

# Plymouth Observer

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Thursday  
December 11, 1997

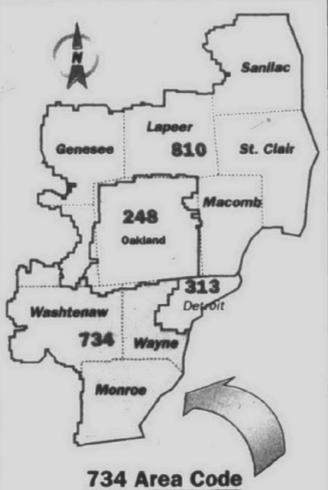
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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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## IN THE PAPER TODAY



### 734 Area Code

- Optional Dialing Period begins Dec. 13, 1997
- Required Dialing Period begins July 25, 1998

**Information, please:** Area code change is coming to western Wayne County this Saturday. There will be a seven-month transitional time before the new area code, 734, must be used in certain exchanges. /A7

## COMMUNITY LIFE

**Open for business:** What started out as a way of entertaining children who visited her home has turned into the home-based Dream Team Tracing Company for budding entrepreneur Marie Smith of Plymouth. /B1

## AT HOME

**Waxing creative:** Candles are illuminating ways to decorate. /D6

## ENTERTAINMENT

**New Year's Eve:** Plan a night out on the town New Year's Eve. Explore your options, including concerts, plays and special events. /E1

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# Newsletter rift appears settled



**Likely starting in February, Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy plans to send out a quarterly newsletter to residents, following newsletters mailed by Treasurer Ron Edwards, who says no one communicates.**

BY KEVIN BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

A rift on the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees over newsletters to the public was settled Tuesday, at least for now.

Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen

McCarthy said she plans to send a quarterly newsletter on township business to the public, probably starting in February.

The issue was addressed at a trustees work session Tuesday. It was presented to board members after

Treasurer Ron Edwards sent out two newsletters to some residents, in addition to two annual treasurer's newsletters mailed with tax bills.

Some board members said that because the two additional newsletters carry the township letterhead, they could be viewed as representing the whole board.

Edwards' response last week was, "nobody communicates to residents." He said that while some board members might contend he was playing pol-

## PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

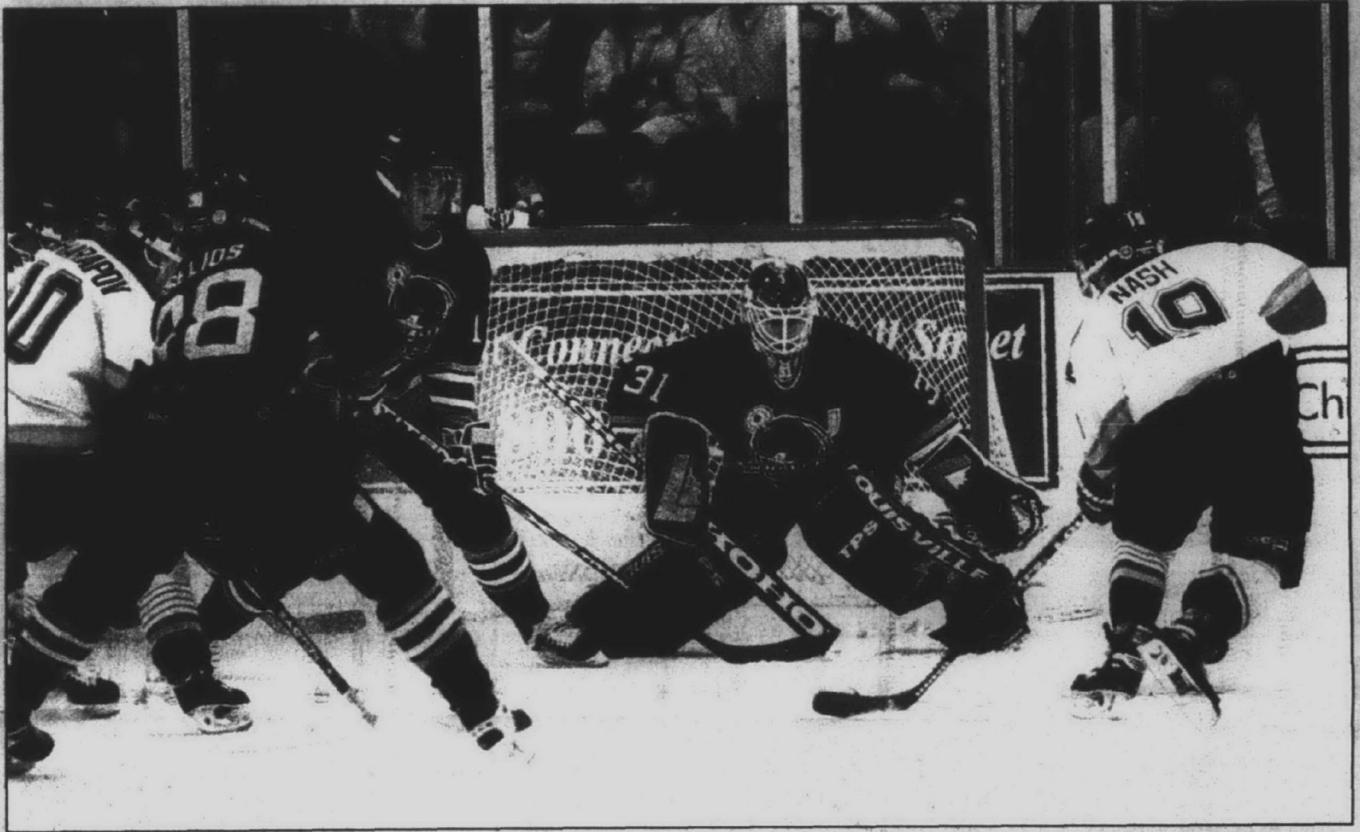
itics, he was not speaking for the board.

"I'm an elected official too. I have the right to speak to the people out there," he said.

McCarthy responded that if each

Please see RIFT, A8

## On Ice



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

**What a night:** Plymouth Whalers goalie Robert Esche fends off a shot from Shane Nash, No. 10, of the Erie Otters, at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township Saturday night. The Whalers' loss broke their home game winning streak. For more information about the Whalers and photos, please turn to page A13.

# Activism paves way for class-size effort

BY RICHARD PEARL  
STAFF WRITER

Grass-roots activism is alive and well in the late 1990s. Just ask the leaders of CAP.

The Class-Size Action Partnership (CAP), formed just four years ago by Plymouth Township parents concerned

that classrooms were too big for students' good, has been a key player in getting Plymouth-Canton Community Schools to reduce enrollments per classroom to more workable, effective ratios between teachers and students.

And they've done it not via the sit-ins, pickets and protests of the radical 1960s and '70s, when they were grow-

ing up, but by the non-radical, baby-boomer style of the '90s: working with the board of education and its administration.

"What they have done," said new CAP chairwoman Darice Schubatis of founders Judy Mardigian, Lucy French and Susan Feiten, "is work in a constructive way - that is, propose solu-

tions. "They have shown they are willing to roll up their sleeves and work with the school district instead of in opposition. But at the same time, they have shown they are not afraid to speak out."

"Like anything in life, if you're con-

Please see CAP, A10

## Holiday:

Despite complaints in other areas, Plymouth has had no complaints about its Nativity scene in Kellogg Park.

STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE



# Manger prompts no complaints for city

BY RENEE SKOGLUND  
STAFF WRITER

It's a question few in the Plymouth community want to ask, especially during the Christmas season: Is the decades-old Nativity scene in Kellogg Park a violation of the First Amendment?

Dick Lobenthal, interim executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, said it partly depends

upon if the city owns the display and if the city has an open-door policy for other groups to put up displays in the park.

"The city can put up a Christian display providing other religious and secular groups have the same opportunity," said Lobenthal.

City Manager Steve Walters confirmed that the city of Plymouth

Please see NATIVITY, A8

# Best sellers

## Elmo still tickles

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI  
SPECIAL WRITER

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

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

Video games; remote control cars; Tamagotchis, the tiny pets from cyberspace that have to be fed and cared for; K'nex; laser tag games and anything to do with Barbie topped their lists. Last year's most popular toy, Tickle Me Elmo, came up a winner again, too.

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

His sister Caitlin, a sixth-grader, wants Sega Genesis, Nintendo and "any" CDs.

A few feet away, Elliott McDonald, 7, liked just about

everything he saw. His mom, Linda, will have an easy time shopping for his gifts.

When pressed to give us his first choices, Elliott thought a moment and declared that he wanted cars and anything with motors. During a five minute tour of the aisle, however, he said "I like this, too" at least five times

Please see TOYS, A10



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

**Still popular:** Justin Priver of Plymouth reaches for Elmo at Toys R Us in Livonia.

# Newcomers

## Club remains current

BY KEVIN BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

If you're new to Plymouth and want to make friends, meet others with similar interests or just need help with baby-sitting, Plymouth Newcomers is for you.

While the group celebrates its 40th anniversary next year, activity groups are fresh and

current, as many participants are young parents in their 20s or 30s.

And interest in the range of activities the club offers remains strong, evidenced by the number of active members, around 100, said publicity chairwoman Susan Tish.

"My mom was in Newcomers when she was a newlywed, she said it's a great way to meet people," Tish said.

The club presents an annual general membership meeting in September. Then monthly meetings follow, set to various themes.

Yearly membership cost is \$20, which pays for refreshments and snacks at monthly gatherings.

For example, the 7:30-9:30 p.m. meeting Thursday, Dec. 11 features a wine tasting. It takes place at the Plymouth Community Arts Council headquarters on Sheldon Road north of North Territorial.

Plymouth Newcomers members sign up for a range of interest groups. These include golf, bridge, gardening circle and chat and stitch.

"I really think the beauty of Newcomers is you pick the interest group you want to be in. A lot of women who work can't take advantage of monthly meetings, but they can still take advantage of the

interest groups," Tish said.

One popular interest group is Games-Games, where couples play a variety of games and hors d'oeuvres dessert and beverages are provided.

Moms & Tots brings together parents with small children for outings and parties. The Baby Sitting Co-op offers baby sitting by adults exchanged on a point system. Parents and kids can also meet once a week in a play group setting.

Tish belongs to a play group. "It's wonderful for me to be able to meet other people with the same age children," she said.

"You get to meet a lot of your own neighbors you wouldn't have met otherwise," Tish added.

The Out to Lunch Bunch meets monthly to lunch in a new or old spot while making new friends. More groups include Dining with Friends, Couples Bowling and Antique Browsers.

The January monthly meeting, time and place to be set, will feature a personal trainer to discuss health and nutrition - fitting after the holidays, Tish said.

For more information on the group, call membership chairwoman Christine Jackson at 416-0300.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRISLER

Sign up: Newcomers' publicity chairwoman Susan Tish encourages membership growth.

## 'Tis the season



PHOTO BY JERRY MENDOZA

Good cheer: George Mozurkewich and his son, Daniel, 5, hold candles and sing "Silent Night" as the Plymouth Chamber's dedication for the Walk of Trees and sing-along Sunday night in Kellogg Park.

# Cheer Club wraps up Friday

It's last call for the Plymouth-Canton Observer Cheer Club.

Our deadline for accepting donations is 3 p.m. Friday. That's when the Salvation Army truck will roll up and take your contributions to the Plymouth Salvation Army facility.

They'll distribute the items to needy people in Plymouth, Canton and Northville.

We'd like to send out a big thank you to folks who've dropped off gifts for the needy, since we kicked off the Cheer Club drive Nov. 28.

Most recent contributors were Andy and Emily Swanson of Canton, Loyal and Florence Alaniva of Dearborn Heights, Peggy and Chris Soave of Plymouth, Terry and Susan Gronau of Plymouth, Shirley of Plymouth Township, Cindy Martin of Canton, C.C. Sovine of Canton, Tommy Neal of Plymouth,



few minutes to look for another toy, or maybe a gift of warm clothing - a new hat, scarf or gloves - your thoughtfulness will be appreciated.

When you bring your donation by our office, we'll ask you to leave your name and city/township of residence.

That's because we like to print donors' names in the paper, while the Cheer Club drive is on. But you can be an anonymous donor, if you prefer.

Each year, we've recorded around 200 donors to the Cheer Club from Plymouth and Canton.

So Happy Holidays! And please keep our Cheer Club in mind.

the Day family of Plymouth, the Modras family of Plymouth, Ellen Jones of Plymouth and an anonymous donor.

So join the Cheer Club by bringing donations of new toys and canned and boxed food to our office at 794 S. Main in Plymouth, during normal business hours.

The idea is to make Christmas special for everybody - not just the lucky families where mom and dad have plenty to spend.

So if you're out doing your Christmas shopping and have a

## Plymouth Observer

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OCALA, FL -- An ingredient derived from hot peppers that decreases inflammation in racehorse's legs, is now recognized as safe and effective for human use. The ingredient has been formulated into a product called ARTH-Rx and comes in a strength designed for humans. Researchers are excited and say the formula can relieve arthritis pain for millions.

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ARTH-Rx is available in a convenient roll-on applicator without a prescription. According to a spokesperson for the company, due to the overwhelming demand for ARTH-Rx, supplies are sometimes limited. ARTH-Rx can also be ordered by calling 1-800-729-8446. ©1997 PGC

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14865 Levan Rd. Livonia  
953-0996

Or at your local RITE AID

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- Place classified ads at your convenience.

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### O&E On-Line: 313-591-0903

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### On-Line Hotline: 313-953-2266

If you need help, call the On-Line Hotline at the number above.

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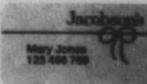
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STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER  
**Giving:** Lt. Jim Spencer of the Salvation Army and outreach volunteer June Clark look at lap robes crocheted by prisoners at the Scott Correctional Facility.

# Women prisoners crochet lap robes

BY KEVIN BROWN  
 STAFF WRITER

This Christmas story begins at Scott Correctional Facility for Women.

That's where Jane Clark performs pastoral visits with inmates, some of whom are serving life sentences.

During a visit, "four of the women in two cells asked if I could get some yarn so they could crochet lap robes for whomever," Clark said. "They said I could give them to the Salvation Army and then let the Salvation Army distribute them as they chose to nursing homes."

Clark's work to pastor inmates is coordinated through Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Northville. The church gave her a check for \$200 to buy yarn - 200 skeins or balls of yarn.

They were passed on to the four women inmates, and they began crocheting.

"When these other women saw these four women doing this, there were 15 others who said they wanted to do it to," Clark said.

"Then I had 20 women and no more yarn."

Next, she sent a letter to 45 churches of all denominations in Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Westland, Farmington and South Lyon.

"I just picked names at random," she said.

She got more than a dozen responses. "I collected another

## SALVATION ARMY

\$325 in checks, some from churches and some from individuals plus many many garbage bags full of yarn. They would then drop off at Our Lady of Victory. In some cases I would have to go pick it up."

By Tuesday, 40 crocheted lap robes of every color were finished, and Clark donated them to the Plymouth Salvation Army for distribution.

"I was very proud of them," Clark said.

In the time Clark has been pastoring the women inmates, "I do a one on one. I visit with a woman that has requested a pastoral visit."

Typically, a friendly relationship develops. "You talk about the same kinds of things they would talk about with a friend," she said.

"If they have children I tell them to continue being a parent. I don't do any preaching."

"What we talk about depends on that person. Some are more interested on what's going on outside, or they ask what's going on in my life," she said.

For more information on the crocheting program, call Our Lady of Victory Church at 248-349-2621.

**APPOINTED**  
 Plymouth resident Linette Popoff-Parks has been appointed chair of the music program at Madonna University in Livonia. Prior to her appointment, Popoff-Parks as an associate professor in the department.

"I am really enjoying the new position in ways I never thought I would. I like having the opportunity to talk and meet with faculty members, work on budgets, and deal with the different students and their problems."

Her additional responsibilities include interviewing and auditioning faculty, instigating new initiatives and developing a plan for the direction of the department.

Some of her new initiatives include strengthening the church music program, increasing the number of concerts at Madonna University, and boosting the writing skills in the program by having music majors submit program notes for the Livonia Symphony Orchestra concerts.

Popoff-Parks is a member of the Livonia Symphony Board and has served on its music selection committee. In 1992 she received the Faculty Excellence Award at Madonna University and in 1994 earned a National Certificate in Piano and Theory from the Music Teachers' National Association. She received her bachelor's degree in music theory from Marygrove in 1975 and her master's from Eastern Michigan University in 1982.

**PLYMOUTH FACES**  
 conference held recently in Carlsbad, Calif.

**JOINING PRACTICE**  
 Dr. Aldo Leopardi of Australia has joined the dental practice of Dr. Laurence Wm. Seluk in Plymouth.

Leopardi received his first dental degree in 1985 from the University of Adelaide, South Australia. He practiced several years in Australia before receiving specialty prosthodontic training and a master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1993.

Leopardi then practiced privately, limited to prosthodontics on the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. He received his United States dental degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry and now has a faculty position as assistant professor in the Department of Prosthodontics at the university.

Leopardi's particular areas of interest include implant therapy, fixed and removable prosthodontics, porcelain veneers and all ceramic crowns, vital bleaching in association with conservative treatment plans and high quality restorative dentistry.

Leopardi lives in the Clawson-Royal Oak area with his wife, Dawn, and their cat, Pasa.

**NEWLY ELECTED**  
 The Plymouth Salem Linebackers elected officers for the upcoming 1998 season at their Nov. 21 general meeting at Salem High School.

Officers who were elected include: Joe Mestrovich, president; Mike Scherbaty, vice president; Donna Bruch, secretary; Barb Fair, treasurer; Sally Welch, senior class representative; Terri Furr, junior class representative; Jim Trott, sophomore class representative; Leann Hippley, member-at-large.

**LEADERS OF DISTINCTION**  
 Robert Jeanotte, owner of Bob Jeanotte Pontiac GMC has been given a Leaders of Distinction award by Pontiac-GMC Division of General Motors for 1997. This award recognizes outstanding dealer performance in critical business areas, including sales, profitability and customer satisfaction.

Only 5 percent of the more than 36,000 Pontiac and GMC dealers earn the Leaders of Distinction title. Winners are named during a Pontiac-GMC dealer business

**REAL ESTATE UPDATE**  
 by John Goodman  
 Coldwell Banker Preferred

**MAINTENANCE--THE OLD VERSUS THE NEW**

New homes typically have a higher sales price than comparable existing homes, and buyers are usually willing to spend more on a new home because of lower maintenance costs. Builders' warranties on new homes, along with a new roof, appliances, and major systems, usually make major repairs unnecessary and help to counter a slower initial rate of appreciation.

A 1991 Census Bureau Housing Survey suggests that operating costs are lowest for brand new homes, slightly higher for relatively new existing homes, but lower on average for older existing homes. Operating costs per square foot of living space, however, are consistently higher for progressively older existing homes. Utility costs represent the largest factor in operating costs. Energy consumption per square foot depends on the size of the home, the insulation and quality of the windows, air leakage and the efficiency of the furnace.

New homes require fewer expenditures for routine maintenance. The cost of maintenance first increases with age, then declines, so you will generally spend less maintaining a home built before 1950 than for a home built between 1970 and 1975.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying or selling real estate, contact John Goodman, one of the top 3 sales agents internationally out of 60,000 Coldwell Banker agents for 1994, 1995, and 1996. Call 810-908-2799.

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# Senate package would move school elections to November

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

School elections would be held in November instead of June under a package of bills awaiting state Senate action.

"It will dramatically increase voter participation," predicted Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, sponsor of one of the bills.

"Elections should be limited to a few days each year," said Sen. Glenn Steil, R-Grand Rapids, lead sponsor of the

■ 'It will dramatically increase voter participation.'

Loren Bennett  
—state senator

package. "Voter turnout needs to be increased, and we must ensure that voters are fully aware of the issues before them."

In general, the bills seek larger voter turnouts by moving school elections to November. Currently, June voter turnouts are as little as 3 percent and,

unless there's a major controversy, rarely more than 15 or 20 percent.

They also seek to reduce the number of special elections on money issues.

School districts are expected to resist the call for November elections, particularly in even-numbered years when partisan issues and constitutional amend-

ments crowd the ballot.

At last count, Michigan has 555 K-12 school districts and 57 intermediate districts (sometime called county service areas). They held 1,074 millage elections in 1994 and 641 in 1995.

The bills would:

- Require that school elections be held in November beginning in 2002. At least one school board member would have to be elected in every November election.

- Place conduct of school elections in

the hands of cities and townships. No longer would school districts conduct them or have to pay for them. In some areas, voters would go to their city or township precincts for all elections, not a separate school precinct.

To municipal clerks' worries that their election burden would be increased, Bennett said, "As a former township clerk, I don't see it as a problem — just a matter of printing addition-

Please see ELECTIONS, A8

# don't read this ad.

unless you're a Parisian customer—in which case

# special weekend

# 25%-70% starts friday!

here's just a sampling of what you'll find on sale:

**Save an extra 40% on all ladies' sportswear and dresses already reduced by 50% for total savings of 70%!**

In misses', petite, Parisian Woman and junior sizes. Orig. 28.00-240.00, sale 14.00-120.00, **now 8.40-72.00.** D77,78,79,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,94,95,96,331,384,413,414,415,431,435,436,437

### Ladies:

- **Save an extra 25% on red-lined sportswear already reduced by 25% for total savings of 40%.** In misses', petite, Parisian Woman and junior sizes. Orig. 28.00-240.00, sale 21.00-180.00, **now 15.75-135.00.** D67,68
- **Sale 24.99—Long-sleeve silk sweaters** from August Silk in misses' and petite sizes. Reg. 49.00, sale 34.99. D78,95,96
- **Sale 49.99—Famous-maker chenille sweaters** in misses' and petite sizes. Reg. 79.00-89.00, Parisian Woman sizes, reg. 89.00-114.00, sale 59.99. D78,95
- **Sale 69.99—Parisian Signature cashmere blazers** in assorted colors in misses', petite and Parisian Woman sizes. Orig. 138.00, sale 99.99, now 69.99. D78,96,384
- **Sale 29.99—By Design chenille sweaters.** Reg. 40.00. D36
- **Save 50% off our original prices on selected wool and leather coats and jackets** for misses, petites and juniors. Orig. 110.00-650.00, **sale 55.00-325.00.** D71,73,74
- **Save 50% on selected active outerwear.** Reg. 140.00-350.00, **sale 70.00-175.00.** D71,73,74
- **Save 40% on a great selection of special occasion dresses** in misses', petite and Parisian Woman sizes. Reg. 49.99-180.00, **sale 29.99-106.00.** D84,88

### Intimate Apparel & Sleepwear:

- **Save 50% on Chance Encounters flannel and satin pajamas and night shirts.** Reg. 42.00-58.00, **sale 21.00-29.00.** D24
- **Save 50% on entire stock of Olga bras, panties, shapewear, daywear and sleepwear.** Reg. 8.50-47.00, **sale 4.25-23.50.** D22
- **Save 40% on Chance Encounters and Cypress terry cloth velour robes.** Reg. 68.00, **sale 39.99.** D26

- **Save 25% on all our women's Jockey and Wonderbra.** Reg. 6.00-27.00, **sale 4.50-20.25.** D21,22 In Intimate Apparel—Selection varies by store.

### Juniors:

- **Save 40% on selected junior collections** from Ecu, Byer, My Michelle and others. Reg. 14.00-68.00, **sale 8.40-40.80.** D349
- **19.99-24.99—Junior sweaters** from Coach & Camel, Creative Cotton, Jamie Scott, My Junior and Currants. Reg. 24.00-46.00, **sale 19.99-24.99.** D36

### Accessories & Hosiery:

- **Save 40% on cold weather accessories: hats, gloves and mufflers** from Fownes, Grandoe, Ben Berger, V. Fraas and our own Parisian label. Reg. 8.00-75.00, **sale 4.80-45.00.** D37 Excludes Isotoner Classics and Dearborn
- **Save an extra 40% on already reduced handbags and small leather goods** from Nine West, Objectives, Esprit and other famous makers. Orig. 40.00-160.00, sale 30.00-120.00, **now 18.00-72.00.** D31,32,173
- **Save 50% on all our sterling silver jewelry.** Reg. 20.00-120.00, **sale 10.00-60.00.** D176
- **Sale 24.99—Cubic zirconia tennis bracelets** set in 18K gold over sterling silver. Reg. 60.00. D176
- **Save 40% on our entire stock of Dearfoam slippers.** Reg. 15.00-25.00, **sale 9.00-15.00.** D38

### Fine Jewelry:

- **Save an extra 10% on diamonds, gemstones, slides and gold,** already reduced by 50% in Fine Jewelry (excluding watches and clearance items.) Orig. 80.00-5,000.00, sale 40.00-2,500.00, **now 36.00-2,250.00.** D146

Savings are off our regular or original price and cannot be combined with any other discount. Interim markdowns may have been taken! Sorry, price adjustments cannot be made on previously purchased items. Excludes Everyday Value, Proad items, solitaires, Great Buys, and selected watches. Styles vary by store. All locations except Regency Square Mall, Eastlake Mall, Westgate Commons, Cordova Mall, Tahquamenon Mall, Renard Mall, Salsarini Mall, and The Mall at Barnes Crossing.

### Cosmetics:

"Le Sophistique" is just 18.50 with any Lancôme purchase. Choose from three sets, each with a mini evening bag, a matching mirrored lipstick case that doubles as a purse, a Lip Brio, and coordinating nail color. D13

### Gifts:

- **Save 40% on a large selection of trim-a-home and decorative accessories.** Reg. 4.00-270.00, **sale 2.40-162.00.** D41 Selection varies by store. Excludes Calvin Klein Home and Christopher Radko.

### Kids:

- **Save 40% on selected outerwear for infants, toddlers boys and girls.** Reg. 36.00-120.00, **sale 21.60-72.00.** D16,18,62,63,67,68,218
- **Save 40% on a large selection of holiday playwear for infants, toddlers and girls.** Reg. 16.00-36.00 each, **sale 9.60-21.60 each.** D16,18,62,63,64,218
- **Save 40% on kids' play clothes** from Buster Brown and HealthTex. Reg. 15.00-33.00, **sale 9.00-19.80.** D18,62,63,67,218
- **Save 40% on holiday dresswear for infants, toddlers and girls.** Reg. 30.00-70.00, **sale 18.00-42.00.** D16,18,62,63,218
- **Save 50% on all our boys' fleece** from Architect, Russell, and Starter. Sizes 4-20. Reg. 14.00-29.00, **sale 7.00-14.50.** D67,68
- **Save 50% on boys' corduroy pants** from On The Brink. Sizes 8-20. Reg. 14.00-29.00, **sale 7.00-14.50.** D68

**Save an extra 25% on all already-reduced men's better sportswear collections.**

Reg. 25.00-250.00, **sale 18.75-187.50, now 14.06-140.60.** D2,520,540,542,547,548,549,552

### Men:

- **Save 40% on our entire stock of men's leather coats and jacks** from Reed, Adler, and Kenneth Cole. Reg. 250.00-440.00, **sale 150.00-264.00.** Selection varies by store.
- **Save 50% on men's nylon Nike separates.** Reg. 45.00-60.00, **sale 22.50-30.00.**
- **Save 50% on our entire collection of men's Architect and Blue Company flannel sport shirts.** Reg. 22.00-39.00, **sale 11.00-19.50.**
- **Save 50% on selected patterned knit shirts.** Reg. 42.00-45.00, **sale 21.00-22.50.**
- **Save 50% on selected patterned sweaters.** Reg. 55.00, **sale 27.50.**
- **Sale 2 for 55.00—Preswick & Moore solid-color dress shirts.** Reg. 45.00 each. D6
- **Save an extra 25% on all red-lined dress shirts and ties.** Orig. 25.00-125.00, sale 11.99-79.99, **now 8.99-99.99.** D19
- **Save 40% on Max Deco flannel loungewear.** Reg. 18.00-60.00, **sale 10.80-18.00.** D1
- **Save 40% on selected cold weather accessories** from Grandoe, V. Fraas, and more (excluding Isotoner.) Reg. 15.00-92.00, **sale 9.00-55.20.** D3

### Shoes:

- **Save an extra 40% on women's red-lined dress shoes, casual shoes and boots** from Enzo, Nine West, Unisa, Calico, Bandolino and more. Orig. 40.00-95.00, sale 30.00-47.50, **now 18.00-28.50.** D25,27,423
- **Save 50% on a large selection of women's dress and casual shoes and boots** from Unisa, Van Ell and more. Reg. 40.00-130.00, **sale 20.00-65.00.** D25,27,423

**Buy one, get one free:**

- **Boys' Architect long-sleeve solid knit shirts.** Reg. 14.00-22.00 each. D67,68
- **Men's Max Deco flannel boxers.** Reg. 10.00. D1

# PARISIAN

give a great gift from parisian

# Fatal accident investigation continues

BY RENEE SKOGLUND  
STAFF WRITER

Police investigating the traffic death of Plymouth resident Margaret Williams Nov. 26 have revisited the scene to establish the most likely scenario of what happened.

About 7 a.m. Williams had just left Einstein Bros. Bagels and was crossing Ann Arbor Road on her way to work at Plymouth Orthodontic Lab on South Main Street. Williams was struck and killed in the left passing lane by a Jeep Grand Cherokee driven by a Birmingham resident. Williams did not drive and walked everywhere in town.

Officer Joe Kahanec, who is in

charge of the investigation, said he was back on the accident scene at the same time on Friday, Nov. 28. Except for traffic volume, which was lighter due to the holiday, conditions were similar: wet roads and mist in the air.

"One thing was clear," said Kahanec, "the darkness, the mist, the reflection off the roadway all created a setting making it difficult to see. It would have cut down her visibility a lot."

Kahanec said a witness saw Williams walking out and saw the Grand Cherokee drive by. Kahanec also said police know there was a vehicle in the right lane that may have been ahead

of the Cherokee.

It is possible that Williams' view of the passing lane was obstructed by the vehicle traveling in the right lane. "We'll never know what Margaret saw or didn't see," said Kahanec.

He added that one thing is certain at this point in the investigation: "There is no indication of high speed."

Kahanec said that while Ann Arbor Road is "nowhere close to Ford Road or Michigan Avenue" in traffic volume and accident potential, its higher speed limit increases the seriousness of accidents.

Williams was the sole caregiver for her son, Brian, 20, who has cerebral palsy. Contributions may be made to the Margaret Williams Fund, care of Peoples State Bank, 245 N. Main, Plymouth 48170. Fantastic Sam's, 537 W. Ann

Arbor Road, will open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. All proceeds from the day's business will be donated to the Margaret Williams Fund.



Margaret Williams

# Help kids at Mott

Help a child this holiday season at Mott Children's Hospital by joining the "Make Me A Blessing Christmas Tree" drive.

There are just six days left for this year's drive. Dozens of stores, businesses and churches are participating in the effort.

At each location a tree with cards is displayed. Each card represents a Mott Kid. Participants are encouraged to take a card to bring a little joy to a child in need. The gift should be returned unwrapped to the store, business or church or directly to Mott Hospital. Participants should include their name and address, so their generosity can be recognized. For questions on other ways to help Mott kids or for tax

information, call Brandy Memorial Fundraiser founder Kathy Mount in Plymouth Township at 459-9780.

Mott Children's Hospital also needs used or new electronic games for five activity rooms, particularly Nintendo, Super Nintendo, Sega Saturn, Sega Genesis or Nintendo 64. The new or used games can be dropped off at Little Professor's on Main Street.



Kathy Mount and Bambi

## COP CALLS

### Missing penguins

Plymouth police received a call on Dec. 1 from city hall that two penguin statues that were part of the Christmas display in Kellogg Park were stolen sometime between Nov. 24 and Dec. 1. Police said the penguins, which came from Bronner's in Frankenmuth and were valued at \$700, were bolted to the ground but could be easily removed.

The penguins were located by Frosty the Man, who reported no suspects.

### Graffiti damage

An employee at the National Bank of Detroit on W. Ann Arbor Road called police on Dec. 1 about graffiti on the outer cement

wall of the bank's east entrance. Police said the words "FISHHEYER," "313 RMOR," "KRYLO," and "THE WORLD IS MY CANVAS 313" were sprayed on the wall.

There were no witnesses, and police have no suspects. Damage is estimated at \$200.

### Citizen reports drunken driver

Plymouth police received a call from Plymouth Township police on Dec. 4 at 3:15 a.m. that a drunken driver was heading northbound on Sheldon Road from Joy Road. The township police had received a call from an alert driver.

Police checked the driver's license plate and headed to his home to wait for him. After swerving down his street and ignoring

the police officer's flashing light and beeping horn, the man turned into his driveway.

Police said the man told them he didn't want to be embarrassed and handed them his wallet. Police took his identification and arrested him.

### Neighbor complains

When police responded to a neighbor's complaint on Dec. 5 around 4:45 a.m. of a loud argument between a man and a woman in a nearby duplex, they recognized the address. They had been there before. Police said they quickly checked for current warrants on the Plymouth man. There were four, two from Westland and two from Livonia.

Police arrested the man and held him until the Livonia police picked him up.

### Trailer larceny

Police received a report from Pilgrim Motor Sports that a trailer had been stolen from their property sometime between 8:30 p.m. Dec. 3 and 9 a.m. Dec. 4. The trailer had been brought in for repairs by a customer.

Police said the Pilgrim employee told them that the trailer's owner had been notified to pick up the trailer for two days but failed to do so. The employee also said the customer owed a balance.

The owner told police he did not pick up trailer. The trailer was left unsecured at Pilgrim.

### A big bump in the night

A Plymouth woman reported to police that her white Chrysler LeBaron was hit sometime during the night of Dec. 6 while it was parked in front of her apartment complex on Junction Street. Police said the car was struck with such force it moved up two car lengths. Maroon paint was visible on the damaged car. Police also found pieces of a headlight.

A witness told police he heard the accident around 3 a.m. but did not report it. He said he saw a mid-size car with rectangular rear lights back away from the struck car. The woman doesn't know who ran into her car.

### Tools stolen

Thieves made off with around \$1,000 in tools and construction items late Dec. 4 or early Dec. 5 from the Independence Village construction site at 14707 Northville Road.

According to a report filed with Plymouth Township police, at 7 a.m. a foreman discovered items had been taken from a padlocked box in the basement. The box was last seen undisturbed at 5 p.m. the day before.

Police have no suspects.

## MOVADO

MUSEUM OLYMPIAN™

The renowned dot dial teamed with a bold new sculpted sport link bracelet. Crafted of solid brushed stainless steel with polished 18 karat gold micron finish accents. Swiss quartz movement. Sapphire crystal. Water resistant to 99 feet. His or hers.



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HOLIDAY HOURS:  
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## BORDERS OUTLET — CANTON

# Great FOR GREAT BOOKS & MUSIC Prices

**50%-75% OFF BOOKS**

1000's of Books under \$4.99

**GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS and Stocking Stuffers**

**TAPES \$1.99 & UP**

**1000's of CDs at \$4.99**

**Special Offer**

Now through December 14th

**Buy 3 CDs, get the 4th\* FREE**

**Buy 1 calendar, get the 2nd\* 1/2 OFF**

\*The least expensive item is free of 1/2 off.

**BOXED CHRISTMAS CARDS 50% OFF Regular Prices**

**30% OFF CALENDARS EVERYDAY**

## BORDERS OUTLET

Holiday Hours: M-F 10 a.m.-10 p.m. • Sat. 9 a.m.-10 p.m. • Sun. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.  
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Books of Theology, Church History, Philosophy and Literature. Incense, Icons, Cards, Musical Instruments, Gold & Silver Crosses, Medals. Library Classics and Many Unique Gift Items from around the World.

**ATTENTION THIS AND RECEIVE:**

**\$10 OFF**  
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29229 W. 6 Mile  
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**313-466-9722**

Holiday Hours  
Open Mon.-Wed. 10-6  
Thurs.-Fri. 10-8  
Sat. 10-5, Sun. 1-5

# Number, please

## Area code changes to 734 for most of western Wayne County

See phone numbers, page A9

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER

It's time to reach out and touch ... another area code.

Starting Saturday, part of the 313 area code will change to 734, which will affect thousands of telephone customers in western Wayne County, and Washtenaw and Monroe counties.

Wayne County communities affected include Canton Township, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Westland.

Greater Detroit will retain the 313 area code, including Redford and portions of Westland. This area includes Hamtramck, Highland Park, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, the city of Detroit, Melvindale, Allen Park, Lincoln Park, Ecorse, River Rouge, Harper Woods, the Grosse Pointes and portions of Inkster, Taylor and Romulus.

With hopes of minimizing confusion, Ameritech will initiate a seven-month optional dialing period in which the new and old area codes will work. Starting July 25, 1998, the 734 area code must be used to complete calls.

Seven-digit numbers will not change as a result of the new 734 area code. Ameritech officials said Ameritech's rates will not be affected by the area code change.

### More numbers needed

The area code was changed because southeastern Michigan has experienced what Ameritech calls an "explosive" demand for telephone numbers for several telecommunication services, including fax machines, cellular phones, pagers, voice mail, computer modems and additional phone lines.

The region would literally run out of phone numbers, if the change were not made, Ameritech officials said.

"We understand that changes in area codes are no fun, but that's why we've been talking about this for two years," said Sara Snyder, spokeswoman for Ameritech.

### 313 to leave Livonia

Most of Livonia switches from

■ 'The public had little or no choice.'

Jack Kirksey  
—Livonia mayor

the 313 to 734 area code, but the 248 area code remains in an area of the city roughly north of Curtis. The northeast corner of Livonia will switch from 313 to 248 next March.

Everything south of Curtis will be within the 734 area code.

In Westland, the 313 area code will remain in the southeast corner of the city in an area bounded by Annapolis, Harrison, Inkster and Van Born. The remainder changes to 734.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey, who opposed the area code changes for Livonia and fought the changes, remains unhappy with the change.

"The public had little or no choice," Kirksey said. "Now they have to change stationery, business cards and computers."

Add up the 5,000 businesses and 38,000 homes with homeowners who use stationery and the \$500-\$1,000 costs for businesses, and that is a large expense, Kirksey said.

But officials from the local Chambers of Commerce in western Wayne County have not received that many complaints about the change.

### A business expense

Linda Shapona, executive director of the Westland Chamber of Commerce, said she had not received any complaints. "It's just the inconvenience of having to change," Shapona said. "We haven't received anything concrete (in complaints), but I wish it was easier to remember."

Shapona hopes Ameritech would work to ease the transition for business owners and residents.

Fran Toney, executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, said the change should not be a surprise for people since it was announced more than a year ago.

"I don't know anyone who is delighted with it, but certainly with the demand for cell phones

■ "We understand that changes in area codes are no fun, but that's why we've been talking about this for two years."

Sara Snyder  
—Ameritech spokeswoman

and fax machines, we have created a need for additional numbers," Toney said.

The Canton Chamber of Commerce has not received any complaints from its members on the number change, said Carleigh Flaharty, the chamber's executive director.

"Ameritech has been good in getting releases out and letting people know about the changes they need to make in business cards and advertising."

Flaharty said the businesses can use their old stationery because the old number will work for another seven months.

"It's obviously a headache, but it's good for the printing business," Flaharty said.

If printers expect more business, it may take a while.

George King, a printer and owner of Graphic Communications in Plymouth, has not yet noticed any increase in business orders for stationery or business cards because of the change.

"People just aren't rushing in because they know (the old area code) is good until next year," King said.

### Other changes

Snyder said Ameritech cellular users will have the option to decide whether they change their area code. Users of cellular phones from other companies should contact those companies about the changes.

Business owners also should contact their telecommunication vendor about changes needed in software or default functions in their computers to communicate with the 734 area code, Snyder said.

For information, call Ameritech's information hotline at 1-800-831-8989.

## Wayne County Wants You

If you are a:  
Minority-owned  
Women-owned  
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Small Business  
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Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

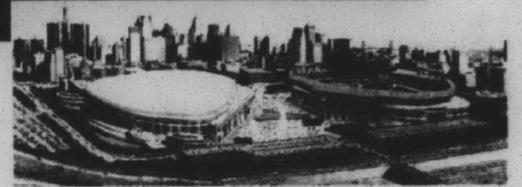
Wayne County wants you to become a prime or sub-contractor for county projects.

## WAYNE COUNTY...

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# Down

# To Business

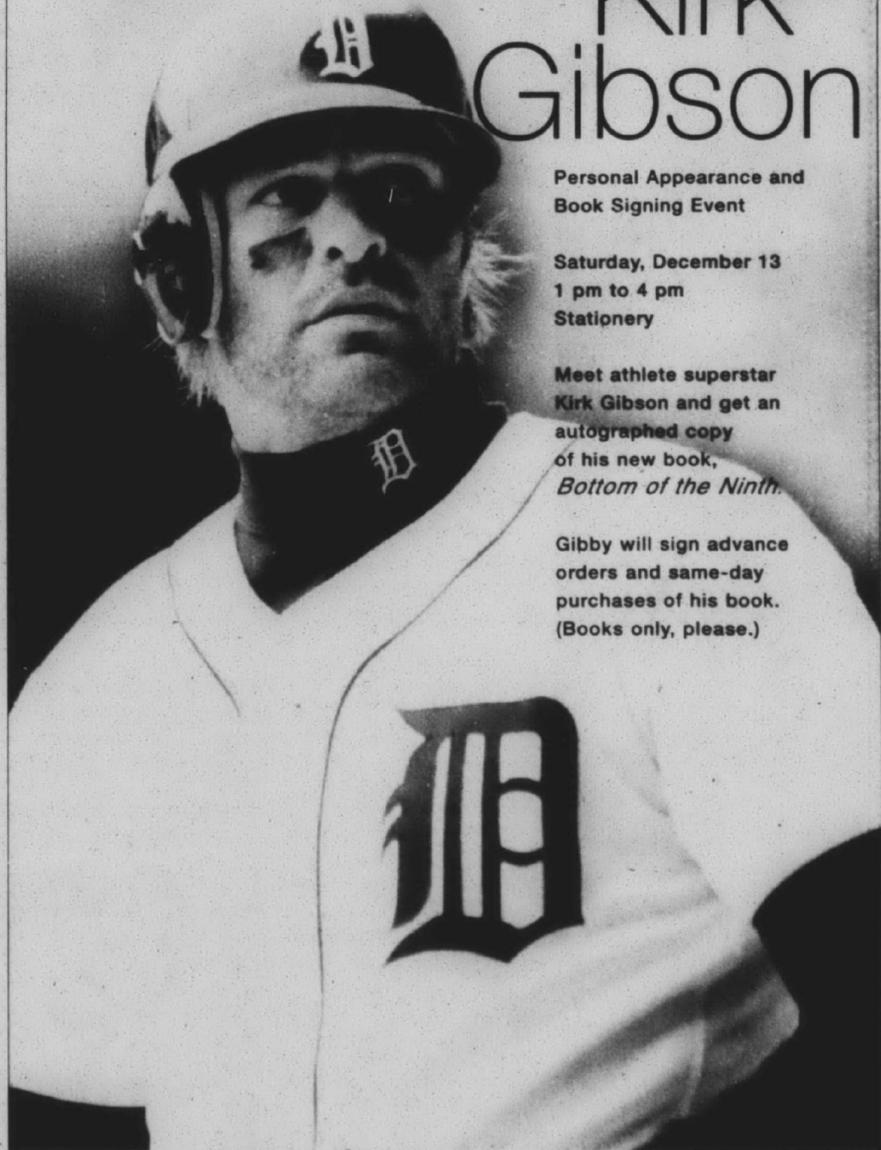


- For information on registration, certification and compliance regulations call or write:

Ronald G. Miller, deputy director  
Wayne County Human Relations Division  
600 Randolph, 5<sup>th</sup> floor • Detroit, MI 48226 • 313-224-5021



## Detroit Tigers Superstar Kirk Gibson



Personal Appearance and Book Signing Event

Saturday, December 13  
1 pm to 4 pm  
Stationery

Meet athlete superstar Kirk Gibson and get an autographed copy of his new book, *Bottom of the Ninth*.

Gibby will sign advance orders and same-day purchases of his book. (Books only, please.)

# Jacobson's

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Complimentary Gift Box Wrap

Open a Jacobson's charge or purchase a gift certificate for \$100 or more and receive your special gift.



## Christmas SALE

starting at **\$56<sup>70</sup>**



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**100**

America's Best Fan

Makes a Great Gift at the season's **BEST PRICES**

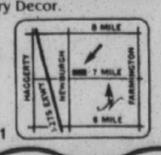
**Sale Lasts 10 Days Only**

Lighting Fixtures, Ceiling Fans, Clocks & Mirrors for Every Decor.  
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Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat. 9:30-6:00  
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37400 W. Seven Mile Road • Livonia, MI 48152 • (313) 464-2211



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# Nativity from page A1

owns the Kellogg Park Nativity display, which consists of a manger with the infant Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the Three Wise Men. The city owns all the holiday displays, both secular and religious, including Santa's house and the decorated trees.

Walters said there is no written policy of what gets displayed. "It's a matter of what has been done in the past. We have followed the Supreme Court rulings."

When asked what that ruling was, Walters interpreted it to mean that if a Christmas, or "holiday" display was a secular

and religious mix, it was legal. He said the Kellogg Park Nativity "is part of an overall display and not a unique display."

Lobenthal said other communities have avoided the First Amendment violation issue by selling their religious Christmas displays to the Rotary or Chamber of Commerce for one dollar. In turn, that organization would make application to the city to rent a piece of public property from Thanksgiving to New Year's.

Under this kind of policy, the city could not pre-empt a certain group. "The city cannot duplici-

## 'Here's a thing that has been a tradition for 40 or 50 years. Are they that harmful?'

Steve Walters  
—City manager

tously say the site is already used. That would be patently against the law. The Constitution prevents (a municipal government) from preferring one religious group over another," said Lobenthal.

However, Lobenthal said a violation, in practice, depends upon the number of complaints, a "pattern in practice."

Walters said he cannot recall a

complaint based on the First Amendment. He said several years ago, the city received a complaint about the "historical inaccuracy" of the Wise Men arriving at the manger on Christmas Eve. The caller said the Wise Men arrived months later.

Lobenthal offered some advice to the city of Plymouth: "The city is almost foolish to take a tradi-

tional role. If they wanted, they could be the leaders and invite residents to use a portion of the park to celebrate their traditions. We're really not talking about celebrating Christmas. We're talking about celebrating diversity rather than exclusivity."

Walters said the city is aware of the ACLU's position. He said communities have been challenged by many different groups "well-intentioned or not" that have objected to religious displays.

"Here's a thing that has been a tradition for 40 or 50 years. Are they that harmful?"

## Calling all charities

Allan and Cheryl Goode, owners of the Dixboro General Store, are asking charities to contact them to use 12 new limited edition Beanie Baby "Princess," which honor Princess Diana, for fund-raisers.

But charities must hurry because they will be chosen by Dec. 22.

Contact the Goodes at the Dixboro General Store, 5206 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48105.

## Rift from page A1

board of trustees member sent out a newsletter, residents would receive seven letters with various assessments of what the township government is doing.

In a Dec. 2 letter to trustees, Edwards suggested a quarterly newsletter to residents, monthly updates to business leaders and community leaders and creating programming relating to Plymouth Township on cable TV. He also restated his intention to speak to residents.

On Tuesday, McCarthy told trustees, "recent issues before the board have had the effect of causing controversy and divisiveness between board members."

While she said differences of opinion are healthy, "when such discussion leads to acrimony, the community as a whole suffers."

She said trustees in the past "have discussed tough issues without allowing anger and acrimony to destroy our focus on Ply-

mouth Township."

McCarthy said a newsletter hasn't been sent in recent years, due to limited staff to produce it. In approving the yearly township budget in October, trustees approved the creation of an administrative aide position. McCarthy said interviews to fill the position have begun. That person is to create a quarterly newsletter.

She said board members can submit items to be included in the newsletter. "What if somebody doesn't like something in the newsletter?" Edwards asked.

"If somebody really wants something in and everybody else (other board members) is mediocre on it, it should stay in," she said.

But if a majority of trustees don't want something included in the newsletter, democracy should rule, McCarthy said.

### Give Your Back The Support It Needs. Sealy Posturepedic.



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|---------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|
| Sealy Backsaver.....      | \$99  | Sealy Posturepedic II..... | \$199 |
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## On air



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Third Thursday: WXYT Radio and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers hosted "Third Thursday Town Meeting with Jimmy Barrett" at the John Cleveland's Water Club Grill Dec. 4. Above Barrett (center) speaks with Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy (from left), Township Treasurer Ron Edwards and Joanne Maliszewski, Plymouth Observer editor. Guests also included Plymouth City Manager Steve Walters and Plymouth Downtown Development Authority Director Steve Guile.

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# Here's a list of phone numbers affected by the area code change

Effective Saturday, many telephone number prefixes will change from 313 to a 734 area code.

Some prefixes will have more than one area code. Those having 313 and 734 area codes include: 221, 311, 750 and 950. Those with 248 and 734 are 998 numbers, while those in all three area codes are numbers with the 472, 490 and 959 prefixes.

The old area code can be dialed until July 25, 1998.

The former 313 numbers changing to 734 include:

■ The 200 prefix numbers of 205, 207, 213, 214, 221, 241, 242, 243, 244, 246, 247, 254, 258, 261, 264, 265, 266, 269, 279, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288 and 289.

■ The 300 prefix numbers of 311, 324, 326, 327, 329, 332, 334, 362, 374, 379, 384, 394, 397 and 398.

■ The 400 prefix numbers of 414, 416, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 432, 433, 434, 439, 448, 449, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 461, 462, 464, 466, 467, 468, 469, 472, 475, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 487, 490, 495, 497 and 498.

■ The 500 prefix numbers of 502, 509, 513, 516, 518, 522, 523, 524, 525, 528, 529, 542, 544, 572, 585, 586, 587, 591 and 595.

■ The 600 prefix numbers of 604, 612, 629, 632, 641, 647, 654, 655, 661, 662, 663, 665, 668, 669, 671, 672, 675, 676, 677, 692, 697 and 699.

■ The 700 prefix numbers of 712, 721, 722, 723, 728, 729, 738,

741, 747, 750, 753, 758, 761, 762, 763, 764, 769, 782, 783, 784 and 789.

■ The 800 prefix numbers of 844, 847, 848, 850, 853, 854, 856, 857, 858, 878, 879, 887 and 888.

■ The 900 prefix numbers of 913, 930, 936, 939, 941, 942, 944, 946, 947, 950, 953, 955, 957, 959, 971, 973, 975, 981, 985, 994, 995, 996, 997 and 998.

# Elections from page A5

al ballots. Steil added that the change "would free schools to focus on educating our children."

■ Limit school elections to three dates each year: one in April, one in August and the November general election.

■ Require the school district seeking approval of a bond issue to include on a ballot proposal the estimated annual tax cost.

■ Require the ballot language to include the per-pupil and per-classroom costs for the facilities

for which the bonds are issued.

■ Hike the cost of special elections by requiring the school district to pay the city and/or township 105 percent of the actual cost of conducting a special election.

Conducting special elections is a virtual science among school districts. For example, March is considered a good time to run a money proposal. Tactics include phone banks that target "school people" such as parents and school employees.

The House has worked on a different set of ideas but produced no bills for floor action.

House members have talked of reducing the number of total elections to three or four a year and requiring schools to use one of those elections for money questions.

Historically, Michigan has run school elections mostly in May and June, so that newly elected members could vote on the budget before the fiscal year starts on July 1.

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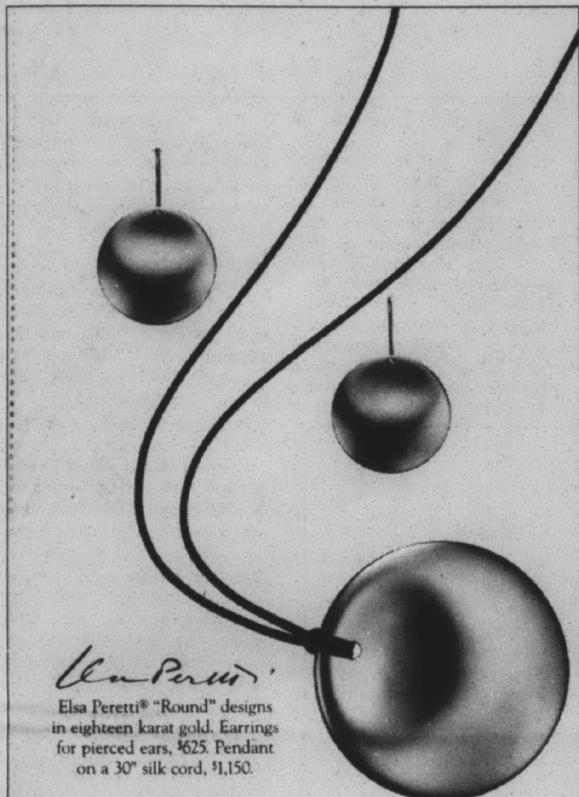
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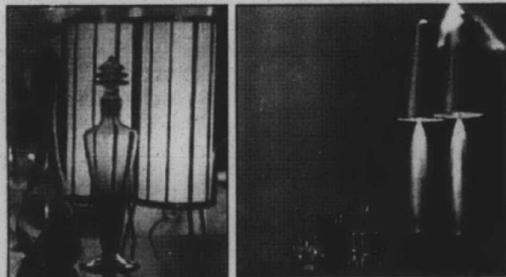
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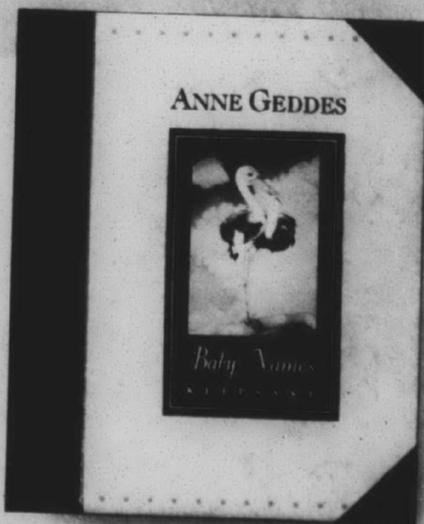
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Toys from page A1

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as he pointed to various emergency vehicle cars, especially a fire engine that lit-up.

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

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

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

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

Amy Gulick said her 21-

month-old son, Eddie, likes anything to do with Elmo.

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

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

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

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

Chad Fuller, 13, was shopping

**The fifth-grader from Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth wants Nintendo and Laser Challenge under the Christmas tree this year.**

Alyssa Guerin  
-Making her list

with his father. The Canton teen-ager, who attends Pioneer Middle School, wants Play Station video games, especially Gameday '98.

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

At Meijer in Canton, Lauren Price, 9, said she wants Tamagotchis; and Barbie dolls, especially Shopping Barbie, because

the fourth-grader from Bird Elementary School in Plymouth, likes to shop.

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

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

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

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

**CAP** from page A1

structive, you achieve a lot more than if you just complain and do not try to remedy the situation, too."

**Membership**

The Class-size Action Partnership, which has gotten input from teachers, has a membership of parents from all three communities, although its core group remains Mardigian, French and Schubatis - who have or have had children in Isbister Elementary - plus parents Paul Schrauben of Canton and Karen Palgut of Plymouth.

Superintendent Charles Little, who joined the district in 1994, said CAP has been effective "because they stuck to the facts and have been consistent. They have documented the situation well and have explained it well."

Besides, he says, "their leadership has never let other issues get them off the focus of their group, which is class size."

CAP "has been very helpful to the school district. They're a plus for the district," Little said.

**The beginning**

What spurred CAP's creation

was a school board meeting over a totally unrelated - albeit emotionally charged - issue: "pay-to-play" athletics.

Mardigian and neighbor Feiten found themselves on the phone afterwards "wondering why is the school district so focused on non-academic subjects? Why not focus on class size, when you have such a huge problem here?"

Indeed, in 1993, the average class size in Plymouth-Canton grades 1-5 exceeded 30 students, while the best research available - specifically, the landmark

1985-89 STAR (Student Teacher Achievement Ratio) study of kindergarten through grade 3 - had "conclusively demonstrated," said Mardigian, "that lower class sizes result in sustainable, improved outcomes as measured by standardized tests."

**Smaller class size**

Today, thanks largely to CAP's efforts, Plymouth-Canton school class sizes in K-5 averages 24.3 students. "The kids are in a much better situation than before," said Mardigian.

But it wasn't easy getting there.

For one thing, other outside groups had failed to get the school board to reduce class sizes, recalled French. "Everybody said it couldn't be done."

So Mardigian and Feiten set out to see just what kind of support their idea had. Within two weeks, they had collected 2,000 signatures on a petition to reduce class sizes.

"It showed there was a tremendous interest in improving academics," Mardigian said. It was viewed as a long-range planning issue upon which parents were willing to spend money.

Mardigian and Feiten chose a "collaborative, non-adversarial approach" in working with the school board, said Mardigian. They'd provide information "and hope (the board) would do the right thing."

Mardigian and Feiten began researching for information. It helped greatly, said French, that Mardigian, a Plymouth-based health benefits consultant, is "a wizard with numbers," expert at marshaling information and extrapolating it.

Thinking there was a lot of local financial waste, Mardigian and Feiten were surprised to find the Plymouth-Canton district gets less money than others do.

**Digging in**

So the women became involved in the school board's citizens finance and legislative advisory committees. "We dug in to learn what the district is all about and to decide what could be done," said Mardigian.

"We found it would be more difficult to make improvements, but five years later, we're now averaging 24.3 students per class in grades K-5," she says.

However, all their meetings and work haven't meant 100 percent success, she said. "But they (the school board) keep class size on the front burner and they get a lot of credit for that." It's now included in the district's long-range planning guide.

There are more challenges ahead. "There's new growth in the district and many school buildings are at capacity," said Mardigian. "We really need to move" on addressing the need for more space.

"People need to hear there is overcrowding. People still question whether we need" new schools. "It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure it out. The figures are there."

So CAP will keep on working. "We believe that grass-roots efforts can affect change," said Mardigian. "That's why we give a lot of our time to it."

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# Senate actions stall efforts of assisted suicide supporters

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

Merian's Friends, the Northville-based group seeking a statewide vote on regulating assisted suicide, will have an uphill battle in the wake of two state Senate votes.

It will have to conduct a 260,000-signature petition drive to place its proposal before voters in November of 1998 — "which is a monumental job unless you have a lot of money," said Sen. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township.

"It's not like you had casino money supporting the drive. The track record (for volunteer-run petition drives) is never very good," he said.

Peters and Bob Moreillon, spokesman for Merian's Friends, said polls show 57 to 60 percent of voters would favor a law regulating physician-assisted suicide. The group is named for Merian

Fredricks, a client of Dr. Jack Kevorkian.

During the Dec. 4 Senate debate, Peters proposed a shortcut to a petition drive: putting on the ballot both Senate Bill 200, to outlaw assisted suicide, and SB 653, Peters' regulatory bill that is similar to the Merian's Friend proposal.

His amendment, which required a two-thirds vote, fell 7-24. Local senators voting yes were Peters and Alma Wheeler Smith, D-Salem, and five other Democrats. There was no record roll call.

## How they voted

Instead, the Senate approved SB 200 by a vote of 28 to 7. Here is how area senators voted:

Yes — Loren Bennett, R-Canton, Michael Bouchard, R-Birmingham, John Cherry, D-Clio, Mat Dunaskiss, R-

Lake Orion, Robert Geake, R-Northville, George Z. Hart, D-Deerborn, Mike Rogers, R-Brighton, John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek.

No — Peters and Alma Smith. Absent — Bill Bullard Jr., R-Milford. SB 200 declares:

■ Assisting in a suicide is punishable by up to four years in prison and a fine of up to \$2,000.

■ "A person who knowingly or intentionally by force or coercion causes an individual to commit suicide is guilty of murder."

■ Exempts "withholding or withdrawing medical treatment."

■ Exempts administration of painkillers, "even if the medication may hasten or increase the risk of death," if certain medical requirements are met. Bouchard praised this provision.

## Euthanasia feared

Sponsor is Sen. William VanRegenmorter, R-Jenison, who held extensive public hearings during fall.

Speaking of Kevorkian, who has assisted in an estimated 71 suicides in Michigan, VanRegenmorter said, "Most were not immediately dying. Many were not even terminally ill. Four young women weren't ill at all."

SB 200 is the Legislature's second attempt to outlaw assisted suicide. An earlier law was "sunsetting" after four years and no convictions.

Backers pointed to the Netherlands, saying 1,000 people a year are euthanized (subjected to mercy killing). They fear assisted suicide will evolve into euthanasia.

Elderly people's fear is so great, said VanRegenmorter, that groups are giving senior citizens cards saying, "If I'm

hospitalized, don't kill me."

VanRegenmorter scoffed at the poll cited by Peters and Merian's Friends. "It (favorable view of assisted suicide) depends on how you ask the question. But the numbers drop dramatically when you talk about hospice care and pain relief."

"At our public hearings, people were 2-1 in support of SB 200." Opposing Peters' amendment to put SB 200 on the ballot, VanRegenmorter said, "We're not elected to put our fingers in the wind and look at polls."

"If someone wants to take his own life, they can find ways to do it," said Sen. John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, the Senate's only physician. "The question is getting someone to help. It's tantamount to murder."

"The physician should be allowed to

Please see SUICIDE, A14

# State economy still relies on auto industry

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

"Diversity" is the word they use not only in university admissions but in the economy. For two generations, politicians and economists have said Michigan is too dependent on the auto industry and needs economic diversity.

After 20 years of downsizing, however, the auto industry still is the mainstay of Michigan's economy, according to a first-of-its-kind report from the state Senate Fiscal Agency.

"One of every 15 employees in 1996 worked directly in the motor vehicle and equipment industry — 6.5 percent versus a high of 12.2 percent in 1973. That was 280,000 auto-related

jobs out of 4.3 million in the state.

In wages, the auto industry is doubly important, paying \$1 of every \$8 earned by all workers. Auto, light truck and automotive equipment workers were paid \$140 million or 13 percent of all wages. Top year was 1977 when the industry generated 18.4 percent of all wages.

The SFA report was compiled by Rebecca Ross, economist and fiscal analyst, with charts prepared by Karen Hendrick. SFA serves the Senate Appropriations Committee with help on budget bills, analyses of all Senate bills and rules, and economic forecasting.

The market is nearing saturation.

Please see ECONOMY, A12

Check out today's editorials and opinions in the Observer

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**Sculpting minds:** A sculpture of "Ring Around the Rosey" will highlight the Children's Garden Project at Schoolcraft College. It will symbolize a mixture of nature, education and art in front of the Children's Center. People who wish to contribute toward the project can purchase a personalized brick.

## Sculpture, garden symbolize education, art and nature

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER

Ring Around the Rosey is a whimsical and playful child's game.

That game — in the form of a sculpture — is expected to symbolize a serious mix of nature, education and art at the Children's Garden Project at Schoolcraft College.

Organizers hope that garden grows through a fund-raising program in which the general public can purchase a personalized brick.

The sculpture is expected to be installed in front of the Children's Center next fall, according to Dorothy Whitten, director of child care and development at Schoolcraft College.

"We're pretty excited about the sculpture," Whitten said. The life-sized bronze sculpture will be created by Bernadette Zachara of Farmington Hills. The idea of using the theme of playing children was Whitten's.

"We wanted to show the joy of active play, kids getting together, enjoying themselves and life in general," Whitten said.

Children will learn about nature by working in the raised beds of the garden, Whitten said. Raised-bed gardens, walking paths and nature trails will extend from the Center's entrance to the natural areas west and south of the building.

The children learn about art at the center through the use of water, clay and sand, and the sculpture will help promote that theme.

"The arts are very important to children and they're fascinated by that," said Whitten.

The surrounding brickscape and paths will include laser-inscribed bricks with the names of donors or loved ones who donors have chosen to honor, such as a child or grandchild.

Persons making a \$100 or more contribution may have a personalized brick installed in

the brickscape and adjacent paths, with their name or the name of a loved one or organization inscribed on the brick.

A \$100 contribution entitles the donor to a 4-by-8 inch brick with two lines of 14 characters each. A \$200 contribution earns an 8-by-8 inch brick with five lines of 14 characters each. Buying a brick also counts as a contribution to the Schoolcraft College Foundation Annual Campaign.

The fund-raising drive has raised \$5,000 towards its \$20,000 goal.

The Child Care Center houses 110 children. Students, faculty, staff and community parents use the facility, which operates five days a week from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The center is open on the same days as the college.

The project is supported by a combination of grants, donations and volunteer labor.

For information call the Child Care Center at (313) 462-4442.

## Economy from page A11

tion. In 15 years, the number of vehicles per capita in use has inched up from 0.82 per person to 0.97 with little increase in the 1990s.

Other highlights, as of 1996:  
■ Imports as a percentage of total U.S. auto sales rose from 15 percent in 1970 to a high of 31 percent in 1987. By the early 1990s, however, imports shrank

below the 15 percent mark.

■ Reason: "Transplants" — foreign-owned car companies operating in the U.S. — grew from zero in 1970 to 1984 to more than 26 percent of the current market.

■ Auto sales by domestic manufacturers (both transplants and the Big Three Michigan-based firms) have topped 85 percent of

the market with imports sliding below 15 percent.

■ Michigan's share of total U.S. auto production peaked at 35.8 percent in 1988. In 1996, Michigan accounted for 30.5 percent of total U.S. output.

■ Analysts no longer think of "autos" and "trucks" separately. They think of autos and "light trucks" as one type of consumer

vehicle. "Light trucks" includes pickups, minivans and sport-utility vehicles.

■ Light trucks have leaped to 45 percent of the market — 6.5 million of a total domestic "light motor vehicle" sales of 15 million — from less than 20 percent in the early 1970s.

■ Leasing is growing popular. In 1984, just 1.4 percent of sales

were leases; currently, 21.2 percent.

■ Luxury cars are most frequently leased — 64 percent. Budget car owners used leases for less than 14 percent of their acquisitions.

■ Average price of a domestic new car was a shade below \$17,000; of an import, more than \$27,400; of total cars, \$18,565.

■ Cars are getting older on average. In 1970, average age was 5.6 years; since 1991 the age has risen from 8.1 to 8.5 years currently. Average age of trucks was more stable — 7.3 years in 1970; 8 to 8.4 years throughout the 1990s.

## Businesses can obtain health insurance

Blue Care, Inc., a nonprofit corporation affiliated with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, and St. John Health System have teamed up to provide Wayne County small business owners affordable health coverage for their employees.

Through HealthChoice, Wayne County's program aimed at helping businesses retain workers, the two health care providers are offering the HealthChoice Partners program.

"Affordable health care motivates employees to stay in the area and on the job," said David B. Siegel, M.D., senior vice president of managed care for Blue Cross Blue Shield.

"We see the HealthChoice program as an important linchpin in the strengthening of access to health care services within Wayne County and we are very excited to be part of that effort."

Blue Care Inc.'s HealthChoice Partners program offers:

■ A wide choice of doctors affiliated with St. John Health System through eight hospitals and more than 50 medical and specialty centers

■ No or low copays on most benefits

■ No paperwork or claims to file

■ Prescription services at 2,000 Blue Cross Blue Shield participating pharmacies throughout Michigan

Since 1994, Wayne County's HealthChoice has collaborated with health care providers to offer health care services to Wayne County businesses that don't have health coverage.

Eligible business owners include those with five or more employees, with at least 50 percent of their workforce being paid \$10 an hour or less.

The county pays one-third of the cost, while the employer and employee split the remaining two-thirds.

Employers also have the option to offer their employees expanded coverage by purchasing riders for vision, dental, outpatient physical therapy, durable medical equipment, unlimited inpatient hospital days, and in-patient drug and alcohol rehabilitation services.

Blue Care, Inc., is a Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan affiliated company. St. John Health System is a growing network of community-based health care services, offering comprehensive prevention, primary care and treatment programs.



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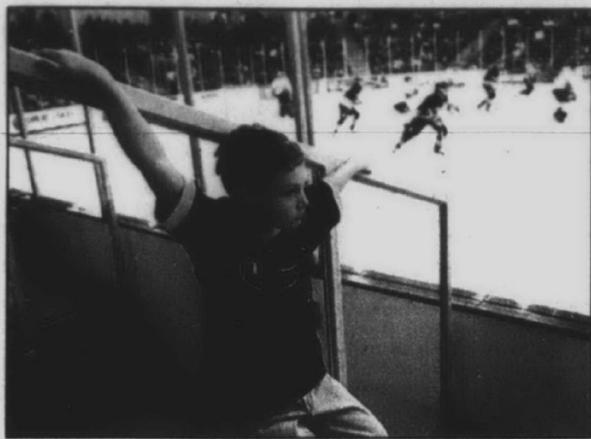
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**Scoping:** Kevin Brown of Livonia hangs out while the Whalers play at Compuware Sports Arena Saturday in a game in which they broke their winning streak.



**On the job:** Thomas Valead, a Westland machinist, sells programs during the game. He joined the Whale Watchers when the team moved to Plymouth and that's how he got a job selling programs.



**Aftermath:** After the game, Farmington Hill's Fire Mite AA hockey team got to go into the locker room and get player autographs. Whaler Andrew Taylor signs Jonathan Castine's poster.

Staff photos by Bill Bresler

**What could be better?** Ben, Ann and Mary Lindamood, of Plymouth watch the Whalers game. Fans say they enjoy the arena because it's clean, not overcrowded and you can get into the restrooms.



**Go Whalers!** Rebecca and Jerry Trumpka are big-time fans of the hometown Ontario Hockey League team. And when their team scores, they go with the moment, not to mention a little celebration.

## Whalers rule Hockey night in Plymouth

BY KEVIN BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

It's loads of fun to watch a Plymouth Whalers game, even a rare home loss.

Just ask around 3,000 who showed for Saturday's game with the Erie Otters.

The Whalers made a third period comeback but still lost, 8-5. That broke an 11-game home win streak.

But a night with the Whalers and their fans reveals a bigger picture:

Having an Ontario Hockey League team playing in your back yard is a joy — for hockey fans and the soon-to-be converted.

For the few who've been hiding out the past 16 months and haven't heard, let's recap:

The Whalers, once known as the Junior Red Wings, started play as the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) Plymouth Whalers in September 1996 in the grand Compuware Sports Arena on Beck Road.

### Premier league

The OHL is known in hockey circles to be the premier amateur league supplying players to the National Hockey League. OHL players are ages 16-20. NHL stars Eric Lindros and Mike Modano are among dozens who played for the team now known as the Whalers.

"It's really a game of anticipation and reaction. Smarter players always seem to be going in the right direction," said NHL Phoenix Coyote scout Vaughn Karpan, on hand to scout Whalers forward David Legwand and defenseman Kevin Holdridge. "We're looking at everyone that's first-time eligible for the (NHL) draft," Karpan said.

Karpan, who lives in Vancouver and said he's been on the road scouting "34 of the last 38 days" pronounces the Whalers facility as "pretty nice in terms of the OHL. It's clean and bright, it's well-lit," he said.

### Regular fans

About 20 minutes before game time, Robert Schatz and wife Joanne of West Bloomfield had

taken their seats in the top row overlooking the Erie goal.

"We're here practically every game. The owner (Peter Karmanos) is my son-in-law," Schatz explained.

"It's not really crowded. You can get in the restrooms whenever you want to," he added. "They're exciting games."

"We come out a couple times a year," said Rick Elder of Brighton. Son Mike is wearing a red and white Slava Kozlov Red Wings jersey with No. 13 on the back; son Steve also has a Wings' jersey.

It's easier to get tickets for Whalers games, Elder said. "It's a good hockey game, they play hard," he said.

The game was just opening as Kim Guenther and son Blakely made their way to their seats. "This is the second time we've been here. It's very inexpensive. From all seats you can see the game. I only live up the road," Guenther said.

### Promoting

Manning the counter at The Fish Market, which offers Whaler jerseys, sweat shirts and other items placed on neat shelves, was Ryan Stupakis of Dearborn.

"We sell a lot of these (miniature) hockey sticks to kids," he said. The sticks are \$5 and \$7.

"Most of the stuff we sell is the novelties," he explained. But Whalers replica jerseys, in dark blue and trimmed in green and white, are also popular, at \$119 each.

Selling programs and lineups from a stand facing those entering the arena was Thomas Valead of Westland, a machinist. He joined the Whale Watchers fan club when the team moved to Plymouth. That led to the job selling programs. "I love it," he said.

For a typical game, he sells more than 130 programs and about the same number of lineups.

Valead interrupts the conversation to shout "Yea!" as rookie Legwand scores the first goal of the game, at 4:28.

Legwand is the Whalers top scorer, with 30 goals. In fact, he leads the OHL in goals by a

rookie.

### Good for kids

Dave Hayes, a Plymouth Township police detective, is at the game with his kids, Anthony, 8, and Nick, 4. With him are some fellow coaches from the mite hockey Stingrays.

"I think it's good hockey for the kids. It's aggressive hockey," he said.

Another Stingray coach, Jim McCusker of Novi, said, "I like the ice arena and the fan enthusiasm."

McCusker said that while he likes to see the Red Wings, "it's hard to get tickets. We try to see the Whalers about once a month."

Like Hayes, he has his kids, Shane, 6, and Jimmy, 8, at the game. Watching Whalers games is more than just entertainment — it's a chance to show the kids positioning and how to properly pass the puck, he said.

The Otters, in their white uniforms trimmed with red and orange, are strong on defense. When the Whalers bring the puck up ice, the Erie forwards and defenseman are able to get back in front of their goalies, to intercept passes or block shots.

Erie goalie Patrick Dovigi uses his goal stick to deflect a shot up over the rink glass, about 14 rows back. Painted on the boards are ads for national and local businesses, including Colonial Collision and Trader Jacks.

The arena sound system blasts out a rousing combination of jock rock favorites. When referee Mark Hicks calls an Erie penalty, "I'm A Loser, Baby" fills the arena as the power-play time is illuminated in bright red numbers on the scoreboard over center ice.

### Entertaining fans

To keep fans entertained even between periods, Whalers staff present mini-mite games or the "King of the Hill" promotion. Two lucky fans are chosen to



**Intent:** Stevie and Chris Hensel of Canton watch their first Whalers' game.

watch the game from recliners, where they're served complimentary ribs and beverages.

The Whalers average 3,400 attendance per game, with 1,900 season ticket holders. Assistant General Manager Kerry Kerch said attendance tends to increase as the season progresses.

The regular season ends in mid-March. If the team is successful in the playoffs, play can continue into mid-May.

Near some large pop canisters, concessions manager Scott Spiker talks with one of his staffers. Most are moms with the Plymouth Figure Skating Club who work at games in exchange for ice time for their kids.

Jerry Trumpka, Plymouth Midas Muffler shop owner, watching the play shift to the Erie end, said, "I'm out here all the time." He follows OHL stats on the World Wide Web, and has even worked as an unofficial team mascot.

"In two or three years they'll be playing in the NHL. It's kind of like 'I knew them when,'" Trumpka said.

Following the 8-5 loss, coach Peter DeBoer is still upbeat.

"We got outplayed. We were undefeated in 11 at home, we might have got a little bit overconfident," he said.

The Whalers' next home game is at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, against the North Bay Centennials. Ticket prices are \$6, \$9 and \$12.



**Wait!** Whalers' player Yuri Babenko, No. 12, looks upset as he makes his way to the locker room as kids urge him to stop. The Whalers lost Saturday to the Erie Otters 8-5. The loss broke the team's home game winning streak.

# Judge wants report in 14 months on Rouge

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER

U.S. District Judge John Feikens will allow three counties and 43 communities 14 months to report back to him on progress made on the Rouge River before he decides whether a management authority should take over the cleanup project.

Feikens decided on Nov. 13 to allow the time extension after a conference was held in his courtroom. Several community representatives, Oakland and Washtenaw county drain commissioners and representatives from the state Department of Environmental Quality attended the conference.

Feikens appointed a committee, chaired by court monitor Jonathan Bulkley, to discuss over the next 14 months the communities' requirements and how they should be addressed in general stormwater permits. The committee also includes George Kuhn, Oakland County drain commissioner; Janis Bobrin, Washtenaw County drain commissioner, and Jim Murray, director of Wayne County's Department of Environment and

**'We believe there are about 5,000 (illegal storm drain connections), but we don't know where they're at.'**

**Jim Murray**

—director of Wayne County Department of Environment

state officials.

Murray expects the discussions will focus on what communities will need to do with septic tanks, illicit downspout connections and public education and how these issues will be outlined on general permits issued by the DEQ to Rouge River basin communities.

Murray also believes dialogue will continue with the state DEQ on the 2002 deadline to build retention basins to control combined sewer overflows. CSOs are combined sanitary and storm sewers that overflow into the Rouge after heavy rainfalls and empties sewage into the Rouge.

Murray and local community leaders are concerned that any mandate to build retention basins could cost communities millions in bonds and higher sewer rates.

Murray would prefer that those communities have an

opportunity to "spread these costs out" over several years. "I think some of the communities, namely Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Inkster and Redford, need more time to build them."

Septic tanks and illicit connections are two issues that need to be addressed before evaluating the effectiveness of the program, Murray said. Surveys have shown some Rouge basin communities have high septic failure rates.

"The city of Southfield did a survey, and found a 40 to 60 percent failure rate," Murray said. "Other communities that have newer systems have 5 to 10 percent failure rate."

Wayne County and communities do not have a septic tank program in place, but Murray expects that issue will be discussed with communities.

"This is an issue that has to be addressed," Murray said. "These

septic tanks should be pumped out every three to five years. Nobody is doing that right now."

Murray also estimates that about 5,000 illegal storm drain connections into combined sewer overflows also add runoff to the river. "There are 900 that we know of," Murray said. "Based on that we believe there are about 5,000, but we don't know where they're at."

On the retention basins, Murray believes communities need more time to allow communities to fund the facilities and give them the ability to construct these facilities.

The committee will also discuss the use of a geographic information system and who will manage it.

The committee is scheduled to meet at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 at Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 11 Mile Road. The meetings are open to the public and community leaders are encouraged to attend.

Anyone who wishes to get on the mailing list to be notified about these informational meetings can call the Rouge Program office at 961-0700.

# County LightFest continues to shine for holidays

With 4 1/2 miles of giant animated displays and nearly a million lights along Hines Drive, it's the Midwest's largest holiday light show.

The holiday extravaganza includes a visit from Santa Claus. Santa will be available for

pictures for a \$5 donation.

In addition, visitors can complete their holiday shopping at the gift shop where Christmas ornaments, wreaths and stocking stuffer items can be purchased.

To warm up before going

home, visitors can purchase hot chocolate, hot dogs, nachos and other food and beverages at the concession stand.

Motorists can drive through 7 to 10 p.m. through Jan. 1, except Christmas Day. They can enter at Hines Drive and Merriman. A

minimum donation of \$5 per car keeps LightFest operating.

For information, call (313) 261-1990.

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## Suicide

from page A11

administer an opiate and morphine. As the doses become closer, one depresses the respiratory effort," he said, with the result being death.

### Peters' bill nixed

Opposed was Sen. Jim Berryman, D-Adrian. "People will find a way (to end life). No one should have to go into the basement with a gun. No one should have to find his father hanging in the garage."

Two days earlier, VanRegenmorter's Senate Judiciary Committee rejected Peters' SB 653, which is similar to the Merian's Friends initiative. It would:

- Limit the option of assisted suicide to Michigan residents who are terminally ill and have six months or less to live.
- Require patients to get two doctors' opinions state the illness is terminal.
- Require patients to undergo psychological counseling.
- Limit methods to doctor-prescribed medication.
- Require voter approval of the bill.

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# Madonna University adds full-time faculty members

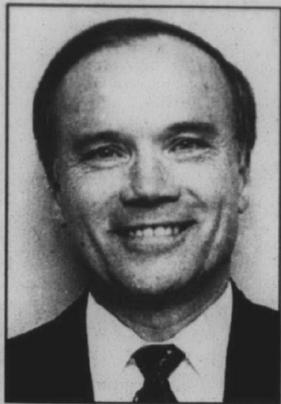
Madonna University officials have added several new full-time instructors to the faculty.

Sister Victoria Marie Indyk has joined the faculty of Madonna as a full-time instructor in the nursing department.

Prior to joining the faculty, Indyk worked at Saint Joseph/Angela Hall from 1993-97 in the Felician Sisters Infirmary as the director for nursing services. She is a member of the Healthcare and Retirement Committee and serves as a volunteer at St. Frances Cabrini Clinic for Poor in Detroit.

She received both her bachelor's in 1975 and her master's in 1993 in nursing from Madonna University. Indyk took her vows to become a Felician sister in 1969 and is a Livonia resident.

Sister Mary Francis Lewandowski has joined the Madonna faculty as a part-time adjunct lecturer in the art department. A Livonia resident, she also taught at St. Florian and Ladywood high schools. An alumna of Madonna University, she received her bachelor's degree in art in 1991. In 1997, she graduated from Wayne State



**Roger Crownover**  
University with a master's degree in printmaking.

Roger Crownover has joined the faculty of Madonna University as a full-time assistant professor in the history department, where he has worked part time since 1991. Crownover has taught at Oakland Community College and Schoolcraft College.

He is a graduate of Union Institute's doctoral program in



**Sister Victoria Marie Indyk**  
Cincinnati, where he studied military history. In 1990 he received his master's degree in history from Eastern Michigan University and is a 1989 alumnus of Madonna University where he received his bachelor's degree in history.

Marvin Weingarden also joined the Madonna faculty as a full-time assistant professor in the mathematics department.



**Sister Mary Francis Lewandowski**  
Weingarden worked for the Detroit Public Schools where he began his career in mathematics in 1961. He also taught at Wayne State University, the University of Detroit-Mercy and Oakland Community College.

A past president of the Detroit Area Council of Teachers of Mathematics, currently Weingarden serves on the board of



**Marvin Weingarden**  
directors. He received the honor of Mathematics Educator of the Year for the 1997-97 academic year from the Detroit Area Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

He has published several books, his most recent titled "Algebra I and II - Explorations and Applications." Bernard Travnikar has joined

the faculty as a full-time associate professor in the education department.

Travnikar, a 1992 graduate of Wayne State's education leadership/administration doctoral program, has taught at Oakland University, Northern Michigan University and Western Michigan University. His offices include chair for the Special Education Advisory Committee and president of the Michigan Chapter of the Council for Children with Behavior Disorders.

Travnikar received his bachelor's degree in English in 1970 and his master's degree in special education in 1976 from Oakland University.

Laurie Kaufman also has joined the faculty as a full-time assistant professor in the education department. Previously, she taught at Oakland University as a visiting professor.

In 1968, she graduated with her bachelor's degree and teaching certification in Spanish from Wayne State University. She received both her master's degree in 1982 and her doctorate in 1997 from Oakland University.

## Business leaders want tougher standards

The Michigan Business Leaders for Education Excellence is urging the state House and State Senate to strengthen the High School Proficiency Test (HSPT) and to maintain the state-endorsed diploma.

"The Michigan Legislature must continue to raise academic standards for all Michigan children and the time for action is now," said MBLLEE Chairman Dave Whitwam, chairman and CEO of Whirlpool Corp.

Specifically, MBLLEE wants to strengthen the HSPT by retaining a high standard in cut scores, with clear definitions as to what each level means.

Quick action on the Senate floor is needed to ensure that a complete HSPT process is in place for testing this year and that past problems with administering the test are avoided.

The business group said the HSPT is a major step to restoring the value and integrity of the high school diploma, to fairly measure a student's ability to apply the knowledge they have gained and raise the standard of education in Michigan's schools.

"While we are pleased that the Senate Committee moved a majority of the House bills quickly, we remain concerned that policy makers may be backing away from high standards and the power the HSPT has in improving curriculum," said Whitwam.

Not to be overlooked is the importance of maintaining the endorsed diploma, noted MBLLEE Director Jim Sandy. "For years, we assumed that any child completing 13 years of schooling would be equipped with the necessary skills to enter the workforce or go on to college.

"Unfortunately, we were wrong, but the endorsed diploma will send the message that these skills are necessary and important."

MBLEE has been engaged in a campaign to raise the awareness of Michigan employers about how the endorsed diploma can be a useful tool in their hiring practices.

Jim Barrett, president and CEO of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, said, "It is up to the employers to include the endorsed diploma as part of the employment process. This will send a strong message to schools and students that a quality education is a prerequisite to procuring a quality job."

MBLEE is an education reform initiative formed in 1991. It represents a collaborative effort between the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Business Roundtable, corporate sponsors and key policy makers.

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# Proposal allows sheriffs secondary employment

Wayne County Commissioner George Cushingberry Jr. introduced an ordinance recently that would grant greater freedoms to Wayne County Sheriff officers.

The proposed ordinance would allow Sheriff Department officers to obtain secondary employment and to wear Sheriff uniforms while on that secondary job. The jobs would be limited to avoid conflicts, said Cushingberry.

The Wayne County Commission heard the proposed ordinance and then referred it to the Committee on Public Safety and Judiciary and the Ways and Means Committee for review. The issue could return before the County Commission as early as the Thursday, Dec. 4 meeting.

Cushingberry, who represents the 6th District in Detroit, currently serves as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and is a member of the Committee on Public Safety and the Judiciary.

Should the ordinance be adopted, the decision of whether an officer can hold a secondary job — not to exceed 20 hours per week — would be left up to the Wayne County Sheriff for approval.

"It will make the community safer because they'll have trained people in place to offer services such as security," Cushingberry said. Security jobs are not the only options, he added.

Cushingberry got the idea while attending a National Association of County Officials

(NACo) and heard that others, such as Atlanta, already similar programs.

Cushingberry worked with the Wayne County Sheriff Department, particularly Sheriff Robert Ficano and Commander Eric Smith, in drafting the legislation.

"This is something we've been looking at for a long time," Ficano said. "We're trying to enhance the opportunities for our officers. We'll work with them if they want to explore outside employment."

If the outside employment is "the right fit" and doesn't present any liability for the Sheriff's Department, Ficano said he didn't object to his deputies having other jobs. At this point, he isn't

sure how many deputies would take advantage of the secondary employment avenue.

The secondary job cannot make the officer unavailable for duty during an emergency; special consideration for the Sheriff officer's schedule; constitute a threat to the status or dignity of the department or Wayne County; and cannot be within the interior of lounges, clubs or bars where the principal business is selling alcoholic beverages or nude entertainment.

Approval would be granted on an annual basis. The only deputies who would be eligible are those who have passed their probationary periods and are in good standing with the department. The secondary employment privilege can be revoked if the deputy receives disciplinary action or is found to be "double dipping," working the secondary job when scheduled to work as a Sheriff deputy.

## Diplomas from page A15

The membership of MBLEE includes executives from Chrysler Corporation; Comerica, Incorporated; Consumers Energy; Dow Chemical Company; Ford Motor Company; General Motors Corporation; Kmart Corpora-

tion; Mead Paper Company; Pharmacia & Upjohn; Whirlpool Corporation; University of Michigan; and Michigan Chamber of Commerce.

## HEAT offers advice on holiday safety

The holiday season is the busiest shopping season of the year.

It is also a prime season for criminals to prey on the hordes of holiday shoppers burdened by packages and often too preoccupied to pay attention to the all-important parking lot safety precautions.

Topping the holiday shopping list should be safety, says the director of Help Eliminate Auto Thefts, a statewide auto theft prevention program which operates a confidential toll free tip reward line at 1-800-242-HEAT.

"People have lot on their minds during the holidays and often do things for the sake of expediency they might not otherwise do, like leaving their car running or open to make a quick stop for some item or leaving packages in plain view," said Bill Liddane, director of HEAT. "Unfortunately, this carelessness is precisely what criminals are counting on during the holiday season."

To help holiday shoppers stay safe, HEAT has compiled the following list of hints for safe holiday shopping:

• Park in well-lighted areas near sidewalks or walkways. Avoid parking near Dumpsters or large vans or trucks. These obstacles decrease ability to see the space around your vehicle, where carjackers could be hiding.

• Consider using the valet service if you are out shopping alone at night at a mall. Leave only the ignition key with no identification. (Keep registration and proof of insurance in your

wallet.)  
• If you are shopping late at night and your car is parked in the lot, ask the store clerk if it is possible for store security to escort you to your car.

• If you leave purchases or wrapped gifts in the car, place them into the trunk and out of view.

• Even if burdened down with packages, try to keep one hand free with ignition key in hand. Look around and inside car before getting in.

• If threatened by a carjacker with a gun or other weapon, give up the car. Don't argue. A life is more important than any car.

• If you are carjacked or witness a carjacking, try to remember what the carjacker looked like — sex, height, build, race, age, hair and eye color. Once you are in a safe location, report the crime by dialing 911 or the police. Also report your information to HEAT's toll-free tip reward line at 1-800-242-HEAT. Your confidential information could be worth up to \$10,000.

• HEAT rewards tip line callers up to \$1,000 if their tip leads to the arrest and binding over for trial of suspected theft ring members and/or chop shop operators. HEAT also rewards \$2,000 for information leading to the issuance of a warrant for a carjacking suspect.

• Since its inception in 1985, HEAT has recovered 2,375 vehicles at \$26.8 million. HEAT has received 5,246 calls leading to the arrest of 1,960 suspects. HEAT has awarded more than \$1.7 million.

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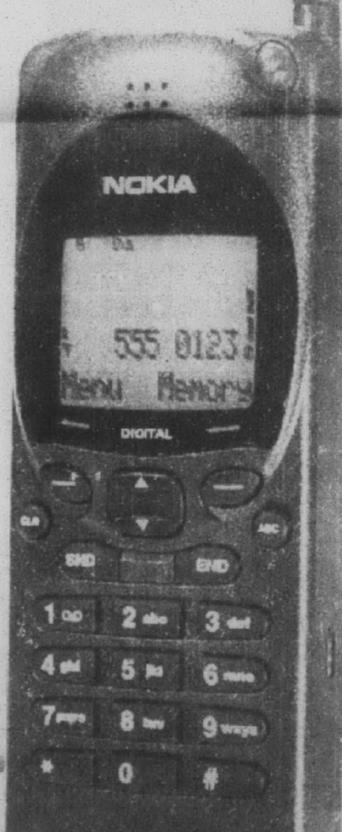
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<b>ROSSIGNOL NORDICA</b> Rossignol Cut Super 10.4 Skis.....\$439.00 Nordica 56 AFX BIO M/L.....\$225.00 Salomon 600 Quad Bindings.....\$180.00 Scott Signature Poles.....\$44.00 Total Retail \$888.00 <b>Ski SAVINGS \$554</b>	<b>ELAN SALOMON</b> Elan PSX PC/PC Lady.....\$450.00 Salomon 4.0 Symbio M/L.....\$250.00 Salomon 600 Quad Bindings.....\$180.00 Scott Signature Poles.....\$44.00 Total Retail \$924.00 <b>Ski SAVINGS \$524</b>	<b>NORDICA</b> K2 Reflex Lady Skis.....\$360.00 Nordica Trend 03 Lady.....\$280.00 Marker M-28 V-Tech.....\$180.00 Scott Signature Poles.....\$44.00 Total Retail \$864.00 <b>Ski SAVINGS \$574</b>
<b>ATOMIC NORDICA</b> Atomic Mega Carve 3.2 Lady Skis.....\$375.00 Nordica Trend 03 Lady.....\$280.00 Marker M-28 V-Tech.....\$180.00 Scott Signature Poles.....\$44.00 Total Retail \$879.00 <b>Ski SAVINGS \$554</b>	<b>OLIN SALOMON</b> Olin DTSL/DTV Super Skis.....\$500.00 Salomon 4.0 Evolution M/L.....\$275.00 Salomon S 700 Quad Spheric.....\$190.00 Scott Signature Poles.....\$44.00 Total Retail \$1,009.00 <b>Ski SAVINGS \$674</b>	<b>DYNASTAR SALOMON</b> Dynastar Big Max 2/Max Lady.....\$475.00 Salomon 4.0 Symbio M/L.....\$250.00 Marker M-28 V-Tech Bindings.....\$180.00 Scott Signature Poles.....\$44.00 Total Retail \$949.00 <b>Ski SAVINGS \$554</b>

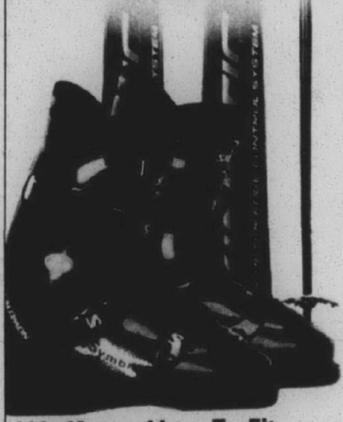
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OBITUARIES

DONALD MILTON KIMMEL

A funeral Mass was held Dec. 9 for Donald Milton Kimmel, 74, of Ann Arbor, at St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plymouth with the Rev. Peter M. Berg officiating. The burial was in St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery in Ann Arbor. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Mr. Kimmel was born Jan. 1, 1923, in Northville. He died Dec. 8 in Ann Arbor. He was a serviceman for Detroit Edison. He graduated from Northville High School in 1941 and served in with the Army in World War II. He was a decorated veteran of the European Theater, as well as an associate member of the Society of the Third Infantry Division.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Thelma A. of Ann Arbor; a daughter, Donna Halman of Ann Arbor; a daughter-in-law, Jenny Kimmel; and two grandsons, Shawn and Matthew Halman of Ann Arbor. A son, Gary, died previously.

Memorials may be made to St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1343 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, Mich. 48170 or the American Heart Association, West Metro Region, P.O. Box 721129, Berkley, Mich. 48072.

CLAUDE R. YOE

A funeral Mass was held Dec. 9 for Claude R. Yoe, 96, of Plymouth at Our Lady of Good

Counsel Church in Plymouth with the Rev. John Sullivan officiating. The burial was in Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth.

Mr. Yoe was born Sept. 13, 1901, in Detroit. He died Dec. 8 in Westland. He was a resident of Plymouth since 1935. At 62, he retired from Montgomery Ward, where he worked as a salesman. He is survived by two sons, Timothy and Harry, both of Plymouth; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the St. Francis Home for Boys in Detroit or the Plymouth Kiwanis Foundation.

ULYSSES "BUBBA" MALE JR.

Services were held for Ulysses "Bubba" Male Jr., 58, of Plymouth Dec. 3 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Wilma Johnson officiating. The burial was at the Cadillac Memorial Gardens, East Mount Clemens.

He was born April 24, 1939, in Birmingham, Ala. He died Nov. 29 in Plymouth. He came to the Plymouth area in 1996 from Inkster. He had been currently attending the Schoolcraft College Culinary Arts Program and was working as a chef at the Novi Hilton. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was a member of the Hartford Memorial Baptist Church in Detroit.

He is survived by his wife Sharon, of Plymouth; two daughters, Dorene Nicole Hale McGuire of Salem Township and

Donella Hale of Ann Arbor; a son, Dorian Michael Hale of Ypsilanti; five step-children, Bruce Coutts, Brian Coutts, Heather Babstock, Omar Williams and Season Williams; six grandchildren; his mother, Edna Hale of Inkster; four sisters and two brothers.

Memorials may be made to the charity of choice.

HELEN D. NEFF

A funeral Mass for Helen D. Neff, 85, of Plymouth was held Dec. 3 at the First United Methodist Church in Plymouth, with the Rev. Dr. Dean Klump officiating. Her burial was at the Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

She was born July 11, 1912, in Detroit. She died Nov. 30 in Livonia. A resident of Plymouth for 26 years, she actively participated in her church, United Methodist Church of Plymouth, where she was a member of the Ladies Circle. She retired 20 years ago from the Tank and Automotive Company in Warren. She was an excellent seamstress and loved arts and crafts. When she was younger, she love to play tennis and ride horses.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, William F. of Plymouth; a son-in-law, Warren Krick of Canton; three grandchildren, Janet Krick of California, Ken Krick of Canton and Karen Miller of California; three great-grandchildren; a sister, Charlotte Kime of Florida; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.

ERNEST A. TOASO

A funeral Mass was held for Ernest A. Toaso, 61, of Canton Township, at Saint Theodore Church. His body was cremated. Arrangements were handled by the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home in Canton.

He was born Oct. 29, 1936, in Natrona Heights, Pa. He died at his home on Dec. 3. He worked as a manager of Franks Nursery & Crafts.

He is survived by his wife Elizabeth M.; four sons, Raymond E., Robert E., Richard E., and Ernest A.; daughter, Diane E. Pizzo; his mother, Veronica; four sisters, Dolores, Bernice, Karen Hall, and Karol Topij; and 11 grandchildren, Callie, Jillian, Katelyn, Robert Jr., Jessica, Kystina, Melissa, Kristin,

Stephanie, Amanda, and Elizabeth.

LORNE "BUD" W. ARCHER

A funeral liturgy was held for Lorne "Bud" W. Archer, 78, of Adrian, Mich. Dec. 6 at St. Joseph Catholic Church with Father James Lothamer as celebrant. Burial was at the Oakwood Cemetery with Full Military Rites conducted by the V.F.W. Annis Fint Post 1584. Arrangements were made by the Anderson Funeral Home in Adrian and a Vigil Prayer Service was held Dec. 5.

He was born Jan. 12, 1919 in Manistique, Mich. He died Dec. 2 at his home. He was a member of the United States Air Force from 1941 to 1945. He retired from the Fisher Body division of General Motors in 1982. He was also a member of the Moose 1034 of Adrian, the Elks of Plymouth and the V.F.W.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Ruby L. Seay; one stepson, Jerry Seay of Flushing; two step-daughters, Debra Roberts of Adrian and Sheila Aldrich of Adrian; three brothers, Ernie Archer of Plymouth, Joe Archer of Arizona, and Jim Archer of Monroe; a sister, Eileen Williams of Plymouth; and seven grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Down's Syndrome Foundation or to the Hospice of Lenawee.

MICHELLE (MICKY) M. MARTINEZ

A funeral Mass was held for Michelle (Micky) M. Martinez, 35, of Plymouth, on Dec. 6 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth with the Rev. John Sullivan officiating. The burial was in Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock, Mich. Arrangements were handled by the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home in Northville.

She was born July 11, 1962, in Detroit. She died Dec. 3 in her parents' home. She was a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and was employed as a delivery driver at L & L Packaging in Livonia. She is survived by two sons, Benjamin and Jamie of Plymouth; her parents, Dick and Jean Hoffman of Plymouth; and two sisters, Christy Hourani of Plymouth and Nancy Hoffman of Canton Township.

Memorials may be made to the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

MARY PRAY ADAMSKI

Mary Pray Adamski, 85, of DeBarry, Fla., formerly of Plymouth, died Nov. 14 at the Volusia Medical Center in Orange

City, Fla. Her burial was in the Woodard Lake Cemetery in Ionia County, Mich.

She was born in Jackson, Mich., and worked as an elementary school teacher for 20 years. After moving to Florida, she was recognized as "The Most Valuable Teacher of the Year." She enjoyed painting watercolors, playing bridge, and collecting antiques.

Her great-grandfather built a home on Plymouth and Ann Arbor roads, which was a way-side tavern for the Detroit-to-Chicago horse route. The two-story, brick home, has a stone monument with a bronze plaque.

She is survived by her husband of 26 years, Frank Adamski of DeBarry, Fla.; two sons, Peter Foster of Lincoln Park and John Foster of Orlando, Fla.; a stepson, Norman Adamski of Casselberry, Fla.; two sisters, Janet Waite of Jackson and Jeanne Ploger of Ann Arbor; one step-sister, Ann Brashares of Jackson; and 10 grandchildren.

GREGORY DE BRINCAT

Services for Gregory De Brincat, 83, of Walled Lake were held Dec. 10 at St. Kenneth Catholic Church with the Rev. Joseph S. Mallia officiating. The burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home.

He was born Sept. 13, 1914, in Gozo, Malta. He died Dec. 6 in Plymouth. He worked as a senior stockman for Detroit Edison. He is survived by his wife, Maria of Walled Lake; two sons, Larry of Plymouth and Michael of Novi; two daughters, Toni Roulin of Plymouth and Lina Welsh of Brighton; and two brothers, Anthony of Farmington Hills and Xavier of Livonia.

Memorials may be made by arranging a Mass offering.

KAY M. LONG

Services for Kay M. Long, 60, of Ypsilanti were held Dec. 7 at Plymouth Church of the Nazarene with the Rev. Arthur C. Magnuson and Rev. Daniel Whitney officiating. Arrangements were handled by the Vermeulen Funeral Home.

She was born Dec. 9, 1936, in Haxtun, Colo. She died Dec. 2, in Ann Arbor. She worked as a data processor for High Scope Educational. She was a member of Plymouth Church of the Nazarene and sang in the choir. She was also a substitute teacher at New Horizons. She is survived by her husband, Norman D. of Ypsilan-

ti; her mother, Reta Lou Chaney of Sterling, Colo.; son Lloyd of Manchester, Mich.; a daughter, Cindy McCarthy of York, Maine; a brother, Wayne Chaney of Berthoud, Colo.; a sister JoAnne King of Coarsegold, Calif.; and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the New Horizons for Children Learning Center at Plymouth Church of the Nazarene, 41550 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Mich., 48170.

ALEJANDRA OLIVAREZ SETHI

A funeral Mass for Alejandra Olivarez Sethi, 53, of Plymouth was held Dec. 6 at St. Aidan Catholic Church, with the Rev. Gerald K. Flannery officiating. The burial will be at the White Chapel Crematory in Troy. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home.

She was born Feb. 28, 1944, in the Philippines. She died Dec. 3 in Detroit. She worked as a nurse and as an anesthetist. She is survived by her husband, Subhash C. of Plymouth; her mother, Felisa Olivarez of the Philippines; a daughter, Andrea of Plymouth; a son, Ravi A. of Plymouth; two sisters, Guillerma Angeles of Georgia and Rufina Lozada of the Philippines; and three brothers, Juan Olivarez of Livonia, Leovigildo Olivarez of Westland, and Valentin Olivarez of the Philippines.

Memorials may be made to the Karmanos Cancer Institute, Plymouth Region, 744 Wing St., Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

CAROLE A. WOBBERMIN

A funeral service was held for Carole A. Wobermin, 55, of Plymouth on Dec. 6 in the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home in Northville, with Deacon James Baughman officiating.

She was born March 16, 1942, in Lynn, Mass. She died Dec. 4 at her home. She was a graduate of the University of Michigan and worked as an interior designer for McAllister's Studio and at Designer's Choice. She is survived by two daughters, Wendi Conaway of Plymouth and Kimberly McInnis of Redford Township; her mother, Dorothy L. Chiaradonna of Lynn, Mass.; and four sisters, Gail R. Tukey, Janice L. Lord, Vicki Godbout, all of Lynn, Mass., and Dorothy Ayott of Townsend, Mass.

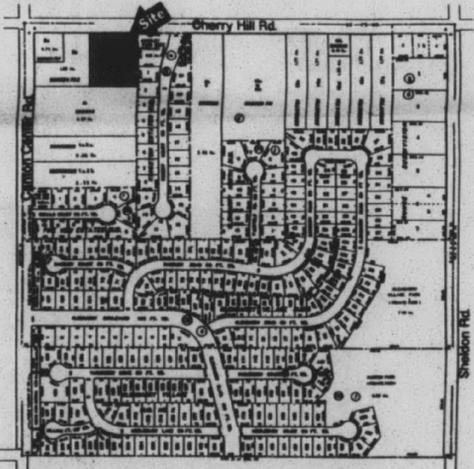
Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or Arbor Hospice.

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 5, 1998 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

VANO/FOSTER REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NOS. 086 99 0005 000 AND 086 99 0006 000 FROM R-3, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, TO C-2, COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL. Property is located on the south side of Cherry Hill Road east of Canton Center Road.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: December 11 and 24, 1997

179188

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Charter Township of Canton will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk, first floor, 1150 Canton Center Road S., Canton, Michigan 48188, until 10:00 a.m., December 29, 1997 for the following:

PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF STAIR TREADS FOR CANTON TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Publish: December 11, 1997

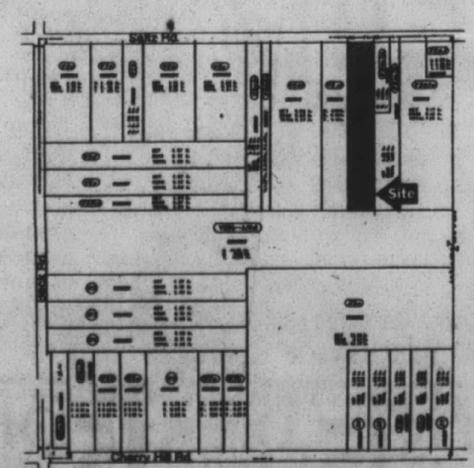
179129

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

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ALUBOWICZGHARIB REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 063 99 0015 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL, TO R-3, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located on the south side of Saltz Road between Canton Center and Beck Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: December 11 and 24, 1997

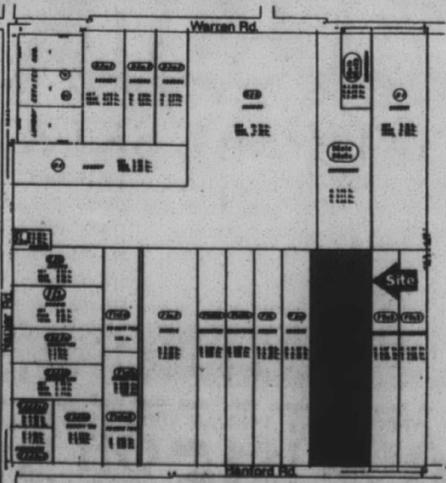
179188

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

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PETERSON REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 026 99 0020 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL, TO RE, RURAL ESTATE. Property is located on the north side of Hanford Road between Ridge and Napier Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission will be received at the above address up to the time of the hearing.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: December 11 and 24, 1997

179184

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held on Tuesday, December 2, 1997 at 1150 South Canton Center Road. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bennett, Burdzyak, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Shefferly, Yack

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Santomauro, Varajon, Voyles, Crawford

Also Present: Dale Yagiela, Growthworks; Ken Jacobs, Canton High School; Tom George, High School Security

ITEM 1 COMMUNITY YOUTH PARTNERSHIP

John Santomauro, Director of Public Safety, introduced Jennifer Varajon, Recreation Specialist; Dale Yagiela, Growthworks; Ken Jacobs, Canton High School; and Tom George, High School Security. Using Presentations, Director Santomauro gave a power point overview of Community Youth Partnering between Canton Public Safety, Plymouth Canton Community School, Plymouth Township, and Growthworks. He said that originally there was limited working partnership between the communities and the schools. Canton Public Safety, Growthworks and the School developed a concept on a working partnership. Summarizing, Director Santomauro said that youth are placed into three categories taking into consideration how "at risk" they may be. The three categories are focused, general, and troubled. Director Santomauro stated that the community's youth programs have been expedient in dealing with troubled youth. However, there was a deficiency in programs aimed at those youth that are "potentially at risk." Mr. Santomauro noted that the current community youth partnership was ahead of its time and could only become better with more programs aimed at potential at risk youth.

Director Santomauro said that through the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program Award Contract, which includes \$20,578 of Federal funds and a \$2,256 local match, money was available for a one-year test program that could be multipurpose. The proposed program focuses on adventure-based education. At this time, Director Santomauro introduced Jennifer Varajon who explained the concepts of adventure-based education and showed the Board a video on Pine Hills Bootcamp, an outdoor obstacle skill building course. Some of the outdoor activities include canoeing, rock climbing, ropes course, kayaking and mountaineering. She noted that students were encouraged to become empowered in making key decisions and problem solving. The program focuses on goal setting, challenge versus stress, peak performance all combined with humor and fun.

General discussion transpired regarding costs, needs, commitments and potentials for multiple uses of an adventure based educational program. It was noted that this type of program could become another tool or asset in the direction of serving community youth. Supervisor Yack adjourned the meeting at 8:50 P.M.

The above is a synopsis of actions taken at the Regular Board meeting held on December 2, 1997. The full text of the approved minutes will be available following the next regular meeting of the Board on January 13, 1998.

THOMAS J. YACK, Supervisor

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Publish: December 11, 1997

179128

# Some lawmakers still unhappy with Durant payoff to districts

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

As the Durant case battle sputtered to a close, some lawmakers still were unhappy about the way state government paid off 84 school districts that won a 17-year lawsuit to recover special education funds.

Gov. John Engler signed the pair of bills, calling it a "win-win" proposal for public school K-12 students. "The bills will add an additional \$1 billion to help children learn," he said.

That amount includes \$211 million for the plaintiff districts, which will get lump sums next April; \$640 million over a decade for 400-plus other districts which could have filed claims; and the rest in line items for at-risk pupils.

The Senate passed the bills 34-0 with three absent, including the hospitalized Sen. Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion.

A band of House members filed formal

protests as the bills sailed through 99-7. Among them:

■ **Unequal treatment** - Rep. Mike Goschka, R-Brant: "It does not treat all special education children the same." Plaintiff districts get their money immediately, but "the rest of the school districts will receive only half of the money that is due them immediately, and the balance will 'supposedly' be paid in equal increments over the next 10 years. There is no guarantee that this will actually happen, as no legislature is bound by the agreements of a previous legislature."

■ **Money source** - The payoff came from the budget stabilization fund, the so-called "rainy day" fund, instead of the year-end surplus in the general fund, Goschka said.

■ **Inequity** - Rep. Alan Cropsey, R-DeWitt: "When Proposal A was voted by the people... the Legislature promised to work toward equitable funding of the

public schools... The poorest school districts are penalized under this scheme, and the wealthiest school districts are the beneficiaries."

■ **Shortage of funds** - Rep. Kirk Profit, D-Ypsilanti: "It is unconscionable to me that this state can continue to ignore the will of the people as expressed by... the Headlee amendment (requiring the state to pay for all services it mandates from local government). Now, to add insult to injury, this government seeks to deny the guarantees... by at least an inflationary increase in state financial support for their public education."

■ **No refund** - Rep. David Jaye, R-Utica: "This Legislature and the governor rejected Jaye amendments which would have 1) returned \$983 million to the property taxpayers, just like a utility overcharge; 2) require a vote in each school district in November 1998 on whether the money should be returned

to the property taxpayers or spent on school teachers and bureaucratic perks; 3) any school spending programs should be approved by the voters."

## State 'a model'

Meanwhile, the battle over special education costs - the biggest chunk of money in the Durant lawsuit - continued in the State Board of Education.

The board, during a special meeting Nov. 13, said it will make "significant revisions" to the special education delivery system, but indicated it will support Michigan's higher and costlier standards.

"Our laws served as a model for the first federal laws passed back in 1975," said Dorothy Beardmore, R-Rochester Hills, vice president of the board. "We continue to be the only state educating students with disabilities from birth to 26 years old."

"It is our intent to enable, rather than constrain, local efforts to service children with disabilities," said Jacquelyn Thompson, acting director of the state's office of special education services.

But many suburban K-12 school officials are worried about two things: 1) the rising cost per-pupil of special ed and 2) the growing numbers of kids whose parents demand special ed.

Suburban officials, such as those in MAISL (Michigan Association for Improved School Legislation), fear special ed will eat up general ed funds. No longer do they have the power to go to voters and ask for more property taxes.

A year ago, an Engler administration official floated a trial balloon: Follow federal rules and provide funds for ages 3-21 instead of birth to 26. Lawmakers fled from the idea, but so far haven't come up with a method of controlling special ed costs.

# Bill directs attention to students' reading disorders

More state Capitol capsules:

## Reading bill OK'd

Rep. Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, won unanimous House approval of his bill to give more attention to students' reading disorders.

The House Nov. 13 voted 104-0 for his HB 5215 and sent it to the Senate for action, probably some time in 1998. If the Senate approves the bill, it would become law immediately.

Brown's bill requires that new elementary and secondary school

teachers be trained to recognize the signs of reading disorders and to make informed decisions about the help kids need in reading.

"We left politics at the school house door," said Brown after receiving bipartisan support.

## New bills

■ Bills to end tax foreclosures on property are being sponsored by a bipartisan, bicameral group of lawmakers. Currently, owners unable to pay taxes after three

## STATE NEWS

years see their property picked up by professional lien buyers in a tax sale.

Under the new bills, delinquent property would be forfeited directly to the state Department of Natural Resources. Owners would have a greater chance to redeem their properties. Sponsors are Sen. Bill Bullard, R-Milford, Rep. Kirk Profit, D-Ypsilanti, and Rep. Bill Bobier, R-Hesperia.

■ Rep. Judith Scranton, R-Brighton, wants to tack a \$10 assessment on top of tickets issued to motorists for both parking and moving violations. Her House Bill 5324 would give \$1 to the courts, \$5.40 for county roads and \$3.60 for municipal roads. Her bill is in the House Transportation Committee.

last month to improve the child support system. Among the members are:

■ **Kirsten Frank Kelly**, who will be presiding judge of the new Family Division of Wayne County Circuit Court - appointed by Chief Justice Conrad Mallett Jr.

In an unusual step, the group was formed jointly by a gubernatorial executive order and a Supreme Court administrative order.

## Child support unit

Ten Michiganders have been appointed by the governor and chief justice to a Child Support Coordinating Council, created

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**Dr. Vincent C. Yu** is pleased to announce the opening of his new practice, **Quality Eye Care, P.C.**

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Dr. Yu will continue to perform surgery at Oakwood Hospital as well as other facilities.

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her little girl can visit when it's convenient for me. I can even have someone stay overnight in my room.

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# Holidays

## Let's acknowledge all beliefs

The winter holidays - Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa - are full of symbols, as well as feelings that speak to the heart of our families, heritage and religious beliefs.

Everywhere you look at this time of the year you find both secular and religious Christmas displays. After all, it's the season. But it's also a season for other religious holidays. As a predominately Christian society, however, these other holidays are considered secondary.

As America goes, so go our communities. We increasingly are a diverse community with people of all nationalities, ethnic and religious backgrounds.

And that is not to say that we view Hanukkah and Kwanzaa as just a different way to celebrate Christmas.

The city of Plymouth on whose property the Nativity scene sits has not received complaints about the religious Christian display.

Today, as communities go, Plymouth is lucky. But it is not even a matter of Supreme Court rulings and the involvement of the ACLU.

It is a matter of acknowledging the diversity in our community. Without taking an updated census, we could pretty well assume that a majority of residents in the Plymouths are white and Christian. But what about the minorities who are a valuable part of the community?

While the Nativity scene may not be offensive enough to prompt a non-Christian to complain, we should also do our best to acknowledge other groups who call the Plymouths home.

**Acknowledging those around us who practice different beliefs does not detract from a majority belief. Nor does it detract from age-old tradition.**

Would it be too out of place to perhaps put up a dreidel to symbolize Hanukkah? How about candles for Kwanzaa?

Acknowledging those around us who practice different beliefs does not detract from a majority belief. In fact, opening doors only shows how confident and strong the majority is in its traditions.

A good example of providing an opportunity to learn about other ways is a special program at the Plymouth Community Arts Council later this month.

The program is open to kids who will learn of different celebrations, such as Hanukkah. That doesn't mean that Christian kids will walk away with doubts about their traditions. They will walk away knowing there are other equally valid traditions and beliefs and that today we are part of a world community.

We would assume that a group who follows another religious belief - one that doesn't represent the majority - and asks to erect a symbol of their faith, would be granted such an opportunity in Kellogg Park.

But the community would gain much if leaders encouraged other religious groups to celebrate their traditions in the park.

## Give the holiday gift of life

It's certainly a busy time of year, what with the demands of work, family and holiday preparation. It's all too easy to forget those who need our help, such as patients scheduled for surgery and others who need blood.

The American Red Cross experiences a decline in blood donations this time of year, but it's not due to lack of opportunity to give blood. By rolling up your sleeve and giving just a few minutes of your time, you could be saving a life. Those who benefit from your gift will thank you in their hearts, even though you will likely never meet.

In addition to permanent Red Cross facilities, a number of blood drives are scheduled, throughout the area. Red Cross officials encourage you to get out and give blood, to help fight the traditional holiday blood shortage.

Wayne County sites include:  
 ■ 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Newburg United Methodist Church-Fellowship Hall, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, (313) 422-0149.

■ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at St. Robert Bellarmine Church-gym, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford, (313) 937-1500.

■ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, at Redford Baptist Church-Fellowship Hall, 25295 Grand River, Redford, (248) 277-4061.

■ 1-7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23, at Century 21-Chalet's conference room, 37290 Five Mile, Livonia, (313) 432-7600.

Oakland County sites include:  
 ■ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at Cranbrook High School-auditorium, 550 Lone Pine,

Bloomfield Hills, (248) 775-7086.

■ 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, at EDS Tower-Small Cafeteria, 26533 Evergreen, Southfield, (248) 363-7157.

■ 2-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at St. John Lutheran Church-Fellowship Hall, 23225 Gill, Farmington, (248) 615-9191.

■ 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at the Safety Council for Southeastern Michigan-Tower 14, 21700 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, (248) 557-7010.

■ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at Henry Ford Medical Center-conference room, 6777 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, (248) 661-4100.

■ 2-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23, at the Jewish War Memorial, 16990 W. 12 Mile, Southfield, (248) 968-7239.

■ 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 29, at Providence Hospital-Doctor's Dining Room, 16001 W. Nine Mile, Southfield, (248) 424-3180.

■ 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, at Providence Hospital-Doctor's Dining Room, 16001 W. Nine Mile, Southfield, (248) 424-3180.

Blood donors must be at least 17, weigh 110 pounds or more "and be in general good health," said Ann-Marie Morris, public relations specialist for the American Red Cross.

For those who can't make it to one of the holiday season blood drives, there's a permanent donor center in the Bell Creek Office Plaza, 29691 Six Mile, Livonia, as well as other sites throughout the metropolitan area. Appointments to give blood can be made by calling 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

## A giving time



**Giving:** Plymouth-Canton bus drivers (from left) Maureen Vitoratos, Carol George, Sharon McMillin, Cindy Travis, Kevin Mason and Tammie Sakcriska collected toys and gifts for needy families in the community.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

## LETTERS

### Enough is enough

Enough is enough. Shame on the new city commission to have chosen the mayor on a purely political basis over the two senior members who have served us long and faithfully. It is very disappointing.

Integrity, sincerity, and honesty should have prevailed in the interest of our uniquely recognized community, known as Plymouth.

Paul and Lucile Nastoff  
Plymouth

### Volunteers recognized

This is written to recommend recognition for the Girls Scouts who helped us.

Due to kidney failure, my husband went on dialysis in April and we tested for organ compatibility. I matched, so on Oct. 16 my husband and I both underwent surgery. I was the kidney donor, he was the recipient.

The Girl Scout Troop Service Director Deb Comstock requested the Girl Scouts to bring us dinner each night when we returned home from the hospital. We were brought wonderful, marvelous meals each night for one month while we recuperated. They were grand in scale, and the homemade get well cards did much to make our recovery easier.

I would like to recommend Comstock, the Girl Scout leaders and the Girls Scouts who brought us dinners each night for their Volunteer Spirit.

Kathy and Frank Sundquist  
Canton

### Happy anniversary

Happy 150th anniversary to the Plymouth Odd Fellows. Tonquish Odd Fellow Lodge No. 32 was chartered on Dec. 10, 1847. The charter members were: William Bears, George Starkweather, Alfred Parker, W. Anthony Washer, and J. Scattergood.

In the late 1800s, the Odd Fellows and Freemasons (Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 47) owned a building on Main Street just south of the stairway to the present parking lot. They met on the third floor. Downtown Plymouth was razed in an 1893 fire. The Odd Fellows, after downtown was rebuilt, met near the same location until 1925 when they moved into their new temple which they lost in the Great Depression. (It is the present Mayflower Meeting House.) They then returned to Main Street until Kresge's razed several buildings when they moved into their present building at 344 Elizabeth at Ann Arbor Trail.

The Odd Fellows are very similar to Freemasons and, in fact were operative masons who worked in marble only, instead of stone. Our main thing is charity. Tonquish sends several children to the Odd Fellow and Rebekah (ladies' group) Camp at Big Star Lake in Baldwin, Mich. Arthritis and visual eye research, among others are our yearly projects.

Some of the well-remembered names of Past (Noble) Grand of Tonquish Lodge (the leader is titled "Noble Grand") are: Dunbar Davis, 1941; Wilford Bunyea, 1935; Fred Wagonschutz, 1917; Roswell Tanger, 1923; Earl Gray, 1927.

Donald E. Prince  
secretary, Tonquish Lodge No. 32

### Celebrate safely

The holiday season is here with its share of parties, family gatherings and lots of food and drink. If you're planning to host or attend a holiday party, don't forget your friends and neighbors who share the roads and highways.

Promoting responsible drinking and safe driving during the holidays is everyone's responsibility. Here are some tips to make your holiday party safe:

■ Always serve food with alcoholic beverages. High-protein foods like cheese and meat help moderate the effects of alcohol.

■ Make non-alcoholic beverages available to your guests.

■ Serve each guest one drink at a time.

■ Close the bar at least an hour before the party ends. As an alternative, offer deserts and coffee to end the evening.

■ Arrange safe rides home for all your guests. Make sure they have a designated driver, call them a cab or ask them to spend the night.

Preventing drunk driving take a team effort, and by following these simple suggestions, we can all help our community have a safe holiday season.

Bill Ventola  
Central Distributors of Beer Inc.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### QUESTION:

What do you like most about the holidays?



"Spending time with my family."  
Karleigh Zebari, 9



"Decorating the Christmas Tree. We still have to find one, though."  
Brittany Neal, 9



"The candy."  
Ryan Schlamm, 6



"You get presents."  
Andrew Bozzini, 10

We asked this question at the Canton civic center.

## Plymouth Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

# Interest in environment makes Rouge work a natural

The writer from the Wall Street Journal looked at me piercingly and asked, "But how do you sleep at night?" He had come to do an article on local efforts to improve water quality. He asked me probing questions about sewage and retention treatment basins.

It was a thoughtful moment. I was serving as mayor of Birmingham. I spent time learning, studying and worrying about the Rouge River and how to ensure it made a clean trip through Birmingham.

When I became an elected official, I brought with me a long-standing interest in the environment. Therefore, it was no surprise that as I came on the Birmingham City Commission, my particular area of interest would be the physical environment of the city. I recall in 1985, sitting at a luncheon with elected officials from other southeastern Michigan cities to learn about the problems of the Rouge

River and being absolutely flabbergasted at the dollar amounts that were being tossed around to clean up the river.

Robert Kenning, then city manager of Birmingham, invited me along to the very first organizing meeting of what was to become the Rouge Remedial Action Plan Advisory Council. Today, I fill one of the three local government spots on the council, overseeing the progress being made on correcting problems in the Rouge River that were cited in the Rouge Remedial Action Plan. Through the annual Rouge Rescue sponsored by Friends of the Rouge and taking place at many sites on the first Saturday of June, I became familiar with the Rouge.

At the national level, I participated in the early meetings that led to the formation of the Combined Sewer Overflow Partnerships of America. As I came to understand the whole concept of combined sewers and the prob-



COCO SIEWERT

lems with frequent overflows into the river, I became convinced that the solution for Birmingham would be complete separation of the rainwater from sewage waste.

But, gradually, as I read more and visited other communities, I came to understand that separation was usually not possible in older communities because of the devastating effect that it had on the community. It soon became clear that even with separation there would still be so much rain-

water getting into the sanitary sewer, it would be necessary to have a large tank in Linden Park.

The tank would hold sewage to prevent overflows to the river in a closed system and to prevent the likelihood that it would back up into people's basements. I realized that there would not be any advantage to separation, just high costs and substantial disruption, including tree loss.

My fellow commissioners and I realized the gravity of the decision for the life of the community and the appointment of citizens to an ad hoc committee to consider the various proposals was an important step.

Once the decision was made to build a combined sewer overflow retention basin rather than separate the sewers, I thought that the devastation accompanying the construction would be awful and it was. I had a personal view of it as a section of the tunnel was installed in my street and

the adjacent cross street had an open cut installation. There was no surprise in the mess that was created.

What did surprise me a great deal was the resiliency of the community. While there were some problems and complaints, I was amazed at the large part of the population that simply withstood it and went on their way the best way they could.

We have been rewarded with few unexpected problems with trees and I am anxious to see both Linden Park and the Lincoln Hills golf course next spring. There are more chapters to be written on this national demonstration project, but I am confident that the effort has been worthwhile. I can only hope that all of America's local elected officials are vigilant and being attentive to their environmental problems.

Coco Siewert is a member of the Birmingham City Commission.

## Idea of electrical competition doesn't shine brightly

It's time to say it: The emperor has no clothes. The emperor, in this case, is Gov. Engler's administration and the ideologues, both in politics and the electric industry, who chant about "competition, competition, competition."

Their flawed premise: If competition is good in the auto, media and clothing industries, it also must be good in the electric industry.

Indeed, the Michigan Public Service Commission, born in 1919 to regulate utilities, is working on such a plan. Well, it's looking at plans submitted by the regulated industries.

Attorney General Frank Kelley thinks the process is tainted. He issued a blistering press release last week saying that the two big electric companies, Detroit Edison and Consumers Energy, met behind closed doors with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and the Jobs Commission to cook up a deal that may hurt con-

sumers. Kelley says they are plotting to pass onto homeowners and small businesses the costs of "securitization."

It's complex but not incomprehensible. If competition comes to the electric industry, consumers will switch and leave certain investments "stranded" without any means of paying them off. One method of paying them off is "securitization," the floating of bonds to cover them.

Kelley smells a rat. He says the deal is to stick consumers and businesses, which pay 8-10 cents per kilowatt hour, with those costs and let the bulk buyers, such as industries, which pay 4-5 cents per KWH, off the securitization hook.

So much for the benefits of competition.

There is a reason why we have regulated monopolies instead of competition. It's told in Detroit Edison's own prize-winning history, "The Force of



TIM RICHARD

Energy: A Business History of the Detroit Edison Co." by Raymond C. Miller. He writes of Alex Dow, president of Edison from 1903-40:

"In the conventional economic society, price was determined by the competitive process. Dow had watched the struggle between the arc companies in Detroit, and drew the moral therefrom.

"Competition will not work in the electrical industry.

"Duplication of lines and facilities is a dangerous waste of capital, to no good purpose. Price, since it cannot be set in this industry by direct competition, must be an administered price, which means substantially a monopoly price.

"Dow did not shrink from the next logical conclusion: an administered price then must be set with full public knowledge, and must rest on public approval and confidence, Public participation in the price-making process, either directly or through a responsible public agency, was an essential corollary to the industry's inevitable monopoly position." (pages 27-28.)

In his sequel, "Kilowatts at Work," Miller noted that it takes \$4 of invested capital to produce \$1 of revenue (page 241). Look at Edison's or Consumers' annual report, and you'll see extremely high capital costs (depreciation and interest) per \$1 of revenue compared to (say) Kmart's.

If competition was dangerous and wasteful then, what has changed? Nothing.

We are reaping the dubious benefits of competition in the telephone industry. AT&T, broken up by federal court order in 1984, is trying to rebuild its empire with acquisitions.

So unfrightened is Ameritech of competition that this year it jacked up its coin phone rate 40 percent.

Enough of this ideological ether about "competition" in electricity! Alex Dow had it right. Sound business sense dictates in some places we have monopolies regulated by government.

And while we're at it, we should reverse the Blanchard administration's error and place the Public Service Commission under the Open Meetings Act.

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

## Young changed history forever

Frankly, I was astonished at the enormous amount of attention the news media paid to former Detroit Mayor Coleman A. Young's death.

Part of it, of course, was nothing more than media hype.

Confronted for once with an honest-to-goodness big, breaking story, members of the Detroit media community nearly foamed at the mouth in anxiety to outdo each other.

Live reports from the line at the Museum of African-American History, where Young's body lay in state! Helicopters over Greater Grace Temple, where the funeral service was held! Breaking news when it happens! Film at 11!

Upon reflection, though, there was more content to the mayor's passing than elevated media blood pressure.

Coleman Young was a remarkable man who lived a remarkable life. His career will certainly become an important part of Michigan's history, rising far beyond the domain of current events.

Thomas Carlyle, the great 19th century historian, argued that, "The history of the world is but the biography of great men." And certainly the great man theory of history seems at first glance to have found persuasive evidence in Coleman Young's life.

From his refusal to endure segregation and mistreatment in the Army Air Corps to his leadership in the Michigan Senate and, finally, to his unprecedented five terms as mayor of the largest city in the state, Coleman Young seems as though destined specifically to play a path-breaking role.

He was smart, cunning, rough, willing to play the race card when necessary but realistic enough to realize that separatism cannot work in 20th century America.

Certainly his greatest accomplishment was to raise the hopes and shape the ambitions of the black majority in the city of Detroit.

Remember, you didn't hear much about black folks and their contributions when Al Cobo was mayor, or even Jerry Cavanagh. Coleman Young personified the established demographic fact that black Americans represented a majority of Detroit's population.

Detroit's current mayor, Dennis Archer, caught this point perfectly in his eulogy, suggesting that Mayor Young's "most important legacy was not the bricks and mortar of Detroit, but the spirit, and soul of Detroit that he embodied."

So was Coleman Young himself the cause of all the changes that we associate with his career?

Thucydides, the ancient Greek historian,



PHILIP POWER

And the future of our state never will be the same.

introduced in his "History of the Peloponnesian War" the distinction between what might be called the proximate cause and the real cause. Proximate causes include things like the outcome of battles, the death of kings, the winning of elections.

Real causes, on the other hand, have to do with underlying factors over the decades such as the stately swing of demography over the decades, the spread of technology, the relationship between geometrically increasing population and linearly increasing food supply.

Look at in this context, what we see at work are underlying trends - causes, if you will - at work throughout this century that finally expressed themselves in Coleman Young's election as mayor.

The good jobs at good pay that accompanied the rise of the automobile manufacturing plants around Detroit provoked the largest mass migration - from the rural South to the urban North - in American history. Later, after World War II, the automobile made possible the growth of the suburbs and the means by which families - originally white, but later of all races - moved out of the center city.

These factors drove the dynamics of demography and, gradually, made Detroit an increasingly black city. And it was only a matter of time until a special kind of black politician turned up that the black majority would express itself in an election.

That special kind of politician turned out to be Coleman Young. And the future of our state never will be the same.

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

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## Plymouth company relocates to expand

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER

For Robert Bloch Jr., the move is about two blocks away.

But for his company, PMC Machinery Sales of Plymouth, it means more room — about 47,000 more square feet — in which he can expand his machine tool sales and distribution business at a 7.75 acre site in Northville Township.

The Northville site is located in the research and development area of county-owned property along Five Mile Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads. It is located just east of Optical Imaging Systems Inc.

Robert Bloch, Jr. purchased the property for \$1,012,770 from Wayne County's Economic Development Corporation, which will transfer the money to the county's general fund. County commissioners unanimously approved the land sale Nov. 20.

Bloch will lease the property to his company, PMC Machinery Sales of Plymouth Township. Bloch will lease his old building, which is zoned light industrial. PMC has been located in Plymouth since 1989.

"I moved to expand," Bloch said "I would have stayed (in Plymouth), but I was landlocked." Bloch plans to build a headquarters building, a customer showroom and demonstration center.

Archie Clark, who represented the Wayne County Jobs and Economic Development Department, told commissioners at a study session on Nov. 18 he expected the project will result in a \$3.5 million in investment, retain 50 jobs and create 50 new ones.

Bloch told commissioners he planned on starting with 28,000 square feet, which would take care of the company's space needs for two years. Bloch expects to enlarge the building then to 75,000 square feet.

Commissioner Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, wondered if the \$130,680-an-acre price was comparable for western Wayne County. Bill Eisenberg, vice chairman of the Farbman Group, told Patterson it compared well to property along M-14.

About 32 acres remain for research and development at the Northville site.

Bloch will need site plan approval from Northville Township officials before he breaks ground on the new facility.

Bloch started PMC in 1983. It has been located in Farmington Hills, Livonia and Plymouth.

## Residents can help, 'adopt' families

W4 Country (106.7 FM) is helping families with the W4 Country Adopt a Family Program, in conjunction with Volunteers of America.

W4 listeners and members of the public can call 1-888-6W4-1067, a toll-free number, to adopt a family this holiday season.

Volunteers of America hopes to adopt 500 families this year. Adopting families will receive a profile and wish list from the family they adopt. Sponsors are asked to provide one new toy, one new article of clothing per child and a food basket for the family's Christmas dinner. A gift certificate can replace the food basket. Volunteers of America accepts donations to be used to adopt families and assist with program costs.

In 1996 Volunteers of America helped 368 families and 42 senior citizens. Over 1,160 senior citizens were given a special Christmas thanks to the warm hearts of W4 Country's listeners.

## Bill to repeal helmet law denounced by medical groups

House passage of a bill repealing the motorcycle helmet law is being denounced by medical interests.

"Absolutely unbelievable," said Dennis Rzakowski, chair of the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, headquartered in Brighton.

It's "ridiculous" that the bill exempted persons over 21 but kept the rule for those under 21, he said. "When the brain is

injured, it is permanent, regardless of a person's age."

The Michigan State Medical Society vowed to fight the bill in the Senate. Dr. Peter A. Duhamel, Rochester Hills surgeon and MSMS president, said, "As physicians we treat the victims of serious injuries from motorcycle accidents, and this bill could only create more injuries."

Peter Duhamel  
—surgeon

House Bill 4284 passed the House on a 58-44 vote and was sent to the Senate.

### No rate hike

State officials say Michigan owners of sport-utility vehicles shouldn't be hit by insurance rate hikes occurring elsewhere in the U.S.

Reason: Michigan has a no-fault law. "In most instances, the driver responsible for the accident cannot be sued for medical expenses," said Gov. Engler. "The injured person's own auto insurance policy will pay all necessary medical and rehabilitation expenses as well as three years' replacement services and wage loss benefits."

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JACQUE MARTIN DOWNS

## 'Grands' are grand gift for children

She's a walking billboard for vibrancy, quick-wittedness, resourcefulness, industriousness, exuberance, independence, tenaciousness and she's busier than anyone with a 40-hour-a-week job is. Is she unusual for 75-plus years old? Doubt it, because today's grandparents are a breed of their own. Maybe you have memories of grandparents who beetled about in their cozy little house, rocked back and forth in their favorite rocking chair and could barely see over the steering wheel of their outrageously large automobile? Betcha these aren't from your recent past. With today's grandparents "on the go," just where do grandchildren fit into the picture? Are they a burden or a privilege? Are grandparents functioning like extended parents as they have in the past? Many parents say that the grandparents appear to be too busy or too distant from their grandchildren to be there for them. But you would be surprised to learn that most of them would like to be close to their grandchildren. Is there great value in their being

Please see **SENSORS, B2**

# Kits give kids chance to be creative

■ What started out as a way of entertaining children who visited her home has turned into the Dream Team Tracing Company for Marie Smith of Plymouth.

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER

To entertain children who visited her Plymouth home, Marie Smith would trace pictures of hockey players, ice skaters and dancers for her young guests to color.

Smith, however, got a little tired of holding the paper up to the windows and making multiple copies, so she started her own company, Dream Team Tracing Company, which offers Figure Skater, Hockey and Dancer Tracing Kits.

"The kids really liked it, and the more I checked into this I found that there weren't any art products like this for children," Smith said.

All the kits come with reusable tracing cards, 25 sheets of tracing paper, nine non-toxic colored pencils and a tracing pencil.

The skater kit tracing cards have four different poses and two design cards. The dancer kit offers two jazz dance positions and two ballet poses. The hockey kits come with two players and a goalie, and a design page with a helmet, jersey and numbers.

"They can draw any hockey player, jersey or helmet, and add names number logos and colors," she said.

With the kits, children can start out with tracing just the figure. Those of advanced skill can add to the costume accessories like rhinestones, beads, helmets and numbers which are found on another card.

Smith's company also sells packages of "Color Me Note Cards," which include eight note cards and envelopes with the same characters.

"The note cards are blank inside so they can use them for birthday cards,



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BREESLER

Take your pick: Marie Smith shows off the sketches of a figure skater and hockey player, two of the three she currently offers as part of the tracing kits she designed for children. The kits include reusable tracing cards, sheets of tracing paper, non-toxic coloring pencils and a tracing pencil, everything needed to design and color the figure.

party invitations, or thank you notes," Smith said. The note cards retail for \$4, and the tracing kits for \$10. Smith recommends

her products for children ages 5-12. The products are available at a variety of local stores, including Little Professor in the Park, Trader Jacks, and

Compuware Ice Arena, all in Plymouth; Practice Makes Perfect at Ply-

Please see **TRACINGS, B2**

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## Tracings from page B1

mouth Ice Arena; Dancewear Gallery in Canton; and Dance World, Bunny Sanford School of Dance and Miss Jean's Dance Studio, all in Livonia.

So far, more than 850 kits and 650 of the notecards have been sold.

The Figure Skater, Hockey and Dancer Tracing Kits took 1 1/2 years to create "with a lot of gears slammed in my face," Smith said, who "had a lot of obstacles to overcome," such as finding artists to draw the figures.

"I had to go with a portrait

artist because she could draw pretty faces," she said.

Smith, whose background also includes costume design, went through costume books to find appropriate outfits.

The next step was to find a lawyer for help with trademark and copyright information.

"It took a lot of time and a lot of research for this," she said. "I went back to school and took entrepreneurial classes at Schoolcraft College and Dale Carnegie management classes."

She runs her company out of

her home. The dining room serves as a storage area, while her "packaging plant" is located behind a couch in a living room.

Smith, whose two sons play hockey, already has future projects planned.

"I'd like to have a baseball player, and gymnast or maybe a soccer player," she said. "Girls and boys like to play soccer."

Smith, an ice-skating coach for more than 20 years, said there are plenty of uses for her kits.

The tracing kits can help skaters kill time in between competitions.

"I have no girls of my own, but I think they love to color and to trace and to design their own costumes," Smith said. "Some of them are buying them to design their costumes, but that's not necessarily what it's for. It's for fun."

Children in hospitals can benefit from her product. Friends Gift Shop at the University of Michigan and Mott hospitals in Ann Arbor carry the kits.

"The children lay in bed and they don't have anything to do; this is something they can do to

occupy their time," she said. "They don't have a lot of fun in their life. If they get gifts or flowers, they can do their thank you cards right there."

Smith also donated 50 kits to the Toys for Tots campaign.

The married mother of two thought this product would be worthwhile because technology is hindering children's motor skills.

"With computers, all kids do is press a button and out comes a picture," she said.

Local teachers agreed. "It's kind of a back-to-basics

toy; a teacher told me it's great for their small motor skills and it helps stimulate creativity and imagination," Smith said. "It's more than a coloring book. It can allow them to create expression and design."

"The thing parents like the most, other than getting the kids away from Sega or Nintendo, is that they keep going back to it, which is kind of a nice thing. They put it down and a couple days later, they're working on it again. It's a toy they keep going back to."

## Sensors from page B1

in your children's lives? You bet there is. More than ever, kids are in need of everything grandparents offer — they serve as surrogate nurturers, positive role models, mentors, teachers, fairy godmothers, giant children (yes, I've seen them in the sandbox) and historians of the family's history.

Grandparents help strengthen the child's sense of roots and self-identity when they tell the family stories and link the photographs from the past to the present. Because grandparents' eyes have moved from "doing" (their old role as parent) to "being," the pressures are fewer. And because children live primarily in the world of being rather than doing, the bond between the two generations is unique.

Today in the United States, more than three million grandchildren live with their grandparents. Today's children need unconditional love, acceptance and understanding. So often, the frantic pace that families must keep precludes them from staying connected.

More than ever, grandparents are stepping in when there is a family illness, death, financial difficulties or divorce. Grandpar-

ents will go to great lengths to keep their grandchildren from living in tumultuous circumstances.

Some grandparents, burdened with guilt about what they did wrong as a parent, know that this is their opportunity to be different and give their grandchildren something their own kids missed. What a nice gift to give grandchildren.

So here's the deal. By the year 2002, it is estimated that there will be 98 million grandparents in America. If you are not taking advantage of yours, maybe they could be shared with others. I suggest that a network or clearinghouse be established where grandparents can be matched with families who are in need of one. Everyone wins because all three generations get their needs met. What do ya think?

But back to the billboard grandparent — the one that kids can count on a warm hug from, the one who is thrilled that they have arrived, the one who is anxious to hear about their adventures and their thoughts on life, the one who gives them encouragement and positive strokes when they mess up, the one who puts hope in their hearts when they feel discour-

aged and defeated, the one who advocates for them when their mother or father says, "Absolutely not."

This grandparent is the one who created an amazing treasure hunt for her granddaughter and her friends on her ninth birthday, complete with astounding limericks and puzzles; the one who designed an incredible string labyrinth for her grandson on his ninth birthday; the one who let both of them sleep in her gigantic bed when they came to visit; the one who dropped every project she was in the middle of, to sit and play games with them when they came over.

Oh by the way, did I mention that this billboard grandparent is my kids' grandma? Yup! "Nanny." Cool lady — you should see how she tears up that lawn on her riding mower.

If you have a question or comment for Jacque Martin Downs, a prevention specialist and the director of Hegira Prevention Programs, write her at *The Observer Newspapers*, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.



**Deck the halls:** Bruce Weber adjusts the candles set in greenery that decorate the sideboard beneath a portrait of Clara Ford. One of several local florists to help decorate Henry Ford Estate for Christmas, this is the third year he has been responsible for the holiday decor in the estate's dining room.

## Florist decks the halls of estate

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER

Upon entering the dining room at Fair Lane, the Henry Ford Estate in Dearborn, visitors are welcomed with the sweet smell of lilies of the valley and paper white narcissus.

Teddy bears designed from greenery present each other with gifts for the holiday season.

Bruce Weber, the owner of Weber's Floral and Gifts in Livonia for 20 years, has decorated the dining room for the past three years. This year's display, he said, represents a "sophisti-

cated European-style" Christmas.

"It's a little quieter and a little more sophisticated than displays I've done in the past," said Weber, a Farmington Hills resident.

"It's a challenge to come up with a different look every year. This year, we decided to go with a real natural woodland look without getting 'typical Christmas.'"

The challenges included "how to get it all to come out and be wonderful," and looking for the right clay pots.

"If we were going with red or green, it would have been easy."

The bears, which took Weber and his assistant Robert Miller eight hours to design, stand in urns in front of the windows that overlook the grounds of the

estate. In front of the bears, the dining room table is adorned with the delicate white flowers, greenery, candles and twinkling lights. A portrait of Clara Ford also is surrounded with greenery and candles.

"Henry Ford used to grow flowers in his greenhouse," Weber said. "All this is something that he could have forced and brought here for the holidays. I wanted to keep it period with a modern twist."

Weber's decorations are a part of the holiday celebration at the national historic landmark. Tours are held at 10 and 11 a.m. and 1, 2 and 3 p.m. weekdays and Saturdays, and 1-4:30 p.m. Sundays through Wednesday, Dec. 31. The estate is closed Christmas Day.

Tickets are \$7. Groups of 20 or

more who make reservations are charged \$5 per person.

"If your family is going out, you can tour the estate together as opposed to going with a public tour," said Anne Marie McElroy, special events coordinator at Fair Lane.

Fair Lane is hosting a variety of other events during the holiday season. Visitors are invited to a traditional English Cream Tea break along with a tour of the house and a 10 percent discount on items in the estate shop at 1:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Dec. 11-12, and Monday, Dec. 22. Reservations are required. The cost is \$10.

Holiday luncheon concerts are being held 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Dec. 11-12. Tickets are \$19.50 and reservations are required.

Henry and Clara Ford's tradition continues as children follow the lighted path to Santa's workshop where they visit Santa, receive a special gift and a cup of hot oyster soup 5-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12 and 19. Tickets are \$5.

Dinner by candlelight and the sounds of the season are a part of the "Candles and Carols Dinner" at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. Tickets are \$38 and reservations are required.

Candlelight tours are held from 6-8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 26-27. Tickets are \$8.

The pool restaurant hosts holiday lunches 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays with a limited lunch menu Wednesday, Dec. 24, through Friday, Jan. 2. It is closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

The estate is located on the campus of the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Call (313) 593-5590 for more information.

McElroy said every year she invites florists from all over the area to participate but "a lot of the florists have been with us for a number of seasons." Signs are displayed telling visitors which florist decorated each room and business cards from each florist are available.

Besides local florists, the gardeners at the estate also decorate. This year, they've adorned the sun porch, the farm house and some of the outer areas, including the visitor's center, with flowers.

This is Weber's sixth year decorating the estate. He previously worked in the sun room and upstairs hallway. Thanks to the exposure he gets at Christmas time, Weber's store does a lot of weddings at the estate.

"We do a lot of work here which is why we continue to support it."

### PLYMOUTH-CANTON SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools cordially invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for the purchase of student furniture.

Specifications and Bid Forms can be obtained at the Purchasing Department, Board of Education Building, 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, MI. Bids are due on or before 2:00 P.M. Tuesday, January 13, 1998. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept any or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the School District.

JACK F. FARROW, Secretary  
Board of Education  
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Publish: December 11 and 18, 1997

LT3199

## IT WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS & WE ALL WENT TO FIRST CHURCH...

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year. Part of the joy is Santa, but we know the real story is the birth of the Prince of Peace, 2,000 years ago.

Won't You Share This Special MERRY SEASON With Us?

- **Dec. 14 -**  
(Sunday)  
9:00 and 11:00 am Worship Services  
Musical presentation with choirs of all ages, handbells, orchestra, and organ.  
*One Star...Lighting Our Way*
- **Dec. 21 -**  
(Sunday)  
9:00 and 11:00 am Worship Services  
*The Promise of Christmas*  
5:00 pm Christmas Party (7th thru 12th graders)  
*Sunday Nite Live*  
8:00 pm Organ and piano concert featuring Dr. Larry Vissar and guest soloist Julia Olson.  
*Journey to Bethlehem*
- **Dec. 24 -**  
(Wednesday)  
4:30 pm Family Christmas Eve Worship Service  
*O Holy Night*  
8:00 pm Candlelight Service (Nursery Provided 4:30 & 8:00 pm)  
*Gift Wrapped In Swaddling Clothes*  
10:00 pm Candlelight Service  
*Joy To The World*

CALL TODAY for more information - or if we can be of assistance:

### First United Methodist Church Of Plymouth

45201 N. Territorial Road (Just W. of Sheldon)  
(313) 453-5280

### Western Townships Utilities Authority Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Synopsis 4:00 p.m., Monday, November 24, 1997

Regular meeting called to order at 4:12 p.m.  
Present: Thomas Yack, Karen Woodside, Kathleen Keen-McCarthy.  
Agenda - adopted as presented.  
Minutes - regular meeting of October 27, 1997 - approved.  
Operation and Maintenance Monthly Report - received and filed.  
Operations Manager's Report - received and filed.  
Requisition Certificate 213, Requisition Certificate 214, Requisition Certificate 215 and operating expenses totaling \$892,668.84 - approved.  
Request For Bids; Middle Rouge Office Expansion - approved.  
Defeasement of Bonds Update - received and filed.  
Wet Well Odor Control System (Lower Rouge) - Process Piping; Certificate of Substantial Completion - approved.  
Disposal of Surplus Office Equipment Update - received and filed.  
Year-End Budget Amendment (Fiscal Year 96/97) - approved.  
Closed Session - Discussion regarding attorney/client letter and arbitration.  
Goulds Pumps - Attorney's recommendation approved.  
The regular meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Chairman,  
THOMAS J. YACK

This is a synopsis. A complete copy of the minutes may be reviewed at the WTUA offices located at 40905 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187.

Publish: December 11, 1997

LT3199

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## Hisson Reese

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WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

**Hissong-van Reesema**

Minta Elizabeth van Reesema and David Cloyd Hissong were married May 31 by the Rev. Dr. Lynn Spitz-Nagel and Rev. Joseph Rinaldo at St. Paul United Church of Christ in Chelsea.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. Frederik and Carole van Reesema of Chelsea. The groom is the son of Jimmie and Anne Hissong of Livonia.

The bride is a 1988 graduate of Chelsea High School, a 1992 graduate of the University of Michigan and a 1995 graduate of Eastern Michigan University. She is employed as a training consultant at MSX International in Southfield.

The groom is a 1981 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School, a 1991 graduate of the University of Michigan and a 1997 graduate of the Ohio State University College of Law. He is employed as an attorney in the law firm of Cox, Hodgeman and Giarmarco in Troy.

The bride asked Jennifer Hirsch to serve as maid of honor and Martine Blogin as matron of honor. Clara Garcovich, Angela Welch, Christina Hinman and Janet Hissong served as bridesmaids. Lauren van Reesema was



the flower girl.

The groom asked Mark Grenier to serve best man with John Hissong, Tim Hissong, Willem van Reesema, Heath Mielke and Jason Thomas as groomsmen. Kevin Mayburn was the ring-bearer.

A reception was held at the Michigan League Ballroom at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Following a honeymoon in Europe, the couple is living in Farmington Hills.

**Medalia-Baumbick**

Floyd and Virginia Medalia of Sterling Heights announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Marie, to James Michael Baumbick, the son of James and JoAnn Baumbick of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of arts degree and Notre Dame University with a master's degree in business administration and finance. She is employed as a financial analyst in product development at the Ford Motor Co.

Her fiancé is a graduate of the University of Michigan is graduating from Michigan State University this month with a master of business administration degree. He is a planning



supervisor at Ford Credit.

A February wedding is planned at St. Rene Goupil Church Sterling Heights.

**Jenkins-Buck**

George and Lois Janisse of South Rockwood and Robert and Kelly Jenkins of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter Lynn Ann Jenkins to Kevin Andrew Buck, the son of Gordon and Rosemary Buck of Novi.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Livonia Franklin High School and is a student at Oakland University in Rochester. She is employed by Garden City Hospital.

Her fiancé is a 1988 graduate of Novi High School and a 1992 graduate of the University of Michigan. He is employed by ICI Polyurethanes.

A January wedding is planned at Holy Family Church in Novi.



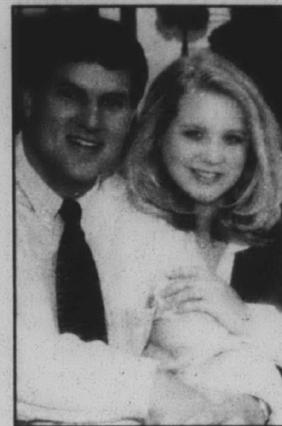
**Jenvey-Ellis**

Alan and Donna Jenvey of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristen Anne, to Dr. Donald Ray Ellis III, the son of Donald and Alana Ellis of Novi.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Madonna University with a bachelor of science degree in psychology. She is employed by Barnes and Noble Book-sellers in Northville.

Her fiancé is a 1997 graduate of the Michigan State University School of Medicine. He is in his residency in family practice at St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Rapids.

An August wedding is planned at Holy Family Church in Novi.



**Safranski-Plaisted**

John and Susan Safranski of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Jeanne Marie, to Jeffrey Carl Plaisted, the son of Phil Plaisted of Grosse Ile and Dee Unger of Brooklyn, Mich.

The bride-to-be is a 1989 graduate of Ladywood High School and a 1993 graduate of Michigan State University. She

is employed as a marketing manager for Einstein Bagels-Great Lakes Region.

Her fiancé is a 1986 graduate of Grosse Ile High School and a 1991 graduate of Michigan State University. He is employed as a senior account representative for Ameritech Inc.

An October wedding is planned at the Marygrove College Chapel in Detroit.

**Schewe-Earle**

Joseph and Marilyn Schewe of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie Hoyt, to Michael James Earle, the son of James and Anne Earle of Orchard Lake.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Ladywood High School and a 1996 graduate of the University of Michigan. She is employed by Tascor in Dallas, Texas.

Her fiancé is a 1992 graduate of Birmingham Brother Rice and a 1996 graduate of the University of Michigan. He is employed by I.B.M. in Dallas, Texas.

A May 1998 wedding is planned in St. Edith's Catholic Church in Livonia.



**Grulikowski-Nielsen**

Gregory Grulikowski and Krista Lee Nielsen were married Sept. 20 at Sweetest Heart of Mary Church in Detroit by the Rev. Bernard Backie.

The bride is the daughter of Gary and Linda Nielsen of Northville. The groom is the son of Ted and Barbara Grulikowski of Brighton.

The bride is a 1986 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and a 1990 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in political science and economics. She is employed by Ford Motor Co.'s marketing and sales division as an operations manager for the New York Regional Sales Office.

The groom is a 1985 graduate of Edsel Ford High School and a 1989 graduate of Purdue University with a bachelor of science degree in management in 1989 and a master's degree in 1991. He is employed by Ford Motor Co.'s marketing and sales division as an operations manager for the Philadelphia Regional Sales Office.

The bride asked Shawn Lounsbury, Jean Nielsen, Kate



Nielsen and Amy Vorhees to serve as her attendants.

Dr. John Richard served as the groom's best man with Kirk Avila, Troy Frazer, Ted Grulikowski, Mark Linkmeyer, Kenneth Nielsen, Michael Nielsen and David Nielsen serving as groomsmen.

The couple greeted guests at The Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn. Following a honeymoon trip to Maui, Hawaii, they are making their home in New Jersey.

*Open orientation will focus on Polish adoptions*

Families interested in adopting children from Poland can find out more at an open orientation 7-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, at

the International Business Center, 43000 Nine Mile Road, between Meadowbrook and Novi roads, Novi.

The orientation is sponsored by Forever Families Inc., a non-profit licensed adoption agency providing one of the largest

worldwide networks for adoption opportunities. For more information, call (248) 344-9606.

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38 metro Detroit locations including Fairlane, Laurel Park, Livonia, Pointe Plaza, Southland, Westland and Wonderland Malls.

# Focus:HOPE needs helpers

Three hundred seniors and 1,000 families could miss out on the simple pleasures of the season - a special meal, modest gifts and most importantly, company without the help of Focus:HOPE.

Focus:HOPE, through its Share with a Senior and Family to Family programs, connects individuals, families and groups who want to share the joys of the holiday season with others.

Those who Share with a Senior provide a food basket and

a modest gift for an elderly man or woman living on a fixed income. Seniors often need and appreciate toiletries and items such as slippers, sweaters and robes.

Participants with Family to Family provide a food basket for a family and a modest gift for each child. The families helped by the program consist of three or more children and are headed by an underemployed or unemployed individual. Helpful gifts for children include coats, mit-

tens, gloves, caps, socks, boots, underwear, combs, brushes, tooth brushes, books and educational games and toys.

Share with a Senior runs through Feb. 1, 1998, while Family to Family ends Friday, Dec. 19. To participate, call the Focus:HOPE Volunteer Department at (313) 494-5500.

There also are other ways to become involved, such as contributing non-perishable food or gift items which can be used in food baskets or perishable food items through Wednesday, Dec. 17, donating money to help purchase packaged and fresh food or gift items, becoming a delivery driver on Senior Delivery Day Saturday, Dec. 13, or volunteering two hours to help raise money by wrapping gifts at Northland Mall in Southfield.

People also can attend the 28th annual Holiday Music Festival at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the North Rosedale Park Community House. Proceeds benefit the Share with a Senior and Family to Family programs. Tickets are \$25 each or \$200 for a table of eight. For tickets, call (313) 494-5500.

Focus:HOPE is a non-profit civil and human rights organization, founded in 1968 by the late Rev. William Cunningham and Eleanor Josaitis.

Over the years, Focus:HOPE has initiated practical solutions to the problems of hunger, economic disparity, inadequate education and racial divisiveness. Today, it employs more than 700 people and has more than 49,000 supporters.

For more information, call Focus:HOPE at (313) 494-5500.



## Notecards benefit Wilson Barn

The photograph on the cover is a familiar one, especially for people who travel West Chicago or Middlebelt roads in Livonia.

Friends of the Barn are selling notecards, bearing a picture of the historic site, available for sending holiday greetings or dropping a line to a family member or friend.

The cards come in boxes of 10 and cost \$9 per box. They are available by sending a check, payable to Friends of the Barn, 29350 W. Chicago, Livonia 48152.

A state and national historical site, the barn was built in

1888 to house the Ira Wilson Dairy. Measuring 30 feet by 80 feet, the clapboard barn was destroyed by fire in 1918 and rebuilt a year later on the original foundation.

The site also includes a 15-by 45-foot silo, the largest ever built in Livonia, and the original house, built in 1845 and restored to the era of the 1940s in 1944.

Through donations and special events, the organization has been able to save the barn from destruction and restore it as well as refurbished the house, rebuild the corral, add handicap restrooms and

kitchenette and do extensive electrical service indoors and outdoors.

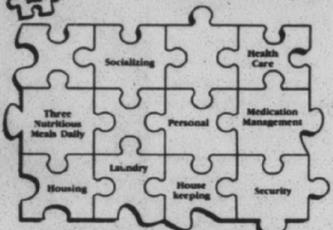
Future plans include restoration of the silo and construction of handicap ramps and paths and music and picnic pavilions.

Friends of Wilson Barn memberships are \$25 for businesses, patron and families and \$100 for a lifetime membership. The Friends of Wilson Barn newsletter also is available for a yearly \$5 donation.

For more information, call (313) 427-4311.

## NOW LEASING IN CANTON

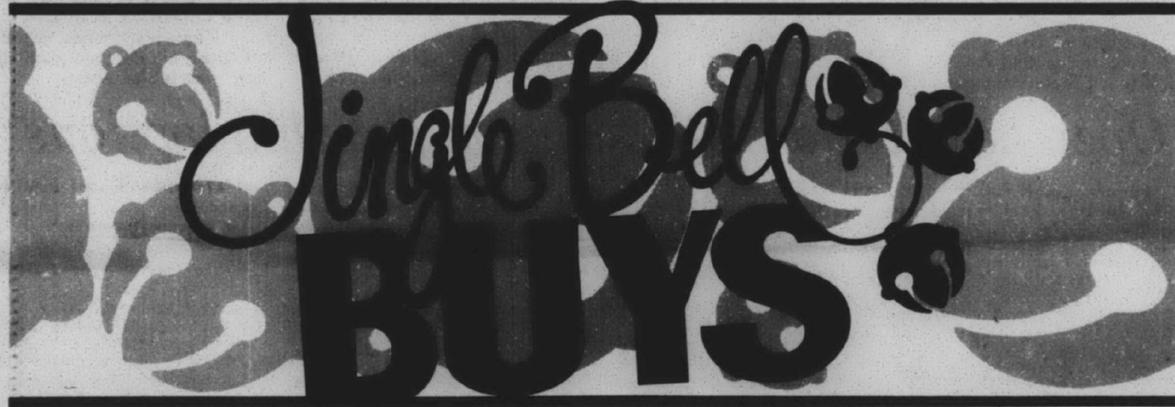
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Ready for Russian cookie u Church more th

Hos

The holidays with Commun Care Ser and Plym for servin Sixteen nuts are with a po the b offered by For n cashews taining almonds, nuts., par available at 32932 land, and mouth, th The nu

FOUR-DAY SALE

METR New 2142 (Nor Dear Livon (On Novi Roch (248)



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

**Ready for business:** Anne Hyrila holds a plate full of Russian Kifli cookies that will be sold at the Christmas cookie walk at the Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church in Livonia on Saturday, Dec. 13. Hyrila made more than 1,500 Kiflis for the walk.

## Hospice holds nut sale

The holidays mean lots of parties with plenty of snacks. And Community Hospice and Home Care Services Inc. of Westland and Plymouth has just the snack for serving - nuts.

Sixteen-ounce packages of nuts are available for \$10 each with a portion of the sales funding the bereavement programs offered by CHHCS.

For nut lovers, there are cashews or a variety pack containing pistachios, German almonds, cashews and assorted nuts, party givers. The nuts are available at the CHHCS offices at 32932 Warren Road, Westland, and 127 S. Main St., Plymouth, through year's end.

The nuts also are for sale at

Decker's Florist, 8214 Merriman Road, Westland; Peoples Home Medical, 1646 Eureka Road, Southgate, and 1147 Wayne Road, Westland; The Flower Shop, 7787 Middlebelt Road, Westland; Remerica Realtors, 42875 Five Mile Road, Plymouth; Mind, Body and Spirit Institute, 38405 Joy Road, Westland; Catholic Social Services, 17332 Farmington Road, Livonia; Heide's Flowers and Gifts, 995 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth; Atkins Chiropractic Center, 33595 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia; Livonia Italian Bakery and Cafe, 33615 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia, and Century 21 Today Realtors, 19500 Victor Parkway, Suite 190, Livonia.

# Bakers' dozens

## Church members ready for cookie walk

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER

When Anne Hyrila of Plymouth has company, store-bought snacks aren't good enough. She'll bake any one of a number of her favorite Russian treats.

Get-togethers for her church, Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church in Livonia, are no exception.

Hyrila, who is of Ukrainian descent, has made 1,500 Russian Kifli cookies for the church's annual cookie walk at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13. The church is at 36075 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. For more information, call (248) 476-3432.

Hyrila's project took two days. One day to make the dough, another to bake the cookies. She made eight recipes of Kifli which yield 192 cookies each. Half of the batch is filled with nuts, the other half has apricot filling.

"I made a half recipe yesterday, and it took me almost three hours to bake them," Hyrila said with a smile.

To make the sweet, flaky pastry, which is similar to Kolachy or Kolache, the dough is rolled out and cut into squares; a spoonful of filling is placed in the center of a square of pastry dough. Then the two opposite corners of the square are folded over the center and pressed down to cover some of the filling.

Hyrila's treats won't be the only ones available. Stuffed cabbage, sweet bread and nut, apricot and poppy seed rolls also will be available.

"There will be more than 40 varieties," said Anne Jury of Plymouth. "We have nut rolls, pretzel sticks that we drizzle chocolate on, zucchini bread, diabetic or low-sugar dessert bread. One of our girls is diabetic and she made 50 loaves."

Elaine Petouhoff of Livonia made 7,500 pierogis from January through November for the event.

Last year, cookie-lovers began lining up at 7:30 a.m. By noon, the church was sold out of cookies.

"The workers didn't even get

any," said Anne Jury, who along with Arlene Sudia and Evelyn Olszewskichaired the fourth annual event. "We have a mailing list of people who attended last year.

"We've already had people call-

ing to see if we're having a cookie walk again this year."

For this cookie walk, the women of the congregation have coaxed men into helping out with the baking.

All the treat-making partici-

pants donate their time and the ingredients for the cookie walk. Hyrila said that the camaraderie between the women makes it all worthwhile.

"It's nice working with the girls and just being together."

# Children's '97 Directory

Children have many special needs... and because parents don't always have a lot of time, the Observer & Eccentric has created this unique directory to make life just a little easier.

<h3>Activities</h3> <p><b>Skatin' Station II</b> Canton OPEN SKATING 1 pm-4 pm December 22-January 2 313-459-6400</p>	<h3>Child Care</h3> <p><b>New St. Mark Montessori Educational Center</b> 12 mos. - 5 yrs. 7 am - 6 pm (313) 541-4410 • 24331 W. Eight Mile Lathkey Available: January 5, 1998</p>	<h3>UNITY MONTESSORI AND DAY CARE</h3> <p>Ages 8 weeks - 6 yrs. 7am - 6pm Computers, math, phonics, certified and trained staff (248) 338-8383 1830 W. Square Lake • Bloomfield Hills</p>	
<h3>Music/Instruction</h3> <p><b>Kindermusik</b> THE PREMIER MUSIC PROGRAM FOR YOUNG CHILDREN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kindermusik Beginnings (18 months to 3 1/2 years)</li> <li>Growing with Kindermusik (3 1/2 to 4 1/2 years)</li> <li>Young Child I and II (4 1/2 to 7 years)</li> </ul> <p>Classes begin the week of January 26th at Arnoldt Williams Music. Contact Norma Atwood, a fully licensed Kindermusik® instructor and Early Childhood Music Specialist.</p> <p><b>Register Early!</b> Arnoldt Williams Music (313) 453-6586 <i>Let Music Be The Foundation That Supports Your Child's Lifetime Growth</i></p>			<p>For more information about advertising Call June at: 313-953-2099</p>

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"Mr. Snowman" by Epoch  
Sale is not in addition to any other sale or previously marked down merchandise. Normal exclusions apply. Please ask a salesperson for details.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

<p><b>METRO DETROIT:</b> New Location! St. Clair Shores 21429 Mack Ave. • (810) 778-6142 (North of Eight Mile Rd.) <b>Dearborn Heights, The Heights</b> • (313) 274-8200 (Ford Rd. between Inkster and Beech Daly) <b>Livonia, Merri-Five Plaza</b> • (734) 522-1850 (On corner of Five Mile and Merriman) <b>Novi, Novi Town Center</b> • (248) 349-8090 <b>Rochester, Meadowbrook Village Mall</b> (248) 375-0823</p>	<p><b>Sterling Heights, Eastlake Commons</b> • (810) 247-8111 (On corner of Hall Rd. and Hayes Rd.) <b>Troy, Oakland Mall</b> • (248) 589-1433 <b>West Bloomfield, Orchard Mall</b> • (248) 737-8080 (Orchard Lake and 15 Mile) <b>OUTSTATE:</b> <b>Ann Arbor, Colonnade</b> • (734) 761-1002 (On Eisenhower Pkwy., west of Briarwood Mall) <b>Grand Rapids, Breton Village Mall</b> • (616) 957-2145 (Breton Rd. and Burton Rd.) • Open Sundays! <b>Okemos, Meridian Mall</b> • (517) 349-4008</p>
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# Tis The Season ...

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# Your Invitation to Worship

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FOR CHURCH PAGE COPY CHANGES PLEASE CALL FRIDAY. FOR INFORMATION ON  
ADVERTISING IN THIS DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL: MICHELLE ULFIG (313) 953-2160



### BAPTIST

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

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.

**December 14th**  
11:00 a.m. "Cave Men"  
6:00 p.m. Christmas Cantata "Gloria"  
Christmas Cantata: Dec. 21st at 11:00 a.m.

Pastor & Mrs. H.L. Petty

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

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



### ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

**You Don't Have to be a Great Detective**

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

**Tri-City Christian Center**  
Michigan Ave. & Hannon Rd.  
326-0330  
Sun. 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

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**FAITH COVENANT CHURCH**  
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(810) 661-9191

NOW OFFERING TWO WORSHIP SERVICES!  
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School for All Ages - 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
Child Care provided for infants through preschoolers  
Wednesday evenings - Activities for All Ages

### CATHOLIC

**ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Society of St. Pius X  
Traditional Latin Mass

23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan  
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121  
Priest's Phone (810) 784-9511

Mass Schedule:  
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.  
First Sat. 8:30 a.m.  
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.  
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass

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

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

**RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
46755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48167  
451-0444  
REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO

Weekday Masses  
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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

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

Thanksgiving Eve Mass  
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

**Church of St. Alexander**  
Rev. James B. Wright, Pastor  
27835 Shawwassee Farmington Hills, MI  
248-474-5748

### EPISCOPAL

**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
16360 Hubbard Road  
Livonia, Michigan 48154  
421-8451

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

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**  
9063 Newburgh Road • Livonia • 991-0211  
The Rev. Emery F. Gravelle, Vicar

Sunday Services:  
8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist & Sunday School  
A Barrier Free Facility for the Handicapped

**St. Martin Episcopal Church**  
24699 GRAND RIVER, DETROIT, MI  
313-533-3600  
Sunday Service 10:15  
Nursery Care Available  
Free Parking

**LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD**

**PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
9415 Meridian • Livonia  
Sunday Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Bible Study/Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
School Grades Pre-School - 8  
Church & School office: 452-8820

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia  
(313) 261-1360  
May thru October • Monday Night Services • 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Bible Study & Sunday School 9:45 A.M.

**Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church**  
14750 Kintoch • Redford Twp.  
532-8655  
Pastor Gregory Gibbons

Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m.

Now accepting applications for 1997-98 school year.  
WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

### LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

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

**LIVONIA**  
14175 Farmington Rd.  
(N. of I-96)  
Sunday Worship 8:30 am & 11:00 am  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
(313) 522-6830

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

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

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

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

Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

**ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School**  
1 Blk. 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. Headzoni, Administrative Pastor  
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor  
Jeff Burke, Principal/D.C.E.

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD**  
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY  
532-2266 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Services 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Nursery Provided

Rev. Victor F. Halboth, Pastor  
Rev. Timothy Halboth, Assoc. Pastor

### EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

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

### CHRISTADELPHIANS

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

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

SUNDAY  
Bible School 10:30 A.M.  
Worship 11:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.  
(Nursery Provided in A.M.)  
Pastor Frank Howard • Ch. 453-0323

### NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

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

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

**Agapé Christian Academy - K through 12**

### ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

**Brightmoor Tabernacle**

Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor  
26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI (I-696 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn) • 352-6200  
9:15 a.m. Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:00 p.m. "Family Night"  
10:30 a.m. Pastor Doug Rhind  
7:00 pm Tabernacle Choir & Orchestra present,  
"Riches To Rags" (also presented 12/12 & 13 at 7:00 pm)  
Join us for prayer service every Friday at 7:30 p.m.  
24-Hour Prayer Line 810-352-6203

### EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

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

8:00 Praise & Worship Service  
9:30 Lifeline Contemporary Service  
11:00 Traditional Service

SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)  
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School for All Ages

**Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
17000 Farmington Road  
Livonia 422-1150  
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

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

Evening Service 7:00 P.M.  
Shuttle Service from Stevenson High School  
for All A.M. Services Except 8:00 A.M.

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

### CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

**PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
46201 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 453-1828  
Sun. BIBLE STUDY & WORSHIP - 9:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.  
Sunday School - 10:05 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.  
FAMILY NIGHT - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
Arthur C. Magnuson, Pastor  
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-3196

### UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago  
Livonia 48150 • 421-5406  
Rev. Donald Lintnerman, Pastor

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

### PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

**ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH**  
16700 Newburgh Road  
Livonia • 464-8444

Sunday, Dec. 14th  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Sunday School for All Ages: 9:30 a.m.  
Family Worship: 11:00 a.m.  
A Traditional Christmas Pageant  
Rev. Dr. Janet Noble, Pastor  
A Creative Christ Centered Congregation

**GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**  
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(313) 459-0613

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9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Education For All Ages

Childcare Provided • Handicapped Accessible  
Resources for Hearing and Sight Impaired

**Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)**  
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI  
(between Meridian & Farmington Rds.)  
(313) 422-0494

Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Nursery Care Provided  
We Welcome You To A Full Program Church  
Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor  
Rev. Ruth Billington, Associate Pastor  
Visit our Website at [www.gocities.com/~rosedale](http://www.gocities.com/~rosedale)

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Main & Church • (313) 453-6464

**PLYMOUTH**  
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Sunday Services - 11 am and 7 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study - 7pm  
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### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

**PLYMOUTH SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
PLYMOUTH ADVENTIST ACADEMY Grades 1-8  
4295 Napier Road • Plymouth  
(313) 455-3580

WORSHIP SERVICES  
SATURDAY Sabbath School 9:15 a.m.  
Divine Worship 11 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Pastor Mike Doucoumes (313) 844-9560  
School (313) 459-8222

### REFORMED

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

### UNITED METHODIST

**Clarenceville United Methodist**  
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia  
474-3444  
Rev. Jean Love

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

**ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST**  
30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Meridian & Middlebelt)  
Chuck Sonquist, Pastor

10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School  
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes  
Nursery Provided • 422-8038

**NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
29887 West Eleven Mile Road  
Just West of Middlebelt  
248-476-8860  
Farmington Hills  
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Worship, Church School, Nursery

"Sing Aloud"  
Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack, preaching

Senior Minister: Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack  
Associate Minister: Rev. Kathleen Groff  
Minister of Visitation: Rev. Robert Bough

**"Where You Belong..."**

Worship 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
Church School 10:00 am

- Help In Daily Living
- Exciting Youth Programs
- Child-Care Provided

Pastors: Dr. Dean Klump, Rev. Tonya Arnesen

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth  
1075 N. Farmington Road  
(313) 453-5280

**NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
36500 Ann Arbor Trail  
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**December 14th**  
"Joy That Lights Our Way"  
Rev. Thomas G. Badley, preaching  
Rev. Thomas G. Badley Rev. Melanie Lee Carey  
Rev. Edward C. Cohey

Catch the Spirit at  
**Aldersgate United Methodist Church**  
10000 Beech Daly, Redford  
Between Plymouth and W. Chicago  
Bob & Diana Goudie, Co-pastors  
313-837-3170

3 Styles of Creative Worship

8:00 a.m. - Contemporary, Basic  
9:30 a.m. - Contemporary, Family  
11:00 a.m. - Traditional, Fast Church

Emphasis: Advent: Joy  
Scripture Focus: Isaiah 35: 1-10  
Rev. Diana, preaching

Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. - Children-Youth-Adults

**Worship 103**

Ch

For some sounds of decorated lights and ing of cash. But for Christmas prepare for all, the busy Through churches busy putting mas. A talent five-year-present th "The Best 1 p.m. Sundri Church Mile Road. A produ Repair Cl mance wi Man and Mike Vince Memorial, Man. Prior to formance, ment at M brief holid The ad Church of Christmas ders of His ursday, De Sunday, D celebration It celebra chooses to who dons peasant, possesses t birth that and ultima offer etern story, it is His love. For more church at ( Get in it by after Christma Sunday, D Savior Lut Farmington The festi unique an traditions The Choir Men's En Brass and Cherub ar will perfor true Spirit light of the performa Smith's ori "All Is Wel The con however, will be rec matio, ca 522-6830. Temp presenting

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# Churches celebrate Christ's birth with drama, music

For some, the sights and sounds of Christmas are gaily decorated trees and twinkling lights and the opening and closing of cash registers.

But for those who believe, the Christmas season is a time to prepare for the greatest gift of all, the birth of Jesus Christ. Through music and drama, churches across the area are busy putting Christ into Christmas.

A talented group of four- and five-year-olds will present will present the Christmas musical, "The Best Present of All," at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

A production of The Donut Repair Club, the free performance will feature the Donut Man and Duncan the donut. Mike Vincent of Novi, an elder at Memorial, will play the Donut Man.

Prior to the Praisemakers' performance, the nursery department at Memorial will present a brief holiday program.

The adult choir of Memorial Church of Christ will present a Christmas cantata, "The Wonders of His Love," at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 10:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. Christmas is a celebration steeped in paradox. It celebrates a sovereign who chooses to be a subject, a prince who dons the trappings of a peasant, a spotless lamb who possesses the lineage of a lion, a birth that will extinguish death and ultimately a death that will offer eternal life. A spectacular story, it is about the wonders of His love.

For more information, call the church at (313) 464-6722.

Get into the Christmas spirit by attending the "Festival of Christmas" concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia.

The festival will feature unique and uplifting new and traditional Christmas music. The Choir of Christ Our Savior, Men's Ensemble, Handbells, Brass and Woodwind Ensemble, Cherub and Choristers Choirs will perform music reflecting the true Spirit of Christmas. A highlight of the concert will be the performance of Michael W. Smith's original Christmas song, "All Is Well."

The concert is free of charge, however, a free will donation will be received. For more information, call Lois Drake at (313) 522-6830.

Temple Baptist Church is presenting its annual musical



In the cast: Joining the Donut Man, Mike Vincent (seated) and Duncan the donut for "The Best Gift of All" at Memorial Church of Christ are Damien Britton (front row, from left), Amber Prong, Calla Ziulkowski, Ian Horylev, Michaela Wheeler, Ashley Pavacik, Jonathon and Devin Duran, both, Laura Furman (second row, from left), Alexandra Moore, Michael Beasley, Cole Duran, Travis Vincent, Jenna Britton, Elena Voyles, Jeremy Paul (back row, from left), Kelsey Stamm, Diana Friend, Erin Pavacik, Katelynn Gaskill, Kevin McCain and Jennifer McPike.

production, "The Glory of Christmas: A Holiday of Hope," at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays Dec. 12-13, and 20, and at 6 p.m. Sundays Dec. 14, and 21, at the church, 49555 N. Territorial, Plymouth.

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

The Chancel Choir of St. James Presbyterian Church will present a Christmas cantata, "Rejoice in his Coming," at the 10 a.m. worship service Sunday, Dec. 21. The church is at 25350 W. Six Mile Road, Redford. For more information, call (313) 534-7730.

Canton Community Church is presenting the dessert theater production of "Four Tickets to Christmas," a dramatic musical set at the turn of the century, at

7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, and 2:30 and 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 13-14, at the church, 41600 Ann Arbor Trail, between Haggerty Road and Mill Street.

Tickets are \$6 and are available at the Agape Bookseller in Canton or by calling (313) 453-9400, or through the Canton Community Church Creative Arts Department at (313) 414-9741.

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church will present a choir Christmas cantata at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at the church, 27475 Five Mile Road, east of Inkster Road, Livonia.

For more information, call the church at (313) 422-1470.

Plymouth Baptist Church will present the Christmas concert, "Everlasting Light," at 7 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Dec. 12-14, at the church, 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, west of Haggerty Road, Plymouth. The fully staged production will feature a variety of dynamic vocal and

instrumental music. There is no admission charge, however, a Salvation Army kettle will be available for donations following the concert.

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

The Schoolcraft College Community Choir, under the direction of Donald Stromberg, will perform "Alleluia, Rejoice!" at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road, Livonia.

The program will feature "Christmas Cantata" by Daniel Pinkham, accompanied by Solid Brass. Donations will be accepted during the intermission. For more information, call the church at (313) 422-6038.

Organist Danny Holley will perform a special Christmas concert "Christmas Holly" at 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 14, at Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Tickets are \$5. For more information, call the church at (313) 421-1762.

For the 17th year, Plymouth Church of the Nazarene is presenting "The Living Christmas Tree: Music of the True Meaning of Christmas," directed by Dan Whitney, 7:30 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Dec. 19-21, at the church, 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road, west of I-275, Plymouth. The choir will step into the branches of a 30-foot high tree to sing the songs that articulate the reason for the birth of Christ.

No tickets are necessary and seating will be on a first come-first seated basis. Nursery will be provided for children under age 3. For more information, call (313) 453-1525.

The choir also will present the Living Christmas Tree program at 7:30-8:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Domino Farms, Earhart

Road, Ann Arbor. Admission is \$7 per car to enter the complex.

The music and drama departments of Redford Baptist Church will present their Christmas extravaganza, "The Word," at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the church, 25295 Grand River at Seven Mile Road.

"The Word" features music written and arranged by Tom Fetteke and includes such popular numbers as "Hello Christmas" and "Humble Hearts and Heavenly Voices." Soloists include Martha Andridge, Julie Bertapelle and Tom Caraher.

The drama sequences are portrayed by Traci Herald, Stacy Emerson, Gary Giguere and Jeff Kingsbury. Donna Gleason is the director of music with Carol Caraher as drama coach.

The production is free of charge. For more information, call the church at (313) 533-2300.

The Student and Adult choirs of Merriman Road Baptist Church will perform a musical drama, "Room in the Inn," at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at the church, 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City. "Room in the Inn" is great family entertainment that presents the age-old Christmas message in a contemporary urban setting. The presentation is free of charge. For more information, call the church at (313) 421-0472.

The Archdiocesan Chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Noah Duncan IV, will present its second annual festival of Christmas musical concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit.

The concert will feature James Kibbie, associate professor of organ at the University of Michigan, performing "Rhapsody on Noels" by Eugene Gigout, "Greensleeves (What Child Is This?)" by Richard Purvis and "I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In" by Geoffrey Bush, to name a few. The choir and orchestra will perform "Christmas Oratoria" by Saint-Seans, with Kerstin Allvin, principal harpist with the Flint Symphony Orchestra.

Advance tickets are \$5 and \$10 at the door. To order, send a check or money order, payable to the Cathedral Cultural Series, and a stamped self-addressed envelope to Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodward Ave., Detroit 48202 by no later than Dec. 17. For further information, call (313)

Please see MUSIC, B8

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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 (313) 591-7279. For more information, call (313) 953-2131.

NEW PROGRAM

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

ADVENT CLASS

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

YOGA CLASSES

The Unity of Livonia Church, located at 28660 Five Mile Road in Livonia, hosts yoga classes from 10-11:30 a.m. Thursdays throughout November and December. The class, taught by

Linda Haight, is offered on a love offering basis. For more information, call the church at (313) 421-1760.

IN CONCERT

St. John Neumann Parish in Canton will host Jim Cowan of the Franciscan University of Steubenville in concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at the church, Warren Road between Sheldon and Canton Center roads.

Cowan has led worship and music for the university's charismatic summer conferences for 14 years. He has recorded 20 albums of praise and worship music and liturgical songs.

There is no admission charge, however, a free will donation will be accepted. For more information, call the parish office at (313) 455-5910.

SUP AND CELEBRATE

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

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

Ainsworth of "the Second Shepherd's Play." Seating is limited to 50 and tickets cost \$8, not including the shared supper. For more information, call (313) 464-6302.

THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS'

Temple Baptist Church will present its annual musical production, "The Glory of Christmas: A Holiday of Hope," at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays Dec. 12-13, and 19-20, and at 6 p.m. Sundays Dec. 14 and 21, at the church, 49555 N. Territorial, Plymouth. Tickets are priced \$6 to \$10 and can be purchased at the church's ticket office, by mail (orders will be processed until 10 days prior to the performance), or Visa/MasterCard by calling the ticket hotline at (313) 414-3980. No children younger than age 4 will be admitted to the performances.

'RAISING CHILDREN'

"Raising Solid Rock Children (in a Less Than Steady World)" will be the title of a seminar presented 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at Alpha Baptist Church, 28051 W. Chicago, Livonia. Terry LaDuke will teach what it means to be a successful parent and the principles the Bible gives to raise godly children. Donations will be accepted to help cover expenses. To register or for more information, call the church office at (313) 421-6300 or Dot Shepherd at (313) 422-9918 after 4 p.m.

MUSIC'S PLEASURE

The vocal group Musickes Pleasure will perform at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, 8625 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. Singing alone and with the accompaniment of a variety of instruments, the eight-voice ensemble will present traditional and unusual Christmas music. The concert is followed by a reception. Tickets are \$10 with discounts available for seniors, groups and children. Call (313) 822-3456 for more information.

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS TEA

Woman's Aglow International's Westland/Canton Chapter will hold a Women's Christmas tea and coffee get-together 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 13, at Auto Nation's USA Community Room, 39600 Ford Road, Canton. Complimentary child care will be provided for children ages 3-12. For more information, call Penni at (313) 261-5268 or (810) 602-6862.

COOKIE WALK

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

Please see RELIGION, B9

Christian Science talk focuses on 'Why Age?'

"Why Age?" is the title of a talk set for 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at First Church of Christ, Scientist, 1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth.

The inspirational event is a free gift to the community. Presented by Cynthia Alyce Neely of Chicago, it will explore ways that the truth of the Bible can be made practical in daily life, bringing healing to problems of all kinds.

Although the focus is on overcoming the limitations associated with "age," the ideas shared are meaningful no matter the age or faith of the listener.

Neely is a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship. Before becoming a public practitioner and teacher of Christian Science, she was a Christian Science nurse for many years.

The lecture will last about an hour and free parking a child



Cynthia Alyce Neely

care will be provided. For more information, call (313) 453-1676.

Music from page B7

865-6300 during the day.

Orchard United Methodist Church will present "I Have Seen The Light, the Search for Christmas," at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12-13 and 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.

Published by Word Records and Music in Nashville, it is a combination of well-loved Christmas songs and hymns and exciting new music. Orchard's production is multimedia, with an emphasis on sound and light, and features a formally attired

choir of more than 40 voices.

Tickets are \$5 each or \$10 for a family of four. To order, call (248) 988-6716.

Church members also will portray scenes from the Christmas story along the outer edge of the church parking lot 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16. People are invited to drive the road to Bethlehem and experience the Christmas story with music, pantomime and live animals. The presentation is free of charge. For more information, call the church office at (248) 626-3620.

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5.5 or 7hp engines, 22" or 24" clearing width. Rated #1 by a leading consumer magazine.

Large Frame Two-Stage Starting At \$1,179<sup>99</sup>  
8, 9 or 10hp engines, 24", 26" or 30" clearing width.

LE Single-Stage Starting At \$549<sup>99</sup>  
5hp 2-cycle engine, 20" clearing width.

SX Single-Stage Starting At \$419<sup>99</sup>  
3hp 2-cycle engine, 17" or 19" clearing width.

SNAPPER SNOWTHROWERS

Subject to approval on Snap-Credit Finance Charges will accrue at a rate which will vary. The APR in effect on December 1, 1996 was 20.95%. A minimum 50 cent finance charge will be assessed except as follows: (Zero minimum) an 18% APR will not vary in CO, IA, ME, NC, and WI. If your promotional purchase and any optional insurance charges are paid in full by the due date, all accrued finance from date of purchase until promotional due date will be removed from your account.

SNAP-CREDIT 0% DAYS SAME AS CASH

DOUBLE WARRANTY

Canton  
**Tourie's Sales & Service**  
7775 Sheldon Rd.  
313-416-8886

Livonia  
**H & R Lawnmower**  
27430 Joy Road  
800-261-5161

Southgate  
**Southgate Bike & Mower**  
13563 Northline  
313-282-3783

Westland  
**Dave's Engine & Mower Shop**  
8513 Inkster Rd.  
313-427-6444

Dearborn Heights  
**Studz Hardware**  
4457 South Telegraph  
313-563-1058

Plymouth  
**Tony's Mower Shop**  
40970 Five Mile Rd.  
313-420-9083

Trenton  
**Carefree Lawn Center**  
2805 Van Horn  
313-675-4745

talk  
ge?

# Religion from page B8

gis will also be available. For more information, call (248) 476-3432.

The United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church of Garden City will have a cookie walk and crafts 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at the church, 6443 Merriman Road.

**SHARON AND ROBIN**

The unique musical ministry of Sharon and Robin will be shared at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

The duo has been using music as the tool to both praise and proclaim the name of Christ since 1978. They have served denominations throughout North America, ministering in numerous settings, including women's retreats, churches, conferences, camps and studio recordings.

Sharon Hoffman has studied voice at Indiana University. Robin Howard began her piano career at age 5, having studied privately and at Butler University.

There is no admission charge,

but a free will offering will be taken. For more information,



Sharon and Robin

call the church at (313) 422-0149.

**WHITE ELEPHANT SALE**

The Sisterhood of Congregation Beit Kodesh and the Youth Group will hold a fund-raising White Elephant Sale noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the synagogue, 31840 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia.

**HOLIDAY EVENTS**

The Detroit First Church Sanctuary Choir, led by Don St. John, will present "O Come Let us Adore Him," a musical celebration of Christmas, at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. On Sunday, Dec. 21, the Family Christmas service will be held at

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

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

**BLOOD DRIVE**

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

Salem National Evangelical Lutheran Church will have a Red Cross blood drive 2-7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15, at the church, 32430 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. For more information, call Janis Edmonson at (313) 278-2071.

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOK**

St. Aidan Youth Group is raising funds in December by selling the Entertainment Ultimate Book which contains discounts on dining, travel, shopping,

movies, special events and sports. The books cost \$40 with a portion of the proceeds going to help fund youth conferences and workshops. For more information, call (313) 425-5950 or (248) 474-1396.

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

**SUNDAY LESSONS**

"Love in Action" will be the lesson at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Church of Today West in Village Oaks Elementary School, 23333 Willowbrook (between Haggerty and Meadowbrook roads), Novi. The church also offers youth education, a course in miracles at 7 p.m. Tuesdays and others courses in 4T, meditation and unity basics. For more information, call (248) 449-8900.

**NEW SERIES**

Pastor Eric Moore of Canton Community Church continues his series, "Facing the Millennium - What the Bible Says About the End Times" at 9:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the church, 41600 Ann Arbor Trail, Canton. For more information, call the church at (313) 455-6022.

## LHM sponsors holiday family fare

Adventure, mystery and a heartwarming Christmas message about forgiveness are captured in a new 30-minute animated family feature, "The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery," making its debut on WADL-38 on cable at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14.

In their first television special, The Puzzle Club - Alex, Korina, Christopher and their mentor, Tobias - begin uncovering clues to the strange events taking place in their neighborhood just before Christmas. The young detectives solve the mystery and

help bring forgiveness to the town.

The program is sponsored by Lutheran Hour Ministries, a worldwide media ministry. In addition to the television special, The Puzzle Club is featured in a series of children's adventure novels, a home video and an Online Family Activity Center on the Internet, where families can see and hear the electronic storybook version of "The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery" (<http://www.lhm.puzzleclub>).

"The Puzzle Club Christmas

Mystery' reaches beyond the typical realms of animated programs and touches issues many of today's families face," said Ken Ledge, executive producer of the show. "Our vision is to produce a program that is entertaining for the whole family yet relevant to people's lives, and I think this story captures it all."

Lutheran Hour Ministries also will air its award-winning "Red Boots for Christmas" at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 12, on the Family Channel and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, on WADL-38.

Following the broadcast viewers will have the opportunity to call a toll-free number to receive a free children's storybook version of "Red Boots."

"Red Boots for Christmas" is a German folktale about a grouchy shoemaker who, with the help of his pet cow and a visit from an angel, learns to embrace the true meaning of Christmas and receive the ultimate gift from God the Savior.

For more information about the show, call the "Red Boots" hotline at 1-800-442-0324.

# Christmas Tree Guide



**Robert's TREE FARM**  
New Farm This Year  
Open 12-Dark • 7-Days  
From Nov. 28, 1997  
Choose & Cut your own Blue Spruce  
\$35.00  
1-75, Pine Knob exit (exit 89),  
Sashabaw Rd.  
North 4-miles to Farm

**Braun's Tree Farm**  
Fraser Fir • Douglas Fir  
Blue Spruce • Scotch Pine  
White Pine  
Prices are \$10.00 and up  
We shake and bale.  
Location: 796 Warren Rd.  
Between Pontiac Trail and Whitmore  
Lake Rd. in Ann Arbor Twp.  
Sat. & Sun. 10-Dark  
Wednesday-Friday 3-dark, or by appt.  
(313) 663-2717

**HOWELL NATURE CENTER**  
Cut your own Scotch Pine \$20.00  
Fresh cut Douglas Fir  
Spruce & Pine  
• Tree Shaking • Live Wildlife Exhibits  
on weekends • Hayrides • New building  
w/crafts, wreaths, roping & refreshments  
\*All proceeds benefit the Nature Center  
Hours 9-5, starting November 28th  
• Santa arrives 1st 2 weekends in December  
• Have breakfast with Santa on December 13th  
517-546-0249  
1999 Triangle Lake Rd.  
(at E. of Howell & I-96, N. of D-19)

Calling All Families!!  
**Thornhollow Tree Farm**  
invites you to start a new tradition:  
Cut your own Christmas Trees! First quality trees at a reasonable price and friendly service too!  
Thornhollow Tree Farm  
44387 Hull Rd., Belleville  
313-699-3709  
I-94, exit 190, south thru town, continue south on Sumpter 1 mile to Hull, turn left, entrance 1/2 mile on right  
\$2 OFF WITH THIS AD

Buy your Christmas Tree & Wreaths at...  
**CLARKSTON EVERGREEN NURSERY**  
Selling live & cut trees 3-7 ft. & fresh handmade wreaths, swags & grave blankets.  
HOURS:  
Mon-Fri 2pm - 9:30pm  
Saturday Noon - 9 pm  
6191 Clarkston Rd  
248-625-9336

**Snow-Shoe Tree Farm**  
Pre-cut Spruce & Douglas Fir  
Choose & Cut Douglas Fir, Concolor & Scotch  
5591 Pinckney Rd. • Howell  
6 miles south of I-96, Exit 137  
BAILING AVAILABLE  
548-1006  
Open

**SUPER PREMIUM TREES**  
Choose from over 2000 trees - 600 standing - 400 inside our greenhouse! 2 1/2 ft. to 15 ft. sizes available.  
Also wreaths, roping, poinsettias.  
**PLYMOUTH NURSERY**  
Christmas in the Country  
9900 Plymouth Rd. • Just 10 minutes east of US-23  
453-5500

**BOUGHAN'S**  
Assure Freshness  
Cut your own tree!!  
2 FARMS TO SERVE YOU  
Pine-\$22.00 Spruce-\$35.00  
Drive to & Thru Fields  
(313) 699-6482  
15851 Martinville Rd. • Belleville, MI  
Pine-\$22.00 Spruce-\$35.00  
Fir-\$39.00  
Wreaths, Garland, Grave Blankets, Flocked Trees  
Wagon Rides, Santa Claus, weekends only!  
(313) 697-9600  
44020 Hull Rd. (N. Side) • Belleville, MI  
We Honor all Tree Farm Coupons

**CHRISTMAS TREES**  
Beautiful Blue Spruce & Scotch Pine. 6-12 ft.  
Come Prepared.  
M-24 North of Oxford  
1500 W. Brocker Rd.,  
Metamora, MI.

**Matthes Evergreen Farm**  
13416 Lulu Road • Ida, MI 48140  
313-269-2668  
FUN! Over 80 Acres of Choose & Cut, also pre-cut & balled. All trees cleaned Wreaths, roping, centerpieces  
FUN STUFF Weekends thru Dec. 14  
Daily 9 am-Dark  
1-75 South or Telegraph to Albain Follow Signs.  
\$2 OFF any tree with this ad. O/E

**\$2.00 off w/this ad**  
Choose & Cut your own  
• Blue Spruce • Pine  
Saws Provided • Trees Machine Cleaned  
• Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides  
• Santa Claus  
• Petting Zoo & Pony Rides  
• Hot Beverages & Food  
Elves Fort, Fragrant Wreaths & Live Potted Trees, Arts & Crafts  
80,000 Christmas Trees  
Open 9-Dusk 7 days  
**SKYHORSE STATION**  
11000 Roberts Rd.  
Stockbridge 1-800-497-2682  
Weekends Only www.skyhorsestation.com

**MOSHER'S TREE FARM**  
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Located 6 Miles West of US 23  
313-426-5271  
• Featuring Beautiful White Spruce Trees  
• Choose & Cut Christmas Trees  
• Potted Trees  
• All trees only \$30.00  
Includes baling and tree bag  
• Free candy and cider  
HOURS:  
Weekdays 1:00-5:00 pm  
Weekends 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

**COCKRUM'S TREES ARE HERE!**  
Once again we have a fine selection of trees. All sizes. Lots of premium...  
Douglas Fir, Fraser Fir, Balsam Fir, Scotch Pine & White Pine.  
Come early for a better selection. Wreaths of many sizes. Cedar & Pine Roping. Excellent selection of Grave Blankets.  
34yrs. in same location.  
**COCKRUM'S FARM MARKET**  
35841 PLYMOUTH RD.  
3/4 mile W. of Wayne Rd. across from Ford Transmission  
Open 9 am-7pm, 7 days.

**CUT YOUR OWN X-MAS TREES 1000's to Choose From**  
Scotch Pine, Blue Spruce, White Spruce & Balsam Fir  
Free Wagons to Fields  
Free Cleaning & Tree Wrapping  
Large Selections of Fraser Fir, Douglas Fir, Wreaths and Roping  
Cider, Donuts, Fudge, Fruit Pies and Apples  
Open Daily 9 to 5 Through December 23  
Blakes Orchard & Cider Mill  
17985 Center Road  
Armada, MI  
810-784-5343

**Fodors Christmas Tree Farm 30th Year**  
You cut or fresh cut!  
8 Varieties of Fir, Spruce & Pine  
All Prices, All Sizes  
Tree Wrapping, Wreaths, Garland & Gifts  
FREE rides, animals, snacks,  
ANIMATED TOY HOUSE  
Children's Trees \$5.00  
SANTA - WEEKENDS  
Saws and tree cleaning provided.  
Daily 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
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Grass Lake, MI  
1-94 west, exit 150 • follow signs  
(517) 522-4982

**Rattalee Lake Christmas Tree Farm**  
Clarkston, MI  
U-Choose • We Cut  
Scotch Pine, Blue Spruce, Douglas Fir and White Pine  
ALSO  
Fresh cut NC Fraser Fir up to 12' Roping • Wreaths Refreshments • Warming Room • Wagon Rides  
1-75 Clarkston Exit 91, North on M-15 2 Miles. Left on Rattalee Lake Rd. 1 Mile  
Daily from Nov. 22  
(248) 625-9127

**CHRISTMAS TREES**  
CHOOSE-N-CUT Spruce, Pine and Fir  
• VISIT SANTA IN BARN ON SAT. & SUN. 12-4  
• Trees up to 12 FT.  
• WREATHS • HOMEMADE DONUTS  
• COCOA AND CIDER • GIFT SHOP  
Fri., Sat., & Sun.  
Thru CHRISTMAS - 9:00 Dark  
**WALDOCK TREE FARM**  
3090 Dutcher, Howell  
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I-96 to Exit 137 (D-19), South to Coon Lake Rd. West to Dutcher Rd. approximately 8.7 miles. FOLLOW SIGNS

**Candy Cane CHRISTmas Tree Farm**  
Choose & cut a beautiful tree at one of our two locations. Fresh wreaths & roping. FREE tree wrap, saws & tree slights provided.  
OXFORD - 4780 Seymour Lake Rd. (between bsdwn & Sashabaw. Take I-75 to Exit 89, N on Sashabaw for 5 m., E. on Seymour Lake for 3/4 m. Farm on right.)  
Choose from 9 varieties including Fraser Fir, 6-8 ft., \$19-899. Visit our new emu exhibit. Warm beverages.  
Open M-F noon-5, Sat & Sun 9-5.  
LAPERE - 2401 Lapeer Rd. (N. on M-24 2 m. past city of Lapeer E. on Daily for 1/2 m. N on Lapeer for 1 m. Farm on left.)  
Need a BIG tree for a high ceiling? This is the place. Thousands of beautiful spruce & pine up to 14ft. Only \$9 per ft. in Lapeer! Open Sat. Sun 9-5.  
(248) 628-8899  
\$2 off tree with this ad.

For more information regarding this directory please call:  
June 313-953-2069  
Rich 313-953-2099 • Fax 313-953-2232

ANNIVERSARIES



Major

Donald and Bernice Major of Zephyr Hills, Fla., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a dinner party, given by their children at Portofino Restaurant in Wyandotte. The couple lived in Garden City for 33 years and in Ontario, Canada, before moving to Florida. They were married on May 3, 1947, in Tilbury, Ont. She is the former Bernice Lauzon. They have six children - Gary and wife Kathe and Larry and

wife Sandy, all of Canton, Valerie O'Connor and husband John of Southgate, Douglas of Clearwater, Fla., Brian and wife Michelle of Romulus, and Janet Rice and the late Kevin Rice. They also have 10 grandchildren - Joshua, Andrea, Michael, Matthew, Allison and Erin Major, Jeremy and Eric O'Connor and Adam and Nolan Rice - and one great-granddaughter, Rachel Dieter. He is retired from General Motors-Cadillac.



Stedman

Elmer (Gene) and Virginia Stedman of Plymouth celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by gathering with family and friends at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland and at her sister and brother-in-law's home for anniversary cake, refreshments and opening of gifts. The couple met at Romulus High School in 1944 and have been together ever since. They were married at a high Mass at

St. Stephen's Church in New Boston on Sept. 13, 1946. She is the former Virginia Zbikowski. The couple has four children - daughters Susan Erbes of Iowa, Rebecca Schulte and husband Earl of Wayne, Laurie Smidt and husband Carsten of Utah and son David and his wife Konni of Wisconsin. They also have seven grandchildren - Melissa, Michael, Shannon, Eric, Elizabeth, Kevin and Alexander - and a great-granddaughter, Taryn. He retired in 1992 from Associated Spring Corp. in Saline and is a one-year survivor of lung cancer.



Brown

F. Jerry and Nita Brown of Venice, Fla., formerly of Plymouth, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a family reunion held during the summer in Venice, and at a dinner with family and friends in November. Fourteen-year residents of Plymouth, the Browns were married Nov. 1, 1947, in Detroit. She is the former Nita Lorraine Everson. They have four children - Patrick of Wilton, Conn., Timothy of McLean, Va., Kevin of Melbourne, Australia, and Cynthia of Memphis, Tenn. - and four grandchildren. He has been retired from advertising sales for 12 years. They are active members of the University of Michigan Alumni Association of Sarasota, Venice Presbyterian Church and Jacaranda West Country Club.

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 choose from:  
 Friskies  9-Lives  
 SophistaCat  Purina Cat Chow  
 Whiskas  
 No. 11112 Valid thru 12/24/97  
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**\$3 OFF** 35 lb. or larger bag of Dog Food  
 choose from:  
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 Great Choice  Kibbles 'n Bits  
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 choose from:  
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**5 for \$1**  
 9-Lives Cat Food Assorted Varieties 5.5 oz. can



**3<sup>99</sup>**  
 Milk Bone Dog Biscuits 3 lb. box



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**3 for 99¢**  
 Great Choice Dog Food Assorted Varieties 13.2 oz. can

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- Roseville: 13 Mile Rd. and Little Mack Ave. next to Home Depot (810) 294-8292
- Southfield: West side of Telegraph Rd., South of Twelve Mile Rd. across from Tel Twelve Mall (248) 356-2065
- Sterling Heights: 14 Mile Rd. and Van Dyke Rd. next to the Super K Mart (810) 795-4414
- Taylor: Eureka Rd. and Pardee Rd. next to Media Play (313) 374-8106
- Utica: Northeast corner of Hall Rd. (M 59) and Christopher Columbus Blvd. (M 53) near Target (810) 323-7030

Prices effective thru December 22, 1997. Holiday Store Hours: Monday-Saturday, 9 am to 10 pm; Sunday, 10 am to 8 pm; December 24: 9 am to 6 pm. We accept all manufacturer's coupons. Limit rights reserved. Leashed pets welcome. For the safety of your pet as well as others, please make sure your pets are current on all shots before you bring them shopping. All PETSMART circulars are recyclable. FOR THE PETSMART LOCATION NEAREST YOU CALL: (800) 785-0557

## Auction features Di bear

The owner of The Susan B. Ashlee Co. of Livonia is facing a bit of a dilemma. Known for its gourmet gift baskets that contain Beanie Babies, the company has received hundreds of calls for the highly prized Princess Di Beanie Baby, but will only receive a dozen from the Ty Co. "I sell so many Beanie Babies a day that I could not imagine trying to control the shoppers searching for Princess Di," said Susan. Her solution is a silent auction for the Princess Di bear or a crystal "Princess" ring - one her best sellers this Christmas season. Proceeds will benefit Children's Hospital of Southeast Michigan and Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Individuals or business interested in placing a bid for either item can send their bid (indicate which item the bid is for) with your name, address and telephone number to the Susan B. Ashlee Co., P.O. Box 51743 Livonia 48151 or call (313) 422-8700. Children and adults who would like to help out on a smaller scale can send a \$5 check, payable to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, with their name, address and telephone number for a Beanie Baby giveaway. Five lucky people will receive a retired Beanie Baby. Winners will be notified on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. Susan selected the two charities for very special reasons. Her five-year-old son was born with a congenital heart problem and is alive today, thanks to extensive surgery at Children's Hospital, while she was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes at age 12 and has lived with the disease for 25 years. Individual donations for the two charities also are welcome and will be forwarded to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and Children's Hospital.

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**GARDEN CITY**  
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(313) 421-8000

**GARDEN CITY**  
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Corner of Inkster Rd.  
(313) 458-6000

**INKSTER**  
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**INKSTER**  
1040 Middlebelt  
(313) 595-7100

**SOUTHFIELD**  
26064 W. Twelve Mile  
(248) 827-3000

**WALLED  
LAKE**  
103 E. Walled Lake Rd.  
Corner of Pontiac Trail  
(248) 960-4446

**WESTLAND**  
Corner of Ford & Wayne  
(313) 641-8888

**WESTLAND**  
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(Inside Krogers)  
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# SAFE KIDS' guide minimizes torture of toy buying

Of the 2.6 billion toys and games sold in the United States each year, two-thirds are sold during the holiday season. And while toys are intended to bring joy and enhance development, some toys are linked to injuries and in some cases, death.

Appropriate selection and proper use of toys can greatly reduce the incidence and severity of such injuries. It is also critical for parents to play with their children to ensure safety.

The leading cause of toy-related injury and death are falls from riding toys and choking on

small toys and toy parts. Other hazards include toys with small parts, sharp points and edges, lead-in-paint, flammable materials and long strings that can be a strangulation risk.

While it's common for parents to buy toys based on a child's wish list, the Metro Detroit SAFE KIDS wants parents to consider safety before making their final decision, so it's put together its own shopping list.

Choose toys according to a child's age, interests and skill level. Look for well-made toys and follow age and safety information on the warning labels.

Kids under age 3 can choke on small toys and toy parts.

- Always supervise your children at play. A toy intended for an older child may be dangerous in the hands of a younger child.
- Join in your child's play. Your participation adds to your child's fun and development.
- Teach children to put toys away after playing. Safe storage prevents falls and other injuries.
- Check old and new toys regularly for damage, such as sharp edges or small parts. Make repairs immediately or throw

away damaged toys.

As for safe toy buying, here's a few guidelines:

- Birth to 1-year-olds** - Infants need to explore with their hands, mouths and eyes and enjoy toys they can touch or squeeze. Good choices would be crib gyms, floor activity centers, soft dolls, stuffed animals, squeaky toys or activity quilts.
- 1-3-year-olds** - Toddlers love to climb, jump, throw and play rough and tumble games. Good choices would be soft blocks, large balls, push and pull

toys, pounding and shaping toys and books.

- 3-5-year-olds** - This age group likes to experiment with imaginary situations and have toys that are close companions. Good choices would be teddy bears, dolls, non-toxic art supplies, pretend toys (play money, telephone, etc.) or outdoor toys like a tricycle with a helmet.
- 5-9-year-olds** - School-aged kids like to be challenged with complex games that teach specific skills and concepts. Good choices would be arts and crafts kits, puppets, jump ropes, minia-

ture dolls and action figures.

- 9-14-year-olds** - Preteens are beginning to develop lifelong skills, hobbies and enjoy team sports. Good choices would be hand-held electronic games, board games, sports equipment, model kits and musical instruments.

The Metro SAFE KIDS Coalition is part of the National SAFE KIDS Campaign, the first and only national organization dedicated to the prevention of unintentional childhood injury, the No. 1 killer of children ages 14 and younger.

## RELIGION CALENDAR

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

- BELLEVILLE**  
Class of 1988  
A reunion is planned for Sept. 19.  
(800) 677-7800
- BLOOMFIELD HILLS LAHSER**  
Class of 1987  
March 21 at Doubletree Guest Suites, Southfield.  
(248) 360-7004, press 2  
Class of 1978  
Aug. 1 at Somerset Inn, Troy.  
(248) 366-9493, press 3
- CHERRY HILL**  
Class of 1983  
Reunion and alumni family picnic is planned for August 1998.  
(313) 729-6783
- DETROIT CASS TECH**  
Class of 1968  
Looking for classmates for a reunion in 1998.  
Pam Yee Gianola, 1243 Smith Road, Beulah, Mich., 49617-9493 or e-mail at mie-nai@aliens.com  
Classes of 1980-82  
Are planning a reunion.  
Stephanie Bradford Wright '80, 1753 Cornell, Southfield 48075.  
(313) 945-8473; or Dylan Warmack '81, 2131 Bryanston Ct., Detroit 48207, (313) 963-7665  
Class of 1988  
Is looking for names and addresses of classmates.  
(313) 896-0736, (313) 859-0261 or (313) 882-1632  
Class of 1978  
Is planning a reunion.  
(248) 442-9320, by fax at (248) 442-8830 or Sharon Law-Williamson, 28479 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia 48152
- DETROIT KETTERING**  
Classes of 1971-72  
Is planning a reunion.  
Send names, addresses and telephone numbers to Ron or Pat (Tish Mack) Matthews, P.O. Box 7647, Bloomfield Hills 48302, or call (810) 745-8422, (248) 696-6342 or (248) 857-6043.  
Class of 1978

- Is planning a reunion.  
Send name, address and telephone number to Chrystal Esau, 27930 Berkshire Dr., Southfield 48076, or call (248) 358-5236, (313) 526-8667, (313) 839-9858 or (313) 372-3159
- DETROIT PERSHING**  
Classes of 1949-53  
Are planning a reunion.  
(248) 471-5609 or P.O. Box 530-244, Livonia 48153-0244  
January-June classes of 1952  
A fall 1998 reunion is being planned  
(248) 623-2454, (810) 771-9810 or (810) 979-4594
- DETROIT WESTERN**  
Class of 1949  
Is planning at 50th reunion.  
(313) 274-3214
- FARMINGTON HARRISON**  
Class of 1988  
A reunion is planned for July at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, Westland.  
(248) 442-2862
- FRASER**  
Class of 1972  
A reunion is being planned for Fraser Steffens Park.  
(810) 293-2160
- GARDEN CITY**  
Class of 1987  
A reunion is planned for October.  
(810) 765-1380 or (313) 513-6071
- GROSSE POINTE SOUTH**  
Class of 1978  
A reunion is planned for Aug. 8.  
(800) 677-7800
- HAZEL PARK**  
Class of 1978  
Is planning a reunion.  
(800) 677-7800
- HIGHLAND PARK**  
Class of 1969  
Is planning a reunion.  
(313) 864-5943, (313) 583-5418 or (313) 867-3201  
Class of 1978  
Planning a 20-year reunion for July 1998. Seeking classmates.  
Fax info to C. Jones (313) 836-5302 or write to HPCHS reunion committee, c/o P.O. Box 760484 Lathrup Village, MI 48076.
- LIVONIA WHITMAN JH**  
Class of 1976  
7 p.m. Dec. 12 at Bennie's Pizzeria, Merriman and Joy roads.
- MADISON**  
Class of 1948  
Is planning a reunion.

- (248) 548-5470 or (810) 264-9191
- MARIAN**  
Class of 1982  
11:30 a.m. Dec. 27 at the Fox & Hounds Restaurant, Bloomfield Hills.  
(248) 644-1750
- OAK PARK**  
Classes of 1957-59  
Is planning a reunion for November 1998.  
(248) 559-1746 or (248) 354-0092

- PLYMOUTH CANTON/SALEM**  
Classes of 1988  
A joint reunion will be held June 20.  
CEP Class of '88, P.O. Box 5356, Plymouth 48170
- ST. ALPHONSUS**  
Class of 1958  
A reunion is being planned for 1998.  
(513) 878-7483 or (313) 455-1277
- ST. HEDWIG HIGH**  
Class of 1958

- Is planning a reunion.  
(313) 953-1011
- ST. JOSAPHAT**  
Class of 1943-46  
Are planning a reunion.  
(313) 886-0770 or (810) 783-6889
- STERLING HEIGHTS**  
Class of 1978  
July 25 at Gino's Surf Ristorante, Harrison Township.  
(248) 360-7004, press 6
- WARREN WOODS TOWER**

- Class of 1988  
Is planning a reunion.  
(810) 790-4214 or (810) 771-7328
- WATERFORD KETTERING**  
Class of 1968  
Is planning a reunion.  
(248) 628-3926, (248) 681-1768 or (248) 623-6057
- WAYNE MEMORIAL**  
Class of 1983  
Sept. 26 at the Roma Banquet Center, Garden City.  
(248) 360-7004, press 1

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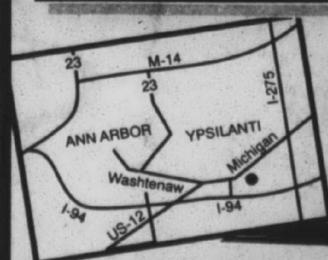
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## OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

### Career high

The season may have started on a down note for Hope College's men's basketball team, with a four-point loss to Bethel College in the opening round of the Cornerstone Classic Nov. 21, but it's certainly picked up since.

The Flying Dutchmen have been unbeatable since, rolling to six-straight wins. Last Wednesday (Dec. 3), they routed North Park College 93-77 at North Park, and Mark Bray, a sophomore guard and a Plymouth Canton graduate, turned in a career-high in scoring.

Bray finished with 10 points as the Flying Dutch finished with a 62 percent conversion rate on field goal tries, making 10 three-pointers in the game.

Bray is averaging three points a game, hitting 54.6 percent of his floor shots — and 3-of-5 (60 percent) of his three-pointers.

### Wildcat tryouts

The Western Wayne Wildcats AAU girls basketball teams will have a series of open tryouts next month for all those interested female players.

■ **16, 17 and 18 and under players:** Tryouts for all three will be from 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6 at Pioneer Middle School in Plymouth;

■ **15-and-under:** Tryouts will be from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6 at Pioneer MS in Plymouth;

■ **14-and-under Blue:** Tryouts will be from 7:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7 at West Middle School in Plymouth;

■ **14-and-under Red:** Tryouts will be from 7:30-9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5 at Pioneer MS in Plymouth;

■ **13-and-under:** Tryouts will be from 7:30-9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12 at Pioneer MS in Plymouth.

Tryouts for 10-and-under, 11-and-under and 12-and-under teams will be announced later. For information, call Fred Thomann at (313) 459-7315 or Bob Blohm at (313) 459-1763.

### Soccer refs

New soccer referee training will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Jan. 31, Feb. 7, Feb. 14 and Feb. 21 at the Canton Township Hall. Those interested in becoming a soccer referee must attend all four sessions.

You must be at least 12 years old to take this class. To register, send your name, social security number and a check for \$43 made payable to the Michigan Referee Committee to: P.O. Box 700260, Plymouth, MI, 48170-0945.

For further information, call (313) 454-7335. Class size is limited.

### Hockey contest

Red Wing fans, take notice. MediaOne and ESPN have joined forces to bring the Hockeymania! contest to Michigan. The contest runs through March 27 and will include five raffles for hockey and Red Wings-related prizes.

There is no purchase necessary, but the contest is open to Michigan residents 18 and older. Complete contest details and entry forms are available at all Michigan MediaOne locations.

Prizes include a trip for two to Chicago for the Wings/Blackhawks game Dec. 11; a trip to Vancouver to see the 1998 NHL All-Star game; a bundle of prizes on Jan. 19, including three ESPN2 NHL jackets, 24 "Fire on Ice" T-shirts, and 24 ESPN2 hats; a trip for two to the ESPN world headquarters in Bristol, Conn. Feb. 19; and a trip for two to a 1998 Stanley Cup championship game April 1.

### Floor hockey sign-up

The Detroit College of Business Athletic Booster Club is seeking teams to compete in its indoor floor hockey league on Sunday afternoons, starting Jan. 18.

All games will be played at the Sheridan Recreation Center, on Pardee in Taylor.

Cost is \$550, which includes all expenses for a 10-game regular season plus playoffs, including referees fees, gym rental and trophies.

For further information, call Kevin Brazell at (313) 581-4400, ext. 389, or at (313) 562-5033.

Anyone interested in submitting items to Sports Scene or Sports Roundup may send them to sports editor C.J. Risak, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150, or may fax them to (313) 591-7279.

# Canton, Salem lose openers

BY C.J. RISAK  
STAFF WRITER

Start down and there's only one direction to go, right?

That's about the best way to look at Tuesday's basketball season-openers for both Plymouth Salem and Plymouth Canton. They started on the road, and it wasn't good: Canton lost at Wayne Memorial, and highly-regarded Salem fell at Monroe.

The Chiefs will have their home-opener at 7:30 p.m. Friday, when they host Monroe. Salem stays on the road, traveling to Ann Arbor Huron Friday.

**Wayne 60, Canton 49:** It was all over quickly for Canton Tuesday at Wayne. The Zebras exploded for a 21-11 lead after one quarter and coasted to the win from there.

"They had one run," said Chiefs' coach Dan Young. "From then on, it was a pretty even game."

"We hung in there pretty good. We handled their pressure fairly well — except in that early run — and we rebounded fairly well."

Wayne's lead at the half was 33-24; after three quarters, it was 50-37.

Part of Canton's problem: scoring balance. Three players accounted for 41 of the Chiefs' 49 points. Joe Cortellini, a junior guard and the only returning starter from last season's squad, led the way with 21 points. Eric Larsen and Dan McLean added 10 apiece.

Wayne got 22 points from Brian Williams and 13 more from Reddick Borkins.

"I was pleased with the effort, I was pleased with the fact that we hung in there," Young added. "We need to get a little more scoring balance."

The Chiefs had a wide edge in free throws, with 37 attempts to Wayne's nine. Unfortunately, Canton made just 21 (56.8 percent); the Zebras converted seven (77.8 percent).

**Monroe 66, Salem 59:** So much for state rankings.

Plymouth Salem may have been highly-touted in the pre-season, but performances like Tuesday's won't keep them there for long.

"We played terrible," was Rocks' coach Bob Brodie's direct appraisal. "I can't think of one player who played well."

"We couldn't beat anybody the way we played tonight."

Salem had the early lead, up 16-14 after one quarter and 30-28 at the half. But the Trojans, behind the shooting of Jeremy Griffin (17 second-half points, including eight in the third quarter), outscored the Rocks 20-9 in the third period to take a 48-39 advantage into the fourth.

A final-quarter rally enabled Salem to get to within one, but that was as close as it got.

Griffin finished with a game-high 22 points, including four three-pointers. Dan Case added 14 for Monroe.

Salem got 12 points from Jeff McKian and 10 from Matt Mair.

The Rocks committed 20 turnovers in the game and were outrebounded, 28-14. Bhavin Patel's five boards was high for the team.

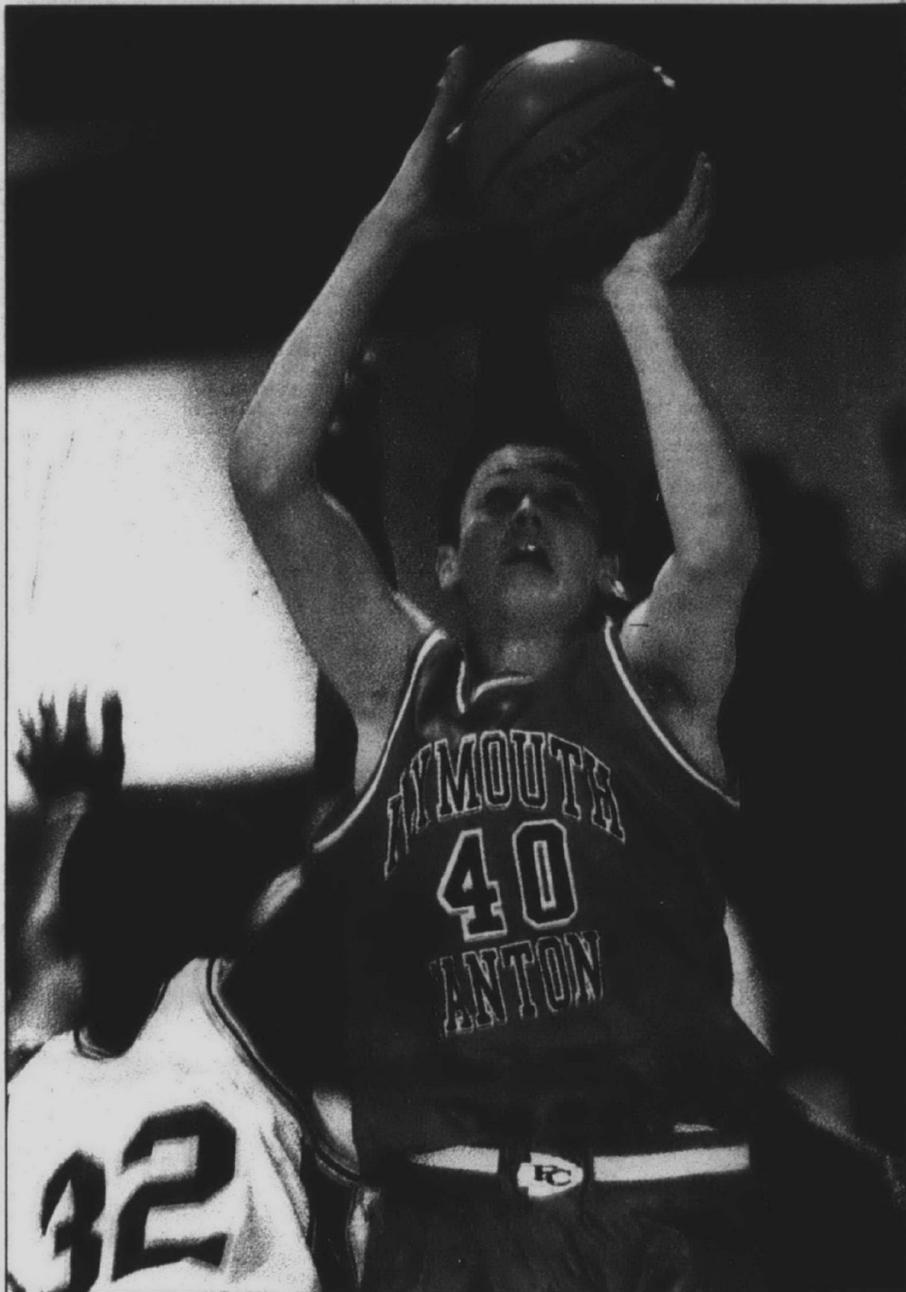
"We didn't play well whatsoever," said Brodie. "They beat us in all aspects of the game. Monroe was fired up, but we had a couple of opportunities in the first half. We just didn't take advantage of them."

"Everyone stood around waiting for someone else to take things over."

The Trojans' free throw shooting didn't help Salem much. They converted 19-of-25 (76 percent); the Rocks were a very solid 11-of-14 (78.6 percent).

**Agape 55, Warren Zoe 43:** In the opening round of Plymouth Christian Academy's Kickoff Classic, Canton Agape Christian used a strong first half to mow down Warren Zoe Christian Tuesday.

Three players reached double-figures in scoring for Agape, led by Steve Mecklenburg with 14 points. Paul Anleitner added 12 points and eight assists, and Jeremy Austin had 11 points and 11



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BREZLER

**Working inside:** Not everything went well for Plymouth Canton in its opener at Wayne Memorial Tuesday, but Dan McLean (40) did his share, scoring 10 points for the Chiefs.

rebounds. Matt Walsh paced Zoe with 13 points. Tim McCormick netted 11.

The Wolverines built a 17-10 lead after one quarter, and increased it to 34-23 by halftime. Zoe narrowed the gap to 43-35 after three periods, but Agape pulled away in the fourth.

**CC 87, Gallagher 50:** Senior center Chris Young had career highs in points (32) and rebounds (19) on Tuesday night, leading the Redford Catholic Central to an impressive season-opening win over host Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher.

The Shamrocks also received solid contributions

from three players off the CC football team, which recently finished a Class AA state championship season.

Junior guard Nick Moore had 14 points and nine assists and senior guard Joe Jonna, an All-Observer football player, had 12 points on four three-point baskets.

Maybe he's too sore still to take the ball to the basket.

"I thought we ran well," CC coach Rick Coratti said. "Three of our top six players only practiced one week (because of the extended football season). In light of that, I thought we played fairly well."

Please see BASKETBALL, C3

## Salem 2nd at Holt

BY C.J. RISAK  
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Salem's trip to the Holt Wrestling Invitational last Saturday provided a few surprises.

For one, most everybody figured the Rocks were going to be pretty tough this season. But how many figured they could beat the two-time defending Class A team champions — Holt — on their own turf?

Well, they did. And they didn't. Depends which score you look at.

Which leads to yet another surprise: Take a look at how Salem's wrestlers performed, and try to figure how they finished second in a six-team tournament they dominated.

"We were trying to figure that out," said Salem coach

Please see SALEM MAT, C5

# Whalers move into 2nd place



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BREZLER

**Scrambling:** The Whalers' Troy Smith (dark jersey, center) leads a mob of teammates into the scrum in front of Erie goalie Pat Dovigi (left). Plymouth lost Saturday but bounced back for a win over Erie on Sunday.

A slight bump in the road — that's all Saturday's game was.

Or so the Plymouth Whalers would like to view it. The Erie Otters ended their 11-game home winning streak Saturday with an 8-5 victory, but the Whalers got back on track Sunday with a 6-1 home-ice victory over Erie.

Jesse Boulerice scored a pair of goals to lead Plymouth past the Otters on Sunday. The victory allowed the Whalers to move into a second place tie with Sarnia in the Ontario Hockey League's West Division; both teams have 32 points, but Sarnia has played 31 games (13-12-6) to the Whalers' 27 (16-8-3).

The London Knights lead the division with 37 points (18-8-1) in 27 games.

Plymouth opened Sunday's scoring when Harold Drukert netted an unassisted goal at 11:27. It was the left winger's

Please see WHALERS, C5

# Borgess reaps another title

BY STEVE KOWALSKI  
STAFF WRITER

Make that three Class C state championships in the last five years for the Redford Bishop Borgess girls basketball team.

Borgess made its fifth-straight trip to the Final Four a memorable one, rolling over Hancock, 54-21, in the championship game Saturday night at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena.

The feeling is twice as nice for senior guard Christina "Peaches" Anderson, and not just because this is the second medal she's won, being a member of the Spartans' last title team in 1994.

Anderson was one of three Spartans in double figures with 12 points on six of 10 shooting from the floor.

"My freshman year we had Maxann (Reese) and Adrienne (Bryant) and I contributed but not as much as in this game," Anderson said. "This is real big being my senior year. I've got two gold medals and I'm fine with it."

Senior forward Koren Merchant and senior center Aiysha Smith joined Anderson in double figures with 16 and 10 points, respectively. They each tied for a team-high 10 rebounds as well, helping the Spartans enjoy a commanding 37-14 edge on the glass.

It was the end of a memorable week for Smith, who received the Miss Basketball award five days earlier.

Could Borgess be cornering the market on Class C titles? The school's boys basketball team won its first-ever state crown last winter and is favored to repeat.

"They supported us and we supported them," Smith said. "The principal (Sister

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

Joan Charnley is very happy for us, too."

The margin of victory was the largest ever for a girls state championship game. The win and Borgess' final record of 27-1 also creates some controversy as to who the state's mythical champion is.

The Spartans beat Class A semifinalist Flint Northern earlier in the year. Class A finalist Birmingham Marian handed Borgess its only loss in the Catholic League championship, but the Spartans won two regular-season meetings with the Mustangs.

Grand Rapids Christian won the Class A championship, finishing an undefeated season with a 58-56 win over Marian, earlier Saturday.

"We feel we can play with anyone," Mann said. "I don't know who the mythical champion is but I think Grand Rapids Christian can make the first claim."

As public pressure mounts to have the Spartans move up to Class B, where the competition is better, will the school oblige? The Spartans won Class C crowns in '93 and '94, were runnersup in '95 and semifinalists in '96.

"No, but thanks for asking," Mann said. "This is the second one in four years but we've been very disappointed the last two years. These kids (Anderson, Merchant and Smith) were able to go out the way they wanted."

Borgess led 10-5 after one quarter before outscoring Hancock 19-3 in the second quarter for a 29-8 halftime lead. The lead grew to

47-10 after the Spartans outscored the Bulldogs, 18-2, in the third quarter.

Hancock, which finished 24-3 overall, made six of 34 shots from the floor for an 18 percent clip. The Bulldogs didn't make a field goal in the third quarter and went 16 minutes and 50 seconds without a made shot, which was the time elapsed between early in the second quarter and early in the fourth quarter.

When Hancock beat Shelby in a semifinal game on Friday, Bulldogs coach Mike Williams knew his team won the battle for second place.

Senior guard Elizabeth Pietila, who made three of 17 shots, led Hancock with eight points.

"I felt looking at them yesterday they were 30 or 40 points better and I think the scoreboard showed that," Williams said. "We had one very good player (Elizabeth Pietela) and the rest are marginal. For us, this was a tremendous season."

Hancock lost by only eight points during the regular season to Detroit Country Day, the Class B champion, but the Spartans are far and away a better team than the Yellow-jackets, according to Williams.

"We've seen the size before but not a combination of size and quickness," Williams said. "They are extremely athletic. The second half, I sat back and watched. I was in awe."

Mann joked in the post-game press conference that his biggest coaching challenge was yet to come.

"Now we'll go back to the hotel and try to keep them quiet after 11," Mann said. "That's our biggest task."

# Outlook brighter after Eagles open with a win

BY C.J. HIRAK  
STAFF WRITER

When Doug Taylor took over the dual job of athletic director and boys basketball coach at Plymouth Christian Academy on Aug. 1, he couldn't be sure what he was in for.

Tuesday night's season-opener against West Highland Christian may have answered a couple of questions quite positively for Taylor.

PCA's opening game in the Eagle Kickoff Classic Tournament was a blowout, with the Eagles soaring to a 95-41 victory on the wings of senior guard Scott Carty's school record three-point shooting performance.

Carty nailed nine triples, surpassing the former school mark of eight, in piling up 30 points. Three other Eagles reached doubles in scoring, too: Derric Isensee had 17, Chris Brandon got 13 (with 12 rebounds) and Nick Brandon totaled 12.

Dave Flyalko's 11 points paced West Highland.

"It really wasn't much of a ball game," said Taylor. "But we played real well."

The Eagles were 10-of-20 (50 percent) on three-pointers and 40-of-77 (52 percent) from the floor. They led 25-8 after one quarter, 43-19 at the half and 75-31 after three periods.

"Everything was going our way," said Taylor. "The balls were all going in the basket."

PCA advances to play the Academy of Detroit in the tournament semifinals at 7:30 p.m. Friday. Southfield Franklin Road Christian and Canton Agape Christian meet in the other semifinal at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

The tournament championship is slated for 7 p.m. Saturday. The game for third place will be at 5 p.m., with other consolation games scheduled for 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Although Taylor liked what he saw against West Highland, he wasn't quite ready to make Final Four reservations for the state tournament.

"I really don't know how

## PREVIEW

things will unfold for us," he admitted. "It's hard to tell, coming in new and not sure who you're playing. But I think we should do pretty well."

"We've got some shooters, we've got some quickness. We're not a real big team so we're going to have to rebound."

Taylor is not without coaching experience, and he isn't completely unfamiliar with PCA's league, the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. For the last two years he coached at Gibraltar Christian; for the two years prior to that, he coached at Taylor Baptist Park.

"I'm real excited to come to Plymouth Christian," he said. "It gives me the chance to be an athletic director, and I like the MIAC. I think it's one of the best Class D Christian conferences in the state."

Bloomfield Hills Roeper and Pontiac Oakland Christian are expected to be the powers in the league, with PCA next in line.

Scorers like Carty, who stands 5-foot-10, and Nick Brandon, a 6-3 senior who was an all-conference selection last year, could push the Eagles into title contention. And Isensee is a 6-1 sophomore who will make an impact, as well.

Indeed, it's impressive that Isensee is getting much playing time at all, considering the Eagles' greatest strength is their experience: The team carries nine seniors.

Chris Brandon, a 6-3 senior forward, is in his third year on the varsity; other seniors to watch are 6-4 center Kris Young and 6-1 forward Mike Lehoczyk. And 5-9 sophomore guard Jordan Rose could be a find, too: He had seven assists against West Highland.

Despite the promising outlook, however, Taylor remains calm. "Time will tell," he said.

That tale time tells in the next few months could be a very happy one for the first-year AD/coach at PCA.

# Raptor runners reach Junior Olympics

BY BILL PARKER  
STAFF WRITER

The high school cross country season may be over, but for three members of the Walled Lake Central boys squad the competition continues this weekend.

Nate Stoll, Jason Babcock and

Todd Mobley have all qualified for the USA National Junior Olympics Cross Country Championships, which will take place Saturday in Portland, Oregon. When not racing for the Vikings the trio runs with the Raptor Racing Team, which they will be representing at nationals.

Squads from the Raptor Racing Team has qualified for nationals in the 15-16 age division and the 17-18 age division.

Mobley runs on the 15-16-year-old squad. Clarkston's Dave Sage, Matt Haver and Dan Burk, Plymouth Salem's Jon Little and Matt Anderson and Livonia Franklin's Josh Burt are also members of the 15-16-year-old squad, which qualified for nationals by winning a regional competition Nov. 15 at Calvin College in Dayton, Ohio. The top three teams and the top 20 individuals at the regional meet qualify for the nationals. The Raptor's 15-16-year-olds also won the state championship in a race earlier this year in Southfield.

"Todd, Dave and Matt are

three of the top sophomores in the state," said Stoll. "They have a good chance of winning it all."

Mobley paced the Raptors in both the state and regional races by placing first and fifth as an individual, respectively.

Stoll and Babcock run on the Raptor's squad for 17-18-year-olds along with Japir-Gil and Jason Lancaster of Ann Arbor Pioneer, Jon Berman of North Farmington, Adam Barbara of Plymouth Salem and Jamie Perraino of Redford Union.

The Raptor's 17-18-year-old squad qualified for the national championships by placing third at the regional meet. They qualified for the regional by placing second at the state championships.

# Ocelots cruise past Saints

Schoolcraft College got an outstanding all-around performance from Emeka Okonkwo en route to a 103-83 men's basketball victory Saturday over the host Siena Heights junior varsity squad.

Okonkwo, a 6-foot-2 swingman from Ann Arbor Pioneer, scored 25 points, grabbed 10 rebounds, passed for eight assists and made six steals.

"It was Emeka's best game of the year," SC first-year coach Carlos Briggs said.

Derek McKelvey added 24 points for the Ocelots (7-2) and Kevin Melson contributed 21. Second-year point-guard Pete Males (Garden City) had 13 points and five assists.

George King led the Siena JV with 22 points.

The JV squad tried to press SC, which is averaging better

## COLLEGE HOOP

than 100 points this season, without much luck.

"We attacked their pressure and got a lot of layups," said Briggs, whose team outscored the Saints 60-34 in the second half.

The Ocelots shot 57 percent from the floor, but shot only 50 percent (15-of-30) from the free throw line.

**Maryville (MO.) 88, Madonna 72 (men):** Cold second-half shooting led to defeat for Madonna University (1-9 overall) in Saturday's consolation game of the Illinois Benedictine Tournament.

The Fighting Crusaders trailed Maryville 44-40 at the half, but shot just 35 percent

from the field in the second half and wound up losing by 16 in Lisle, Ill.

John-Mark Branch played well in defeat for Madonna, scoring 19 points, grabbing five rebounds and making five assists. Mark Hayes scored 16 points and Nick Hurley (Plymouth Canton) notched 15 for the Crusaders.

Maryville was led by Henry Shannon's 33 points.

In Friday's first-round game Friday, Madonna fell to Mount Mercy 100-90.

The Crusaders again had a halftime deficit of four, but couldn't comeback. Hayes, a swingman from Birmingham Seaholm, did his best to keep Madonna in the game by scoring 36 points.

He connected on 15-of-31 shots from two-point range and also made 3-of-10 from behind the three-point arc. Hayes hit 3-of-4 free throws, too.

Hurley finished with 22 points and five assists.

Mount Mercy (IA) was paced by Mike Conrad's 26 points.

## ROUNDUP

■ Three ex-Observerland players are seeing considerable action for the University of Michigan-Dearborn men's basketball team, which fell Tuesday to host Oakland University, 67-59.

Rudy Hatfield, who played at Livonia Churchill and Schoolcraft College, shared team-high scoring honors with teammate Charles Johnson with 18 points. Hatfield also grabbed eight rebounds.

Chris Tiernan (Lutheran Westland) added eight points, while Tom Laco (Redford Catholic Central) had five as the Wolves dropped to 1-12 on the year.

OU, which moves into the NCAA Division I ranks next season, is 5-6.

■ Livonian Jenny McDewitt (Farmington Hills Mercy) appeared in eight games as a first-year member of the Kenyon (Ohio) women's field hockey team which finished 14-6 overall.

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**SKIING**

**DATES/DEER**  
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**GOOSE**  
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**PHEASANT**  
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**RABBIT**  
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**OUTDOORS CALENDAR**

**DATES/DEADLINES**

**DEER**  
Firearms season runs through Sunday, Nov. 30. The second archery season runs Dec. 1-Jan. 1 statewide. Muzzleloading season runs Dec. 5-14 in Zone I and Dec. 12-21 in Zones II and III. A special late antlerless only season will run Dec. 20-Jan. 4 on private land only in Zone III.

**DUCKS**  
Duck season runs through Dec. 2 in the North and Middle zones and through Dec. 9 in the South Zone.

**GOOSE**  
The second part of the Canada goose season runs Nov. 27-Dec. 7 in the South Zone outside the five Goose Management Units. Check the 1997 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide for dates of the season in the GMU's.

**PHEASANT**  
A special late pheasant hunt will once again be offered in southern Michigan Dec. 1-15. Check the 1997-98 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide for exact boundaries of the hunt area.

**SQUIRREL**  
Fox and gray squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

**RABBIT**  
Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

**NATURAL HERITAGE GRANTS**  
December 1 is the deadline to apply Natural Resource Natural Heritage Program small grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. To receive an application contact the DNR at P.O. Box 30180, Lansing MI 48909-7680 or e-mail your request to sargen12@state.mi.us. The grant application and examples of past grants awarded are also available on the DNR Wildlife Division web site at: [http://wildlife.dnr.state.mi.us/homepages/Natural\\_Heritage/](http://wildlife.dnr.state.mi.us/homepages/Natural_Heritage/).

**FISHING CLUBS**

**CLINTON VALLEY BASS ANGLERS**  
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. The next meeting is slated for 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 11. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

**METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS**  
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

**MICHIGAN FLY FISHING**  
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

**FOUR SEASONS**  
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Citizen's Center in the Livonia Civic Center. Call Jim Kudej at (313) 591-0843 for more information.

**FISHING BUDDIES**  
Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. Call (810) 656-0556 for more information.

**BASS ASSOCIATION**  
The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Dearborn Civic Center. Call (313) 676-2863 for more information.

**ARCHERY**

**JUNIOR OLYMPICS**  
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

**JUNIOR ARCHERS**  
A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Satur-

days at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

**3D LEAGUE**  
A 3D league begins Wednesday, Dec. 3, at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

**CLASSES**

**FIRST AID**  
Learn to be aware of and prepared for outdoor emergencies such as hypothermia, dehydration, frostbite and sprains during this program, which begins at 7 p.m. Thursday at REI in Northville. Call (248) 347-2100 for more information.

**FLY TYING**  
Bueters Outdoors in Northville still has openings for its fall fly tying classes. Call (248) 349-3677 for more information.

**OUTDOOR CLUBS**

**SOLAR**  
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation, a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

**SHOOTING RANGES**

**BALD MOUNTAIN**  
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to dusk on Saturdays and Sundays and noon to dusk on Wednesdays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd. (three miles north of the

Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

**PONTIAC LAKE**  
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (810) 666-1020 for more information.

**ORTONVILLE RECREATION**  
Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 22 are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (810) 693-6767 for more information.

**POINTE MOUILLEE**  
The rifle and pistol range at the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area in Rockwood has been closed due to environmental concerns. Call (313) 379-3820 for more information.

**METROPARKS**

**METROPARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Most Metropark programs are

free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

**1998 PERMITS**  
The 1998 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 and \$8 for senior citizens. The annual boat launching permits are \$18 and \$9 for senior citizens. Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

**ARIZONA DESERT**  
Join parks naturalist Tom Smith on a picture journey of Arizona's Sonoran Desert during this program, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Stony Creek.

**WINTER'S A COMIN'**  
Learn how wildlife prepares for winter during this naturalist-led walk, which begins at 2 p.m. Sunday at Kensington.

**OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS**  
**COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS**

Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

**HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS**  
Create hand-made gifts for the holidays during this craft session, which begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Independence Oaks.

**STATE PARKS**

**STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area and Island Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and additional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2433. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7067.

**BEST GIRLS SWIM TIMES**

Following are the best girls swim times and diving scores by Observerland athletes.

**200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY**  
Livonia Stevenson 1:48.54  
Farmington Hills Mercy 1:51.76  
North Farmington 1:52.19  
Plymouth Salem 1:54.04  
Farmington Harrison 1:56.30

**200 FREESTYLE**  
Amy McCullough (Mercy) 1:54.03  
Julie Kern (Stevenson) 1:54.14  
Elizabeth MacDonald (Mercy) 1:56.20  
Betsey Lambert (Mercy) 1:56.94  
Elizabeth Posvar (Mercy) 1:58.78  
Meghan Mocerri (Stevenson) 1:58.98  
Kelly Carlin (Mercy) 1:59.92  
Angela SimetKosky (Churchill) 2:00.13  
Lindsay Fetters (Harrison) 2:00.46  
Teri Hanson (Canton) 2:00.52

**200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY**  
Elizabeth Posvar (Mercy) 2:09.50  
Lindsay Fetters (Harrison) 2:11.82  
Katie Clark (Stevenson) 2:13.55  
Kelly Carlin (Mercy) 2:14.55  
Julie Kern (Stevenson) 2:15.18  
Hannah Pawlewicz (N. Farm) 2:15.43  
Becky Noechel (Stevenson) 2:16.98  
Christina Mocerri (Ladywood) 2:17.00  
Amy McCullough (Mercy) 2:17.01  
Adrienne Turri (Stevenson) 2:18.13

**50 FREESTYLE**  
Hannah Pawlewicz (N. Farm.) 24.38  
Jordyn Godfroid (Stevenson) 24.89  
Elizabeth Posvar (Mercy) 25.01  
Adrienne Turri (Stevenson) 25.22  
Teri Hanson (Canton) 25.27  
Jessica Makowski (Stevenson) 25.33  
Kelly Carlin (Mercy) 25.40  
Christina Mocerri (Ladywood) 25.40  
Dona Schwalm (Harrison) 25.43

Amy McCullough (Mercy) 25.45

**DIVING**  
Laurel Dolin (Stevenson) 254.00  
Becca Gould (Mercy) 243.15  
Katy Ballantine (Stevenson) 226.60  
Jennie Marchand (John Glenn) 224.70  
Jamee Pullum (Mercy) 218.75  
Michelle Wallon (Salem) 211.40  
Michelle Braine (Mercy) 206.05  
Nikki Hagmann (Churchill) 195.50  
Elizabeth Stoler (N. Farmington) 190.50  
Jennifer Dewaele (Harrison) 189.25

**100 BUTTERFLY**  
Hannah Pawlewicz (N. Farm.) 58.07  
Erin Downs (Mercy) 58.97  
Julie Kern (Stevenson) 1:00.71  
Teri Hanson (Canton) 1:00.90  
Katie Clark (Stevenson) 1:00.96  
Elizabeth Posvar (Mercy) 1:01.28  
Jenny MacDonald (Mercy) 1:01.49  
Adrienne Turri (Stevenson) 1:02.02  
Marla McKenzie (Stevenson) 1:02.71  
Kelly Carlin (Mercy) 1:02.94

**100 FREESTYLE**  
Elizabeth Posvar (Mercy) 53.26  
Kelly Carlin (Mercy) 54.56  
Julie Kern (Stevenson) 54.99  
Hannah Pawlewicz (N. Farm.) 55.15  
Christina Mocerri (Ladywood) 55.35  
Dona Schwalm (Harrison) 55.35  
Elizabeth MacDonald (Mercy) 55.60  
Jessica Makowski (Stevenson) 55.61  
Adrienne Turri (Stevenson) 55.63  
Teri Hanson (Canton) 55.84

**500 FREESTYLE**  
Amy McCullough (Mercy) 5:02.07  
Julie Kern (Stevenson) 5:03.50  
Meghan Mocerri (Stevenson) 5:08.80  
Betsey Lambert (Mercy) 5:15.14  
Elizabeth MacDonald (Mercy) 5:16.00

Julie Kluka (Harrison) 5:17.78  
Christina Mocerri (Ladywood) 5:18.09  
Hannah Pawlewicz (N. Farm.) 5:18.41  
Adrienne Doyle (Churchill) 5:19.95  
Meghan Lesnau (Stevenson) 5:20.00

**200 FREESTYLE RELAY**  
Livonia Stevenson 1:38.03  
North Farmington 1:41.50  
Farmington Hills Mercy 1:41.52  
Plymouth Salem 1:43.65  
Livonia Churchill 1:46.80

**100 BACKSTROKE**  
Adrienne Turri (Stevenson) 1:07.33  
Elizabeth Posvar (Mercy) 1:00.18  
Lindsay Dolin (Stevenson) 1:00.48  
Jessica Makowski (Stevenson) 1:00.82  
Amy McCullough (Mercy) 1:01.63  
Marla McKenzie (Stevenson) 1:02.99  
Tara Grider (N. Farmington) 1:03.24  
Kelly Carlin (Mercy) 1:03.26  
Katie Callan (Mercy) 1:03.37  
Cheri Farber (N. Farmington) 1:03.61

**100 BREASTSTROKE**  
Lindsay Fetters (Harrison) 1:07.33  
Nevra Alver (N. Farmington) 1:08.02  
Elizabeth Posvar (Mercy) 1:09.03  
Martie McKenzie (Stevenson) 1:09.28  
Jordyn Godfroid (Stevenson) 1:09.77  
Katie Bonner (Salem) 1:11.71  
Becky Noechel (Stevenson) 1:12.17  
McKenzie Wayne (Mercy) 1:13.09  
Jennifer Bendick (N. Farmington) 1:13.15  
Tina Cavicchioli (Farmington) 1:13.88

**400 FREESTYLE RELAY**  
Farmington Hills Mercy 3:38.02  
Livonia Stevenson 3:39.68  
Farmington Harrison 3:44.06  
Plymouth Salem 3:48.40  
North Farmington 3:54.49

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Dec. 11  
PCA Eagle semifinal, 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, Dec. 12  
Dearborn at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
Stevenson at Fordson, 7 p.m.  
John Glenn at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
Salem at A.A. Huron, 7 p.m.  
Luth. Westland at Annapolis, 7 p.m.  
Taylor Truman at Thurston, 7 p.m.  
Lakeland at Churchill, 7:30 p.m.  
Monroe at Canton, 7:30 p.m.  
Clarenceville at St. Agatha, 7:30 p.m.  
N. Farm. at Lapeer West, 7:30 p.m.  
PCA Eagle semifinal, 7:30 p.m.  
Huron Valley at MLHS Tourney, TBA.  
Saturday, Dec. 13  
Andover at Farmington, 2 p.m.

PCA Eagle championship, 7 p.m.  
Huron Valley at MLHS Tourney, TBA.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Friday, Dec. 12  
OCC at K'zoo Valley Tourney, 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 13  
OCC at K'zoo Valley, 2 or 4 p.m.  
Grand Rapids at Schoolcraft, 7:30 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Dec. 11  
Wayne State at Madonna, 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 13  
Madonna at Lake Superior, 5:30 p.m.  
**PREP HOCKEY**  
Friday, Dec. 12  
Stevenson vs. W.L. Central at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 13

Redford Union vs. W.L. Western at Lakeland Ice Arena, 2:20 p.m.  
Stevenson at Royal Oak, 8 p.m.  
Redford CC vs. Wyandotte at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m.  
**ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
Thursday, Dec. 11  
Ply. Whalers at North Bay, 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, Dec. 12  
Ply. Whalers at Sudbury, 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, Dec. 14  
Ply. Whalers at Toronto, 1:35 p.m.  
**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**  
Saturday, Dec. 13  
Madonna Invitational, 8:30 a.m.  
Allen Park Invitational, 8:30 p.m.  
South Lyon Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Harrison Invitational, TBA.

**Basketball from page C1**

Nick Moore did a nice job of getting the ball to different people and Chris Young did a great job of controlling the boards." Calvin House had 22 points for Gallagher, which trailed 21-7 after one quarter and 46-24 at halftime.

The Shamrocks kept the fast pace going in the second half, outscoring Gallagher 22-12 in the third quarter and 19-14 in the fourth. CC made 14 of 21 free throws and Gallagher six of 12.

**A.A. Huron 67, John Glenn 58:** Ramal Hunter scored 21 of his game-high 27 points in the opening half Tuesday to lead host Ann Arbor Huron to the season-opening victory over Westland John Glenn. Huron led 34-23 at the half.

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## BOYS BASKETBALL

## Churchill crumbles against Dearborn

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

The boys basketball season officially started Tuesday night with Livonia Churchill suffering from a bad case of the flu.

The host Chargers needed something to sooth their opening night jitters, coughing up the ball 39 times in a 78-54 loss to Dearborn.

Robitussin or Vick's Vapo Rub,

however, couldn't cure the turnover bug which started in the first quarter.

Dearborn, a Class A regional finalist with four of seven starters returning from last

year's 14-11 squad, roared out to a 27-9 advantage after eight minutes and coasted the rest of the way.

"Right now we're in the middle of growing pains," Churchill second-year coach Rick Austin said. "We were playing with two starters, a freshman (Michael Copeland) and a junior (Justin Jakes), who were playing their first varsity game.

"I attribute part of it to inexperience and the other part to the fact that we haven't had enough time yet in the season to let them mesh.

"When our best players our together on the floor, we'll be competitive."

Austin held out two players for portions of the game because of an internal team matter, but it was unlikely the Chargers were going to stay with Dearborn anyway.

The Pioneers, who upset Detroit Cass Tech in the regional semifinal last March before losing in the next round to state runner-up Detroit Redford, ran roughshod over Churchill with a suffocating defense and fast-break.

"We've always been a pressing and running team," said Dearborn coach Dave Mifsud, who lost in his debut as head coach to Churchill in 1995. "We play hard man-to-man defense and we've

got some good athletes.

"After we lost in the regional last year, we felt that in order to get to the next level, we had to improve our half-court defense. And tonight I thought we played great from that standpoint."

Churchill turned it over 12 times in the first quarter while the Pioneers quickly converted the mistakes into baskets.

The Chargers led 7-5 early as Jakes scored all seven points, including a three, but it was all Dearborn from that point on as the Pioneers went on a 20-0 run.

The surge was highlighted by a running slam dunk by 6-5 senior Jason Herrick, who finished with 10 points, and a three-pointer by 6-1 junior guard Colin Wilkinson, who led all scorers with 19.

All told, 10 different Dearborn players scored with Colin O'Donnell adding 12.

But to Churchill's credit, the Chargers didn't quit.

They were only outscored by just six, 51-46, over the final three quarters. But the damage had been done during the opening period.

"Dearborn traditionally plays an up-tempo offensive style and an in-your-face defensive style," said Austin, former Dearborn assistant. "We didn't use our pressure because we felt they'd thrive off that kind of tempo. But

we didn't recover back defensively and that's what really hurt us."

Senior Corey Cook scored 11 to pace Churchill, while Jakes contributed 10 and senior George Kithas added nine.

The Chargers shot 22 of 56 from the floor (39 percent), while Dearborn was 27 of 62 (43 percent).

"It's back to the drawing board tomorrow," Austin said. "We'll work hard on fundamentals and coming together better as a team. You'll definitely see a better game Friday versus (White Lake) Lakeland."

Dearborn, meanwhile, has a date Friday at Livonia Franklin.

"We have some high goals this year," said Mifsud, who also doubles as the school's head football coach. "We want to work hard to where we got last year and go a step further."

"Our halfcourt offense is the other major area where we hope to improve. We've made some progress, but we're not anywhere near where we want to be. We forced a lot of turnovers and we were running a lot, but we really didn't get into a set offense that many times."

Apparently turnovers were contagious because the Pioneers committed 26 themselves for a grand total of 65 between the two teams on the night.

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## Cornered

## Negoshian signs with Cornerstone

BY BILL PARKER  
STAFF WRITER

Todd Negoshian dreams of playing in a national college basketball tournament. Cornerstone College has an up-and-coming men's program that has its sights set on a berth in the national NAIA tournament.

With that in mind, Negoshian, a senior point guard at Walled Lake Central, made a verbal commitment earlier this week to continue his basketball career next year at Cornerstone College near Grand Rapids.

Negoshian decided to join the Golden Eagles after narrowing his choices to Cornerstone, Rochester Christian College, Lake Superior State and Northwood University.

"I chose Cornerstone for a few reasons," Negoshian said. "First, I want to have a chance to play in a national tournament, and

Cornerstone is ranked 20th in the NAIA and they've beaten the top-ranked team twice.

"Second, I have a good relationship with the coach. I've got along with him since the first time we met. And I wanted to play somewhere my brother (Ryan) could come and watch me play. He'll only be 45 minutes away at Western (Michigan University) so that was nice."

Negoshian got his first taste of life at Cornerstone when he worked at a youth basketball camp there last summer.

"We played some pick-up games, and I got high respect from all the guys," Negoshian said.

Cornerstone coach Kim Elders was elated to get a commitment from Negoshian, who averaged 22 points, six assists and four steals per game as a junior. Central begins the 1997-98 campaign Friday when it plays host

to Chippewa Valley.

"To get a kid of his caliber this early is just phenomenal for us," said Elders. "He was definitely our top recruit. We were looking for a point guard, and he was our first choice."

Elders said Negoshian will have a good chance to earn some quality playing time as a freshman.

"He's a good kid; he's a competitor," he said. "He understands the game very well and he comes from a great program."

"He's a smart basketball player with good skills. He can shoot the three and he distributes the ball well. He has all the tools. His competitiveness and the fact he understands the game so well was very appealing to us."

"I never promise anyone a starting position, but I see him working into the rotation right away and getting a lot of minutes."

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# Whalers from page C1

12th goal of the season. Erie's lone goal came less a minute later. Geoff Peters scored on an assist from Colin Pepperall.

The Whalers broke the game open in the second period with a pair of goals. David Legwand, who leads OHL rookies in scoring, got his 31st of the season and Boulerice scored his first of the night.

Plymouth tallied three more times in the third. Sergei Fedotov, Yuri Babenko and Boulerice all scored.

Robert Esche was in goal for Plymouth; he stopped 25 of 26 shots.

In Saturday's game, also played at Compuware Arena, Erie opened up a 3-1 lead after one period and the Whalers never recovered. The Otters led 5-2 after two periods.

Legwand scored a pair of goals while Kevin Holdridge, Eric

Goody and Andrew Taylor each added a goal. Legwand also had two assists; so did Babenko, with Taylor getting one.

Shane Nash and Pepperall each scored two goals for Erie, and Jason Polera had a goal and two assists.

Esche started in goal for Plymouth; he was replaced after two periods by Robert Holsinger. Pat Dovigi was in goal for Erie; he made 41 saves.

**Plymouth 8, Windsor 2:** Playing Thursday at Windsor, Nikos Tselios scored a hat trick to lead the Whalers to an easy victory.

Ahead 5-2 in the third period, Tselios scored three straight goals in less than 10 minutes. The defenseman now has five goals on the season.

His performance temporarily upstaged the torrid Legwand, who scored a pair of goals and assisted on two others in the

game. Taylor also netted two goals and an assist, and Julian Smith scored once and got two assists for the Whalers.

Windsor is in last place in the OHL's West Division.

**Legwand honored:** On Monday, the OHL named Legwand as the player of the week, for the span ending last Sunday.

The team's No. 1 draft choice in the 1997 OHL Priority Selection, Legwand collected five goals and six assists in three games for the Whalers last week.

For the season, Legwand leads all OHL rookies in scoring with 31 goals and 21 assists for 52 points in 27 games. He currently ranks third overall in the league in scoring, is second in goals scored, is tied for second in power play goals with 10, and is tied for first with five game-winning goals.

# Salem mat from page C1

Ron Krueger. "How could we do so well and finish second?"

The format was dual-meet; in other words, each team wrestled every other one as if in a dual meet. Keeping score in that fashion, Salem did indeed finish first since the Rocks beat every other team — including Holt, by a 36-33 margin.

But the final tally was tournament scoring, and in that format Holt edged Salem, finishing first with 303 points to the Rocks' 292.

Out of the 14 weight divisions, Salem had five undefeated champions: Charlie Hamblin at 275 pounds, John Mervyn at 103, Dan Morgan at 119, Anwar Crutchfield at 160 and Teono

Wilson at 189 all were 5-0 in their matches.

Four other Rocks finished second in their weight divisions: Josh Henderson at 130, Dan Hamblin at 140 and James Green at 152 were all 4-1, and Justin Bruner at 125 was 3-2 to earn second-place finishes.

In the remaining five divisions, Salem had two thirds and a fourth (Rob Ash at 112 and Sam Boyd at 145 took thirds, and Greg Petrovich at 135 was fourth). Which means the Rocks scored in all but two weight classes.

Problem was, Holt scored in every division.

Even though the Rocks weren't quite good enough to upset the

defending state champs, Krueger was happy. "Yeah, I was kind of pleased," the veteran coach said. "But we've got to keep going. We've got to keep working on getting better."

They'll get a shot at vengeance, in a manner of speaking, when they host their Salem 8 Invitational. The other seven teams competing are Holt, Saline, Adrian, Ann Arbor Huron, Brighton, Redford Catholic Central and Wyandotte Roosevelt.

Wrestling starts at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

"We're looking for people to come out and support us," said Krueger. Who knows? Perhaps this could be a team of destiny.

# Rockets grab weight class championships

John Fedulchak and Jake Tharp took individual titles Saturday to highlight Westland John Glenn's performance in the Ypsilanti Tournament.

Fedulcak was tops in the 152-pound division while Tharp won all of his matches at 215. Coach Dave Hill said both had out-

## WRESTLING

standing tournaments.

He thinks Fedulchak will go a long way this winter.

"He'll be difficult to beat," Hill said. "I don't believe he'll have difficulty qualifying for the state

finals this year."

As a team, the Rockets didn't meet with as much success. Westland finished sixth out of eight schools.

Northville "ran away" with the Ypsilanti Tournament, said Hill. Belleville was second and Saline finished third.

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ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS SWIMMING

# It's a star-studded team

BY C.J. RISAK  
STAFF WRITER

Two teams dominated the Observerland area in girls swimming. And there were a handful of swimmers on other teams that also made their mark during the season.

The teams are well known to anyone familiar with swimming — Livonia Stevenson, which finished fourth at the Class A state meet, and Farmington Hills Mercy, which placed sixth.

But these two teams did not monopolize the area's talent. In fact, there was such depth that the Observer had to expand its 1997 swim team to accommodate all those who earned it.

Choosing a Coach of the Year was no easy task, either. Two stood out from the crowd: Mercy's Jim Downs and Stevenson's Greg Phill.

Both guided their teams to strong showings at the state finals after winning their respective conference meets. Both are deserving.

The honor this year goes to Stevenson's Phill. The reason is simple enough: His team was best, and for the seventh-straight year the Spartans were best in the Western Lakes Activities Association, too.

Without further ado, here is the 1997 Observerland girls swim team, in order of event.

## FIRST TEAM

**Livonia Stevenson, 200-yard medley relay:** Adrienne Turri, Jordyn Godfroid, Jessica Makowski and Marti McKenzie teamed in this event throughout the season and "this combination worked out really well," according to Phill.

Their best time of 1:48.59 was a school record. They placed second at the state final and were WLAAs champions.

"Their great season came about because of the commitment these four girls made to this relay," said Phill.

**Julie Kern, Livonia Stevenson, 200-yard freestyle:** A junior, Kern's whole season seemed to be built on bests. "Julie spent the whole season swimming best times," said Phill.

Kern won both the 200 and 500 freestyles at the WLAAs meet (setting a meet record of 5:05.41 in the latter), was first in the 500 free at the MISCA meet and placed sixth in the 200 free at state (1:57.14).

Her accomplishments earned her Stevenson's most valuable swimmer award.

**Elizabeth Posvar, Farmington Mercy, 200-yard individual medley:** As the event she specializes in indicates, Posvar did a bit of everything for Mercy this season. And the sophomore did it well.

At the Oakland County meet, she was third in the 200 IM and fourth in the 100 backstroke. At the Catholic League finals, she placed first in both the 50 free (25.01) and 100 breaststroke (1:09.03).

And at the state championships, Posvar finished fourth in the 200 IM (2:09.76) and sixth in the 100 free (1:54.03) and seventh in the 500 free (5:02.07). She was also a double-winner in individual events at the Catholic League meet, capturing the 200 IM (2:17.01) and the 100 backstroke (1:02.26).

McCullough finished in the top seven in two individual events at state, placing third in the 200 free (1:54.03) and seventh in the 500 free (5:02.07). She was also a double-winner in individual events at the Catholic League meet, capturing the 200 IM (2:17.01) and the 100 backstroke (1:02.26).

Her clocking in the 500 free broke a 17-year-old Mercy team record. "As a ninth-grader, she's just exploring her talent," said Downs. "But she's already swimming with the 'big dogs.'"

**Livonia Stevenson, 200-yard freestyle relay:** You can't do any better than win your last race of the year — particularly if it's in the state finals.

That's what Stevenson's Marti McKenzie, Jordyn Godfroid, Katie Clark and Julie Kern managed to do. In fact, they didn't lose a race all season, winning all their dual-meet competitions, finishing first at the WLAAs meet (1:39.8, a meet record) and then collecting a victory at the state championships (1:38.04).

"These four girls got together and just refused to lose," said Phill. "There was never any question that they could win the state meet. They just needed to come together at the right time, and they did."

**Adrienne Turri, Livonia Stevenson, 100-yard backstroke:** A senior, Turri warmed up for the state finals by finishing second in the 100 back at the WLAAs finals (1:00.83).

She bettered that with a lifetime best at the state meet, finishing seventh in 59.26.

Turri qualified for state in five individual events. At the WLAAs meet, she was also fourth in the 100 freestyle (55.63).

"Adrienne worked harder this year than ever and reaped the benefits," said Phill. "She's been a great asset to our team. We'll miss her very much."

**Lindsay Fettes, Farmington Harrison, 100-yard breaststroke:** Fettes matched her state-meet performance of the previous year, scoring in both her individual events. Her best: a fourth-place in the 100 breaststroke (1:07.47). She was also eighth in the 200 IM (2:11.77).

At the WLAAs finals, Fettes — a sophomore — placed first in both events, winning the 100 breast in 1:07.36 and the 200 IM in 2:12.15.

**Farmington Mercy, 400-yard freestyle relay:** Well, if there's anything that should bolster the Marlins' hopes for the future, it's in this relay.

Kelly Carlin, Amy McCullough, Elizabeth MacDonald and Elizabeth Posvar combined to finish fifth at the state final (3:38.02). At the Catholic League finals, only MacDonald was a part of Mercy's first-place finisher (3:46.98).

Of the four that swam on the relay at state, Carlin and Posvar are sophomores and McCullough and MacDonald are freshmen.

(1:59.92) and 500 (5:21.14) free. Her best time in the 100 free (54.68) came leading off the 400 free relay.

"She swam a super anchor leg in the 200 medley relay at state for a seventh," said Downs. "And she had a great lead-off leg (at state) in the 400 free relay. It provided a big spark for the team."

**Amy McCullough, Farmington Mercy, 500-yard freestyle:** Perhaps the best thing to note about McCullough, certainly to her coach, is that she's just a freshman.

McCullough finished in the top seven in two individual events at state, placing third in the 200 free (1:54.03) and seventh in the 500 free (5:02.07). She was also a double-winner in individual events at the Catholic League meet, capturing the 200 IM (2:17.01) and the 100 backstroke (1:02.26).

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**freestyle:** Hanson qualified for state in four events, including the 50 free, in which she was clocked at 25.27. An ear infection kept her out of the WLAAs meet and hampered her late-season performance.

"Teri is a very hard worker and dedicated swimmer," said Canton coach Sarah Eubanks. "She excels both in the pool and academically. We look forward to having her back for her senior year."

**Laurel Dolin, Livonia Stevenson, diving:** Dolin, a junior, qualified for the state finals for the second consecutive year. At the WLAAs meet, Dolin placed second (440.5 points).

"Laurel overcame a nagging back injury to give Stevenson another excellent season," said Phill.

**Erin Downs, Farmington Mercy, 100-yard butterfly:** Her coach could not ask much more from this sophomore, who happens to be his daughter. She improved from 15th in the 100 fly at state a year ago to fifth this season (58.97). She won the same event at the Catholic League meet (1:01.08).

"She trains hard, she competes hard, and she's team-oriented," said her father/coach.

**Christina Mocer, Livonia Ladywood, 100-yard freestyle (tie):** Mocer made her first year competing at Ladywood — she's just a freshman — a memorable one, making the state cut in six individual events, setting team records in seven events and going undefeated in all her individual dual-meet races. Her best time in the 100 free was 55.35.

"Christina is a great morale team-booster, in and out of the water," said Ladywood coach Randy Ferguson. "The things she accomplished as a freshman most swimmers dream about for a lifetime."

**Dona Schwalm, Farmington Harrison, 100-yard freestyle (tie):** Schwalm's best time in the 100 free — 55.35 — matched Mocer's. Schwalm, a senior, turned hers in at a good time, finishing first in the event at the WLAAs finals.

Schwalm was also fourth at the league meet in the 50 free (25.43), qualifying for state in both.

**Meghan Mocer, Livonia Stevenson, 500-yard freestyle:** Mocer, a sophomore, followed up her second-place finishes in the 200 free and 500 free at the WLAAs meet with an 11th at the state final in the 500 free (5:10.66).

"Meghan is a very hard worker and a big-meet performer," said Phill. "When we needed someone to step up, Meghan was always there."

**North Farmington, 200-yard freestyle relay:** The Raiders' foursome of Tara Grider, Cheri Farber, Kristen Burke and Hannah Pawlewicz started off the season by setting a meet record in winning the 200 free relay at the WLAAs Relays.

Eventually, they set a team record and finished third at the WLAAs finals (1:41.5). At state, they placed just out of the scoring.

**Lindsay Dolin, Livonia Stevenson, 100-yard backstroke:** Dolin began her career at Stevenson (she's a freshman) by swimming lifetime bests in all her events. In the 100 back, she placed third at the WLAAs meet (1:01.31) and was 11th at state (1:00.6).

"Lindsay was one of only nine freshmen to score at state," said Phill. "She did a wonderful job for us this year, and we're looking forward to the next three."

**Neve Alver, North Farmington, 100-yard breaststroke:** Just like you're supposed to — Alver saved her best swim for last, clocking 1:08.02 in the 100 breast at the state final to finish sixth. The junior was second at the WLAAs meet (1:10.21).

"Neve Alver . . . is a tough and confident competitor," said North coach Pat Duthie. "Neve has a very strong, positive mental attitude and determination which allowed her to overcome injury and less than optimal training to have a great state meet."

**Livonia Stevenson, 400-yard freestyle relay:** The lineup in this relay changed often during the season, with Julie Kern, Jessica Makowski, Meghan Mocer and Adrienne Turri combining to win the event at the WLAAs meet (3:42.78). Kern, Makowski, Meghan Lesnau and Mocer teamed to place eighth at state (3:39.78).

"We played with this relay a lot over the year," said Phill. "But these four girls came together huge at the state meet when we needed them."

**Jessica Makowski, Livonia Stevenson, at-large:** Makowski, a sophomore, earns an individual spot on the all-Observer team by virtue of her scoring performance at state. She finished 12th in the 100-yard backstroke (1:02.01).

## SECOND TEAM

**Farmington Mercy, 200-yard medley relay:** Katie Callan, Elizabeth Posvar, Erin Downs and Kelly Carlin teamed to place seventh at the state meet (1:51.89). Callan is a senior; the other three are sophomores.

Mercy was the Catholic League champ, too (1:55.40), with Callan, Posvar, Jenny MacDonald and Danielle Clayton.

**Elizabeth MacDonald, Farmington Mercy, 200-yard freestyle:** A freshman, MacDonald placed eighth at the state meet in the 200 free (1:56.77). She was second in the Catholic League in the 100 free (56.34).

Mercy coach Jim Downs called MacDonald "a workaholic with a great future. She's already established herself at state level competition."

**Katie Clark, Livonia Stevenson, 200-yard individual medley:** A sophomore, Clark was out of action with a shoulder injury until Oct. 16. She still finished second at the WLAAs finals in both the 200 IM (2:13.56) and 100 butterfly (1:00.96).

Clark was "probably only at 50 percent at state meet," said Phill. "But with all her problems, she still gave the team the best she had to offer."

**Teri Hanson, Plymouth Canton, 50-yard**



Kelly Carlin  
Farmington Mercy



Katy Ballantine  
Livonia Stevenson



Lindsay Fettes  
Farmington Harrison



Jordyn Godfroid  
Livonia Stevenson



Julie Kern  
Livonia Stevenson



Amy McCullough  
Farmington Mercy



Hannah Pawlewicz  
North Farmington



Elizabeth Posvar  
Farmington Mercy



Adrienne Turri  
Livonia Stevenson



Neve Alver  
North Farmington



Christina Mocer  
Livonia Ladywood



Katie Clark  
Livonia Stevenson



Erin Downs  
Farmington Mercy



Teri Hanson  
Plymouth Canton



Laurel Dolin  
Livonia Stevenson



Lindsay Dolin  
Livonia Stevenson



Elizabeth MacDonald  
Farmington Mercy



Meghan Mocer  
Livonia Stevenson



Dona Schwalm  
Farmington Harrison



Betsy Lambert  
Farmington Mercy



Jessica Makowski  
Livonia Stevenson



Greg Phill  
Coach of the Year



North Farmington's 200-yard freestyle relay: (from left) Cheri Farber, Tara Grider, Kristen Burke, Hannah Pawlewicz.



Stevenson's 400-yard freestyle relay: (from left) Jessica Makowski, Meghan Mocer, Meghan Lesnau, Julie Kern.



Mercy's 200-yard freestyle relay: (from left) Elizabeth MacDonald, Danielle Clayton, Jenny MacDonald, Amy McCullough.



North Farmington's 200-yard medley relay: (from left) Tara Grider, Neve Alver, Hannah Pawlewicz, Cheri Farber.



Mercy's 400-yard freestyle relay: (from left) Amy McCullough, Kelly Carlin, Elizabeth Posvar, Elizabeth MacDonald.



Mercy's 200-yard medley relay: (from left) Kelly Carlin, Elizabeth Posvar, Erin Downs, Katie Callan.



Stevenson's 200-yard medley relay: (from left) Adrienne Turri, Jordyn Godfroid, Jessica Makowski, Marti McKenzie.



Stevenson's 200-yard freestyle relay: (from left) Marti McKenzie, Jordyn Godfroid, Katie Clark, Julie Kern.

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# CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND PLYMOUTH

## WEEKEND

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Plymouth Baptist Church will present "Everlasting Light" 7 p.m. Friday through Sunday, Dec. 12-14. Admission is free, but a Salvation Army kettle will be available. Children under age 5 will not be admitted, but full nursery and preschool care will be provided. The church is at 42021 Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth. 453-5534.

### BELL RINGING

The Kiwanis Club of Plymouth will be ringing the bells for the Salvation Army through the Plymouth community Dec. 12-13.

### HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

The Lucile B. Conger Alumnae Group of the University of Michigan hosts its annual tour of homes decorated for the holidays. Four spectacular Ann Arbor homes will be showcased. The tours are until 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, and tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at some Ann Arbor businesses; call 662-2746. Proceeds go to U-M scholarships.

### HOLIDAY MARKET

A unique market for the discriminating shopper will be hosted by the Lucile B. Conger Alumnae Group of the University of Michigan until 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11. It takes place at the Barton Hills Country Club, 730 Country Club Road in Ann Arbor, and admission is \$2. More than 30 artisans will be featured with many surprising gift ideas. 662-2746. Proceeds go to U-M scholarships.

## AROUND TOWN

### TOYS FOR KIDS

Mel's Golden Razor will be collecting new and used toys in good condition through Dec. 19. They will also be taking donations for families they provide for at Christmas. 595 Forest. Call 455-9057.

### BUILD BOOK COLLECTION

Join the Plymouth District Library and help build the collection. Choose to donate to the adult or youth collection with \$25. The staff will help select a title and a bookplate will identify your donation to honor a friend or family member. Call 453-0750, Ext. 213.

### BET CHAVERIM

Congregation Bet Chaverim will be having their monthly service 7:15 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at the United Methodist Church in Canton. Many Shabbat and Hanukkah celebrations will be taking place throughout December, as well as a CBC Playgroup from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13. Call 480-8880 for the CBC hotline.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA

Fox Hills Golf Club will be hosting this event 7:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday, Dec. 31. Tickets are \$79 per person. Call 453-7272.

### LIBRARY EVENTS

The Plymouth District Library is hosting many

exciting events this month: a holiday card display, storytimes for children in kindergarten or first grade, Internet youth classes and book discussions. Call 453-0750. The library will also be having its monthly board meeting at 7:30 Wednesday, Dec. 17; all may attend.

### ART WORKSHOPS

D & M Studio's Once Upon an Easel, in Canton is offering a variety of holiday art workshops for adults and youths. Call Sharon, 453-3710.

### HOLIDAY BRUNCH

Fox Hills Golf Club will host their third annual Christmas brunch on Sunday, Dec. 21. Delicious foods from around the globe will be featured. Reservations are required, tickets are \$19.95 for adults and \$8.95 for children. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 453-7272.

### HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will sponsor two holiday art and music workshops for children kindergarten through fifth grade Saturday, Dec. 20. "Songs of the Season" will be 9:30-11:30 a.m. and includes a look at different holiday celebrations including Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. "Christmas Around the World," noon to 2 p.m., will focus on holiday songs and customs from other countries. Classes are \$15 per child. Free child care during lunch will be provided if both sessions are attended. Call the arts council at 416-4278 to sign up. The classes are at the arts council, 774 N. Sheldon at Junction.

### PRESCHOOL OPENINGS

Livonia Little People's Co-op Preschool has openings for the 1997-98 school year in the 3- and 4-year-old classes. The preschool is located at 8820 Wayne Road, just north of Joy. For more information, call (313) 454-4964.

### CANTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

Canton Community Church will present "Four Tickets to Christmas," a dramatic musical. Tickets at \$6 include dessert, coffee and tea, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. The church is located at 41600 Ann Arbor Trail.

### PLYMOUTH YMCA

Through Dec. 19. Practices for the Basketball Travel League are on Monday or Wednesday with Friday or Saturday games. This is a league for both girls and boys. Divisions: Passers: third-fourth grade; Shooters: fifth-sixth grade; Blockers: seventh-eighth grade and Jammers: ninth-twelfth grade. Call the Plymouth Community Family YMCA to register by phone at (313) 453-2904 with Visa or MasterCard or for further information.

Through Dec. 17. The Girls Basketball Instructional League will teach basic skills including dribbling, shooting, passing, and rules of the game.

## Give your thoughts

CLARA CAMP

### Citizen of the Year

NOMINATION FORM

I wish to nominate:

Because:

Nominee's address:

Nominee's daytime phone:

Your (nominator's) name:

Your (nominator's) address:

Your (nominator's) phone:

Nominations must be received by 5 p.m., Dec. 19, 1997

Mail or hand deliver to: 45951 Amesbury Plymouth, MI 48170

Sponsored by the Tonquish Creek Yacht Club For more information call, 455-1166



Instruction will be 7-8 p.m. Wednesday at Bentley Elementary School, Canton. Ages 9-12. Call the Plymouth YMCA for further information or to register with Visa or MasterCard at (313) 453-2904.

### YOUTH ARTIST

The Plymouth Symphony Society will give up to \$600 in awards to instrumental soloists and provide the opportunity to perform with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra. Students must complete an application and perform at the competition on Monday evening, Dec. 15. Applicants who need more information contact the Plymouth Symphony at 451-2112.

### 'NUTCRACKER' BALLET

The Plymouth-Canton Ballet performs Tchaikovsky's magical ballet in this depiction of Clara's enchanting story of Christmas Eve at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and Sunday, Dec. 14. A Sugar Plum Fairy Tea will be held immediately following the matinees Saturday and Sunday. For tickets, call the symphony, 451-2112. There is a separate fee for

the tea.

### SALVATION ARMY

Senior citizens of all ages, get your exercise and have a good time, too, in the Senior Volleyball Program. The program meets 10 a.m. to noon, Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. There is an annual fee of \$10. For more information, call the Salvation Army (313) 453-5464 and ask for Martha.

The Salvation Army offers open gym time 1-4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. There is a \$1 per person fee. For more information, call (313) 453-5464.

### STOCKING STUFFERS

Stocking stuffers are available for Plymouth-Canton Educational Park seniors. The parents' committee, helping to plan the 1998 Senior Party part of graduation festivities, will be offering the early sale of 1998 Senior Party tickets. Information, Sue McCusker at 981-2361 or Theresa Little at 459-6399.

### HOST FAMILIES

Madonna University is searching for host families to give their international

students an opportunity to experience a traditional American holiday during Christmas (Dec. 24-Jan. 1). Those interested in learning more should call Madonna University's Student Life Office at (313) 432-5428.

### ADVENT RETREAT

Madonna University will hold an Advent Retreat 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at the campus Residence Hall and Chapel. Cost is \$12 and includes lunch and refreshments. For more information, call (313) 432-5419.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

### DEPRESSION

Madonna University in Livonia will hold an open forum on holiday depression led by Dr. Robert Cohen noon to 1:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15, in Room 2213. This discussion is free and will address why the holidays are dressing for some people and how to cope with those feelings. Call 432-5736.

### WRAP

Washtenaw Rainbow Action Project (WRAP), a gay and lesbian advocacy organization, will be holding an educational program 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, at the New Center, 1100 N. Main Street in Ann Arbor. This program will discuss travel options geared towards the gay community. Admission is free. For further information on WRAP, (810) 742-7500.

### GYPSY MOTH

Two meetings have been scheduled for those who have dealt with a gypsy moth problem this year. Monday, Dec. 15, at the Ypsilanti Township Civic Center, 7200 S. Huron Drive, or Thursday, Dec. 18, at the Dexter Township Hall, 6880 Dexter-Pinckney Road. Both meetings are from 7-9 p.m. Call 971-0079, Ext. 2508.

### NEW BEGINNING

The New Beginnings Grief Support Group meets 7 p.m. every Monday at the Plymouth Church of Christ, 9301 Sheldon, just south of Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Anyone who is grieving a loss of a loved one is invited to attend. There is no charge. For information, call (313) 453-7630.

### ARBOR HOSPICE

A seven-week support and educational group for parents who have lost an adult child will be offered by Arbor Hospice. Groups will meet 4-5:30 p.m. Thursdays at Arbor Hospice, 3810 Packard, Ann Arbor. The group is open to any parent who has experienced the death of an adult child, regardless of whether the loss occurred recently or many years ago. A minimal donation will be requested. For more information and to register, call Arbor Hospice at (313) 677-0500 or 1-800-783-5764.

### MDDA

MDDA (Manic Depressive-Depressive Association) holds its meeting the second and fourth Sundays 2-4 p.m. at Oakwood-Canton Health Center Community meeting room. For more information, call Nancy at (313) 455-8598.

## VOLUNTEER WORK

### VOLUNTEERS

The Alzheimer's Association is seeking volunteers to provide companionship to people experiencing memory loss. Those who volunteer receive an excellent orientation that provides them with the information and skills to brighten the life of someone with Alzheimer's. To learn more or to volunteer, call Adam Sterling, (248) 557-8277.

### VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Volunteer drivers are needed to transport area residents to meetings of the Western Wayne Parkinson's Disease Support Group. Meetings are 7-9 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Livonia Senior Center on Farming-

ton Road, south of Five Mile Road. Parkinson's patients, caregivers and others are welcome to attend meetings which serve Plymouth, Canton, Westland, Livonia, Redford and Garden City. Interested volunteers may call 459-0216 or 421-4208.

### BEAUMONT HOSPICE

Beaumont Hospice invites you to become part of its hospice team by volunteering your services to support the care of patients with terminal illnesses and their families. Information, (248) 828-9514.

## CLUBS

### MOTHER OF MULTIPLES

The Plymouth-Canton Mothers of Multiples club meets 7 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month. Call Barb at (313) 207-5224. Playgroup meets every other Tuesday; call Sue at (313) 459-9324.

### WRITER'S CLUB

The Plymouth District Library offers a Writer's Club which meets 7-9 p.m. tonight, Dec. 11. Call Brian, 416-0418, for information.

### U.S. SINGLETONS

The Dearborn-Livonia Chapter of the U.S. Singletons will host their next dinner social Sunday, Dec. 14, at Ernesto's in the Beacon Room, 41661 Plymouth Road, west of Haggerty in Plymouth. Social hour starts at 2 p.m. with dinner at 3 p.m. For single adults 45 and older.

### GOODFELLOWS

The Plymouth Goodfellows meet the first Wednesday of every month, 7:30 at the City Hall on Main Street. Call 455-8611 or 451-3554.

### BNI

Business Network International, Plymouth Chapter, is holding its regular meeting 7-8:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, at the Water Club Seafood Grill, Ann Arbor Road and I-275. Call (313) 844-3432.

### M.O.M.

Meet Other Mothers (M.O.M.) offers guest speakers and discussion. It meets at 9:30 a.m. the second and fourth Friday of the month at the First Presbyterian Church in Plymouth. Babysitting is provided. For more information, call Kate at (313) 453-3675.

### TOASTMASTERS

Join the Oral Majority Toastmasters Club at 6:45 p.m. Sundays at the old Friendly's building, at Ann Arbor Road and Lilley. For more information, call Marc Sullivan at (313) 455-1635.

### CAREER WOMEN

The National Association of Career Women's monthly networking luncheon will be at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, at Ernesto's, 41661 Plymouth Road, Plymouth. Featured speaker is Elizabeth Lush, senior consulting psychologist with Plante & Moran. For more information, call Judie, 454-7272, Ext. 223.

## CALENDAR FORM

The Plymouth Observer welcomes 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, Plymouth Observer, 794 South Main Street, Plymouth, MI, 48170, or by fax to 313-459-4224. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 459-2700 if you have any questions.

Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional Info.:

Use additional sheet if necessary

## CAMPUS NOTES

To submit your academic honor or graduation announcement to Campus Notes, send the material printed or typewritten to: Campus Notes, Plymouth-Canton Observer, 794 S. Main St., Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

### WHO'S WHO

Plymouth resident Dayna M. Lang, who is majoring in English/speech and serves as a personal tutor at Madonna University, is listed in the "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges." She is among 10 Madonna University students listed. Nominations are based on scholastic and community achievement. Lang is also active in her church and co-leads a Bible study

and also works in the nursery.

### HONORS COLLEGE

A Plymouth and a Canton resident are among the 106 students who have been accepted into Michigan State University's Honors College. They were admitted on the basis of a strong academic record, letters of recommendation from teachers and a written statement on why they wish to participate in the honors program.

The students are sophomore Dante Tucker of Plymouth, son of Victoria Tucker, and senior Richard Jordan of Canton, son of Richard Jordan. Tucker is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and has not yet declared a major at MSU.

Jordan is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and is majoring in marketing.

### JOINS FRATERNITY

Andrew McDonald, son of Jay and Patty McDonald of Plymouth, has been initiated into Beta Theta Pi International fraternity by the chapter at Central Michigan University.

McDonald is a Plymouth Salem High School graduate.

### STUDYING IN OXFORD

Claire E. Walton of Plymouth is spending the fall semester studying in Oxford as part of Albion College's off-campus program. She is a junior

majoring in biology and speech communication and theater. She is the daughter of Edward and Martha Walton of Plymouth and is a graduate of Ladywood High School.

### STUDYING IN HEIDELBERG

Rebecca L. Hoon of Canton is studying in Heidelberg for the fall semester as part of Albion College's off-campus program.

She is a junior majoring in Germany and psychology. She is the daughter of Robert and Ruth Hoon of Canton and a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School.

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BY MARTY STAFF WRIT

Jennife Blazewski state ch Birmingham Day. The future Thomas girls basketball Class 41-35 vi Swan Valgan Unive

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# Marian upended by GR Christian in state final

BY MARTY BUDNER  
STAFF WRITER

Coach Mary Lillie-Cicerone was placed in an unfamiliar situation Saturday after the Class A championship game in girls basketball.

Her Birmingham Marian team has qualified for the state finals four times during her 15-year career, but this year marked the first time she was on the losing end of the score.

The Mustangs captured state championships in 1988, 1992 and 1996. Their dream of back-to-back state titles was shattered by Grand Rapids Christian.

Christian completed a perfect season (28-0) by defeating Marian in a highly-competitive and entertaining game, 58-56, before a record crowd of 5,693 at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena.

Instead of high-fives and celebratory hugs of years past, Lillie-Cicerone found herself in the role of consoler this time.

After the game, she walked down the bench and consoled each player as best she could. It was a new experience for Lillie-Cicerone.

Although the pain of defeat might linger for a while, she said her players eventually will have fond memories of another terrific season that fell one game short of a state crown.

"You've got to give them a couple of days, maybe a week," she said, "and they're going to say 'Darn, we had a great season,' or 'We made it to the state finals.'"

"You know, they're going to talk about this for years. We had a great team; we made it to the finals and lost by a couple of points, and we had chances to win it."

"They're going to realize what they've accomplished down the line. And how many kids don't go through this? Boys and girls go through their high school careers without ever getting out of the regional."

"This is a big-time accomplishment. It's hard to swallow right

## CLASS A

now, especially the way we came back, grabbed the lead, then blew it."

Marian (22-5) never led in the game until the final minutes.

The Eagles, who lost by a point to Marian in last year's Class A state semifinals, had a strong first half and soared to a 40-28 halftime lead. The Mustangs didn't have a good shooting half

and committed an unusually high nine turnovers.

Christian hiked its advantage to 51-38, matching its biggest lead of the game halfway through the third quarter.

That set the stage for a tremendous Marian rally. The Mustangs scored the final six points of the quarter and trailed 51-44 entering the finale.

Marian stepped up its game even more, scoring the first 10 points of the fourth quarter for a

54-51 lead.

Markeisha Thompson hit a driving layup at the 4:18 mark to give Marian its first lead, 52-51. Kellie Byers hit another layup a short time later for a three-point advantage.

Christian's Amanda Vries hit a pair of free throws to bring the Eagles back within a point at 54-53. Marian missed a couple of shots that would have extended its lead. Christian tallied five straight points to ice its first

state girls basketball crown.

"We played a heckuva second half to battle back from 12 down," Lillie-Cicerone said. "When we took the lead, we felt comfortable. We worked our butts off to get back."

"They had everything clicking in that first half. Everything we tried to do they countered offensively. We struggled but we never gave up. At halftime, we said 'If they can get up by 12 points, we can catch up.' Once

we got our offense going, that kicked in our defense, and that got us right back in the game."

Marian made it one of the most exciting finals ever. Unfortunately for the Mustangs, they were on the losing end.

Breann Walas, who is headed to Cornell next year, finished with 18 points. Byers had 11, Thompson and Nicole Anaejonu, 10 points each. Anaejonu had a team-high eight rebounds and three assists.

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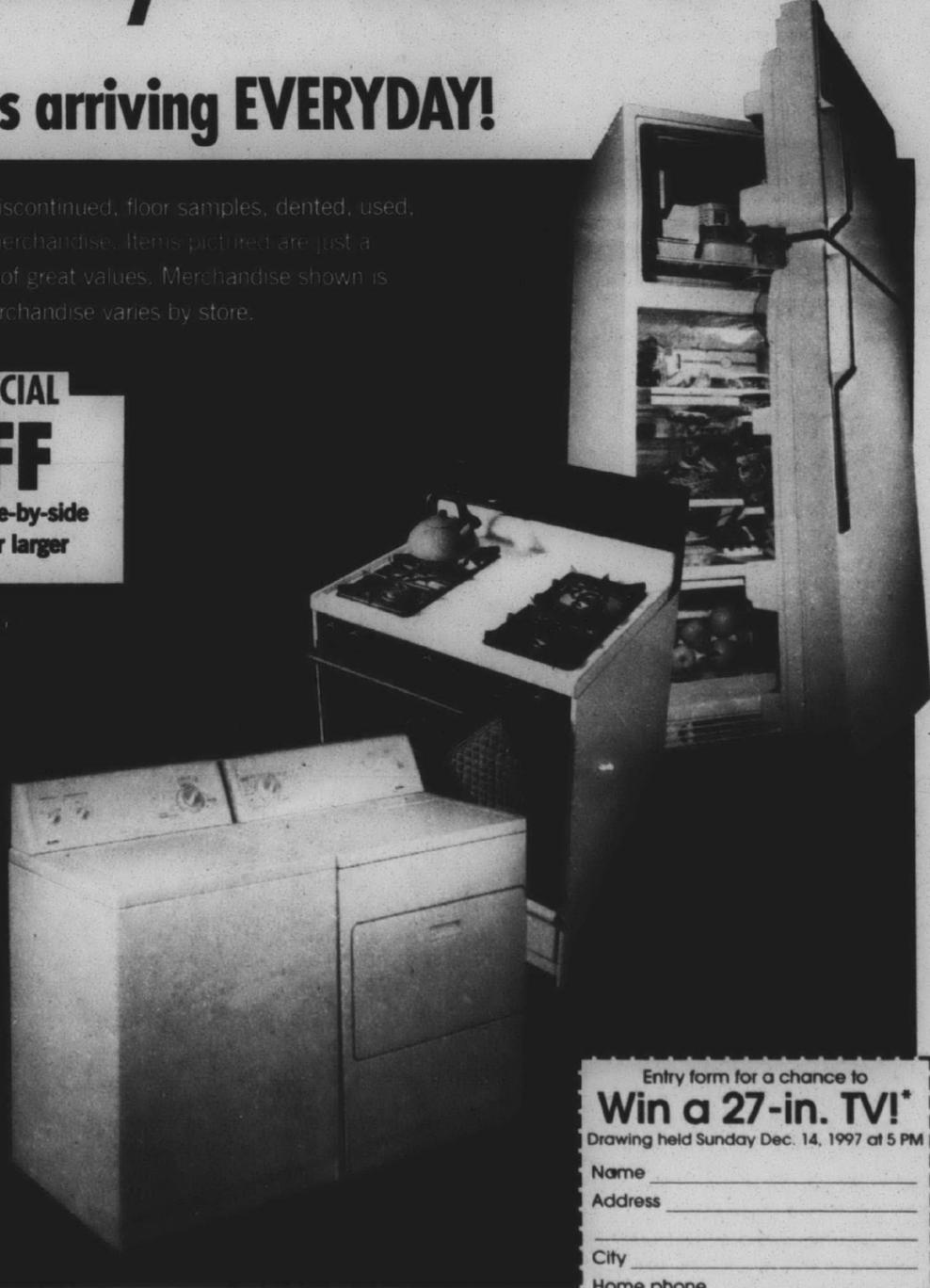
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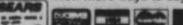
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# SEARS

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## CLASS B

### 2 in a row for DCDS

BY MARTY BUDNER  
STAFF WRITER

Jennifer Thomas and Katie Blazewski have played on two state championship teams at Birmingham-Detroit Country Day. There could be a third in their future.

Thomas, Blazewski and their girls basketball teammates won the Class B title Saturday with a 41-35 victory over Saginaw Swan Valley at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena.

It was Country Day's third championship overall and second in three years. The Yellow Jackets (27-1) didn't have a senior on the team, so they will be heavy favorites to defend their title next year.

Thomas is already looking forward to the challenge.

"I think there will be a little more pressure on us to make a repeat, because we'll have the same team," said Thomas, who will be a bonafide Miss Basketball candidate next year.

"We're definitely looking forward to next season and winning another state championship. I think we're capable of doing it."

The Yellow Jackets not only made it; they won it all in an impressive display of patient, disciplined and quality basketball.

Swan Valley came out gunning with a long-range attack.

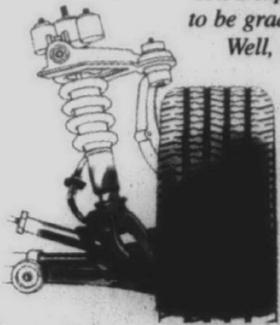
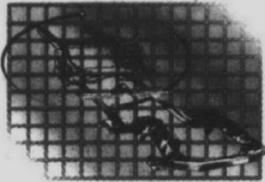
The Vikings were 5-for-5 from three-point range in the first half and led 23-20 at halftime.

The Yellow Jackets regrouped at halftime and went on a 9-0 run for a 29-23 lead. Schultz canned another three-point shot at the third-quarter buzzer to make it a 29-26 game heading into the final period.

Country Day scored seven of the first nine points of the fourth quarter. The Yellow Jackets took a 36-28 lead with five minutes remaining, and Saginaw Swan Valley never caught up.

Thomas finished with a game-high 15 points and completed a double-double with 14 rebounds. Hanks was the game's only other double-digit scorer with 10 points. Lindsey Smith led DCDD with four assists.

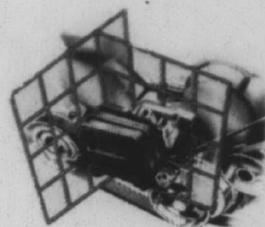
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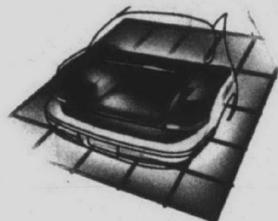


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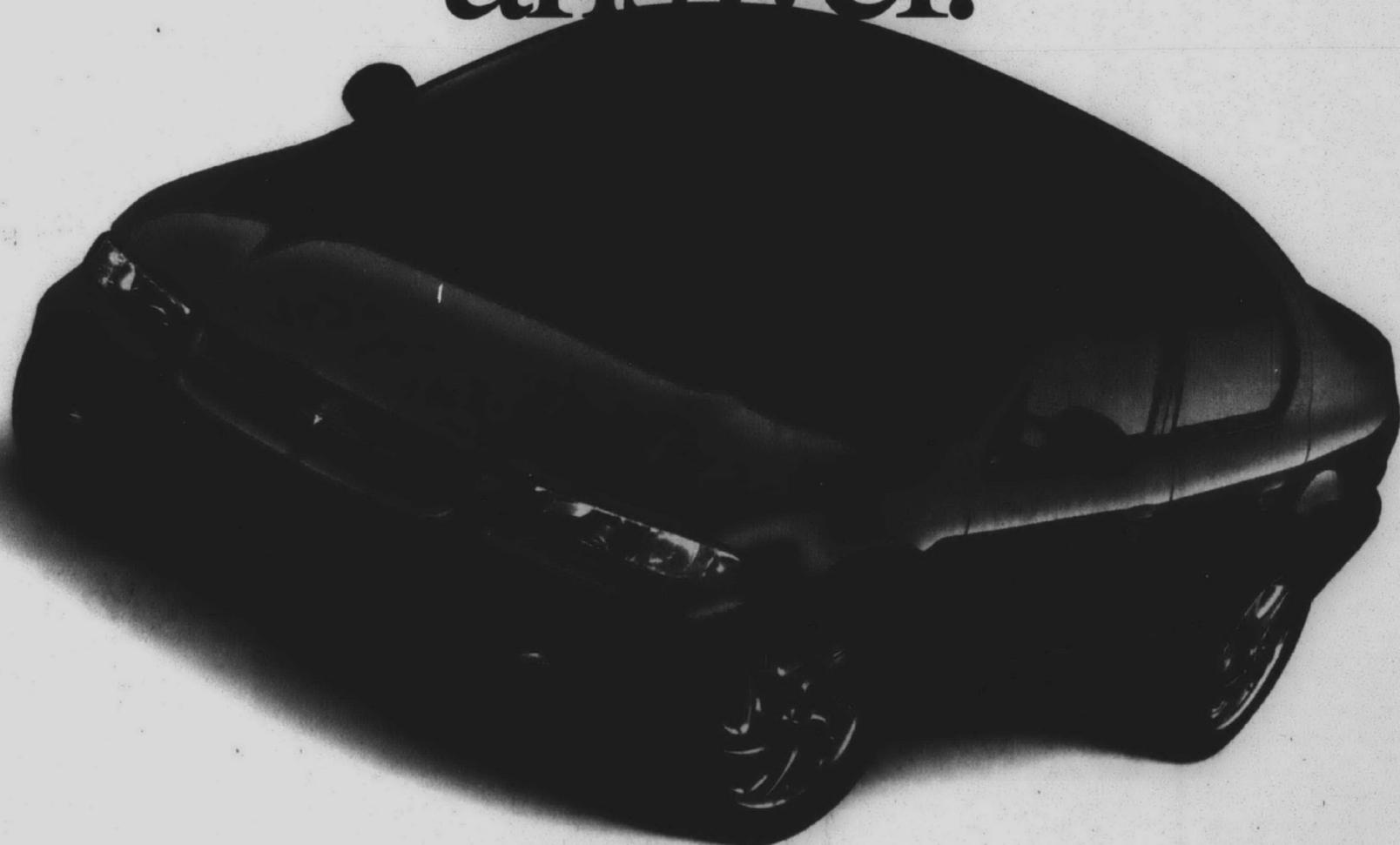
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## THE WEEKEND

### FRIDAY



**Orange 9mm**, featuring drummer Matt Cross, formerly of Detroit, performs at *The Shelter* below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Doors open at 6 p.m. for the all-ages show. Tickets \$5 in advance. (313) 961-MELT.

### SATURDAY



**Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association Holiday Sales Show - Gifts of Art**, offers a variety of handcrafted items. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 1516 S. Cranbrook Road (northwest corner of 14 Mile Road), (248) 644-0866.

### SUNDAY



**Take "A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline,"** 2 p.m. at the 7th House in downtown Pontiac. Tickets \$22, call (248) 335-8101.



**Hot tip:** Local dance groups, including Rose Marie Floyd's Contemporary Civic Ballet Company featuring Kathleen Ott of Rochester Hills as Clara, will be presenting "The Nutcracker" this weekend. See complete listing inside.

# Barenaked Ladies, Twistin' Tarantulas and other New Year's treats

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER

This is a call to Detroit Red Wings player Brendan Shanahan - Tyler Stewart drummer for the Canadian pop band Barenaked Ladies is personally inviting you to his band's New Year's Eve show at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

"Brendan Shanahan, I know that he's a Ladies fan. When he played in St. Louis, my good buddy is Curtis Joseph, the then-goalie in St. Louis, and Shanny was in charge of the music in the dressing room. In 1993, he played the whole 'Gordon' album to get ready. Maybe if they were listening to Metallica, they could have gone further," Stewart said with a laugh.

"I also know that Chris Osgood, Chris Draper and Darren McCarty are fans. They came to our show last Christmas time."

(Much to the Barenaked Ladies chagrin, The Detroit Red Wings will be busy until about 10 or 11 p.m. The Stanley Cup champions take on the St. Louis Blues at 7:30 p.m. The game is sold out.)

Stewart said choosing the Detroit area for its New Year's Eve concert was a no brainer. After all, some of the band's biggest shows have been here at Pine Knob and The Palace, and songs like "Brian Wilson" and "If I Had \$1,000,000" have inundated the radio.

The main floor and a significant portion of the lower bowl for the New Year's Eve show were sold out within 10 minutes. Tickets, \$25, still remain. Call (248) 377-0100 or (248) 645-6666 for more information. The Irish pop band The Devlins open the show at 9 p.m.

"Detroit Rock City has been very good to the Ladies. What a great night to sort of celebrate the city's support of us. We're really looking to blow out all the stops. You can look for surprises, of course. There's always surprises for Barenaked Ladies shows," Stewart said slyly.

It's no surprise, however, that going along with past practice The Palace of Auburn Hills will not allow any kind of macaroni and cheese - not just Kraft - into the venue. Fans routinely throw that and stuffed monkeys during the Ladies' trademark song "If I Had \$1,000,000."

If the Barenaked Ladies aren't your cup of tea, there's plenty of other options this New Year's Eve.

Royal Oak funksters The Howling Diablos and the local ska band the Parka Kings will perform at the Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Doors open at 9 p.m. for the 21 and older show. Tickets are \$20

and include hors d'oeuvres and party favors. Fans can count-down to 1998 with Dick Clark's "New Year's Rockin' Eve" shown on a 500-square foot TV. (248) 544-3080

Local rockabilly bands The Twistin' Tarantulas and Nobody's Business, along with the Detroit Music Award-winning blues band Mudpuppy take over the second floor of Fifth Avenue Billiards, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. The \$35 individual ticket includes a complimentary glass of champagne, while the \$60 per couple ticket price includes a complimentary bottle of champagne. A light buffet and party favors come with both options. The lower level of Fifth Avenue will operate as usual. Only those 21 and older are permitted into Fifth Avenue. (248) 542-9922

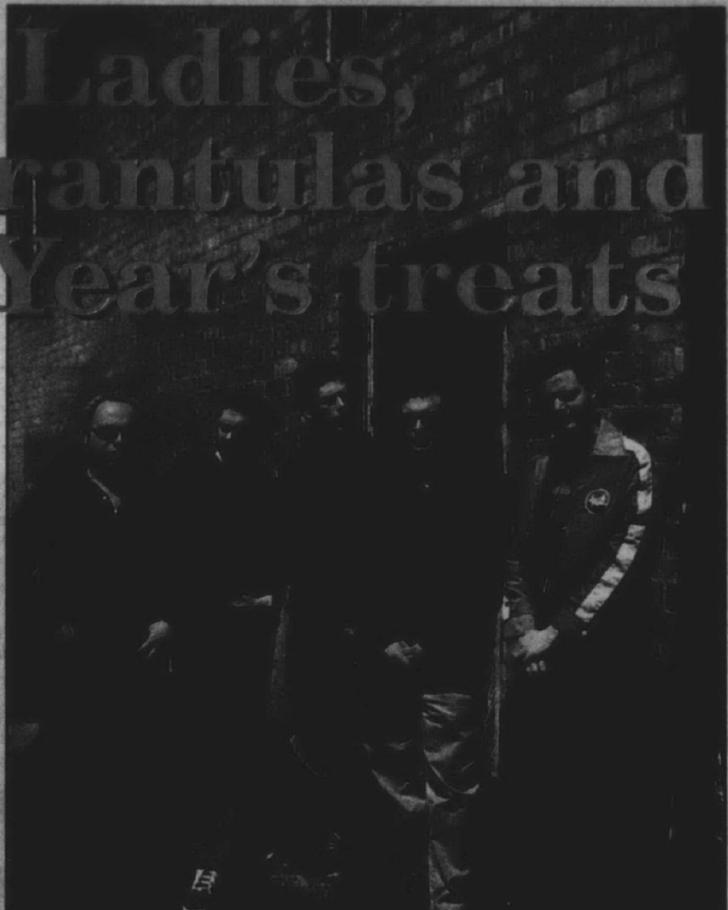
Former Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' Bands of the Year Speedball and Big Block will perform along with Hoarse at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door for the 18 and older show. (313) 961-MELT

Classic rock fans will be let down to hear that there will be no "Whiplash Bash" with Ted Nugent this year. About 3,000 of those fans can take refuge at the State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit, where Detroit native Alice Cooper will bring his show. Tickets are \$45 for the all-ages show. (313) 961-5451. Then there's always Dokken, Devil's Night and Illegal at The Palladium, 17580 Frazho, Roseville. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door for the 18 and older show. (810) 778-6404

First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willits (at Bates Street), is hosting "Chase the Blues! Night" with Little Sonny and the Detroit Rhythm Band from 9:30-11:30 p.m. Sponsoring "Chase the Blues" is an effort to continue the alcohol-free New Year's Eve momentum in downtown Birmingham due to the major funding loss and subsequent cancellation of the popular First Night. After a short break, at 11:45 there will be a 20-minute closing, non-sectarian worship service. Tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 children. (248) 644-0550 or [fbcb@wwnet.com](mailto:fbcb@wwnet.com) or <http://members.aol.com/churchwww/first.htm>

Acid jazz act Groove Collective performs at the Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Doors open at 9 p.m. for the 18 and older show. Tickets are \$20. (313) 833-9700

Local swingers Imperial Swing



**Playing The Palace:** The Canadian pop group Barenaked Ladies - from left, drummer Tyler Stewart, guitarist/vocalist Ed Robertson, stand-up bass player Jim Creeggan, singer Steven Page, and keyboardist Kevin Hearn - perform Wednesday, Dec. 31, at The Palace of Auburn Hills. The Devlins kick off the show at 9 p.m.

Orchestra spends its New Year's Eve at the Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$10 for the 19 and older show. Doors open at 9:30 p.m. (313) 996-8655.

For the sixth year, the city of Ypsilanti is hosting the drug- and alcohol-free family event New Year Jubilee. A variety of performers ranging from storytellers to jazz artists to choirs to reggae bands play in a dozen different venues throughout Ypsilanti's historic Depot Town. For children, the Wild Swan Theatre will present "Frog and Toad," San from Gemini will perform, LaRon Williams will tell stories, and Derby the Clown will make an appearance. Advance tickets, \$10, \$5 for children ages 6-12, are available at Ann Arbor- and Ypsilanti-area Busch's Valu-Land beginning Friday, Dec. 12. Admission is free to children ages 5 and younger. Tickets are \$15 at the door. (313) 483-4444 or (313) 484-6620.

A variety of nightclubs are holding their own parties. Fourth Street inside the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak, is having its annual celebration for those 21 and older hosted by radio station WKQI (95.5). Tickets are \$45 and include dinner, champagne, party favors, and breakfast. From midnight to 4 a.m., tickets are \$15 and include breakfast. (248) 546-7610. The New Year's Eve party at The Groove Room, 1815 N. Main St. (at 12 Mile Road),

Royal Oak, is free from 9-10 p.m. There will be a cover charge afterward. Free champagne and party favors will be offered. (248) 589-3344.

Local halls will once again fill for the holiday. Included in that is the VFW Hall at Nine Mile and Telegraph roads in Southfield where the Rochester Hills rock band Sensitivé Clown will perform. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door, both of which include beverages. (248) 652-6346

The City of Pontiac is expecting more than 10,000 celebrants this year at "Times Square II New Year's Eve Celebration" held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in downtown Pontiac. The free, non-alcoholic outdoor celebration features music and dancing in the street, food and beverage vendors and party favors. At the stroke of midnight, an illuminated ball will hit the top of a 100-foot pole located at the front of the Phoenix Center. A fireworks display follows. Numerous nightclubs in the area - Industry, Clutch Cargo's, Diamonds and Spurs - will have special events. (248) 857-5603. The swing/jump band Atomic Fireballs will perform at the 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 335-8100.

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra is hosting "A Singing, Dancing Gala for 1998" at 9 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit, during which the orchestra will perform J.

Please see NEW YEAR'S, E2

## YOUTH THEATER



**On stage:** Don Donnelly as Aladdin (left to right), Sultan (Robert "Bobo" Lozelle), Princess Jasmine (Kathleen Coleman-Lozelle), Amber (Sarah Wiercioch, bottom, left to right), and Myra (Sara Greenfield) are featured in "Aladdin."

# Stages set for entertaining youth productions

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER

Toys, toys, toys is what most kids are thinking about now, but the real acting up is happening not at home, but on stages throughout metro Detroit.

There are many choices this weekend for parents seeking a little diversion from the holiday countdown. A variety of youth productions to be presented by children and adults for children of all ages are sure to please.

### Dearborn Youth Theatre

Greg Wiklanski of Westland stars as Joseph in the Dearborn Youth Theatre production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Friday-Sunday, Dec. 12-14 at Edsel High School in Dearborn.

In October, Wiklanski portrayed Rolf in the Nancy Gurwin Presents staging of "The Sound of Music" at the Aaron DeRoy Studio Theatre in the Jewish Community Center, West Bloomfield.

"Being cast as Joseph was a real blessing for me," said Wiklanski, 20-a sophomore at Christian-focused William Tyndale College in Farmington

Hills. "I couldn't say enough how important God has been to me. He is the foundation of my life."

A 1995 graduate of Livonia Franklin High School, Wiklanski was in three plays there, all musicals. He then took a year off from theater. Wiklanski's only performing was with the Christ Ambassadors, the college's choir, which sang during services at area churches. He returned to theater this past summer, performing in "Carousel" with Music Theatre of Michigan in Livonia and "The Sound of Music."

Theater just started in high school as something fun to do. It's become more and more serious. Now, it's more like a passion. I'd like to make a living out of theater someday," Wiklanski said.

At William Tyndale College, he is majoring in vocal performance as well as working on obtaining his secondary education teaching certificate.

Steve Sell of Bloomfield Hills is also cast in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." In the adult chorus is Jen Rembisz of Livonia. Among the wives are Cindy Wittrock of Plymouth.

Playing one of the brothers is Kean Cronin of Bloomfield Hills.

In the children's chorus are Rachel Westphal-Gaddy, Georgene Wojciechowski, and Maria Szatkowski and Matthew Thayer of Livonia; Julia Fitzpatrick and Erin Fitzpatrick of Redford; Sarah Grace of Bloomfield Hills; and Paul Kittenger of Farmington Hills.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" is being staged by Dearborn Youth Theatre in cooperation with the Dearborn Recreation Department.

### Youtheatre

New York's Theatreworks/USA brings the story of "Charlotte's Web," E.B. White's story of friendship between a small pig named Wilbur and a gray spider named Charlotte, to Music Hall, Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 13-14.

You'll meet Wilbur, the pig who desperately wants to avoid the butcher; Fern the little girl who understands what animals say to each other; Tem-

### Youth Theater Productions

**Dearborn Youth Theatre**  
"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" - 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12-13, and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Edsel Ford High School, 20601 Rotunda Drive, (1 1/2 miles west of the Southfield Freeway) in Dearborn. Tickets \$10 general admission and \$9 for senior citizens, call (313) 561-0599 for reservations.

**Youtheatre at Music Hall**  
"Charlotte's Web" presented by New York Theatreworks/USA - 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 at Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door. No one under the age of 5 will be admitted to the theater.

Pre-show Playshop will be conducted 9:30 a.m. on Saturday preceding the 11 a.m. show. This hands-on workshop will explore creative dramatics with youngsters ages 5 and above. The workshop costs \$8 per person, and reservations can be made when placing ticket orders with the Music Hall Ticket Office, (313) 963-2366.

**Henry Ford Museum/Anderson Center Theater**  
Wild Swan Theater Company is presenting "The Town Mouse and The Country Mouse" - 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13.

Please see PRODUCTIONS, E2

Please see THEATER, E2

# Theater from page E1

pleton, the rat who can occasionally be talked into a good deed; the Zuckermans and the Arabes; and Charlotte, the spider, who spins a solution that assures Wilbur's place forever.

## Henry Ford Museum, Anderson Center Theater

Wild Swan Theater introduces audiences to "The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse," at the Anderson Center Theater inside Henry Ford Museum, in Dearborn through Sunday, Jan. 4.

"It's a very funny show, the children have been laughing so hard," said director Hilary Cohen. An original production, which features lively dancing and music, "The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse," is about a town mouse who longs for the country, and a country mouse who longs for the city.

## Productions from page E1

2:30 p.m. Saturdays Dec. 20 and Dec. 27; 2:30 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 14, 21, and 28; and 2:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2-Sunday, Jan. 4 at Henry Ford Museum's Anderson Center Theater, 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn. Tickets \$6, (313) 271-1620.

### Clarenceville Youth Theatre

"The Christmas Wish," a mini-musical and two one-acts (including the Hanukkah scene from the "Diary of Anne Frank") 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20 at the Clarenceville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Tickets \$5 at the door, (313) 535-8962.

### Marquis Theatre

"Aladdin" continues through Jan. 25 at the theater in downtown Northville, 135 E. Main Street - 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets \$6.50, (248) 349-8110, call for additional show times

### The Novi Theatres

"A Christmas Carol," The Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi - 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 12-13; 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. Tickets \$8 adults; seniors and children under 12, \$7, (248) 347-0400.

Each thinks life would be perfect if she lived somewhere else.

Children ages 4 and older will be captivated by the production's turn-of-the-century charm.

The cast includes Michelle Trame Lanzi of Plymouth as the city mouse, and Timothy Campos of Garden City as Ernie the hired hand in the country; and Ernest the butler in the city.

### Marquis Theatre

Donald Donnelley, 19 of Livonia, a graduate of Churchill High School, stars in the Marquis Theatre staging of the classic tale "Aladdin," which continues through Sunday, Jan. 25.

Recommended for children ages 3-1/2 and older, "Aladdin" is a retelling of the classic tale about a poor boy who likes to daydream, and falls in love with beautiful Princess Jasmine.

Aladdin finds an enchanted

magic lamp, and out pops a genie, (Ghanghus D. Goins of Westland) in a puff of smoke with the roar of thunder. Genie grants Aladdin's wish to become a prince, but Aladdin's troubles are not over.

After overcoming difficulties, Aladdin is reunited with Princess Jasmine in a happy ending. Steve Tadevic of Livonia, and Sarah Kipperman of Farmington are also part of the cast that includes six adults and 13 children.

### The Novi Theatres

Sixty actors ranging in age from 8 through college will take the stage in "A Christmas Carol," at The Novi Theatres, Dec. 12-14. The cast includes children from West Bloomfield, Farmington, Livonia, Plymouth and Farmington Hills.

The play features Bart

Williams in the role of Bob Cratchit. Kirk Jones returns as Scrooge. Colorful sets, costumes, and carolers are all part of this holiday classic by Charles Dickens, adapted for the Novi Theatre stage by Brian Way.

### Clarenceville Youth Theatre

A group of 50 actors and singers, formerly known as the Redford Youth Theatre, present "The Christmas Wish," a mini-musical and two one-acts (including the Hanukkah scene from the "Diary of Anne Frank") Dec. 20.

Written by artistic director Nancy Florikowski from a script, "The Christmas Wish" is a story about an orphan looking for a family and the unsold toys remaining in a shop. The other one-act is a scene between little Cosette and Father Christmas from "Les Miserables."

# New Year's from page E1

Strauss Jr.'s "Clear Track Galop (Bahn Frei)," Bernstein's "Tonight," and Webber's "All I Ask of You." Local ballroom dancing champions Glenn Clark and Cindy Gerald of Southfield, and Antonio Madrigal and Pamela Preczewski will add to the performance. Afterward, the Keith Saxton Sextet returns to the hall to perform a mix of jazz, big

band and Motown favorites. Patrons are invited to dance on stage, enjoy a cash bar, and partake of a complimentary champagne toast at midnight. Tickets range from \$25-\$85 and include party hats and noisemakers. (313) 833-3700 or <http://www.detroitssymphony.com>

For 20 years the Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103

Woodrow Wilson, Detroit, has hosted a New Year's Eve gala and this year isn't any different. The evening begins at 8 p.m. with unlimited champagne, homemade soup, and appetizers, and follows at 9 p.m. with the comedy "In the Sweet Bye and Bye," featuring Bloomfield Hills resident Dorry Peltyn. The story is about a country woman named Jessie who has a penchant for becoming emotional at local funerals. After the show, a buffet dinner with music and cham-

pagne in the theater's lobby and art gallery. Tickets are \$50. (313) 868-1347

Celebrants can laugh their way into 1998 at a variety of comedy clubs throughout the area. The Second City, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit, is offering two packages with dinner and a presentation of its latest show "Generation X Files." The early show with dinner at 5:15 p.m. and the show at 7:30 p.m. is \$70 and includes tax and gratuity and a complimentary glass of

champagne with dinner. The show only is \$25. The late show package is dinner at 8:15 p.m. and the show at 10:15 p.m. The show will end just before midnight at which time the cast will do the countdown to the New Year. The dessert buffet afterward begins at midnight in Risata. There will also be live band and dancing. The \$90 tickets include tax and gratuity. During the show's intermission, each couple will be brought a complimentary split of champagne. The cost is \$40 for the late show only. Packages with the Crowne Plaza Pontchartrain hotel are

available. (313) 965-2222. Steve McGrew, Hector Rezzano and Joey Bielaska perform Wednesday, Dec. 31, at Joey's Comedy Club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. (313) 261-0555. On the other side of town, Christopher Titus, Billy Ray Bauer and emcee Steven Bills perform at 7:30 p.m. (\$45 per couple for show only), and 10:30 p.m. (\$60 per couple includes party favors and a split of champagne), at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. (248) 542-9900 or <http://www.comedycastle.com>.

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Monday Dec 15th <b>OPEN 10-9</b>	Tuesday Dec 16th <b>OPEN 10-9</b>	Wednesday Dec 17th <b>OPEN 10-9</b>	Thursday Dec 18th <b>OPEN 10-9</b>	Friday Dec 19th <b>OPEN 10-10</b>	Saturday Dec 20th <b>OPEN 9-10</b>	Sunday Dec 21st <b>OPEN 9-8</b>
Monday Dec 22nd <b>OPEN 9-10</b>	Tuesday Dec 23rd <b>OPEN 9-10</b>	Wednesday Dec 24th <b>OPEN 9-5</b>	Thursday Dec 25th <b>CLOSED Merry Christmas</b>	Friday Dec 26th <b>OPEN 10-9</b>	Saturday Dec 27th <b>OPEN 9-9</b>	Sunday Dec 28th <b>OPEN 9-6</b>

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THEATER

# Spirited 'Nunsense' a jolly good musical comedy

Livonia Redford Theatre Guild presents "Nunsense," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the playhouse, 15138 Beech Daly, Redford. Tickets \$12, group rates and senior discounts available, (313) 531-0554.  
BY BOB WEIBEL  
SPECIAL WRITER

Has Christmas shopping and holiday planning become a bit of a hassle? Perhaps you need a pause that refreshes. Not the famous cola - but rather, may I suggest two hours at Livonia-Redford Theatre Guild's jolly good musical comedy, "Nunsense" featuring words and

## COMMUNITY THEATER

music by Dan Goggin. It's a fast-paced, laugh-a-minute romp - the perfect tonic for whatever ails you. You don't have to be Catholic to understand the jokes, and if you are, none of it's offensive.

The good sisters sing "Nuns Like to Have Fun," and do they ever, in song, dance and a double-entendre story or two. Be forewarned, that the plot is as far-fetched as the antics of the nuns.

It seems that several sisters at Mount St. Helen's died from eat-

ing bad soup. There wasn't enough money to bury all of them. Four are still in the freezer. The board of health has become suspicious. And so, the nuns are putting on a benefit talent show to raise the necessary funds.

The audience even gets in on the act with a 50-50 raffle. The winner is announced at intermission.

What we have here is a sort of vaudevilian farce. The cast carries it off beautifully, because they cleverly create madcap non-

sense. Director, Peter Sunnberg, takes advantage of his performers' unique talents by allowing them to add schtick not seen in other productions.

Stephanie Stephan (Sister Amnesia) steals most of the scenes as a forgetful silly-head. Her big-eyed double takes and comic timing are a joy to behold. Stephan's ventriloquist act wows the audience, and she's equally adept at belting out a song as a country singer - "I Could've Gone To Nashville" or delivering a sentimental ballad.

Annette Hissong (Sister Mary Regina) is wonderful as the

Mother Superior attempting to keep the sisters from making complete fools of themselves. This makes for the evening's most hilarious moments, such as when the Reverend Mother accidentally gets high taking whiffs of "Rush."

Debbie Pletzer (Sister Mary Robert Anne) who comes across as the happiest of the lot, is in good voice, especially with "Playing Second Fiddle." She's a riot with her Carmen Miranda fruit hat.

Nancy Florkowski's (Sister Mary Leo) dancing talents were apparent in several numbers,

including the splendid "Soup's On" (The Dying Nun Ballet).

Salathiel Baldwin (Sister Mary Hubert) is a natural comic. She saves the best for last as she leads the cast (and audience) in the hand-clapping, show-stopping spiritual, "Holier Than Thou."

Ken Pletzer's music (piano and synthesizer) has the effect of a real combo. Ned Kalinovic's scenery (school gym with "Grease" set) was well done, and includes some nifty use of a scrim. Dan Kurt's lighting design created the right mood and on cue.

# 'Christmas Carol' retains its luster

## BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

**Backstage Pass** is on break for Detroit Public Television's Winterfest '97 Pledge Drive, so you'll have to hunt around for "It's A Wonderful Life." What a switch! Remember a few years back when you couldn't turn on a television

between Thanksgiving and New Year without surfing past another airing of "Life?" Now, it's a great movie. Capra flexes his directorial muscles. The acting is strong throughout. And, as George Bailey, Jimmy Stewart displays the enormous talent and charisma that made him one of the premier actors of his era.

But it got to the point where if I had to listen to Zuzu singsong her way through "Teacher says whenever a bell rings, an angel gets his wings" one more time, I'd tell her what to do with her stupid petals. I started rooting for George to see the world and build his bridges. Besides, Pottersville looked like one swinging town.

See what happened? Gross overexposure had soured me to one of the sweetest movies of all time. So I got to wondering if the same danger lurked in the repeated seasonal productions of "A Christmas Carol." Are we getting to the point where audiences will start rooting for Scrooge to stay his cold, miserly, nasty self?

As usual, when I have a question regarding theater, I called on our *Backstage Pass* theater correspondents to enlighten me. This time, it was Gary Anderson who had to field my neurosis. "Gary," I asked, "why so many productions of 'A Christmas Carol?'"

Sure, enough, Gary had the

answer: "It's a guaranteed money-maker. It's a family-oriented holiday experience. It's familiar, so nobody will question the content or subject matter, and at this time of year people are looking for things to do as a family. Also, without dealing with religion directly, the play tackles issues of redemption, so it touches on certain quasi-religious issues, which makes it more palatable." Aha! A once-a-year show with no downside.

Is it my imagination, or it is the most theatrically adapted novel of all time. "Well, you have Cecily Tyson doing an African-American version. There were two other feminine versions, one of them with Susan Lucci. Then there are the British film versions. The George C. Scott made-for-TV version which was done by CBS was one of the most faithful productions to the book that's been done in a long while ... it's not the most use story, it's one of them."

Beyond getting produced into the ground, is it even a good play? Gary says, "That depends on the production, and on the script. There are several differ-

ent versions, many adaptations for the stage. Some are more successful than others at rendering the best elements of the book into an enjoyable theater experience." How about the source material? "The book is great. The story itself is good." Well, what about that Pollyannaish resolution? Isn't there a growing legion of folks getting disillusioned with the gross commercialism of the season?

Gary set me straight. "The play's message is contrary to the way the season has gone. If you listen carefully to the story, it's about a man who was busy acquiring wealth at the expense of having a life. His only nephew doesn't even know him. And he finds out at the end that it's more important to care about others than to acquire wealth, contrary to what the world seems to think."

"But there is a growing commentary on the commercialization of the season. There's a stage play called 'Inspecting Carol.' It's a satire about a company that puts up 'A Christmas Carol' every year. You're watching people who show no compassion for their common man, and

yet they're doing a play where the main theme is just that!"

OK, I'm sold! "A Christmas Carol" is one of the season's great traditions, and Wayne State's Bonstelle production shouldn't be missed. But how about some alternatives, Gary? "There are the tried and true religious options - church choirs, Handel's 'Messiah,' 'The Nutcracker,' all of those."

A personal recommendation? "The Harlem Nutcracker" by the University Musical Society in Ann Arbor. It's Duke Ellington's adaptation of Tchaikovsky's 'The Nutcracker.' It goes back and forth between modern-day and 1920s Harlem, and the choreography is by former Detroiters Donald Byrd. It plays for five performances this weekend only."

There are plenty of options, so don't be a humbug! Enjoy some theater this holiday season! And remember, *Backstage Pass* will return next week at 9:30 p.m. on Detroit Public Television.

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Entries must be received by Thursday, December 18, and three winners will be picked at random.

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## A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

### THEATER

**AVENUE PRODUCTIONS/ATTIC THEATRE**  
 "A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline," featuring Susan Arnold as "Patsy" singing 20 of Cline's most memorable songs with a five-piece band, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 (\$22), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12 (\$27), 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 (\$27), and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 (\$22), 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Group rates available. Dinner theater packages at a 20-percent discount available for most restaurants in Pontiac area. (248) 335-8101

**1515 BROADWAY**  
 "I Love Christmas," a new comedy by Detroit playwright Kim Carney, presented by Tritico Theatre Company, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the theater, 1515 Broadway, Detroit. \$12.50 and \$10. \$2 discount for students/seniors. (313) 965-1515/(248) 645-6666

**DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE**  
 "In the Sweet Bye and Bye," a comedy by Donald Driver, through Wednesday, Dec. 31, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 8:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. \$15. \$40 for season subscription. (313) 869-1347

**FISHER THEATRE**  
 "Les Miserables," through Sunday, Jan. 4, Fisher Theatre in the Fisher Building, Detroit. 8 p.m. Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and special holiday performance 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31. No performances Wednesday, Dec. 24, or Thursday, Jan. 1. \$15-\$58. (248) 645-6666/(313) 871-1132

**JEWISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE**  
 "Shiva Queen," by Rebecca Ritchie, through Wednesday, Dec. 31, in the Aaron DeRoy Studio Theatre, Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, and Sunday, 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday. \$13-\$23, discounts available for seniors ages 65 and older, and students. New Year's Eve performances 7 p.m. (\$35 includes champagne and hors d'oeuvres) and 10 p.m. (\$50 includes champagne, hors d'oeuvres and breakfast). (248) 788-2900

**MEADOW BROOK THEATRE**  
 "A Christmas Carol," 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursday and 2 p.m. Wednesdays (\$23), 8 p.m. Fridays (\$27.50), 2 p.m. Saturdays (\$23), 6 p.m. Saturdays and 8 p.m. Saturdays (\$33.50), 2 p.m. Sundays (\$23), and 6:30 p.m. Sundays (\$27.50) through Sunday, Dec. 28, at the theater, Wilson Hall at Oakland University (Walton Boulevard and Adams Road), Rochester. Student, senior and group discounts available. (248) 377-3300

**THE PURPLE ROSE THEATRE COMPANY**  
 "Escanaba in da Moonlight," a comedy about a family's deer hunting trip by Jeff Daniels, through Saturday, Dec. 20, at the Garage Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays. \$20-\$25. (313) 475-7902

### COLLEGE

**WSU BONSTELLE THEATRE**  
 "A Christmas Carol," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the theater, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8-\$10, \$5 children ages 12 and younger, with group discounts available. (313) 577-3960

### COMMUNITY THEATER

**DEARBORN FAMILY THEATRE**  
 "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Edsel Ford High School auditorium, 20601 Rotunda (at Pelham Road), Dearborn. \$10, \$9 seniors, with group discounts available. (313) 561-0599

**GROSSE POINTE WAR MEMORIAL**  
 "It's A Wonderful Life," the first stage production of a radio broadcast of Frank Capra's story, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Grosse Pointe War Memorial, 32 Lake Shore Dr., Grosse Pointe Farms. \$20, \$50 includes a reception following the performance and an opportunity to meet the cast on stage, \$100 also includes preferred seating. (313) 881-7511

**LAKELAND PLAYERS**  
 "Babes in Toyland," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Mason Middle School, 3835 W. Walton Blvd., Waterford. \$7, \$6 students and seniors, with group rates available. (248) 674-4738

**LIVONIA REDFORD THEATRE GUILD**  
 "Nunsense," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the playhouse, 15138 Beech Daly, Redford. \$12, group rates and senior discounts available. (313) 531-0554

**THE NOVI THEATRES**  
 "A Christmas Carol," 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. \$8, \$7 seniors and students younger than 12, \$7 and \$6 in advance. (248) 347-0400

**TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE**

An evening of holiday one-acts including "The Long Christmas Dinner" and "The Sheep Thief," through Sunday, Dec. 21, at the playhouse, 38840 W. Six Mile (at I-275), Livonia. 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, and 4 p.m. Sundays. \$8, not including bread bowl with soup and cider; group rates available. Seating limited to 50. (313) 464-6302

**VILLAGE PLAYERS**  
 "Sweet and Hot," a musical review of music by Harold Arlen, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20, at the theater, 752 Chestnut St. (at Woodward Avenue, south of Maple Road), Birmingham. \$14, \$12 students. (248) 644-2075.

### YOUTH

**CLARENCEVILLE YOUTH THEATRE**  
 A group of 50 actors and singers, formerly known as the Redford Youth Theatre, present "The Christmas Wish," a mini-musical and two one-acts (including the Hanukkah scene from the "Diary of Anne Frank"), 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, at the Clarenceville High School auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road (between Seven and Eight Mile roads), Livonia. \$5. (313) 535-8962

**MARQUIS THEATRE**  
 "Aladdin," 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, through Jan. 25, and 2:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, Monday, Dec. 29, Tuesday, Dec. 30-Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Friday, Jan. 2, at the theater, 135 E. Main St., Northville. \$6.50. (248) 349-8110

**RIDGEDALE PLAYERS**  
 The Junior Actors of Ridgedale present "Ridgedale Rascals," a holiday musical based on the Little Rascal characters, 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the playhouse, 205 W. Long Lake, Troy. \$6.50 (includes the play, a meal, a gift, and visit with Santa). \$5.50 for the 3:30 p.m. Sunday performance (includes juice and cookies). Reservations required. Pictures with Santa available for small fee. Patrons are requested to bring donations of non-perishable food items or a new, unwrapped toy for the Salvation Army. (248) 988-7049

**WILD SWAN THEATRE COMPANY**  
 "The Town Mouse and The Country Mouse," Saturday, Dec. 13-Sunday, Dec. 14, Saturday, Dec. 20-Sunday, Dec. 21, Saturday, Dec. 27-Sunday, Dec. 28, and Friday, Jan. 2-Sunday, Jan. 4, Henry Ford Museum's Anderson Center Theater, 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn. (313) 271-1620

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**"LIQUID SOUL"**  
 Featuring fashion, the music of Fathers of the Id and Ziam, and poetry, 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$10. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873

**SPORTS CARD, COMIC AND COLLECTIBLES SHOW**  
 3-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Roseville Towne Center, 12 Mile and Gratiot, Roseville. Free. (248) 557-1529

**"STRANGLERMAN LIVE!"**  
 Wrestling featuring a match between rapper Insane Clown Posse (ICP) and The Chicken Boys (Confederate Fred and Al Labama) inside a 15-foot-high steel cage of horrors, a Ladies Thumbtack Death Match between Angel and Lady Vendetta, a "Three-Way King of the Hardcore's" Death Match with Ian Rotten versus Mad Man Pondo versus Ox Harley, a "Double Tables Death Match" with Skull Ganz and "Dirty" Don Montoya, and a 20-man "Over the Top" battle royal, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$15. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

**THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS**  
 Featuring organist Lyn Larsen and vocalist Laurie Meeker, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 at the Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser Road, Detroit. \$8. (313) 531-4407

**TRADITIONAL POLISH CHRISTMAS TREE**  
 On display 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, Monday, Dec. 1, through Thursday, Jan. 1; Holiday dinner dance with music by Carousels, 1:30 p.m. dinner with dancing from 3-7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. \$15 includes dinner and dancing, both events at American Polish Cultural Center, 2975 E. Maple Road (at Dequindre Road), Troy. (248) 689-3636

**WASSAIL FEST**  
 A re-creation of the legendary Winter Court of England's Queen Elizabeth I, 6:30-10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11-Saturday, Dec. 13, and Thursday, Dec. 18-Saturday, Dec. 20, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$150 (discounted \$15 on Dec. 11 and Dec. 18), \$135 per ticket for tables of 20 or more. (313) 833-4005

### FAMILY EVENTS

**CHENILLE SISTERS**  
 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Borders Books and Music, 30995 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 737-0110

**DETROIT ZOO'S "WILD LIGHTS"**  
 Light show featuring more than 50 animated animal displays along a half-mile



Enchanting Tale: Bethany Blanchard of White Lake Middle School plays the Toy Box Doll in "The Nutcracker" presented by the Lakes Area Civic Ballet.

## Local dancers present 'Nutcracker'

"The Nutcracker" is a holiday tradition in metro Detroit. Local dance groups invite you to discover Tchaikovsky's beloved ballet.

**Contemporary Civic Ballet** presents "The Nutcracker," under the direction of Rose Marie Floyd, with New York dancer Alexander Schlempp, and Samantha Shelton, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at Warren Woods Middle School auditorium, East 12 Mile, west of Schoenner, Warren. Tickets \$8 at the door, (248) 641-9063/546-7484. 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 (presented by Valley of Detroit-Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, in the Scottish Rite Cathedral Auditorium at Masonic Temple, Detroit. Tickets \$5 at the door, (248) 641-9063

**Detroit Symphony Orchestra** - with principal dancers Evelyn Cisneros and Anthony Randazzo from the San Francisco Ballet, and Kimberly Glasco and Aleksandar Antonijevic from the National Ballet of Canada, along with members of Dance Detroit perform "The Nutcracker" ballet, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, and 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. \$14-\$53 adults, \$10-\$24 children and seniors, (313) 833-3700

**The Harlem Nutcracker** - Donald Byrd's jazzy version of the holiday tale featuring a live jazz orchestra, regional gospel choir and children's casts, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11-Friday, Dec. 12, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13-Sunday, Dec. 14, Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121

trail, 5:30-8 p.m. through Tuesday, Dec. 30 (except Christmas and Christmas Eve), at the zoo, I-696 and Woodward Avenue, Royal Oak. \$3 adults, \$2 children 2-12, free for children younger than 2. DZS members' admission, \$2 adults, \$1.50 children 2-12. (248) 541-5835/(248) 541-5717

**LIGHTFEST**  
 Walk-through winter wonderland features 26 animated light displays, the more than one million lights are presented by the Henry Ford Health System 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sundays-Thursdays, and 6:30-10:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays through Sunday, Dec. 28, B.A.S.F. Waterfront Park, 3625 Biddle Ave. (south of Eureka Road), Wyandotte. \$2.50, \$2 seniors, \$1 for children ages four to 12. Area service organizations and nonprofits staff the event as volunteers and will receive a portion of the proceeds. (734) 246-4806/282-6233 or its website <http://www.wyandotte.net/lightfest>

**"WINTER CARNIVAL OF FUN"**  
 Indoor amusement park, 4-11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Cobo Conference/Exhibition Center. (313) 923-7400

**YPSILANTI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**

Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. Tickets \$16-\$34, (800) 221-1229

**Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet** - "The Nutcracker," with the Betty Johnston Dance Studio and Birmingham Dance Academy, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, State Wayne Theater, 35310 Michigan Ave., Wayne; 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Farmington Harrison High School, 29995 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills; tickets \$8 and \$5, (313) 721-7400/(248) 473-9570

**Lakes Area Civic Ballet** - "The Nutcracker," under the direction of Christine Bove, who danced professionally with the Arizona Ballet Company, with Curtis Waldschmidt, a professional dancer from Los Angeles, as the Nutcracker Prince, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at West Bloomfield High School auditorium, 4925 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Tickets \$10, \$8.50, with special rates for community organizations purchasing 15 or more tickets, (248) 666-1971

**Livonia Civic Ballet** - "The Nutcracker" 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Clarenceville High School auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. Tickets \$12 adults, \$9 seniors/students, \$6 children ages 5-9, \$6 each for groups of 12 or more, (313) 427-9103/(248) 477-0520

**Michigan Ballet Theatre** - With the Warren Symphony Orchestra, "The Nutcracker," 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road (at M-59), Clinton Township. Tickets \$22, \$20 for children ages 12 and younger, and senior citizens, tickets \$18 and \$17 for groups of 20 or more,

Featuring miniature train rides and horse-drawn wagon rides, 6-10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Sunday, Dec. 14, Friday, Dec. 19-Sunday, Dec. 21, Wednesday, Dec. 24-Thursday, Dec. 25, 6 p.m.-midnight Wednesday, Dec. 31, Riverside Park along the Huron River, Ypsilanti's Historic Depot Town. Donations accepted. (313) 483-4444 or <http://www.ypsi.org>

### CLASSICAL

**ANN ARBOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
 "Viennese Winter Fest," featuring festival waltzes, marches and polkas, 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Michigan Theatre, 603 Liberty, Ann Arbor. \$16-\$29 with discounts for seniors, students and children. (313) 994-4801

**BEAUX ARTS TRIO**  
 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, as part of a Chamber Music Society of Detroit presentation, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$5-\$39. (313) 833-3700

**WINDSOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
 "Family Holiday Spectacular," 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, and 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, Chrysler Theatre, Cleary International Centre, 201 Riverside Dr. W., Ontario, Canada.



Sweet Dreams: Samantha Shelton of Troy plays the "Sugar Plum Fairy" in the Contemporary Civic Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker."

(810) 286-2222

**Plymouth Canton Ballet Company** - "The Nutcracker," under the direction of Dawn Greene, featuring principal dancers Dawnell Dryja and Mark Nash of the Cincinnati Ballet, and the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at the Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road (at Canton Center Road), Canton. Tickets \$15 adults and senior citizens, \$8 for children K-12. A Sugar Plum Fairy Tea, where children will have a tea party with the Sugar Plum Fairy and other performers, will be held after the Saturday, Dec. 13, and Sunday, Dec. 14 concerts. Tickets \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door. (313) 451-2112.

### POPS/SWING

**ANN ARBOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
 "Sing-Along with Santa and Sam," 4-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$10, \$5 children ages 12 and younger, \$25 families up to six members, \$50 patron tickets with preferred seating. (313) 994-4801

**DETROIT RENAISSANCE RINGERS**  
 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Lord and Taylor court, Fairlane Town Center, 18900 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Free. All ages. (313) 593-1370

**DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
 With conductor David Alan Miller, the Madrigal Choral of Southfield and its director Robert A. Martin, and Highland Park Baptist Church Choir and its director Gary Matthews, performing Christmas Pops concert, 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$17-\$60; With Roberta Flack, Al Jarreau, Melissa

Manchester, Jeffrey Osborne, and the Perfected Praise Choir of Perfecting Church conducted by Marvin Winans, as part of "The Colors of Christmas" concert, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$21-\$75. (313) 833-3700

**IMPERIAL SWING ORCHESTRA**  
 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (swing) (313) 485-5050

**WAYNE NEWTON'S HOLIDAY SHOW**  
 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, Chrysler Theater in Cleary International Centre, 201 Riverside Dr. West, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. \$40 and \$60 (Canadian, includes GST). All ages. (pops) (800) 387-9181

**NOVI CONCERT BANJ**  
 Holiday concert and sing-along, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile Road, Novi. Free. All ages. (248) 349-0720

**II V I ORCHESTRA**  
 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Motor Lounge, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. Cover charge. 21 and older. (swing) (313) 369-0090

**U.S. COAST GUARD BAND**  
 Holiday concert, 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (313) 764-0594

**VELVIS**  
 With Gino and the Lone Valleyboys, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (swing/lounge) (313) 833-P00L

### AUDITIONS

**NOVI THEATRES**  
 Auditions for "Oliver," 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, and Thursday, Dec. 18, at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. There are speaking and soloists roles for four adult males, five adult females, and two children; speaking-only roles for eight adult males, five adult females and seven children; and a chorus of workhouse children, Fagin's Group, workhouse assistants, Bow Street runners, street vendors/criers, inn's crowd of merrymakers. For principal vocal parts, please prepare one of the songs from the show. For speaking parts, prepare a cutting from the play. For the chorus, be prepared to sing a song or the scale and perform some simple dance routines. Bring or wear non-rubber-soled shoes for dancing. Fees are \$30 for adults, \$125 for children. Fees cover the cost of music, scripts and costumes, as well as theater, dance and choral instruction for children. Performances are March 13-15. (248) 347-0400

**RACKHAM SYMPHONY CHOIR**  
 Holding auditions for a boy alto soloist. Tuesday, Dec. 16, First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak, 529 Hendrie Boulevard, Royal Oak. This part, to be sung in Hebrew, is included in Leonard Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms," and will be part of a concert to be performed on Sunday, March 22, at Holy Name Church in Birmingham. For an audition time, call (313) 341-3466.

**THE VOCAL ARTS ACADEMY**  
 Holds auditions for its second semester. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Varner Recital Hall, room 134, Oakland University, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester. (248) 625-7057

### CHORAL

**BIRMINGHAM MUSICALS**  
 "Holiday Celebration," featuring the choral ensemble, organ and soprano soloists, 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Central Woodward Christian Church, 3955 W. Big Beaver (at Adams Road), Troy. Free. (248) 475-5978

**DETROIT LUTHERAN SINGERS**  
 Concert of sacred Christmas choral music, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple Road, Birmingham; 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, St. John Lutheran Church, 16339 14 Mile Road, Fraser. \$10, \$7 seniors and students. (248) 988-0604

**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CHORUS**  
 Ernest Brandon conducts the chorus in a musical salute to the season, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, University Lutheran Chapel, 812 Ann Street, Ypsilanti. Free. (313) 487-2255

**FARMINGTON COMMUNITY CHORUS**  
 Under the direction of Steven SeGraves, presents "Holidays Revisited," 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18-Friday, Dec. 19, Farmington High School, 32000 Shilwassee (west of Orchard Lake Road), Farmington. \$8, \$5 seniors and students. (248) 788-5322

**JACKSON CHORALE**  
 Christmas Concert by the choir under the direction of Gilbert Jackson, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at Central United Methodist Church, 3882 Highland Road (M-59), Waterford. \$10, \$8 seniors/students, available at door or by calling (248) 651-3085

**LIVONIA CIVIC CHORUS**  
 "Making Spirits Bright," a holiday musical directed by Jim Whitten with guest artists the Tinderbox Children's Chorus (under the direction of Ray Schmidt), 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at the Clarenceville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road (between

Please see next page

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 (313) 662-8  
**RON ENGLI**  
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**KIMMIE HO**  
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**THE MATT**  
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 (248) 474-4

**ROBERT PI**  
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**HARVEY TH**  
 9:30 p.m. Fr  
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 (313) 662-8

**STEVE WO**  
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**IMMIGRAN**  
 With Olga a  
 Dec. 13, Ma

# 8 days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Christina Fuoco; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (313) 591-7279

Continued from previous page  
Seven and Eight Mile roads), Livonia. Free. (313) 525-1447

**OAKLAND SINGERS ENCORE**  
Holiday concert featuring Oakland County high school students, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, St. Fabian Church, 32200 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington. Free. All ages. (248) 681-1483

**RACKHAM SYMPHONY CHOIR**  
Handel's "Messiah," 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, East Jefferson Avenue (at St. Antoine), Detroit. \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. (313) 341-3466

**SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR**  
Holiday program, "Alleluia, Rejoice!" 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, St. Matthew's United Methodist Church of Livonia, 30900 Six Mile Road (between Merriman and Middlebelt roads), Livonia. Donation. All ages. (313) 462-4435

## JAZZ

**SANDRA BOMAR TRIO**  
8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (vocal, piano, bass trio) (248) 645-2150

**DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER**  
8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$20 in advance. 21 and older. (313) 662-8310

**RON ENGLISH TRIO**  
7-11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (guitar, piano, bass trio) (248) 645-2150

**KIMMIE HORNE**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, D.L. Harrington's Roadhouse, 2086 Crooks Road (at M-59), Rochester Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (Jazz/R&B) (248) 852-0550

**MIKE KAROUB'S CELLO JAZZ**  
8-11 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Tuscan Cafe, 150 N. Center St., Northville. Free. All ages; 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, Borders Books and Music, 34300 Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 305-8629/(248) 203-0056

**KOG'S KATS**  
7-11 p.m. Saturday in December, O'Mara's, 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkeley. Free. 21 and older. (248) 399-6750

**KATHY KOSINS**  
7:30-10:30 p.m. Wednesdays (except Dec. 24) through Dec. 30, beginning at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 at the Oakland Grill, 32832 Woodward, south of 14 Mile, Royal Oak. (248) 549-7700

**SHEILA LANDIS**  
With Rick Matle, 8-11:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Coffee Beanery, 152 N. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages; With Rick Matle, 10 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Tuscan Grill, 222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages. (248) 646-6022/(248) 652-1600

**RICHARD LOZON TRIO**  
9 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (sax, piano, bass trio) (248) 645-2150

**THE MATT MICHAELS TRIO**  
With bassist Dan Jordan, drummer Jerry McKenzie, and special guest Jack Brokensha, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, and special guest ron Kischuk, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River, Farmington Hills. \$5 cover waived with dinner order (served 6:30-9 p.m.) plus a \$5 drink minimum. 21 and older. (248) 474-4800

**ROBERT PIPHO TRIO**  
7-11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (piano, bass, drums trio) (248) 645-2150

**HARVEY THOMPSON AND FRIENDS**  
9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$5. 21 and older. (313) 662-8310

**STEVE WOOD TRIO**  
8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (sax, piano, bass trio) (248) 645-2150

**ALEXANDER ZONJIC**  
9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, and Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20, Thai-Chi Express, 630 Woodward Ave. (two blocks north of Jefferson Avenue), Detroit. \$7.50. 21 and older; 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, as part of "Classics on the Lake," St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake. (313) 963-8424/(248) 683-1750

## WORLD MUSIC

**BLACK MARKET**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (reggae) (248) 543-4300

**CROSSROADS CELLI**  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$11. \$10 members, students, seniors. All ages. (313) 761-1451

**IMMIGRANT SONS**  
With Only a Mother, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$6. 18 and older. (Eastern European) (313) 833-POOL

**IMMUNITY**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Union Lake Grill and Bar, 2280 Union Lake Road,

Commerce Township. Free. 21 and older; 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, and Friday, Dec. 19, Woody's Diner, 208 Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (reggae) (248) 360-7450/(248) 543-6911

## FOLK/BLUEGRASS

**CHRIS BUHALIS AND JO SERRAPERE**  
Celebrate the releases of their respective CDs, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$12.50. \$9, \$8 members, students, seniors. (313) 761-1451

**HILLS, HERDMAN AND MANGSEN**  
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$12.50. All ages. (313) 761-1451

**JAN KRIST**  
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cover charge. 21 and older; 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, Royal Oak Brewery, 215 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 652-1600/(248) 544-1141

**JOEL MABUS**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$11. \$10 members, students, seniors. All ages. (313) 761-1451

**JAMES MCMURTRY**  
With Fred Eaglesmith, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (313) 761-1800

**RFD BOYS**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$9, \$8 members, students, seniors. (bluegrass) (313) 761-1451

## DANCE

**CONTRA DANCE**  
"Rocky Road Advance Contra-English Dance," 7-9:45 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, Chapel Hill Condominium Clubhouse, 3350 Green Road (north of Plymouth Road), Ann Arbor. All dances taught, all welcome, no partner required. \$4. (313) 662-5158

**"DANCE BALLETS: ITEMS FROM MYTHOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL STORIES"**  
With acclaimed Kathak director and choreographer Smt. Maya Rao and dancers Madhu Natarajan, Suma Vijay, Shubha Dhananjay, Sangeeta Sastry, Mysore B. Nagaraj, K. Prakash and Sunil Rajashekar, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Troy High School auditorium, 4777 Northfield Parkway (at Long Lake Road), Troy. \$15 and \$10, free for children ages 10 and younger. (248) 641-9340/(248) 349-7584

**DFARMINGTON FESTIVAL OF DANCE**  
With the Detroit Dance Collective, and members of the WSU Dance Company, Michigan Classic Ballet Company, Stardust Ballroom Dance Studio, Annette and Company, Main Street Dance Company, Barbara Hatch School of Dance, Michelle Millman, Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet Company, and the O'Day School of Dance, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Farmington High School auditorium, 32000 Shiawassee (west of Orchard Lake Road), Farmington. \$5, \$2 seniors and children. (248) 473-9570

**THE RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR**  
Numerous shows through Saturday, Dec. 27, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$50. All ages. This week's performances: 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19. (313) 983-6611/(248) 454-6666

**WOLVERINE SILVERSPUR DANCERS**  
7:30 p.m.-midnight Saturday, Dec. 13, Italian-American Cultural Center, 28111 Imperial St., Warren. \$7, \$6 WSD members. (313) 526-9432/(810) 573-4993

## COMEDY

**JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**  
Rabbi/stand-up comic Bob Alper, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at the center, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. \$15 advance, \$18 at door. (888) 483-3297

**JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB**  
Joey Kola, Rich Guzzi and Joey Bielaska, Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13; Lowell Sanders, Jody Weiner and Joey Bielaska, Thursday, Dec. 18-Saturday, Dec. 20, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays. Cover charge changes according to act. (313) 261-0555

**JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S**  
Randy Luba, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 (\$10, \$21.95 dinner/show package), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner/show package); Wayne Cotter, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18 (\$10, \$21.95 dinner/show package), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner/show package), 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

**MAINSTREET COMEDY SHOWCASE**  
The Incredible Boris, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 (\$9), 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13 (\$12), and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 (\$9, \$4.50 for kids younger than 16); Totally Unrehearsed Theatre, 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17 (\$4); Kirkland Teeple, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18 (\$7); Judy Tenuta, 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20 (\$17.50), at the club, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (313) 996-9080

**MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE**  
Fred Greenlee "The Nickel Guy," with Mark Sweetman, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11 (\$6), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13 (\$12), and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 (\$6); Tom McTigue with Bob Phillips, 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17-Thursdays, Dec. 18 (\$6), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20 (\$12), and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21 (\$6), at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. (248) 542-9900 or http://www.comedycastle.com

**SECOND CITY**  
"Generation X-Files" through January at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays, and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The cast performs a free improvisational comedy set after Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday shows, and the late shows on Fridays and Saturdays. \$14 Thursdays, \$17.50 Fridays, \$19.50 Saturdays, and \$12 Sundays and Wednesdays. The show's title is reflective of current cultural trends, not necessarily the show's content. (313) 965-2222

## MUSEUMS AND TOURS

**DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
The New Glancy Trains exhibit is open in the museum's Wrigley Hall Gallery with a 25 percent larger layout and additional interactive elements for visitors, upcoming events include the Toy Train Family workshops 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13-Sunday, Dec. 14 (\$12 per parent and child, preregistration required) call (313) 833-9720, and the Glancy Trains Show with toy train appraisal for nominal fee 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27; "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 1998, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-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

**HENRY FORD MUSEUM AND GREENFIELD VILLAGE**  
"The Story of a Champion: Locomobile's Old 16," exhibit dedicated to the 1906 race car that includes a multi-media display and a film produced by Academy Award-winning film maker Sue Marx, opens Saturday, Dec. 13; "1850s Holiday Evenings at Eagle Tavern," featuring a holiday dinner with a 19th Century twist, through Tuesday, Dec. 23, and Friday, Dec. 26-Wednesday, Dec. 31; "Traditions of the Season," featuring holiday trees and decorations from various eras, through Sunday, Jan. 4, at the museum and village, 20900 Oakwood Boulevard, Dearborn. \$12.50 adults, \$11.50 seniors ages 62 and older, \$6.25 for children ages 5-12, and free for children ages 5 and younger. Group rates available. (313) 271-1620

## POPULAR MUSIC

**AFTERTASTE**  
With D-GOD, Blindfold, Tragic Methods, and Immortal Sins 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, as part of Battle of the Bands at Wayne-Ford Civic League, 1661 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Cover charge. All ages. (hardcore) (313) 728-5010

**THE ALLIGATORS**  
10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 349-9110

**ARTIFICIAL JOY CLUB**  
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6 in advance. All ages. (rock) (313) 961-MELT

**JOHNNIE BASSETT AND THE BLUES INSURGENTS**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St. (at Orleans), Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 543-4300/(313) 259-2643

**BENNY AND THE JETS**  
With Dead Professor, Cary Coogian Band, and the Sane Alendoff Band, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20, as part of the Christmas party at Wine Cask Inn, 22100 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 730-1627

**BIG JACK JOHNSON AND THE OILERS**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, Fifth Avenue, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 542-9922

**THE BIZER BROTHERS**  
8 p.m.-midnight Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, The Rattlesnake Club, 300 River Place, Detroit. Free. All ages. (pop) (313) 567-4400

**BLUE EYED SOUL**  
2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Blockbuster Music, 482 N. Telegraph, Pontiac. Free. All ages; With Son of Adam, 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Pharaoh's Golden Cup, 28959 Joy Road, Westland. \$6. All ages. (rock) (248) 338-4700/(313) 513-8536

**BLUE SUIT BLUES BAND**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18-Friday, Dec. 19, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

**BONNE TEMPS ROULLE**  
9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

**BUGS BEDDOW BAND**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Fox and Hounds, 1560 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older; 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20, Bachelor's One, 1967 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800/(248) 682-2295

**BUSTER'S BLUES BAND**  
9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Bo's Bistro, 51 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 338-6200

**BUTTERFLY**  
9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (trippy psychedelic rock) (313) 996-8555

**CATHERINE WHEEL**  
With Gandharvas, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. \$12.50 in advance. All ages. (alternative rock) (248) 333-2362

**CHISEL BROS. WITH MIMI HARRIS**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St. (at Orleans), Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 259-2643

**CHUMBAWAMBA**  
5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. \$13 in advance. All ages. (pop) (248) 333-2362

**COMMANDER CODY AND HIS LOST PLANET AIRMEN**  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$13 in advance. 18 and older. (rock) (248) 544-3030

**CORE**  
With Number Six and The Prisoners, and Catch 22, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (313) 485-5050

**DANNY COX**  
10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Tuscan Grill, 222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages; 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Jimmy's, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms. Cover charge. 21 and older. (acoustic) (248) 652-1600/(313) 861-8101

**DAVE DALE AND THE BLUES CONTROL**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (blues) (313) 485-5050

**DEICIDE**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Harpo's, 14238 Harper, Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. 18 and older. (metal) (313) 824-1700

**DOMESTIC PROBLEMS**  
With Plum loco, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4. 19 and older. (rock) (313) 996-8555

**GLEN EDDIE BAND**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

**FATHERS OF THE ID**  
10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Rivertown Saloon, 1977 Woodbridge, Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (313) 567-6020

**FOOLISH MORTALS**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 349-9110

**ROBBIE FOLKS**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$8 in advance. All ages. (roots rock) (248) 335-8100

**STEWART FRANCKE**  
7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Borders Books and Music, 45290 Utica Park Place, Utica. Free. All ages; With Jill Jack and Susan Calloway, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, moved from 7th House to Mill Street Entry below Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Cover charge. 18 and older. (pop) (810) 726-8555/(248) 333-2362

**AMY GRANT CHRISTMAS SHOW**  
With Michael W. Smith and CeCe Winans featuring the Nashville Symphony, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. \$24.50-\$34.50 with Superfan seating available. Groups of 10 or more receive \$3 off regular ticket price. (pop) (248) 377-0100

**HR**  
Former Bad Brains singer, with Majek Fashek, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$12.50 in advance. 18 and older. (rock/world music) (313) 833-9700

**"HOLIDAY HOOTENANNY"**  
With The Cure, Toad the Wet Sprocket, Big Head Todd and the Monsters, Duncan Sheik, and Huffamoose, as part of WPLT, 96.3 FM concert, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. Sold out. (alternative rock) (248) 377-0100

**JILL JACK**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (roots rock) (248) 543-4300

**KING SWEAT**  
10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 349-9110

**KNEE DEEP SHAG**  
With Jazodity, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (funk) (313) 996-8555

**LADY SUNSHINE AND THE X BAND**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Moby Dick's, 5452 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 581-3650

**JOHN D. LAMB BAND**  
9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River Ave., Novi. Free. 21 and older; 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20, Mr. B's Farm, 24555 Novi Road, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (singer/songwriter) (248) 349-9110/(248) 349-7038

**LIMP BIZKIT**  
With Sevendust, 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, Industry, 15 S. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$5, free with a ticket stub from "WRIF's Nightmare Before Christmas" concert at The Palace. All ages. (rock) (248) 334-1999

**LISA LISA**  
Formerly of The Cult Jam as part of "Divine" night, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Motor Lounge, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. Tickets at Ticketmaster. 21 and older. (pop) (313) 369-0090

**MACHINA**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older; With Left Undone and The Magnificent Ambersons, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (rock) (313) 485-5050/(313) 996-8555

**LARRY MCCRAY**  
With Tony Sarno, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Fifth Avenue, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 542-9922

**MR. FREEDOM X**  
9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20, Bo's Bistro, 51 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 338-6200

**MOTOR CITY JOSH AND THE BIG 3**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St. (at Orleans), Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 259-2643

**"MOTOR CITY SANTA JAM"**  
With Domestic Problems, Purple Fly, Immortal Winos of Soul and Park, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$6, \$25 with canned food donation. 18 and older. (rock/funk) (248) 544-3030

**MOTOR JAM**  
9 p.m. Tuesdays in December, Karl's Country Cabin, 9779 Goffredson Road, Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rock) (313) 455-8450

**MUDPUDDY**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Beaver Creek, 1609 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older; 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 722-5330/(248) 543-4300

**NICK STRANGE**  
With Kung Fu Diesel, 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$3. 19 and older. (rock) (313) 996-8555

**NOBODY'S BUSINESS**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Moby Dick's, 5452 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. Cover charge. 21 and older. (rockabilly) (313) 581-3650

**ROBERT NOLL AND THE MISSION**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, and Thursday, Dec. 18, Goose Island Brewery, 1538 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor. Cover charge. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20, Sisko's on the Boulevard, 5855 Monroe (at Van Buren), Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 682-4566/(248) 543-4300/(313) 278-5340

**ORANGE 9 MM**  
With H2O, Fahrenheit, and Man Will Surrender, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$9 in advance. All ages. (hard alternative rock) (313) 961-MELT

**PHOENIX THUNDERSTONE**  
With Fondly, 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$6. All ages. (indie rock) (248) 335-8100

**PULL**  
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Library Pub, 42100 Grand River, Novi. Free. 21 and older; 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Mount Chalet, 4715 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (rock) (248) 349-9110/(248) 549-2929

**SGT. ROCK**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Lakepointe Yacht Club, 37604 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. Cover charge. 21 and older. (classic rock covers) (313) 591-1868

**THE SUGARS**  
10 p.m.-2 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20, Bullfrog Bar and Grill, 15414 Telegraph Road (one block north of Five Mile Road), Redford. Cover charge. 21 and older. (pop) (313) 533-4477

**SENSITIVE CLOWN**  
With The Caustic Pop and Saint Ashley, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Lill's 21, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. Cover charge. 21 and older. (pop) (313) 875-6555

**SHARECROPPERS OF SOUL**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Fifth Avenue, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 542-9922

**SKREW**  
With Acumen Nation, 20 Deade Flower Children, and The Workhorse Movement, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7 in advance. All ages. (metal) (313) 961-MELT

**SOLID FROG**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Rivertown Saloon, 1977 E. Woodbridge, Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (313) 567-6020

**CURTIS SUMTER PROJECT WITH CATHY DAVIS**  
9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 644-4800

**SUN MESSENGERS**  
9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, Fifth Avenue, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (R&B) (248) 542-9922

**TESTAMENT**  
With Thik and Circle of Konfusion, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, The Palladium, 17580 Frazho Road, Roseville. \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door. 18 and older. (metal/rock) (810) 778-6404

**MARY THOMPSON AND THE DELTA CHILDREN BLUES BAND**  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, B.C. Beans Coffee and Art Gallery, 2964 Biddle, Wyandotte. Free. All ages; 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19-Saturday, Dec. 20, Lonestar Coffee House, 207 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (blues) (313) 284-2244/(248) 642-2233

**3 SPEED**  
With Kung Fu Diesel, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Cross Street Station, 511 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Cover charge. 18 and older. (pop/rock) (313) 485-5050

**TWISTIN' TARANTULAS**  
With Swingrays, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, and with The Deans, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Mill Street Lounge below Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. \$5. 21 and older. (rockabilly/surf) (248) 333-2362

**UNITY**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, D.L. Harrington's Roadhouse, 2086 Crooks Road (M-59), Rochester Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (R&B) (248) 852-0550

**RANDY VOLIN AND THE SONIC BLUES**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 13, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, Stan's Dugout, 3350 Auburn Road, Auburn Hills. Cover charge. 21 and older. (blues) (313) 451-1213/(248) 852-6433

**THE WALLFLOWS**  
With The Jayhawks and Maypole, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, Hill Auditorium, 530 S. State St., Ann Arbor. \$20 in advance. All ages. (rock) (313) 764-8350

**BILL WHARTON AND THE INGREDIENTS**  
10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Capt. Tony's, 30923 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. \$5. 21 and older. (blues) (248) 288-6388

**WILDBUNCH**  
With Bantam Rooster, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4. 19 and older. (alternative rock) (313) 996-8555

**WKQ'S "Q CARES HOLIDAY CONCERT"**  
With Shawn Colvin, Sister Hazel, Edwin McCain, Stewart Francke, and Mitch Ryder, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. \$13.95 in advance, benefits St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Farmington Hills. 21 and older. (pop) (248) 546-7610/(248) 546-6410

**THE WORKHORSE MOVEMENT**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 18 and older. (rock) (248) 335-8100

**WRIF'S "NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS II"**  
With Megadeth, Jackyl, Jimmie's Chicken Shack, Creed, the Howling Diablos, and special guest host Dee Snider, formerly of Twisted Sister, as part of the "Nightmare Before Christmas II" concert, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$15 and \$10

MOVIES

# 'Ice Storm' takes a complex, cold look at the 1970s

BY JOHN MONAGHAN  
SPECIAL WRITER

Mom is frigid. Dad is having an affair. Fourteen-year-old Wendy diddles with two neighborhood boys while her older brother thinks that all of life's

answers come from the pages of "Fantastic Four" comic books. The family drama of "The Ice Storm," set over a Thanksgiving weekend in Connecticut WASP country, could be the stuff of any number of Harold Pinter plays.

But the new movie, currently at the Star Southfield and Maple, is a complex and subtle adaptation of novelist Rick Moody's confessional account of growing up in the land of Valium and wife swapping.

Though set in 1973, this is no nostalgic lark. Only a few songs of the era grace the soundtrack. Instead, haunting music by Mychael Danna underscores a rather somber study of how the Sexual Revolution of the 1960s has left mom and dad as confused as the kids in how to act sexually.

The movie relives the "key party," where upscale couples arrive for a dinner party but, through a lottery with car keys, leave with someone else's spouse. Hood father Ben (Kevin Kline), meanwhile, engages in an old-fashioned affair with a sexy neighbor (Sigourney Weaver) presumably because his wife is such a cold fish in bed.

Daughter Wendy (Christina Ricci) is routinely left home alone to get into her own mischief in between reruns of "The Time Tunnel." Though usually linked with Mikey (Elijah Wood), she is later caught in the bathroom playing doctor with his little brother Sandy (Adam Hann-Byrd).

"The Ice Storm" is directed by Ang Lee, who brought such energy to "Sense and Sensibility" and "The Wedding Banquet." He uses a more classically Asian film aesthetic here. The movie unfolds at an almost painfully slow pace, awash in a palette of blues, whites and blacks to give it an appropriately cold feeling.



Drama: Kevin Kline and Joan Allen as husband and wife in Ang Lee's "The Ice Storm."

This inherent frostiness translates to the characters as well, who interact with each other but without any genuine emotion. When Ben fixates on his golf game after sleeping with his

mistress, she coolly reminds him that she already has a husband to listen to this kind of mindless banter.

Ben's wife Elena (Joan Allen), meanwhile, is on her own journey. After seeing her daughter looking so free on her bicycle, she starts riding one herself and even engages in a little drug store larceny just to prove that she can do it.

The most stable element of the Hood family turns out to be son Paul (Tobey Maguire), the 16-year-old who goes to a prep school and has a crush on a girl there. He knows his attempts to politely court her will be upstaged by his hipper roommate, who has slept with virtually every girl at school.

It takes a natural phenomenon (the ice storm of the title) to make the characters realize that they really have very little control of their destinies.

The cast of "The Ice Storm" is uniformly good, but I still have trouble believing Kevin Kline in a serious role. He's all right in comedies like "A Fish Called Wanda," where he flounders when called upon to do anything dramatic, even a role that essentially requires him to look lost throughout.

Ultimately, the movie is about people ill-equipped to communicate. Perhaps the entire thing is summed up in an oral report given by 14-year-old neighbor kid Mikey, who describes the effect that molecules (like the characters) have as they bounce off of each other in space.

It's the seemingly banal moments like this that add up in "The Ice Storm" and keep you thinking about it long after. Though in limited release, it's a movie you might hear from again, especially around Oscar time.

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To leave John a voice mail message, dial (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1866.

## Book, T-shirt prizes offered

Kids - what would you do if you were a princess or prince, and had the power to do anything? Would you try to help others, or buy a lot of toys?

The first 100 children to respond will receive an activity book from "Anastasia," Fox's first full-length animated feature film, now playing at metro Detroit movie theaters. We also have 18 child-size T-shirts to give away to the first readers to respond. We'll share our favorite responses with readers in an article on Thursday, Dec. 25.

Send your - "If I were a prince or princess" answer, and T-shirt size preference - small, medium or large to: Attn: Keely Wygonik, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax responses to Wygonik at (313) 591-7279.

A magical mix of action, adventure, comedy, romance and music, "Anastasia" is a full-length animated motion picture by Twentieth Century Fox about the lost Russian princess.

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## GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

<p><b>General Cinemas</b> Bargain matinee daily plus \$3.25 (Two-Lite) show daily</p> <p><b>Canton 6</b> Ford Rd., 1 Mi west of I-275* 981-1900 Advanced same-day tickets available *Denotes VIP restrictions. Friday thru Thursday</p> <p><b>THE RAINMAKER (PG13)</b> <b>MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)</b> "BEAN (PG13)" "ALIEN: THE RESURRECTION (R)-2 SCREENS" I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Novi Town Center 8</b> Novi Rd., South of I-96 344-0077 Advance same-day tickets available FRIDAY THRU THURSDAY *DENOTES VIP RESTRICTIONS</p> <p>"THE JACKAL (R)" <b>MORTAL KOMBAT II (PG13)</b> <b>ANASTASIA (G)</b> <b>FULL MONTY (R)</b> "MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG)" <b>MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)</b> "FLUBBER (PG) 2 SCREENS" <b>DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (R)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Keego Twp Cinema</b> Orchard Lake Rd. at Cass Lake Rd. 682-1900 All Seats \$1.50 before 6 pm Family Matinee Fri-Sat-Sun</p> <p><b>KISS THE GIRLS (R)</b> <b>IN AND OUT (PG13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>National Amusements Showcase Cinemas</b></p> <p><b>Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14</b> 2150 N. Opdyke Rd. Between University &amp; Walton Blvd 810-373-2660 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed.Thurs. Fri. &amp; Sat.</p> <p><b>FLUBBER (PG)</b> <b>ALIENS 4 (R)</b> <b>ANASTASIA (G)</b> <b>RAINMAKER (PG13)</b> <b>MORTAL KOMBAT (PG13)</b> <b>MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)</b> <b>THE JACKAL (R)</b> <b>BEAN (PG13)</b> <b>STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)</b> <b>DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (R)</b> <b>EVE'S BAYOU (R)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Showcase Dearborn 1-8</b> Michigan &amp; Telegraph 313-561-3480 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows until 6 pm. Continuous Shows Daily *Late Shows Fri. &amp; Sat. &amp; Sun.</p> <p><b>FLUBBER (PG)</b> <b>MORTAL KOMBAT (PG13)</b> <b>THE JACKAL (R)</b> <b>BEAN (PG13)</b> <b>STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)</b> <b>DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (R)</b> <b>EVE'S BAYOU (R)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p><b>Showcase Pontiac 1-5</b> Telegraph-Sq. Lake Rd. W Side of Telegraph 810-332-0241 Bargain Matinee Daily *All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily</p> <p><b>FLUBBER (PG)</b> <b>RAINMAKER (PG13)</b> <b>DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (R)</b> <b>BEAN (PG)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Showcase Pontiac 6-12</b> 2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of Telegraph 810-334-6777 Bargain Matinee Daily *All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri. &amp; Sat.</p> <p><b>ALIENS 4 (R)</b> <b>ANASTASIA (G)</b> <b>THE JACKAL (R)</b> <b>MORTAL KOMBAT (PG13)</b> <b>MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)</b> <b>EVIE'S BAYOU (R)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>One Yards</b> Warren &amp; Wayne Rds 313-425-7700 Bargain Matinee Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed.Thurs. Fri. &amp; Sat.</p> <p><b>ALIENS 4 (R)</b> <b>ANASTASIA (G)</b> <b>MORTAL KOMBAT (PG13)</b> <b>BEAN (PG13)</b> <b>THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG)</b> <b>DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (R)</b></p> <p>ALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p><b>BOOGIE NIGHTS (R)</b> CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Star Rochester Hills</b> 200 Barclay Circle 853-2260 FRIDAY THRU THURSDAY No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 &amp; R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p><b>NP ALIEN RESURRECTION (R)</b> <b>NP THE RAINMAKER (PG13)</b> <b>NP WINGS OF THE DOVE (R)</b> <b>NP MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)</b> <b>THE JACKAL (R)</b> <b>STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)</b> <b>BEAN (PG13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Star Southfield</b> 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-496 248-353-STAR No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 &amp; R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p><b>NP ALIEN RESURRECTION (R)</b> <b>NP FLUBBER (PG)</b> <b>NP THE RAINMAKER (PG13)</b> <b>NP MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)</b> <b>NP ANASTASIA (G)</b> <b>NP MORTAL KOMBAT 2: ANNIHILATION (PG13)</b> <b>I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b> <b>THE JACKAL (R)</b> <b>STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)</b> <b>BEAN (PG13)</b> <b>NP THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG)</b> <b>ICE STORM (R)</b> <b>EVE'S BAYOU (R)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Star Winchester</b> 1136 S. Rochester Rd, Winchester Mall 248-656-1160 No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 &amp; R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p><b>NP FLUBBER (PG)</b> <b>ANASTASIA (G)</b> <b>MORTAL KOMBAT 2: THE ANNIHILATION</b> <b>THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG)</b> <b>I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAS SUMMER (R)</b> <b>FAIRY TALE, A TRUE STORY (PG)</b> <b>SEVEN YEARS IN TIBET (PG13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>United Artists Theatres</b> Bargain Matinee Daily, for all shows starting before 6:00 PM Same day advance tickets available. NV - No V.I.P. tickets accepted</p> <p><b>United Artists Fairlane</b> Fairlane Town Center Valet Parking Available 313-593-4790</p> <p>ALL TIMES FOR FRIDAYS, MIDNIGHT SHOWS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ONLY</p> <p><b>ALIEN RESURRECTION (R) NV</b> <b>ANASTASIA (G) NV</b> <b>THE RAINMAKER (PG13) NV</b> <b>STARSHIP TROOPERS (R) NV</b> <b>SOUL FOOD (R) NV</b> <b>THE WINGS OF THE DOVE (R) NV</b> <b>I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p><b>United Artists Oakland</b> Inside Oakland Mall 810-585-7041</p> <p><b>ALIEN RESURRECTION (R) NV</b> <b>THE RAINMAKER (PG13) NV</b> <b>FAIRY TALE (PG) NV</b> <b>ONE NIGHT STAND (R) NV</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>United Artists 12 Oaks</b> Inside Twelve Oaks Mall 810-585-7041</p> <p><b>ALIEN RESURRECTION (R) NV</b> <b>THE RAINMAKER (PG13) NV</b> <b>BEAN (PG13) NV</b> <b>STAR SHIP TROOPERS (R)</b> <b>I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R) NV</b> <b>FAIRY TALE (G)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>United Artists West River</b> 9 Mile, 2 Block West of Middlebelt 810-788-6572</p> <p><b>FLUBBER (PG) NV</b> <b>ALIEN RESURRECTION (R) NV</b> <b>ANASTASIA (G) NV</b> <b>THE RAINMAKER (PG13) NV</b> <b>MORTAL KOMBAT (PG13) NV</b> <b>THE JACKAL (R) NV</b> <b>THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG) NV</b> <b>STAR SHIP TROOPERS (R) NV</b> <b>EVE'S BAYOU (R) NV</b> <b>BEAN (PG13) NV</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Birmingham Theatre</b> 211 S. Woodward Downtown Birmingham 248-644-3419 NP Denotes No Pass Engagements</p> <p>Order Movie tickets by phone! Call 644-3419 and have your VISA or MasterCard ready! (A 75¢ surcharge will apply to all telephone sales)</p> <p><b>SPECIAL OFFER...</b> 10% OFF ON ALL \$10, \$20 AND \$50 GIFT BOOKS FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY! NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE</p> <p><b>NP FLUBBER (PG)</b> <b>NP ALIEN RESURRECTION (R)</b> <b>NP THE RAINMAKER (PG13)</b> <b>NP MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)</b> <b>NP ANASTASIA</b> <b>NP THE JACKAL (R)</b> <b>STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)</b> <b>BEAN (PG13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p><b>994 Livonia Mall</b> Livonia Mall at 7 mile 810-476-8800 ALL SEATS 99¢ ALL SHOWS FREE Refill on Drinks &amp; Popcorn FREE SHOWS DAILY FOR CHILDREN 12 &amp; UNDER ADULTS 99¢ THIS FEATURE ONLY</p> <p><b>SWITCHBACK (R)</b> <b>AIR BUD (PG)</b> <b>MEN IN BLACK (PG13)</b> <b>GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE (PG)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Waterford Cinema II</b> 7501 Highland Rd. S.E. corner M-59 &amp; Williams Lake Rd. 24 Hour Movie Line (810) 666-7900 \$3.25 (TWO LITE) SHOWS DAILY</p> <p><b>MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD &amp; EVIL (R)</b> <b>FLUBBER (PG)</b> <b>ALIEN RESURRECTION (R)</b> <b>ANASTASIA (G)</b> <b>MORTAL KOMBAT: ANNIHILATION (PG13)</b> <b>RAINMAKER (R)</b> <b>MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE (PG)</b> <b>THE JACKAL (R)</b> <b>STARSHIP TROOPERS (R)</b> <b>BEAN (PG13)</b> <b>I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Visa &amp; Mastercard Accepted</b></p>
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MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY

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SHOWCASE STERLING HEIGHTS ★	STAR GRATIOT ★	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE ★
STAR LINCOLN PARK ★	STAR SOUTHFIELD 12 & TRICAPLANE ★	STAR TAYLOR ★
STAR WINCHESTER ★	UNITED ARTISTS FAIRLANE	UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER ◆

★ FRI. 7:00 PM ★ SAT. 1:00 PM ★  
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Mu...

CHRISTINA FUOCO

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TWENTIETH CE... THE NICK G... HANNAH JULIO... READ THE NEW...

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STREET SCENE

# Musicians pay tribute to injured Wings with a song



CHRISTINA FUOCO

A group of local musicians have banded together to pay tribute to injured Detroit Red Wings player Vladimir Konstantinov and trainer Sergei Mnatsakanov who were severely injured in a Friday, June 13, car accident.

The song "Broken Wing: A Tribute" - the brainchild of Caryn Ciesielski and Jim Gentry, creative partners for McCann Erickson Advertising - features vocals by Graham Strachan of Redford and music written and performed by Strachan and Michael Kudreiko, both of whom are in the local band Robb Roy.

Former DC Drive members Brian and Mark Pastoria of the Harmonie Park Creative Group in Detroit produced and played drums and keyboards, respectively, on "Broken Wing." Jason Kuehn and Chris McCall, both of Thunder Harp Choir, also played on the song.

Kudreiko explained that the music came quickly when the Pastoria brothers showed him and Strachan Gentry's lyrics.

"We went down to their studio and jammed on it. It didn't take that long. You know how people say they channel things? Well this whole project is falling in place one step after another," said Kudreiko, a Dearborn resident.

The melancholy 3:59 ballad includes the lyrics: "In our hearts we have the power/In our strength we hold the key/Together we will move mountains/We can mend this broken wing."

The musicians are celebrating the release of the CD and cassette with a performance of "Broken Wing" at noon Friday, Dec. 12, at Harmony House, 30830 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington

Hills. The week ending Nov. 30 "Broken Wing" hit No. 1 on the cassette/CD singles chart at Harmony House stores above Puff Daddy, Boyz II Men and Elton John.

Profits from the sale of the cassette and CD, priced at \$3.99, will be donated to William Beaumont Hospital's Rehabilitation of brain trauma injuries, and the trust funds for the families of Konstantinov and Mnatsakanov. It is not sanctioned by the NHL.

Kudreiko said that this project was right up his alley.

"I'm a big Red Wings fan and Graham has become a big Red Wings fan the last couple of years. ... I play beer league hockey, local hockey, and so it's near and dear and Konstantinov was a lot of people's favorite player and he definitely was mine."

He added that he and Strachan also chose to participate so they could give something back to the community.

"Basically, we felt it would be a good thing for the city. We wanted to give something back. Some people go to soup kitchens and dole out soup once a year and that makes them feel good. I haven't done anything like that as a musician so this is something that we can do."

For more information about the project, see their web page at <http://members.aol.com/mendingwing>

The pop band Huffamoose is pretty thrilled about playing The Palace of Auburn Hills on Friday, Dec. 12, as part of radio station WPLT's sold out "Holiday Hootenanny" concert.

"I'm excited, definitely," said vocalist/guitarist Craig Elkins. "It's our first arena-sized gig. We opened for Toad the Wet Sprocket for a little bit. We played 3,000-seat places, but it's as big as we've gotten so far."

Elkins said the key to arena shows is not to get nervous.

"The best way to prepare for something like that is not to think about it. You kind of live

your life. If you do get nervous about those things, you'll get super nervous and worked up. If that happens for me, at least, I always end up falling on my face."

The Philadelphia band's debut album "We've Been Had Again" (Interscope) is a punchy look at the world according to Elkins, whose vocals jump all over the music scale, and lead guitarist Kevin Hanson.

The hip-swaying first single "Wait," written by Hanson, is "about my girlfriend being a really good dancer. When we get out there, everybody else clears the floor. And all the other guys with the hip moves check her out - and I feel like a jerk."

Filled with fuzzy guitars, the Dinosaur Jr.-esque title track, another Hanson song, politely disses the music industry.

In "Buy You a Ring" Elkins longs for the simplicity of being a kid. "I wanna be in the fifth grade again. I wanna worry about poison ivy. I wanna worry about getting beat up after school. I wanna send you a note," he sings.

For the album "We've Been Had Again," Huffamoose did the "typical go to Los Angeles and record" thing. After a falling out with the producer, Huffamoose

returned to Philadelphia and completed the project at The Chill Factor Studio in Ardmore, Pa., with producer Erik Horvitz.

"The funny thing is we all thought it would be so cool to do it in Los Angeles, but it had the opposite effect. When I'm home, the most creative atmosphere is your bedroom," Elkins said with a laugh.

"My bedroom is some place that I'm super familiar with. When you record in those big scary studios, it's so sterile and the mood just isn't creative. We recorded in this little tiny studio and it really worked for us."

The second annual Holiday Hootenanny features Huffamoose (6-6:35 p.m.), Duncan Sheik (6:55-7:40 p.m.), Big Head Todd and the Monsters (8-8:45 p.m.), Toad the Wet Sprocket (9-10 p.m.) and The Cure (10:30-11:30 p.m.), Friday, Dec. 12, at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. The show is sold out. For more information, call (248) 377-0100.

When guitarist Tobi Miller left The Wallflowers 2-1/2 years ago, he had no desire to play in another band. He wanted to concentrate on producing records and starting his own label.

"There's so many things to do

with music. Just being in a rock band doesn't fill the gamut of the different stuff to do," Miller explained.

"It was exciting for me to have an opportunity to produce and work with different kinds of music instead of playing the same songs for a year or two."

One band that came along was the roots rock band Maypole.

"In making this record, I was just the producer in the beginning. I was playing all the guitar parts because there wasn't a guitarist. I just fell into it. I didn't necessarily want to be in a band, but I sort of couldn't resist. This band, I think, is the band I was born to be in."

The result is "Product" released on Sony's Work Group label. Miller said that one thing that initially attracted him to the band was singer/guitarist Hans Hitner's lyrics.

"He has this way with words that to me reminds me of why I

started listening to music in the first place. You can learn about life from certain songs. That was what sort of hooked me into music in the first place," he said.

"I've described him like this - some people don't have a lot to say, but they know how to make it sound very lyrical. Others do have a lot to say, but they can't write poetry or lyrics. He combines the two. The words by themselves sound great and when you put it all together it has a lot of meaning."

Maypole opens for The Wallflowers and The Jayhawks, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at Hill Auditorium, 530 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$20 in advance for the all-ages show. For more information, call (313) 764-8350.

If you have a question or comment for Christina Fuoco, you may leave a message for her at (313) 953-2047, ext. 2130.

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STAR WINCHESTER	UNITED ARTISTS FAIRLANE	UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER

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DINING

# Smitty's Grill heats up downtown Rochester

BY ELEANOR HEALD  
SPECIAL WRITER

Just opened, Jimmy Schmidt's Smitty's Grill in Rochester is not a cookie cutter stamp of his Tuscan Grill formats in Southfield and Ann Arbor. In fact, Schmidt bills it as a "wild departure."

Tuscan implications at Schmidt's other restaurants may lead one to assume an Italian-accented menu. Nothing could be further from the truth.

"I use Tuscan only as a reference to Italy's Tuscany region where wood-roasting meats is a specialty," Schmidt explained. "And of the three restaurants I've called 'Grills,' the Rochester location plays out the wood-roasted theme best."

Schmidt built Smitty's Grill from the ground up. It was formerly a parking lot, but if you didn't see it in construction phases, then you won't recognize that it was built new to look old-world by design architect Howard Ellman of Dynamic Designs in Birmingham. Designed by Plymouth's Dennis Larsson, the modern interior is bright and engaging.

Diners can enter from either Main Street or a rear entrance (designed as the main entrance with a bright green canopy) where there's also valet parking. A colorful, playful interior is arty, yet speaking to quality, natural materials with cherry wood dividers, mahogany tables and stone work, highlighted by sophisticated, creative light fixtures.

"The colors are natural food colors," Schmidt noted. "That's not just blue, it's blueberry. Green is the color of leafy vegetables. And that's pumpkin."

It's all deliberate to showcase the natural food preparations created by super-chef/proprietor Jimmy Schmidt and his partner Michael Schram, serving as executive chef at Smitty's Grill.

### Smitty's Grill

**Where:** 222 Main Street (between Second and Third), Rochester (248) 652-1600.

**Hours:** 5-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; until 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 3-8 p.m. Sunday.

**Menu:** Wood-roasted meats are the specialty, but the remainder of the large menu has inspired contemporary dishes Americans like to eat. Fun kid's menu.

**Cost:** Cold and hot appetizers \$6-10; Salads \$4-7; Seafood \$14-17; Wood-roasted specialties \$11-17; Desserts \$4-6.

**Reservations:** Not accepted. **Credit cards:** All majors accepted.

### Other Jimmy Schmidt restaurants:

■ **Tuscan Grill**, 28565 Northwestern Highway, Southfield (248) 350-0055

■ **Tuscan Grill**, 314 South Main, Ann Arbor (313) 332-0800

■ **Stelline**, Somerset Collection, Troy (248) 649-0102

■ **Jimmy's**, 123 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Farms (313) 886-8101

■ **Rattlesnake Club**, Stroh River Place, Detroit (313) 567-4400

Schram has been with Schmidt since his tenure at the London Chop House in Detroit.

"I've been with Jimmy for 17 years and have gone from opening oysters to executive chef and one of three active partners in the business," Schram added.

The food concept is a concentration of natural, lively, bright

flavors that explode in your mouth. Plate presentations are dynamic and vibrantly colorful. Menu prices serve to emphasize Schmidt's philosophy that eating good food need not be a special occasion.

Among tempting appetizers are Gulf Shrimp, served in a martini glass with red/yellow salsa, similar to a cocktail only chunky and clean \$8; or Seared Yellowfin Tuna, spiced, seared rare, sliced thin, and arranged over jicama/pepper salad \$9. Spring roll style crab or shrimp \$9, characterize the eclectic mix on the menu that includes achiote spicing and papaya salsa. Poached oysters in champagne with chardonnay sauce and tons of chives \$10 are a Jimmy Schmidt signature.

Fresh-daily seafoods consist of such tasty treats as Yellowfin Tuna Asian Style \$17 and Picklerel in Parchment with cranberry cous cous, champagne sauce, roasted shallots and green vegetable \$17. Wood-roasted features include beef, lamb, veal, pork and chicken. Veal and lamb racks are Friday/Saturday specials. For those preferring meatless, salads, pastas and pizzas abound, in addition to a grilled vegetable plate \$11. Sides, in particular, represent seasonality in menu choices. There's ginger-flavored sweet potato purée, mashed root vegetables plus five different preparations of potatoes.

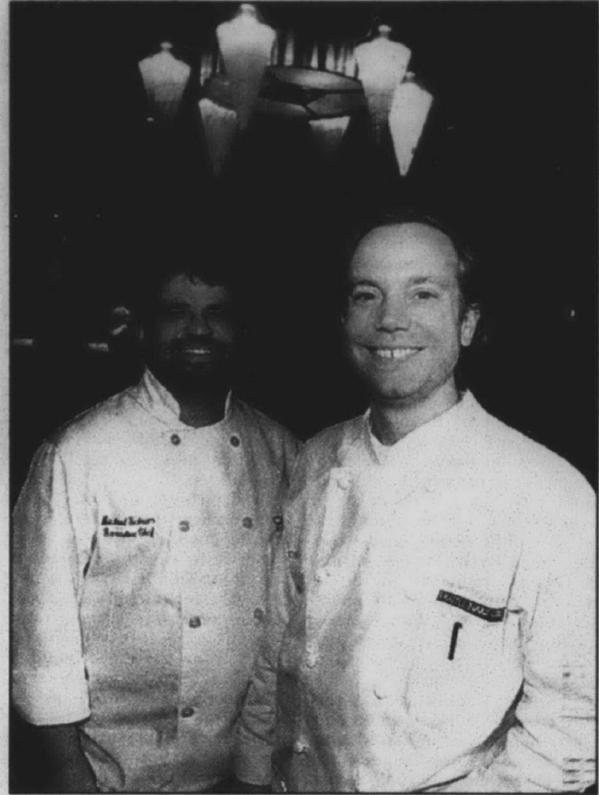
Stephanie Kane, Rochester Hills resident, graduate of Rochester Adams High School, and armed with a 1995 Central Michigan University business degree with emphasis in restaurant/hotel management, is Smitty's Grill's general manager.

"Coming home to run one of Jimmy Schmidt's restaurants is an exciting challenge," she remarked.

Schmidt's experience with restaurant "no shows" has made a no reservation policy necessary. Seating for 200 and ample bar room should make any wait short and pleasant. Even if the wait gets a little long, the great kid's menu will please young diners once they're seated.

In addition to a full-service bar with beers on tap, Schmidt has revolutionized restaurant by-the-bottle wine sales. A star-studded list of mostly California wines states "what Jimmy pays" tacks on a \$10 corkage and lists "what you pay." If you've groaned about high wine prices in area restaurants, the pricing at Smitty's Grill is just \$10 per bottle over wholesale. In the case of more expensive wines, such as a 1988 Burgess Library Release Cabernet Sauvignon, you pay \$33.10 per bottle. The full retail price in a wine shop is \$34.50. With more expensive wines, the deal gets even better. Drinking a bottle of wine in a restaurant for less than retail was unthinkable. Until now!

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



At your service: Michael Schram, (left) and Jimmy Schmidt at Smitty's Grill.

### RESTAURANT SPECIALS

**Eagle Tavern** - Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Call (313) 271-1620 for reservations and information. Open on select evenings during the holidays, serving food and spirits that were prepared from mid-19th century.

**Henry Ford Estate** - on the campus of The University of Michigan, Dearborn, Call (313) 593-5590 for reservations/information. A variety of special

events will be offered at the Henry Ford Estate during the holidays including, Holiday Luncheon Concerts, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Dec. 11-12, \$19.50; and Candles and Carols Dinner 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, \$38. The Pool Restaurant is open for lunch weekdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Limited lunch menu Dec. 24 to Jan. 2, closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

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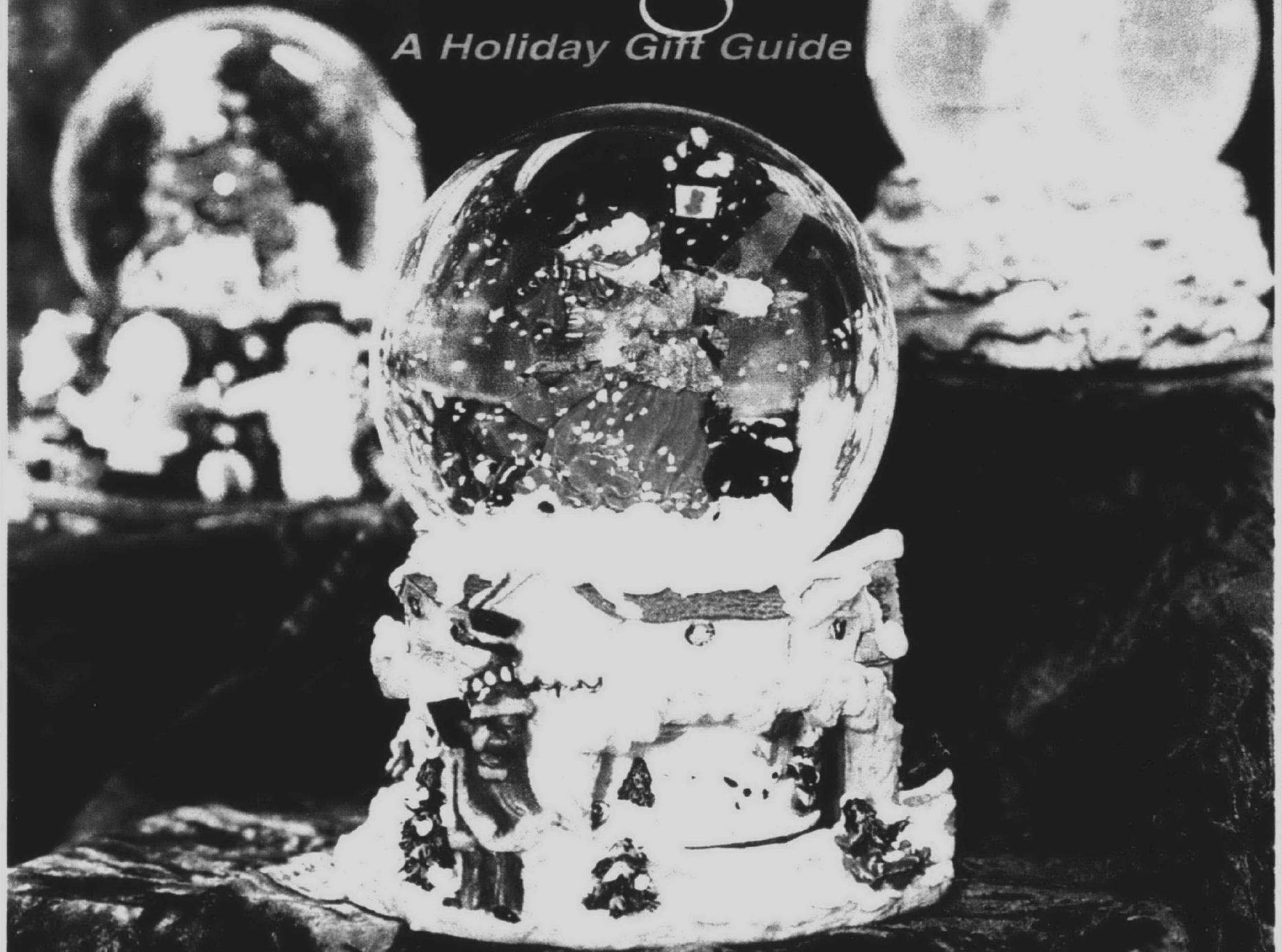
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# The Season of Giving

*A Holiday Gift Guide*



Supplement to

**The Observer**

Thursday, December 11, 1997

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*A season for giving*

The Observer Newspapers Holiday Gift Guide 2 offers suggestions and ideas for any type of holiday giving. We also offer decorating ideas. Happy shopping and happy holidays from all of us at the Observer Newspapers.

**About the cover photo:**

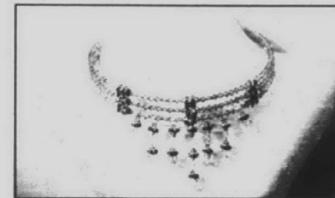
The cover photo was taken by staff photographer Jim Jagdfeld at the Parisian store at Laurel Park Place in Livonia.

**Inside:**

**4** How about putting all your presents in one basket this Christmas? Especially when you have help from some of Santa's most food-loving elves. His helpers are ready and waiting to fill unique baskets and other vessels full of food and beverages for that special person in your life. His helpers say they need just the most basic information to get started.



other seasons, that empowers you to deck your halls as you like.



**7** Whether it's a well-thought-out gift, or something at the last minute, stocking stuffers can be as much a surprise as the gifts neatly wrapped under the Christmas tree. And, the ideas are endless for gifts that cost a quarter to whatever you'd like to spend on that special person.



**12** Those who want to buck tradition and set aside the Elvis and Bing Crosby Christmas albums can find a sleigh full of new holiday records at local record stores.

**15** "Every woman would love a beautiful diamond bracelet," said Joyce Pappas, Orin Jewelers registered jeweler. And if you're searching for that perfect gift, jewelry, especially diamonds, makes a brilliant statement.

**16** What's one way to personalize a gift without getting too personal? Or a way to surprise that friend who has it all with something unique? Just focus on a theme.



**Credits**

This holiday gift guide section is a product of the Observer Newspapers.  
Peg Knoespel, Wayne County retail advertising manager  
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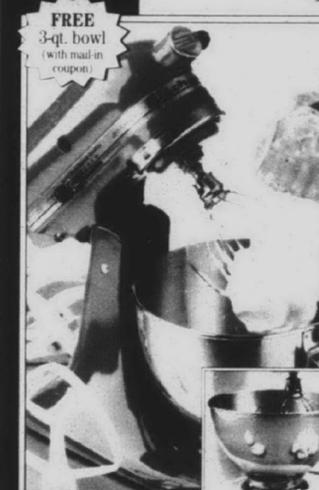
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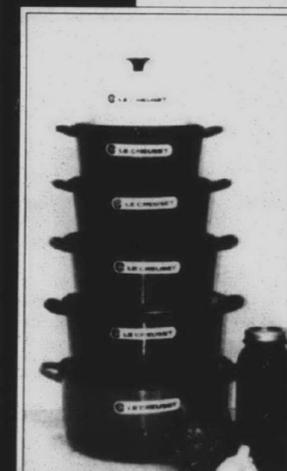
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STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

**To a tea:** Tea lovers will be steeped with joy when they receive a tea-theme basket including teapot, teabags, doilies, stationery, cookies and a box of chocolates from Basket Creations of Canton.

## Everyone eats up food-related gifts

BY CAROL COMMAND  
SPECIAL WRITER



FOOD

How about putting all your presents in one basket this Christmas? Especially when you have help from some of Santa's most food-loving elves. His helpers are ready and waiting to fill unique baskets and other vessels full of food and beverages for that special person in your life. His helpers say they need just the most basic information to get started.

"Just tell us who it's for and what they like," said Leslie Hladis, sales person at Basket Creations in Canton. Then Hladis or store owner, Stella

Delap, will put together a latte and biscotti cup for under \$22 to thank your dependable letter carrier or a blueberry splurge to please Aunt Gladys with her favorite fruit.

For \$49 a Blueberry Morning hand-made basket will be stacked high with blueberry pancake mix, blueberry syrup and wild blueberry preserves. Also inside are a blueberry mug with 12 blueberry teabags and decorated napkins. Or how about topping off a stainless steel or porcelain mixing bowl with Belgian waffle mix and Red Raspberry Ecstasy or Blueberry Lemon topping? Williams-Sonoma at Laurel Park Mall has a store and catalog dedicated to both serious and fun-loving cooks.

Please see **FOOD**, A5

# LIVONIA'S Performance TOOL CENTERS

What's The Latest For Your Tool Gifts?

Is your holiday shopping becoming a struggle trying to think of something new for that tool lover on your shopping list? Fear not, because at Performance Line Tool Centers they feature not only the area's largest tool selection, but their buyers search the country for the "latest and greatest" in the tool universe.

If you haven't looked at tools or been to Performance Line Tool Centers lately, you'll enjoy an amazing and money saving experience when it comes to buying gifts for those tool folks.

The universe of cordless tools has been rapidly changing. Longer run times, faster charge times, lighter weight, more power is just the start. Beginning with the basic cordless screwdrivers and drills, cordless tools have evolved, and now you can get cordless 18 volt tools, also reciprocating saws, sanders, jigsaws, cutout and rotary tools, flashlights, nailers, even caulk guns!

In pneumatics, close to 80 different tools are offered. One of the biggest highlights are prices that now start at less than \$100 for nailers that used to be in the two or three hundred dollar range. They offer a terrific increase in fun and efficiency!

Space age science has come to help with laser technology. Now with a few simple settings, a guaranteed accurate straight line will focus up to 300' in a 360° rotating surface. Laser tools which used to cost near the thousand dollar mark can now be bought at prices starting at under \$100. Along that "line," for those projects that do not require such hi-tech equipment, simple chalk lines have now improved and can reel in 5X faster to shorten reel time.

When accuracy counts for woodworkers, engineers, model builders, etc., new stainless steel rules with internal slots allow "dead-on" marks down to 1/32" without squinting!

For those projects that require you to have "x-ray" vision behind walls, there are scanners that not only will sound or light up when it senses studs, joists, wires, pipes, conduit and rebar but some will show a picture of the center of the object. If you haven't seen what's new in screwdrivers lately, you will be amazed. Today's screwdrivers not only carry "on-board" all common bits, but are also available with extension magnets, internal telescoping flex shafts and even high intensity lights to illuminate your immediate work area.

Great innovations in sockets and pliers have solved the problems of removing worn nuts. Today these tools grab on the "flats" of the nuts (as opposed to the corners) for "bull-dog" gripping power and no "round-offs." In addition, pliers have advanced to spring loaded, one handed, self-adjusting multi-rack teeth for 9 different grip settings. That says it all for ease and comfort!

Even the basic extension cord gets updated. You may remember the recent (now defunct) chain store commercial showing a cord becoming unplugged while up on the roof. Odd's are he wasn't using one of Performance Tool's cords. Most of theirs lock onto the tool and onto each other.

**Folks, this is only the beginning...**

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STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

**State pride:** A made in Michigan theme basket from Basket Creations of Canton includes cherries, jam and mustard in a Michigan wood crate.

## Food from page A4



FOOD

And who could resist a combination of cherries and chocolate? There's a basket to fit both big tastes and small at Basket Creations.

Cherry Bombs! for \$22 is a cherry-colored oval basket bursting with six Joseph Schmidt cherry-filled chocolate truffles. Wishing You Cherries! is a heavy willow basket that boasts pasta, marinara sauce, sparkling cherry juice, cherry butter, dried and chocolate-covered cherries, Sanders hot fudge sauce and much more. This 14-pound basket sells for \$95.

If your mouth isn't watering yet, think about fresh pastries hand-made each day at the crack of dawn by European bakers, just waiting for your personal taste test.

When people taste the pastry that de Ros Delicacies in Redford is known for, many say, "It's just like my grandmother used to make," explained owner Del-

phine Kryza-McMaster. The "kolacky" are rolled out dough, pinched at the corners with a dollop of raspberry or pineapple in the center. Kryza-McMaster said Czechs, Hungarians and Poles will all accept ownership for this tasty holiday pastry. The bakers also deliver fresh each morning trays of breads, croissants, cookies and cakes - all preservative-free, she said.

Although baskets lined with special fabric or holiday linen and teeming with pastries have gone to famous recipients such as George Bush and Bob Hope, Kryza-McMaster says "It's the little people we care about."

With that in mind, she makes it possible for one even with limited finances to give something to be proud of. Perhaps an angel for your tree that costs just over \$3, she suggested.

"Just because you don't have money, you still care about that person, and I care about that."

She began her pastry basket busi-

Please see **FOOD**, A18

# Create your own look for holidays

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON  
STAFF WRITER



Whether your idea of decorating is a simple wreath of garland adorning your front door or a phenomenal display of colored lights that attracts motorists from far and wide — the holidays evoke a sense of creative freedom, unlike other seasons, that empowers you to deck your halls as you like.

The problem may not be what to decorate but how? Professional decorators are routinely grilled for ideas by Martha Stewart wannabes who don't think they have the where-withal to pull off a holiday celebration with all the trim. Don't fret say the experts — it's as easy as 1,2,3 and according to Debbie Beaver, floral designer for Michaels Arts & Crafts in Westland, any degree of decorating can be done on a budget without having to look that way.

With Christmas just two weeks away, the Westland store has a full stock of pre-made items or all the necessities to make your own swags, wreaths, and topiaries for the inside and outside of your home.

For outdoor trim, accessories such as power strips, clips, extension cords and wreath hangers make decorating practical and safe. Colored and white lights,



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

**Cheery cherubs:** Pair of matching cherub mantel pieces are featured at Michael's Arts and Crafts in Westland.

artificial garland, and ribbons can be used to dress up your home or yard as well as large plated ornaments that are more easily visible from the road or street compared to average bulbs used on trees indoors. The round and uniquely shaped bulbs, some six or

eight inches in diameter, come in a variety of bright holiday colors including gold and silver glitter.

Beaver said popular colors for the 1997 holiday season include plum, purple and gold. "Lots and lots of gold," said Beaver. To generate an overall

color scheme inside your home and out, color-coordinated sets and accessories come in various shades from a soft green sage to vibrant purple hues and glimmering golds. Ornaments, beading, and ribbons

Please see LOOK, A8

# Variety of gifts good to stuff

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER



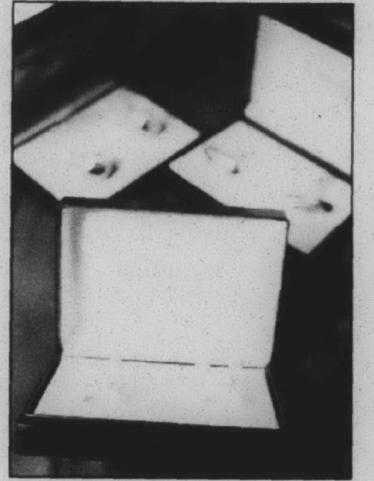
Whether it's a well-thought-out gift, or something at the last minute, stocking stuffers can be as much a surprise as the gifts neatly wrapped under the Christmas tree.

And, the ideas are endless for gifts that cost a quarter to whatever you'd like to spend on that special person.

"I think stocking stuffers are just as fun as the big gifts," said Jane Bassett, Midwest regional special events manager at Parisian in Laurel Park Place in Livonia.

The self-proclaimed "Queen of stocking stuffers" says she "wraps all my stocking stuffers, too, to make them a big surprise."

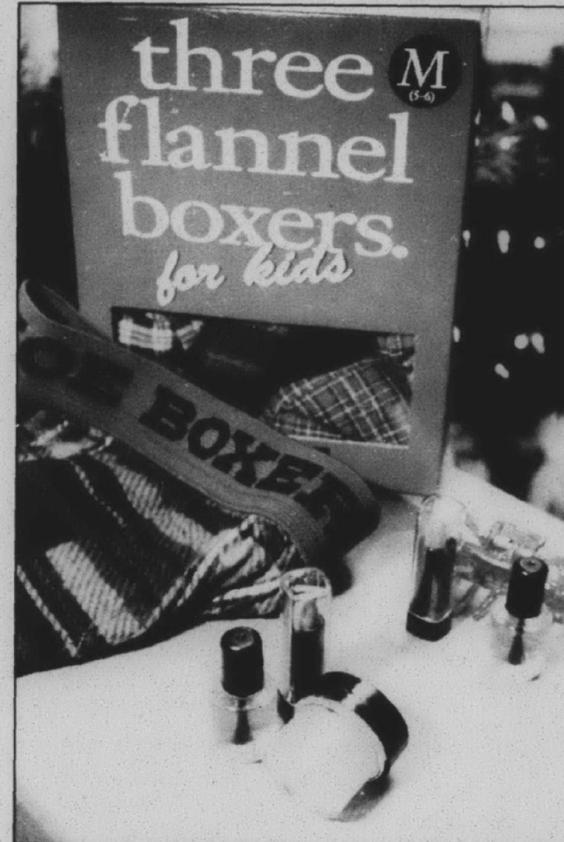
For young girls, Bassett suggests a three-piece glitter make-up kit that includes matching lipstick and nail polish. For the boys, Joe Boxer flannels are always nice. The ever-playful virtual pets are still popular with the



**Found links:** Kenneth Cole cuff links some in the shape of little hot and cold water faucet handles are available at Parisian.

Please see STUFF, A10

**Stuffers for kids:** Joe Boxer flannel boxers for kids and Kids Cosmetics by Riviera and a trio of cosmetics in its own carrying case are available at Parisian in Livonia.



STAFF PHOTOS BY JIM JAGDFELD



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# Look from page A6



can help complement your Christmas tree, mantle, front door wreath and table-top centerpiece for an overall coordinated appearance.

Other options in addition to color coordinating include period themes such as renaissance, country and Victorian. Michaels has plenty of prearranged sleighs, wreaths, topiaries and swags in various themes for large-scale decorating to small arrangements from \$19.99 into the hundreds. Beaver said the store also custom designs everything from bows to table-top arrangements and wreaths with a couple of days notice.

If you're an apartment dweller, fresh trees and garland can be a problem. Michaels stocks an assortment of artificial greenery that minimizes fire hazards and even carries preserved cedar that can be cut and added to wreaths and swags without having to worry about needles drying out and causing a mess. The cedar is scented "and offers a pleasant holiday scent for up to two years" said Beaver.

Another convenient item is an 18-foot rope of garland for decorating a railing or mantle without the freedom of having a lot of space. The accessory comes prestrung with 75 clear lights eliminating the need to buy the garland and a string of lights.

Making things from scratch, rather



**Bow tie:** Debbie Beaver works on making a Christmas bow at Michael's Arts and Crafts.

than having someone else do all the work, is made easy with a bounty of artificial poinsettias, holly berry garland, baskets, holiday tins, faux fruit, pine cones, wired ribbon, and replicas of angels, Santa Claus, musical instruments, snowmen and more.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

**With style:** A renaissance cherub swag and a matching Christmas topiary are among the items at Michael's Arts and Crafts.

"We have everything here anyone would need to decorate for the holidays," said Beaver. "And if you're having trouble deciding - one of the prearranged sets makes it easy."

Keep in mind decorating should not be intimidating. You have the creative license to decorate as you please and you should have fun with it. Happy decorating!

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STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER

**Artistic statement:** Exotic glass paperweights, (above right) and hand-blown glass tree ornaments (above) are made by Plymouth artist Don Schneider at the York Street Glass Works, 875 York St. in Plymouth. A large variety of blown and lampworked glass is available. Call (313) 459-6419 for hours. Prices from \$5 to \$40.



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Crystal persuasion: A crystal choker by Crystalare and designed by Susan Stefani is available at Parisian in Livonia.

### Stuff from page A7



younger set. Guys, listen up. Bassett has some suggestions to make sure you don't miss your big chance.

For a small price, Bassett says scented soap is a nice gesture.

"Velvet has moved from evening wear to everyday wear, so a velvet muffler is a nice gift," noted Bassett. "There are mini evening purses from satin to

beads. And some beautiful Susan Stefani crystal jewelry that begins where Swarovski leaves off."

Bassett suggests a "magnificent" multi-strand choker for the more daring, at \$337.

Ladies, the man in your life might like a Michigan mug stuffed in his stocking. Kenneth Cole cufflinks will show him you care. And, there are a number of Sharper Image items, including a 6-in-1 screwdriver and field



STAFF PHOTOS BY JIM JAGDFELD

Aroma therapy: Cinnamon-Cider Refresher Oil by Aromatique is among the items available at Parisian in Livonia.

binoculars.

"And, tickets to anything, stuffed in a stocking, are great gifts," said Bassett. "Whether it be to a movie or stage performance, it's usually something everyone likes to receive."

Janice Karamedjian, district manager for Barnes & Noble, has a few suggestions.

"Paper weights, book marks and book ends are inexpensive, nice gifts for your favorite bookworm," noted Karamed-

jian. "For kids, there are plush animals of their favorite book characters."

For the person on the run, Karamedjian suggests books on cassette and Christmas music on CD's or cassette.

At Georgia's Gift Gallery in downtown Plymouth, owner Michelle Suttle proposes a special, dated ornament to mark Christmas 1997.

Or how about a porcelain jewelry box with a gift certificate or ring inside.

Please see STUFF, A11



Spice of life: Sumptuous Selections offers the fixins for some spicy dip. Included in the package are: Sting'n Vegetable dip mix, pepper infused Molten Lava Oil and Mediterranean Vinegar and a spreading knife with a Red Hot pepper handle.

### Stuff from page A10



Suttle says dolls are popular items, whether they be made of porcelain, vinyl or are plush.

Potpourri can be special. And, prepared pretzels dipped in special chocolates are yummy.

Sarah Bauer, the fragrance manager at Victoria's Secret in Westland Mall, says guys could do well to slip scented nail polish with matching flavored lip gloss into their significant other's stocking.

Bauer also suggests gift sets which include nail polish, bubble bath, cologne and lotion.

Lingerie manager, Sherry Estep, recommends slippers, and Victoria's Secret signature pens and tea cups as special gifts.

"There's always the opportunity to put sexy underwear into your favorite person's stocking," suggests Estep.

If you're looking for those low-cost, impulse gifts, Gags and Gifts in Liv-

Please see STUFF, A14



STAFF PHOTOS BY JIM JAGDFELD

Day by day: Page-A-Day calendars come in a variety of themes at Parisian in Livonia.

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# Sound a seasonal note with music

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER



Those who want to buck tradition and set aside the Elvis and Bing Crosby Christmas albums can find a sleigh full of new holiday records at local record stores.

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Neeme Jarvi have released "Joy! A Celebration of Holiday Music."

"Around the world, we celebrate the holidays with joyous music and music-making, and I am delighted that we can offer the experience of this recording to our audiences. It includes many fine classics and also some more unusual selections. I think a wide audience of listeners will be very pleased to hear it during the holidays and beyond," Jarvi said.

"Joy!" features 12 songs including Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride," Irving Berlin's "White Christmas," "Air on a G String" by J.S. Bach, Schubert's "Ave Maria," a Christmas carol medley, "Trumpet Voluntary" from "The Prince of Denmark's March" and Handel's "Entrance of the Queen of Sheba" from "Solomon."

The album, priced at \$11.99, is available at area record stores, Kmart, Meijer, Rite Aid, or by calling (888)



**New album:** The Dearborn-based reggae band Universal Xpression has released its debut holiday album "Christmas on the Beach," featuring traditional and original Christmas songs.

316-1901. "Joy" will also be available at Orchestra Hall at the Music Box Boutique during DSO concerts, at the Detroit Opera House during the DSO production of "The Nutcracker," and via the DSO's website at <http://www.detroitssymphony.com>.

The Dearborn-based reggae band Universal Xpression offers its debut holiday album "Christmas on the Beach" (UXP Records). The album highlights a mix of traditional and original songs including a 7 1/2-minute reggae medley of "Silent Night," "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful," "Drummer Boy," and the original song "Breadnut," and a soca medley of "Joy to the World," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "Oh Holy Night," and "Hark the Herald."

The album is available by writing or calling UXP Records, Box 7242, Dearborn, Mich., 48121, (313) 272-3798. Universal Xpression can also be reached via its websites at <http://www.kmh.bas.org> or <http://www.soultosoul.com>.

Guitar slingers will get a kick out of "Merry Axemas - A Guitar Christmas" (Epic) on which some of rock's top guitarists offer their interpretations of classic Christmas songs. Upstart Kenny Wayne Shepherd does "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," Brian Setzer Orchestra covers "Jingle Bells," Jeff Beck plays "Amazing Grace," Steve Vai does "Christmas Time is Here," Joe Satriani plays "Silent Night," Joe Perry offers "Blue Christmas," and Richie Sambora covers "Cantique De Noel (O' Holy Night)." Eric Johnson, Steve Morse, Alex Lifeson and Hotei also

Please see MUSIC, A13

## Music from page A12



appear on the CD. Country star Dwight Yoakam has released "Come on Christmas" (Warner Bros.), an album of

traditional holiday songs - "Run Run Rudolph," "Silver Bells," "I'll Be Home for Christmas," "Silent Night," "Santa Claus is Back in Town," "The Christmas Song," "Away in a Manger," and "Here Comes Santa Claus." Yoakam also offers his original songs "Santa Can't Stay" and "Come on Christmas." Beth Anderson, Jim Lauderdale and Ricky Skaggs make guest appearances on the album.

Staying in the pop vein, a host of musicians joined forces to put out "Sounds of the Season" (Columbia), a benefit album for the Children's Hearing Institute. Vince Gill ("Do You Hear What I Hear"), Kenny Loggins ("Celebrate Me Home"), Bruce Springsteen ("Santa Claus is Comin' To Town"), Elton John ("Ho, Ho, Ho... Who'd Be a Turkey for Christmas"), and B.B. King ("Merry Christmas Baby") are among the artists on the album.

RCA records offers a quartet of holiday releases. The R&B act SWV has released its first holiday-themed recording "A Special Christmas." Pianist Randall Ateshon's "Christmas by Candlelight" offers Christmas songs delivered by him and an orchestra. John Pizzarelli swings into the holidays with "Let's Share Christmas." The record company has also reissued Elvis Presley's "If Every Day Was Like Christmas," the first album to feature all of Elvis's classic Yuletide hits. Besides music, the limited edition CD features a pop-up Graceland, rare photographs, and an extensive historic essay.

Teen heartthrobs Hanson have followed-up their multi-platinum debut "Middle of Nowhere" with the holiday collection "Snowed In" (Mercury).

Inspired by last year's holiday hit, "A Classic Cartoon Christmas," Nick at Nite Records, Sony Wonder and Sony 550 Music have partnered to release "A Classic Cartoon Christmas, Too" on Oct. 14. The album features cult songs from popular claymation cartoons - "Heat Miser" and "Snow Miser" from "Year Without a Santa Claus," Burgermeister Meisterburger's "The First Toymaker to the King" from "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," and "Silver and Gold" from "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." "We Wish You a Hairy Chestwig" from "Ren and Stimpy: Crock O'Christmas" is also on "A Classic Cartoon Christmas, Too."

Walt Disney Records entered the holiday market with the soundtrack and score to "Beauty and the Beast: The Enchanted Christmas" on which its characters sing traditional and new holiday songs. Lumiere, Cogsworth, Mrs. Potts, Angelique and a chorus team up to sing "Deck the Halls." Belle and her alter ego Paige O'Hara take on "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," "Do You Hear What I Hear," and "O Christmas Tree" among others. Peabo Bryson and Roberta Flack sing "As Long As There's Christmas (End Title)."

Jazz fans have at least two titles from which to choose. Saxophone player Dave Koz offers "December Makes Me

Feel This Way: A Holiday Album" (Capitol). Besides the traditional Christmas songs, Koz performs his original song "December Makes Me Feel This Way," and "Eight Candles (A Song for Hanukkah)."

"Warner Bros. Jazz Christmas Party" brings forth the talents of a variety of artists including Joshua Redman ("Santa Claus is Coming to Town"), Al Jarreau ("Celebrate Me Home"), Boney James ("Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"), Bela Fleck and Bob James ("White Christmas"), and Michael Franks ("I Bought You a Plastic Star for Your Aluminum Tree").

Poet, professor, and NPR commentator Andrei Codrescu offers "The Valley of Christmas" (Gert Town), an authentic Transylvanian folk tale which he has adapted with the help of musical collaborator and producer Mark Bingham. The story begins when a yuppie couple in New Orleans gives birth to a baby who promptly exacts three prenatal promises: He wants to know what preschool he's going to, he wants a T-Bird on his 18th birthday, and he never wants to grow old. His father goes along with it and the baby is born on Christmas day. On the child's 18th birthday, he encounters a roster that morphs into a 1965 Thunderbird and the journey begins. The album is available by calling (888) 368-5763.

Windham Hill records has released four holiday selections this year. "Celtic Christmas III: A Windham Hill Sampler" features traditional holiday carols and original compositions from a cross section of top Irish- and Celtic-inspired artists. Produced by Nightnoise founder Michael O'Donnahill, "Celtic Christmas III" includes Nightnoise, Brian Dunning and Jeff Johnson, Lisa Lynne, Patrick Cassidy, W.G. Snuffy Walden, who did the music for the TV show "My So-Called Life," and David Arkenstone.

Pianist Jim Brickman offers "The Gift," a collection of original songs and traditional songs that he has rearranged. "The Gift" features guest appearances by Collin Raye, Susan Ashton, Kenny Loggins, Point of Grace, and Norbett Stachel. The album is available in most record stores, however, it can also be ordered by calling (888)-Brickman.

"A Winter's Solstice VI: A Windham Hill Sampler" is a collection of original instrumental compositions from a cross-section of performers. Among those contributing to the album are long-time Windham Hill veterans Michael Hedges, George Winston, Will Ackerman and Liz Story, along with new artists Todd Cochran, Sean Harkness and Lisa Lynne.

Rounding out Windham Hill's selection is "Carols of Christmas II," featuring 15 hymns and carols of the holiday season interpreted by its artists including George Winston, Jim Brickman and Liz Story, as well as special guests Steve Lukather, Joan Armatrading and newly signed Windham Hill artist Janis Ian who collaborates with Deana Carter and Kathy Mattea on "Emmanuel."

Ray Stevens gives a different view of the holidays with "Ray Stevens Christmas: Through a Different Window"



**Cult songs:** Nick at Nite Records' "A Classic Cartoon Christmas, Too" includes cult songs from the claymation Christmas cartoons "Year Without a Santa Claus" ("Heat Miser," "Snow Miser"), "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" ("The First Toymaker to the King," "No More Toymakers to the King,"), and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" ("Silver and Gold," "There's Always Tomorrow").

(MCA Nashville) featuring songs such as "Annual Office Christmas Party," and as "Guilt for Christmas," "Redneck Christmas," "Xerox Xmas Letter," "The "Santa Claus is Watching You."

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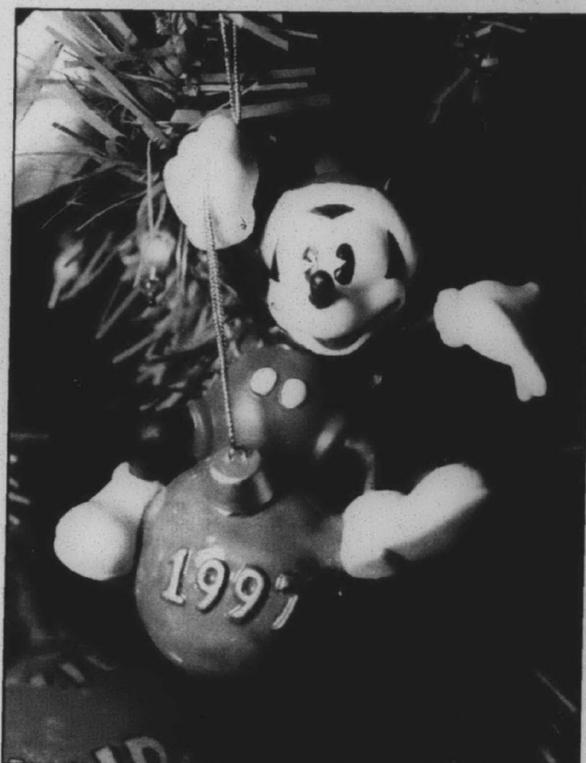
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**Decked in Disney:** Dated Disney Christmas ornaments are available at Georgia's Gift Gallery in Plymouth.

STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRENLER

### Stuff from page A11

nia, Westland or Canton may be the place to shop.

"There are a lot of inexpensive toys and trinkets to put into those stockings," said Sue Adams, manager of the Gags and Gifts in Livonia. "Here, you can get things ranging from 25-cents to a few dollars."

Some of her suggestions include all

kinds of make-believe jewelry, virtual pets, Beanie Babies, and lots of different kinds of fun key chains.

Adams notes that if you're looking for a holiday gag, whoopee cushions, disappearing-ink pens and snakes which jump out of the can are still fun this time of year.

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# Diamonds still best friends

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON  
STAFF WRITER



JEWELRY

er. And if you're searching for that perfect gift, jewelry, especially diamonds, makes a brilliant statement.

"There's such meaning attached to diamonds," said Pappas, "and a lot of thought goes into a purchase like that."

Whether it's a diamond bracelet, colored stone pendant, gold watch or engraved cuff links, the local jeweler, whose family-owned independent store observed its 64th year in business in Garden City this year, says the recipient always remembers the occasion of your generous gift giving.

Popular for the 1997 holiday season is the unique "add-a-link" diamond bracelet. The gold bangle is a gift that doesn't stop giving as diamonds or precious colored stones can be added to commemorate special occasions over any period of time the giver desires, ultimately creating a beautiful bracelet. Pappas said some people have each link engraved with the date they received the next portion of the bracelet to add even more significance to the item.

Chain jewelers and local independents say Christmas and New Year's

lend themselves to private or public engagements. "There's something about the holidays that makes men want to propose at restaurants or in front of families," said Dave Anderson, Livonia gemologist.

The holidays are not only an occasion to buy an engagement ring but to upgrade, said Anderson. "A lot of women want larger diamonds or are interested in having a jeweler, like myself, design a custom setting."

Don't rush into a diamond purchase, say the professionals. A lot of thought should go into a purchase that has such meaning attached to it and it's important to be an educated shopper when you're spending potentially, thousands of dollars.

"Pearls are very big and always in style," said Pappas. "Particularly the black pearl."

Orin Jewelers carries the Mikimoto line of pearl jewelry featuring necklaces, earrings, and rings that stand alone or are highlighted with colored stone accents of rubies, emeralds and sapphires.

Another popular item for women is the "Tin Cup" necklace nicknamed from the 1996 Kevin Costner and Renee Russo movie "Tin Cup" where the Hollywood actress dons a simple silver chain choker dotted with pearls. The necklace can be worn as an everyday piece or dressed up for those special

Please see JEWELRY, A19



PHOTO BY JERRY MENDOZA

**Timely gift:** An Orin Jewelers sales associate models one of several CYMA Swiss watches that are popular Christmas gifts for men this season. Watches are available in gold and silver and adorned with or without diamonds and mother of pearl dials.

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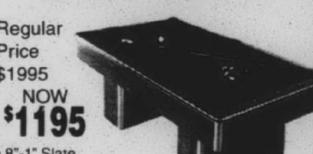
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**Oh deer:** Candy Bouquet in Canton has created a reindeer bouquet. A 25-inch high reindeer is filled with domestic and imported candies and chocolates along with colorful accents.

## Personalize gifts by following theme

BY CAROL COMMAND SPECIAL WRITER

What's one way to personalize a gift without getting too personal? Or a way to surprise that friend who has it all with something unique? Just focus on a theme.

From the rose basket that sings "take me away" with relaxation tapes and bath oils to the bucket that hauls the armament of cleaning essentials necessary to keep his wheels shining, a little creativity can make an ordinary container special.

The Car Wash bucket at Basket Creations in Canton, for example, is bubbling over with cleansers to remove road crud and add sparkle for under \$40.

For his or her own bodywork, fill a rose motif metal basket with botanical bath soaps and crystals. Add Camille Beckman fruit and floral scented cremes and a loofah to slough away winter's dryness. And add any combination of blissful items that say relax. You could include a book on aromatherapy.

"We do a lot with candles and stationery," said Leslie Hladis, salesperson

Please see **THEME, A17**



**Candy creation:** A plastic white top hat filled with colorful accents and candies is available at the Candy Bouquet, 8473 North Lilley in Canton.

## Theme from page A16

at Basket Creations. This gift store offers a variety of bath baskets for under \$50, and you can pick the flavor. If peach is a pleaser, you might set the mood with peach-scented candles and lotions. Or you could make it a strawberry- or vanilla night in the tub. Don't forget to include mood music. An ethereal Enya tape, a sensual Rimsky-Korsakov or the aquatic accompaniment of Songs of the Humpback Whale by Earth Music Productions will make that escape complete. If Basket Creations doesn't have your favorite tune, just bring it along and they'll include it in the basket.

And if you really want to put a smile on his or her face this holiday, consider a gift certificate for a professional massage. Healing Arts Clinic in Plymouth can provide an hour of deep-tissue- or gentle Swedish massage for \$50.

**Have a cigar**  
 Some baskets say Happy Holidays with a little more gusto. "You could add a couple of cigars to your beer basket," said Vinnie Shoukri, co-owner with Sam Shoukri of Showerman's Fine Wine & Liquor in Livonia. Vinnie explained the renewed interest in the art of cigar smoking as he pointed to shelves of cigars inside a glass case.

Of course you can also select from non-alcoholic as well as alcoholic champagnes and from a selection of more than 300 California wines to fill anything from a bucket to a bushelbasket.

"When you want to give above and beyond a bottle," Vinnie said, "you give a basket."

Weighing in at 60 pounds, a wicker basket filled with a variety of rums,

Please see **THEME, A18**

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## Theme from page A17



wines, liqueurs and champagne is ready-made and waiting to be sold at \$225. "You name it, and it has one of each type," he explained. Last year it took three people to carry out a 4-foot-wide basket of holiday liquors sent from one doctor to another, Sam said. The price: \$500. A simple but elegant choice might be the transparent pitcher that holds Kahlua liqueur, Kahlua mix and coffee for \$21.99.

A basic basket of gourmet merchandise starts at \$25. Add from \$5 to \$25 for a bottle of wine. Chianti might accompany a basket filled with pasta and Italian cookies and chocolates. The \$59.99 gourmet basket includes pates of turkey, salmon and crab; pepper and almond cheeses; Danish canned ham; a Columbia Crest chardonnay; orange marmalade and crackers; and Irish creme coffee and more.

For last-minute shoppers or those without a plan Showerman's will have 15 to 20 baskets in stock right up to Christmas.

If, however, you have on your list a Single Malt Scotch connoisseur with a passion for Havana-seeded cigars and she hasn't been too naughty, don't hesitate to enlist Sam or Vinnie in the design of a special package for her.

"We can make anything you want, custom made for whatever purpose you specify."

### Baskets of ideas

Santa's elves have endless ideas to help those who like to think as a team.

For just over \$100, the Basket Creations staff can transform any food basket into an ethnic indulgence. Give your friends an Italian or TexMex night in their own home. For \$45 a stylishly packaged basket with red bandanna and Star of Texas holds hot and spicy bean dip, chutney, chips and salsa, chilies and hot pepper sauce.

Since food for thought goes well with food for the tummy, you might also

include a video, available at most discount department stores, that enhances the ethnicity of the evening and generates conversation on those long winter nights.

For example in the video, "The Big Night," two brothers epitomize the Italian traditions of good food and good company. Or add a Lone Star video, and see a personal history of contemporary Texas with the backdrop of its rich and painful past.

Since even Scrooge loves either candy or flowers, how about a ready-made bouquet of candy to remember the difficult to buy for on your list?

At Candy Bouquet of Canton, Kwang and Silvia Chung will combine international chocolates and candies into a striking bouquet of colors. They've only been open a short time and are anxious to use Silvia's artistic talents to bring a garden of candy to you. They will mix a basket, sundae glass or mug full of edible candies from Belgium, England, Egypt and other places. Chocolate long-stemmed roses or sugar-free selections can make even a holiday centerpiece tasty.

And you might do a sports package for the jock or outdoor-lover in your life. Dunham's Discount Sports is one place where the staff is anxious to help you put that package together.

"Part of our everyday selling procedure is qualifying the customer," said Bill Merrifield, manager of Dunham's at Wonderland Mall in Livonia.

Personalizing a gift from golf to roller blading is typical. Or you might consider the unusual yet traditional sport of black powder gun as something for a special person on your list.

Merrifield can help you get together accessories such as powder, caps, cleaning rod and ball starter. He can even offer tips on lessons.

There's no limit on gift ideas with all of Santa's helpers out there.

## Food from page A5



great care" remains important to her and her staff because every basket has "a beautiful story; every basket represents the sender."

If Santa were flying over the area right now, he'd see how inventive Metro people are filling baskets and other containers with fun foods.

At Williams-Sonoma, manager Katy Moore will be filling pots and pails, warming pans and woks with gourmet edibles and accessories. Just give her 15 to 20 minutes and she'll put together combinations of food in a container of your choice. Maybe a popcorn bowl for New Year's Day? or a relief pattern bowl packed with gourmet mulling

spices and syrups that infuse red wine or cider with the flavor of cloves and cinnamon? How about a wok chock full of Thai Basil noodles surrounded by Jasmine and Red rice? Most gift packages range between \$42 and \$250, Moore said.

From soup to chocolate, from pan-cakes to pasta, a basket is already prepared or can be made for you usually with just 24-hours notice.

Whether it's an earthenware chicken or a Calphalon soup pot at Williams-Sonoma, or baskets of chocolates or pastries, you can personalize a gift yet take the big guesses out of shopping.

Containers of food are not as personal as buying clothes, but they're gifts people come back for year after year, merchants agree.

"You don't worry about color or size," Moore said.

"Everyone loves to eat."



PHOTO BY JERRY MENDOZA

String of pearls: Necklaces embellished with pearls, like the one pictured above, are always favorites for the special woman on your list. Black pearls are particularly popular this year with gold or silver accents.

## Jewelry from page A15



occasions. It's available in gold or silver and white or black pearls. DeBeers, diamond experts, in addition to several other well-known distributors, are selling the Diamond Lock Pendant or solitaire necklace that has women wishing and men searching. Jewelers say you don't have to look far for the solitaire diamond in a gold setting with a chain attached to each side of the gem or flowing through a loop on the top of the setting.

They also have Diamond Lock Pendants with princess cut diamonds in an invisible setting (no metal separating the diamonds) that gives the illusion of a solitaire diamond.

"Diamonds are a part of the '90s everyday lifestyle," said Pappas. "They can be worn daily and it's very acceptable."

For that man on your list, diamond rings, bracelets, cuff links, chains, money clips and watches make great stocking stuffers. Cuff links, money clips and brass golf ball markers can

be engraved to add a special monogrammed touch or opt for an initial ring.

A solid gold man's watch never goes out of style, said Pappas. The Garden City jeweler carries Citizen, Tag Heuer, and CYMA Swiss watches for business, casual or athletic wear. Watches can be simple accessories in gold/silver or highlighted with diamonds or mother of pearl dials.

Other stocking suggestions, say jewelers, include earrings, necklaces and pendants, charms and classic pocket watches.

Most independent and franchise jewelry stores have layaway plans to accommodate your budget and accept most major credit cards. Several jewelry stores have their own line of credit that can be applied for while you shop in a matter of minutes.

"Jewelry is always a smart gift because it says so much and has a great deal of significance attached to it," said Anderson. "It would be really hard to go wrong with a diamond bracelet or a gold watch for that special someone on your list."

## Be on cutting edge of diamonds

**Know your C's.** Diamonds are graded in four areas known as the Four C's: Cut, Clarity, Color and Carat weight.

Cut refers to the cutting angles and proportions of the stone, which are responsible for the stone's brilliance. Whether it's round, oval, or emerald-shaped etc., the proportions play a big part in the value of the stone. Clarity refers to the presence of internal breaks or inclusions as well as external imperfections, called blemishes.

Most diamonds have some flaws, but these flaws help to identify the diamond, much like fingerprints. Those diamonds deemed "flawless" are more expensive and more rare than those containing flaws.

Color refers more to the absence of color than a true color. The most valuable diamonds are those with the least amount of color, with the exception of

"fancy" colored diamonds. These diamonds have distinct attractive tints, such as a fancy yellow or green diamond.

Carat refers to the weight of the stone and is the most objective of the Four C's, since loose diamonds can be weighed precisely on a carat scale. One hundred "points" equals one carat.

**Know what you're looking for.** Each person's choice of a diamond will depend on his or her personal taste and budget. Some people want a larger size and are willing to sacrifice clarity, while others want the most perfect stone they can afford and will sacrifice size for clarity.

**Always have a diamond appraised before buying it.**

An appraisal by an independent appraiser will tell you whether you're paying too much for a diamond as well as confirm the grading.

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