax credits cost the state \$19.2 million. Here, according to state Treasury Department estimates, are the costs by college:

Public universities

Michigan State - \$207 per student for 23,677 students for total

of \$4.9 million.

U-M Ann Arbor - \$250 per student for 13,349 students for total of \$3.3 million.

U-M Dearborn - \$169 per student for 4,635 students for total of \$783,000.

Wayne State - \$152 per student for 12,826 student for total of \$1.9 million.

Oakland U and four others - not eligible.

Total: \$13.9 million to 10 universities.

Community colleges

Oakland CC - \$60 per student for 16,197 students, total of \$1 million.

Schoolcraft - \$88 per student for 5,367 students, total of \$363,000.

Wayne CCC - \$71 per student for 6,197 students, total of \$443,000.

Washtenaw - \$70 per student for 5,245 students, total of \$312,000.

Henry Ford, Lansing and 13 others - not eligible.

Total: \$4.3 million to 13 community colleges.

Private colleges

Cleary - \$250 per student for

874 students, total of \$218,000.

Detroit College of Business - \$250 per student for 3,979 students, total of \$995,000.

William Tyndale - \$250 per student for 600 students, total of \$150,000.

Total: \$4.2 million to 14 private colleges.

The Senate Appropriations subcommittee on higher education will meet at 10 a.m. Monday, March 2, in Oakland University's Meadowbrook Hall, Rochester. Northern Michigan University is scheduled at 10 a.m., Wayne State at 10:30, Michigan Tech at 11 and Oakland University at 11:30.

Airport from page A5

of the terminal.

The expansion is the latest phase in the \$1.6 billion airport expansion. In November, a new international departure facility next to the Davey Terminal was dedicated. Other improvements include a six-gate extension to Concourse C, new moving walkways, an expanded luggage system in the Davey Terminal and a new rampside shuttle service for connecting passengers.

Passenger traffic has more than tripled in the last 10 years, breaking records in 50 of the last 52 months. International passenger traffic increased by about 15 percent in 1996 and tripled in the last 10 years.

"All of this new international service is wonderful for Detroit's business community, but it was also putting a strain on existing airport facilities," said McNamara.

Taking a tour

U.S. Customs officials gave county officials and the media a tour of the booth area. The entrance from the airplanes into Customs once was congested, but now, two new openings bring the total entrances to four into the inspection area.

"We picked up nine extra inspection booths," said Ward Freeman, port director. "Our office space also more than doubled."

Out of 1.5 million passengers last year, 1,300 were sent home, jailed or held for prosecution, Freeman said. About 13,000 immigrants came through

Metro.

The area features signs in four languages besides English - Japanese, Korean, Arabic and Chinese. Islands were added to aid with foreigners needing to fill out paperwork.

All the additional room is appreciated by customs officials. "If it's easier for us to work in, it's easier for the passengers," Freeman said.

The new baggage carousel is 100 feet long, and it can carry baggage from a filled 747 - or about 420 passengers - and then room for more, said Rod Blanchard, a U.S. Immigration official.

"We have a goal that 95 percent of passengers will exit the Customs hall within five minutes of entering," Blanchard said. That time will be checked periodically and randomly by Customs officials who do not work at the airport.

Northwest Airlines International Manager Bill Lewis likes the expansion and what it does for baggage processing. "We will do 1,200 bags twice a day," Lewis said. "Before that, it was about half of that."

Pleased with expansion

Wayne County Commission Chairman Ricardo Solomon, D-Detroit, also attended the dedication, as did Commission Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland.

Solomon believed passengers will travel internationally in a "faster, more efficient" way. "It will mean more international travel," Solomon said.

"It will make Wayne County more accessible to the rest of the world, and the rest of the world more accessible to businesses here," Beard said.



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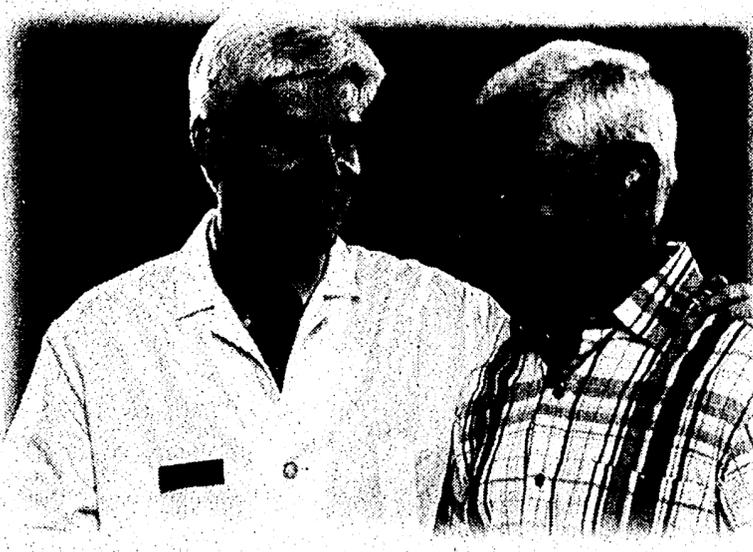
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Camp is a 'life-changing experience' for Livonia woman and her family

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Sue Schafer of Livonia went to Camp Tamarack, for Jewish young people, for three summers as a girl. Camp must have held some appeal, because it's now a way of life for her family.

"We go to camp every year," said the third-grade teacher at Tyler Elementary in Livonia. They have gone to family camp annually since 1982, with both daughters having grown up going. The younger, 13, is a Riley Middle School student and the older, 18, is a University of Michigan freshman.

Schafer, who is married to Steve, also attended day camp as a child. The family now goes to Cedar Campus, run by Inter-varsity Christian Fellowship, in the Upper Peninsula's Cedarville, Mich.

"It's the best thing we could have done for our children," she said. It helped them to develop friendships and gave them a sense of belonging and a Christian perspective. They meet people from all denominations.

Schafer's older daughter will work at the camp this summer, probably in child care. Schafer, who was raised as a Jew and

came to know Jesus in college, now considers herself part of both faiths.

"Camp can be wonderful for both children and adults," Schafer said. "It can be a life-changing experience for children, teens and adults."

Thinking of summer camp for your kids or yourself? Information on summer camp opportunities will be found 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at the eighth annual Super Summers for Kids: A Camp and Activities Fair at Wayne State University's Oakland Center, 33737 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

The event is presented by The Merrill-Palmer Institute, Wayne State University, with co-sponsors the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and metroParent magazine. A total of 94 U.S. and Canadian camps will be represented.

"It came to our attention a long time ago that parents were in great need of finding opportu-

nities for their children," said Elaine Sturman of Bloomfield Hills, development coordinator for The Merrill-Palmer Institute. Having one place allows parents "to find just that right program. We were just the right venue to put on such a fair."

There is no admission charge, and advance reservations aren't required for those attending. At the camp fair, a directory with information on each program will be provided.

The research institute, which has existed since 1920, is devoted to helping children and families. The camp fair was seen as a beneficial offering.

"We encourage them to bring their children," Sturman said. The event is designed for young people age 2 through college. Day programs from the metropolitan area will be represented.

"We have a lot of programs for teens. There's also an opportunity to find summer employment"

for older kids and adults, she said.

Some camps are designed for children with special needs. Some are focused on computer literacy, sports, drama or other areas. Some offer scholarships.

Sturman attended Camp Tamarack as a youngster, where her father served as assistant director about 10 years. "So it's in my blood. Every year of my life, and I still go to family camp. I was a camper, I was a counselor."

She has found that attending camp helps young people to become independent, make new friends and try new activities that might not be available in an urban setting.

"It's a chance to really learn new things in an independent setting," Sturman said. "It's just so special."

For more information on the Super Summers for Kids: A Camp and Activities Fair, call (313) 872-1790.



Outdoor fun: Horseback riding is offered by some camps. The Eighth Annual Super Summers for Kids: A Camp and Activities Fair will be offered 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at Wayne State University's Oakland Center, 33737 W. 12 Mile in Farmington Hills.

Swap meet held March 7

The 14th Annual Detroit-Area Police & Fire Collectors Swap Meet and Exhibit will be held at Madonna University in Livonia Saturday, March 7. The university is located on the northwest corner of I-96 and Levan Road.

Show opens to the public at 9 a.m. Admission is \$2. Exhibitor set-up begins at 7 a.m. with 120 8-foot tables available at \$15 each.

Refreshments are available on premises; also display

awards, a patch-drop box, and hourly door prizes. Proceeds will benefit the Lt. Richard Koch (Wayne County Sheriff Department) Memorial Scholarship fund of Madonna University.

For table reservations contact Chuck Chandler, (313) 522-0920. For general information contact Thomas L. Herring, (313) 591-6252, Jack Watkins, (313) 591-5911, or Warren Waterman, (313) 295-2171.

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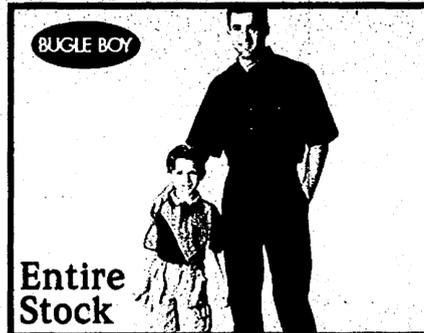
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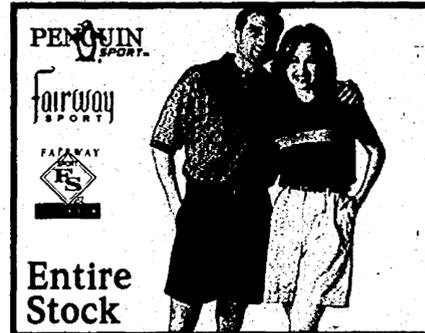
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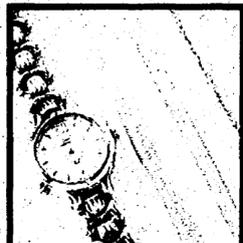
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Learning tactics: A recruit at the police academy at Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center learns defensive tactics while wearing the "Redman" suit from instructor Fred Stanton, who is also a sergeant with the Dearborn Police Department.

Recruiting talent

Police academy changes with times

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

RADCLIFF CENTER

Being a police officer isn't about chasing down the bad guys and slapping the cuffs on them as television and Hollywood generally depict officers these days.

At least not at the police academy at Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center in Garden City.

Today, the 19-hour academy course features instruction on human relations, sexual harassment, civil rights and criminal law along with the physical training and military disciplines, including

marching in the Radcliff hallway.

You might say the academy has changed with the times.

"I think it's evolved and come into its own," said Dan Antieau, the academy's deputy director. "Training institutions are addressing these things in a big way."

"We are dealing with more academically. A few years ago, somebody (hired as a police officer) with a degree was unheard of. The education level of the officers has

increased, and so have the sensitivity classes.

"You are dealing with a more educated person. The days of the image of an officer wrestling a suspect in an alley are passé."

Robert Pearce, associate dean of the college, said less than one half of one percent of officers' time is spent fighting crime, so the class also deals with firearms, defensive tactics, precision driving and

Please see **ACADEMY, A10**

Public safety agencies featured at fair

Nearly 52 public safety and law enforcement agencies will visit Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center in Garden City on Wednesday, March 25, to participate in the center's annual public safety career fair.

The fair will feature agencies ranging from the FBI to local fire and police departments. Equipment will be demonstrated for visitors.

An inter-active firefighting/emergency medical technician

training system will combine "hands-on" firefighting training with computers that are designed to help firefighters and EMTs learn needed equipment during the decision-making process, said Schoolcraft's Elaine Gerage.

Another piece of equipment is the Firearms Training System (FATS), which is an interactive tool used to help police academy recruits learn how to react in a critical situation.

"This interactive computer

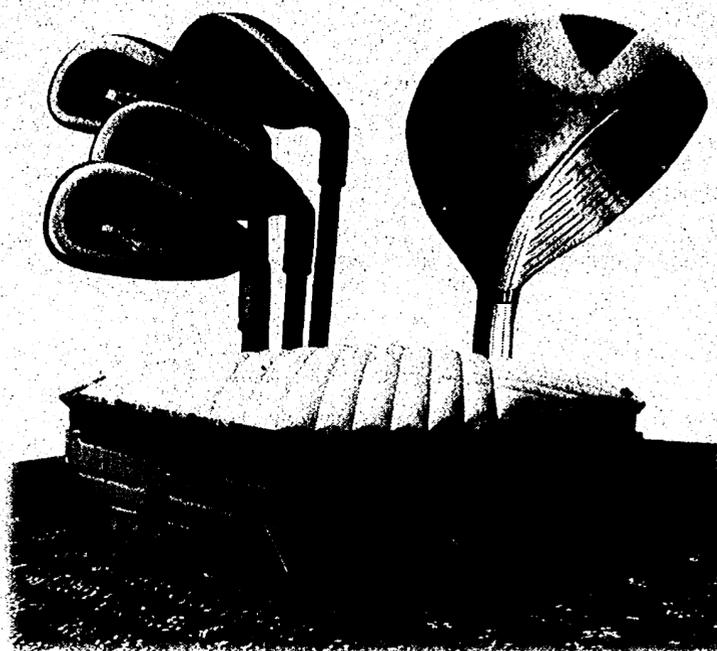
program gives the student a specific real-life situation in which there are only seconds to react," said Gerage.

The fair also features the following units: canine, bicycle patrol and motorcycle, and the red-man suit, which is used to instruct defensive tactics to recruits.

The demonstrations, along with presentations by public safety organization represen-

Please see **FAIR, A10**

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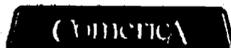
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Academy from page A9

criminal law. "There's a greater emphasis on cultural diversity and interpersonal relations. We'd like to think that students who graduate from here are capable of dealing with everyone on the street," Pearce said.

A record number

This semester, Antieau, who is also a police officer in Canton Township, is administering the academy's largest class - 60 recruits. Before they enter the academy, potential recruits are screened for drugs and tested for physical agility and face an oral board exam from two police chiefs.

Antieau credits the academy's placement rate, "sound" reputation and support from local police chiefs for the program's success.

"We have a 95 percent placement rate for preservice kids," Antieau said.

Preservice students are those

who are not employed by a law enforcement agency and must complete 41 credit hours of course work for the associate degree before attending the police academy.

The police academy prepares police recruits in the following areas: investigation, crime scene process, patrol procedures, operations and techniques, conflict mediation, report writing, detention and prosecution of prisoners, first aid, investigations, evidence collection, disaster control, civil disorders and tactical operations.

By the end of those classes, students will have accumulated 60 credit hours.

Candidates for employment as law enforcement officers must be certified by the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Training Council at an approved academy training site. A student who successfully completes the police academy will be MLEOTC-certified for one year.

'We'd like to think that students who graduate from here are capable of dealing with everyone on the street.'

Robert Pearce
—associate dean

Schoolcraft College offers two law enforcement programs; the criminal justice associate degree and the criminal justice associate degree with police academy.

Students can complete the program through as a preservice student or an inservice recruit.

The academy accepts inservice recruits from Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth and Westland. About 34 of the 60 clients are preservice, 26 are inservice.

"In the inservice program, (the recruit) went to the city and applied, is hired to work there, and the city sends him here," Antieau said.

the physical reality of the officer's beat.

They even get a feel for the action on the streets with a simulated scene of retail fraud, a family dispute or a loud party.

"We set up a suspicious person scene, and people walk around outside (Radcliff)," Antieau said.

The academy has an interactive firearms simulator, which allows a person to walk into a potential crime scene, and using a laser, protect a partner. The next move depends on the action of the so-called assailant, who could appear harmless as a quiet homeless man on a bench, reaching into his coat for a license to give to the other officer.

The scene of the crime

Recruits do get a good dose of

Or the simulator could show he is reaching for a knife to kill

the officer.

It is an instantaneous decision in a mock scene, but a crucial one: a recruit must be correct about, or someone gets hurt or killed.

A new recruit

Al Cox is in the academy's inservice program through the city of Plymouth's Police Department and a Canton Township resident. He grew up in Canton and graduated in 1987 from Plymouth Christian Academy.

Cox received a bachelor's degree in political science and criminal justice from Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Ind. Cox also is working on a thesis for his master's in public administration from Central Michigan University.

Cox spent six years working in

the federal prison in Milan and finally has a chance to become a police officer now that Plymouth hired him in August 1997 with the stipulation he attend the police academy for his state certification.

"What impresses me is they mix the physical with the academics," Cox said. "They seem to balance it 50-50 here."

Cox expects to graduate May 15.

For Antieau, the academy is a good fit. "I don't set out to send a message," Antieau said. "I like to train, I like to teach. I tell them, 'Look, be careful, take what you're doing seriously, but don't take the mindset that everyone is out to get you, because they're not.'"

Fair from page A9

tatives, will be from 4-7 p.m. that day in Radcliff Center, on Radcliff, between Venoy and Wildwood, and just south of Ford, on the Garden City-Westland border.

The fair is aimed at persons

interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical services or corrections. There is no charge for the fair, which is open to the public.

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Lawmakers puzzled over CMU's refusal to give auditors academy documents

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

After listening two hours to Central Michigan University's explanations, state lawmakers still were puzzled why CMU refused to give the state auditor general 34 documents concerning public school academies.

"I'm just a dumb plumber from Kalamazoo," said Rep. Ed LaForge, a Democrat on the House Education Committee, "but I'm totally baffled how a state institution (CMU) with public dollars can hire lawyers to deny the auditor general documents on how the money is spent."

"It casts a shadow over the university and the public school academy chartering process," LaForge said during a Feb. 18 hearing.

Richard McLellan, a Lansing lawyer working with CMU on chartering academies, said the documents had to do with the attorney-client privilege; that "attorney-client relations aren't financial; they're how to carry out a legal duty" - rather than a part of a performance audit.

McLellan is a close associate and friend of Gov. John Engler, who championed the idea of specialized public school academies (PSAs) chartered by universities but not the State Board of Education. CMU has chartered the majority of the 100 PSAs in existence.

House members have made CMU a particular target since last September's performance audit found a long list of faults in the way CMU Charter School Office supervised its PSAs. Among the flaws: conflicts of interest among board members, uncertified teachers, failure to check arrest records of hires, not posting public meetings, lack of special education, and so on.

"I've had the auditor general around two or three times," said Rep. Clyde LeTarte, R-Jackson, a former community college president. "Organizations would like not to have embarrassing situations made public. How do we know it isn't something else?"

At the end of the hearing, LeTarte said he was "still struggling" to understand why CMU invoked the attorney-client privilege to avoid releasing 34 unnamed documents. "How do we know it isn't covering up exactly what we sent you (the auditor general) to audit?"

Rep. James Agee, D-Muskegon, noted CMU said it couldn't release some documents without releasing all. "This is a real stretch - an enormous

'It casts a shadow over the university and the public school academy chartering process.'

Ed LaForge
-state representative

stretch," said Agee, a former public school superintendent.

Center of the grilling was Jim Goenner, new director of CMU's charter school office. The House Education Committee in January publicly reviewed the audit and asked to have CMU officials explain what corrections they made - and why they were hiding 34 records under "attorney-client privilege."

Goenner said he had held the job two weeks, replacing Dr. Blanche Fraser; that CMU had acknowledged the findings, agreed to all the recommendations, and instituted the reforms; but he was unable to answer many of the specific questions.

Agee said CMU needs more tools to police PSA charter schools. "You can't withhold their state aid. Your only tool is the 'death penalty' - to pull their charter," he said.

McLellan and CMU officials declined to give copies of their response to the press until the meeting ended. That response, signed by CMU counsel Eileen Jennings and containing 12 case law citations, classified the 34 withheld documents into four groups:

"1. Three records ... a series of questions for use in an investigation of concerns about a school ... If these are disclosed to the auditor general, the chartered school may be able to obtain access ..."

"2. Three records ... an agenda and notes at meetings between the CSO staff and its attorneys. If the privilege is waived for these records, then the privilege is likely also waived for all the conversations that took place ..."

"3. Eight records ... legal advice about finalizing the contract" with an applicant for a charter.

"4. Eleven records (concerning) a chartered school with which the university has had problems ... classic 'attorney work product.' The name of the PSA wasn't revealed.

"5. Nine records ... legal advice about decisions to be made by the CSO ... requests from the CSO for legal advice ... One is a draft letter to a charter school from outside counsel ... providing legal advice."

Korean Chamber donates to county's Crime Stoppers program

The Korean Chamber of Commerce has donated \$4,400 to the Wayne County Crime Stoppers program.

Chamber spokesman David Chang said the members of the Korean business community share Sheriff Robert Ficano's vision of building a crime-free community.

"We are proud to join in this

important community program that helps to bring criminals to justice," Chang said.

Ficano founded Wayne County Crime Stoppers in 1996. The program pays rewards to anonymous tipsters when an arrest is made. The program has resulted in the arrest of over 20 criminals in its brief

history. Most recently one of Michigan's Most Wanted criminals was caught as a direct result of the program.

Crime Stoppers solicits tips about criminals and fugitives through newspapers, TV, flyers and posters at the Wayne County jail and word of mouth. A recent donation from General

Motors will be used to begin a strategic planning effort. That planning is expected to begin a major buildup of volunteer and corporate involvement in the program in the next two years.

The hotline phone number is 1-888-743-7433. Tips are assigned a number and are kept anonymous.

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Taxpayer test Don't let district voters down

Wayne-Westland school district officials got their wish Tuesday of last week, and we hope they will deliver what they promised to taxpayers.

Voters approved a plan for the school district to borrow \$108.3 million for projects including remodeling school buildings, constructing additions and upgrading technology. It will raise local tax bills by 4 mills for 22 years and cost the owner of a \$90,000 house an extra \$180 a year.

The district's plan includes renovations such as new roofs, parking lot repairs and window replacements at many schools. It also includes money for building additions, including some to create space for media centers in schools that don't have adequate ones.

The district will also purchase new computers for each school and the needed electrical upgrades to accommodate the computers.

Some critics have expressed concerns ranging from questioning how the money will be used, to the wisdom of buying rather than leasing computers, to the length of time this tax will be owed.

This tax increase should give the school district a solid foundation to work with to make improvements needed in the schools. This could become a test of credibility. We hope district officials make every effort to prove to taxpayers that this bond issue is worth their money and that the money is spent the way taxpayers had intended it to be spent.

Trial's over; let healing begin

A trial that could potentially leave its mark on Westland for years to come wrapped up recently in circuit court.

Charles Skene, former parks and recreation director of Westland, was acquitted of all charges. He had been accused of embezzling as much as \$10,000 from city coffers.

With Skene's acquittal, we hope a period of healing and closure can begin for the city.

Meanwhile, the trial brought to light some questionable money-handling procedures. Practices such as the failure to bring parks and rec deposits to City Hall on a timely basis were brought up in testimony. Testimony also focused on the practice of employees borrow-

ing money from parks and rec funds.

While these practices in and of themselves don't mean embezzlement of funds has occurred, they do leave the city wide open for problems.

We understand some tightening of policies has occurred in the city, but we hope taxpayers can be assured that all these practices have been addressed.

A trial such as this can leave bad feelings on many fronts for years to come, so we hope the healing process can begin. And, strong, straightforward city policies on handling of city money only make sense.

Press is public's eyes in court

Honorable judges in courts throughout the land, please take note. This is just a reminder, as gentle as we can make it:

Courts are public property and the public needs to know, has every right to know, the details of the cases decided therein.

Therefore, court proceedings should not be closed to the public or the press, which "acts as a segment of the public in guaranteeing the openness and integrity" of the judicial system.

The words are those of Blair Moody Jr., State Supreme Court justice, who in 1980 wrote the high court's opinion that a judge may close criminal proceedings to the public only under extraordinary circumstances when no other alternatives exist to protect the rights of the accused.

"It is important that citizens be free to observe court proceedings to insure a sense of confidence in the judicial process," Moody's opinion continued.

And just how do the majority of citizens observe? Through words and pictures provided by the media, print and electronic, of course. We are the eyes and ears of the public.

In the late 1980s, the Michigan Supreme Court modified its long-standing rule against cameras in court. Justice James H. Brickley was a promoter of the change.

We reiterate the high court's opinions — and stress the visual aspect — at this time in light of a decision Feb. 13 by James P. Sheehy, veteran judge of the 52-3 District Court in Rochester Hills.

Sheehy said "no way" to cameras and tape recorders at the preliminary examination of a Rochester Hills teen charged with first-degree murder in the shotgun slaying of his younger



sister.

The high-profile case had attracted the expected crowd of media-types from the Detroit-area newspapers and radio and TV stations. The judge's decision didn't raise many eyebrows; he seldom allows cameras in his courtroom.

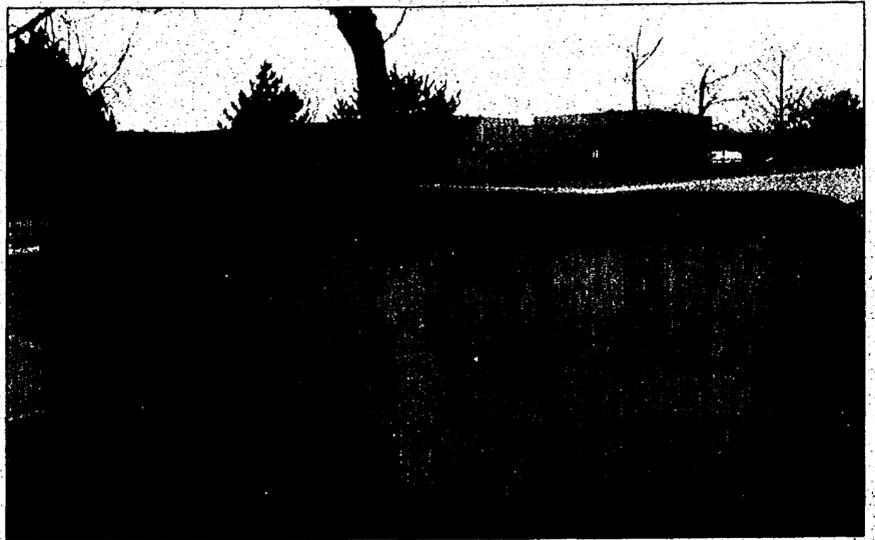
Sheehy said his decisions about cameras have been based on a need to keep decorum in the courtroom and a lack of space.

Granted, most local courtrooms are small. How about pool setup — one still and one TV camera. It's better than nothing.

And let's make sure that, when cameras are allowed, the rules are followed so that decorum is maintained.

The Supreme Court has spoken on open courts and cameras. It's important for the courts and the press to work together to implement the finding.

School Improvements



Bond vote: On Feb. 17, voters approved a plan for the school district to borrow \$108.3 million for projects including remodeling school buildings, constructing additions and upgrading technology. It will raise local tax bills by 4 mills.

LETTERS

Sad day in Wayne-Westland

It was a dark and stormy night. On Feb. 17, Wayne-Westland taxpayers were hit with a massive \$108 million tax increase by a margin of only 656 votes. It will take 22 years for taxpayers to get out from under this monster tax bill.

Consider:

Today's kindergartner, if he or she decides to stay in Wayne-Westland, will still be paying this tax bill for 10 years into his or her post-graduation work life.

A 40-year-old householder will be eligible for Social Security before this bill is paid.

Sadly, many seniors will never live to see this tax bill paid off.

The computers that the school board has promised to buy will be obsolete and in the Dumpsters within five to seven years. Any computer whiz will tell you that a five-year-old computer is never a pretty sight. But, this tax bill will go on for 17 more long, long years.

It was a dark and stormy night. The saddest night in the sad annals of the Wayne-Westland taxpayer.

Walter Warren
 Westland

Store closing leaves void

The disappearance of Winkelman's stores leaves a huge void in the world of shoppers.

As a longtime employee at said company, I feel compelled to write of the strong feelings of loss shoppers have expressed in abounding comments of sadness and disbelief during the stores' last days.

From an older generation, career women and students ... the statements are the same over and over: Winkelman's was their very first charge upon graduation and obtaining a job, recalling as a youngster being with mother while she shopped at Winkelman's, it had always been their favorite store ... etc.

And they lament, "Where will I shop for my wardrobe now?"

Ginger Long
 Westland Winkelman's

Thanks for support

As the tri-chair of the Citizens for Better Education committee, we would like to thank all of the citizens of the Wayne-Westland community who came out and supported our bond issue. We are convinced that this bond issue will allow the Wayne-Westland

schools to once again become a "lighthouse district" in southeast Michigan.

We would also like to thank the countless volunteers who donated their time and expertise. From the producing of our video, to making phone calls, to attending presentations to show support, we knew they were there as the backbone of this campaign.

A special thank you to our Board of Education for their support and courage. They saw the need and stood firm in their convictions that a bond issue was critical to the good of our children.

Once again, thank you, Wayne-Westland, for voting for our children and the children to come.

Skip and Kitty Monit
 Cindy Schofield

Peaceful dialogue

As members of the Detroit Archdiocesan Catholic Campus Ministers' Association, we are called by our mission to be "educators for justice" on our campuses, and it is to that end that we speak.

We are extremely concerned about the willingness and apparent eagerness of the U.S. government to abandon multifaceted diplomatic options in favor of a massive violent attack on the people of Iraq. Such an attack can also increase the suffering of the civilians who have already suffered so much due to the embargo, while most likely increasing the stature of Saddam Hussein — its intended target. We believe that the most serious consequences will be felt by a populace living outside his palaces, people who never selected him as a leader. While threatening to ignite an even broader global conflict, a military attack on Iraq cannot even promise to achieve its stated aim of reducing the threat of Iraq's biological and nuclear weapons.

We want to be a voice for peace and dialogue at a time when massive violence appears to be our only option. Conscious of the large number of our students who have family and friends in harm's way in Iraq, we urge our leaders to also see "bombing targets" as brothers, sisters, grandmothers and uncles. We are a global community, and it seems ironic that at a time when our leaders urge us to recognize economic ties around the world, we are quick to opt for severing the more important human ties that are destroyed in any act of violence. We must all work to find a solution through peaceful dialogue.

The Detroit ACCMA

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

What do you think of the mild winter weather? Are you doing anything you wouldn't normally do?

We asked this question at Kroger in Westland.



"It's great. I went out walking yesterday (Sunday)."

Nancy Moore



"It's very good. I'm retired, so when it's bad I just stay in."

Art Zimmo



"I love it. Unfortunately, I'm not doing anything different."

Christine Yancy



"I love it. I've been getting out in the park more with my husband (George) and going for walks."

Shirley Wilson

Westland Observer

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

— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Parenting's a job that requires much and gives much

There's only one job I know of that requires a person to work 24 hours a day, without paying even minimum wage! The job is parenting; the toughest job you'll ever love.

One of the reasons I'm happy to live in Michigan is that our state Legislature, six years ago, declared the month of March "Parenting Awareness Month."

The purpose of this month is to celebrate people who are raising children, to show the importance of good parenting to a child's well-being and to promote parenting education.

With March only a few days away, I ask parents, and others who play a caregiving role in a child's life, to help celebrate Parenting Awareness Month by following three simple guides:

Adopt "Every day a little play"

— remember, you're supposed to be having fun.

Focus on spending fun time with your child to develop a sense of warmth and sharing between the two of you. Hold your baby toward you and sing a lullaby. Share in your young child's favorite board game. Ask your teen what he or she would enjoy doing together. Whatever you do together should be your child's choice.

Create balance between your children and yourself — remember, you need time too.

Find time to take care of yourself and you'll take better care of your children. Think about what re-energizes you. Decide on one activity that makes you feel better and do it. Balance is also found by simplifying your life. Can you, your children and your spouse give up one extracurricular

QUEST COLUMNIST



OUIDA G. CASH

activity to find more balance as individuals and as a family?

Practice on-the-job training — children don't come with a manual.

Like any challenging job, parenting requires training. Parenting skills are sharpened and improved over a lifetime, and what works today may not

work tomorrow. It's important to expand your ideas and increase your options. Read parenting books or magazines. Find a parenting mentor — someone whose children you admire — and ask him or her to share techniques. Network with friends whose children are the same age as yours. Lastly, as you educate yourself, think about what will work for you and your family and follow your instincts.

As we celebrate Michigan's Parenting Awareness Month, please take some time to bring these basic ideas to the forefront of your life, and hopefully, you'll carry them with you well into the future.

Note: Professionals from Youth Living Centers will be focusing on a different parenting topic each week in the Observer Community Life section throughout March. We hope you'll enjoy reading these articles to gain

new insights as you explore your role as a parent. If the topics don't apply to your family, please pass the articles on to a friend.

To kick off this special month, you might want to sign up for a Parenting Awareness Month activity. Here's a sampling:

■ Bridging the Gap Family Day, March 14, (248) 644-2245;
■ Dad's Night Out, March 14, (734) 728-3400;

■ Parenting Matters Expo and Conference, March 21, (313) 345-3922.

Ouida G. Cash, Ed.D., has committed the past 28 years to improving the lives of children and families in Michigan. She is chief executive officer of Youth Living Centers, a private, nonprofit organization that specializes in serving children, youths and families from southeastern Michigan.

Ameritech owes some of its customers \$76.1 million

That kind of headline, in inch-high letters, should have been on the notice telephone customers received with their February bills.

Instead, Ameritech printed the notice in teeny-weensy type, designed to produce eyestrain. It disguised the news with a tiny headline with a headline that tells you next to nothing: "Notice of pendency of class action proposed settlement and hearing."

I surveyed eight colleagues. Only one had noticed it.

One sentence contained 170 words, guaranteed to be incomprehensible. The lawyers who crafted this notice ignored the lessons they've been getting about how to write plain English. A court forced Ameritech to send out the notice, and company lawyers vowed they would roast in the netherworld before they would write clearly.

I shall endeavor to translate.

The notice goes to customers of Michigan Bell, Ohio Bell, Indiana

Bell, Wisconsin Bell who had "Line Backer" service between Jan. 1, 1987 and Nov. 7, 1997.

On page 2, under a wooden heading called "description of the lawsuit," we get to the guts of the matter.

A plaintiff named Deborah Todd and others filed a class-action suit in Madison County, Ill., saying Ameritech "misled its customers into paying for an optional service called 'inside wire maintenance service' (IWMS).

"Ameritech markets this service under various trade names, all with the term Line Backer," said the notice. The customers said Ameritech misled them "in violation of applicable state consumer fraud laws."

The parties negotiated a settlement. Ameritech agreed to pay approximately \$76.1 million to all members of the class. In addition, Ameritech will pay the plaintiffs' attorneys fee of \$1.9 million.

If you were one of the misled cus-



TIM RICHARD

tomers, you have three options:

■ Ask to be excluded so you can file your own suit. Write to the plaintiffs' attorneys by March 9 and ask to be excluded in the case of Todd v. Ameritech No. 97-L-1020. The attorneys are Stephen M. Tillery and Richard P. Paletta, 10 Executive Woods Court, Swansea, Ill. 62226. Give them your name, address and phone number.

■ Object to terms of the settlement (pages 2 and 3 of your fine-print

notice; consult an attorney for further translation). By March 9, send your written objections to the Court Clerk, Madison County Courthouse, Civil Division, Edwardsville, Ill. 62025.

Judge Randall Bono has scheduled a hearing for 9:30 a.m. April 6 to determine if the settlement is "fair, reasonable and adequate." Edwardsville is a bit northeast of St. Louis and just west of I-55, about three-fourths of the way across Illinois.

■ Accept the settlement. To accept, you must file a "proof of claim" form. It's on the back page of your teeny-weensy legal notice. They need your name, address, phone number, signature and a copy of your Ameritech phone bill showing you paid for Line Backer for a home or business with 19 or fewer lines. Send it to:

Ameritech/State Bell Companies
IWMS Settlement; PO Box 9454; Garden City, NY 11530-9454. Deadline is July 15.

If you threw away your legal notice (as Ameritech hopes you will do), don't call me. Tell Bob Cooper, president of Ameritech Michigan, general offices at 444 Michigan Ave., Detroit (no ZIP code is given in the telephone directory). Office phone is 800-257-0902.

Despite the potential \$78 million cost, the company is defiant: "Ameritech denies that it has violated any laws, and denies that any of its marketing or sales of IWMS has been misleading in any way." Yeah, sure.

Ameritech's leaders are the kind who, if they were caught up to their necks in offal, would swear it was rose petals.

The only question is whether Ameritech will cover the \$78 million by a) cutting its dividend, b) axing another 1,560 workers or c) cutting the executive payroll and bonuses. I vote for c.

Tim Richard's Touch-Tone voice mail number is (734) 953-2045, Ext. 1881.

'Cure' doubtful

Remember the old line about the cure being worse than the disease? Here's a real-life example.

The Michigan Senate passed earlier this month a package of bills that would consolidate school board elections on the November general election ballot instead of being held at various times during the year.

The disease, everybody agrees, is poor turnout at school elections.

"I was a township clerk. We have too many elections," said Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, sponsor of one of the bills. "We have turnouts of 30,000 for presidential elections and 1,500 for school board elections."

Worse, there's good evidence that school people — board members, principals, teachers' unions, PTOs, whoever — often conspire to schedule elections at times when low turnout makes it possible for a dedicated minority of supporters to pass bond issues. "I nearly fell off my chair," said Sen. Joanne Emmons, R-Big Rapids, "when a school board member, who shall be unnamed, said in our hearing, 'We don't want all those people voting in our election!'"

A quick look at recent Michigan school election statistics confirms the fear.

Michigan has 555 K-12 school districts and 57 intermediate (countywide) districts. They produce a lot of elections. According to the Senate Fiscal Agency, there were 1,074 school elections in 1994 and 641 in 1995.

This can produce low turnouts, especially in millage elections. In 1994, for example, Birmingham voters by 3-1 approved 24.61 mills in February 1996. That's fine, but only 5,455 people voted out of 60,000 eligible voters, a 9.09 percent turnout.

So what's the cure?

The Michigan Senate, 31-5, thinks it's holding school elections only at specified times: Tuesdays following the first Mondays in April, August and at the November general elections. Schools could hold elections at other times, but they would have to pay 105 percent of the cost — a big disincentive.

Maybe so, but consider what really happens when you add school elections to the bedsheet ballot we see in November. When folks are trying to figure out voting for president, governor, U.S. senators, U.S. representatives, state senators, state representatives, county officials and judges, it's easy for school issues to get lost.

This concerns opponents of the Senate bill. Sen. Alma Smith, D-Salem, a former South Lyon school board member, said, "In June, the newspapers can focus on the school board. In November, they are focused on the president and governor. Where do you think we're going



PHILIP POWER

to get coverage of the same quality and quantity?"

Sen. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township, agreed: "I have problems mixing the school board with the general election. It gets lost on the ballot, and school boards don't get the same kind of attention."

They're right. Responsible hometown newspapers such as this one spend a lot of time covering all kinds of races and interviewing candidates. But time is not endless, and space in the newspaper is scarce. Adding school elections to the November ballot can only worsen the crunch of providing solid coverage for important issues.

The Senate bill package is a perfect example of the cure being worse than the disease. Fortunately, there is a good alternative available to the Michigan House as it starts to consider the matter. That is to lump together all education races into one single education election. Voters would select members of the State Board of Education, regents of the University of Michigan, trustees of Michigan State University, governors of Wayne State University, community college boards, and members of local school boards.

Confronted with an entire election dealing with matters educational, the news media would be obliged actually to cover the races, to question candidates, to evaluate qualifications and question positions. Candidates would be required to explain their positions. "Name" candidates would be discouraged. Voters could think about total education policy.

Interestingly, this is exactly what we did in Michigan prior to adoption of the 1963 Constitution. Education races were clustered into one election held in odd-numbered years. When the new Constitution was approved, it undid a sensible system of education elections.

Members of the House have a terrific opportunity to solve this problem that has been festering for 35 years. Let's hope they can see that the cure proposed by the Senate is far worse than the disease of low turnout.

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

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See Sarah Chang perform the "Bibetius" on PBS TV's "The Lincoln Center" on March 3rd

OPENING SOON! NEW HARMONY HOUSE TROY LOCATION!
AT 3914 ROCHESTER ROAD, N. TROY, MI 48063

OBITUARIES

THOMAS B. MALONEY

Funeral services for former Westland resident Thomas Maloney, 88, of Adrian were Feb. 26 in Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland, with entombment at Roseland Park Cemetery, Berkley. Officiating was the Rev. Abe Devries.

Mr. Maloney, who died Feb. 24 in Adrian, was born in Murphysboro, Ill. He was vice president of Rubber Distributing Company, retiring in 1968. He was a member of Knights of Columbus and Audubon Society. His interests were reading and golf.

Surviving are: son, Timothy of Adrian; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to Salvation Army, 16130 Northland Drive, Southfield 48075 or Humane Society, 37255 Marquette, Westland 48185.

WILLIAM G. LONGPRE SR.

Funeral services for William Longpre Sr., 74, of Westland will be 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 27, at St. Bernardine Church with burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Livonia. Visitation will be noon to 9 p.m. today, Feb. 26, in the Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt, Westland.

Mr. Longpre, who died Feb. 23 at his Westland residence, was born in Milwaukee, Wis. He was a machine operator for an automotive company.

Surviving are: wife, Marie;

sons, Ronald Sr. and William Jr.; daughter, Marlene Wolbrink; one brother; one sister; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

JAMES P. WOOD

Funeral services for James Wood, 82, of Westland were Feb. 25 in Vermeulen Funeral Home with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Ferdinand Wolber.

Mr. Wood, who died Feb. 22 in Garden City, was born in Snover, Mich. He was a custodian for the school system and also worked for the Avondale Greenhouse.

Surviving are: son, John of Brighton; daughter, Marie Barney of Westland; and two grandchildren.

SOPHIE M. WITKOWSKI

Funeral services for Sophie Witkowski, 76, of Westland were Feb. 24 in John N. Santeju & Son Funeral Home with burial at St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn Heights. Officiating was the Rev. Leonard Partensky from the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Mrs. Witkowski, who died Feb. 21 in Livonia, was born in Owosso, Mich. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are: daughters, Geraldine Zagornik, Christine Kowalski of Dearborn and Kathleen Witkowski of Westland; and four grandchildren.

Mrs. Witkowski was preceded

in death by her husband, Leonard.

GLORIA M. BRIDENTHAL

Funeral services for Gloria Bridenthal of Wayne were Feb. 23 in Harry J. Will Funeral Home with burial at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock. Officiating was the Rev. Randy Duncan of the Living Word Worship Church in Wayne.

Surviving are: daughter, Jane Bridenthal of Westland; brother, Donald; sisters, Loretta Bodnar and Betty Lorenzo.

LOGAN D. TAYLOR

Funeral services for former Westland resident Logan Taylor, 85, of Bronston, Ky., were Feb. 23 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West, Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Donald Smith.

Mr. Taylor died Feb. 20 in Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital. He was an engineer.

Surviving are: son, Joe; daughters, Norma Aro, Ruth Tenorio and Lyn Ward; brothers, Jackson and Robert; sister, Hetty Taylor; 14 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Taylor was preceded in death by: wife, Bernice; son, Charles; and brother, Dallas.

EDWARD H. WALDO

Funeral services for Edward Waldo, 89, were Feb. 23 in Uht

Funeral Home with burial at Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock. Officiating was the Rev. Arthur Mack.

Mr. Waldo died Feb. 20 in Farmington Hills. He was a sheet metal contractor.

Surviving are: sons, Grant and Glenn of Westland; daughter, Helen Kolarov; brother, Ervin; sister, Ruth Dankow; six grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Waldo was preceded in death by his wife, Victoria.

Memorials may be made to St. John's Episcopal Church-Westland or Southeastern Hospice of Michigan.

MERRY C. NOWRY

Funeral services for Merry Nowry, 73, of Westland were Feb. 23 in Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with burial at Livonia Center Cemetery. Officiating was the Rev. Jerry Yarnell.

Mrs. Nowry, who died Feb. 19 in Westland, was born in Westland. She worked for Kmart in Plymouth Township as supervisor of the cafeteria for 16 years.

She came to the Westland community in 1942 from Plymouth. She attended the Church of the Nazarene in Plymouth. She was a member of CATS (The National Order of Alley Cats), an auxiliary of the Disabled American Veterans.

Surviving are: sons, Ronald of Westland, Kenneth of Waterford and Michael of Bessemer; broth-

er, Roger Spencer of Pinckney; and five grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Karmanos Cancer Institute.

MATTHE E. ALBERGO

Funeral services for Mattie Albergo, 67, of Westland were Feb. 20 in Vermeulen Funeral Home with burial at Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Neil D. Cowling of The Kirk of Our Savior Church, Westland.

Mrs. Albergo, who died Feb. 17 in Westland, was born in Detroit. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are: sons, John of Roscommon, George of Westland, Dan of Grayling and Jeff of Flat Rock; sisters, Beatrice Seromik of Westland and Ruth Reed of Dearborn; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Albergo was preceded in death by her husband, George.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society or the National Kidney Foundation.

MARY Y. MANARELLI

Funeral Mass for Mary Manarelli, 83, of Westland was recently in St. Theodore Catholic Church, Westland, with burial at Parkview Memorial Park. Officiating was the Rev. Michael Molnar. Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Mrs. Manarelli, who died Feb. 17 in Livonia, was born in Harrisburg, Pa. She came to this community from Detroit in 1965. She was a homemaker. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, baking, crocheting, embroidering and reading.

Surviving are: daughter, Mary Blouse of Westland; stepdaughter, Diana Klein of Mount Clemens; stepbrothers, John Campanella of Mount Clemens and Jasper Campanella of Westland; sister, Francis Pini of Shel-

by Township; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorials may be made in the form of Mass offerings to St. Theodore Catholic Church or Angela Hospice.

FARNUM V. EARL

Funeral services for Farnum Earl, 81, of Flat Rock were Feb. 25 in Emmanuel Baptist Church, Belleville. Officiating was the Rev. James B. Jones, the deceased's son-in-law. Arrangements were made by John N. Santeju & Son Funeral Home.

Mr. Earl who died Feb. 23 in Flat Rock, was born in Pontiac. He was a truck driver.

Surviving are: sons, Bruce of Montague, Mich., and Keith of Adrian; daughters, Judy Jones of Canton, Margee Copeland of Garden City, Janet Opoka of Westland and Carolyn of Woodhaven; sister, Millie Meakin of Florida; 16 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Earl was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Jewell, and brother, Harley Earl of Wisconsin.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Southeastern Michigan.

MARY A. HONUS

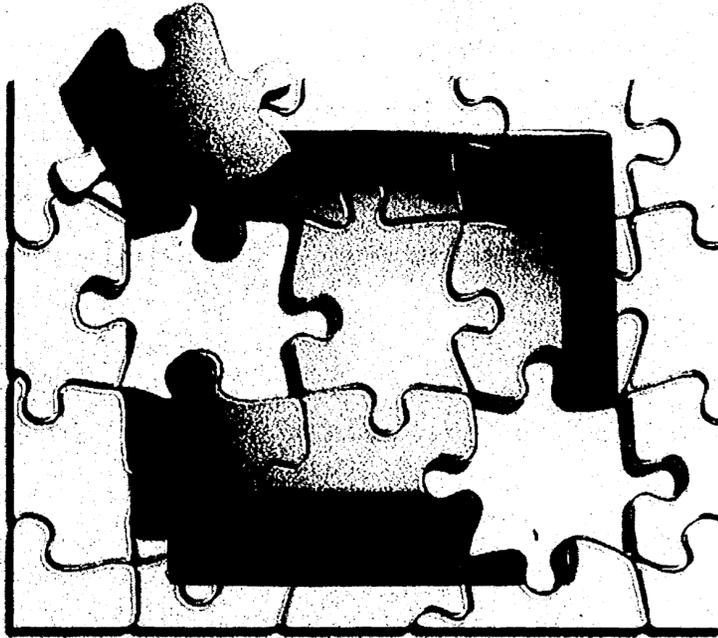
Funeral services for Mary Honus, 71, of Westland were Feb. 19 in St. Kevin Catholic Church, Inkster. Officiating was the Rev. Frederick Klettner.

Mrs. Honus, who died Feb. 16 in Westland, was born in Shenandoah, Pa. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are: son, Robert of Roscommon, Mich.; daughter, Janet Honus-Verdi; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Honus was preceded in death by her husband, John.

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RMK359a

Local woman dies in accident

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

A Westland woman died early Wednesday at Providence Hospital, following a two-vehicle accident at Nine Mile and Evergreen on Tuesday afternoon.

Nicole Marie Farrar, 18, suffered head injuries in the accident, Southfield police said. Police said she wasn't wearing a seat belt.

The accident occurred about 1:07 p.m. Tuesday.

Farrar was a front-seat passenger in a 1994 Dodge Spirit driven by a Detroit man, 21, said John Harris, Southfield police

public information officer.

A 1995 Pontiac Transport van driven by a Southfield woman, 55, was going south on Evergreen and was making a left hand turn east when it collided with the Spirit, which was proceeding north on Evergreen through the Nine Mile intersection.

The accident remains under investigation.

Both drivers were hospitalized at Providence Hospital with minor injuries, Harris said.

A Southfield police car, in the area when the accident occurred, may have captured the accident on video, Harris said.

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 15125 Farmington Rd. Livonia, MI 48154

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for:

**FURNISH AND INSTALL 8 - 3 TON AIR CONDITIONING
UNITS FOR COOLIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Bids will be received until 10:00 A.M. on the 10th day of March, 1998 the office of the Board of Education, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. At this time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read. Vendors are encouraged to attend.

Specifications and bid forms may be obtained at the office of the Board of Education in the Purchasing Department.

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

Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of bid opening.

Any questions may be directed to Tim Kohut, Maintenance Supervisor at 734-523-9160.

Published February 19 and 25, 1998

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

RE: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
to provide
ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES
for the design of
Gorman Street water main and sanitary sewer improvements as
part of a Special Assessment District
in Canton Township
Wayne County, Michigan

Canton Township is soliciting proposals for engineering design services and construction administration/inspection services for the design and installation of new water main and sanitary sewer to service Gorman Street, which is located south of Ford Road and west of Canton Center Road.

The "Request for Proposals" describes the project and the format for the Scope of Services. A "Request for Proposal" can be obtained from Canton Township Engineering Services at the address below.

If your firm is interested in providing these services, please submit your proposal to Canton Township Engineering Services, by 5 p.m., Friday, March 13, 1998.

The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

The Township reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Address all proposals to:

CANTON TOWNSHIP
ENGINEERING SERVICES
Attn.: Susan Folsom
1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188

Published February 25, 1998



JACK GLADDEN

And Wookie makes 5 ...

“We're not taking the dog! Not on a driving trip to Florida!”

“He'll be fine. He sleeps most of the day anyway.”

“He's a nut case. He'll be all over everything. And that's a small car.”

“He's a small dog. There's plenty of room. He'll ride in the back seat with your daughter.”

“I say we put him in the trunk.”

“No, we won't!”

“Sure. Those seat backs fold down. We fold one down and stick him in the trunk. We can keep an eye on him.”

“He's riding in the back seat.”

“Oh, all right. But what about the cats? And the goldfish? And the hamsters? Are they coming, too?”

“Don't be silly. Can you imagine taking the cats on a trip to Florida? They'd yowl all the way.”

“Yeah, and shed. Scooter's fur would be flying like porcupine quills.”

“Well, it doesn't matter. Amy's coming over to feed them. And the fish. And the hamsters.”

“So why can't she feed the dog, too?”

“We're not leaving him alone for a week. He'd think we deserted him.”

“What about the cats?”

“They don't care. As long as they're fed, they'll be perfectly happy.”

“I suppose so. Who was that on the phone?”

A slight problem

“Uh, we have a problem. Amy's going out of town. She won't be able to feed the animals.”

“Oh, great. What about your sister?”

“She can come over on weekends but not during the week. She's working two jobs.”

“So now what?”

“I'll go to the pet supply store tomorrow and check out those self-feeders and self-waterers. Maybe they'll work.”

“Yeah, right. The water will be OK. And the feeder will be fine for Wookie. But can you picture Scooter in front of a perpetual feeding machine? He'll just keep eating and eating and ...”

“That's all we can do. I'm sure they'll be fine. Did you check out that pet travel cage my mother left here? Can Jasper stand up in it? He'll just need it to sleep in the two nights we're at a motel.”

“He won't fit.”

“You mean he can't stand up?”

“No, he won't fit. He's too big. I tried to get him inside and he wouldn't even fit through the door. He acted like I was trying to stuff him into a torture chamber.”

And another one

“Guess I'll have to pick up another one of them, too.”

“This is starting to sound expensive. Why don't we just get him his own motel room? Or hire a live-in nanny for a week?”

“Stop complaining. I'll take care of it.”

“So, how much did all this stuff cost?”

“Not that much. The travel cage was on sale. But you'd better see if it will fit in your car.”

“It fits. Just barely, but it fits. Takes up half the space in the trunk.”

“Oh, it's not that big.”

“Seems like it. And how's this automatic feeder supposed to work, anyway?”

“You just fill it with food, put the base on and turn it upside down. It works on gravity. See.”

“I can see Scooter lying on his back with his mouth under the spout. He won't even have to eat. Just let it flow in. So what about the fish?”

“The man at the pet supply store said the fish would be fine for a week. Just feed him before we leave. And we can put an extra dish of food in the hamster's cage. Everything's taken care of.”

“So are we ready to go?”

“I think so. The dog's cage is in the trunk. We have a bottle of water, bag of dog food and his food and water dishes. Blankets and leash in the back seat. The other animals have

Please see GLADDEN, B2



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Sounds like:
Mastering the alphabet means learning what each letter sounds like, something a group of youngsters work while at the Livonia Montessori Center.

Montessori way

Philosophy is to 'teach the child, not the subject'

■ It was Italy's first woman doctor, Maria Montessori, who came up with the educational philosophy of teaching the child, not the subject, that's being celebrated during National Montessori Education Week this week.

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Japanese-inspired artwork lines the hallways. French is spoken in a classroom down the way. Showing the utmost respect for adults, the students patiently wait for their teachers to finish speaking before asking a question.

These polite students who speak French and create impressive art are all between the ages of 2 1/2 and 6.

The Livonia Montessori Center and Plymouth-Canton Montessori School are molding the youngsters into Renaissance children.

“I try to do a lot of art and music lessons and culture the students. I think it's important for them to round out their world view,” said Annie Dopkins, a “head directress,” the traditional Montessori term for a teacher, at the Livonia school. “Today I talked with them about Georgia O'Keeffe and for music, George Gershwin is the man of the hour.”

The atmosphere at the schools is a quiet one. Students remove their shoes as they enter the building and replace them with slippers.

“It keeps the noise level down, plus it keeps their clothing clean. The children do a lot of floor work,” said Barbara Nader, the assistant administra-



Learning time: Erin Fitzpatrick, 5, writes about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln at the Livonia Montessori Center.

Finding a Montessori school

All of the Montessori schools in the area have long waiting lists, so school administrators suggest that parents look into the schools before their child is born.

Livonia Montessori Center is in St. Maurice School, 32765 Lyndon, between Merriman and Farmington roads, Livonia. For half-day classes, the cost is \$3,075 per school year. Full-day tuition, which includes Montessori class and unlimited day care, is \$5,490. The school is having an open house from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, March 15. Call (734) 427-8255 for more information.

Plymouth-Canton Montessori School, 45245 Joy Road, between Canton Center and Sheldon roads, Canton, can be reached at (734) 459-1550. Half-day tuition is \$2,925 and the full-day tuition is \$5,240.

Northville Montessori Center, 15709 Haggerty Road, Northville Township, offers full-day classes for \$4,600, and half-day classes for \$2,300. Unlike the other area schools, children up to age 11 are accepted. Call (734) 420-0924 for more information.

Montessori Center of Our Lady is at 36800 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. Half-day sessions cost \$1,500 and full-day sessions are \$3,100 for the school year. For more information, call (734) 591-1599.

For a free brochure about Montessori schools, write to Department A, American Montessori Society, 281 Park Ave. South, New York, N.Y. 10010, or call 888-872-9574. Information also is available on its Web site, <http://www.amshq.com>.

tor of the Livonia school.

Upon sitting, the children place their own rug on the ground.

“We employ social graces as well as their own personal space,” Nader said. “We want the children to feel good about themselves. That's the main objective.”

This week, Montessori schools around the United States are celebrating National Montessori Education Week. To honor the event, the Livonia school held a “Dad's Night” on Monday and Tuesday, and planted bulbs on Wednesday. Today, the students begin

spring break.

Certain philosophy

The philosophy of Montessori was developed by Dr. Maria Montessori, the first female doctor in Italy, through her work with disadvantaged children, said Kay Neff, owner of the Livonia and Plymouth schools. She also owns the Dearborn Heights Montessori Center, which is open to elementary and middle school students.

Montessori believed that children have sensitive periods in which they are particularly able and interested in

acquiring a certain knowledge or skill, Neff explained.

She also felt that children absorb knowledge by interacting with their environment and responding to it, and they are motivated from within. Adults must “teach the child, not the subject” which offers opportunities for experimentation and growth that are consistent with the needs each child demonstrates.

“Our teaching should foster the development of the whole child — social, emotional, intellectual, physical and

Please see MONTESSORI, B2

Storybook has positive view of divorced family for kids

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Mike Campbell credits his son, Daniel, with inspiring him to write his first children's book. In fact, Daniel lent part of his name for the title character, Dandy the Chipbear.

Campbell's character lives with his mother in the Forest of Nestburrow and visits his father in the Caves of Berry Mountain every other weekend. Like many of today's youngsters, his parents are divorced.

“I want kids to feel they have someone there who's their friend,” said the Livonia resident. “A divorced family is still thought of as a dysfunctional family and that's not true anymore. Divorced children need to realize they do have a family, that they are loved and that they have a mom and dad.”

Daniel was 2 years old when his parents divorced and age 5 when his mother remarried. It was his comment at the time, “Dad, I thought you were married to mom,” that led Campbell to think about writing a book to help his son understand the situation.

Six years and several rewrites later, Campbell's first book, “Dandy the Chipbear's ... Fun Day at Dad's,” is self-published through his Livonia-based Dandy Creations.

Campbell, a senior buyer for Focus:HOPE in Detroit, focuses on the positive things Dandy and his father do together from making breakfast and mowing the lawn to bicycling and a picnic. It's also filled with love.

“I created the Chipbear so kids can understand that their dad loves them, their mom loves them and they don't have to be embarrassed that their parents are divorced,” said Campbell. “Kids can pick it up and relate to the situation ... ‘Hey, that's what I'm going through.’”

A friend's daughter, Kerri Boring, got the nod to illustrate the book and spent more than a year working with Campbell developing the character and the scenes.

An art student at the University of Michigan, the Wixom resident is working on the second Chipbear book, set at mom's house.

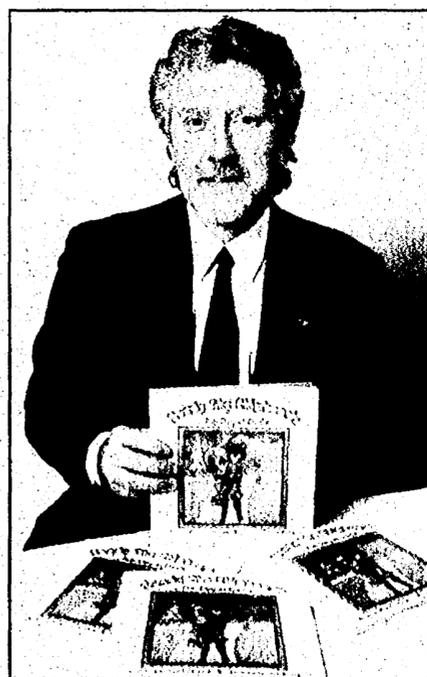
“I discovered her over lunch,” Campbell said. “She's done a fabulous job and is very excited about it. I think that's why she put up with me.”

The duo came up with the Chipbear footprints on the bottom of each page that are used in increasing amounts to indicate the page numbers.

Campbell also has included a page for children to draw a picture of a fun thing they do with their father and a second page that invites them to send him a drawing of yet another fun thing they do with dad and to join the Chipbear Cub Club. In exchange for the artwork, the youngster will receive a Chipbear Cub Club sticker.

The printing is being handled by another friend who started his own business, Select Graphics Corporation,

Please see CHIPBEAR, B2



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGOFF

First effort: Mike Campbell's first children's book was prompted by his son's comments about his mother's remarriage.

Montessori from page B1

spiritual. These aspects of the child are inseparable and of equal importance," Neff wrote in a recent newsletter.

The doctor, who was born in 1870 and died in 1952, also believed that children are self-teachers. Adults are models for the children and adults' behavior should exemplify the attitudes that the kids should imitate.

Michael Eanes, national director of the New York-based American Montessori Society, summed it up as "a method of education using your child's natural curiosity and love of learning about the world around him."

"We want children to be able to think for themselves, problem solve, be independent, and not rely on a lot of direction," Nader said. "They don't realize that they're doing work. We're a learning school and we make work fun for the children."

AMS schools are attended by children from six weeks to 18 years old, but most take children from about 2 1/2 to 6.

The Livonia and Plymouth-Canton centers, both of which are nonprofit corporations, offer a complete Montessori program with full equipment in all areas - practical life (washing, polishing, sorting, personal care, food preparation), sensorial (texture, weight, size, color-shape-sound), mathematics (proportion, counting, decimal beads and computation), language (verbal development, prewriting and writing, prereading and reading), geography (large puzzle maps and related materials) and botany.

Montessori Center of Our Lady in Livonia takes a slightly different approach to the philosophy.

"We teach a Christian aspect in our school. We teach Chris-



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Just ducky: Emily Benson, 3, works on the concept of size with the big, bigger and biggest group of ducks at the Livonia Montessori Center.

tianity, morality and other related topics," said Sister Paulita, director of the 22-year-old school. "The children learn many, many different things. We expose them to geography, history, science, math, reading and phonics."

Directresses lead classrooms which house students of various ages, another basic principal of Montessori philosophy, in essence providing 25 little teachers.

"It's always nice to find a peer. The anticipation of seeing what the big kids can do is a real sparkler. It motivates them to do the things they need to do. For the older children, it's a confidence builder for the younger kids to seek their help," said Heidi Gauger, a teacher at that Livonia school.

Their own pace

At Montessori schools, children are allowed to learn at their own pace.

"They don't all do the same art project. We show them the work when they're ready to see it," Dopkins explained. "They like to learn because it's at their discretion. We follow the child. Inevitably, they'll go to what they need. They know what they need to do. For example, children who are ready to read will come to me and say, 'Help me read.'"

Montessori teachers go through a two-semester training period after earning a bachelor's degree and do a one-year intern-

ship. Locally, they study at a school in Rochester Hills, Dopkins, a Boston native now living in Ann Arbor, began her career teaching fourth-grade special education students. When her job was eliminated, she pursued a career in Montessori.

"As a teacher, you have to be a Renaissance person. Even if you're not good at it, you can teach it," Dopkins said.

Gauger began teaching 10 1/2 years ago after her children attended Montessori school in Ohio.

"They have a feeling of respect for their own work," she said of her children who are now in high school. "They were also really excited about the next thing they were going to do. They also expect to be respected by adults and they respect adults in return."

A former engineer, Gauger is extremely satisfied with her job choice.

"I feel very lucky. I get to play for six hours."

Chipbear from page B1

on the east side of Detroit. Campbell admitted that he "was like a nervous mother when the book came off the press."

Campbell envisions a quarterly club newsletter that will include some of the children's artwork and things to do as the number of club members increases.

He also is planning an entire series of books, geared for children 7 years and younger. Included in the books will be people - stepparents, stepbrothers and stepsisters - and different situations - parents living out of town, visiting steprelatives - the children encounter.

"If you ever look at the divorce section in the book store, all that's there deals with issue more for older kids," Campbell said. "I think this is the first

divorced character for children. I want them to take ownership of the character."

The book costs \$6.95 and is on sale at the Little Professor on Main Street in Plymouth, Borders Books in Birmingham and Novi, the Church of Today in Warren and the Oakland Community College Bookstore in Farmington Hills.

It's also available by sending \$8.70, including shipping and handling, to Dandy Creations, P.O. Box 51692, Livonia 48150.

To help promote the book, Campbell is doing book signings at the Little Professor at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14, and at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at Borders in Birmingham.

"I'm like a new parent; I want to share it," Campbell said.

Women in military topic of OWL meeting

The Older Women's League will hear about women in the military from chapter member Ann Whitworth, when the group meets at 7 p.m. Monday, March 2, at the Farmington Community Library, 23500 Liberty.

As a teenager living in Scotland during World War II, Whitworth tried to enlist in the Auxiliary Territorial Service, but was rejected because she was only 17.

However, at age 19, she was drafted into the Women's Army and served for 3 1/2 years, including two years of active duty in southeastern England

where she plotted enemy aircraft via radar coming from occupied Europe to bomb London and other targets.

It was while she was in the service that the Farmington Hills resident met her future husband, a pilot for the Royal Air Force. They married and had a daughter before moving to the United States in 1951 and had two more children here, one of whom is a pilot in the U.S. Air Force and is stationed in Wichita, Kansas.

For more information about the meeting or about OWL, call (248) 348-8012.

Gladden from page B1

been fed. We're all set."

"Did you pack a lunch for the humans?"

"We'll stop and pick up some bagels before we get on the road."

"I hate bagels. Say, remember that Chevy Chase movie? 'National Lampoon's Vacation.' The one where that flaky family is driving to California to go to

Wally World? That's what this reminds me of. We're just like the Griswolds."

"No we're not. We're not at all like them."

"Oh yeah? How do you figure?"

"They didn't have a dog."

Oh, but they did ...

Jack Gladden is a copy editor for the Observer Newspapers. He lives in Canton.

ANNIVERSARIES

Spitza *

The Rev. and Mrs. Jack Spitza celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with friends and family. In honor of their anniversary, the couple also plans to take their youngest grandson, Zackery, to Disney World in Florida for two weeks.

This was a special celebration for the Spitzas. Two years ago, the Rev. Spitza was diagnosed with congestive heart failure and was not expected to live. His doctors put him on the heart transplant list even though he was considered past the age limit for the surgery. Five months later, he received his new heart.



The couple married Oct. 22, 1947, in South Bend, Ind. She is the former Betty Williams.

They have two children - Jack Jr. of Burlington, Ontario, and Teri Chippis of Westland. The

Spitzas also have three grandchildren - Jack III, Shawn and Zackery.

He is the founder of New Hope Baptist Church and has been its pastor for 37 years.

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

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

STEVEN SMITH
City Clerk-Treasurer

Publish: February 26, 1998

Westland Observer

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PRINTING OF TAX STATEMENTS AND ENVELOPES EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM EQUIPMENT

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

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STEVEN SMITH
City Clerk-Treasurer

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WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Gagnon-Bommarito

Claude and Patricia Gagnon of Redford Township announce the engagement of their daughter, Lise Nicole, to Michael James Bommarito, the son of Joseph and Carol Bommarito, also of Redford Township.

The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of Redford Union High School. She is employed at Redford Credit Union in Redford.

Her fiancé is a 1992 graduate of Fairlane Christian High School and a 1997 graduate of Wayne State University's College of Nursing. He is employed as a registered nurse at Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills.

A May wedding is planned.



Rice-Pickett

Ruth Ann and Richard J. Wanserski of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristin Mary Rice, to Todd John Pickett, the son of David R. and Linda K. Pickett of Allen Park.

The bride-to-be is a 1987 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School. She also is a graduate of Western Michigan University. She is employed by CSV Sales Inc., a local food brokerage.

Her fiancé is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a degree in accounting. He is employed as a certified public accountant for BDO Seidman LLP in Troy.

An October wedding is planned at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton.



Whalen-Morgan

Angela Michelle Morgan and William Henry Whalen were married Aug. 16 at the historical chapel at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia. The Rev. Donald DeVine officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Donald and Elaine Morgan of Livonia. The groom is the son of William and Patricia Whalen of Pittsburgh, Pa.

The bride is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and Michigan State University with a degree in material logistics management. She is employed as manager of business development at Ryder Integrated Logistics.

The groom is a graduate of North Allegheny High School in Pittsburgh, Duquesne University with a bachelor's degree in accounting and the University of Virginia with a master of business administration degree. He is employed as a controller by Magna Interior Systems Inc.

The bride asked Jennifer Radloff to serve as matron of honor with bridesmaids Sandra Baldwin, Heidi Riggs and Kristin Weinbeck and flower girl



Karen Unger.

The groom asked Robert Whalen to serve as best man with groomsmen Bradford Morgan, Joseph Unger Sr. and Ronald Carden and junior groomsmen Joseph Unger Jr.

The couple received guests at Burton Manor in Livonia before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Negril, Jamaica. They are making their home in South Lyon.

Knight-Allard

Judith and Joseph Tompkins of Plymouth and Douglas and Bonnie Knight of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Ann Knight, to Timothy George Allard, the son of Ken and Sheila Allard of Waterford.

The bride-to-be is employed at American Community Mutual Insurance and Unique Dreams Studio.

Her fiancé is employed at Honeywell.

A May wedding is planned at First Baptist Church of Plymouth.



Williams-Strayer

Greg and Joan Williams of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Joan, to Eric Richard Strayer, the son of Lynn and Carol Strayer of Novi.

The couple are 1997 graduates of Michigan State University.

The bride-to-be, a 1993 graduate of Ladywood High School, is employed as an accountant at Ernst and Young LLP.

Her fiancé, a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School, is employed as an engineer at Nissan R&D.

A May wedding is planned at Greenfield Village's Martha-



Mary Chapel.

Reynolds-McCorquodale

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stover of Garden City announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Dawn Reynolds, to Donald C. McCorquodale, the son of Colin McCorquodale and Phyllis McCorquodale, both of Dearborn Heights.

The bride-to-be, a 1992 graduate of Garden City High School, is employed as a sales coordinator.

Her fiancé, a 1990 graduate of Crestwood High School, is employed as a product designer.

An August wedding is planned at Mount Hope Congregational Church in Livonia.



Wilmot-Blankenship

Michael and Suzanne Wilmot of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristen M. to Raymond R. Blankenship, the son of William E. and Ida Blankenship of Westland.

The bride-to-be hopes to graduate from Eastern Michigan University later this year. She is employed by A.S.K. Services Inc.

Her fiancé is employed by Pro-mold Tool and Engineering.

A May wedding is planned at St. Aidan's Catholic Church in Livonia.



Schumacher-Kautz

John and Clemelia Schumacher of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Catherine, to Franz Andrew Kautz, the son of Frantz and Elizabeth Kautz of Southampton, Pa.

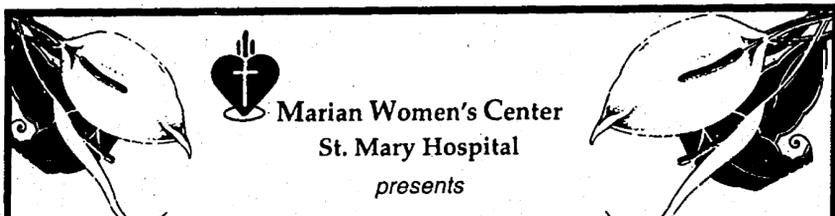
The bride-to-be is a 1988 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and a graduate of the University of Michigan when she earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1992 and a master of business administration degree in 1995.

Her fiancé is a 1992 graduate of Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor of science degree in engineering and a 1995 graduate of Ohio State University with a master of education degree.

A May wedding is planned in



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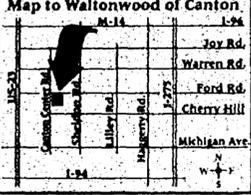
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BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

To get a taste of the glamorous world of fashion shows, you don't need to go any farther than Laurel Manor in Livonia.

The Garden City Business and Professional Women's Club is already planning its fifth annual "Parade of Fashion" for noon March 15 in Laurel Manor in Livonia.

Take Time Fashions will once again be presenting fashions from the stores of Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi. The models strutting the runways won't include Christy Turlington, Naomi Campbell or Cindy Crawford - but members of the BPW, Garden City High School student Sara Niemiec and even "grandmother" types who will show off the latest fashions, said Beth Csicsila, BPW vice president.

"It's the best," she said of the show. "Each show gets a little better than the one the year before."

Proceeds from the show go for the club's annual scholarships. The Rose Schilawski Scholarship raffle is earmarked to ease the transition of women into the work force, Csicsila said. It will go to an adult female education graduate who wants to continue her education.

Prizes include a trip for two to Atlantic City, courtesy of the Travel Desk, an estate planning package, courtesy of attorney Sandra Larsen, a stay for two at the Parish House Inn and a \$100 gift certificate from Orin Jewelers.

The second raffle is designated for a Garden City High School graduate. Last year's winners were Lawrence Henkel and Nicile Carpenter. The raffle prizes include a painting by artist Todd Marsee, a painting by Kara Janick, a lacquered Russian box and the Sweetheart basket from Longaberger.

There also will be a multitude of door prizes, ranging from stays at local inns and hotels, gift certificates for massages, haircuts and styling and restaurants, loaf of bread a week for a year from a local bakery, autographed books, Detroit Red Wings tickets, watches, jewelry, colorful throws and gift baskets filled with foods and beauty products.

Five years ago, the club decid-



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Just a few: Garden City BPW president Anne Schemer (left) and first vice president Beth Csicsila (right) show off several door prizes - throw blankets and gift baskets of beauty products - for the annual fashion show.



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Sun. Mar 1st 12 to 6pm

ed a fashion show fundraiser would attract crowds, and judging from the success of the past four shows, club members were right.

"We chose the fashion show fundraiser because it seemed to us that it was the best way to raise a lot of money," Csicsila said.

Admission is \$30 per person, with all seating available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Reserved tables of 10 receive a 10 percent discount. For ticket reservations or information, call Csicsila at (734) 458-4331 or (313) 277-7742.

Garden City BPW chapter was founded 45 years ago. Its members live and work throughout western Wayne County and gather the third Thursday of the month for a dinner meeting with a speaker or activity.

The BPW is the oldest and

largest organization for working women in the world. It is dedicated to achieving full participation in the work force, equity and economic self-sufficiency for working women.

Locally, the club is supporting the renovation of the Garden City Public Library, the Garden City High School Sea Camp Project and First Step, western Wayne County's domestic violence and sexual abuse project.

Open house to showcase child development center

The University of Michigan-Dearborn Child Development Center is having an open house for its kindergarten, preschool and toddler programs 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, March 4.

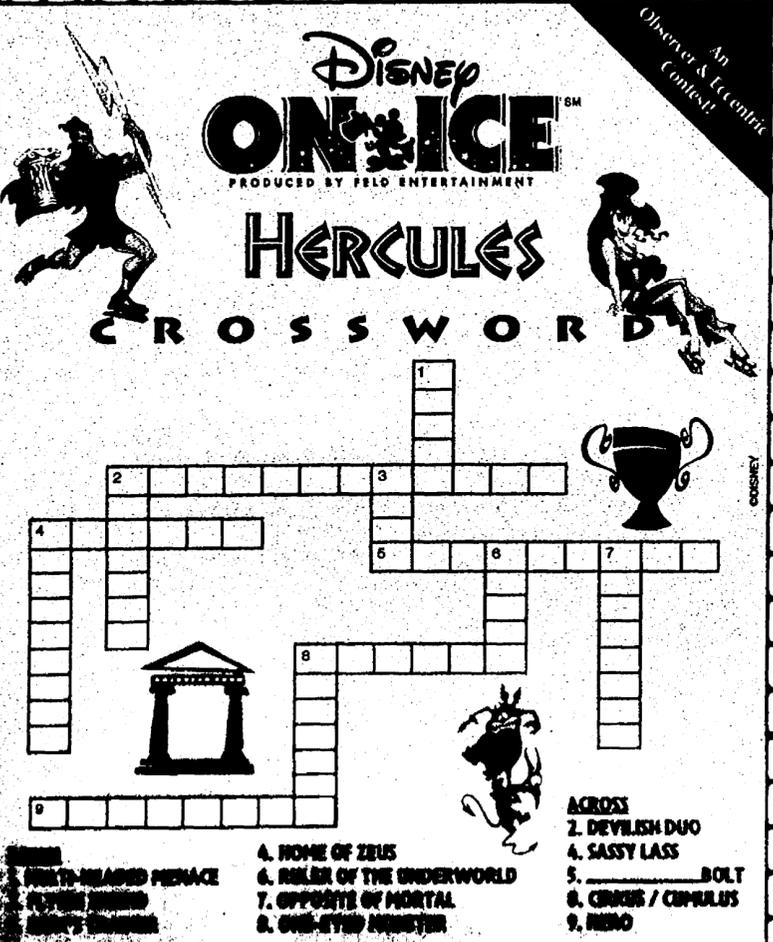
The open house will be in the administrative office of the center, Room 1031, of the CASL

Annex on the UM-D campus, Evergreen Road between Ford Road and Michigan Avenue.

Early childhood program teachers and staff members will be available to answer questions regarding educational programs, enrollment, tuition and scholarships.

Enrollment for the fall 1998 kindergarten program is open to all children who will be age 5 by Dec. 1. Toddler and preschool programs are available for children ages 1 (who are walking) to age 5.

For more information, call (313) 593-5424.



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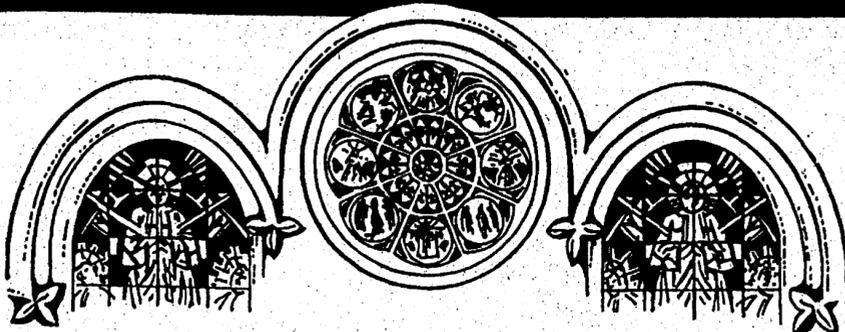
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Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

March 1st
11:00 a.m. "Unexpected and Unaccepted"
8:00 p.m. "Running God's Stop Sign"

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Virgil Humes, Pastor

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

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Sunday Worship 8:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
(313) 414-7422

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Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

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

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School
5885 Venoy
1 Bk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland 425-0260

Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
Monday Evening Service 7:30 P.M.
Gary D. Headgohr, Administrative Pastor
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Jeff Burke, Principal/D.C.E.

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

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
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532-2266 REDFORD TWP.

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Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
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Rev. Timothy Halboth, Assoc. Pastor



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Pastor Ken Roberts (ELCA)
734 / 459-8181

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

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5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.
From M-14 take Goddard Rd. South
Dr. Wm. O. Moore • Pastor

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9:30 Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service
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CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED 8:00-9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

Evangelical Presbyterian Church
17000 Farmington Road
Livonia 423-1180
Dr. James N. McIntire, Pastor

Worship Services
Sunday School
8:00, 9:15, 10:45 A.M.
and 12:05 P.M.
Evening Service
7:00 P.M.

Shuttle Service from Stevenson High School
for All A.M. Services Except 8:00 A.M.

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

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PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
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Sun. BIBLE STUDY & WORSHIP 9:00 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.
Sunday School - 10:05 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
FAMILY NIGHT - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
Arthur C. Magnuson, Pastor

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NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9435 Harry Rd. at West Chicago
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Rev. Donald Lindebaum, Pastor

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10:30 a.m. Worship Service and Youth Classes
Nursery Care Available
- WELCOME -

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10700 Newburgh Road
Livonia • 464-8844

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March 1st
Rev. Dr. Janet Noble Richardson, preaching
Rev. Dr. Janet Noble, Pastor
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Dr. James Skirings Tamara J. Seidel
Senior Minister Associate Minister
David J.W. Brown, Dir. of Youth Ministries
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School (313) 458-8222

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474-3444
Rev. Jean Love

Worship Services 10:15 AM, 6:00 PM
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 AM
Office Hrs. 9-5

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Chuck Sonquist, Pastor

10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes
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9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Worship, Church School, Nursery

"Remember the Sabbath Day and Keep it Holy."
Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack, preaching

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Scripture Focus: Luke 22: 7-23
Rev. Bob, preaching
Sunday School
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NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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422-0149

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9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

March 1st
LENTON SERMON SERIES:
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Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

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Reading Room - 415 S. Haven, Plymouth
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Thursday 7:30 p.m.

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

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School Grades Pre-School - 8
Church & School office: 422-8930

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(313) 261-1360

May thru October • Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.
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Bible Study & Sunday School 9:45 A.M.

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532-8655
Pastor Gregory Gibbons

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Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m.

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WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.



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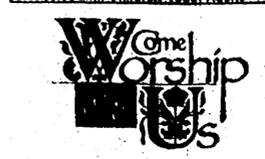
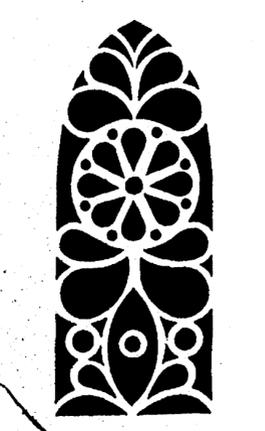
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Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.



CRAFTS CALENDAR

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

ST. MEL'S
St. Mel's Catholic Church will have its spring arts and crafts show 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 7 at the church, 7508 Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights. In addition to crafts, food and beverages will be available. There also will be a special crafters raffle. Table and a 5-by-10-foot space costs \$30 and a 5-by-10-foot space only is \$25. For more information, call Debbie at (313) 261-6881.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
Schoolcraft College will have its

spring arts and crafts show 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 7 in the Physical Education Building on campus at 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia. There will be more than 150 crafters and hourly raffle prizes and refreshments will be available. Admission will be \$1.50 for adults and children 12 years and older, 50 cents for children ages 5-11 and free for children under age 5. For more information, call (734) 462-4417.

MEMORIAL PTA
The Memorial Elementary School PTA will have its 11th annual craft fair 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 7 at the school, 30001 Marquette, between Middle Belt and Henry Ruff roads, Garden City. Table space is available. For more information, call Darlene at (734) 425-4221.

ST. SABINA
St. Sabina School's Parents

Activities Club will have a spring craft show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 14 at the school, Ann Arbor Trail, east of Inkster Road. An 8-foot table or space costs \$27.50, the 6-foot table or space is \$25. For more information, call Jane Palmer at (313) 953-5914.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Crafters are wanted for the Livonia Churchill High School PTSA juried spring arts and crafts show 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 21 at the school, 8900 Newburg Road, Livonia. Admission will be \$1; strollers and wheelchairs welcomed. For more information, call Diane at (734) 422-4507 or

Garrett at (734) 464-7425.
ST. DAMIAN'S
St. Damian's Church will have a collector's sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at the church, 29891 Joy Road, Westland. Admission will be \$1, children under age 12 free. Table space, costing \$25, is available. Proceeds will benefit Christian Service. For more information, call (734) 421-6130.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
The Livonia Franklin High School Patriots Club will have a craft show 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 21 at the school, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia. More than

175 crafters will be featured. Admission will be \$1 for those older than 5 years of age. No strollers will be permitted, however, people in wheelchairs will be admitted at 9:30 a.m.

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Crafters are needed for the Livonia Stevenson High School Booster Club's Spring Spectacular craft show 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 28 at the school, 33500 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia. Spaces - 10 feet by 10 feet or 5 feet by 16 feet - cost \$50. Limited electricity is available at no additional cost, and chairs (no tables) are available upon request. For more information,

call (734) 464-1041 or (248) 478-2395.

MADONNA UNIVERSITY
Madonna University is accepting applications from crafters for its 13th annual spring arts and crafts showcase 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 28 in the Activities Center on campus, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. Booth space measuring 9 feet by 6 feet with two chairs and one 6-by-8-foot table costs \$50. Booths with electricity are limited and are an additional \$5. Exhibitors can purchase up to three spaces. For more information, call the university at (734) 432-6603.

ACTION! sponsors community meetings

A newly formed grassroots coalition, ACTION!, has scheduled four community meetings in Wayne and Oakland counties during March to encourage support for proposed nursing home staffing legislation.

ACTION! (A Coalition for the Improvement of Nursing Homes) is pressing for passage of House Bill 4176 which would increase the number of hours of nursing care provided to each patient in a nursing home each day.

The bill would replace present nursing home staffing law which was passed in 1957.

The meetings have been set up to explain the legislative process. There also will be a letter writing workshop to rally support of lawmakers to pass the bill quickly.

The first meeting will be 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at the William P. Faust Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. The guest speaker will be State Rep. Eileen DeHart.

Meetings also have been set up for:

■ 2 p.m. Sunday, March 15, at the Farmington Community Library, 23500 Liberty, Farmington. State Rep. Andrew Raczkowski will be the guest speaker.

■ 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 16 at the Novi Public Library, 45245 Ten Mile Road, Novi. State Rep. Nancy Cassis and Sen. Bill Bullard Jr. will be

the guest speakers.
■ 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 23, at the Royal Oak Library,

222 E. 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak. State Rep. John Freeman will be the guest speaker.

For more information about the meetings, call ACTION! at (248) 988-7139.

Children's Directory '98

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Golden year

Of membership: The honor fell to Nancy Mayette of Romeo (at right) to present 50-year pins to Dorothy Campbell of Livonia (from left), Dorothy Hileman of Royal Oak and Eleanor Froehlich of Rochester Hills with pins marking their 50th year as members of the Delta Omicron Fraternity. The musical fraternity, founded 88 years ago at the University of Cincinnati, raises funds for musical scholarships for college and high school students, operates a musical camp in the Berkshires in Massachusetts and has a music exchange program with such emerging countries as Hungary and Poland.

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- ART MUSEUMS**
The Detroit Institute of Arts ----- <http://www.dia.org>
- ASTROLOGY-METAPHYSICS**
The Turning Point ----- <http://www.psychicpoint.com>
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Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan ----- <http://builders.org>
Society of Automotive Engineers-Detroit ----- <http://www.sae-detroit.org>
Suburban Newspapers of America ----- <http://www.suburban-news.org>
Suspender Wearers of America ----- <http://oeonline.com/swaa>
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Thompson & Thompson P.C. ----- <http://www.taxexemptlaw.com>
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- CHILDREN'S SERVICES**
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- COMMUNITIES**
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City of Livonia ----- <http://oeonline.com/livonia>
- COMMUNITY NEWS**
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Progress Electric ----- <http://www.pe-co.com>
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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

SINGLE POINT
Single Point continues its

"Talk It Over" program at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, when John Spence talks about "Lonely and Lost in a Confused Culture" at 7:30 p.m. in Knox Hall of Ward Presbyterian Church, 17000 Farmington Road, Livonia. A free-will offering will be taken and free child care will be available. For more information, call (734) 422-1854.

EXPERIENCING GOD
Canton Community Church continues its seven-week series "Experiencing God" with Pastor Eric Moore beginning at 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, March 1, with the topic "God Speaks" at the church, 41600 Ann Arbor Trail, Canton. It continues with "Crisis of Belief" on March 8, "God's Chiropractic Clinic" on

March 15, "Kindness Outreach Sunday" on March 22 and "Experience Pays" on March 29. For more information, call the church office at (734) 455-6022.

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE
The 40-member Black Methodist for Church Renewal Mass Choir, under the direction of the Rev. Phillip A. Burks, will perform at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, as part of a Lenten program of worship and song at Farmington First United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River Ave. Potluck and fellowship will follow. For more information, call (248) 474-6573.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST
Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance divorced and separated Christians, is hosting a "Crazy Hats Dance" at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7, at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, West Chicago at Inkster Road, Redford. The \$8 charge includes refreshments. For information about the dance, call Rose at (734) 464-3325.

It also meets regularly on Sundays for breakfast and Mass - 10 a.m. at the Redford Inn, Five Mile Road west of Beech Daly Road, Redford, and at 11:15 a.m. at St. Aidan's Church, 17500 Farmington Road (north of Six Mile Road), Livonia - call Val at (734) 729-1974 - for coffee and conversation at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Archie's Family Restaurant, 30471 Plymouth Road, Livonia, and for pinocchio at 7 p.m. every other Friday - call Rose.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
The radio series, "What is This Christian Science and Who Are These Christian Scientists?" is being broadcast at 1:30 p.m. Sundays of WQBH-AM 1400. The topic will be "How do Chris-

tian Scientists feel about recreational drugs such as marijuana, alcohol and tobacco?" on March 1.

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

'BRING-A-FRIEND'
The Lola Valley United Methodist Church will have a "Bring-a-Friend" Sunday at 11 a.m. Sunday, March 1, at the church, 16175 Delaware, Redford. All friends and neighbors are welcome to attend the worship service and catered dinner. For more information, call (313) 255-6330.

LENTEEN SERIES
The Lenten series entitled "By My Hand? For My Sake!" will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays through April 1 at St. James Presbyterian Church's McCal-

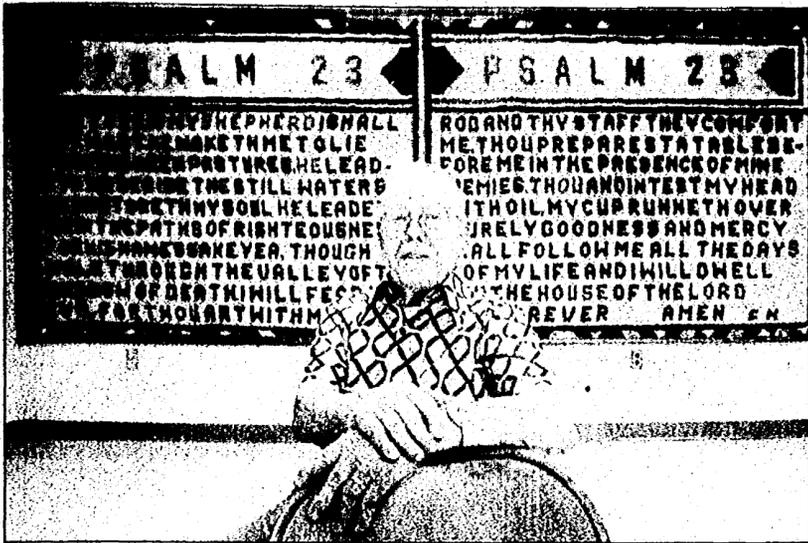
mont Chapel, 25350 W. Six Mile Road, Redford. Each week there will be a different Biblical visitor. For more information, call the church at (313) 534-7730.

EXERCISE FUN
The Merriman Road Baptist Church Fitness Bunch meets 6:15-7 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the church, 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City. The program consists of low-impact light aerobics, perfect for toning and shaping muscles. For more information, call the church office at (734) 421-0472.

PANEL ON 'DEATH'
Church of St. Edith is hosting a panel discussion called "A Parish Response to Life and Death Issues" at 7 p.m. Monday, March 2, in the parish hall, 15089 Newburgh Road, south of Five Mile Road, Livonia. Assisted suicide and post-abortion stress syndrome will be dis-

Please see RELIGION, B6

God's word



Hooked on the Lord: Clifford Hooker's hobby is hooked rugs and over the past several years, the Livonia resident has been hooking wall hangings for Memorial Church of Christ. His latest creation, the 23rd Psalm, took 10 months to hook and contains 136,160 pieces of yarn. His first project was an original design of the cross, that contained 75,525 pieces of yarn. The second was the Lord's Prayer that contained 61,166 pieces.

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Religion from page B7

cussed. For more information, call (734) 464-2027.

LOSS SEMINAR

The First Baptist Church of Wayne will sponsor a Responding to Loss seminar 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19 and 26, at the church 38125 Glenwood, Wayne.

The seminar is for people who are dealing with the loss of loved ones. Topics include how grief impacts us, what can be done ahead of time to lessen the impact and what can be learned from scripture to help us travel the road to grief recovery.

Ruth Sisson, a registered nurse and the author of two books, "Instantly a Widow" and "Moving Beyond Grief," will present the seminar. To register or for more information, call the church office at (734) 721-7410.

NEW BEGINNINGS

New Beginnings, a grief support group held year-round at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile Road, east of Merriman Road, Livonia, continues with its monthly speaker series at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5, with "Help for the Family in Grief/Depression and Grief," presented by the Rev. Kurt Stutz. The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one. There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. For more information, call the church office at (734) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (734) 462-3770.

MILLENNIUM PRESENTATION

St. Raphael Parish, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City, is hosting two millennium presenta-

tions. Rev. Dave West will discuss "What it Means to Church People" at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5, while Sister Betty Flaherty will talk about "What the Millennium Means to the Church" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 24. Both talks will be held at the church. For more information, call (734) 427-1533.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Lola Valley United Methodist Church in Redford is celebrating "World Day of Prayer" with a program entitled "Who is My Neighbor?" at 12:45 p.m. Friday, March 6, at the church, 16175 Delaware, east of Inkster Road and north of Five Mile Road. Babysitting is available by reservation only. Call Dorothy Saksa at (313) 535-3247 by March 2 to reserve a spot. Those attending the program should bring hygiene products. For more

information about the program, call (313) 255-6330.

PRAYER SEMINAR

The Rev. Anthony M. Coniaris, noted theologian, author and publisher, will speak during a Lenten seminar on prayer and its role in helping us answer the following questions: "Why am I here?" "What is my purpose in life?" and "Where am I going?" from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14, Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 36375 Joy Road, West-

land. The cost is \$15 and includes the seminar, materials and lunch. The registration deadline is Saturday, March 7. An orientation will be held from 8-9:30 a.m. Friday, March 13. For more information, call (734) 525-6789.

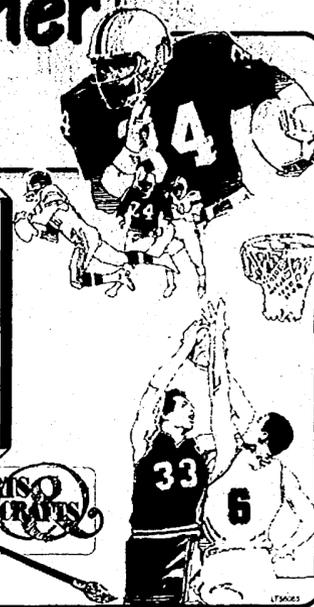
OPEN HOUSES

St. Damian Catholic School will have an open house and registration noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 8, at the school, 29891 Joy Road, Westland. The school offers kindergarten through

eighth grade education. For more information, call (734) 427-1680.

The open house for Little Lambs Christian Preschool will be from 4-7 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at First Baptist Church of Plymouth, 45000 N. Territorial, west of Sheldon Road. Enrollment information for the 1998-1999 school year will be available. Open registration will take place 1-6 p.m. March 16. For more information, call Shari at (734) 414-7792.

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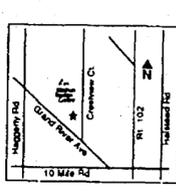
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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Squirt Firebirds advance

The Wayne Squirt A Firebirds (ages 9-10) will play March 5-8 in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association state finals at the Wayne Recreation Center after capturing the district tournament.

The Firebirds advanced to the state tourney with a 3-2 win over the Garden City Spitfires, Feb. 8, at Jack Adams Ice Arena in Detroit.

The Little Caesars League team, which finished 17-0-3 in its Squirt A Division, are coached by Gary Wojewuczki. They also captured the Little Caesars Thanksgiving Tournament, Shoot Out Classic in New York, along with a runner-up finish in Sports Weekend Extravaganza.

Members of the Firebirds include: goalies Justin Rayburn (Westland) and Steve Madej (Garden City); defenseman Nick Harris (Westland), Robbie McTavish (Northville), Chris Porter (Northville), Alex Robinson (Westland) and Kory Strong (Westland); along with forwards Jacob Ball (Wayne), Jamie Bazy (Dearborn), Eddie Davis (Livonia), David Graciak (Westland), Aaron Lewicki (Dearborn), Brian Rieckhoff (Dearborn), Hassan Salmassi (Dearborn), Michael Shooshanian (Dearborn) and Lance Wojewuczki (Dearborn).

Assistant coaches include Dave Bazy and Dave Graciak.

The team sponsor is Kenwal Products Corp.

Local athletes excel

■ Livonian Scott Kerr, a defensive back on the 9-1 Catholic League champion Orchard Lake St. Mary's football team, has committed to play football at Albion College. Kerr attended St. Michael Grade School in Livonia.

■ Eastern Michigan diver Sarah Coombs (Westland John Glenn) will compete this weekend in the Mid-American Conference Swimming & Diving championships at Bowling Green (Ohio) State University.

Coombs, who is making her second straight MAC appearance, will be joined by fellow divers Emily McCarty of Ypsilanti and Julie Sweet of Milan.

At Glenn, Coombs was a state qualifier in diving, gymnastics and track.

■ University of Michigan senior right fielder Derek Besco clubbed a pair of homers as the Wolverines baseball team opened its 1998 baseball season going 0-2-1 in a weekend set at Baylor University.

■ Army senior goaltender Daryl Chamberlain (Livonia Stevenson) was in goal for his 51st career win as the Cadets' hockey team routed Fairfield, 11-2. Chamberlain is now second on Army's all-time victory list.

■ Travis Roy, a member of the University of Wisconsin's 1995 NCAA championship team, scored three two-point goals in the Detroit Roker 17-16 loss to the Buffalo Blizzard in National Professional Soccer League action before 5,036 fans at the Marine Midland Arena.

Special Olympics award

Livonian Joel Smith was recently named Coach of the Year by Special Olympics Michigan at a banquet on Feb. 21 in Battle Creek.

Smith was chosen from a pool of approximately 3,000 volunteers who coach for Special Olympics Michigan and the 39 coaches who were nominated for the honor this year.

He has served as a coach in basketball, softball, team handball, poly hockey, track and field with Lazer Juniors (ages 8-15) since 1982 for Wayne County (Area 23).

Smith, a certified coach in four sports, first volunteered to help a neighbor whose daughter was enrolled in Special Olympics and noticed the benefits of the program first-hand.

The Coach of the Year also is involved in state events, fund-raising and scheduling.

"Joel Smith exemplifies what Special Olympics is all about," Area 23 Director John McHugh said. "He knows and loves his athletics; he spends quality time with them, along with their families during and outside of practice; he is dedicated to every aspect of the program; and treats his athletes with respect and dignity."

"The athletes, in return, admire this man for more than just helping them develop sports skills, but rather for giving them the skills necessary for an enriched and fulfilled life."



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Breakout: Wayne Memorial's Reddick Borkins (No. 5) has the Zebras running against Dearborn in Tuesday's Mega Conference crossover game. Wayne fell to the host Pioneers, 68-58.

Dearborn slams Wayne

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

BOYS BASKETBALL

It was Fat Tuesday and Wayne Memorial's basketball team played like it had a little too much paczki.

The Zebras probably had their fill of Jason Herrick (29 points) and host Dearborn in losing a 68-58 Mega Conference crossover.

Wayne drops to 10-8 overall, while Dearborn, which avenged a 63-56 loss to the Zebras on Jan. 20, is 12-6.

"Defensively we did not show up at all, especially when you give up a couple of 20-point quarters," Wayne coach Chuck Henry said. "The measure of any team is the mental preparation and intensity. We hadn't had a good practice."

"We played well up and through the Ann Arbor-Huron game (a 55-40 win on Feb. 17). And then we stole a game last week against Inkster (76-72 victory). We hope to turn it around. It would be the wrong time to start sliding."

Dearborn, which got off to a 20-11 first-quarter lead, stymied Wayne by throwing up a 1-1-3 zone defense.

"We did a much better job in the key defending this time," Dearborn coach Dave Mifsud said. "Because they're so quick, and because they have great dribble penetration,

they're able to dump the ball off, get looks inside and rebound off of that."

"This time we did a much better job of slowing them down in that sense."

The Pioneers, who made only six first-half turnovers, increased their lead to 34-23 at intermission, holding Wayne to 10 of 32 shooting from the floor.

Herrick, a 6-foot-5 senior with springy legs, had 10 first-half points.

Working the baseline and getting out on the break, Herrick converted three different 3-point plays and a field goal as the Pioneers led by as many as 20 late in the third quarter.

Wayne, however, answered with a 15-2 run to cut the deficit to seven, 55-48, with 6:43 left in the final quarter on a basket by senior guard Brian Williams.

But despite making 21 second-half turnovers, Dearborn weathered the storm and put the game away as Herrick tallied eight fourth-period points, including a breakaway dunk.

"When Jason is active, he's hard to stop," Mifsud said. "Sometimes he gets frustrated when he's not as involved in the play, but he's such an

athletic player that he's difficult to stop."

Williams paced Wayne with 25 points on 11 of 26 shooting. Junior Reddick Borkins and junior Nathan Wade, who helped spark the comeback, added 10 and nine respectively.

Wayne shot just 32 percent from the floor (24 of 72), while Dearborn was 27 of 49 (55 percent).

"They (Dearborn) did the same thing the last time — a half-court trap back to a zone," Henry said. "We had some wide open 'threes' early, and didn't hit them."

"And we you let one post player get 29, that's not a good sign. We sure got out rebounded."

Colin Wilkinson, a junior guard, added 15 points for Dearborn and 6-4 senior center Garrett Simpson tacked on 10 points and 12 rebounds.

"This was a great win because we were coming off a disappointing loss to Woodhaven and we knew it would be tough to bounce back against a team of this caliber," Mifsud said. "We wanted to get more people under the basket and that's tough to do against that team because they have good shooters."

"But we did a good job of getting out on their shooters."

See roundup on page C2.

Pats corral Mustangs, earn divisional crown

A 15-5, 15-7 victory over visiting Northville on Monday night, combined with a loss by Plymouth Canton, enabled Livonia Franklin to clinch its first WLAA Western Division girls volleyball title in recent memory.

"They definitely came to play for their Senior Night," Coach Ann Hutchins of the Patriots said. "Their emotions didn't get in the way of their mission."

"Their goal was to win the division. And this was the first time we've done that in — well, nobody around here really knows — a very, very long time."

Senior co-captain Brooke Hensmen led the way against Northville with 12 kills, just one error in 16 attempts and five blocks. Danielle Wensing made five kills, served the match-winning ace and made six digs.

Sophomores Lyndsay Sopko, who had 18 assists and four blocks, Andrea Kmet, with eight kills and seven blocks, and Tera Morrill, who made kills, served eight aces, made six digs and had three blocks, made key contributions.

Sarah Gush made three kills, served an ace and made seven digs. Jackie Ziem served two aces and made five digs in the back row. Jamie Wensing also sparkled in the back row with nine digs.

The victory left Franklin with a 22-14-6 overall mark, 7-4 in the WLAA and a division-best 4-1 log.

During the weekend Franklin competed in the University of Michigan-Dearborn tournament and finished third in a field of 20.

The Patriots finished first in pool play with the loss of only one game. They split with Dearborn Edsel Ford, winning the first, 15-9, before dropping the second, 13-15; defeated Linden, 15-6, 15-12; and trimmed Riverview, 15-9, 15-4.

Franklin met Novi in the quarterfinals and lost the first game, 8-15, before coming from behind to take the next two by 15-13 scores.

It was beaten in the semifinals by Holland

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Christian, 7-15, 12-15.

Hensman was an All-tournament selection and picked up a medal. She made 39 kills and had 14 blocks.

Danielle Wensing made 16 kills and had 48 digs while sister Jamie recorded 21 digs and made 17 good service-receives.

Ziem had 17 digs and served five aces, Boyd knocked down 17 kills, served seven aces and made eight blocks.

Sopko led the team in set assists with 64 and also had 12 blocks while Kmet had 34 kills and made 24 blocks. Morrill had 22 kills and 32 digs.

Lindsay Duprey set up 41 assists.

Blazers rule Operation-Friendship

The girls volleyball season has been nothing short of a success for Livonia Ladywood.

The Catholic League champion Blazers won the Operation-Friendship title Monday night at Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher with a 15-6, 15-7 triumph over Detroit Public School League champ Henry Ford.

Jessica Tilson, a 5-foot-11 sophomore recently called up from the junior varsity, led Ladywood with four kills and two aces.

"She's a kid for the future who has a good, loose arm swing, who's tall with a good attitude," Ladywood coach Tom Teeters said.

Jenny Young added three aces, while Natalio Rozell and MaryLu Hemme each had three digs. Katie Brogan contributed six assists.

Now only if the Blazers (48-8-1 overall) can beat Temperance Bedford, the state's top-ranked team in Class A.

On Saturday, Bedford defeated Ladywood for the fourth time this season in the finals of the Fraser Tournament, 17-15, 15-9.

Please see GIRLS VOLLEYBALL, C4

CC blanks Rice, 2-0; wins title

PREP HOCKEY

Redford Catholic Central ended the regular season Saturday at Redford Ice Arena with a 2-0 shutout victory over rival Birmingham Brother Rice and an outright championship in the Michigan Metro Hockey League.

But the Shamrocks haven't seen the last of the Warriors.

They open the Class A district with a first-round game at 6:30 p.m. Friday at Compuware Arena in Plymouth.

"It's tough to play the same team twice in a week," CC coach Gordie St. John said. "We went all out. They were tough, we worked hard and just barely hung on."

Greg Berger and Jason Tardif scored goals for CC, which takes a 15-3-3 overall record into the post-season. The Shamrocks are earned the Metro title with a 12-1-3 record.

Senior goaltender Rickey Marnon earned his third shutout of the year, stopping 20 shots. The Shamrocks had 32 shots on the Rice netminder.

Marnon seems to be playing some his best hockey at the right time for the Shamrocks.

"He had the mid-season blues kind of thing," St. John said. "He's playing well now."

CC led 1-0 after Berger scored, assisted by Tardif and Tony Keshishian at 10:48 of the first period. The lead stayed at 1-0 until Tardif scored a short-handed goal, assisted by Dave Turner at 11:27 of the third period.

Tardif's goal came on a breakaway. "He was busting up the middle and Turner hit him," St. John said.

■MILFORD 4, FRANKLIN 3: On Saturday, Kensington Valley Conference co-leader Milford (17-3-3) held off Livonia Franklin (12-9-2) in a non-leaguer at the Lakeland Ice Arena.

Cory O'Toole had three of Milford's four goals. Chris Heyn had the other goal and one assist.

Greg Job scored a pair for the Patriots, while Tony Saia tallied the other goal. Franklin assists went to Brandon McCullough, Erik Rackozy, Adam Sexton and Jeremiah White.

"We didn't play great hockey in the first period," said Franklin coach Terry Jobbitt, whose team trailed 2-1, "but we can back and played a very good second and third period."

"Milford is an excellent team, which tied (Livonia) Stevenson the night before. Our team has improved a lot this year as Milford beat us soundly (7-4 on Nov. 26) at the beginning of the season."



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JACOBFIELD

Net gain: Lutheran Westland's Anna Schwecke (No. 14) goes for the kill as teammate Christen Rae watches. See roundup.

Stevenson sends 4 to regional

It was only the first phase of the individual state wrestling tournament, but the stiff competition at the Division I district at Temperance Bedford made it seem like it was the state finals.

Several high caliber teams collided Saturday with the host Kicking Mules doing most of the damage by qualifying 14 wrestlers for this Saturday's Division I regional at — you guess it — Bedford.

"When it comes March the Kicking Mules starting kicking around everyone," said Livonia Stevenson coach Don Berg of the host school and perennial state power.

Regional berths were hard to get, but Stevenson and Redford Catholic Central will each send four to the regional.

Stevenson had two individual winners — Katsuhiko Sueda (112 pounds) and Dan Seder (135).

Sueda, a state runner-up at 103 a year ago, improved to 40-3 on the year. Seder, also a state qualifier last season, is now 42-1.

Also getting through was second place finisher Chris Goins (119), who is now 39-6 on the year, and fourth-place finisher Jeff Brach (145), who is 35-11.

Goins, a regional qualifier last year, hopes to take it a step further on Saturday. Meanwhile, Brach, is eyeing a return trip to the state meet Friday and Satur-

PREP WRESTLING

day, March 13-14, at the Kellogg Center in Battle Creek.

CC also garnered a pair of firsts, led by junior Casey Rogowski (heavyweight) and John Abshire (189).

Mitch Hancock (135), who was runner-up to Seder, and Brocc Naysmith (215), who finished in the top four, will also be headed to the regional.

The only other area grappler to get through at Bedford was Livonia Franklin's Aaron Haddad, who took fourth at 135.

Division I at Adrian

Four wrestlers from Wayne advanced to the Saturday's regional at Temperance Bedford.

John Gregg finished fourth in the 112-pound weight class, Nate Wensko was runnerup at 119, Jason Sienko, at 135, goes to Temperance-Bedford after taking second and heavyweight William Laramie was third to advance to the regionals.

Westland John Glenn's John Fedulchak captured the district championship at 152 pounds to advance.

Division IV results

District 31 wasn't very kind to Lutheran High School Westland and Livonia Clarenceville.

After the mats were put away,

only heavyweight Lutheran Westland Matt Meyer earned a trip to the regional Saturday at Manchester.

Meyer finished third in his weight class.

Danny Tondreau (103) lost by two points to a Dundee wrestler in a match he needed to win to advance to this weekend's regionals.

At 139 pounds, Walter Ragland was stopped from advancing to the regionals by a single point to a Dundee wrestler.

Clarenceville was also eliminated in last week's team dual district at Harper Woods.

"It was the toughest district in the state," Trojans coach Todd Skinner said after his team was dropped, 45-25, by 19-0 Harper Woods. "Four teams in our district were ranked in the state."

There were two bright spots for Skinner's team in its loss to Harper Woods.

Matt Wehl (140) defeated Metro Conference champion Justin Pattilio, 6-4, while Tony Rachoza (160) avenged a pair of losses to Richard Eriksson earlier in the season with a 9-4 victory over the Metro champ.

Meanwhile, in last week's team dual district at Dundee, coach Dennis Tuomi's Lutheran Westland team defeated Erie-Mason, 38-30, but was drilled by the host Vikings, 69-9.



REGIONAL QUALIFIERS FROM TEMPERANCE BEDFORD DISTRICT

DIVISION I DISTRICT WRESTLING RESULTS

Feb. 21 at Temperance Bedford (top 4 qualify for Bedford regional)

- 275: 1. Casey Rogowski (Redford CC); 2. Don McKenzie (Lincoln Park); 3. Shawn Munroe (Southgate Anderson); 4. Art Snowberger (Temperance Bedford).
- 103: 1. Eric Nowitzke (Monroe); 2. Ryan Wasielewski (Temperance Bedford); 3. Charlie Moreno (Wyandotte); 4. Nick Mitroka (Southgate Anderson).
- 112: 1. Katsuhiko Sueda (Livonia Stevenson); 2. Ryan Nowitzke (Monroe); 3. Jim Brighton (Temperance Bedford); 4. Jim Malcolm (Southgate Anderson).
- 119: 1. Justin Bronkema (Temperance Bedford); 2. Chris Goins (Livonia Stevenson); 3. Chad Johnston (Temperance Bedford); 4. Jim Howard (Southgate Anderson).

- 128: 1. Zack Brown (Temperance Bedford); 2. Chris Caylor (Lincoln Park); 3. Larry Dudzic (Southgate Anderson); 4. Kyle Leask (Monroe).
- 130: 1. Steve Dec (Temperance Bedford); 2. Dennis Pierzynowski (Southgate Anderson); 3. Casey Roberts (Temperance Bedford); 4. Moussa Hamka (Dearborn Fordson).
- 135: 1. Dan Seder (Livonia Stevenson); 2. Mitch Hancock (Redford Catholic Central); 3. Jeff Carpenter (Wyandotte); 4. Aaron Haddad (Livonia Franklin).
- 140: 1. Brian Tibai (Temperance Bedford); 2. Brandon Wilhelm (Woodhaven); 3. Brian Glover (Dearborn Edsel Ford); 4. Scott Martin (Wyandotte).
- 145: 1. Jacob Chapman (Hazel Park); 2. Steve Mitroka (Southgate Anderson); 3. Steve Isabell (Temperance Bedford); 4. Jeff Brach (Livonia Stevenson).

- 152: 1. Rocky Renaud (Southgate Anderson); 2. James Evans (Dearborn Fordson); 3. Landon Greene (Wyandotte); 4. Ryan Ditty (Temperance Bedford).
- 160: 1. Aaron Greene (Wyandotte); 2. Belal Majed (Dearborn Fordson); 3. Scott Opyk (Temperance Bedford); 4. Ryan Zimmerman (Southgate Anderson).
- 171: 1. Ryan Cox (Wyandotte); 2. Brian Hinzman (Garden City); 3. Jeff Hooper (Temperance Bedford); 4. Jason Flatt (Southgate Anderson).
- 189: 1. John Abshire (Redford Catholic Central); 2. Mike Gatz (Southgate Anderson); 3. Joel Nagel (Woodhaven); 4. Najran Aigish (Dearborn Fordson).
- 215: 1. Leroy Johnson (Monroe) vs. Corey Andrews (Temperance Bedford); Brocc Naysmith (Redford Catholic Central) vs. Hussam Essa (Dearborn Fordson).

Whalers keep heat on Knights

Three games. In four days. Another busy weekend for the Plymouth Whalers, with every game a must-win.

When you're in a battle for first place, that kind of stuff happens. For the Whalers, it was the fourth consecutive weekend with that kind of schedule, and except for a 10-minute span in the final game, it was another extremely successful one.

The Whalers opened the weekend with a 6-3 victory at Windsor last Thursday. On Saturday, they blanked the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds 8-0 at Compuware Arena before hosting the Owen Sound Platers Sunday, a game that ended in a 5-5 tie — with the Platers scoring three times in the third period.

The five-point weekend gives Plymouth 72, two behind the London Knights, who lead the Ontario Hockey League's West Division with 74. The Knights have played 58 games, Plymouth has played 57.

Against the Platers, the Whalers led 3-0 after one period and were up 5-1 late in the second, but couldn't keep it. Plymouth goals were produced by

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS (Through Feb. 22)				
East Division	W	L	T	Pts.
Ottawa 67s	35	14	9	79
Bellefonte Bulls	36	20	3	75
Kingston Frontenacs	31	22	4	66
Oshawa Generals	22	29	6	50
Peterborough Petes	17	31	8	42
Toronto St. M. Majors	13	36	9	35
Central Division	W	L	T	Pts.
Quepht Storm	37	18	5	79
Barrie Colts	35	18	4	74
Kitchener Rangers	25	25	8	58
Owen Sound Platers	23	30	5	51
Sudbury Wolves	22	33	6	50
North Bay Centennials	14	40	6	34
West Division	W	L	T	Pts.
London Knights	35	19	4	74
Plymouth Whalers	33	18	6	72
Sarnia Sting	28	19	10	66
Erie Otters	30	26	4	64
Windsor Spitfires	18	37	4	40
SSM Greyhounds	15	34	7	37

Yuri Babenko, Andrew Taylor, David Legwand, Randy Fitzgerald and Nik Tselios; Harold Druken had three assists. Robert Esche made 26 saves in goal.

Saturday's game against the Greyhounds followed a similar format, minus the comeback. Plymouth led 2-0 after one period and 7-0 after two in posting the rout.

Taylor scored twice for the Whalers, and Paul Mara, Legwand and Babenko each added a goal and two assists in the win. Sergei Fedotov, Tselios and Kris Purdy contributed single goals, and Brian Passmore had two assists.

Esche made 24 saves in earning his third shutout of the season.

Against Windsor last Thursday, Plymouth again got out of the gate quickly, building a 3-0 lead by the end of the opening period, with Druken getting one goal and assisting on another.

The Whalers eventually built their advantage to 6-1, with second-period goals from Babenko, Tselios and Passmore. Tselios totaled a goal and two assists, and Eric Goody had two assists.

Esche played the first two periods, giving up two goals, with Robert Holsinger playing the final period.

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Girls volleyball from page C1

The serving of Sarah Poglits forged Ladywood to a 14-11 lead in the first game, but the Kicking Mules scored six of the next seven points to win the game.

"We have to put everything together to beat them," Teeters said. "They're a fast team that serve receives very well and we're trying to break that."

Last year, Bedford ousted Ladywood in the state quarterfinals.

Ironically, Ladywood reached the Fraser final with a 15-10, 15-8 victory over Central Division foe Birmingham Marian, a team the Blazers have beaten now five times this season.

Ladywood also scored victories over St. Clair Shores Lake Shore (15-1, 15-1), Dearborn Fordson (15-9, 15-2), Grosse Pointe South (16-14, 15-6) and Fraser (15-5, 15-7).

Trojans bounce Warriors

Livonia Clarenceville pounded out a 15-13, 15-7 Metro Conference win Monday over visiting Lutheran High Westland as the Berry and Skrela sisters teamed up for the win.

Michelle Berry had eight kills in 20 attempts and six aces, while Melissa contributed seven kills in 15 attacks.

Joanna Skrela made good on four of five kills and had 14 assists, while Kristina added four kills and 14 assists.

Kristin Jaber chipped in with three kills and sparked the defense, while Jessica Siyle.

Clarenceville is 31-8-1 overall and 6-2 in the Metro.

The Metro Tourney will be Saturday at Macomb Lutheran North. Action starts at 9 a.m.

Stevenson rips Churchill

Stephanie Dulz was a sight for sore eyes.

Back in Livonia Stevenson's lineup after a two week absence because of tendinitis in her shoulder, the junior responded with 11 kills and two solo blocks Monday as the host Spartans downed Livonia Churchill in a Western Lakes Activities Association match, 15-0, 15-9.

Stevenson enters Saturday's Western Lakes tournament at Farmington Hills Harrison with a 31-9-3 overall record. The



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Spike marks: Clarenceville's Michelle Berry makes the hit in Monday's 15-13, 15-7 Metro Conference victory over Lutheran High Westland.

Spartans finished 9-2 in the WLAA.

Churchill, meanwhile, is 17-14-7 overall and 6-5 in the Western Lakes.

Dulz also got plenty of help in the victory from teammates Lindsay Pfeifer, who had four kills and 13 of 14 serving (including four aces); Kate LeBlanc, four solo blocks; Sarah Witrock, 12 assists, two aces

and two solo blocks; Irena Bicankova, seven assists; and Dawn Kroll, two kills.

"Stevenson played very well, they were very consistent and made very few errors," Churchill coach Mike Hughes said. "We played poorly."

"We lacked enthusiasm for some reason and we didn't seem like we wanted to play."

See Week Ahead for schedule.

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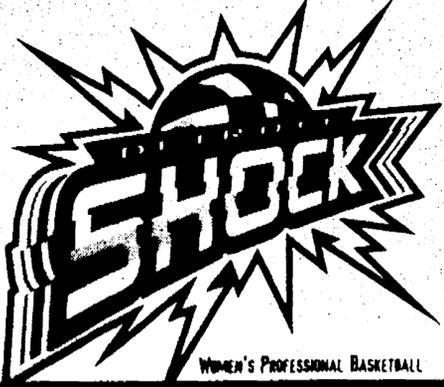
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MARCH 11 • (248) 377-0100



CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND WESTLAND

UPCOMING EVENTS

RAILROADIANA
Buy and swap toys and trains at a fund-raiser sponsored by the Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 1. Admission is \$2 a person, \$4 a family. Food and refreshments are available. The church hall is located at 3250 Palmer Road, one mile west of Merriman, one mile north of Michigan Avenue in Westland. Parking is free. For more information or table reservations, call Norm at (734) 595-8327.

COIN SHOW
The Wayne Coin Club will present its 38th annual coin show 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at the Wayne Community Center, corner of Howe and Annapolis roads. Show will feature coins, paper money, stamps, books, collectibles and supplies. Free admission.

SAFE BOATING COURSE
Six-week safe boating courses by the United States Power Squadrons, covering outboard, inboard and sail, will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, at John Glenn High School in Westland and at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, March 5, at Tinkham Adult Education Center in Westland. The course is free with optional student manual and supplies available. For information, call (313) 278-1734 or (313) 322-9917. Certificate may be used for insurance discount and to obtain Youth Boating Permit.

SHOWCASE OF PETS
The next Dearborn Animal Shelter "Showcase of Pets" will be held from noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 7, at the Super Petz store at 34420 Ford Road, just past Venoy in Westland. Several adoptable pets that are waiting for homes will be at the store. Call (734) 728-0093 or (313) 943-2697.

ST. PATRICK'S BENEFIT
The sixth annual St. Patrick's dinner-dance and auction to benefit Community Hospice and Home Care Services of Westland and Plymouth will be at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 7, at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia. The event will include dinner, dancing, live Irish entertainment, open bar, live and silent auction. Auction items include Red Wings, Lions and Pistons items as well as a Princess Di Beanie Baby, and many retired and new Beanie Babies.

EYE CARE CONCERNS
The Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel will be at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 11, at Knights of Columbus Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia. Richard Lofel, an ophthalmologist at St. Mary Hospital, will speak on senior concerns of eye care including glaucoma and cataracts. Call (734) 421-1296 for reservations by Wednesday, March 4. Cost is \$7 and includes corned beef and cabbage lunch.

TOWN HALL MEETING
Westland Mayor Robert Thomas is holding his first Town Hall meeting of the 1998 calendar year at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 12. The meeting is hosted by Liberty Park, at 35700 Hunter Ave., between Central City Parkway and Wayne Road. Hunter is between Ford and Warren roads.

COLLECTORS' SALE
St. Damian Collectors' sale will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at 29891 Joy, Westland. Admission is \$1; children under 12 are admitted free. Table space

is available for \$25. (734) 421-6130. All proceeds go to Christian service.

COUNTRY WESTERN JAMBOREE

The Metro Wayne Democratic Club will present a Country Western Jamboree Saturday, April 25, at Local 735 UAW Hall, 48055 Michigan Ave., one mile west of Belleville Road in Canton. Entertainment by Sherman Arnold and Interstate Band with tribute to Elvis and other guest stars. Cocktails are at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7:30 p.m. and dancing 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets are \$20 a person, \$35 a couple and \$15 per retiree/senior citizen. For ticket information, call (734) 729-8681, (734) 728-9737, (734) 282-1841 or (734) 721-4710.

AT THE LIBRARY

BOOK DISCUSSION
The book discussion group meets 7-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the community meeting room of the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland. Join the group by signing up at the Reception Desk. Participants are expected to have read the books and to be prepared to discuss them.

Upcoming books for discussion include: March 16 (Monday), Laurie King, "The Beekeeper's Apprentice." April 21, Michael Connelly, "The Poet." May 19, Margaret Atwood, "Alias Grace."

TRAINING
Training sessions are held 10:30 a.m. each Saturday to train library patrons on the use of the public access catalogs. The computers are the modern-day equivalent of the traditional card catalog. These training sessions take about 15-20 minutes. Library staff will teach the fundamentals regarding use of the public access catalogs and will be available for questions. This training is free and no registration is required.

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY
The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library meet 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. (734) 326-6123. Meetings last about one hour and are open to the public. The Friends also hold a Friends Shop Book Sale during regular library hours at the library.

CHAMBER EVENTS

JOBS AND CAREERS
The chamber's second annual Jobs and Careers Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the Westland Shopping Center. Last year's event drew more than 2,000 job-seekers. Member participation choices include the basic success deal for \$150, the supporting deal for \$200 and the premium deal for \$300. Call to reserve a spot, (734) 326-7222. Last year's program was a sell-out.

MARCH MIXER
The mixer with the Livonia Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 11, at Joy Manor. Joy Manor is the sponsor for this event so there is no charge. RSVP to the chamber office at (734) 326-7222.

RECREATION

RECREATION AND FUN
A recreational get-together for teens and adults who are disabled will be the second Friday of each month

at the Westland Bailey Center. (734) 722-7620.

FIGURE SKATING

The Westland Figure Skating Club is forming an Adult Introductory Precision Team. The team is for those who want to have fun with other skating adults and get good exercise. Practices are 6-6:50 a.m. Saturdays. All levels are welcome. For information, call (734) 722-1091.

VOLLEYBALL

Open volleyball is offered for those age 18 and older 6:30-8 p.m. the second and fourth Friday of each month at the Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, Westland. All skill levels play just for fun. There is no charge. Baby-sitting is provided. For information, call (734) 722-3660.

SCHOOLS

OPEN HOUSE

St. Damian Catholic School, 29891 Joy Road in Westland, will host an open house and registration, from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 8, for grades kindergarten through eighth at the school. Call (734) 427-1680.

GARFIELD COOPERATIVE

Garfield Cooperative Preschool will hold its open house from 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, at Cass Elementary School, 34633 Munger, south of Six Mile and east of Wayne Road. Programs for children 18 months to 5 years. For more information, call (734) 462-0135.

MCKINLEY COOPERATIVE

McKinley Cooperative Preschool, housed in Good Shepherd Reformed Church, Wayne Road at Hunter, is holding open registration. Morning and afternoon classes are available. Call (734) 729-7222 for information.

SUBURBAN CHILDREN'S

Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery has openings in all classes 18 months through 5 years old. Located in Livonia bordering Westland. Call Michelle at (734) 421-6196.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Wayne-Westland Community School District has ongoing registration for the preschool programs at Stottemyer Early Childhood and Family Development Center, on Marquette between Wayne and Wildwood. Programs include an Early Intervention Program, Head Start, Kids/Plus Preschool, a Pre-Primary Impaired program and Sparkey Preschool. Registration is ongoing from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call (734) 695-2660 for information.

CHURCH PRESCHOOL

The Westland Free Methodist Preschool has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in the morning and afternoon sessions. The younger pupils attend Tuesdays and Thursdays with the other pupils attending Mondays and Wednesdays. A Friday enrichment class is also available. The preschool is

Coffee hour



Meet with Rivers: U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers has scheduled a coffee hour from 8:30-10 a.m. Friday, March 6, at the American Family Diner, 501 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Constituents of the 13th Congressional District are encouraged to drop by, have cup of coffee and discuss their concerns with her. For directions or more information, call Rivers' district offices in Ann Arbor, (734) 741-4210, or Wayne, (734) 722-1411.

at 1421 S. Venoy, Westland. (734) 728-3559.

YWCA READINESS

The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is at 26279 Michigan Ave., Inkster. (313) 561-4110.

CHARTER SCHOOL

The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves kindergarten through seventh grade. The school emphasizes a basic education with business and entrepreneurial skills. The school offers a foreign language class, music and art, a dress code and a computer lab with Internet. Call (734) 722-1465 or (248) 569-7787.

LITTLE LAMBS

Little Lambs Preschool, on Farmington Road in Livonia, is accepting registration for the 1998-99 school year. Classes meet Monday-Wednesday-Friday and Tuesday-Thursday mornings for 3- to 5-year-olds. Little Lambs is a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory preschool. For information, call (734) 421-0749.

LIVONIA COOPERATIVE

Livonia Cooperative Nursery, a preschool at 9601 W. Chicago, will host an open house from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, March 22; 3- and 4-

year-olds welcome. For information, call Susan, (734) 422-6210.

FRANKLIN PTSA

The Franklin High PTSA is seeking new members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and community, and members aren't required to have a student in the school. Price is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy, Livonia 48150.

TUTORIAL PROGRAM

A free tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy, Westland. The program is for students in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. It will meet 3:30-6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. For information on participating or volunteering, call Shabaura Cobb, (734) 722-3660.

HISTORY ON VIEW

WESTLAND MUSEUM

The Westland Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays at 857 N. Wayne Road, between Marquette and Cherry Hill. (734) 326-1110. The museum is featuring a display of ladies' accessories including a collection of 1950s and 1960s winter hats, silver and gold mesh, art deco and beaded purses from the 1920s and 1930s and gloves and compacts. Admission is free.

FRIENDS MEET

Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet 7 p.m. on the second Tuesdays of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Westland Meeting House, 37091 Marquette between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Information, president Jim Franklin, (734) 721-0136. Everyone is welcome.

FOR SENIORS

TRAVEL GROUP

The Travel Group meets 12:45 p.m. every Friday in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, unless a trip or program is planned. Programs include speakers, films, celebration of birthdays and weekly door prizes. There is a \$3 membership fee for residents, \$12.50 for non-residents. The group is offering a trip to Holland, Mich., on Wednesday, May 13, for \$115, with all-meals included. Trip departs promptly at 7 a.m. A continental breakfast will be served on the bus. In Holland, the group will see tulips, shop, eat lunch and attend the parade, then go on to Saugatuck for dinner and a boat cruise. Arrival time back at the center is about 11 p.m. Call the Friendship Center for more information, (734) 722-7632.

CARD GROUP

The Friday Variety Card Group at the Westland

Friendship Center meets at 2 p.m. Players enjoy euchre, pinochle, bridge, Uno, rummy and poker. Light refreshments are served. Call (734) 722-7632 for information or just show up to play cards. The Friendship Center is at 1119 N. Newburgh Road.

DYER CLUB

The Dyer Seniors' Center Travel Club meets the first and third Thursdays of each month in the center, on Marquette between Wayne Road and Newburgh.

MONTHLY MEAL

The Wayne Ford Civic League schedules its senior meal 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month at the league hall, on Wayne Road, two blocks south of Ford, for people 60 and older. Cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. (734) 728-5010.

DANCE FUN

Westland Shopping Center hosts a senior citizen dance 11 a.m. the first Monday of each month in the lower level auditorium, Wayne and Warren roads. Coffee and refreshments will be served at 12:30 p.m. The dance will end 2 p.m. The dance is held on the first Monday, with the exception of holidays.

SENIOR DANCE

Senior dances will be noon to 4 p.m. the first Sunday of every month at the Wayne Ford Civic League, 1651 N. Wayne Road, Westland. There will be dinner, a live band, beer and pop. Members \$5, non-members \$7. (734) 728-5010.

BINGO

DEMS' BINGO

The Metro Wayne Democratic Club sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Joy Manor Bingo Hall, on the south side of Joy, east of Middlebelt. Proceeds are used by the club to sponsor Little League baseball teams, the Salvation Army, School for the Blind. (734) 422-5025 or (734) 729-8681.

DEMS' BINGO

The 13th Congressional District Democratic Party sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays in the M.J. Hall, 35412 Michigan Ave., next to Farmer Jack in Wayne. (734) 421-1517.

BINGO AND SNACKS

The VFW Post 3323, Westland, serves snacks and hosts bingo at 1 p.m. every Sunday in the post hall, 1055 S. Wayne Road at Avondale. Doors open 9 a.m. (734) 326-3323.

SMOKELESS BINGO

"Smokeless" bingo meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday, at Ss. Simon and Jude Parish Hall, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. Offered are three jackpots of \$400, \$300 and \$200.

NO SMOKE

"No smoking" bingo will be 1 p.m. every Tuesday at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh Road, Westland. Residents from Westgate Towers, Taylor Towers, Greenwood Towers, Liberty Park, Presbyterian Village and Carolon Condos, etc., are eligible for transportation to bingo if they have a minimum of five players. (734) 722-7632.

JAYCEES

Westland Jaycees host bingo games at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, Westland. Three jackpots paying \$250, \$300 and \$300, progressive. Call the Jaycee Information Hotline at (734) 480-4984.

PUP TENT BINGO

The MOC pup tent 18 bingo will be held 8:30 p.m.

Tuesdays at the VFW Post Hall, 1055 S. Wayne, Westland. A snack bar is available. Doors open at 2 p.m. (734) 326-3323.

CLUBS IN ACTION

CHADD

CHADD of Northwest Wayne County meets the first Thursday of the month throughout the school year at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. CHADD is a nonprofit, parent-based, volunteer organization whose aim is to better the lives of individuals with attention difficulties. Call (313) 438-3099.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The local Toastmasters Club in Westland urges people wishing to learn the art of public speaking to attend the club's weekly meetings at 6 p.m. each Thursday at Denny's Restaurant, 7725 N. Wayne Road, next to Westland Center. For more information, call John Elbe, (734) 326-5419, anytime.

VFW AUXILIARY

Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Ladies Auxiliary Grand River Post 1519, is open. Relationship to a veteran of combat on foreign soil will insure eligibility. Make reservations by calling membership recruiter Dolores M. Griffin, (734) 427-2791. Meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 27555 Grantland, Livonia. Current Post 1519 Ladies Auxiliary members include individuals from Westland, Livonia, Redford, Detroit and surrounding areas.

WEEKENDERS

The Weekend family campers meet the second Wednesday of the month in Franklin High School, on Joy east of Merriman. (313) 531-2993.

FREE CLASSES

The Showman's Dog Training Organization sponsors free junior showmanship classes for dog owners ages 7-17 at 8:30 p.m. the first and second Tuesdays of each month through September at the AMVETS Hall on Merriman near Avondale. Call (734) 729-7580.

HOT LIONS

The Westland Hot Lions Club meets 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of the month in Mary's Family Restaurant. Information, (734) 326-2607.

MOTHERS OF MULTIPLES

For information on a Mothers of Multiples Club in your area, call Shelly Weir, (734) 326-1466.

SUPPORT

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Alcoholics Anonymous "Conscious Contact Group" meets 8:30-9:30 p.m. each Wednesday and Sunday at Garden City Hospital (use entrance on north side of building). Men and women are welcome. A 21st anniversary open talk is planned for 8:30-10:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 11. Hugh Hayes will be the speaker. Everyone is welcome. Woody, (313) 708-6824.

BEREAVEMENT SERIES

A six-week series to help adults understand and work through the grief process after the death of a loved one will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7 and 14, at Community Hospice and Home Care Services, 32932 Warren Road, Westland. Call Rebecca Rouse, (734) 522-4244. Fee is \$20.

CALENDAR FORM

The Observer Newspapers welcome Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI. 48150, or by fax to 734-591-7279. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2104 if you have any questions.

Event: _____
Date and Time: _____
Location: _____
Telephone: _____
Additional Info.: _____

Use additional sheet if necessary

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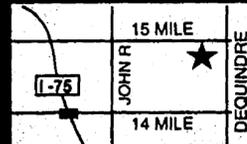
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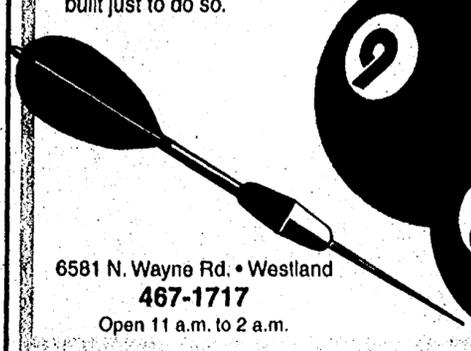


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FRIDAY



Avon Players presents "The Odd Couple," the female version 8 p.m. at the theater, 1185 Tienken Road, Rochester. Tickets \$11, (248) 608-9077.

SATURDAY



Meg (left to right, Maribeth Monroe), Lenny (Kristi Sorkin of West Bloomfield), and Babe (Kelly Komlen of Livonia) star in "Crimes of the Heart," 8 p.m. at Wayne State University's Studio Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$5-\$7, call (313) 577-2972.

SUNDAY



See the musical "Cats," at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Performances 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets \$17.50-\$42.50, call (248) 433-1515



Hot Tix: Discover Stars on Ice features Scott Hamilton, Kristi Yamaguchi, Katarina Witt, Ekaterina Gordeeva, Torvill and Dean, and others, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. Tickets \$42 and \$30, call (248) 377-0100.



Artists at work: Playwright Paul Kittinger, 14 and director Matthew Ripper discuss Kittinger's one-act play, "A Funny Thing Happened on The Way to Africa."

Festivals bring original one-act plays to life

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Seeing what started out as little keys on his keyboard jumping up and down on stage is a thrill, and Paul Kittinger of Farmington Hills can't wait for opening night.

His one-act play, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Africa," is one of four original plays being presented during the Theater Guild of Livonia/Redford's Festival of One-Act Plays opening Friday, March 6.

"I write a lot," said Kittinger, 14, a ninth grader at Harrison High School in Farmington Hills. "I started out writing short stories, and then started writing more."

He describes the storyline of his play as kind of an Odd Couple story about two college roommates getting ready to go to Africa on a study program.

One of the characters was packed two weeks ago, the other is packing at the last minute.

Kittinger envisioned the roles being filled by two guys, but the director Matthew Ripper of Redford picked one guy, and a girl.

"It could have worked both ways," said Ripper, who is making his directing debut at the Theatre Guild. "One woman, Trisha Ali, who auditioned was really good, and a man, Drew Parker, was really good. Actually it turns out funnier this way."

The conflict is between Cameron, who is ready to go, and Joel, who is not.

"Anyone who has traveled any where can relate to this," said Ripper. "Joel is in a panic, he keeps going back to the apartment because he forgot something."

Kittinger said the ending is a real show stopper. He submitted a play last year, but it was rejected. "Too short on substance," said Blanche Graham of Redford, Guild executive director explaining the reason. "This one's a laughing good comedy."

"If you have an idea go for it," said Kittinger. "They wanted original one-act plays so I sat down and wrote one."

Working with a director is a new experience. "Matt's nice and easy to work with," said Kittinger.

Patricia Feldt is also a new playwright whose work "The Town Meeting" was selected for the festival. "I can't wait to see the real thing," she said. Her story takes place at a town meeting. The town has inherited some money, and there are stipulations. They must decide how to spend it at a town meeting. Each person builds a case for their needs, the meeting doesn't end until midnight.

"The idea just sort of came to me," said Feldt, the mother of nine children ranging in age from 4 to 21. "From the time I was little I loved to tell stories. They were just in there."

Feldt started writing plays in 1995 when her parish Our Lady of Loretto in Redford decided to script their own mystery dinner theater. The next year she expanded on the characters, writing more about them.

"Once I got started, it got me thinking, I'd like to write, it awakened my creative writing talent."

Last year, she wrote most of the script for the Our Lady of Loretto mystery dinner theater. "Once the characters got more detailed, it was harder for people. I could write six or seven pages about them where others struggled."

In the fall she attended her first play "Mousetrap" at the Theatre Guild of Livonia/Redford playhouse. "I was amazed at the talent," she said. "As soon as I walked in the theater I said, 'I've got to get involved, this is great.'"

She submitted a one-act play for the festival, and truly expected one of those thanks, but no thanks letters.

"I got the news they were going to do my play on Christmas Eve," she said. "It was like a Christmas present."

At the theater, Feldt is content to stay in the background, observing and learning. "It was just amazing to me, I didn't have any preconceived ideas of what the characters would be like. It's very exciting to see characters come to life."

She applauds her director, Rob Papineau. "He's great at character development," she said. "Even if his ideas differ from my own, I'm having so much fun with this."

There have been minor edits for clarity. It's amazing. One rainy Saturday I was typing up this short play, and then I was watching people read and audition for parts I wrote.

Ripper is also enjoying working with Kittinger. "You don't give him credit for the amount of insight he has. Some of his plays on words were very intelligent. He's easy to work with because he learning. He gets my feedback, but you don't want to overstep him, because he wrote the play."

Each person builds a case for their needs, the meeting doesn't end until midnight.

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With nine children, Feldt either has to get up real

Please see **ONE-ACT, E2**

Down Riverdance has no dancing, isn't even Irish

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

"Down Riverdance," is the name of The Second City - Detroit's 12th revue, but the show, which opens tonight, has nothing to do with "Riverdance" and Irish dancing.



New producer: Rico Bruce Wade, an alumni from The Second City - Detroit Mainstage, was recently named executive producer.

It's something clever that we came up with, said Rico Bruce Wade, Second City - Detroit's new executive producer. It's the tradition of Second City - Detroit to pick titles for shows, that don't necessarily relate to content but to hot topics of the day.

Not wanting to give anything away, Wade said "Riverdance," takes many different looks at relationships in today's society, and provides "our take on corporate culture - what it's like to be in a pressure cooker, and why we're gravitating toward cigar bars and the retro look; why we've become attracted to the rat pack generation."

Wade, well known to fans from his Mainstage acting days, April 1995 to February 1997, isn't the only newcomer.

Mary Jane Pories, formerly with the touring company, joins veterans Larry Campbell, Margaret Exner, Catherine Worth, Keegan-Michael Key, Eric Black, and Brandon Johnson, on the Mainstage. Marc Evan Jackson is the new musical director, and Michael Gellman the new resident director.

Wade is excited about his new role. "I have the sensibility of an actor, and the welfare of an actor in mind," he said. "I want to provide a nurturing environment when ideas are exchanged freely. The majority of ideas never make it into our skits, that's why it's necessary that we hear all ideas, they are hidden gems."

Like everything else, Second City - Detroit builds their shows from scratch. "Someone says 'I have an idea' this is where it begins," said Wade. "Sometimes something will happen spontaneously on stage."

Wade also wants to educate his audience, especially those who are disappointed. "They come expecting to see

Please see **RIVERDANCE, E3**

Improv Events

■ **The Second City - Detroit:** "Down Riverdance," premieres 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26. Performances 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$10), Thursdays (\$10) and Sundays (\$10), and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays (\$17.50) and Saturdays (\$19.50), through spring, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call (313) 965-2222.

■ **Improv classes start in April:** call (313) 964-5821 for information.

■ **The 3rd Level Improv Troupe:** Performs at Joey's Comedy Club, 8 p.m. Sundays (free). The group will headline at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia, Thursday, March 12 (free), and Friday-Saturday, March 13-14 (\$10); Performances 8 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, call (734) 261-0555 for information, or (313) 438-1381 for information about The 3rd Level.

■ **Totally Unrehearsed Theatre:** performs at Big Red's Comedy Club, Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, inside Mr. B's Roadhouse, 595 N. Lapeer Road (M-24), Oxford. Performances 9 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday. Admission \$10 per person, call (248) 628-6500.

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

Disney on Ice - Hercules

■ **When:** Tuesday, March 3, through Sunday, March 8. Performances 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 11 a.m. Thursday; 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday.

■ **Where:** Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit.

■ **Tickets:** \$17.50, \$14.50, and \$11.50 with limited \$30 non-discounted rinkside seats, (248) 645-6666 or visit the Ticketmaster website www.ticketmaster.com

■ **Ticket discounts:** Save \$5 on tickets Tuesday, March 3; save \$3.50 on tickets Wednesday, March 4; kids under 12 save \$2 on tickets 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, and 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 7. For more information, call Olympia Entertainment customer information, (313) 983-6606.

Disney's 'Hercules' an ice show of heroic proportions

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Ten headed Hydra is a monster, but audiences love this 20-foot tall menacing beast who comes to life in Disney on Ice - Hercules.

"The kids really get into seeing Hydra up so close," said Mitch Matsunaga, assistant company manager of the show opening March 3 at Joe Louis Arena. Part inflatable balloon, part hydraulics, Hydra fights back each time Hercules cuts off one of his 10 heads, and grows another one.

"It's the most threatening and realistic monster that we've ever created," said Mark Freddes, scenic coordinator. "He's quick, and since he's always moving, the

Hydra never blocks the view of the audience."

Like the movie Hercules, Disney on Ice - Hercules, presented by Feld Entertainment, is a high energy, fast-paced show with upbeat music.

"We follow the movie as closely as we can," said Matsunaga. "Were trying to bring a story to life on ice."

Hades, a fast-talking hothead, isn't very happy with his underworld assignment, so he hatches a plan to unleash the Titans and rock Zeus off of Mount Olympus. Strongman Hercules stands in his way.

On the road to prove himself a hero worthy of the gods, Hercules hooks up with Phil, a feisty satyr who's a first-rate trainer, and Pegasus, the winged

wonder horse. Along the way he falls for a sassy lass named Meg.

An international cast of 19 male and 21 female skaters, representing 11 countries, including the United States, Canada, Sweden and Japan, tells the story of Hercules.

"They're fantastic skaters," said Matsunaga, "they can jump, spin and act."

Hercules focuses on Mount Olympus, celestial home of gods and goddesses. "It's a tremendous center set piece," said Matsunaga, "it's four scenes in one."

Self-propelled Mount Olympus rises 25 feet off the ice, and rotates to reveal other scenes including Hades' habitat, and the city of Thebes.

Please see **HERCULES, E2**



Ice spectacular: Strongman Hercules falls for the feisty Meg in Disney on Ice - Hercules.

Renaissance Chorus presents concert

The Renaissance Chorus presents "You Must Remember This" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7 at Mercy High School, 11 Mile and Middlebelt, Farmington. Tickets are \$12 adults, \$10 seniors/students, and available by calling (313) 438-2364. Guest artists are international medalist quartet Michigan Jake, Fanfare, and the Sweet Adeline Quartet Harmonix.

Also of note: Male singers are invited to attend a guest night 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 24 at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, east of Newburgh, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 728-6865. "We're inviting anyone who likes to sing," said Gary Simon, Renaissance Chorus member.

Also of note: Jazz Dance Theatre, under the direction of

Adam B. Clark, will give its third annual benefit concert 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 11 at the Power Center for the Performing Arts in Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$12 adults, \$8 students/seniors, and available by calling Dance Theatre Studio at (734) 995-4242. Clark is an instructor at Miss Harriet's School of Dance in Livonia. This year's concert benefits the American Heart Association.

One-act from page E1

early, or stay up late to write. "When I get on a creative streak I wake up at 3:30 or 4:30 and write."

She and her husband, Jim, have been married 23 years. Jim is planning a party for her after the show.

"They're excited," said Feldt. "We have 30 people, my immediate family, coming opening night. My oldest will watch the younger ones, and I'll be taking her and a girlfriend to the show the next day."

Feldt said she would like to take some classes to grow as a writer. "When you enjoy something the learning comes easy."

Graham wants the festival to be just that - a learning experience for playwrights and directors.

There will be a talk back after

each performance so the audience can comment on the plays.

In addition to the original one acts, the Guild will be presenting one published work, "The Actor's Nightmare," by Christopher Duran. Tony Lawry of Garden City will direct.

"The festival is good," said Ripper. "We bring in new talent, writers, directors and actors."

One-Act Play Slam

Birmingham based Heartland Theatre Company is hosting its first One-Act Play Slam at Cadieux Cafe in Detroit on March 2.

In addition to short plays that will be presented, the evening will be emceed by the improv troupe Void Where Prohibited.

The slam is open to all writers and would be writers. Writers

can reserve a performance slot in advance by calling the number listed in the chart, or sign in at the door.

Writers may provide their own actors or use any of the "six brilliant" actors (3 men and 3 women) provided by Heartland Theatre Company or enlist anyone in the audience "foolish enough to volunteer."

A randomly selected panel of judges will "score" the material using any criteria they like.

Plays should take more than 10 minutes to perform. Food and beverages will be sold at Cadieux Cafe during the evening.

Proceeds from the evening will help support "Playscape '98" - Heartland's annual festival of original full-length plays.

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Hercules from page E1

"It helps us move the choreography," explained Matsunaga. "We're able to switch scenes as the show continues so the flow is smooth and fluid."

To separate villains from heroes, Disney made them big. The Titans (Ice, Earth, Lava and Wind) and other oversized bad guys are portrayed by performers, some on stilts, who are not wearing skates.

"We did not cast skaters for some of these roles, but rather used people who are accustomed to performing in large, heavy body costumes," said Jerry Bilik, creative director.

Like other Disney on Ice productions, Hercules is larger than life.

"We have several special effects," said Matsunaga. We use pyrotechnics and fireworks to help Hades express his rage when he's getting upset. The sound and lighting are special too."

You'll forget Hercules' pal Pegasus, the winged wonder horse, is a prop. "He moves and flaps his wings as Hercules rides him," said Matsunaga.

Costumes, sets and choreography also have a role in conveying



Ice Show: Hercules and his pal Pegasus, a gift from his father Zeus, are flying high in the new Feld Entertainment production of Disney on Ice - Hercules.

the story to audiences.

Hercules and Meg's costumes were designed after extensive historical research and a perusal of Greek mythology. An iridescent cape underlined in bright reds, oranges and yellows accentuates the fiery temper of Hades.

In keeping with the movie version, Phil is a comic. The skating is acrobatic and incorporates

handsprings and back flips. The muses dance their way through the show to the beat of the 1950s Motown sound.

"We've found that people forget they're at an ice show," said Matsunaga. "They're drawn into the story, and before they know it, the story is over, because the performers were doing their job."



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Riverdance from page E2

a stand-up comedian. That's not what we're about," he said. "We're satirists, iconoclastic, irreverent. We do sketch comedy with an ensemble, and work in songs."

Audiences are familiar with what happens on Mainstage, and on the road when the Touring Company comes to their town, but there's more to Second City - Detroit than that.

Second City - Detroit takes comedy seriously, and offers a variety of classes, and programs for businesses.

"We want to offer something for everyone," said Wade. "We're looking at creating programs for young people, a two week summer day camp, and an abbreviated off-site program for adults. It's fun, a chance to play, and the skills are valuable in so many walks of life."

"You learn to be more creative, how to work as a team, new creative ways of solving problems. Skits are a journey to find solutions to problems. You gain confidence performing, and become an active listener - listening is vital to our work."

Improvisational comedy, which challenges the audience to use their imagination, and the cast theirs, was a freeing experience for Wade.

"When it's done in a safe, trusting environment it's a chance to freely speak ideas, to

share with the audience and the people on stage," he said. "We ask you to come on stage and play. We spend all our lives not doing that."

The pressure is on, but Wade is having a great time. "It's very exciting to watch a production take shape," he said. "To see a kernel of vision become a show."

Pories brings a wealth of experience to the Mainstage. "She's a fine improviser and has had a rich and multi-faceted life, which is important. She's a tireless worker, and very funny."

As the show continues, there will be subtle changes. "It evolves as the actors find more effective ways to steer the message," said Wade. "We're open to making changes. We're obligated, we must be the voice of the community."

The 3rd Level

The 3rd Level Improv Troupe, performing Sundays, and headlining Thursday-Sunday, March 12-15, at Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia, is a different voice in the community.

Marc Warzecha, Joe Gillis, Angie Potvin, Jeff Fritz, Michael Lomas, Billy Zakolski, and Mary Lindsay met at Second City - Detroit while taking classes together.

They got along well together, and after completing the "third

level" of classes, decided to start their own troupe.

"I personally like the spontaneity of improv, and the challenge of doing something different every night, and playing off the audience," said Warzecha a member of The Second City - Detroit touring company. "You hear something on the news and you can work it into a skit. You get to say a lot, maybe make a point about the world around you, sometimes it's funny. I really like that aspect of it."

Third Level has been performing together since April. Warzecha said he had a very good experience at Second City, and improv is something he really enjoys doing.

"Our troupe has something unique and different to offer," he said. "We are all between the ages of 21 and 26, we're younger, and this gives us a different perspective. We take more chances, we're definitely the most spontaneous of the major improv groups in the area such as Totally Unrehearsed Theatre."

Like Second City - Detroit, Third Level is planning to offer improv classes.

Final details are being worked out, and Warzecha said classes are scheduled to start the end of March, and meet Sundays. You can call (313) 438-1381 for more information.



Comedy troupe: Bringing their own brand of improv to Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia is The 3rd Level, Billy Zakolski (clockwise from top), Michael Lomas, Jeff Fritz, Mary Lindsay, Angie Potvin, Joe Gillis, and Marc Warzecha.

Village Players serve superb 'Dining Room'

The Village Players production of A. R. Gurney's "The Dining Room," continues 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Playhouse, 752 Chestnut St., Birmingham. Adult tickets are \$12, students \$10, available at the door or by calling (248) 644-2075.

BY HELEN ZUCKER
SPECIAL WRITER

The Village Players production of A.R. Gurney's "The Dining Room," directed by Jane Pfeifer and Joan Reddy, is superb. The talented cast of six lob Gurney's funny, poignant lines across the 1898 "Made in Virginia" table with an intense sense of theatre.

Linda Hammell is marvelous. She opens the play as a bright real estate agent and quickly dissolves into a proper mother, a girl who'd rather see "Saint Joan" with her maiden aunt than go to debutante parties, a palsied, but still-with-it maid, a child at a birthday party and

four other women living through various stages in the lives of upper middle class WASPs. Hammell brings great energy, grace and a sense of comedy to her roles.

Gary Sekerak lends solidity and presence to his roles as the client who wants the house, the psychiatrist who outwits his architect who wants to knock out the walls, the lover Ted, and eight men who move from the 1900s to the present. Sekerak is moving as the son who nods and watches finches as his pompous father tells him, Polonius fashion, how to "do" his funeral.

Eric Kent Franz is very light on his feet and turns in strong performances as various children, the zippy architect, the nephew from Amherst who photographs his aunt and her fingerbowl for an anthropology project at Amherst, Standish, the clubman and others.

Jeanine Matlow glows whether

she's playing an Irish maid who leaves for a factory, a child at a birthday party, a teen who doesn't drink; she's especially fine as an elderly mother who's lost her memory and as a trouble daughter who wants to come home but can't.

Maureen Cook exudes radiant intelligence as a rattled mother, the aunt who knows about fingerbowl, china and glassware, a cook who can make butterballs and a woman who perpetually needs a drink. Cook has a

restraint about her, as though she had reserves to call on. She seems to be upholding WASP traditions quite on her own. Cook has a large gift.

Pietro DiGiorgio is an immensely lively father, and many others. He's especially fine as the grandfather who bought the dining room table, the self-made man who tells his grandson, Tickets are 1/2 price on Thursday, Feb. 26.

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THEATER

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE
"Fences," through Sunday, March 22, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 8:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 3 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. \$15. (313) 666-1347

FISHER THEATRE
"Stomp," through Sunday, March 8, Fisher Theatre, Fisher Building, Detroit. (248) 645-6666/(313) 872-1000

FOX THEATRE
"Cats," through Sunday, March 1, at the theater, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$17.50-\$42.50. All ages. (248) 433-1515

JEVISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE
"Taking Sides," through Sunday, March 8, Aaron DeRoy Theatre, 6000 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, 8 p.m. Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays and Wednesday, March 4. \$13-\$23 with discounts for seniors, students and groups. (248) 788-2900

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE
"What the Butler Saw," a comedy about a philandering psychiatrist who's chasing the would-be secretary while his wife has an affair with a hotel bellhop, runs through Sunday, March 8, at the theater in Wilson Hall on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays (\$22), 2 p.m. Wednesdays (\$22); 8 p.m. Fridays (\$26.50), 2 p.m. Saturdays (\$22), 6 p.m. Saturdays (\$32), 8 p.m. Saturdays (\$32), 2 p.m. Sundays (\$22), and 6:30 p.m. Sundays (\$26.50). (248) 377-3300

NATIONAL THEATRE OF THE DEAF
With Pliobolus Dance Theatre perform Ibsen's "Peer Gynt," 4 p.m. Sunday, March 8, Mercy High School, 29300 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. \$20, mail check or money order with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Deaf and Hearing Impaired Services, Inc., 28600 11 Mile Road, Suite 103, Farmington Hills, 48336. (248) 473-1888/(248) 473-1875 (TDD)

PURPLE ROSE THEATRE COMPANY
"Julie Johnson," Wendy Hammond's poignant story of an uneducated young mother who seeks a better life for herself and her two children, through Saturday, March 14, at the theater, 137 Park St., Chelsea. 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26 (\$20), 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 (\$25), 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28 (\$25), 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1 (\$20), Wednesday, March 4, show cancelled, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 5 (\$20), 8 p.m. Friday, March 6 (\$25); 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 7 (\$25), 2 p.m. Sunday, March 8 (\$20), Tuesday, March 10, show cancelled, 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 11 (\$20), 8 p.m. Thursday, March 12 (\$20), 8 p.m. Friday, March 13 (\$25), and 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 14 (\$25). (734) 475-7902, group sales 475-5817

OPERA

GINO QUILICO
Opera singer who has appeared in "Carmen" with Placido Domingo at the Metropolitan Opera, performs songs from his album, "Le Secret," a collection of romantic French melodies, and popular opera arias, 8 p.m. Monday, March 2, St. James Episcopal Church, 355 W. Maple Road (at Chester Street), Birmingham. \$30. (248) 644-0820

COLLEGE

EMU THEATRE
"Anne of the Thousand Days, Maxwell Anderson's epic tale of the lives of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8, and 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 12-14, Quirk Theatre on Eastern Michigan University campus, Ypsilanti. \$7 Thursday, \$12 Fridays and Saturdays, and \$10 Sunday matinee. \$2 discount for tickets purchased in advance. (734) 487-1221

WSU BOSTONVILLE THEATRE
"Of Mice and Men," by John Steinbeck, 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26. "A Woman of No Importance," by Oscar Wilde, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28. "Twelfth Night," by William Shakespeare, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 8, at the theater, 3424 Woodward Ave. on the campus of Wayne State University, Detroit. (313) 577-2972

WSU HILBERRY THEATRE
"Two Gentlemen of Verona," by William Shakespeare, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, at the theater, 4743 Cass Ave. on the Wayne State University, Detroit. (313) 577-2972

WSU STUDIO THEATRE
"Crimes of the Heart," by Beth Henley, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 26-28, and March 5-7, and 2 p.m. Sundays, March 1 and 8, at the theater below the Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATER

AVON PLAYERS
"The Odd Couple." (Female Version), 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, March 6-7, March 13-14; 2 p.m. Sunday, March 8, and March 8; 8 p.m. Thursday, March 12, at the playhouse, 1185 Tienken Road, Rochester. Tickets \$11, student, senior and group rates available at the Thursday and Sunday performances. (248) 628-8077

CLAWSON THEATRE
"That Broadway Beat," a comedic musical revue featuring songs from "Pippin," "Evita," "La Cage aux Lilas," and more, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Underdown Theatre, 1287 E. Allen St. (above ACE Hardware), Royal Oak. \$10, benefits GLEN Detroit. (248) 628-8077

DEARBORN PLAYERS
"The Odd Couple," 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb.



Ice Show: Discover "Stars on Ice" features Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, Scott Hamilton, Kristi Yamaguchi, Katarina Witt, Ekaterina Gordeeva, and others, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. Tickets \$42 and \$30. Groups of 15 or more receive \$4 discount. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com>

27-28 and March 6-7, Tappan Middle School Auditorium, 2251 E. Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor. \$7. (734) 994-3508

FARMINGTON PLAYERS
"The Hellfire," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 26-28, at the Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, (1/2 mile west of Orchard Lake Road), Farmington. \$8. (248) 553-2955

PLANET ANT
"Garage," a musical written by Park and Nancy Hayden and performed by Park, 8:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 26-28, midnight Sunday, March 1, at the coffeehouse, 2327 Caniff, Hamtramck. \$10. All ages. (313) 365-4948

PLAYERS GUILD OF DEARBORN
"Crimes of the Heart," a heartwarming story of three sisters in Hazelhurst, Miss., in the early 1970s, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28 and March 6-7, 13-14, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 15, at the theater, 21730 Madison (south-east of Monroe and Outer Drive), Dearborn. \$10, \$8 for students younger than age 18 with proper ID. (313) 561-TKTS

PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD
"Sweet Charity," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, at the Water Tower Theatre, 41001 W. Seven Mile Road (west of I-275 between Haggerty and Northville roads), on the campus of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital. \$11 in advance, \$12 at door. (248) 349-7110

RIDGELEAF PLAYERS
"Brigadoon," Feb. 27-March 1, March 6-8 and 12-15, at the theater, 205 W. Long Lake Road (1/4 mile west of Livernois Road), Troy. 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, and 3 p.m. Sundays. \$13, \$12 Thursday and Sundays for students and seniors, coffee and sandwich afterward included. (248) 988-7049

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE
"Around the House," featuring a variety of comedians, dancers, musicians ranging from alternative to folk, actors, storytellers and multi-media performers in a cabaret-style environment, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7 and 13-14, at the theater, 38840 W. Six Mile Road (at I-275), Livonia. (734) 464-6302

VILLAGE PLAYERS
"The Dining Room," by A.R. Gurney, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 26-28, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at the theater, 752 Chestnut St. (at Woodward Avenue, just south of Maple Road), Birmingham. \$12, \$10 students. (248) 644-2078

DINNER THEATRE

GENITTE'S HOLE-IN-THE-WALL
"Trial By Error," five interactive comedy dinner theater, through June at the restaurant, 108 E. Main St., Northville. \$30.95 includes seven-course dinner of soup, bread, pasta, antipasto salad, baked chicken, Italian sausage, Italian steak, vegetables and dessert, the show, tax and tip; "Beats Billy Corgan," a children's theater program about folks who form a group to swap Beavis and Butt-head after becoming frustrated with learning in the waiting for now Beavis and Butt-head, Feb. 28, \$9.95 for students, \$13.95 for adults, including the show, and a complimentary wine, beer, or soft drink, 6:30 p.m. at the Michigan Theatre, 248 E. Main St., Northville. (248) 644-2078

8:30 p.m. Saturdays through March 7, Fiorelli's Restaurant, 26125 E. Huron River Dr., Flat Rock. \$28 in advance, \$33 at the door. Includes dinner, show, tax and tip. Non-smoking dinner theater. (734) 782-1431

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

PAPER BAG PRODUCTIONS
"The Wizard of Oz," Saturdays and Sundays, Saturday, Feb. 28-Saturday, April 11, Historic Players Club, 3321 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. Noon lunch and 1 p.m. show Saturdays, and 1 p.m. lunch and 2 p.m. show Sundays. \$7.50. Includes lunch.

YOUTH THEATRE
"Ishangi's Africa" by Ishangi Family, as part of the Movin' Up Club Season for those ages 7 and older, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$7. Children younger than 5 will not be admitted to the theater. (313) 963-2368

SPECIAL EVENTS

"CAPITAL THEATRE FAUX FEST"
Canada's top impersonators perform tributes to show biz legends that include Elton John, Neil Diamond, The Blues Brothers, Elvis Presley, Tom Jones, Liza Minnelli, Tina Turner, and Frank Sinatra, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1, at the theater, 121 University Ave. West, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. \$15 (Canadian) (519) 253-7729

"GREATER DETROIT SPORTSHING AND TRAVEL EXPO"
4-9:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 5-6, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 7, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 8, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$7.50, \$3.50 children ages 6-12, free for children ages 5 and younger. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com>

GUN AND KNIFE SHOW
Featuring games, rifles, hunting supplies, ammo and more, noon to 9 p.m. Friday, March 6, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 7, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 8, Gibraltar Trade Center, 15525 Rancho Road (Eureka Road and I-75), Taylor. (734) 287-2000

BENEFITS

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION'S HEARTY BALL
With assistance of ceremonies Diane Lewis from WXYZ-TV, and honorees Dr. Joseph S. Genovese of Bloomfield Hills and Jimmy LaRocca of Farmington Hills, 7 p.m. cocktails and 8 p.m. dinner Friday, March 6, Dearborn Inn, 20001 Oakwood, Dearborn. \$60, benefits the association's educational programs and research. (313) 597-8900 ext. 461

LEO MORGAN TRUST
7 p.m. Thursday, February, Feb. 26, 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Feb. 27, and 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Schumacher Inn on Woodward at Veterans Road, 20001 Oakwood, Dearborn. (313) 597-8900

THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS
"The Odd Couple," 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb.

auction and raffle prizes including a 1999 Limited Edition Plymouth Prowler, 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Detroit Opera House, 1528 Broadway, Detroit. \$150. (313) 228-9413

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE FUNDRAISER
With live Irish music by Larry Larson, Charlie Taylor, Odd Enough, Michael O'Brien, Black Mist and Terry Murphy, and dancing on two stages, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Bonnie Brook, Telegraph Road (between Seven and Eight Mile roads), \$10 donation. (313) 963-5745

FAMILY EVENTS

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
"Raiders of the Lost Symphony," conductor David Alan Miller asks his audience of young "Raiders" to help uncover the origins of the symphony by solving riddles posed by the Symphonic Sphinx, as part of "Young People's Concert Series," 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$7-\$27. (313) 576-5111 or <http://www.detroitssymphony.com>

"DISNEY ON ICE - HERCULES"
7:30 p.m. Tuesday March 3-Wednesday, March 4, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 6, 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7, and 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, March 8, Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit. \$11.50, \$14.50 and \$17.50, with limited \$30 non-discounted rinkside seats. Families save \$5 on tickets for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3; Save \$3.50 on tickets for Family Night Wednesday, March 4; and save \$2 on tickets for kids 12 and younger for 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, and 11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 7, shows. (313) 983-8606/(248) 645-6666

SHRINE CIRCUS
Noon and 7 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturdays, and 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Sundays, from Friday-Sunday, March 6-22, Michigan State Fair Coliseum, Detroit. \$6-\$14. (313) 831-1620/(313) 368-8200

CLASSICAL

STEPHEN ARON
Classical guitarist, 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$12 rows 1-5, \$8 general seating. (734) 769-2999 or <http://www.peus.com/kch>

CAMRIN STRUNG QUARTET
With pianist Anton Nel performing with the Schumann Piano Quintet, 4 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$25 rows 1-2, \$15 rows 3-5, and \$10 general seating. (734) 769-2999 or <http://www.peus.com/kch>

OUTLINE PLAYERS
A new ensemble composed of seven DSO musicians, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Henry Ford Estate - Fair Lane, University of Michigan - Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. (chamber music) (313) 593-8330

576-5111 or <http://www.detroitssymphony.com>

DETROIT SYMPHONY CIVIC ORCHESTRA
With conductors David Daniels and Yehui Wang, perform "Tragic Overture" by Brahms, "Symphony in D Minor" by Franck, and "Symphonic Dances From 'West Side Story,'" 7 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8, \$25 box-level seating. (313) 576-5111 or <http://www.detroitssymphony.com>

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
EMUs Department of Music presents a performance of Johannes Brahms' "A German Requiem," performed by the EMU University Choir, EMU Festival Choir; First Presbyterian Church Choir of Ann Arbor and the EMU Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Kevin Miller, associate professor of music; soloists are faculty members Glenda Kirkland, soprano, and Donald Hartmann, bass-baritone, 8 p.m. Friday, March 13, in Pease Auditorium, corner of West Cross Street and College Place, in Ypsilanti. \$5, \$3 students/seniors, and available at the Quirk Box Office (734) 487-1221, or Pease Auditorium one hour before the performance.

"AN EVENING OF JOHN CAGE"
Featuring "Sonatas and Interludes for Prepared Piano" (1946-48) performed by Stephen Rush, assistant professor at the University of Michigan School of Music, and "Cartridge Music" (1960) performed by Quartet, 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4605 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$12. (248) 548-8888

CHARLES GREENE
Pianist performs 7-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, O'Mara's, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 399-6750

LIVONIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With conductor Volodymyr Schesluk, performs music and songs from Broadway shows and light classics, at its annual cabaret concert, 7 p.m. Friday, March 6, Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Road (west of Inkster Road), Livonia. \$25. Includes hot hors d'oeuvres. (734) 421-1111/484-2741

OWAIN PHYFE
9 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Feb. 26, O'Mara's, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley. Cover charge. 21 and older. (renewance) (248) 399-6750

"SPHINX COMPETITION FINALS CONCERT"
Finalists for the national competition, which promotes the development of string instrument and piano experience in young African-Americans and Latinos, perform with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, 4 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. Free. (734) 763-7014 or sphinxcomp@hotmail.com

WINDSOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
"No Frills Friday," 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27; "Classics IV, Percussion Colours," 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Chrysler Theatre Inc., the Cleary International Centre, 201 Riverside Dr. West, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. (800) 387-9181 or <http://www.city.windsor.on.ca/cleary> 963-5745

POPS

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With conductor Erich Kunzel, soprano Katherine Terrell, tenor Kevin Anderson, baritone Lewis Dahle von Schlanbusch, a Capella Chorus of Rochester College, Detroit Concert Choir, and Livingston County Choral Society perform "Broadway Night at the Pops: The Music of Cole Porter," 8 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 26, 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, and 3 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$17-\$60. (313) 576-5111 or <http://www.detroitssymphony.com>

PINO MARELLI
Sings international pop standards and originals in English, Italian and Spanish, 8 p.m. Tuesdays through March, Ardo's Grill N' Chill, 27900 Hoover Road, Warren. Free. All ages. (810) 582-0080

SPEBSQA CONCERT
The Wayne Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America annual show features the chapter's Renaissance Chorus, International medalist quartet Michigan Jake, 17-member ensemble Fanfare, and Sweet Adeline quartet Harmonix, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, Mercy High School, 29300 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. \$12, \$10 seniors 62 and older, and full-time students. (313) 438-2384

AUDITIONS

BALLET WORKSHOP
The Livonia Civic Ballet Company hosts a weekend dance workshop with Ana Lobe, principal dancer with the Cleveland-San Jose Ballet Company, Friday-Sunday, Feb. 27-March 1, at Miss Jean's Dance Arts, 15621 Farmington Road (one block north of Five Mile Road), Livonia. Workshop is for beginning to advanced dancers ages 7 and older. (734) 427-9103

HARTLAND PLAYERS
Auditions for "The Foreigner," 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1, and 7 p.m. Monday, March 2, Hartland Music Hall, 3619 Avon St., Hartland. Script available at Cromaine District Library. (810) 220-3521

PLAYERS GUILD OF DEARBORN
Auditions for nine men, eight women, three children, and several River City Teenage and Kids for Beth Henley's "The Music Man," 1 p.m. Sunday, March 1 (children only), and 7:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, March 2-3, at the theater, 21730 Madison (southeast of Monroe and Outer Drive), Dearborn. Be prepared to sing and dance. For performances

April 24-25, and May 1-3, 8-9, 15-17. (313) 561-TKTS (press option 3)

PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD
Auditions for "Arsenic and Old Lace," 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, March 2-3, Water Tower Theatre, on the campus of Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile Road (between Haggerty and Northville roads), Northville. Performance dates May 1-3, 8-10, and 15-17. (248) 349-7110

STAGECRAFTERS
Auditions for the romantic musical "Kismet: A Musical Arabian Night," 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, and 8:30 p.m. Monday, March 2, Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. Seven principal roles and 20-30 chorus parts are available. Performance dates May 15-17, 21-24, and 28-31, and June 5-7. (248) 541-4832

CHORAL

CANTATA ACADEMY
"Songs from Around the World Concert," its annual fundraiser, 4 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Christ Episcopal Church, 120 N. Military, Dearborn. \$20 in advance only. Includes tea and desserts. (248) 546-0420

ZAMIR CHORALE OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT
Spring concert, "Lebn Zol Columbus - From the Shtetl to Broadway," 4 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Birmingham Temple, 28811 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. \$10, \$5 students and seniors. (313) 861-8990

JAZZ

REGGIE BRAXTON
7:30-11:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, Fleetwood on Sixth, 209 W. Sixth St. (between Main and Washington streets), Royal Oak. Free. All ages. (248) 541-8050

CAVANI STRING QUARTET
4 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$25 rows 1-2, \$15 rows 3-5, \$10 general admission. (734) 769-2999

JUDY COCHILL TRIO
8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday, March 6, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (vocal/piano/bass trio) (248) 645-2150

KURT ELLING WITH THE LAURENCE HOBGOOD TRIO
9 p.m. and 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$15 in advance, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310 or <http://www.99music.com>

ETHNIC HERITAGE ENSEMBLE
Featuring two percussionists, saxophone and trombone, led by Khalil El'Zabar, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$15 rows 1-5, \$10 general seating. ("Merging of African styles of percussion with contemporary American jazz styles") (734) 769-2999 or <http://www.peus.com/kch>

SCOTT GWINNELL TRIO
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (piano/bass/drums trio) (248) 645-2150

WENDELL HARRISON TRIO
7-11 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (sax/piano/bass trio) (248) 645-2150

INTRIGUE
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, D.L. Harrington's Roadhouse, 2088 Crooks Road (at M-59), Rochester Hills. Free. 21 and older. (contemporary jazz/top 40) (248) 852-0550

SHIELA LANDIS TRIO
8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older; 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Free. 21 and older. (vocal/piano/bass trio) (248) 645-2150/(313) 861-8101

LORI LEFEBVE
With Jimmy Lee Trio, 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$5. 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

DARRON MCKINNEY
With Jon Ross' "Witness the Magic Show," 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. 18 and older. (contemporary jazz/magic) (810) 465-5164/(313) 965-8055

MATT MICHAELS TRIO
With guest trumpeter Louis Smith, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, and with guest vocalist Eric Brandon, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, at the Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River Ave., Farmington. \$5 cover waived with dinner (5:30-8 p.m.) plus \$5 drink minimum. (248) 474-4800

LARRY NOZERO
7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, Fleetwood on Sixth, 209 W. Sixth St. (between Main and Washington streets), Royal Oak. Free. All ages. (248) 541-8050

PLAS
With Gold Sparkle Trio, 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, as part of Mood Indigo night at Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

JACOB SACKS QUINTET
8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$12 rows 1-5, \$8 general admission, \$5 students. (saxophones/bass/drums) (734) 769-2999

GARY SCHUNK TRIO
7-11 p.m. Thursday, March 5, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (piano/bass/drums trio) (248) 645-2150

PAUL VORHAGEN
7:30-11:30 p.m. Thursday Saturday, Feb. 26-28, Fleetwood on Sixth, 209 W. Sixth St. (between Main and Washington

Please see next page

8 days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Christina Fuoco; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

Continued from previous page



Featured performers: The Irish Rovers are stepping into their fourth decade with two new members, Wallace Hood, and John Reynolds, plus the original five. Their program 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 4 at the Southfield Pavilion, 26000 Evergreen Road (at 10 1/2 Mile Road), Southfield will include "The Unicorn," "The Black Velvet Band," and other classics. Tickets \$18-\$20, call (248) 424-9022/(248) 424-9043.

streets), Royal Oak. Free. All ages. (248) 541-8050
URSULA WALKER AND BUDDY BUDSON
 With Dan Kilton, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays and Fridays at Forte, 201 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 594-7300
STEVE WOOD TRIO
 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 28, Agape Caffe, 205 Fifth Ave. (corner of Center Street), Royal Oak. Free. 25-cent surcharge on drinks during live entertainment. All ages. (sax/piano/bass trio) (248) 546-1400

WORLD MUSIC

CAPLETON
 With Anthony B., 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$12.50 in advance. 18 and older. (reggae) (313) 833-9700
"CELTIC FIDDLE FESTIVAL"
 With Kevin Burke, Johnny Cunningham and Christian LeMaitre, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 5, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$17.50. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org
GREAT BIG SEA
 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, in the Capitol Theatre's Pentastar Playhouse, 121 University Ave. West, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. \$20 (Canadian). All ages. (Celtic) (519) 253-8065 or capitol@mnsi.net or http://www.mnsi.net/~capitol
IMMUNITY
 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Checker's, 36759 Mound Road, Sterling Heights. Cover charge. 21 and older; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Corradi's, 1090 Rochester Road, Troy. Free. 21 and older; 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, Union Lake Grill and Bar, 2280 Union Lake Road, Commerce Township. Free. 21 and older. (reggae) (810) 264-9500/(248) 598-3471/(248) 860-7450
-PINO MARELLI
 Sings international pop standards in Italian, English and Spanish, and original music, 6 p.m. Tuesdays through March 31, at Ardo's Grill N'Chili, 27900 Hoover, Warren. Free. (248) 582-0080
"MOOSE PRESERVE POLAR BEACH BASH"
 With performances by the Sun Messengers 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, and La Trinity, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, along with grass skirts, beach balls, rafts, streamers, tattoo hut, hair braiding, limbo contests, and a Tiki Bar with Jamaican Red Stripe beer, rum runners, pina colodas, premium margaritas, and a tequila bar, Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 26-28, at Moose Preserve Bar and Grill, 2395 Woodward Avenue (north of Square Lake Road), Bloomfield Hills. Free. 21 and older. (reggae) (248) 855-TROUT
ODD ENOUGH
 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Friendly Sons of St. Patrick hall, 8269 E. Eight Mile Road, Warren. Free. 21 and older. (Irish) (810) 768-7602
SOLAS
 Featuring Seamus Egan, Winifred Horan, John Williams, John Doyle and Karan Casey, 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$15. All ages. (Irish) (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

EDDIE ADCKOCK AND RFD BOYS
 8 p.m. Friday, March 6, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$11. \$10 members, students, seniors. All ages. (bluegrass) (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org
MICHAEL COONEY
 8 p.m. Sunday, March 1, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$12.50. All ages. (734) 761-1451 or http://www.a2ark.org
LISA HUNTER
 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, The Tap Room, 201 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 21 and older; 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Cafe Anzu, 1733 Plymouth Road, University of Michigan north campus, Ann Arbor. Free. All ages; 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Dexter Bowl, 2830 Baker, Dexter. Free. All ages; Hosts open mic night, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Gargoyles, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Free. All ages. (acoustic pop/folk originals) (734) 482-5320/(734) 769-1212/(734) 426-4707/(248) 745-9790
JAN KRIST
 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 4, Royal Oak Brewery, 215 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 544-1141
JOEL MABUS
 8:10-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Off-The-Wall Acoustic Coffeehouse, St. William Parish Hall, 831 Common, Walled Lake.

\$7.50, \$15 family, \$5 student. (248) 624-1421
JIM PRESLEY
 8-10 p.m. Wednesday, March 4, Espresso Royale Caffe, 214 Main St., Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 668-1838
NIIRD TIME OUT
 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Oakland Community College, Lila Jones Johnson Theatre, 739 S. Washington, Royal Oak. \$12. All ages. (vocal bluegrass) (248) 544-4903
MATT WATROBA
 Celebrates release of CD "Live at the Ark," with a performance, 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Borders Books and Music, 45290 Utica Park Blvd., Utica. Free. All ages. (810) 726-8555

POETRY/SPOKEN WORD

CRISPIN HELLION GLOVER'S BIG SLIDE SHOW
 Actor who starred in "Back to the Future" and "The People Vs. Larry Flynt" brings his slide show, spoken-word performance, copies of his book and the independent film "What is It?" 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$16 in advance. 18 and older. (248) 335-8100 or http://www.961melt.com
"STORYTELLING FESTIVAL"
 With Jay O'Callahan, Sheila Kay Adams and Mustard's Retreat, 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 (\$12.50); Storytelling and creativity workshop with storyteller Jay O'Callahan, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 28 (\$3); Bill Harley, Michael Cooney and Patricia Vereen-Dixon, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28 (\$12.50); and children's storytelling concerts, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday, March 1 (\$6), all at The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. All ages. (734) 761-1451/(734) 761-1800 or http://www.a2ark.org

DANCE

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING
 Workshop and dancing led by Eric Arnold and Don Theyken and live music by David West and Donna Baird, 7-9:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, Chapel Hill Condominium Clubhouse, 3350 Green Road (north of Plymouth Road), Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 663-0744/(734) 662-5158

COMEDY

BIG RED'S COMEDY CLUB
 Totally Unrehearsed Theatre, Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28; Kirk Noland, Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, inside Mr. B's Roadhouse, 595 N. Lapeer Road (M-24), Oxford. Cover charge. (248) 628-6500
ANDREW DICE CLAY
 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. All ages. (313) 961-5451 or http://www.961melt.com
JD'S MACOMB THEATRE
 Open mic comedy night with MaryAnn DeMoss and musical guest Ernest Douglas, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, at the club, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. 18 and older. (810) 469-0889
JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB
 Tommy Chunn, Steve Bills and Joey Bielaska, Thursday, Feb. 26 (free), and Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28 (12); Randy Lubas, J.R. Remick and Joey Bielaska, Thursday, March 5 (free), and Friday-Saturday, March 6-7 (\$12), at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 8 p.m. Sundays for new talent/third level improv. (734) 261-0555
JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S
 Emmy Award-winner Kevin Meany, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27-Saturday, Feb. 28 (\$15, \$27.95 dinner show package), at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885
MAINSTREET COMEDY SHOWCASE
 Eddie Clark, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26 (\$7), and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28 (\$10); Totally Unrehearsed Theatre, 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 4 (\$4); Margaret Smith, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5 (\$9), 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7 (\$12), at the club, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-9080
MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE
 at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal

Oak. (248) 542-9900 or http://www.comedycastle.com
SECOND CITY
 "Down River Dance," 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$10), Thursdays (\$10) and Sundays (\$10), and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays (\$17.50) and Saturdays (\$19.50), through spring, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 965-2222

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
 "Sounds Out of Africa," with CCS Institute of Music and Dance, celebrate the musical traditions of Africa, noon and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28. \$2; Planetarium demonstrations, "Winter Skies," 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays at the museum; 87 E. Kirby, Detroit. (313) 873-8100

DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY/MUSEUM

"Remembering Downtown Hudson's" exhibit, a nostalgic look at what made the Hudson's downtown Detroit store an icon of the city's prosperous era, runs through December; "Doorway to Freedom," exhibit on Detroit and the Underground Railroad; Black Historic Sites Tours, full and half day tours available for groups of 25 or more, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805
DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY
 Librarian cooking with Phyllis Sancho, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at the library, 5201 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 833-4042
DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER
 IMAX movies showing indefinitely include: "Super Speedway," 10 a.m. and 11:10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays; and "Special Effects," 12:20 p.m. and 1:20 p.m. Mondays-Fridays; at the museum, 5020 John R. (at Warren Road), Detroit. \$6.75 for adults, \$4.75 for youths 3-17, and seniors 60 and older, includes one screening of an IMAX film, a visit to the exhibit floor, a live science demonstration in the Discovery Theatre and a short laser presentation. \$2.50 for each additional IMAX movie. Discounts available to groups of 10 or more. Hours are: 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. (313) 577-8400 or http://www.sciencedetroit.org
HISTORIC CHURCH TOUR
 With visits to Nativity of Our Lord Roman Catholic, St. Anthony Roman Catholic, St. John-St. Luke United Church, Annunciation Roman Catholic and St. Charles Borromeo Catholic churches, Monday, March 2, 11:00 Detroit Historical Society members, \$16 non-members, in advance only, and includes bus, tour and luncheon. (313) 833-1405
HENRY FORD MUSEUM AND GREENFIELD VILLAGE
 "Echoes Across the Prairies: The Vanishing Black West," film by writer and producer Ann Eskridge, shown weekends during February, Black History Month; "Family Fun Month" featuring hands-on activities such as a family radio show where they can produce and perform a radio play, classic cartoons and/or serials as part of "Automobile in American Life" exhibit's drive-in theater, "Making Do and Having Fun" with puppet-making, shadow puppetry, cat's cradle and paper airplane-making, and "Take a Trip Down Memory Lane" treasure hunt, weekends throughout March at the complex, 20900 Oakwood Boulevard (at Village Road, just west of the Southfield Freeway, south of Michigan Avenue), Dearborn. \$12.50 adults, \$11.50 seniors 62 and older, \$6.25 for kids ages 5-12, and free for children younger than 5 and members. Group rates available. Museum open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. (313) 271-1620

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

"A Communion of the Spirits: African-American Quilters, Preservers and Their Stories" exhibits featuring 175 photographs of varying sizes, a selection of the surveyed quilts, interpretive panels, and a limited amount of other artwork related to the quilters, through Sunday, June 7. The exhibit features area quilters and celebrity quilters such as Maya Angelou, Rosa Parks, Bernice Johnson Reagon, Faith Ringgold, Sonia Sanchez and Alice Walker; "The Life and Times of Paul Robeson" exhibition featuring records, photographs and paintings on loan from private citizens and from the collection of the MAAH, runs through Tuesday, June 30; "Walk to Freedom: Detroit Shares a Dream," photograph display of the 1963 civil rights march led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Detroit, through Saturday, Feb. 28; "Strong Women Keep Coming" theatrical performance, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Feb. 26-27, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, and 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 1; Photo quilt collage workshop, Saturday, Feb. 28; Detroit Lions' defensive tackle Robert Porcher reads from the new book, "Jackie Robinson: An Intimate Portrait," 2-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at the museum, 315 E. Warren Ave. (at Brush Street), Detroit. Museum hours 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays. Open seven days a week during Black History Month, February. \$3 for adults and \$2 for children aged 12 and younger. (313) 494-5800

POPULAR MUSIC

THE AUTUMNS
 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Motor Lounge, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. Cover charge. 21 and older. (alternative rock) (313)

389-0090 or motor3515@aol.com
JOHNNY BASSETT AND THE BLUES INSURGENTS
 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (organ-driven blues) (734) 451-1213
BUGS BEDDOO BAND
 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Tap Room, 201 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 482-5320
NORMA JEAN BELL AND THE ALL STARS
 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays through June 27, Baccl Abracci, 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac. Free. All ages. (variety) (248) 253-1900
BENNY AND THE JETS
 9 p.m. Sundays through April 26, Buck's Place, 23845 W. Warren Road (one block east of Telegraph Road), Dearborn Heights. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 274-8005 or http://members.tripod.com/~BennyJet/
BIZET BROTHERS
 8 p.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, The Rattlesnake Club, 300 River Place, Detroit. Free. All ages; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays in March, Pages, 23821 Farmington Road, Farmington. Free. 21 and older. (pop) (313) 587-4400/(248) 477-0099
BLACK FUZZ
 9 p.m. Thursday, March 5, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (810) 465-5154
BLESSID UNION OF SOULS
 With InDrama, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, The Palladium Music Club, 17580 Frazho Road, Roseville. \$15 in advance, \$17 day of show. 18 and older. (pop) (810) 778-6404
BLUE CAT WITH KEN MURPHY
 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 6-7, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800
BLUE RAYS
 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800
BLUE SUIT WITH ALBERTA ADAMS
 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800
BRIDGE
 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, and Thursday-Saturday, March 5-7; Bullfrog Bar and Grill, 15414 Telegraph Road (one block north of Five Mile Road), Redford. \$3. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 533-4477
BROKEN TOYS
 With Merge, 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$6. 18 and older. (rock) (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com
THE BUSINESS
 With Dropkick Murphys and Skrap, 6 p.m. Friday, March 6, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$11 in advance. All ages. (ska) (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com
BUSTER'S BLUES BAND
 10 p.m. Friday, March 6, Library Pub, 35230 Central City Parkway, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (734) 421-2250
CHAIN REACTION
 9 p.m. Thursday, March 5, Moby Dick's, 5452 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 581-3650
CIRCUS MCGIRKUS
 With Funktelligence, 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 6, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (rock) (734) 996-8555
THE CIVILIANS
 With Swirly Boy and Teddy Salad, 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 334-9292
DANNY COX
 8-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Zhedos Cafe, 240 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. Cover charge. All ages. (singer/songwriter) (248) 399-3948
TOMMY D BAND
 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, Bachelor's One, 1967 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues/rock) (248) 682-2295
THE DETRANERS
 With The Deans, 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (pop/surf) (734) 485-5050
"DETROIT BLUES SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP EVENT"
 Featuring a 1 p.m. demonstration of east coast fingerstyle blues with Don MacIntyre, and a 1 p.m. harmonica workshop with Larry Everhart, 3-4:30 p.m. acoustic jam with Bob Codish, 5 p.m. showcase set with Boogie Chilluns Band followed by an electric jam with members of Boogie Chilluns, Sunday, March 1, Attic Bar, 11167 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck. (blues) (313) 365-4194
D.O.C.
 Celebrates release of CD with party and performance, with special guests Power Face, NISH and 7 Days Dead, 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. 18 and older. (heavy rock) (810) 465-5154
GLEN EDDY
 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Friday, March 6, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800/(734) 451-1213
"FAMOUS COACHMAN INDOOR BLUES FESTIVAL"
 With Bugs Beddo Band and various other blues artists, 9 p.m. Friday, March 6, Millenium Theatre, 15600 J.L. Hudson Dr., Southfield. Cover charge. All ages. (blues) (248) 652-7000

FAT AMY
 With Blue Eyed Soul, 9 p.m. Friday, March 6, Sardine Bar, 1548 Franklin, Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (alternative rock/rock) (313) 567-4955
5 TON CREEK
 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 6, Bo's Bistro, 51 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Free. 21 and older. (alternative rock) (248) 338-6200
FOOLISH MORTALS
 10 p.m. Friday, March 6, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 349-9110
FORGE
 With Fuel 357 and World of Hurt, 9 p.m. Thursday, March 5, The Palladium Music Club, 17580 Frazho Road, Roseville. \$5. 18 and older. (rock) (810) 778-6404
SUE GARNER
 Formerly of Run-On, with Fez, 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$6 in advance. 18 and older. (singer/songwriter) (313) 833-3000
GILLESPIE, RASMUSSEN AND RAFFOUL
 9 p.m. Monday, March 2, Four Green Fields, 30919 N. Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older; 10 p.m. Wednesday, March 4, Woody's Diner, 208 W. Fifth St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (acoustic rock) (248) 280-2902/(248) 543-6911
ROBERT GORDON
 With Shack Shakers, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$13 in advance. 18 and older. (rockabilly) (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com
GOVERNMENT HONEY
 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 27-28, and Sundays in March, Bullfrog Bar and Grill, 15414 Telegraph Road (one block north of Five Mile Road), Redford. \$3. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 533-4477
HEPCAT
 With The Gadgets and The Slackers, 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$8 in advance. All ages. (ska) (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com
HOWLING DIABLOS
 With Gods Made Love, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (funk/R&B) (734) 996-8555
ROBERT JONES
 10 p.m. Friday, March 6, Coyote Club, 1 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 332-HOWL
MIKE KING
 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, Royal Oak Brewery, 215 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (acoustic blues) (248) 544-1141
KNEE DEEP SHAG
 With Mr. Freedom X, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4. 19 and older. (funk) (734) 996-8555
CHANTAL KREVIATZUK
 With David Rice, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. \$17.50 in advance. 21 and older. (pop) (248) 546-7610
KUNG FU DIESEL
 10 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Mount Chalef, 4715 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (rockabilly) (248) 549-2929
SLEEPY LABEER
 8 p.m. Friday, March 6, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$8 in advance. 18 and older. (rockabilly) (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com
LADY SUNSHINE AND THE X BAND
 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (R&B) (734) 451-1213
LAVELO
 With Drop, 9 p.m. Thursday, March 5, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 19 and older. (rock) (734) 485-5050
LIMP BIZKIT
 With Clutch and Sevendust, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$14.50 in advance. All ages. (punk/hard rock) (313) 961-5451 or http://www.961melt.com
P.W. LONG'S REELFOOT
 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$6 in advance. 19 and older. (alternative rock) (734) 996-8555 or http://www.99music.com
THE LOOK
 10 p.m. Thursday, March 5, Library Pub, 35230 Central City Parkway, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (734) 421-2250
MASTER OF NONE
 10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (734) 485-5050
STONEY MAZAR AND THE WESTSIDERS
 9 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 844-4800
MEDICINE HAT
 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Wednesdays in March, Bullfrog Bar and Grill, 15414 Telegraph Road (one block north of Five Mile Road), Redford. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 533-4477
LEONARD MOON
 9 p.m. Friday, March 6, Smitty's, 222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages. (R&B) (248) 652-1600
MYSTERY MACHINE
 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7 in advance. All ages. (theatrical pop) (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com
NICK STRANGE AND THE BARENAKED
 10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (734) 485-5050
NORVAL'S GOAT
 With Anton James, 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut

St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. All ages. (rock) (810) 465-5154
NRSQ
 With Gravel Train, 8 p.m. Sunday, March 1, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$13 in advance. 18 and older. (rock) (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com
OUR LADY PEACE
 With Black Lab and Headwim, 7 p.m. Friday, March 6, Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. \$15 in advance. All ages. (rock) (248) 333-2362 or http://www.961melt.com
OVERTHROW
 With Stepphd, Cauldron and Red Tree, 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, The Palladium Music Club, 17580 Frazho Road, Roseville. \$3. 18 and older. (rock) (810) 778-6404
PAKISTAN TAMBORINE
 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Mondays in March, Bullfrog Bar and Grill, 15414 Telegraph Road (one block north of Five Mile Road), Redford. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 533-4477
THE PANTOOKAS
 With Gods Made Love and Outer Drive, 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 334-9292
PRINUS
 With Blink 182 and the Alkaholiks, 6 p.m. Sunday, March 1, as part of The Swatch Snocore '98 Tour, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$20 in advance. All ages. (funk/punk) (313) 961-5451 or http://www.961melt.com
PSYFUNK
 9 p.m. Friday, March 6, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 19 and older. (rock) (734) 485-5050
LAURA RAIN
 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, Moby Dick's, 5452 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 581-3650
RESERVOIR
 With Morsel and Atmosphere, 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$6. 18 and older. (pop) (313) 833-POOL
ROOMFUL OF BLUES
 With vocalist McKinley Odom, trumpeter Bob Enos, trombonist John Wolf, alto and tenor sax player Rich Letaille, baritone sax player Kevin May, guitarist Chris Vechon, keyboardist Al Weisman and drummer John Rossi, 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Cover charge. 18 and older. (blues) (248) 544-3030 or http://www.themagicbag.com
SAINT AHSLEY
 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 4, The Velvet Lounge, 29 S. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 18 and older. (moody pop) (248) 334-7411
SERVOTRON
 Featuring members of Man or Astroman?, with Operation Re-Information and Lynnard's Inwards, 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$7 in advance. 18 and older. ("robot rockers") (313) 833-POOL
SMOKING POPES
 With Triple Fast Action and Menthol, 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7 in advance. All ages. (alternative rock) (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com
SOLID FROG
 With Plum Loco, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older; With Blue Eyed Soul, 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Rivertown Saloon, 1977 Woodbridge, Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (rock) (734) 996-8555/(313) 567-6020
STEVE SOWERS BAND
 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, Carriage House's Blues Alley, 24200 Grand River Ave., Detroit. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 535-3440
SPACEHOG
 With Bond, 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac. \$10 in advance. 18 and older. (alternative rock) (248) 335-8100 or http://www.961melt.com
MARY THOMPSON AND THE DELTA CHILDREN BLUES BAND
 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, B.C. Beans Coffee House and Art Gallery, 2964 Biddle, Wyandotte. Free. All ages. (blues) (313) 284-2244
THE TOYDOLLS
 With Guttermouth and Telegraph, 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$12 in advance. All ages. (punk/ska) (313) 961-MELT or http://www.961melt.com
20 DEAD FLOWCHILDREN
 With Fuel 357, Diegrinder and D.O.C., 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 6, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8 in advance. 18 and older. (hardcore rock/techno) (313) 833-POOL
UNCLE BOOBY
 9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (810) 465-5154
VAL VENTRO
 Featuring Skeeto, 10 p.m. Thursday, March 5, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. 21 and older.

MOVIES

'Dark City' even darker than director's 'The Crow'

TICKETS PLEASE



JOHN MONAGHAN

In a scenario straight out of Kafka, a man wakes one morning in a hotel room to find his memory has completely disappeared.

When he's told that he's the number one suspect in a string of grisly murders, he's not sure whether he committed them or not.

"Dark City," the second film from "The Crow" director Alex Proyas, places us in an imaginary world where we're not sure if ourselves, where shadowy streets are shot from odd angles and the sun never bothers to rise.

Complex and uncompromising, "Dark City" is a visionary film that is both mind-boggling and mind-blowing. And while not all

of it works, it's got enough wild ideas and crazy visuals for about a dozen films.

It has taken five years for Proyas, still haunted by Brandon Lee's accidental shooting death on "The Crow," to get this movie off the ground.

After stalled starts at other studios, title changes (it was advertised as everything from "Dark Empire" to "Dark World"), and a release date held back for almost a half year, the Australian writer/director finally delivers the movie exactly the way he envisioned it.

Which isn't to say that "Dark City" is a complete success. In many ways it's the maddening result of an imagination so active that you're worn out by the closing credits.

In this sense it owes plenty to the oppressive visual style of German Expressionist silent films like "Metropo-

lis" and "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari."

This is evident in the casting of star Rufus Sewell as well, who can't help but remind you of a young Peter Lorre. It's through his somewhat buggy eyes that he tries to discover exactly what happens each night when the clock stops at the stroke of midnight.

To reveal any more of the story would be unfair, because there are so many clever plot twists. But I will say that Proyas and his team of special effects wizards have invented bizarre ways to depict a city which reinvents itself nightly, with buildings sprouting from the ground.

As protagonist John Murdoch, Rufus Sewell makes a believable Everyman. You're sure you've seen him before, but not exactly where (unless you're a fan of BBC productions like "Middle-

march," where he is still best known.) This unfamiliar familiarity is a perfect complement to

the film.

The rest of the cast employs an odd mix of styles and non-styles. As the police detective who tries to break Murdoch down, William Hurt injects his dry sense of humor but not much enthusiasm.

Think of Jennifer Connelly as more or less typecast since she walks through most of her movies, especially this one, without a clue.

Worst is Kiefer Sutherland, in the part of a doctor who extracts the memories from people with the help of special syringes. The part was supposed to be played by someone older (was father Donald busy or something?) and, worse yet, he adopts this stammer between each syllable that reminds you of a cross between William Shatner and Renfield.

As with those old German films (and the recent "City of Lost Children"), technique and amazing visuals can often get in the way of true audience empathy. We don't really care about Murdoch because director Proyas is essentially doing to him what the evil overseers do: moving a pawn throughout an elaborate labyrinth.

Maybe someday someone will make a film that wows us visually while offering characters we can really care about. Until then, we'll have to be satisfied with movies as ambitious and interesting as "Dark City."



Thriller: William Hurt stars in New Line Cinema's sci-fi thriller, "Dark City."

ly while offering characters we can really care about. Until then, we'll have to be satisfied with movies as ambitious and interesting as "Dark City."

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To leave John a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1866.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Grid of movie listings for various theaters including General Cinemas, Horizon Center, Showcase Cinemas, and Main Art Theatre. Lists titles like 'Blues Brothers 2000', 'The Replacement Killers', 'The Wedding Singer', etc.



Drama: Ralph Fiennes (Oscar) and Cate Blanchett (Lucinda) confer with director Gillian Armstrong on the set of "Oscar and Lucinda."

vous Breakdown") as a well-drawn but surprisingly ordinary tale of murder, obsession, and unrequited love.

"The Apostle" (USA-1998). Robert Duvall wrote, directed, and starred in this story of a preacher who finds his personal road to salvation, helped in part by his wife (played by Farrah Fawcett).

"Oscar and Lucinda" (USA-1997). Ralph Fiennes plays a controversial warring priest who finds his soulmate in heiress Cate Blanchett. Directed by Gillian Armstrong.

"Afterglow" (USA-1997). Julie Christie copped a Best Actress Oscar nomination for this tale of two couples whose troubled marriages become intertwined. Nick Nolte co-stars.

"Live Flesh" (Spain-1997). The latest from Pedro Almodovar ("Women in the Verge of a Ner-

Best Foreign Film Oscar. "Zero Effect" (USA-1998). From Jake Kasdan, son of writer/director/former Detroit

Lawrence Kasdan comes this quirky thriller about a Holmes-like detective (Bill Pullman) and his assistant (Ben Stiller) in search of a rich man's lost keys.

"Wag the Dog" (USA-1997). Robert DeNiro plays a Washington spin doctor extraordinaire who gets the President out of hot water by staging a fake war with Albania. Dustin Hoffman stars as the Hollywood producer who helps stage the ruse.

"Windsor Film Theatre 2135 Wyandotte Street West, Windsor, Canada. Call (519) 254-FILM for specific film information. (\$5.25 Canadian; \$4 U.S.)

"Mon Oncle Antoine" (Canada-1971). 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 to Sunday, March 1. Set in 1940s Quebec, the movie charts one boy's haphazard passage into adulthood.

"Pitch" (Canada-1997). 9:15 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 to Sunday, March 1. Two guys shamelessly try to pitch their screenplay at the Toronto International Film Festival in this free-wheeling documentary.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, Feb. 27

"AFTERGLOW" Exclusively at the Main Art Theatre. A tale of two couples one in their 20s the other in their 40s whose troubled marriages become entwined. Stars Nick Nolte, Julie Christie.

"DANGEROUS BEAUTY" In a world where women have few rights and are treated like property, the most captivating woman of her day dares to confront convention to become a powerful force for change.

"SWIFT FROM THE SEA" At selected theaters. Based on short story by Joseph Conrad, an epic and tragic tale about courage, individuality and the resiliency of the human heart. Stars Vincent Perez.

"DARK CITY" Futuristic thriller about a man who awakens in a hotel room, only to discover he is wanted for a series of murders he cannot remember.

"HAPPENING'S TIME" Family comedy about a widowed anthropology professor who uses grant money to raise his family, disguising his children as an "undiscovered" tribe

from New Guinea. Stars Richard Dreyfuss, Lily Tomlin, Jenna Elman.

"KISSING A FOOL" Comedy about a nervous groom-to-be who asks his best friend to court his fiancée in an attempt to test her loyalty. Stars David Schermer, Bonnie Hunt.

"CAUGHT-UP" Drama about an ex-con struggling to leave his old life behind, only to find himself caught in a web of deceit.

Scheduled to open Friday, March 20 "THE NEWTON BOYS" The true life chronicle, set in the 1920s, of the four Newton Brothers who arguably were the most prolific bank robbers in American history. Their "magnum opus" -- the \$3 million heist of a mail train, which was also their downfall. Stars Matthew McConaughey, Julianna Margulies.

"WILD THINGS" A tale of revenge, lust and murder played out in the murky swamps of the Florida Everglades and the tony yacht-club enclave of the Blue Bay. Passion ignites passion, mystery uncovers mystery, as the lives of four cunning characters twist and turn amid a bizarre labyrinth of truth and illusion. Stars Kevin Bacon, Matt Dillon, Bill Murray.

STREET SCENE

Clutch shakes things up with support from Dan K

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Based in West Virginia, the rock band Clutch considers Detroit its second home. Sweet trips off the walls at St. Andrew's Hall and Harpo's, both in Detroit, because Clutch shows are so packed. The antagonistic rock band's merchandise goes over the countertop like a waterfall.

Singer Neil Fallon has two words for his band's success — Dan K. The crazy bartender at The Shelter swings from the rafters, pontificates from the bar top, publishes the local fanzine "Big Hard News," and plays Clutch's music so loud it drowns out the music upstairs from St. Andrew's Hall.

"I don't think I need to tell Detroit who he is. He's a local hero," Fallon said with a laugh during a recent phone conversation from Columbia Records' office in New York.

"We also got played on the radio there. Once you get played on the radio it spreads the music across the atmosphere. Plus, Detroit's a rock town and being a

rock band, that's good for us."

On Thursday, March 5, Detroiters will get a taste of Clutch's upcoming album "The Elephant Riders" when the band performs with Limp Bizkit and Sevendust when the "Ladies Night in Cambodia '98 Tour" comes to the State Theatre in Detroit.

"The Elephant Riders," due in stores Tuesday, April 14, is a departure from its previous efforts, 1993's "Transnational Speedway League" (EastWest) and 1995's "Clutch" (Elektra).

"It's the kind of record you have to listen to a few times before you understand what's going on. Once you do that you continue to find things," said drummer Jean Paul Gaster via telephone from the band's home in West Virginia during the recording of the album.

"Just as the music itself is a lot more rich, there's a lot more things happening. Not only with the lyrics but the vocal delivery is much more rich as well. There's a lot of tones and colors."

Clutch's heavy, melodic sound is peppered with horns and bluesy guitars on "The Elephant Riders." What's missing, howev-

er, is Fallon's acute sense of humor. Lyrics like "Beebopal-loobopawopshambo/ domo arigato if I got to" and "little bunny foo foo" remain buried in Clutch's previous two albums.

"There are some songs that I think are humorous. It is a little more, I hesitate to call it dark, heavy. That's a great word. That's what entertains us. I hope it entertains other people as well," Fallon explained.

He added that the poor relationship Clutch had with its previous record label caused the attitude change.

"It kind of took away the energy. It has been very difficult to get that back. Going on tour helped out immensely. ... It's been difficult. I think we were getting very tired of everything being an uphill battle to do the simplest things. Columbia's definitely got their act together. Now all of a sudden I feel as if there's an opportunity now that wasn't there before."

To promote the album, Columbia Records has set up a website for Clutch, <http://www.elephantriders.com>, and brought Fallon in to New York to approve

the artwork.

"I saw it last night," Fallon said of the website. "I brought a bunch of pictures taken over the years and I'm going to be putting these pictures up on the website. I'll be changing it every couple weeks or so."

Now that Clutch finally feels at home with Columbia, the band expects to release an album a year.

"There was way too much time between this album and the last one. We're talking three years. That's unacceptable."

"Columbia is doing good by us so far. But we always have ourselves to fall back on in our music. They can't take that away from us."

Clutch, Sevendust and headliners Limp Bizkit perform Thursday, March 5, at the State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. for the all-ages show. Tickets are \$14.50 in advance, but the first 400 women through the doors March 5 will be admitted free. For more information, call (313) 961-5451 or visit <http://www.961melt.com>



It's a war out there: Clutch — from left, drummer Jean Paul Gaster, vocalist Neil Fallon (sitting), guitarist Tim Sult and bassist Dan Maines — hopes to bring the troops into the State Theatre in Detroit Thursday.

Venerable music traditions get spotlight

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

I have a morning coffee habit. In its own small way my coffee consumption strengthens the American tradition of scarfing down scads of coffee at the beginning of every day. And when I ride Juan Valdez's donkey to that

Big Cafe in the Sky, the particulars of my coffee habit (I hate Styrene cups) may go with me, but I'll know that Americans will still be chugging the mud.

Old habits may die hard, but they die with a person. Traditions live on in a people. Tonight's Backstage Pass on Detroit Public Television includes performances from top practitioners in two venerable traditions: Celtic music and American blues.

Kim Hunter will host Solas, a quintet of contemporary Irish music all-stars that's riding the wave of Celtic music's widespread acceptance. I asked Kim why this traditional music is garnering such popular appeal. "The Celtic music thing

started in the late '80s and it's coming to a slow climax. Irish music is probably the most influential folk music — it's the grandmother of bluegrass. So people might be making those connections, which are evident if you listen with open ears."

What about Solas in particular? "They have Seamus Egan playing with them. He's the youngest-ever winner of a big prize in Ireland called the 'Irish Echo Traditionalist of the Year' at age 27. He's a really outstanding player and multi-instrumentalist — flute, banjo, mandolin, guitar, percussion and more. Just having him on the show in a big deal.

"There are a lot of young players with a great deal of enthusiasm, and have a lot of chops. But he plays slow tunes with a lot of soul. It sounds like he's done a lot of living beyond his years."

No American music has a stronger tradition than the blues. And Monroe is building a blues tradition all its own. In 1988, the city inaugurated an annual concert to celebrate Black History Month and the blues. The event began 11 years ago with a solo appearance by Robert Jones, who has kicked off

the concert every year since.

Widely known for his WDET program, "Blues from the Lowlands," Robert also works with kids with his "Blues in the Schools" program and makes frequent concert appearances both playing and preaching "the true facts" about the history of the blues. He's a top player and historian and Lex Kuhne will host a performance.

Also on the Big Show, Plowshares Theatre's Gary Anderson will host a performance from "Taking Sides," the new show at

the Jewish Ensemble Theatre. Gary described an intense work. "The play focuses on an artist's culpability in continuing to perform in the Berlin Symphony during World War II while Hitler is killing Jews and wreaking havoc."

Finally, Gerry Craig from the Detroit Zoo's Wildlife Interpretive Gallery will host local graffiti artist Donovan in our studio to create an original work for us.

That's on Backstage Pass, tonight at midnight, repeated Friday at 7:30 p.m. on Detroit Public Television.

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SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 AM	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
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— Marshall Fine, GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

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STAR TAYLOR	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR WEST RIVER

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Comedian's daughter takes food seriously

BY KEELY WYONIK
STAFF WRITER

Like her father, comedian Marvin Welch, Susan Anastasiou, who named her restaurant Marvin's Bistro in his honor, enjoys entertaining, but she's a food person.

"When we're busy I feel like we're entertaining you - we're entertaining you - we're pleasing you with our food, drinks, and clean restaurant," she said. "You get that same satisfaction. It's almost an art when you do it right. We really try hard."

Marvin Welch has been an entertainer all his life. "When he's here on weekends, usually 5:30-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, he goes to all the tables and tells his jokes and signs autographs" said Anastasiou. "They come in because they remember him."

Fate played a role in Anastasiou's staging of Marvin's Bistro. After her mother's death, Anastasiou and her father went into the attic and started going through things.

"We found an old, mildewed box, and nearly tossed it out, but something caused me to stop and look inside," she said. "She saved everything from his career. I found little newspaper clippings, photographs, tons of stuff. They were night life people, and that's what we want to bring to this side of town."

Inspired by her discovery, Anastasiou decorated the restaurant with her father's memorabilia, and bought a piano bar. She also hired two new chefs, Remy Berdy and Mark Benenati, and the former American Inn, run by her husband, Angelo, took on a new persona. Angelo helps out as an adviser, but Susan runs the show.

"We just put it all together," said Anastasiou. "It fell into place. We hung a few new curtains, and the lampshades are different."

Wixie

Well known to Detroit TV audiences, Welch is a comedian and wonderful singer. He was a disc jockey on WBBR but is best known for Wixie, a role he played on WXYZ-TV in the early 1960s. His Wixie costume hangs in the restaurant.

"My father got Soupy Sales started in the business," said Anastasiou. "He was a character, still is."

Welch and his wife, Dolores, owned their own supper club on

Marvin's Bistro
Where: 15800 Middlebelt, (between Five Mile and Six Mile roads) Livonia, (734) 522-5600
Hours: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Friday; 4-11 p.m. Saturday, Bar stays open to 2 a.m.; closed to the public Sundays, open for banquets.
Menu: American regional cuisine with an Italian/French influence
Cost: Lunch ranges from \$4.95-\$6.95; dinner \$6.95 to \$13.95
Credit Cards: All majors accepted
Reservations: Not necessary, but advised on Fridays and Saturdays.
Carryout: Available
Seating: 145 comfortably, handicap accessible.
Specials: Friday Lenten specials range from \$10.95-\$13.95. Two or more seafood specials will be offered every Friday, and may include: Marinated Salmon, Maryland Crab Cakes, Lemon Sole Rebecca, Broiled Whitefish, Grilled Tuna with Citrus Sauce. Served with soup - homemade Manhattan Chowder or New England Chowder, or salad; potato and vegetable medley.
Entertainment: Carl Larson and Ernie Horvath at the piano bar, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7-10 p.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. to midnight Wednesday-Saturday.

Gratiot in Roseville in the late 1950s. "He would entertain at his own club," remembered Anastasiou.

Exposed to both the food business and show business as a child, Anastasiou chose the food business for her career. "You don't want to hear me sing or see me dance," she laughed.

Chefs

Chef Remy Berdy, who worked at the Kingsley Inn, and opened the Whitney and the original Hard Rock Cafe in London, is executive chef. Mark Benenati left Disney World to work at Marvin's Bistro with Berdy.

"I was looking for the right kind of place," said Berdy explaining how he came to Marvin's Bistro. "I was looking for a free-standing restaurant and Susan was looking for a chef. We kind of fell in love. Angelo and Susan are wonderful people. They backed us, and gave us an excellent kitchen. They bought us the equipment we wanted."

Berdy is a classically trained chef and studied in Europe. He learned from master chefs, and met his wife, who is from Detroit, in Israel in 1967 during the Six Day War. He moved to the metro Detroit area with her in 1968, and never looked back.

"There's a revolution in food. People are a lot more conscious about ingredients," he said. "We create our style of cuisine, with the accent on freshness. Michigan is very much a treasure trove."

Everything is fresh and home-

made at Marvin's Bistro. "We add a little cilantro to the mushroom barley soup to give it a different zing, almost a whole different atmosphere," said Benenati.

The chefs are committed to keeping the enthusiasm going, and are always challenging each other. Berdy has at least 1,000 cookbooks he looks to for inspiration.

"People eat with their eyes, it's a challenge for us every day," he said. "I always look for something new and exciting. We believe in giving good portions, and explain dishes to the wait-staff so they can talk to customers."

Lunch is served 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. followed by dinner. Berdy and Benenati would also like to offer a late night menu.

Appetizing choices

The chefs aim to please, and offer something for everyone's tastes. Calamari, escargot and steamed mussels are best selling appetizers, and their wild mushroom fettuccine is an often requested dish.

For lunch there are appetizers, soups including French onion and chili con carne served with tortilla strips, shredded jack cheese, diced tomatoes and onion; salads such as caesar, grilled poached Norwegian salmon, and warm grilled chicken breast salad, and a variety of sandwiches. In addition to the usual hamburger, club sandwich, and grilled ham and cheese,



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LAMERUS

At your service: Susan Anastasiou at the piano bar in Marvin's Bistro with Chef Remy Berdy(center) and Chef Mark Benenati.

you'll find a veggie pita, and the Remy Marvin Sandwich, a grilled chicken burger with pine nuts, shallots and carrots served on an onion roll.

Dinner also offers soups, sandwiches and salads for lighter appetites, along with a number of fish and seafood items such as marinated salmon, broiled whitefish, shrimp tempura and grilled tuna with citrus sauce, chicken entrees such as Breast of Chicken Nouvelle - breast of chicken stuffed with a mushroom and spinach duxelle wrapped in puffed pastry with a glaze, grilled chicken, and Breast

of Chicken Roulade; medallions of veal morel, scallops of provimi veal marsala, steaks grilled to your specifications, pasta primavera, and seafood fettuccine

Save room for dessert, white chocolate Chambard cheesecake and creme brulee are among the choices, and be sure to ask about the daily specials.

EATING OUT IN THE SUBURBS

Just in case you missed it, or lost the paper. Here are couple of the restaurants we've recently visited:

■ **Il Posto**, 29110 Franklin Road (at Northwestern Highway), Southfield (248)827-8070. **Hours:** 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. lunch Monday-Friday; 5:30-10 p.m. dinner Monday-Saturday. **Menu:** Impeccably served, ambitious, authentic Italian dishes from many regions of Italy. **Cost:** Hot and cold antipasti average \$11; homemade pasta \$17-22, main dishes \$19-25. **Reservations:** recommended. **Credit cards:** all majors accepted.

If you discovered Il Posto (translated "the place") on a trip to Italy, you'd be talking about it for months! Save the plane fare and head to Franklin Road at Northwestern Highway in Southfield for an Italian food feast, the kind you'd find in Italy's countryside outside Florence, Milan or Naples.

■ **Beans & Cornbread**, 29508 Northwestern Highway (east side between 12 Mile Road & Inkster in the Sunset Strip), Southfield, (248) 208-1680. **Hours:** Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday until 11 p.m.; Saturday 4-11 p.m. and Sunday until 10 p.m. **Menu:** In a totally non-smoking environment, Soul Food is taken into the next century. **Cost:** At lunch, soups, starters and sandwiches \$3-7; entrees \$6-7. **Dinner starters, soups and salads \$3-10; sides \$2-4; main plates served with chef's choice of accompaniments \$8-15. Reservations:** recommended at dinner. **Credit cards:** all majors accepted.

Gulf shrimp, fritters, down home, soul, collard greens, black-eyed peas, catfish, hoppin' John, mama's and country are eye catching menu clues. Beans and Cornbread is a way cool happening, struttin' soulful Southern!

'Dine Out Detroit' to help fight AIDS

"Dine Out Detroit" will give metro Detroit area residents the opportunity to fight AIDS by doing something they frequently do: going out to eat.

Over 100 metro Detroit area restaurants from nearly 40 cities will participate in the third annual "Dine Out Detroit" benefit Friday, March 13. Local restaurants will donate 10 percent of that day's lunch and dinner sales to the Midwest AIDS Prevention Project, Michigan's largest non-profit AIDS educa-

tion organization. Participating restaurants include Fonte D'Amore in Livonia and Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland.

Later that evening, the Atwater Block Brewery will host a

complimentary afterglow party for "Dine Out Detroit" patrons. Guests will be entertained by the sounds of the Simone Vitale Band and will have an opportunity to meet The River's Ann

Delisi. For more information about "Dine Out Detroit," or a complete list of participating restaurants, call (248) 545-1435, or (800) 627-7769.

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