

# Plymouth Observer

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## CHEER CLUB

It's Plymouth-Canton Observer Cheer Club time again! So join the Cheer Club by bringing donations of new toys and canned boxed food to our office at 794 S. Main Street in Plymouth, during normal business hours.

The items will be collected until Dec. 11, when we'll turn them over to the Plymouth Salvation Army. They'll distribute the items to needy people in Plymouth, Canton and Northville.

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 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 donor's 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.

Happy Holidays! Please keep our Cheer Club in mind.

## THE WEEK

# AHEAD

## TODAY

**Arts and crafts:** The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is holding its annual Christmas arts and crafts show from noon to 5 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

## TUESDAY

**Financial Aid Night:** Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is sponsoring a Financial Aid Night at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth Salem auditorium, 46181 Joy Road. It's open to all junior and senior parents.

## THURSDAY

**Nursing care:** Attorney General-elect Jennifer Granholm, state nursing home inspectors and legislators will be at a 6:30 p.m. meeting at Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, to discuss nursing home reform.

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## Santa arrives!



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

**A jolly holiday:** More than 100 children brought their parents out to Kellogg Park Friday night to watch the arrival of Santa Claus. The jolly old elf (who also goes by the name Eric Stupa, a Plymouth resident) arrived via fire truck and was presented the key to the Plymouth communities by City Mayor Don Dismuke. At right, Christmas Carol (Amy LaValle, 13, of Canton) watches Santa's reaction to the crowd.

# Ford medical center to open doors Dec. 7

BY LILLY A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

Henry Ford Health System will open its larger, state-of-the-art medical facilities in Plymouth and Canton next month.

All patients that are seen at the Plymouth and Canton Henry Ford Medical Centers will be seen at new locations.

The health care provider will open its 21,000-square-foot facility at Beck and M-14 on Dec. 7, followed by a 17,000-square-foot

building at Haggerty and Ford in Canton on Dec. 14.

The current Canton location, at Ford and Lilley, will see the last scheduled appointment at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 11. The clinic will close on Dec. 12 but will be reopened Dec. 13 for its last day of urgent care.

The annex at the downtown Plymouth location will remain open for Henry Ford Hos-

Please see **FORD, A6**

# Pushing the envelope

Mail, package delivery costly for procrastinators

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM  
STAFF WRITER

Sending holiday cards and packages is as much an annual tradition as waiting in line, putting up decorations, eating too many holiday cookies and wrapping presents.

Another time-honored holiday tradition for some is waiting until the last possible minute to get those packages ready for sending, despite attempts

and pleas from the nation's major delivery companies to do it early.

People who want to send packages to loved ones need to decide which company will deliver the gift and how much they're willing to spend to make sure it gets there on time... especially if they tend to procrastinate.

Some choices include the United States Postal Service, United Parcel Service and Federal Express. These delivery workers all become Santa's elves during the holiday season as they pile sacks of gifts in airplanes, ships and trucks and deliver billions of packages and letters between Thanksgiving and New Year's.

## Expected rush

The U.S. Postal Service is preparing for the rush by hiring 40,000 seasonal workers, opening temporary processing centers, using more planes and trucks, keeping extended hours and by heavily airing the "What's Your Priority?" advertisements for its flat-rate Priority Mail service.

This holiday delivery season will bring an estimated 16.7 billion pieces of mail into post offices, said Mary

Ellen Hayden, marketing manager for the U.S. Postal Service Detroit district.

"We expect our holiday season to be a very busy one," Hayden said. "Our holiday really begins right after Thanksgiving."

Last year, the U.S. Postal Service handled an average of 100 million letters and cards per day between October and December. This year, an estimated 150 million cards and letters per day will be processed between Thanksgiving and Christmas. A 1-percent increase in cards and letter delivery and a 10-percent increase in package delivery is expected.

## Close to home

Joe Groff, Plymouth and Plymouth Township's postmaster, said his office expects a 10- to 20-percent increase in packages, a 10-percent increase in Priority Mail and a 1-3-percent increase in letters.

The employees are on "voluntary overtime" status now, which will switch to "mandatory overtime" status at Thanksgiving. Though it's a stressful time for postal employees, Groff said they still try to keep their spirits up.

"Our employees are geared up," Groff said. "Whatever comes at us, we're going to get delivered."

This year, Plymouth postal employees are "adopting" families through the Salvation Army and are holding daily bake sales to raise money. Holiday parties also are planned.

Average mail handling for Detroit area post offices is predicted to be 15 to 17 percent above the national average during the upcoming holiday season. Detroit is always a busy area for international mail, Hayden said. This

Please see **MAIL, A6**

# City cutback nearly axes holiday trees

**A decision to reduce city costs for servicing downtown events threatened the annual 'Walk of Trees' and could further result in the canceling of the Chili Cookoff.**

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
[tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net)

The city commission's decision to cut spending for many downtown festivals and events almost canceled the annual Walk of Trees and may signal the end to the Chili Cookoff in Plymouth.

When Fran Toney, the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's executive director, found out the city would not pay for the \$2,500 cost for city services for the sixth annual Walk of Trees in Kellogg Park, her first thought was to cancel the popular event.

"I thought we didn't have time to raise the money, and the order for the trees would have to quickly be undone," said Toney. "And, for one day the event was actually canceled."

However, Larry Bird, the owner of Gabriela's, wasn't going to let that happen.

"My 5-year-old loves those trees. This wasn't going to be canceled because of a financial shortage," said Bird. "We made some calls, and it was a pretty easy sell. Everyone wants those trees in the park."

Please see **TREES, A4**

# College student killed in crash

BY SCOTT DANIEL  
STAFF WRITER  
[sdaniel@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:sdaniel@oe.homecomm.net)

As a Michigan State University senior, Tiffany Morante didn't have time for many things.

Her studies in merchandise management consumed much of her energies. Tragically, the 21-year-old Plymouth resident will never have an opportunity to realize her career dreams.

Morante was killed at 1:57 a.m. Thanksgiving Day crossing Ford Road just east of Beck in Canton Township. According to Canton police, she was hit by a 27-year-old Northville man driving westbound on Ford.

"She was so friendly to everybody," said mother Marcia Kenely. "Everyone loved her."

Sgt. Charles Raycraft said alcohol may have played a part in the accident. Blood-alcohol tests are being performed on the

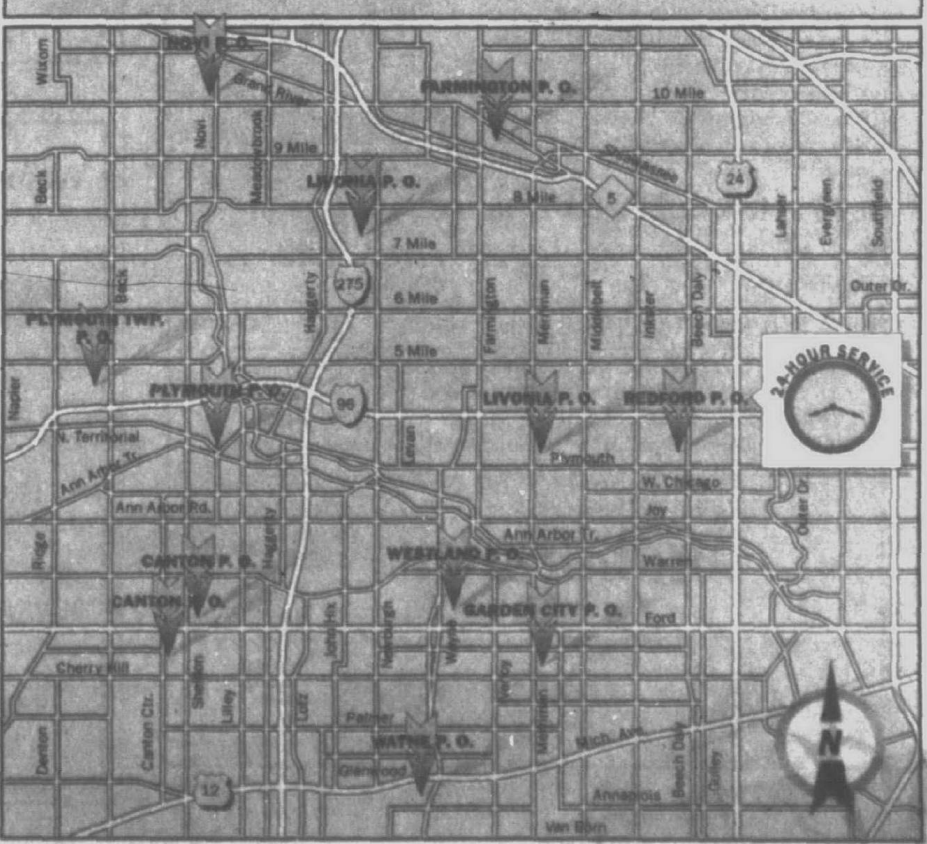


Tiffany Morante

man, whose name is being withheld by police, to determine if he was legally intoxicated at the time of the accident.

Please see **STUDENT, A6**

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# Salvation Army, police team up for blue holiday

BY DUNCAN E. WHITE  
STAFF WRITER

It's not necessarily the holiday season until you hear the familiar clang of bells and see the red kettles hung on hooks outside your local department store.

At least that's what the Salvation Army is hoping as it heads into its busiest and most profitable time of year.

"The funds that we raise through this drive are what help us support families throughout the year," said Lt. James Spencer of the Salvation Army.

The organization kicked off the season with its 1998 Christmas Kettle Tree Lighting ceremony last Tuesday.

"We do have an event like this every year to commemorate the start of the season, which began on Friday, the day after Thanksgiving," said Spencer. "The kettles go out at 9 a.m. on Friday and run every day from nine in the morning to nine at night until Christmas Eve."

This year, the opening ceremony was a little more personal for several people in attendance which included Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy and Plymouth Township police Chief Larry Carey.

The event centered around the lighting of a Christmas tree in front of the Salvation Army building on Main Street. The tree was adorned with blue lights this year, instead of white, to signify the support of law enforcement officers as part of "Project Blue Light" started by Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors.

It is a tribute to those officers who continue to patrol the streets and especially to those

## The tree was adorned with blue lights this year, instead of white, to signify the support of law enforcement officers as part of "Project Blue Light" started by Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors.

who gave their lives in the line of duty.

"We did a special presentation this year in conjunction with the Plymouth Township Police Department commemorating slain officers, not only here, but across the state," said Spencer. "And that's represented by the blue lights on the tree this year."

Tuesday's tree lighting was in honor of fallen police officer, Steven Ruether, who was slain while serving the Milan community. He was a full-time employee of the Milan Police Department and a part-time officer for Plymouth Township at the time of his death in 1991.

As part of Tuesday's itinerary, the police chaplain gave a dedication and the Plymouth Township Police Honor Guard gave a 21-gun salute and played Taps in Ruether's memory.

The Plymouth Township Police Department plans on holding a similar ceremony in his memory at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 14 at the police station. Several trees in front of the station will be decorated with blue lights and lit during the ceremony.

# Tenor-less situation

## Frosty holds only clue to carolnapping

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
thruscato@ec.ehomecomm.net

A holiday prankster has caused city officials to become a bit perplexed and disturbed.

Two of the four fiberglass carolers in the planter box on the corner of Main and Penniman in Kellogg Park were taken last weekend.

"The boy and the girl carolers

were missing sometime Friday night (Nov. 20) or early Saturday morning," said Paul Sincok, municipal services director. "On Sunday morning, the girl reappeared back in place, and there was a note discovered on Frosty the Snowman that indicated the carolers had been carolnapped."

Sincok says the carolers cost \$800 apiece from Bronner's Christmas Wonderland in

Frankenmuth. The figurines are on back order and most likely won't be available before Christmas, Sincok said.

Plymouth police Detective Sgt. Ed Ochal isn't amused.

"This kind of act is less than amusing, is a criminal act of theft and vandalism, and not in the holiday spirit," said Ochal. "Plymouth is a beautiful place, and this type of act won't be tolerated."

Ochal said the prankster could be charged with a felony, which could bring prison time of up to four years.

"This situation needs to be corrected during the holiday season, because afterward is too late for people to enjoy the display," added Ochal. "If it's not returned soon, we'll prosecute to the fullest extent."

# Suspects linked to store holdups

BY DUNCAN E. WHITE  
STAFF WRITER

Three suspects are in custody in connection with a Nov. 20 armed robbery at the Pilgrim Party Shoppe, at 895 W. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township.

Plymouth detectives believe the trio has been working as a team and is responsible for a chain of robberies throughout the Plymouth, Canton and Livonia areas. The trio has been referred to as the "Hennessy Bandits" for requesting a specific brand of cognac during most of their holdups.

Kevin Clark, 35, and Rafiel Riggins, 19, both of Detroit, have been arraigned on armed robbery charges after being arrested by the Eastpointe and Detroit police departments last weekend. They are currently being questioned about several robberies, including the Pilgrim Party Shoppe incident. An arraignment date in 35th District Court has yet to be set.

The third suspect, Riggins' aunt, has yet to be arraigned. Her name has not been released by police.

Both men have admitted to having taken part in several robberies. Police believe they are responsible for as many as 10 heists throughout Canton, Livonia, Redford, Eastpointe, Detroit and other communities.

"They are believed to be the subjects involved," said Detective Kevin Lauterwasser of the Plymouth Township Police Department. "One has confessed for sure to a similar incident in Canton. All indications are that they are involved together."

## The trio has been referred to as the "Hennessy Bandits" for requesting a specific brand of cognac during most of their holdups.

"We named them 'The Hennessy Bandits' because they got Hennessy from everyone," said Detective Leonard Wolons of the Canton Police Department. "It was just their drink of choice, so why should they spend any of their ill-gotten gains on it when they're standing in a liquor store?"

Ironically, the Hennessy Cognac connection is what linked several of the robberies to each other and may play a pivotal role in court.

### Helpful witness

Police failed to apprehend the robbers following the Nov. 21 robbery of the Eastpointe Liquor Store, at 24850 Gratiot, but a witness got the license plate number after seeing the two men get into a car outside the store, according to police.

"At that point they had gotten away," said Eastpointe Police Detective Mike Edwards. "We put out a ticker-tape and officers from the 8th Precinct took that information and went to the address (where the vehicle was registered) at which point they arrested the female and (Clark). (Riggins) was arrested two days later by the Violent Crimes Task Force of the

### Detroit Police Department.

There is a general increase in crimes of this nature during the holidays and police hope that store owners in the area are aware of that.

"Tis the season," said Lauterwasser. "Typically we see an increase around the holidays in holdups, larceny, shoplifting... crimes of that nature. We hope that merchants realize that this is the season and ask them to report any suspicious activity to the police."

At around 3:30 p.m. Nov. 20 an armed gunman made off with several bottles of liquor and a "large" amount of cash from the Pilgrim Party Shoppe in Plymouth, police said.

After asking for their trademark Hennessy Cognac, the clerk asked for identification and the man produced a "derringer-type weapon," according to police reports.

Lauterwasser said, "He made off on foot west of there. We traced him through a dog trace to about one block west of the store where we think he had a car."

Both Clark and Riggins have admitted to holding up the Canton Party Store at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Morton Taylor. The store was robbed on Oct. 3 and again on Oct. 17, according to Canton police.

The two also admitted to the Sept. 30 and Oct. 29 robberies of the Mid-Five Party Store on Middlebelt Road south of Five Mile as well as a Nov. 5 holdup of the Bai-Lynn Party Store on Merriman Road north of I-96, according to Livonia police.

# Symphony League hosts 'Sugar Plum Fairy Tea'

The Plymouth Symphony League will be hosting "Sugar Plum Fairy Tea" following "The Nutcracker Ballet" at 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12-13.

At the tea, the audience has the opportunity to meet and talk with members of the ballet and orchestra as well as refreshments. Tickets are \$5.

During intermission, the league will also offer gift ideas. For additional information or tickets, call the symphony office at (734) 451-2112. Tickets are also available at the following

outlets: Crystal Diamond Setters in Plymouth, Dearborn Music in Canton and Evola Music in Canton.

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**SPOTLIGHT ON Orthodontics**  
by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.  
HIGH-TECH WIRE  
In recognition of the fact that misaligned bones cause more problems in the long term than crooked teeth, many orthodontists are urging that patients be treated earlier - before the malleability of facial bones ends at puberty. Prior to this, many dental and skeletal problems were addressed by extraction or jaw surgery. Now, however, overbites (characterized by an upper jaw that protrudes over a lower one) may likely be corrected by stimulating the growth of the lower jaw with an appliance that holds the jaw forward. By the same token, a device known as a palatal expander can be employed to widen the roof of the mouth to take care of overcrowding. The keys are early diagnosis and treatment.  
As a patient, your comfort, satisfaction, and well-being are our major concerns. At THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP, 19223 Merriman, our goal is to provide the very best possible orthodontic care for our patients so that each of you may achieve optimal oral health and an ideal smile throughout your lifetime. We have a computer imaging system that helps patients visualize what the end result of orthodontic treatment may look like. To schedule a free initial consultation, call 442-8885.  
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NEW MEDICATIONS AND RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS  
Those of you with an interest in arthritis, cannot help but note the broadcast news about the new drugs coming out to treat rheumatoid arthritis. I do not want to dampen hope but must point out that the publicity comes more from Madison Avenue than the National Institute of Health.  
The facts are that in tests to date the one new drug already on pharmacy shelves, does not perform any better than methotrexate, and is five times as expensive. The new drug has shown potentially serious side effects to the liver. Most likely its use in a diverse population with wide variation in the state of individual health will uncover other toxicities.  
Another new drug is extremely expensive, costing \$400/week, must be taken by injection, and while being far better than placebo in trials to date, is still no more effective than methotrexate. This drug in small trials has not shown any serious side effects. The experience to date does not mean the drug can cause no harm, rather, the medical community must learn where to look and what to monitor when the medication comes to the market.  
I do not mean to dampen these new therapies. In time, both may prove valuable and live up to the promise of their introductions. However, for now, counter hope with caution, and allow your doctor to exercise temperance rather than risk in introducing these medications to your regimen.

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Huge sales: shoppers were shopping in the Thanksgiving spirit of the year, where retail shopping season look over Ch Place Mall. along Ann A number of s good bargai

Histo featu Chris  
The Plymouth Museum is featur holiday exhibit Abraham Lincoln the museum. Th vides a backdrop display focusing during the years when the natio War.  
Illustrator Tho ed this first of Santa Claus d War in "Harper's the nation know ited children an Thomas Nast's S many of our Christmas tradit beginning durin the Civil War.  
Dr. Weldon Pe a new program mas Traditions

Editor's no the Plymouth staff provide with their list based on t requests for t patrons. The able by placin the library 45  
FICTION  
1) A Man Wolfe  
2) When t James Patter  
3) The Va Anne Rice  
4) Bag of l King  
5) All Thru Mary Higgins

# 'Tis the season

## Early shoppers seize the day

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
tbruscato@ee.homecomm.net

If early returns are any indication, retailers in the Plymouth community will experience a strong holiday shopping season.

Many businesses are expecting double-digit increases in sales compared to last year. And that's based on figures before Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, what is generally considered the busiest shopping day of the year.

Kmart on Plymouth Road was slated to open at 6 a.m., but manager Al Boik opened the doors 15 minutes early because of the large number of early morning bargain seekers.

"Indications are we'll have a better season than last year," said Boik. "On Thanksgiving we were open and sales were up 50 percent for the day."

Outside, Karen Wludyka of Plymouth Township was filling her minivan with a variety of gifts for which she just spent \$300.

"I didn't get out until about 9 a.m., but I was up at six planning," said Wludyka, who was shopping for two families, friends and business clients. "I'll probably spend about \$1,500 this season. But, we stay away from credit cards."

Marlene Erxleben of Plymouth had a shopping cart full of goods, but not from Christmas shopping.

"I finished my shopping a few weeks ago," she said. "I start in August looking for sales."

On the other side of town, at Sheldon and Five Mile, Dan Argonis, the owner of Venture Outdoors, said they don't get the 6 a.m. rush like the major retailers, but he's happy with sales thus far this year.

"With the weather so warm we're a little bit off as far as customers," said Argonis, whose store sells cold weather gear. "However, we're already at a 15 percent increase from last November, and expect it to reach 30 percent by the end of the month. It's been a great, great year for us."

And in downtown Plymouth, most retailers were seeing good foot traffic, despite the huge sales at the malls.

"We've been busy all day, excellent,"



said Kal Jabara, owner of Wild Wings Wildlife Arts & Gifts. "We were getting Christmas shoppers in October, so we're way up from last year."

"It's going to be a great year for us," he added. "Plymouth is the most wonderful town in the world. The business climate here is just outstanding."

"Business is wonderful," agreed Mary Millington, manager of the Little Professor on the Park Bookstore. "Sales are fabulous and are up from last year."

At the Animation Station, owners Teresa and Vern Mitchell were a little more reserved, saying it will be another week before they see a big wave of shoppers.

"Next week, after they've been to the malls, people will start doing their specialty shopping," said Vern. "Our business the last two weeks has picked up."

Indications are it will be a better sales season than it was last year, which was an OK year for us."

Former Plymouth resident Chris Rose of Dearborn said she did all her shopping by catalogue, and was just browsing with her daughter, Lauren, in downtown Plymouth.

"We like to individualize our gifts ... a gift from the heart," said Rose. "In Plymouth you can find those unique type of gifts."



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

**Huge sales:** As expected from early national news reports, shoppers were out in full force Friday. The day after Thanksgiving, which is deemed the busiest shopping day of the year, was no different in the Plymouth community where retailers said they are expecting a strong holiday shopping season based on the early sales. Above, shoppers look over Christmas crafts at Bed 'n Stead in the Forest Place Mall. Above right, bargain hunters peruse sales along Ann Arbor Trail. Right, Wild Wings attracted a number of shoppers on the lookout for unique gifts and good bargains.

## Historical museum features Civil War Christmas display

The Plymouth Historical Museum is featuring a special holiday exhibit from the Petz Abraham Lincoln Collection of the museum. The collection provides a backdrop to a poignant display focusing on Christmas during the years of Lincoln's life when the nation was at Civil War.

Illustrator Thomas Nast created this first of many visions of Santa Claus during the Civil War in "Harper's Weekly" to let the nation know that Santa visited children and soldiers alike. Thomas Nast's Santa Claus and many of our other modern Christmas traditions found their beginning during the years of the Civil War.

Dr. Weldon Petz will premiere a new program titled, "Christmas Traditions from Lincoln's

Time," at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at the Plymouth Historical Museum's Annual Christmas Open House. Admission is free as a gift to the community, although donations will be accepted.

Another feature of the holiday display at the museum is the beautiful pen and ink illustrations of Lincoln and his family by Lincoln artist Lloyd Ostendorf of Dayton, Ohio. Ostendorf is a gifted artist and author, and Abraham Lincoln has been one of his favorite subjects for more than 60 years. He has written several books on Lincoln including, "Abraham Lincoln: The Boy, The Man" and "Lincoln's Photographs, A Complete Album."

"Lincoln and a Civil War Christmas" is on display through Jan. 15.

### PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY'S POPULAR PICKS

**Editor's note:** Every week the Plymouth District Library staff provides the Observer with their list of "Best Sellers" based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing a request with the library 453-0750.

- FICTION**
- 1) A Man In Full, Tom Wolfe
  - 2) When the Wind Blows, James Patterson
  - 3) The Vampire Armand, Anne Rice
  - 4) Bag of Bones, Stephen King
  - 5) All Through the Night, Mary Higgins Clark

- NONFICTION**
- 1) Tuesdays With Morrie, Mitch Albom
  - 2) For the Love of the Game, Michael Jordan
  - 3) The Ten Commandments, Laura Schlessinger
  - 4) Lindbergh, A. Scott Berg
  - 5) Pure Drival, Steve Martin

- PARENT'S CHOICE JUVENILE NONFICTION**
- 1) Flower Watching with Alice Eastwood
  - 2) The Wisdom of the Crows and Other Buddhist Tales, Sherab Chodzia
  - 3) Joseph, Brian Wildsmith
  - 4) Tracking Dinosaurs in the Gobi, Margery Facklam
  - 5) The Songs My Paddle Sings, James Riodam

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## Sponsors needed for trees

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce sixth annual Walk of Trees is slated to begin Dec. 6 in Kellogg Park, and there are still opportunities for sponsorship of trees.

"We still have several of the 50 trees available for groups, businesses or individuals to sponsor and decorate," said Fran Toney, executive director of the chamber.

Anyone interested in sponsoring a tree for \$50 can call Toney at 453-1540.

The trees are slated to be delivered Monday, with city workers to put them up in Kellogg Park Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday, high school students will help put 200 strings of lights on the trees.

"It's a lot of fun for the kids, and helps them with their community service hours needed to pass the class," said Bill Gretzinger, Close-Up teacher. "It also gives the students a chance to interact with adults and learn from them."

Sponsors of the trees will have an opportunity to decorate them next Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

**■ Sponsors of the trees will have an opportunity to decorate them next Friday, Saturday and Sunday.**

"My class will be decorating a tree with plates, plastic silverware, and items relating to food," said Karen Nelson, second-grade teacher at Bird Elementary in Plymouth Township. "The class talked about a theme dealing with doing for others. It will remind people there are people going hungry."

Nelson said the tree was donated by Box Bar owner Chip Falcusan.

Pam Stratton of Plymouth Township is sponsoring a tree for All Saints School in Canton Township.

"I did it when my kids went to Smith Elementary, and I want to give the kids at All Saints the same opportunity," she said. "I would like it to become a tradition for the school."

After all the trees are decorated, a Candlelight Family Christmas Carol Sing-Along is scheduled for 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, in Kellogg Park. Participants are asked to bring a canned good for the Salvation Army.

## Trees from page A1

Merchants and landlords chipped in \$250 apiece to pay for the city-related costs. Toney said that with the \$50 cost for sponsoring a tree, the event should be close to break even for the chamber.

"It's essential we have tradition," echoed Scott Smith of Pennington Gallery. "This is a great family event, and the children enjoy it. It also improves the appearance of Plymouth during Christmas time."

Toney said she hopes the city will change its mind and pay the costs for next year's Walk of Trees. However, city commissioners took notice it didn't take much effort for merchants to raise the money.

Plymouth City Manager Steve Walters said the special events policy adopted a few years ago provides \$400 of in-kind services from the city. However, for many events the city had been picking up the costs of municipal services, such as set-up and trash pickup.

"From time to time we have to step back as it becomes too large

a burden on our budget," said Walters. "We have to weed out paying for some events which are not as justified."

Downtown Plymouth has 130 downtown events a year, he said. And, one of those events the city is weaning itself from is Plymouth's Great Lakes Regional Chili Cookoff.

Annette Horn, of Native West, said her cost for the chili cookoff has risen so high in the three years of the event that she's considering moving it.

"The first year the city picked up the entire \$1,400 cost," said Horn. "The next year they paid \$1,900 of the total \$3,100 cost. And for this year, the city gave me the \$400 in-kind donation, but my cost is over \$5,000."

"If I'm running an event in Plymouth, I should pay for some costs," said Horn. "But, I'm also promoting Plymouth and giving it exposure."

Horn said any money she makes goes to charity, and the donations have fallen dramatically.

"The first year I gave over

\$4,000 to the Michigan Make-A-Wish Foundation," said Horn. "Last year the event raised \$14,000 for Make-A-Wish. However, this year I was only able to give \$2,000 each to Make-A-Wish and the Plymouth Salvation Army because my costs were so high."

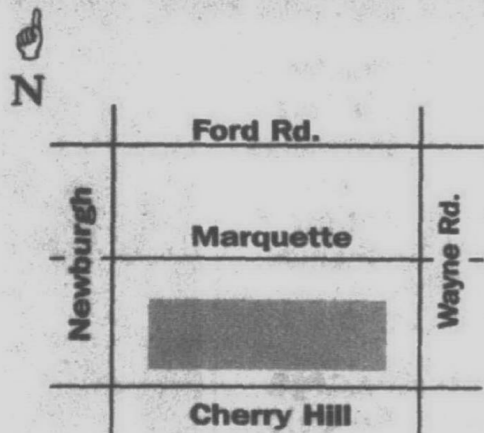
Walters has a somewhat different view.

"The basic question is does it make sense for the city to give support for charity fund-raising?" he said. "The city then becomes contributors to the net proceeds for that charity."

Horn said she still believes Kellogg Park is the place for her event, which has gone from a local cookoff to a regional contest that draws nearly 10,000 people from all over. However, the increasing costs may force her to move the event.

"I need to think of options, which include other communities," said Horn. "I'd like to talk to the city and see what we can do. Maybe they need to look at what events generate benefits to the city and enhance its image."

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## Seniors

BY KEN ABRAMCZ  
STAFF WRITER  
kabramczyk@oe.ho

Want to brighten day season or even for someone?

Then you can assist Wayne County Wheels program.

The county's program for senior drivers, kitchen people to package distributic a to seniors. olun

Collectible

# Senior citizen meal program needs local volunteers

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER  
kabranczyk@oe.homecomm.net

Want to brighten up the holiday season or even the new year for someone?

Then you can volunteer to assist Wayne County's Meals on Wheels program.

The county's nutrition program for senior citizens needs drivers, kitchen workers and people to package the meals for distribution to Wayne County seniors. Volunteers also are

needed to drive and deliver liquid nutrition to cancer victims or seniors who can only ingest liquids.

"We're always in need of volunteers," said Pam Dobrowolski, deputy director of the Wayne County senior nutrition program. The program has 43 distribution sites throughout western and southwestern Wayne County, including Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford Township and Westland. It is administered from the

## COUNTY NEWS

Kay Beard Building on Michigan Avenue in Westland.

Generally volunteers are needed between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. to gather at the distribution sites. "For drivers we generally need them for two hours," Dobrowolski said. "People who work in the kitchen generally are needed a little longer."

But the program can use volunteers even if they only have

an hour or one day a week to spare. Of course, people can volunteer up to the five days a week or four hours a day if they wish.

"It's good for retirees or mothers with kids in school," Dobrowolski said. Anyone who works nights who has spare time during the late morning hours also can volunteer.

Drivers also receive reimbursement for mileage and will drive from the distribution points to the seniors.

The program always needs vol-

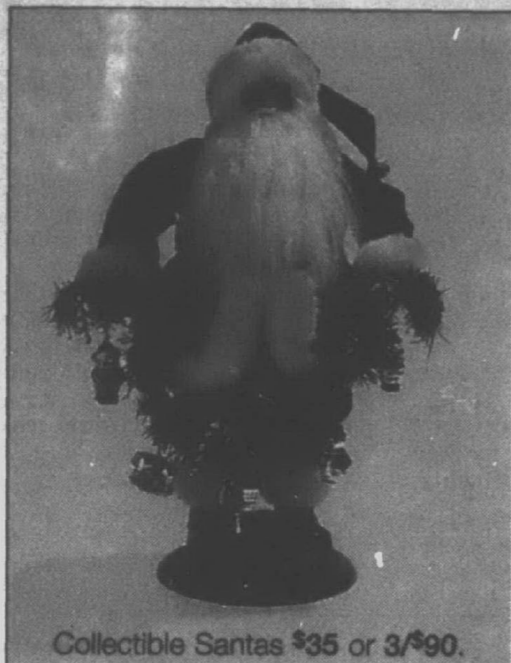
unteers at the sites, but there is a particular shortage at Wayne and Westland sites. Dobrowolski said some seniors are on a waiting list for meals, which will be delivered once a volunteer is available.

Volunteers also will be needed in Redford once a food distribution site opens as expected in St. James Presbyterian Church on Six Mile.

Senior luncheon centers are housed at the following sites: Canton Recreation Center, Sum-

mit-on-the-Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton; Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City; Tonquish Creek, 1160 Sheridan, Plymouth; and Redford Township Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford. In Livonia, meals are available at Shelden Park Senior Center, 10800 Farmington; McNamara Towers, Building II, 19300 Purlingbrook; Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington; and Brashear Tow-

Please see MEAL, A7



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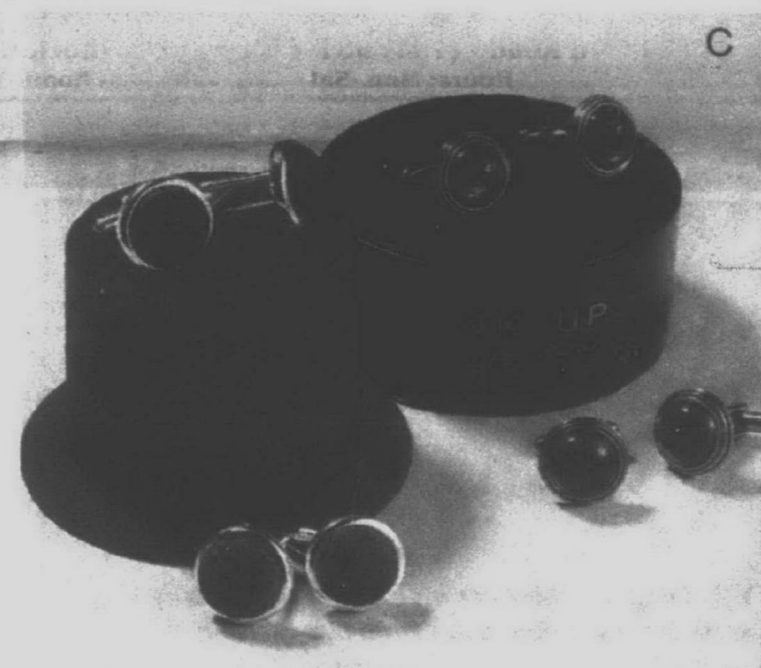
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# Student from page A1

Results from the test will take one to three weeks, Raycraft said. Meanwhile, the accident remains under investigation.

"Nothing will happen as far as charges until the report comes back," he added.

Both Morante and the driver had been at Bailey's Pub, which is located about a mile away from the accident scene at Ford Road and Canton Center. Raycraft said they were not together, however.

Further details about the accident are sketchy. But Raycraft did say that the man tried to avoid Morante before hitting her.

She was struck by the driver's side front fender, he added. It's unknown whether he was speeding, Raycraft said.

Morante was dead at the scene. The Northville man, who was alone in the vehicle, was uninjured.

Morante was a 1995 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School.

"She was a good student," said Kenely. "She was so full of energy."

Away from her studies, Tiffany liked to spend time outdoors.

"She loved to go up North and swim and ski," her mother said.

It was the second fatal crash in Canton involving a pedestrian during the last 10 days. A total of four pedestri-

ans or bicyclists have been killed in the township this year.

Diane Alff was killed on Sheldon Road south of Joy Nov. 17 while out walking her dog. That case is still under investigation.

Ronald Cowan was killed in a hit-and-run crash Jan. 4 while riding his bike on Michigan Avenue near Beck. Police are still seeking information about the driver in that case.

Leona Ilardi was killed Feb. 4 while crossing the street on Lilley north of Cherry Hill.

In addition to her mother, Morante is survived by her stepfather, John Kenely of Plymouth; brothers John C. Kenely of Roseville, Donald O. (Kristen) Kenely of Farmington and Kitt M. Kenely of Pleasant Ridge; sisters Kelly and Kerri Morante of Plymouth; nieces Jessica and Molly Kenely; grandfather, Walter Morante of Birmingham; and grandmother, Evelyn Caldwell of Largo, Fla.

She was preceded in death by her father, Vincent A. Morante.

Funeral services are 1:30 p.m. Monday at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton. Burial is in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

Memorials may be made to Mothers Against Drunk Driving in care of Vermeulen Trust 100 Funeral Home in Plymouth.

# Ford from page A1

How, the last appointment at that location will be 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 4.

HFHS is replacing the existing 3,600-square-foot building in Plymouth to keep up with the demands in the community, said Denise Robinson, administrative manager of Henry Ford Medical Center in Plymouth. "We've had a tremendous need this building hasn't allowed us to meet. The new building should allow for the growth of the community."

The new Canton location will replace the current 6,000-square-foot building.

"We are hoping to expand services, and we will have more exam rooms to increase access and expedite appointments," said Diane Pawlica, manager of Henry Ford Center in Canton.

Both medical centers will offer internal medicine, family practice, pediatrics, urgent care, X-ray and lab services and a full service pharmacy.

The Plymouth facility will have obstetric and gynecological facilities, The Canton location will offer dermatological services.

"We designed this so it would be patient and staff friendly,"

**The hours for the Plymouth facility are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday; and 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday for regularly scheduled appointments. The urgent care hours are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.**

Robinson said. "The waiting rooms will be more comfortable. We put sofas in it if a mom wants to lay her child on her lap."

Another perk for children visiting the Plymouth facility will be trains.

"There are windows in the waiting room facing the tracks. We figured three trains go by an hour. Kids love it," Robinson said.

Also, Robinson said, there will be a business section in the wait-



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

**New opening: Henry Ford Health System will open its 21,000-square-foot facility at Beck and M-14 on Dec. 7. The existing Main Street facility will stay open as a hospice center.**

ing rooms at both facilities where people can plug in their laptop computers while they wait.

In addition, the builders put in plenty of windows and sky lights for natural lighting.

The hours for the Plymouth facility are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday; and 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday for regularly scheduled appointments.

The urgent care hours are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

The hours of the Canton facility are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday the medical center will offer urgent care.

# Mail from page A1

year, 200 million holiday letters, post cards and packages are expected to travel overseas nationally.

Deadlines are in effect for surface deliveries to international destinations, including military addresses with APO or FPO designations. Customers should check those deadlines and customs regulations with the post office. Surface rates are cheapest and cover ship and vehicle travel, while "express" air rates are higher. All overseas postcards and letters travel by air.

Procrastinators, for an additional charge, can send items abroad within a few days of holidays.

For those packages going to domestic places, Priority Mail typically takes two-three days. Quicker options are available for an additional charge. The Postal Service will deliver packages on Christmas Day.

The busiest mail day is expected to be Monday, Dec. 14, with an estimated 280 million cards and letters nationwide canceled.

Heavy business also is expected on Monday, Dec. 21. Customers wary of long lines might consider rescheduling their post office trips to other days.

Busy holiday mailers can use the Postal Service delivery service on stamps by calling (800) STAMP-24. New holiday stamp designs this year include a wreath, Madonna and child and a new 40-cent charity stamp with a pink ribbon design. The additional 8 cents goes toward breast cancer research. This is the first time the Postal Service has offered a charity stamp.

### Competition

Competition from other shipping companies hasn't hurt the U.S. Postal Service but has prompted them to make some changes, officials say. These changes include keeping some branches open 24 hours, making new branches like Canton's more like stores and putting more advertisements on television and radio.

This year the slogan is "Fly Like an Eagle" and uses the Steve Miller song. Plans are also in the works to merge with 500 "Mail Boxes Etc." stores. At Mailboxes, which has stores in Livonia, Canton and Farmington, customers can send packages, buy packaging supplies, use mailboxes and make photocopies, among other things. Some branches have 24-hour-accessible mailboxes.

For people not on regular clocks, there are some area post offices open 24 hours. They are at:

- 12245 Beech Daly in Redford Township
- 1404 W. Fort Street in downtown Detroit

The air mail center in Detroit Metropolitan Airport (which is in a building separate from the passenger terminals).

Most post offices will have extended holiday hours. Customers should call their local branches to see when they're open.

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NEWSLETTER PRINTING/PROCESSING

The Charter Township of Plymouth is currently accepting bids for the printing and processing of quarterly newsletters for a Two (2) year period commencing January 1, 1999. Request for Proposals may be obtained at the Office of the Clerk, 42350 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Sealed bids can be delivered to the Office of the Clerk by December 4, 1998 no later than 3:00 p.m.

Published: November 29 and December 4, 1998

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# Audit not re

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER  
kabrancyk@doc.com

Is Wayne County year 2000?

It isn't, according to presented Nov. 17 County Commission General Brendan D.

Wayne County, mental entities and nesses "face the that many of its tems may not open or at all," Dunleavy

"If computer sy function properly, per tax collection, payments and even risk of vehicle acc malfunctioning tr county roads."

As of August, W had spent \$2 mill activities.

The problem st way computers information. Mal systems were desig digit codes for whi be interpreted as 1

"Consequently, will be interprete "00" or 1900 by th the report stated the problem, softw for date-driven ad

# Meal

ers, 17841 N. La Westland, lunches at the Friendship N. Newburgh; Kay ing, 30721 Mich Our Savior, 3666 and the old Whit

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# Audit says county computers not ready for Y2K date change

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER  
kabranczyk@oa.honoluluanet

## ■ COUNTY NEWS

Is Wayne County ready for the year 2000?

It isn't, according to an audit presented Nov. 17 to the Wayne County Commission by Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy.

Wayne County, other governmental entities and private businesses "face the real possibility that many of its computer systems may not operate properly or at all," Dunleavy reported.

"If computer systems do not function properly, it could hamper tax collection, delay pension payments and even increase the risk of vehicle accidents due to malfunctioning traffic lights on county roads."

As of August, Wayne County had spent \$2 million on "Y2K" activities.

The problem stems from the way computers process date information. Many computer systems were designed with two-digit codes for which "97" would be interpreted as 1997.

"Consequently, the year 2000 will be interpreted as the year '00' or 1900 by the computer," the report stated. "To address the problem, software programs for date-driven activities must

be reviewed and corrected where necessary or replaced."

While the county's plan includes the major phases described in the Assessment Guide prepared by the U.S. General Accounting Office, the lack of deadlines for completion of these activities "make it difficult to assess how much progress the county has made to date."

The county has an aggressive schedule, Dunleavy added, but it is about a year behind schedule. County officials have outlined a schedule calling for testing on all systems and operations by June 1999, but to meet that deadline, a series of tests on individual systems and operations must occur, the report stated.

"This does not mean that the county will not meet the Year 2000 deadline. However, it does indicate a risk that the county may not be able to correct all mission-critical information systems by the deadline."

Any delay in "critical" areas, such as department inventories, could delay the county in contracting to correct or replace systems. "Because of the significant

demand for these services, each day that passes will undoubtedly lead to higher costs."

Carol Steffani, director of information processing for Wayne County, said the Department of Information Processing concurred with Dunleavy's report. Steffani said inventories and assessment phases have "no endpoints."

"New equipment and applications obtained during the next 16 months must be added to the inventory to ensure that any interfaces or system dependencies associated with implementation are Y2K ready," Steffani said.

Wayne County expected to conduct information sessions with employees and work to identify other ways to inform employees, through newsletter or flyers.

Dunleavy suggested commissioners may wish to consider requiring that the county's Information Processing and Y2K Project Office provide monthly updates, including how and what systems are prioritized and updated cost information. Commissioners also may want to pass an ordinance requiring all vendors be "Year 2000" compliant.

## Meal from page A5

ers, 17841 N. Laurel Park. In Westland, lunches are available at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh; Kay Beard Building, 30721 Michigan; Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill; and the old Whittier building,

28500 Ann Arbor Trail. For more information on volunteering, call (734) 727-7353.

lunch program, but they must sign up first. Donations of \$1.50 are encouraged.

For more information on the program itself, call (800) 854-1454.

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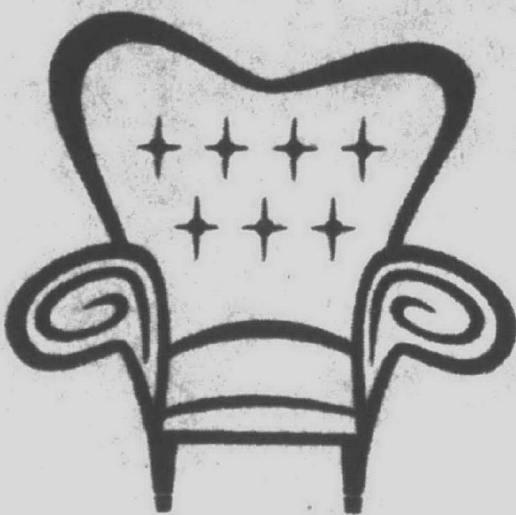
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## Angela Hospice fund-raiser



Collectibles: Ashton Drake porcelain dolls will be included in the items for sale at the second annual Angela Hospice Cookie-Craft Walk 9 a.m. until everything's sold out on Saturday, Dec. 5, in the Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newburgh, between Schoolcraft and Five Mile in Livonia. The dolls were donated to Angela Hospice by Georgia's Gift Gallery in downtown Plymouth in honor of a family member who was cared for by hospice. Cookies will be \$7 per pound. Craft items include angels, wreaths and ornaments. Proceeds from the cookie-craft sale will benefit the Angela Hospice Good Samaritan program which enables patients without financial means and their families to receive care from Angela Hospice. For more information, call 464-7810.

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COMFORT FOOD



KEELY WYGONIK

## Families share 'A Slice of Life' to help children

Imagine what it feels like to be 6 years old, and always get tagged because you run slower than everyone else in your class. Or to not be able to carry your school books because it's too painful.

Having juvenile rheumatoid arthritis is like "taking the will and spirit of a child and imprisoning it in the body of someone who is 60 or 70 years old," said Wendy Nicholls of Sterling Heights, who with Lori Lipshaw of West Bloomfield wrote "Slice of Life," a cookbook to benefit children with arthritis.

"They're little kids - children cannot retire from school or life, no matter what. There is no escape." Children who suffer from juvenile rheumatoid arthritis are often in pain, but it's not visible and not understood that children can get arthritis too. Lipshaw's 6-1/2-year-old son, Eric, suffers from the disease, as does Nicholls' 11-year-old daughter, Leah. Both children were diagnosed at age 3, and are the motivation for this project.

EVENTS

■ "Slice of Life" book signing, 7:30 p.m. Borders Books, 30995 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, with Chef Keith Supian from the Van Dyke Place restaurant in Detroit.

■ Arthritis Foundation 5K Jingle Bell Run - 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 6 at Burns Park School, Ann Arbor and The Community House, downtown Birmingham. Entry fee \$25 per person, registration 8 a.m. to just before the race. Call (800) 968-3030 for information. "Slice of Life" will be offered for sale at both runs.

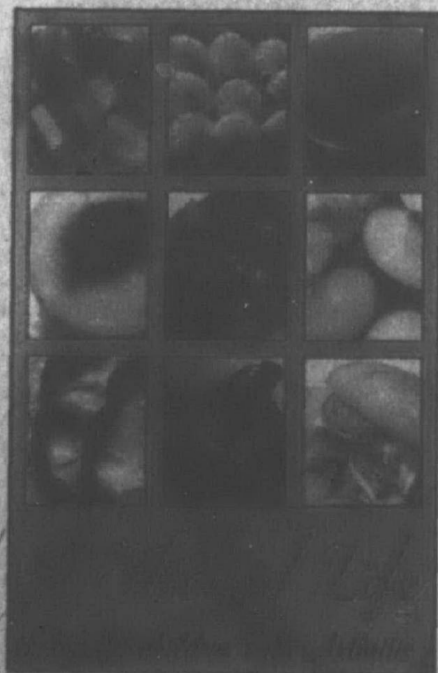
Moms go to work

The moms wanted to do something to help their children, and other children like them. All proceeds from "Slice of Life," which sells for \$12.95, will be used to benefit the quality of life for these children through family support groups, weekend family camp, and assisting families who wish to attend regional and national conferences.

Lipshaw and Nicholls also want to increase awareness of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, a disease that affects 250,000 children in the United States.

"What Leah goes through is devastating," said Nicholls. "She accepts pain every day. The disease can really

Please see SLICE, B2



Book cover

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Taste next week:

- Focus on Wine
- Living Better Sensibly



## CREATE A FESTIVE MOOD FOR THE HOLIDAYS

BY ELEANOR HEALD  
SPECIAL WRITER

Pomegranates come just once a year - in time to add holiday cheer!

Need some festive new ideas to brighten your holiday cooking? Both pomegranate seeds and juice make tasty, colorful additions to many preparations.

"Pomegranates are in peak season and this year, due to weather conditions, have deeper-colored red seeds with above normal sugar levels," said Kosai Elsamawi, produce manager for Vic's Quality Fruit Market in Beverly Hills.

Joe Azar, produce manager for Nino Salvaggio in Troy, noted that "the best way to choose a good pomegranate is by color. It should be deep red, feel firm to the touch and have no bruises. When a pomegranate begins to turn yellow, it's over-ripe."

Pomegranate derives from the French *pomme garnette* or "seeded apple" and is sometimes called a Chinese apple. It originated in tropical Asia, but has been cultivated throughout the Mediterranean and Middle East. Over 200 years ago, the Spanish mission fathers brought the fruit to California, the principal source of pomegranates sold in the U.S. market.

A translucent scarlet pulp surrounds 800 arils (seeds), compartmentalized between shiny, tough membranes. Pure pomegranate pleasure comes from the seeds. Removing seeds and releasing juice are simple techniques. While working with pomegranates, wear an apron to protect clothing from juice stains.

Removing seeds

Cut the crown end of a pomegranate, removing with it some of the white pith, taking care not to pierce seeds within. Lightly score skin in quarters, from stem to crown. Following score lines, firmly, yet gently, break sections apart. Bend skin back and gently scoop seed clusters into a bowl. Remove any pith.

Refrigerate seeds up to three days or freeze on trays in single layers; then pack in airtight containers to freeze for up to 6 months.

Releasing juice

To obtain 1 cup of juice, place 1-1/2 to 2 cups of



POMEGRANATE COUNCIL

Festive treat: Pomegranate juice adds fresh sweet-tart flavors and delicate color to sumptuous Pomegranate Parfait.

seeds in a blender. Blend until liquefied. Pour through a cheesecloth-lined strainer or sieve.

Pomegranate juice, which can be refrigerated for up to 3 days, lends special qualities to seasonal preparations. It can be frozen for up to 6 months to add unique properties to recipes, from beverages to desserts, throughout the winter months.

Fill one-cup airtight containers with juice, allowing some room for expansion as the liquid freezes. Seal and freeze at zero degrees or below. To have available smaller amounts of juice, freeze cubes in an ice tray and store in resealable plastic bags.

Pomegranate juice gives flavor and color to a variety of preparations. It can be made into jelly

or used in marinades, salad dressings, cake, homemade ice cream or sorbet. If you enjoy Chicken Dijon, freshen up flavors with pomegranates. Make a pomegranate margarita or pomegranate pink lemonade.

Homemade grenadine (pomegranate syrup) adds distinctive flavor and festive holiday color to drinks, fruit mixtures, sauces and desserts.

For a festive aperitif, add 1 or 2 tablespoons of homemade grenadine to sparkling wine. Drop a few fresh or frozen pomegranate seeds into each glass before serving.

See recipes inside.

## Chubby baby bear breads fun to make and give

Few things express the spirit of the holiday season better than a homemade gift, and what better way to directly involve children in the gift-giving process than to help them bake a homemade treat? While baking something special for grandma and grandpa, a favorite teacher or scout leader, they'll also be creating long-remembered holiday traditions.

Baby Bear Breads with Honey butter are as fun to make as they are to receive and eat. It's a recipe the entire family can lend a hand with. Older children can measure the quick or old-fashioned oats and other ingredients and put them in the correct order into the bread machine.

If the bread is prepared by hand, younger bakers can help stir together the ingredients. Then everyone, no matter what their age, can help knead the dough and roll it into the balls used to create the adorable chubby bears.

One taste of these whole grain breads and you'll appreciate that this recipe makes four bears - three bears to give away and one to enjoy at-home. After cooling, give each baby bear gift a festive ribbon "tie," and wrap individually in clear cellophane or plastic wrap. For an extra-special touch, present the bread on a cutting board with a spreader or small knife and a little crock of honey butter.

When time is limited, or your child

has a lengthy list of special people, bake several batches of Maple-Nut Granola. Each takes just minutes to assemble, then requires just 30 minutes in the oven. Again, young and old can help measure ingredients and stir everything together.

People on your gift list will enjoy the granola as a breakfast cereal, a delicious, nutritious snack or sprinkled over frozen yogurt for dessert.

For gift giving, pour the granola into a clear glass container with a tight-fitting lid. Or spoon into cellophane bags that can be closed with a twist tie or ribbon. And don't forget, a copy of the recipe is a nice touch.

BABY BEAR BREADS WITH HONEY BUTTER

- 3 teaspoons quick-rising yeast
- 2 cups bread flour
- 1 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup oats (quick or old-fashioned, uncooked)
- 1/3 cup sunflower seed kernels (optional)
- 1/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups low-fat milk
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 5 tablespoons stick butter or margarine, melted
- Raisins and chopped dried fruits

Honey butter (recipe follows)

Bring all ingredients to room temperature by letting them stand on the counter about 30 minutes.

Place yeast in bread machine according to directions in manual. In medium bowl, combine both flours, oats, sunflower seeds, brown sugar, cinnamon and salt. In separate bowl, combine milk, egg and butter.

Place dry and liquid ingredients in bread machine according to manual. Use machine's dough setting to mix and knead. (Bread will not bake in machine).

Lightly grease 2 cookie sheets. Turn dough out of bread machine onto lightly floured surface. Knead 6 to 8 times.

To make bears, roll pieces of dough into four 2-1/2-inch balls for bodies, four 1-1/2-inch balls for heads, sixteen 1-inch balls for hands and feet and eight 3/4-inch balls for ears.

On cookie sheets, gently place balls together to form 2 bears on each sheet. Use raisins to make eyes, nose and other decorations. Cover; let rise in warm place 15 to 20 minutes or until nearly double in size.

Heat oven to 375°F. Bake bear breads 12 to 15 minutes or until light golden brown. Carefully remove bears from cook-

Please see BEAR, B2



QUAKER OATS

Tasty gift: Baby Bear Breads with Honey Butter are as fun to make as they are to receive. These chubby bears are a fun family baking project.



# 'A Slice of Life' helps cooks and kids alike

See related story on Taste front.

Lori Lipshaw and Wendy Nicholls are members of the American Juvenile Arthritis Organization, a council of the Arthritis Foundation.

Here are some recipes from "A Slice of Life" a cookbook they compiled to benefit children with arthritis.

### FISHING WITH PRETZEL RODS

- 1 package pretzel rods
  - Peanut butter or frosting
  - Goldfish crackers
  - Blue plastic plates with rims
- Scatter goldfish on plastic plates. Dip end of pretzel rod in peanut butter or frosting. Now your fishing rod has bait and you are ready to go fishing.

**Sensory motor aspects of development addressed:** Tactile play, eye-hand coordination.

### DIRT CUPS

- 2 cups cold milk
- 1 package instant chocolate pudding
- 18 ounce container Cool Whip
- 1 (16 ounce) package chocolate sandwich cookies, crushed
- Gummy worms, and/or flowers
- 8 (10 ounce) plastic cups

Prepare pudding. Let stand 5 minutes. Stir in Cool Whip and 1/2 of the crushed cookies. Place approximately 1 tablespoon of crushed cookies in bottom of cups. Fill cups 3/4 full with pudding mixture. Top with remaining cookies. Refrigerate and decorate when chilled by "planting" some worms or flowers.

**Variation:** Sand Cups - Use vanilla pudding and vanilla wafers.

**Time saver:** Ready to eat pudding can be used as a quick alternative to instant pudding.

**Sensory motor aspects of development addressed:** Tactile play, eye-hand coordination, fine motor skills, sequencing and planning skills.

Top two recipes from The Abilities Center, Inc., West Bloomfield

### KUGEL LIKE A CAKE

- 1 1/2 sticks butter or margarine
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup halved pecans or cashews
- 1 pound wide egg noodles
- 4 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons salt

Halve butter and melt. Put in bottom and up sides of Bundt or tube pan. Press brown sugar into bottom; press nuts into sugar. Cook noodles and drain.

Mix eggs, remaining melted butter, cinnamon, sugar and salt and pour into pan. Bake in preheated 350°F oven for 1 hour and 15 minutes or until top is brown. Let it sit for 15 minutes before unmolding.

Recipe compliments of Donna Hurshe

### APPLE CAKE

- 4 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 cup oil
- 1/2 cup water
- 3 cups flour
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- Pinch of salt
- 5 to 6 apples, cut into quarters

### CINNAMON/SUGAR MIXTURE

- 3/4 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon

Peel and slice apples and mix with cinnamon and sugar mixture. Set aside.

Blend all other ingredients together. Grease a 9 by 13-inch pan. Pour half of batter into pan. Cover with apples, then pour rest of batter on top.

Combine sugar and cinnamon to make Cinnamon/Sugar Mixture and place in a jar.

Sprinkle top of cake with Cinnamon/Sugar mixture. Bake at 350°F

for 45-50 minutes. Recipe compliments of Trudy Shapiro

### SESAME CHICKEN STRIPS

- 3 whole skinless, boneless chicken breasts
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 teaspoons celery salt
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1/3 cup sesame seeds
- 1/4 cup margarine

Grease a 15 by 10-inch jelly roll pan. Cut chicken crosswise into 1/2-inch strips. In large bowl, combine sour cream, lemon juice, celery salt, Worcestershire sauce, salt, pepper and garlic; mix well. Add chicken to sour cream mixture; coat chicken well. Cover and refrigerate at least 8 hours or overnight.

Combine bread crumbs and sesame seed. Remove chicken strips from mixture; roll in crumb mixture. Arrange in single layer in pan. Spoon margarine over chicken strips. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes at 350°F. Makes about 55 appetizers. Serve with Mustard Sauce, recipe follows.

### MUSTARD SAUCE

- 1/4 cup dry mustard
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 1 egg, slightly beaten
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise

In small saucepan, combine mustard, sugar and salt; add vinegar and egg. Blend well. Cook over low heat 2 to 3 minutes or until thickened, stirring constantly. Refrigerate 10 to 15 minutes; stir in mayonnaise. Store in refrigerator. Makes 3/4 cup.

Recipe compliments of Wendy Nicholls.



Super leftovers: When you're hungry for something besides sandwiches, try Turkey Stew.

## Leftovers? Make turkey stew

BY DANA JACOBI SPECIAL WRITER

For many of us, leftovers are the best part of Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner. As a longtime turkey lover, I always plan for a bird large enough to satisfy post-feast nibbling and still leave enough meat to use later for making some hash, a stir fry, shepherd's pie, turkey-studded Waldorf salad, zingy fajitas, enchilada pie, an aromatic curry, old-fashioned croquettes, or creamy turkey Tetrazzini.

This year, I plan on making a colorful stew. It will contain sweet potatoes, carrots, cranberries for tart counterpoint, an apple, and be perfumed with thyme. If unexpected guests show up the day I serve it, adding some of the turkey stock I make from the carcass will turn this stew serving four into a soup for at least six.

When dealing with leftovers, you must treat them properly. Be sure to wrap and refrigerate leftover turkey within 2 hours of serving it. To accomplish this, after the turkey platter has circulated for third helpings, I package what is left in plastic wrap or in self-sealing plastic bags. While everyone pauses

before dessert is served, I remove all the meat remaining from the carcass and refrigerate that, too.

If you want planned leftovers, as a guide, figure that one pound of turkey produces three cups of diced meat. This furnishes four to six servings, depending on how you use it. If you are as fond of turkey as I am, you may elect to buy a bird with twice the amount of meat you think is needed on Thanksgiving or Christmas. As I see it, this requires no more work than what is already required for feast day, and it saves you time in preparing future meals.

- and cut in 1-inch pieces
- 1 medium sweet potato or yam, peeled and cut in 3/4-inch half-moons
- 3 cups diced cooked turkey
- 1/2 cup fresh, frozen, or dried cranberries
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

Preheat the oven to 375 F. In a small Dutch oven, heat the oil over medium-high heat. Sauté the onion until it softens, about 4 minutes. Add the carrot, celery, and rutabaga.

Cover tightly and cook over medium-low heat 10 minutes.

Add the stock and bay leaf. Cover, and bake the stew for 10 minutes. Add the apple and sweet potato, turkey, cranberries, and thyme. Cover and bake until the vegetables are done and the turkey is heated through, 15-20 minutes.

Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve with cooked noodles or rice.

Written for the American Institute for Cancer Research by Dana Jacobi, author of The Best of Claypot Cooking and The Natural Kitchen: Soy!

### TURKEY STEW

- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 large carrot, cut crosswise in 3/4-inch slices
- 1 rib celery, cut crosswise in 3/4-inch slices
- 1 small rutabaga, cut in 1-inch pieces
- 1 cups hot chicken or turkey stock
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 Crispin apple, peeled, cored

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# Music files on Internet stir controversy



MIKE WENDLAND

A major controversy is raging on the Internet over a new technology that allows near CD-quality music to be downloaded and played over the Internet quickly and easily.

Critics say it encourages music piracy.

The growing legions of boosters of this technology say it's all about the freedom of cyberspace. They call it MP3, which stands for Moving Pictures Expert Group, Level (or version) 3. Geek-speak aside, it's simply a very efficient way of compressing files so they can be easily downloaded and played over the Internet without losing quality.

Essentially, MP3 reduces audio signals to one-twelfth their original size by cutting out portions that are inaudible to most human ears.

That means quick-downloading files that sound almost as good as CDs. Indeed, there are some audio commentators who think the MP3 technology is the beginning of the end for CDs — and the companies that prerecord and sell them.

To use MP3 you need a player. The most popular for the PC is Winamp. For the Mac, an application called Soundapp.

You can get them both for free from shareware sites like download.com (www.download.com).

Once you have your player, go to places like MP3.com (www.mp3.com) to download free music. They explain all about MP3 files.

### Determining what's legal

Much of it is perfectly legal. A lot of independent bands from all over the world freely make their music available over the Net. And commercial sets online sell music in MP3 form, again, perfectly legal.

But there are also a lot of other places online that illegally bootleg copyrighted music. And that's against the law.

In fact, the Recording Industry Association of America has been busy in recent months snooping cyberspace, filing suits and shutting down many of the pirate sites.

There's another thing about MP3 that scares the recording industry.

Besides allowing users to download files, MP3 can also record music.

Shareware products legally and widely available on the Internet allow users to make their own MP3's from CDs in their computer's CD-ROM drive, and then post these files on the Net for anybody to grab. Because this is the same as bootlegging cassette recordings and the artists get no profit when their

music is ripped off like this, the recording industry types see MP3 as a huge threat.

### Technological squabble

The controversy promises to grow hotter as more sounds are put online. But now special MP3 players are available, like the Rio, a Walkman-like device from Diamond Multimedia that interfaces with your PC and stores MP3 files for playback.

The Recording Industry Association of America even took Diamond to court in hopes of winning an injunction that would have prohibited the company from marketing the Rio. The trade group claimed devices like the Rio encourage piracy.

But the court didn't buy the argument. So many MP3 sounds are on the Net, the California federal judge ruled, that stopping the company from marketing such a device was akin to locking the proverbial barn door after the horse escaped.

Here's a list of Internet resources where you can learn more about MP3:

CNET (www.cnet.com) - Do a keyword search on "MP3" and you'll be presented with informative articles about MP3 and links to the sites offering free players and accessories.

SUGARMEGS (www.sugarmegs.org) - If you're into music, this site is the place to go. It bills itself as "An ecosystem of audio streams irrigating the ears

of the net." Check it out and you'll be presented with very diverse music choices.

MP3 MUSIC WEBRING (www.webring.org/cgi-bin/webring?ring=mp3&list) - You can click from site to site here. More than 250 sites with MP3 music can be accessed here.

WORLDWIDE BANDS (www.worldwidebands.com/) - Search music by genre. It's all here and all downloadable.

New PC Mike addition: Have you been to my webpage lately? I've added a RealAudio daily update. Check it out at www.pcmike.com

High Tech Holiday Seminar: My next PC Mike seminar is this coming Saturday, December 5, from 10 a.m. to noon at Lawrence Technological Institute, 21000 West Ten Mile in Southfield. We'll demo the latest high tech gifts and gadgets, both hardware and software. You need to reserve a spot to attend. You can do that by calling (248) 423-2721.

Hope to see you there.

Mike Wendland covers the Internet for NBC-TV Newschannel stations across the country. His "PC Talk" radio show airs Saturday and Sunday afternoons on Detroit's WXYT-Radio AM1270. He is the author of a series of Internet books. You can reach him through his Web site at <http://www.pcmike.com>

## BUSINESS CALENDAR

Items for the Business Calendar are welcome from the Observer-area to announce upcoming events, seminars and programs of a business nature. Items should be sent to: Business Calendar, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150; e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net or fax (734) 591-7279.

### FRI, DEC. 11, 18

**BUSINESS NETWORK INT'L**  
BNI, regular meeting, 7-8:30 a.m. Laurel Park Chapter, Richards Restaurant, Plymouth Road and Newburgh. Call (734) 397-9939.

### TUE, DEC. 8

**MISEA DINNER MEETING**  
The Michigan Society of Enrolled Agents (MISEA) is holding a dinner meeting Dec. 8. The topic will be "Retirement Plans" SETP, Simple & 401 K, with Jim Smith of Merrill Lynch. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. at Laurel Park Place, 17100 North Laurel Place in Livonia. For reservations, call (734) 261-8800.

### WED, DEC. 2, 9, 16

**BUSINESS NETWORK INT'L**  
BNI, regular meeting, 7-8:30 a.m. Laurel Park Chapter, Richards Restaurant, Plymouth Road and Newburgh. Call (734) 397-9939.

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## BUSINESS MARKETPLACE

Business Marketplace items are welcome regarding mergers, changes, initiatives or announcements from companies in the Observer-area business community. Items should be sent to: Business Marketplace, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150; e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net or fax (734) 591-7279.

### Padgett teams up

Padgett Business Services of Livonia, an international provider of financial reporting services, has been selected as the recommended accounting partner of McBee, one of North America's major suppliers of business checkbooks, computer

checks & forms, invoices and more.

### Carlite integrated

Visteon Automotive Systems of Livonia is gearing up for the aftermarket by folding its nearly \$200 million replacement glass business, Carlite Strategic Business Unit (SBU) into its Global Aftermarket Operations.

### New laser system

The TRUMPF Laser Technology Center of Plymouth has introduced the VectorMark® compact, a diode-pumped laser marking system. The benefits include its small size, and its power supply and cooling system are fully integrated.

### Innovative device

An innovative tire pressure monitoring system from Johnson Controls of Plymouth, called PSI(TM) Pressure Safety Information, is likely to be the first system of its kind in a production vehicle when it debuts in several 2001 luxury models. The PSI system includes a radio-frequency transmitter in each tire and an in-vehicle electronic display that signals a driver with an audible signal or alert message when pressure in any tire falls below optimum levels.

### Global communications

Video Conferencing Central Reservations (VCCR Inc.) recently introduced Michigan's first video conference reservations and bridging service to the international marketplace

responding to the anticipated growth of the video conferencing industry. The Livonia based company expects to position VCCR in the marketplace as "the worlds first full service video conferencing enterprise that can actually schedule a meeting for two or an event for 2000 and feed them," said G. Todd Stoney, VCCR's director of sales and marketing.

### Video summit

Compuware Corp. of Farmington Hills will host the International Enterprise Application Strategies Summit on December 8, 1998. This video summit will be broadcast in front of a live studio audience from WGBH public television in Boston.

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Sunday, December 6, 1998  
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## ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

### Concerts herald start of holiday season

If fighting the after Thanksgiving shopping crowds has left your holiday spirit as cold as "Frosty the Snowman," join the fun by singing along with local choirs and orchestras as they greet the season. You'll be surprised how fast the blues disappear when you're humming "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer."

John Gajec and assistant conductor Dr. Joseph W. Lewis, Jr. of West Bloomfield lead the Redford Civic Symphony in playing excerpts from "The Nutcracker," traditional Christmas carols and a sing-a-long in the opening concert of its 43rd season Sunday, Dec. 6 at Thurston High School. Guest artists are vocalists Pat Mussin and Marilyn Churchill.

Gajec has been playing many of the standard tunes for most of his 80



PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

In the spirit: Conductor/musician John Gajec rehearses for the Redford Civic Symphony holiday concert.

years and never tires of them. In fact, he can't decide which he enjoys more - conducting or playing cello with the orchestra. The group of 50 musicians began rehearsing "Sleigh Ride," "Silent Night" and the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's "Messiah" in September.

"Conducting is the ultimate experience in performing the music the way I think it should be," said Gajec.

"Being a conductor is a special sport. You're dealing with the music and the performers. But on the other hand as a musician, you're performing for the audience. The concert is when we give our best performance but rehearsals are when we perfect the craft."

The holiday season is a time for music and there's plenty of it around the area. Here's where sleigh bells

will be jingling and people singing:

#### Christmas Concert

What: The Redford Civic Symphony opens its 43rd season with a Christmas concert featuring soloists Marilyn Churchill and Pat Mussin. Admission is free.

When: 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6.

Where: Thurston High School, Redford.

What: Oakland University's Department of Music, Theatre and Dance presents its popular show choir, The Meadow Brook Estate, in an International Holiday Spectacular 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6 in Verner Recital Hall on the campus in Rochester. Tickets are \$12 general, \$10 seniors, and \$6 students, call (248) 370-3013 or Ticketmaster (248) 645-8666.

Music from the 1930s to the present day and representing the countries of Mexico, Austria and Ireland, in addition to the U.S., will be featured in the program.

The show choir is accompanied by Robert Sanders of Southfield on piano, Dylan Dunbar on electric guitar, and Jeremy Grenier of Troy on bass. Synthesizer is played by Philip Metzler and drums by Mike Gerbino.

Please see EXPRESSIONS, C5

# Gifts of Art

## Ideas for holiday giving

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

STAFF WRITER

[lchomin@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:lchomin@oe.homecomm.net)

Animation cels, Native American bear carvings, jewelry, and accessories for the home, are popular gift giving items this holiday season.

When you give a gift of art, it's one-of-a-kind.

In addition to galleries and gift shops, non-profit art associations host a number of holiday shows. Among the largest are:

■ Birmingham Bloomfield Arts Center - The 17th annual Holiday Shop of ceramics, glass, jewelry, wood, fibers, ornaments, and prints runs Monday, Nov. 30 to Saturday, Dec. 12 at 1516 South Cranbrook (Evergreen) and 14 Mile Road, Birmingham. Hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Thursday, until 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. Preview Party 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29, tickets \$25. (248) 644-0866.

■ Detroit Artists Market - Holiday Sale, featuring 110 artists exhibiting jewelry, glass, ceramics, prints, photographs, paintings, furniture, and sculpture, continues to 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24 at 300 River Place, Suite 1850, on Joseph Campau by the Detroit River. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday, and until 8 p.m. Friday. (313) 393-1770.

■ Pewabic Pottery - Earthly Treasures offers tiles, vessels, jewelry, ornaments, and ceramic functional and sculptural ware by Pewabic and local artists as well as artists from across the country through Dec. 31 at the pottery, 10125 East Jefferson, four miles east of downtown Detroit. For collectors, Pewabic's released its fourth design of the woodland series along with a 6- by 6-inch reindeer tile. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Christmas and New Year's eves. (313) 822-0954. Pewabic is requesting donations of canned and dried food throughout the holidays for the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

You can spend as little as \$3 for an ornament or hundreds of dollars for a piece of children's story book art. For the hard-to-please on your list, a gift certificate makes it nearly impossible to go wrong.

If you're looking for hand-crafted decorations, Don Schneider's York Street Glassworks studio and gallery, 875 York St., west of Liberty, (734) 459-6419, offers a selection of round and spiral-shaped ornaments in clear and gold fumed glass. Best known for his bead making, Schneider sells a variety of individual beads, earrings, and necklaces at the Plymouth gallery.

Vessels, paperweights, and gazing globes are lovely gift items for the home. An internationally-exhibiting glass artist, Schneider's work is currently featured along with 24 bead makers at the Glas Museum in Ebeltoft, Denmark. Schneider is also exhibiting his work in the Detroit Artists Market Holiday Show continuing through Thursday, Dec. 24.

#### From the earth

A ceramic chip 'n' dip set by Kathy Sandberg (Plymouth) and tiles by Nancy Guido (Livonia) are a few of the gifts available at



PHOTO BY STEPHEN PETROGOSKY

into the woods: This lithograph by Jane Dyer is from the "Random House Book of Bed-time Stories" and available at the Elizabeth Stone Gallery in Birmingham.

the third annual Village Potters Guild Holiday Show and Sale Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 3-5 at 340 North Main, south of Mill St. (Lilley), behind the Plymouth Landing Restaurant, (734) 207-8807. Twenty members of the Guild will sell their platters, tiles, bowls, ornaments, jewelry as well as hand-built and raku decorative and functional wares. Prices range from \$3 for an ornament to \$150 for a ceramic art work. Hours are 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5. For a preview of the ceramic objects visit the Plymouth Library 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29.

"With that many potters, it's going to be diverse," said Kathy Sandberg. "There'll be functional and decorative ware, raku, tiles, Christmas ornaments, jewelry, and vessels, anything from a small plate to a large serving piece, in neutrals, pastels and vibrant colors, black and white because every potter has their own trademark glaze."

#### Native art

Go Southwest with Native West gallery, 863 West Ann Arbor Trail, (734) 455-8838, in Plymouth. Nearly all art works are hand crafted by Native Americans. In addition to paintings, sculpture and jewelry, the gallery sells decorative accessories, flutes, tiles, music, books, and sandstone coasters engraved



PHOTO BY PAUL HUSCHERMAN

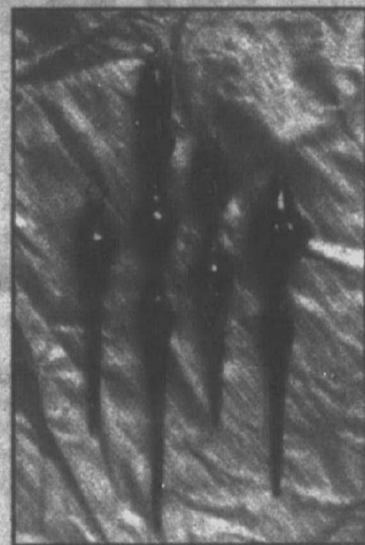
Functional to sculptural: The Village Potters Guild offer an array of clay art at their annual holiday show and sale in Plymouth.

with petroglyphs. Metal candleholders from El Paso feature the sun or buffalo.

"Items for the home are selling very, very well," said Annette Horn, who owns the gallery with her husband Ken. "Bears are real popular whether it's fetishes or sculptures, and we now have Pendleton Bears made in Taos, New Mexico. The metal candleholders are great for the home because the sun means happiness to the Native American and the candlelight brings warmth to the home. The buffalo means abundance."

Ornaments ranging from a Navajo grandmother storyteller to a Santa painted on a chile pepper, spice up a traditional tree. Great little stocking stuffers are dot earrings set with different stones. A peridot pair costs \$9. Horn said these are popular with people who have more than one hole in their ear.

The best time to visit the Native West is during their annual Holiday Art & Jewelry Festival Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 3-6 when the Horns bring in trader Jonathon Cox with a trunk full of jewelry. Navajo silversmith Jerry Nelson will be available throughout the show to talk about his inlay necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and rings. Michael Atkinson's art continues on display through the end of December.



Art as gift: Don Schneider created these glass ornaments in his York Street Glassworks studio and gallery in Plymouth.

Please see GIFTS, C5

## DANCE

# Dancers trumpet arrival of 'Nutcracker'

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

STAFF WRITER

[lchomin@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:lchomin@oe.homecomm.net)

Like Clara dreaming about the Nutcracker Prince and dancing in the "Kingdom of Sweets," Rose Marie Floyd's excitement grows with the approach of the holiday season performances of Tchaikovsky's classic ballet.

Floyd and her Contemporary Civic Ballet Company began performing "The Nutcracker" in 1966. Over the years, the company has presented the ballet, based on a fairy-tale by E.T.A. Hoffman, with a number of orchestras including the Livonia Symphony. The first "Nutcracker" delighted audiences in St. Petersburg, Russia in 1892.

This year, the Contemporary Civic Ballet will be joined by Christopher Stowell of the San Francisco Ballet who will dance the role of the Cavalier and Samantha Shelton, the Sugar Plum, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at the Scottish Rite Cathedral Auditorium in Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit. Tickets are \$5. A second performance with Stowell, and Emily Hastings as the Sugar Plum takes place 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19 at Troy High School. Tickets are \$8, and available for both shows by calling (248) 641-9063 or (248) 546-7484.

"It gives my advance dancers a chance to perform," said Floyd. "Many have gone on to Broadway, the Joffrey and Houston Ballet."



Sweet dreams: Dawnell Dryja, a dancer with the Cincinnati Ballet, and Tim Smola of the Peter Sparling Dance Company perform the roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and Nutcracker Prince with the Plymouth-Canton Ballet.

Local dancers from a number of companies in western Wayne and Oakland counties look forward to donning their costumes to twirl across the stage in the "Waltz of the Flowers."

#### Family affair

Hilari Smith played one of the mice in "The Nutcracker" when she was just three years old. Now age 13, Smith dances the role of Clara with the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company. More than 150 musicians from the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and the Plymouth-Canton Ballet come together to perform this classic with guest artists Dawnell Dryja and Cameron Caldwell from the Cincinnati Ballet Company 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11 and 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 12-13 at the Plymouth-Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road, Canton.

Dryja is the daughter of Dawn Green, artistic director of the company. Smith plays the young girl who receives the Nutcracker doll for Christmas from her eccentric uncle Herr Drosselmeyer. This is the eighth year the company joins with the symphony, under conductor Russell Reed, to present this timeless tale.

Tickets are \$17 adults, \$10 students K-12th grade, \$5 Sugar

Please see NUTCRACKER, C2



All in the family: Hilari Smith dances the role of Clara in "The Nutcracker" performed by the Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company and the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra.













# Where can I find?

This feature is dedicated to helping readers locate sources for hard-to-find merchandise. If you've seen any of the items in your retail travels (or basement) please call Where Can I Find? (248) 901-2555. Slowly and clearly, leave your name, number and message. And you should see your input in a few weeks. Due to the overwhelming response to this column, we only publish the requested item two or three times. If you have not seen a response or heard from us, we were unable to locate the item. Thank You.

**WHAT WE FOUND:**

- Mon Classique de Morabita perfume can be found at Levin Beauty Supply on Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield, (248) 851-7323. They also carry 1 oz. Azzar perfume.
  - For George, the FlyMow lawn mower can be found at George's lawn mower on Plymouth Road between Beech Daly and Inkster in Redford.
  - Lego train tracks can be found in the Lego catalog (800) 453-4652.
  - Hyde Shoe Polish is carried at the Detroit Skating Club in Bloomfield Hills.
  - Maja soap and powder can be found in the Beauty Boutique catalog, (440) 826-3008.
  - Lilly White flour can be found at Hiller Market in Walled Lake (248) 960-1990 or in Northville at (734) 420-5555.
  - Avon Rich moisture cream can be found at the Avon Booth at the Gibraltar Trade Center in Mt. Clemens and Taylor.
  - Laundry hanging bags are carried at most Joanne Fabric stores.
  - Found a Dictaphone for Dr. Wybranowski through the New Berry Library in Chicago.
  - Magnets for Pain can be found in the Harriet Carter catalog (800) 377-7878, Kenko Inc., (800) 522-5231.
  - Chatty Cathy dolls can be ordered through the Spiegel Doll catalog item #19225 (800) 852-1069, or on the Home Shopping Network (800) 284-3900.
  - The Special Olympics is interested in the old bowling and golf trophies.
  - Found the Harley Barbie doll.
  - For a copy of the 1997 Stevenson High yearbook, call the school and they will direct you who to contact for a copy.
- WE'RE STILL LOOKING FOR:**
- Christina is looking for the plastic transmission bearing #24591-5, for her Oster Kitchen Center, Service #97208H; the part is obsolete.
  - Walt is looking for a 1950 Big Beaver High school yearbook.
  - There are a number of people who still want Christian Dior's Diorissimo Eau Toilette, and Velvet Pastry flour or any other brand and Arpege Dusting powder.

- Pat is looking for several items, children's little metal dishes from the 1950s with an Oriental theme, individual packets of bubble bath from the '50s, gardenia scent.
- Pat wants a Fisher Price alligator flashlight from two years ago.
- Scott wants a chili pepper ceiling fan.
- Alan is looking for Treacle molasses paste for baking.
- Jackie is looking for a crochet pattern book to make afghans with children's and sports themes, and Avon Supreme Mauve lipstick.
- Bob is looking for knit Roster ties from the '70s.
- Noreen wants a 1998 Farmington High yearbook.
- Julia is looking for the cassette of John Anderson's Wild & Blue.
- Jill is looking for old copies of Victoria magazine from Sept-Nov. 1988, and all issues from 1989.
- Norma wants a Drowsy Doll by Mattel from the 60's.
- Helen is looking for a gasket #3677 for her 7 qt. Wearever Pressure cooker, and 15 lb. weights and safety plugs #3664.
- Judy wants Sugar Free Riblas (Russian) pastry.
- M.J. wants terrycloth oven mitts.
- Jean wants a square tube pan for cakes.
- A travel stroller by Combi used/new for Michelle.
- For Kathy, someone to price her collection of teacups and salt & pepper shakers from the past 50 years.
- Margery has Pillsbury bakeoff recipe books from the 2nd edition to present.

- Lena is looking for a Bride & Groom figurine music box from the Christopher Collection.
- Lori wants Nat Robbins Sparkling Burgundy Lip liner.
- Wendy of Livonia is looking for the Game "Rock EM Sock EM Robot".
- Tom is looking for a number of items, 1974 St. Joan of Arc yearbook, a CD from WCSX (94.7) last year "Parodies for Charity".
- Lillian is looking for Grandoe leather driving gloves (ladies).
- Patty is looking for clips for the skinny Clairol electric rollers.
- Janet is looking for a 7-inch front wheel for a wheelchair.
- Adrienne wants a Dept. 56 Oil Lamp "Plum Pudding".
- Mary Beth is looking for someone who knows or has all the words to the following song, "Johnny VerBeck how could you be so mean, now all the neighbors' cats and dogs will never be seen".
- For Margaret, Pee Wee's Playhouse toys.
- Mary is looking for someone to teach classes on how to make hats and also where to buy Millinery Supplies.
- A place that has a Red Factory Hard Top for a 1996 Mazda Miata.
- Andrea wants old books out of print by Della Lutes.
- Ellen wants Paquins Cream.
- Karen of Troy wants discontinued china by Noritake #7541 "Lorelie," and Wedgewood "Mid Winter Stonehenge Wild Oats" pattern (off white with wheat on it) oven/table.
- Marilyn is looking for the directions to the 5 qt. Sterling Ice Cream Freezer ice cream maker (it is about 30 years old) made by Richmond Cedar Works.
- Debbie is looking for the View Master Steromatic 500 projector.
- Doris is looking for the children's book (hardcover) "Little Wiener."
- Norma is looking for the game Park & Shop and a black Lions t-shirt/sweatshirt, with blue & silver logo.
- Rita wants Noritake "Modesta China" (it is very old).
- Judy wants Evening in Paris cologne.
- Jean is looking for low sodium soup bases.
- Stacey is looking for the Christopher Radko 4th-year ornaments Twelve Days of Christmas "Four Calling Birds".
- Susan is looking for a 1975 girls class ring from Dearborn High to buy.
- Shelly is looking for a large old kitchen sink 4-5 feet wide, with a backsplash and side drain boards, in porcelain or cast iron from the 1800-1920s.

—Compiled by Sandi Jaracka

## RETAIL DETAILS

**SILVER BELLS**  
Fairlane Town Center launches a festive new holiday decor



this year, transforming the center into a "Musical, Magical Holiday Kingdom" of dancing, singing costumed characters, professionally choreographed musical productions and holiday regalia. "Ring Them Bells" is the theme for Fairlane's daily musical shows featuring local talent and professionals from Opryland Productions. Each show runs 12-15 minutes and features beloved holiday songs. The audience will participate, using props such as sleigh bells, tambourines and cow bells. The national all-female instrumental and vocal jazz group Straight Ahead visits on Dec. 5.

Colors, custom-colored cosmetics in mica-based hubs; Head Soks, polar fleece hoods; Hudson River Inlay, wood inlay items, from mirrors and occasional tables to jewelry and desktop accessories; Healing Expressions, New-age products; Jamestown Designs, embroidered and appliqued T-shirts and sweatshirts; and Creative Wix, handmade candles. Also Yo-Yo Universe; holiday ornaments from Orinda's Originals; Avon; Diamonds and Gold; Noah's Ark, collectible Beanie Babies; Jewelercraft International, silver jewelry; Wireless Orbit, cellular phones and pagers; Teen Explosion, West Coast accessories for teenage girls.

at over 30 different stores and restaurants in town. Gift certificates are available for purchase through the Plymouth Community Chamber office, 366 S. Main St., (734) 453-1540. VISA and Mastercard are welcome.

**BURNING BIZ**

Laurel Park Place welcomes Wicks 'n' Sticks, a home accessory store that features an extensive selection of candles, oil lamps, fragrance rings, incense and room sprays. The Livonia store will highlight its innovative, mood-enhancing aromatherapy candles.

**WISH COME TRUE**



Meet Annabelle from the video *Annabelle's Wish* today from 1-5 p.m. at Summit Place. Spend \$150 at any Summit Place, Summit North or Summit West store, and get a cuddly plush 11-inch Annabelle for just \$15. The net proceeds go to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. *Annabelle's Wish* will air on the FOX network Dec. 6 at 7 p.m.

**NATIVE ART**

Native West in Plymouth presents its ninth annual Holiday Art & Jewelry Festival Dec. 3-6. Featured artists are Michael Atkinson and jewelry designer Jerry Nelson. 863 W. Ann Arbor Trail.

**REAL WOMEN**



Lane Bryant, a division of The Limited, Inc., is proud to announce the opening of a new store at New Towne Plaza, 44524 Ford Road in Plymouth. The fashion retailer specializes in clothes for women sizes 14-28.

**PLYMOUTH POTPOURRI**

The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce offers Plymouth Gift Certificates this holiday season. The certificates are redeemable

**MALL MIX**

Twelve Oaks mall launched Retail Merchandising Units (RMUs) throughout the shopping center on Nov. 17. The custom-designed retail units will showcase unique and hard-to-find merchandise. The debuting RMUs include: Executive Sports, upscale, licensed sports collectibles; Jacaru Australia, Australian leather goods; True

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In our Sears November 29<sup>th</sup> insert we inadvertently pictured the Craftsman Garage Door Opener #53648 with a Keyless Entry Pad. This item does not include the Keyless Entry Pad. We apologize for any inconvenience this error may cause our customers.

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Pagoda in sunset: This conjures up all the beauty of Chinese architecture, but it's really in Florida.



## Florida park shows 'Splendid China'

BY NORMA SCHONWETTER  
SPECIAL WRITER

There's more to Orlando beyond the world of Disney, namely a family theme park without rides and cartoon characters. Journey through 10,000 miles and 5,000 years to discover Splendid China. Situated on a beautifully landscaped 76-acre park are more than 60 detailed replicas of China's famous landmarks.

This impressive attraction is modeled after the original Splendid China, built in 1989 outside of Hong Kong. Open four years in Kissimmee, Fla., it took 120 Chinese craftsmen, working for two years, to create this magnificent exhibit, at a cost of \$110 million with 12 million pounds of material brought from China.

They used architectural techniques and handcrafting methods dating back to the 13th century. Almost all of the replicas have an audio feature describing the history, construction and culture surrounding each display, making viewing more enjoyable as well as informative.

This is an opportunity to journey through the entire country of China in a few hours, without airports, buses or taxis... and a fraction of the cost. You can experience Chinese music, dance, geography and architecture. Stroll through a Mongol village, walk through a royal tomb depicting the archeological site of the Terra Cotta Warriors of Xian, reduced to one-third actual size. The actual tomb has been called one of the greatest archeological discoveries of all time. Unearthed in 1974, it contains about 8,000 life-size terra-cotta soldiers, each dressed differently with no two faces alike, along with their horses and chariots.

The Great Wall, 4,200 miles long, constructed between 215 B.C. and 215 A.D. is represented by a scaled-down version one-half mile in length. It is constructed of 6.5 million individually laid bricks. View reproductions of the Forbidden City, Imperial Palace, the Temple of Heaven, Leshan Buddha and more. A replica of the world's oldest free-standing wooden structure, China's Yingxian Wooden pagoda, built in A.D. 1056, was assembled without nails or glues. The nine-story structure was built with dovetail beams. Splendid China's replica

was constructed in the same manner. The reproductions vary from one-fifteenth to one-third the size of the originals.

Entertainment is varied throughout the exhibit. There are a half-dozen entertainment sites where exciting and colorful shows are performed several times a day. The spectacular 1-1/2 hour show "Mysterious Kingdom of the Orient Show" is a highlight. The show is performed six days a week, except Monday, with a large cast of very accomplished Chinese acrobats and dancers. Other shows are found throughout the park in the pagoda Gardens, Panda Playground, Imperial Bells and Temple of Light.

The entrance to Splendid China gives visitors a view of a typical Chinese "main street" circa A.D. 1300 and life-sized replica of a Chinese "water city." Featured among the buildings at the entrance are restaurants, shops and guest services.

Splendid China is located three miles west of I-94 (Exit 25-B), just off Highway 92. Open daily, free parking. Call toll-free: 1-(800)-244-6226. Current prices are \$28.88 for adults and \$18.18 for children 5 through 12. Senior rates and reduced rates are available. Trams are available if you want to cut down on the walking. Guided tours are available at extra cost.



China is America: The Great Wall of China is reproduced on a smaller scale in Orlando.

## Roycroft Inn was Arts & Crafts birthplace

BY MARTY FIGLEY  
SPECIAL WRITER

This fall Lew and I escaped for a few days to enjoy the October color. We traveled through Canada to our ultimate destination, the Roycroft Inn in western New York, home of the Roycroft Arts and Crafts movement.

We left on a bright Saturday morning and traveled the northern route through Canada, and after an easy five hour drive arrived in Jordan, Ontario, near St. Catharines. This area is agricultural and many orchards of apples, apricots, cherries and vineyards dot the countryside. Autumn apples and vegetables such as pumpkins and squash were offered at roadside stands. The little town of Jordan Village, just down the road from our hotel, is home to antique and gift shops, restaurants, a winery and a museum.

Lew is a sailor and anything to do with water is fascinating to him. A visit to the Welland Canal and the eight locks was his highlight of the trip. An interesting museum, diagram of a working lock, gift shop and snack bar are located at Lock No. 3, where we saw a huge ocean-going freighter pass through the lock. The others were working locks but have no visitor amenities.

The Welland Canal runs from Lake Ontario at St. Catharines through the countryside down to the eighth and final lock, located in Port Colborne on Lake Erie. The first Welland Canal was built in the mid 1800s, enabling people and goods to navigate between these two lakes. As the years passed, it became necessary to rebuild and today the fourth canal has a total of eight locks. These function like giant steps over the Niagara Escarpment, by-passing Niagara Falls. This canal is part of the St. Lawrence Seaway System.

We stayed overnight near St. Catharines, and although there is much to see in this area, including fabulous Niagara Falls, we were to meet friends at the Roycroft Inn, so we continued on our little sojourn.

The Roycroft community was founded by Elbert Hubbard, who based the movement on the Arts and Crafts organization in England that William Morris and John Ruskin, two English reformers, formed. The organization emphasized hand-crafted, guildlike workmanship, a strong community spirit and a commitment to simple living - similar to the lifestyles and values of the Middle Ages. Hubbard founded the Roycroft Arts and Crafts movement in 1895.

With his driving force the com-



Historic Inn: The entrance to the Roycroft Inn in New York.

PHOTOS BY MARTY FIGLEY

munity grew into a 14-building campus dedicated to printing and publishing, metalworking, mission-style furniture making and the manufacturing of leather goods and other Roycroft-labeled objects. A map of a walking tour of the town guides visitors to antique shops, the museum, pottery studio and art galleries as well as home built at that time.

The social center was the Roycroft Inn where we stayed. This beautiful building has undergone renovations, the latest begun in 1994. The concept was to celebrate the history of the inn and draw attention to the area as the birthplace of the Arts and Crafts Movement in America.

The original flavor has been retained and this exceptionally charming inn is a delight. You can almost imagine yourself running into the many poets and musicians who visited and are reminded of them by names carved on the wooden door to each room. Among them are Elizabeth Barrett, and across the hall, Robert Browning. Others include Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Thoreau and Susan B. Anthony.

We were given a suite similar to all at the inn, restored to maintain the original sleeping porch design and the ambience of earlier times: wicker furniture, bare floors with 'scatter-



Moving through: Large ships and small boats go through the Welland Canal.

rugs, low lighting and wallpaper in the style of William Morris. All modern conveniences are in place, including a wonderful Jacuzzi tub. Guess who used that! The public rooms are furnished in the same manner, including mission furniture and Roycroft lamps.

A beautiful atrium garden can be seen from the breakfast room and the porch, that is filled with diners during the warm months.

Roycroft Inn, 40 South Grove St., East Aurora, N.Y., offers a "Preservation Package Escape for Two" seven nights a week Nov. 1 to April 30, and Sunday through Thursday, May 1 to Oct. 31, at only \$160. It includes accommodations for two in a luxurious suite, a sumptuous dinner for two in their first-class restaurant and a light breakfast the following morning. Call (716)652-5552 or (800)267-0525 or fax: (716)655-5345, for daily rates and additional informa-

tion. It is a treat to stay in such peaceful surroundings. If you don't have time for an overnight stay, the restaurant is open for lunch and dinner.

The reunion with our friends was great, and after breakfast and good-byes on Monday morning, we began our return through Pennsylvania and Ohio. We stopped at the harbor in Erie, Pa., and took a windy walk to the Erie Bicentennial Tower where, for \$2, one can take an elevator to the top for a panoramic view.

We continued on through the states to our own Michigan. We did enjoy the fall colors. I especially noticed the dark red and orange sumac foliage, but, as Dorothy would say, "There's no place like home."

Marty Figley of Birmingham writes the regular Garden Spot column for The Observer & Eccentric's At Home section.

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# Sports & Recreation

The Observer

INSIDE:  
Outdoors, C3, C5  
Recreation, C5

P/C Page 1, Section D

C.J. Risak, Editor 734-953-2108

on the web: <http://observer.econline.com>

Sunday, November 29, 1998

## OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

### Tartars win

Wayne State's women's basketball team collected their first win of the season by defeating University of Michigan-Dearborn 72-40 in the opening round of the Tartar Classic Friday at WSU. Sarah Warnke, a junior forward from Plymouth Canton HS, led the Tartars (who improved to 1-3) with 17 points and a career-high 19 rebounds. WSU met Indiana-South Bend, which beat Concordia College 79-75 in the other first-round game, in Saturday's Classic final.

### Walker shines

Castleton State College (Castleton, VT) knocked off host Oneonta State (N.Y.) 75-62 in the consolation final of the Holiday Inn Classic in women's basketball last Sunday, thanks in great part to Plymouth Salem grad Merritt Walker. The Spartans were trailing 25-18 with 8:03 left in the first half, then ran off 15-straight points to take command.

Walker led Castleton with 20 points and nine rebounds, efforts that earned her a spot on the six-member all-tournament team. The day before, the Spartans lost 68-54 in their tournament opener to Hartwick College (N.Y.) despite Walker's 13 points.

### Bray helps Hope split

Hope College, behind the sharpshooting of junior guard Mark Bray (from Plymouth Canton), reached the championship game of the Cornerstone College Classic with a 98-77 win over Grace (Ind.) College, then lost in the championship game to the host team 89-62 Nov. 21-22 in Grand Rapids.

Bray pumped in 22 points in the win over Grace on 9-of-11 floor shooting. He added nine in the loss to Cornerstone. For the season, Bray is averaging 15.5 points; he also had six assists and five steals in the two games.

### MIAA champions

Kalamazoo College's women's soccer team ruled the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association, rolling to an 8-0 league mark and an 18-3 overall record. However, in the Hornets first NCAA Division III Tournament game at Ohio Wesleyan, they lost 3-2.

Among the contributors to Kalamazoo's strong season were Jessica Mueller, a freshman midfielder from Plymouth who scored four goals during the season, and Andrea Sudik, a junior midfielder from Plymouth Salem HS who had one assist.

### Siena Heights repeats

Siena Heights' men's basketball team gained its second-consecutive title in the National Catholic Basketball Tournament last weekend (Nov. 20-22), beating St. Norbert College (Wisc.) 65-60 in overtime in the final played in Dubuque, Iowa. Dan McKian, a senior forward from Plymouth Salem, scored eight points and grabbed 10 rebounds in the championship game.

In earlier games, the Saints defeated St. Thomas Aquinas College (N.Y.) 71-68 in their opener, then handed Xavier (La.) University an 84-61 defeat in the semifinals. McKian had eight points against Xavier.

### All-league notice

Ryan Ostach, a senior wide receiver/punter at Michigan Tech from Plymouth Canton HS, was an honorable mention all-Midwest Intercollegiate Football Conference selection.

Ostach was named the Huskies' special teams player of the year (he averaged 36.6 yards per punt and completed two passes on fake punt plays, one for a touchdown); he also led the team in receptions with 26 for 481 yards and three TDs.

### Baseball tryouts

The Michigan Lake Area Rams Amateur Athletic Federation Travel Baseball Organization will conduct a tryout camp for its Mickey Mantle Division Team (ages 15 and 16). If interested, call manager Gary Neino at (734) 981-3845.

Anyone interested in submitting items to Sports Scene or Sports Roundup may send them to sports editor C.J. Risak, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150, or may FAX them to (734) 591-7279.

# Whalers wreck North Bay

BY C.J. RISAK  
SPORTS EDITOR  
[cjrisak@oc.homecomm.net](mailto:cjrisak@oc.homecomm.net)

It wasn't the biggest game the Plymouth Whalers have — or will — play this season. And it certainly wasn't the prettiest.

And yet, there were still factors of some importance associated with their 4-1 Ontario Hockey League victory over the North Bay Centennials Friday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.

Perhaps the most obvious: The win brought to a close Plymouth's longest losing streak of the season. Okay, so it was only two games (both suffered on the road last weekend), but put in a different context, the Whalers would rather not suffer through such a streak for the remainder of this campaign.

The win also extended their home ice unbeaten streak to 10 games (9-0-1), a mark they wouldn't mind extending for the remainder of the season. Plymouth is 19-4-2 overall, second-best in the league; North Bay fell to 9-13-3.

On a more tactical note, the game was played in a style the Whalers don't especially like to play. "We like to skate," said Plymouth coach Pete DeBoer, "and teams are going to try and slow us down. That's seems hard for us to handle, but we're going to have to get used to it because that's what we'll be seeing for the rest of the season."

"That's what happened to us last weekend. We played in two small rinks (at Owen Sound and Guelph), about half the size of ours, and they slowed it down."

The objective: To control the Whalers explosive attack. Until last weekend, few teams had enjoyed much success



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURBCHMANN

**Heavy traffic:** The Whalers' Eric Goody battles North Bay's Omar Ennaffati for position in front of Centennials goalie Alex Auld. The Whalers, and Goody, each enjoyed their successes; Plymouth won, and Goody scored a second-period goal.

defending Plymouth, and on Friday, North Bay didn't, either.

The Centennials were coming off a Thursday loss at Windsor, and were in the midst of a four-games-in-four-days road trip. The Whalers were hardly the obliging, holiday-weekend hosts; after fending off two North Bay power plays in the first period, they got a power-play goal from David Legwand with 11:24 left in the period. Legwand knocked home a rebound of a Paul Mara shot from the point; the puck came off the boards right to Legwand. Tomek Valtonen also assisted.

Although it wasn't as good a scoring period as it should have been for the Whalers —

they dominated play for more than 10 minutes, but misfired on several ideal scoring opportunities — they were still in command. Even when the Centennials went to a more physical, aggressive kind of play in the fight-filled second period, the Whalers maintained control.

The second goal of the game came just 1:01 into the second period, and this one was the result of Plymouth's superior skating. Eric Goody broke loose near mid-ice on a play started by Mara and Harold Druken. Goody finished it, putting the puck behind North Bay goalie Alex Auld for a 2-0 Whaler lead.

A double-minor penalty to the Centennials' Brett Gibson in the final second of the second period led to a four-minute power play chance for Plymouth to start the third. It took Leg-

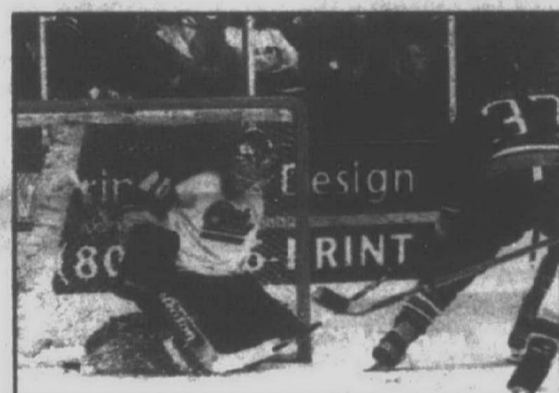
wand just 17 seconds to capitalize, bringing the puck out unchallenged from behind the net to the left of Auld and scoring from point-blank range.

With 15:39 to go, the OHL's top rated power-play team got its third of the game with North Bay's Jeremy Pedder in the box. Mara, who had peppered shots from the point at Auld all game, got one past him to make it 4-0; Nikos Tselios and Rick Smith assisted.

"I think our power play was the key tonight," said DeBoer. "It's been our biggest weapon this season."

But hardly their only one. The Whalers rank with the OHL's best in both scoring, and preventing, goals. The reasons for both are simple, according to DeBoer: "Experience and depth — especially on offense. Last year, if a team could stop one or two of

Please see WHALERS, D4



**No chance:** Goody beats North Bay's Auld for the Whalers' second goal.

# Coaching shuffle won't deter Rocks

BY C.J. RISAK  
SPORTS EDITOR  
[cjrisak@oc.homecomm.net](mailto:cjrisak@oc.homecomm.net)

The first thing Plymouth Salem assistant wrestling coach Greg Woochuk wants to be known is that Ron Krueger is still the Rocks' head coach.

The first thing Krueger wants people to know is that he's just helping out.

So who's in charge? It probably won't really matter who finally wears the title — Krueger is the team's official coach, despite having announced his retirement from coaching last spring — the team is going to be pretty solid.

"That's something I just don't want to do anymore," Krueger still insisted, referring to the day-to-day coaching responsibilities. "But I can't just walk away and say, 'I'm done,' and have them saying to me, 'We're not — how about some help here?' There's no

way I could turn my back on them. I couldn't turn my back on the kids, either."

The result is a management-style coaching setup, something similar to what the Detroit Red Wings have. While Krueger wears the label, Woochuk, Brian Burlison, Dave Dameron and Jason Krueger (Ron's son) will combine to handle much of the actual coaching.

"This is probably what should happen in all kinds of job," said Woochuk, a 1985 Salem graduate who wrestled for Krueger (so did Dameron, a '96 Salem grad, and Burlison, a '91 grad). "It's kind of coaching mentor type of transition."

The season should provide a bit of a test for the Rocks, to be sure. Several key members of last season's squad, which finished 19-2 in dual meets and was second at the Western Lakes

Please see SALEM WRESTLE, D4



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

**Bright future:** One reason for high hopes at Salem is John Mervyn (on top), who emerged as one of the area's top 103 pounders last season, posting a 49-7 match record.

# Hawks roll to another title

BY DAN O'MEARA  
STAFF WRITER  
[domeara@oc.homecomm.net](mailto:domeara@oc.homecomm.net)

There was just no stopping the 1998 Farmington Harrison Hawks, not in the final game Friday, not once during the entire season.

Hudsonville was the last team to try and fail: as the Hawks ended another undefeated campaign by winning their second straight Class A football title with a 35-13 victory over the Eagles at the Pontiac Silverdome.

It marked the fourth time Harrison has won back-to-back state championships — the other times being 1981-82, 1988-89 and 1993-94.

The Hawks finish 13-0 for the second year in a row, extending their winning streak to 26 games, and fifth time since 1988.

Harrison has now won nine state championships, improving its winning percentage in state-final

## CLASS A FOOTBALL FINAL

games to .750 with a record 12 appearances.

"I don't know if there's a small college team that could beat them," Hudsonville coach Dave Duram said. "They have tremendous athletes — skilled, disciplined. Again, I'd like to see a match-up with a small college, to see if anyone could beat them."

The Hawks, who finished the season averaging 40.77 points per game, wasted little time getting on the scoreboard.

Harrison set a state-finals record for quickest score when senior Ricky Bryant caught a 65-yard touchdown pass from senior Dave Pesci just 21 seconds into the game on the second play from scrimmage.

The old record also belonged Harrison, which needed only 23 seconds to score against Cheboygan in the

1991 Class BB final. Roy Granger scored that year on a 50-yard run.

The Hawks were definitely in control when they made it 14-0 late in the first quarter. Pesci passed to Andre Davis, Brian Nelson and Bryant for first downs on consecutive plays before tossing a 16-yard TD pass to Bryant.

"Believe it or not, our main priority was to stop the pass," Duram said. "We had only given up two rushing touchdowns all year and have played well against the run."

"I thought we'd get some pressure on them, but that quarterback is an amazing guy. We've seen good quarterbacks but no one that could scramble and throw like that guy."

"I thought we did a fantastic job of preparing for them. In a couple instances, they beat us one-on-one." Pesci tied a Class A finals record with three touch-

Please see HARRISON FOOTBALL, D2









BOWLING AND RECREATION

# 300s being posted all over



TEN PIN ALLEY  
AL HARRISON

### Mark Robey

Last week was a very good week for 300s. During the past seven days there were quite a few reported. One of them really hit home as it was bowled by my own teammate, Mark Silverstein of Farmington Hills in the Sunday Goodtimers League at Country Lakes.

It was the first perfect for him, and he is still hasn't come back down to earth yet.

All 12 of his shots were solid pocket hits with only a 4-pin trip on the 12th shot causing any concern.

Mark is the current league president, so it is even more of a thrill for him to achieve his first 300 in a league which he presides over.

\*The ladies are back from the Sam's Town Pro tournament at Las Vegas, and Marianne DiRupo had four 300 games during the event, two of which were back-to-back.

Marianne, who is from New Jersey but now resides in this area, finished third in the finals, which will be on cable TV this Tuesday late night. See your listings for exact time and station.

■ Jerry Bazner of the St. Linus Men's Classic calls me every week with league scores and this week, his own teammate, Brian Joneca of Garden City, fired his first 300 game. It was a big thrill for himself and all of his bowling buddies.

Tom Parks and Kathie Maser of Livonia were just subbing in the Saturday Nite Hotshots at Merri Bowl and Tom Parks rolled a 300 game with a 775 series, and only subbing for their friends, the Joneses.

Kathy did pretty well too, with a 257 game.

In respect to all the bowlers who have had a recent perfect game, they know the feeling, the elation, the walking on air that seems to take place like magic, for it is a magic moment.

In sanctioned bowling leagues, there are the distinctive awards that go with the ultimate game, the ring and the recognition of the name permanently placed in the year-book.

In the case of some houses, there is a financial reward or a jacket given out.

In the Greater Detroit Bowling Association alone last year, a total of 1,155 awards were given out for a 300 game.

The ABC offers a choice of a ring, a watch or a plaque, the bowler can opt for an upgraded gold ring if they want to pay the difference based on the current price of gold. It looks like we can beat those numbers this year.

Keep throwing strikes, it can happen to you.

# New balls mean more hooking

Mark Robey is the owner of The Bowlers Aid, one of the highest volume pro shop operations in the country according to Bowling This Month magazine.

Robey is a Silver Level coach with the USA Bowling program, a member of Ebonite's advisory staff and a member of the board of directors of International Bowling Pro Shops and Instructors Association.

Mark tells of the "Reactive Impact" on the lanes today.

"If it seems that lane conditions break down differently today and that carry down has all but disappeared, it's not your imagination.

"It means the lanes break down very differently, depending upon which bowling balls are used.

"As more people change from traditional (non-flaring) urethane and polyester balls to modern high tech reactive balls that flare, lane breakdown patterns change significantly.

"Centers started noticing this phenomenon of the dramatic change in breakdown patterns in 1994 because of the increase in new ball sales.

"As the reactive balls came on the market, lane conditions began to exhibit new characteristics during play.

"In essence, we have returned to the lane breakdown patterns of the late 1960s and early '70s on lacquer lane finish because, as lanes break down now, the track hooks significantly more than it did on urethane lane coatings with traditional bowling balls.

"Also, with the increased friction between the ball and lane today, the ball hooks even more in the track than it did during the lacquer era.

"The track hooked on lacquer because lacquer did not protect the wood surface on the lane enough, so that part of the lane wore quickly.

"The track hooks now because

with today's strong core, high flare balls literally erase the oil from the track, even though the lane surface is better. The results are similar, but the reasons are totally different.

"To further elaborate, today's flaring reactive balls act like erasers, while traditional non-flaring balls act like plows.

"Traditional balls push the conditioner to the back end of the lane as the track breaks down gradually, creating carry down.

"Modern high-tech balls break down the track faster because balls that flare pick up more conditioner. This creates negligible carry down and a lane condition that hooks more overall.

"Many centers combat this problem by oiling the lanes more frequently and heavily in the header portion of the lane.

"The types of bowling balls and styles of bowlers will then have a dramatic effect on the condition breakdown."

### Track flare and ball reaction

- Minimal Track Flare:  
1. If the ball is released on a stable

axis, there will be very little track flare and the ball track will be narrow.

2. Any oil picked up by the coverstock in the heads will remain on the ball's surface as it travels down the lane.

3. This oil in the track of your ball reduces the ability of the ball to suddenly change its direction as it exits the oil pattern.

4. Ball layouts that produce small amounts of flare generate later, smoother breakpoints and "mellow" ball reactions.

### Maximum Track Flare:

1. If the ball is released on an unstable axis, there will be track flare as the core attempts to seek a stable axis about which to rotate.

2. With each revolution this will expose fresh ball surface to the lane.

3. Any oil picked up by the coverstock in the heads will not influence the ball's reaction as it exits the oil pattern, creating a quicker and stronger ball reaction than a non-flaring layout.

4. Ball layouts that produce more flare generate earlier, sharper breakpoints and "strong" ball reactions.

Mark Robey can be contacted at: The Bowlers Aid pro shops, 22255 Ecorse Road, Taylor, MI, 48180; or call (313) 295-2695.

## OUTDOORS

# Been a big season for big bucks



BILL PARKER

The firearms deer season is drawing to a close and the season of 1998 won't soon be forgotten. The hot topic of conversation throughout the hunting community these days is talk about a possible world-record buck shot a few weeks ago in northern Michigan.

Mitch Rumpola, the current state record-holder for the biggest typical buck taken in Michigan with a bow and arrow, evidently topped that monster by whacking an unbelievable buck on Nov. 13th. The Rumpola Buck, as it will forever be known, is an enormous typical 12-point. The buck features a 38-inch spread and dressed out at 263 pounds.

Nov. 13 must have been a good day to be in the field. Several area hunters also filled tags on Friday the 13th.

■ Second-year archer Brian Goemaere took his second buck of the season on the evening of the 13th while hunting from a tree blind in Oakland County.

The Oakland Township hunter took a nice 8-point while hunting over a bait pile. Earlier in the season Goemaere also arrowed a 4-point from the same blind, which is located on the edge of an overgrown hay field and a

stand of hardwoods

■ Redford's Mark Landis was hunting from a tree blind in Washtenaw County on Nov. 13 when a prize 9-point buck crossed his path. The 38-year-old hunter made a clean shot and tagged a 170-pound trophy. Landis was hunting on the edge of a cut cornfield.

■ Steve Rock, of Birmingham, took a dandy 7-point with his bow and arrow on the evening Nov. 13.

Rock was hunting over a bait pile along the edge of a swamp in Lapeer County.

■ Fourteen-year-old Ryan Caddick didn't waste any time breaking into the ranks of the successful hunters. Hunting private land in Oakland County with his father Dean, the young of Oxford resident dropped a big doe on opening morning with his 410 ga. later that day Dean took his turn and tagged a mature 9-point buck with a 17-inch spread.

■ Another father/son team has enjoyed exceptional success this year. Sixteen-year-old Chad Wedge, of Leonard, arrowed a dandy 7-point buck on Oct. 17 while hunting in a stand of woods along the edge of an overgrown corn field in Oakland County.

On opening day of the firearms season Chad shot a button buck while hunting from a tree blind on the edge of a cut cornfield. His father, Bill, dropped a healthy 6-point buck late in the afternoon of opening day of the firearms season.

"I've got to look over my shoulder for Chad.

He is a good hunter. This is his third season (hunting) and he's already shot two 7-points and six does," said Bill.

■ Plymouth resident Merle Malville ventured up to the Traverse City-area for the firearms season and didn't waste any time filling his buck tag. The veteran hunter shot a trophy 8-point at 7:45 a.m. on Nov. 15. The rack features an 18-inch spread and 7-inch brow tines.

I'm sure there are many more successful hunters out there. If you, a friend or a relative had a successful hunting season let me know about it then look for your success story in upcoming issues of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. This isn't limited to buck hunters.

Every deer is a trophy in one way or another so share your hunt with others by telling your success story.

Send information to me at 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI, 48009. Fax information to (248) 644-1314, or send e-mail to bparker@e.homecomm.net or call me in the evenings at (248) 901-2573.

Be sure to include the hunter's name, size of the deer or rack, day, place (county is fine) and time (early morning, middle of the day, after sunset). Also remember to include a phone number in case additional information is needed.

### NATURE NOTES



TIM NOWICKI

Though insects are not part of the landscape this time of year, they are still in evidence, if you look closely.

Now that leaves are off the trees, oak apple galls can be seen.

Light-brown golf ball size ornaments hanging from oak tree branches were the homes of a wasp this summer.

developed into a larva and eventually into an adult wasp. If you find one on the ground you may find the small round hole where the adult wasp exited.

Some trees retain their galls into winter. Oak apple galls are, as you would expect, found on oak trees.

Willow pine cone galls are found on willow trees. Insects that cause gall formation are very specific about the plant they choose.

Different insects cause different shaped galls on the same kind of plant. Evidently, chemicals from the insect stimulate the plant to form various shaped galls.

Willow trees can be identified easily in winter by the presence of the pine cone gall. These characteristically shaped galls are on

the tips of the willow branches. A small mosquito-like insect known as a midge causes the pine cone gall.

A gall does not seem to hurt the plant or prevent it from growing in any way. In fact, they may promote growth in the plant.

Galls are not the only evidence of insects this time of year.

Fallen logs with squiggly grooves in the wood exhibit the work of bark beetles. Grooves in the wood are actually half of the tunnels formed when the larva eat their way to adulthood.

After the adult has laid its eggs under the bark of the tree, the tiny larva hatch and start eating the rich cambium layer under the bark and above the new sapwood.

Table with multiple columns listing bowling leagues, locations (e.g., Westland, Livonia, Farmington Hills), and members with their bowling scores.

