

# Plymouth Observer

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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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## Letters to Santa

Attention, girls and boys! Christmas is almost here and you know what that means. Santa Claus is up at the North Pole waiting for letters and double checking his list to find who's been naughty or nice. The Plymouth Observer is asking children to send us their letters to Santa Claus, along with their school picture. The deadline is Dec. 11. The letters and photos will be printed in the Dec. 24th issue, having forwarded the letters to Santa in plenty of time. Children of all ages are encouraged to send their letters to:

Letters to Santa  
Plymouth Observer  
794 South Main  
Plymouth, MI 48170

## IN THE PAPER TODAY

**Gift guide:** Are you drawing a blank about what to get so-and-so for Christmas this year? Check out our nifty gift guide inside this edition.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

**Festival time:** Eight lighted candles, potato pancakes and gifts mean it's time for Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights, and two area congregations are preparing celebrations filled with plenty of food and merriment. /B1

## ENTERTAINMENT

**Music:** Pop music's top acts including the New Radicals celebrate holidays with Detroit music fans. /E1

## REAL ESTATE

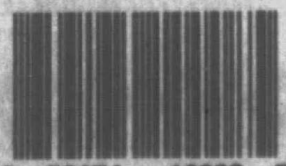
**Getting sluggish:** How do salespeople cope when folks are more interested in the holidays than they are with buying or selling a home? /F1

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## HOW TO REACH US

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# Twp. trustee brokers land buy

■ The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees held a special meeting to buy property at the former J.J. Peter's Roadhouse for a new park. A trustee, who voted in favor of the deal, acted as broker for the seller, but didn't collect a commission.

BY DUNCAN E. WHITE  
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Plymouth Township paid more than \$280,000 for 3.5 acres of land in hopes of developing it as a park or some type of recreational facility.

The newly acquired land, the former

site of J.J. Peter's Roadhouse restaurant and bar, is adjacent to a 1-acre piece of property at the corner of Ann Arbor Road and Ann Arbor Trail that the township already owns.

The land was purchased from William Steiner, president of Deer Creek Building Company Inc. in Ply-

mouth Township. He had recently purchased the land with the intention of using it for residential homes. He reportedly sold it to the township for the same amount it cost him to buy it, plus the miscellaneous fees for testing and taxes.

Township trustee K.C. Mueller, who also works as a real estate broker for Remerica Hometown, was working on the deal as Steiner's broker. She did not abstain from the vote.

According to several board members, Mueller brokered the deal free of charge, giving up an estimated \$9,800

of commission in the process.

It came to her attention that the township might be interested in the land and she then coordinated the second deal between Steiner and the township. The deal was approved during a special meeting of the Board of Trustees in which the land purchase issue was added to the agenda.

A specific use for the land has yet to be determined but, according to township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy, it will definitely be used for recreation.

Please see LAND, A10

## Hopping performance



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN



**Velveteen Rabbits:** Megan Kryska of Canton, center in the dark costume, portrays the Velveteen Rabbit in a play of the same name. "The Velveteen Rabbit" was presented this weekend by The Whistle Stop Players at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, Joanne Winkleman Hulce Center for the Arts. Other performers included (from left to right) Meridith Derian-Toth of Plymouth, Kryska, Eric Hitchcock of Plymouth and Aleta Lockhart of Livonia. At left, Josie Daniel, 2½ (left), of Southfield, and Rachel Harrison, 4, of Plymouth were captivated by their performance.

# Fires spark school action

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
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Canton High School administrators are hoping peer pressure and education will help combat arsonists who are setting fires in school bathrooms, putting the lives of 2,500 students in danger.

As a result of an arson fire Oct. 16, principal Patricia Patton spent last Friday morning with Canton Fire Marshal Dave Champagne, outlining plans to produce videos designed to alert students to the dangers of arson. Shortly after she returned to the school, the second arson fire in less than two months again forced the evacuation of Canton High School.

"After the second arson fire, I heard a lot of resentment on the part of students against those who are setting the fires. Students don't like being taken away from what they're doing and being put in a dangerous situation," said Patton. "We're hoping to educate students on the dangers and consequences of setting fires in public buildings."

Canton High School was evacuated Oct. 16 when after a toilet paper dispenser in a first-floor boys' bathroom was set on fire. Two students have been expelled and are facing arson charges for setting the fire, which caused mostly smoke damage to the bathroom and hallway.

Last Friday, a paper towel dispenser was set on fire in a girls' bathroom on the first floor, causing approximately

Please see FIRES, A8

# City, township wrangle over dispatch location

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
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Plymouth city commissioners have told Plymouth Township trustees a consolidated central police dispatch would have to be located at City Hall.

"We have a majority of the commission saying we're not interested in the police department leaving City Hall," Mayor Don Dismuke told trustees at a joint services meeting last week. "There is an underlying tone for some residents that the township got the fire

department. But certainly, the philosophical issue is police presence at City Hall."

Commissioner Dave McDonald added, "There was not a total rejection of the idea (of merging police dispatch). But if it's going to happen, it's going to be consolidated at City Hall."

City commissioners and township trustees, who have been talking merger, agreed to have Assistant City Manager Paul Sincok develop a report on

Please see DISPATCH, A6

# Cheer Club ends Friday

Friday is the last day for the Plymouth-Canton Observer Cheer Club.

And we want to send out a big thank you to folks who've dropped off gifts for the needy.

Those folks are Christmas Carol of Canton, the Modras family of Plymouth, the Cords family of Plymouth, Shirley Keil of Plymouth Township, the Arble family of Plymouth, Terry and Susan Gronau of Plymouth, Mike and Nancy Riemenschneider of Plymouth, Emily Hug of Plymouth, Rosita and Raymond Smith of Plymouth, Joe and Fran Murawa of Plymouth, Terri and Adam Barbard of Plymouth, Mrs. Haar's first-grade class at Tonda Elementary of Canton, and Denise Calzadillas of Canton.

So join the Cheer Club by bringing donations of new toys and canned and



boxed food to our office at 794 S. Main in Plymouth, until 5 p.m. Friday.

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.

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

Happy Holidays!

# Rainout Well ... not really

BY VALERIE OLANDER  
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Sunday's annual Christmas sing-along and dedication of the Walk of Trees will go down in Plymouth's history as the event that didn't happen, although no one really knew that until it was all over.

About 50-75 diehard carolers came geared with umbrellas and raincoats braving the unsuspecting warm and wet December weather.

And thanks to three members of the Plymouth Community Band, a little rain didn't dampen anyone's holiday spirit. Rich Miller, Bob Herbon and Lou Ruffus set up their brass trio under The Gathering and led the carolers in "The First Noel" and other holiday favorites.

Beforehand, visitors strolled among the raindrops in Kellogg Park viewing the decorated, but unlit, trees. Families waited until well after 6 p.m. for someone to flip the switch and light up the tree-lined walkways of the park.

Even Santa Claus was there - waiting.

Attracting almost as much attention as the jolly old elf was Miller, who was standing near the

Please see RAINOUT, A10



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

**Candlelight night:** Victoria Gallagher, 3 (front), and her sister Elizabeth, 7, of Plymouth participated in the candlelight Christmas Carol sing-along at The Gathering. The event was canceled, although no one knew it until it was over.



## Congresswoman to speak at luncheon

The Tonquish Economic Club ends its 1998 season noon Monday, Dec. 14, in the Plymouth Manor with Congresswoman Lynn Rivers as the guest speaker.

This will bring to a close the first year for the Economic Club which featured 11 headline speakers, including Gov. John Engler, Secretary of State Candice Miller and Supreme Court Chief Justice Conrad Mallett.

The 1999 season kicks off on Jan. 14 with Detroit Shock coach Nancy Lieberman-Cline, who just last week was elected into

**This will bring to a close the first year for the Economic Club which featured 11 headline speakers**

the Basketball Hall of Fame and is considered by many to be best ever to play women's basketball. To make a reservation for the Dec. 14 program with Rivers, call 455-1166.

Season packages for 1999 are now available and start with the January program.

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## Police nab Hilltop prowlers

BY DUNCAN E. WHITE  
STAFF WRITER  
dwhite@ec.house.com

Two men suspected of attempting to break into the clubhouse of the Hilltop Golf Club at 47000 Powell Road were arrested early Monday morning by Plymouth Township police.

One of the suspects, a Dearborn Heights man with no previous police record, has admitted in a written police statement to ripping phone lines from the building and breaking two windows with the intention of stealing golf clubs and alcohol.

The other suspect, a Wayne man with a police record of larceny and theft, has admitted to "being in the immediate vicinity of the clubhouse," according to police reports.

Police responded to the scene just after 2 a.m. early Monday after an alarm signaled an alarm company that the phone lines to the clubhouse had been cut off.

After briefly scouting the area, police

**According to Hilltop Golf Club general manager Shannon Blake, the break-in was a surprise during the off-season when business is slow.**

noticed a Ford Ranger pickup truck pulling out of the Jehovah's Witnesses church parking lot across the street.

After following the vehicle, police pulled the two suspects over for defective equipment and, upon inspection of the truck, found a flashlight, bolt cutters, several screw drivers, work gloves and binoculars, police said.

The two men were questioned separately and gave conflicting stories as to why they were in the parking lot. One said the truck had mechanical problems while the other

claimed they stopped because he had to urinate.

Police found two broken windows and footprints at the scene and the shoes of both men were taken as evidence.

A police dog followed a scent from the clubhouse to the church parking lot across the street where the truck was first seen by police officers.

The two men have yet to be arraigned on charges of breaking and entering, malicious destruction of property and possession of burglar tools. Names were not released.

According to Hilltop Golf Club general manager Shannon Blake, the break-in was a surprise during the off-season when business is slow.

"It really doesn't make much sense to me," she said. "There really wasn't that much to take anyway but I know that we were pretty lucky."

## New Henry Ford medical center opens

A new Henry Ford medical center has opened its doors to patients in Plymouth.

The 21,000-square-foot Plymouth center opened Monday, Dec. 7. The center offers services in the areas of internal medicine, family medicine, pedi-

atrics, obstetrics and gynecology and urgent care.

The Plymouth center is located at 14300 Beck Road, between M-14 and Commerce Drive. The phone number is (734) 453-5600.

The new center also offers radiology, pharmacy and labora-

tory services.

"This new center will increase our capacity to serve patients from our current sites by approximately four times," said Tom Groth, administrator for Henry Ford's Western Region. "The additional space will allow us to

provide continuous quality care to local communities."

The new medical center was designed by Neuman, Smith & Associates of Southfield, and constructed by R.A. DeMattia Co. of Plymouth.

## Read Observer Sports

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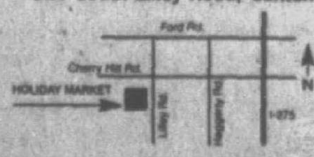
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BY LILLY A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

If you are from community - or every year - 4-H puts a spark in you if you lived in your life, it may animal.

You may have that 4-H went to as suburban sp southeast Mich many communit

However, inc urban Canton Clubs that are fe to the southwe has reformed to flavor of subur

Sally Petersen parent of kinder Emily and Luke Ava Petersen, he at All Saints Sc All Saints is the Canton that ha as an after-scho ditionally, clubs farms, not hom sions or schools.

Petersen, wh up in Trenton never heard of had picked up a library and dec at All Saints. T has 35 members

Some of this will be plantin around the scho giving toy and donations to r along with r kitchen safet songs and gar Petersen may s Hers responsib dogs, insects, r bils. She said possibility, too.

Jeanine Asch half of her child Heights playing and dreaming

Downed line: A lines on Ann A without power

Stor  
pow

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
tbruscato@ec.house.com

Business and se ed at Plymouth suspended for mo heavy storms a Sunday night and morning knocked "City Hall was from 11:30 p.m. through about 3 day," said Assista er Paul Sincoc were a couple of that were inoper on Main Street."

Sincoc said th al large tree throughout the had to put Chr tions back in plac "We had fair damage to our plays downtown lage," he said, "working on them day."

As far as city b



# No horsing around

## All Saints School houses suburban 4-H Club

BY LILLY A. EVANS  
STAFF WRITER

If you are from a farming community - or went to the fair every year - 4-H Club probably puts a spark in your spurs. But if you lived in urban areas all your life, it may be a strange animal.

You may have even thought that 4-H went by the wayside as suburban sprawl engulfed southeast Michigan. And in many communities, it has.

However, increasingly suburban Canton still has 4-H Clubs that are fed off the farms to the southwest and one club has reformed to Canton's new flavor of suburban life.

Sally Petersen of Plymouth, parent of kindergarten twins Emily and Luke and 4-year-old Ava Petersen, heads a 4-H Club at All Saints School in Canton. All Saints is the only school in Canton that has the 4-H Club as an after-school activity. Traditionally, clubs were run out of farms, not homes in subdivisions or schools.

Petersen, who was brought up in Trenton, said she had never heard of 4-H until she had picked up a brochure in the library and decided to head it at All Saints. The student club has 35 members.

Some of this year's activities will be planting flower bulbs around the school grounds and giving toy and canned food donations to needy families, along with nutrition and kitchen safety, games and songs and garden planting. Petersen may also teach the 4-Hers responsibility with cats, dogs, insects, rabbits, and gerbils. She said photography is a possibility, too.

Jeanine Asch of Canton spent half of her childhood in Sterling Heights playing with toy horses and dreaming of the day she

**■ Sally Petersen of Plymouth, parent of kindergarten twins Emily and Luke and 4-year-old Ava Petersen, heads a 4-H Club at All Saints School in Canton.**

could call a live horse her own.

### Joining the club

About 12 years ago, when Asch was 10, her parents moved to Canton and let her board a horse in Belleville. At that time, she joined 4-H through her friends with horses. After she grew out of 4-H (5 to 19 years old), she decided to lead a club.

"I got so much out of 4-H when I was a kid," she said. "I want to give back what I got out of it and give the opportunity to other children."

She now heads a club of 10 children from Canton who board horses and go to the Wayne County fair for competitions.

She said a lot of people are surprised she is able to run a horse club in Wayne County.

"A lot of people don't know what 4-H is and they are shocked that there are horses and large animals in Wayne County," Asch said. She also added that large animals in Wayne County are diminishing.

If you have a child that has always wanted a horse, Asch says 4-H is a great place to start. Horses cost between anywhere from \$700 to several thousand dollars. Boarding fees range from \$165 to \$400 a month.

The 4-H horse clubs have a protégé program that allows families that don't have the

funds for a large animal to share with other kids. Also, there are places that lease animals.

Tom and Linda Koppin of Canton were both raised in the suburbs and didn't know much about livestock. They discovered 4-H about 12 years ago.

### Family affair

Now, the Koppins co-lead a livestock club with other families in western Wayne County.

The Koppins' children Paul, 21, Kelly, 18, and Andrew, 14, have been involved in 4-H. Their father said it has made a such a positive impact on his children's life that his eldest son is studying dairy management at Michigan State University and his daughter plans on an agriculture-related career.

Much like Asch's group, the kids in the group make boarding arrangements with farm friends in western Wayne and their big event of the year is the fair. Their club raises beef and dairy cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, rabbits and poultry.

There is a reason that people reared on farms are familiar with 4-H.

The 4-H Club started in the 1900s with various names like the agricultural club, canning clubs and boys and girls club. It was a club that taught boys and girls in rural areas about farm animals, growing corn and canning.

Also, 4-H is a part of the Cooperative Extension Service, which is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and 4-H Youth Programs are based at MSU (formerly an agricultural college).

The H's stand for head, heart, hands and health which are main components of the group's pledge.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMANN

Horse's haven: Erin Welsh, 11, of Plymouth (foreground left) looks up at Sunset, a 9-year-old thoroughbred mare owned by Sarah Huth, 16, of Plymouth, holding the reins (at right), as Kaitlin Goike, 10, of South Lyon (left) and Kate Keim, 14, of Canton, look on during a meeting of the Bits n' Bridles 4H Club of Plymouth-Canton.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMANN

**Downed line:** An early Monday morning storm caused a tree to fall on top of power lines on Ann Arbor Road, west of Beck. Detroit Edison said 2,700 customers were without power in the Plymouths.

## Storm knocks out city power, traffic signals

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
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Business and services conducted at Plymouth City Hall were suspended for most of Monday as heavy storms and high winds Sunday night and early Monday morning knocked out power.

"City Hall was without power from 11:30 p.m. Sunday night through about 3:30 p.m. Monday," said Assistant City Manager Paul Sincok. "And, there were a couple of traffic signals that were inoperable downtown on Main Street."

Sincok said there were several large tree limbs down throughout the city, and crews had to put Christmas decorations back in place.

"We had fairly substantial damage to our Christmas displays downtown and in Old Village," he said. "We had crews working on them much of Monday."

As far as city business, Sincok

**■ 'With most of our work done on computers, it's difficult to get anything accomplished.'**

Linda Langmesser  
-city clerk

said it was done "the old-fashioned way, we had to look up information manually. We weren't quite as quick, but we were operating."

"We're sitting in the dark, doing whatever we can," said City Clerk Linda Langmesser from her darkened office. "With most of our work done on computers, it's difficult to get anything accomplished."

"Without the power we've been taking payments and hand-stamping them," said Treasurer Teresa Cischke. "However, it hasn't been too busy."

Meanwhile, it was business as

usual for the police department, which is located in the same building.

"Our natural gas generator kicked on and police service was uninterrupted," said police Chief Robert Scoggins.

The Plymouth District Library, next to City Hall, was also shut down Monday because of power problems.

Plymouth Township officials report minor damage as a result of the storm.

"We had a utility pole split in half on Beck Road (near Port), affecting power for our industrial users," said Jim Anulewicz, public services director. "There were also a couple of large evergreens that were slipped over."

Detroit Edison spokesman Scott Simons said there were a total of 2,700 customers left without power in the Plymouth community. That compares to 100 in neighboring Canton Township.

# 4 DAYS THIS WEEKEND

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# DDA board meets tonight to consider hiring director

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
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The City of Plymouth is closer to appointing a new Downtown Development Authority director after 30-minute interviews with each of six candidates last week. The DDA board is expected to discuss the interviews at today's meeting, which could result in the authority naming a director. City Manager Steve Walters said the DDA received 50 applications for the position, and selected eight people to interview. Two of those dropped out before the interview process

began. Those interviewed for the job included Martha Aillis of Flint, who is owner of her own consulting firm and a former director of the Flint DDA; Ann Barnette of Milford, who is currently the executive director of the Village of Milford DDA; Gerard Dettloff of Rochester Hills, who earlier this year resigned from his position as economic development director in Hamtramck; Claudia Frederick of Sterling Heights, currently the senior marketing manager for Westland Shopping Center; Brian Krasner of Oak Park, a former consultant with

Shorebank Development Corporation; and Amelia Oliverio of Garden City, the owner of AJO Graphics in Garden City and the executive director of the Garden City Chamber of Commerce.

After selecting a finalist, the Plymouth DDA board will negotiate the terms of a contract.

Walters said the former director, Steve Guile, earned approximately \$62,000 before leaving Oct. 2. Guile left after six years in Plymouth to become the DDA director in Westland.



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHEMAN

Happy holidays: Seated from left, Joan Calhoun, Mickie Beyer, dollmaker Bonnie Kline, homeowner Carey Gary and Esther Shattuck, members of the Plymouth Branch of the Farm and Garden Club.

## Tea time

### Garden club rings in holidays

BY VALERIE OLANDER  
STAFF WRITER  
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The Plymouth branch of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association was able to take an inside peak of the bed and breakfast at 932 Penniman Ave. during their annual Christmas tea.

The holiday tea was hosted at the home of Jon W. and Carey Gary, who opened the bed and breakfast about two years ago. The three-story Victorian home, just west of Harvey, was built in 1903 by Dr. Nichols.

Although many of the women were excited to see the inside, one woman reminisced about playing cards in the front parlor some 60 years ago.

Esther Shattuck said she met with former homeowner Louise Wilcox and the women's club every other Thursday afternoon. Louise Wilcox grew up in the home, married Ken Harrison, and continued to live there for many years, she said. The Wilcox/Harrison family sold the house in 1975.

"I played bridge in here many, many times," said Shattuck, who sat in a wing chair in the front parlor Monday afternoon.

"Louise would send her hus-



Good tidings: Penniman bed and breakfast owner Carey Gary (left) and doll maker Bonnie Kline.

band to Detroit to pick up Sanders' ice cream. We'd have cream puffs and of course that chocolate sauce."

The get-together of the 1930s was somewhat similar with Monday's holiday tea. Good food and good conversation was easy to find.

The women also received a presentation on doll making from Bonnie Kline, a retired Plymouth Salem High School culinary arts teacher. Kline

brought her collection of porcelain dolls, including Shirley Temple, Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer.

"I try to dress all my kids, I call them my kids, the way I would have dressed them as a little girl," she said.

Kline said she has about 50 dolls, none of which are for sale. The dolls are a labor of love, she said. She makes them for herself as a hobby and decorates her Livonia home and her cottage in Gladwin. "I'm glad I have two homes," she said.

Homeowner Carey Gary, also a culinary arts teacher at Plymouth Salem High School, gave tours of the bed and breakfast to curious club members. Three guest rooms with private baths are now open, although two others are currently being remodeled. The front parlor and reception area also are rented out for showers and small gatherings.

"We wanted it to be a treasure back to the community," said Gary.

Chairwoman for the Christmas tea was Margie Bake, assisted by Jane Clark, Mickie Beyer, Dorothy Sincok and Juanita Penkell. Program chairwoman was Joan Calhoun.

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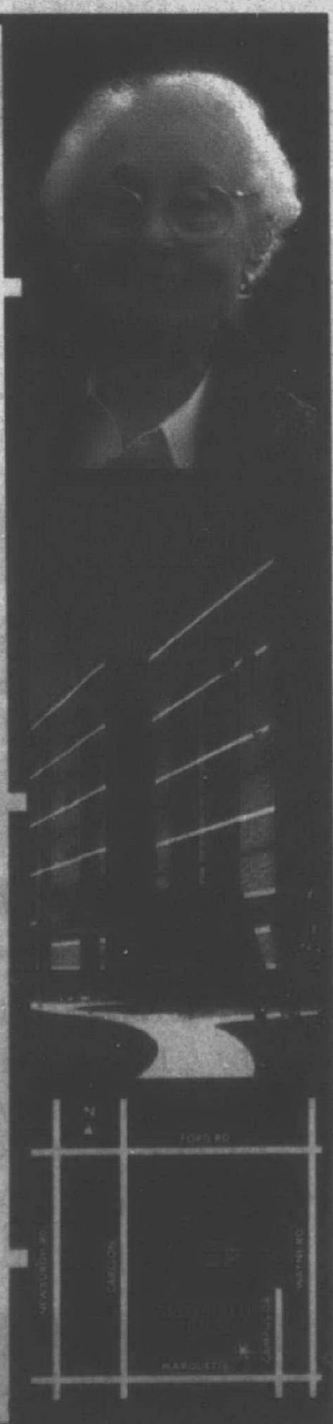
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# Most area restaurant owners don't support smoking ban

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER  
kabracyk@ec.homecomm.net

Last Valentine's Day, Don Payne decided to do something special for his customers.

The owner of three Family Buggy restaurants, one of them in Livonia, made his Farmington Hills eatery smoke-free because he believed he had more non-smokers than smokers.

But so far, the prohibition hasn't helped him financially.

"We tried it there, and the effects were devastating," Payne said, as he estimates he has lost \$70,000 in business since February.

While Payne operates a non-smoking restaurant, is a non-smoker and prefers to eat without cigarette smoke permeating the air he breathes, he opposes a proposed Wayne County ordinance telling businesses they must prohibit smoking.

"I just think it's a bad idea," Payne said. "Theoretically, it's a

good idea. But the reality is it will cause businesses to fail and jobs to be lost."

Payne would prefer a statewide ban, such as in California. Such a ban countywide would hurt only the businesses in the county that ban smoking, he believes. "What we find is if you go out with one smoker, the group will not go to a non-smoking restaurant. Especially at lunchtime, they will select another restaurant out of concern for the smoker."

"If you ban it in one county, they will drive out of the county. Businesses will suffer, and people will be out of work," Payne said. Smokers who used to patronize his Farmington Hills restaurant now go to his Livonia establishment.

Despite his financial losses in Farmington Hills, Payne plans to continue the smoke-free policy in Farmington Hills but won't ban smoking from his Livonia and Rochester Hills eateries if he can help it.

Even if commissioners revised the ordinance to exempt businesses with fewer than 15 employees, that won't help Payne. He employs about 70 people in Livonia. "It doesn't take much when you count the dishwashers, waitresses and cooks and you are open all day with different shifts. Fifteen is almost a joke."

Some restaurants already are smoke-free. Aliana Briggs, a bartender at Cafe Bon Homme in Plymouth,

said that restaurant has been smoke-free for six years. "Most of the customers are pleased with it," Briggs said.

"We lost a couple of tables when we first started, but it really didn't impact it over time."

Whether government should prohibit smoking altogether, "That's a big question," Briggs said. "I don't know. It's a big deal to the smoker, but I think it should be because of the rights

Please see RESTAURANTS, A11

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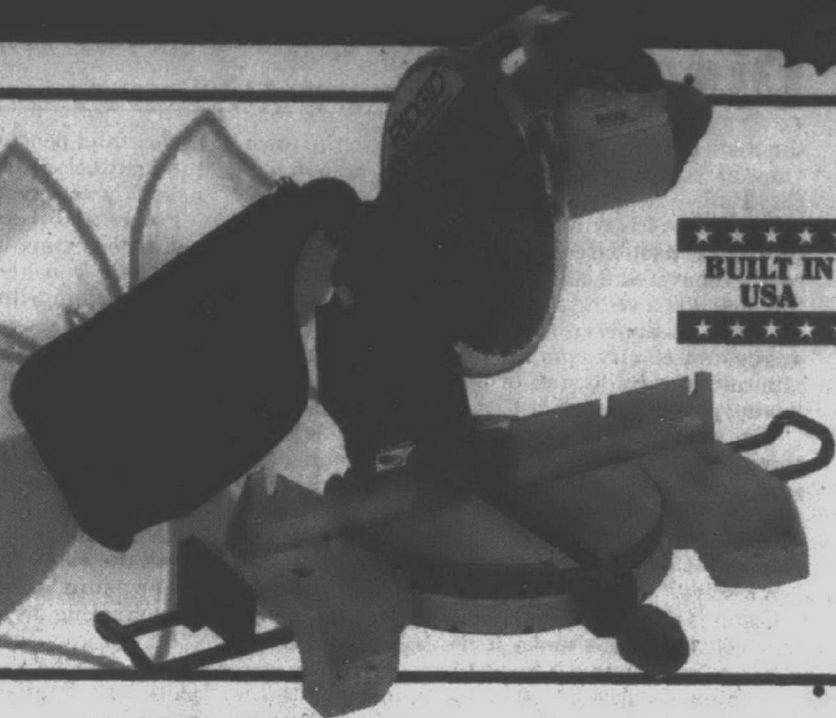
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- Includes: Bed extensions, stop block and dust bag

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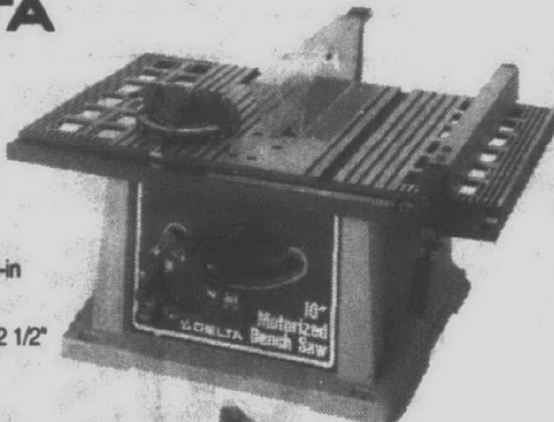
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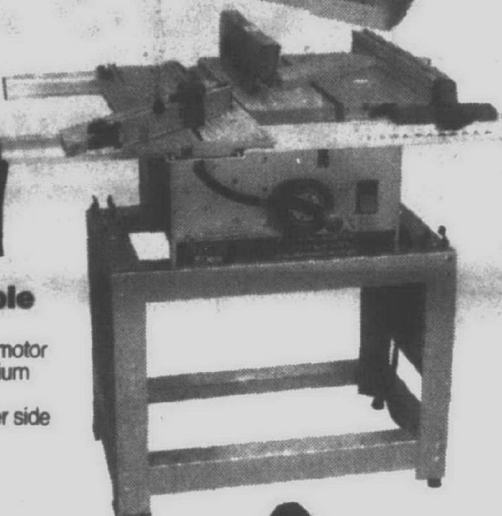
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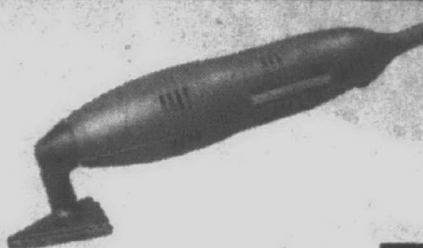
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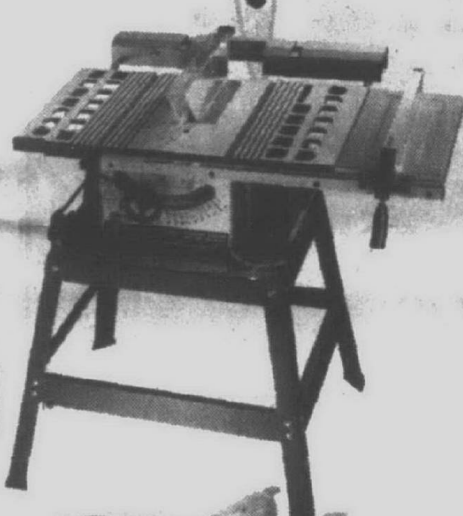
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- 1 RPM: 4,800; 13 AMP
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2 (218830)



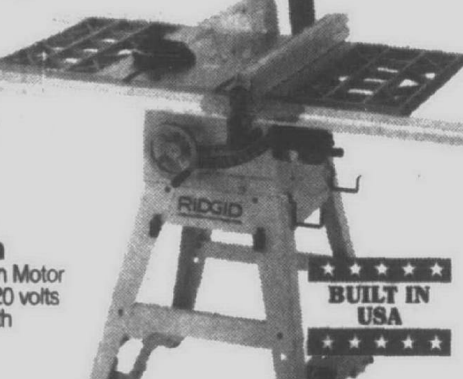
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### Table Saw with

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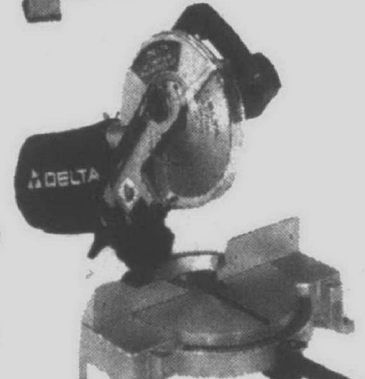
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# \$179

### 10" Compound Power Miter Saw

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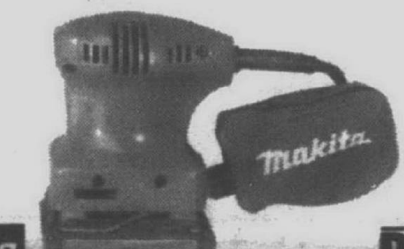
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- 1.6 AMP, 14,000 OPM motor
- Cleaner, faster sanding with longer sandpaper life

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- Includes dust bag and sandpaper punch
- 1.7 AMP, 13,500 OPM

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## DELTA

# \$134

### Power Miter Saw

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- 40 tooth carbide blade
- Cut capacity at 90°: 2 by 6, 4 by 4
- Includes dust bag
- Portable - only weighs 28 lbs.

3070 (307684)



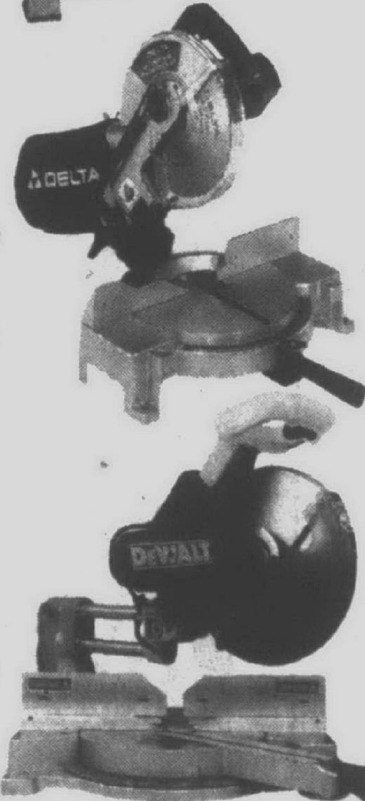
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### 12" Heavy Duty Double Bevel Siding Compound Miter Saw

- 13 amp, 4000 RPM
- Electric brake
- 0-48° bevel capacity to the left and right

DW708 (104389)



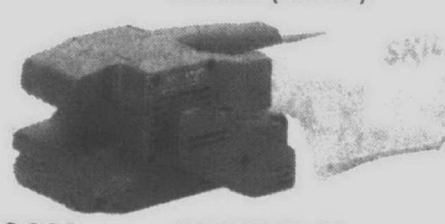
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- 3" x 18"
- 700 ft/min. belt speed for fast surface removal

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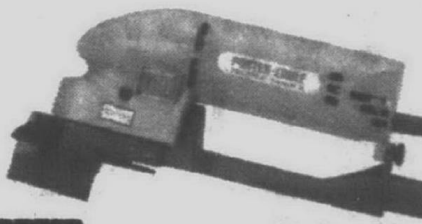
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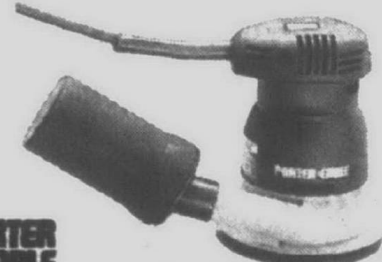
## PORTER-CABLE

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### 5" Quicksand™ Random Orbit Finishing Sander

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333 (196554)



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- Fast cutting blade for ripping and cross cutting

033877PP (153868)

**Vermeer**

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## Fires from page A1

\$3,000 in damages.

Patton said two short videos will be produced over the holiday break, and will be played for all students when they come back for second semester in January.

"One video will give them information concerning the first bathroom fire and show pictures to give students an indication of what damage was done," said Patton. "The second video will show students how to protect themselves and others in case of a fire at the school."

### Not funny

"Someone thinks this is funny, and playing it off as a prank,"

said Bruce Siegel, the assistant principal who is investigating the fires. "What they aren't realizing is that they're putting the lives of other kids in danger."

"What we want to do is provide feedback to kids to show them how serious fire is, and the explanation and ramifications of the smoke and fumes," added Siegel.

Siegel said security has been heightened in the north end of Canton High School, where the fires occurred. And signs from the Michigan Arson Reward Program, announcing rewards of up to \$5,000 for information leading

to arrests and convictions, are posted throughout the school.

"We are doing our best with two security personnel in each high school, but it's hard patrolling 16 bathrooms in each building," said Siegel. "We've got several leads, some from parents who have called us and some from students. This case may take us a little longer to solve, but we will solve it."

Siegel encourages students to call the Anonymous Tip Line, 416-2920, with information.

"What we want to tell students is that arson is not like a traffic ticket. It's a felony which can

send them to jail for up to 10 years," added Siegel. "And every single time a fire is set, there is the possibility for loss of life."

"We also have students who have a variety of disabilities, and many times they're not on the first floor when an alarm is sounded," said Siegel. "Sometimes it's not all that easy evacuating them from the building."

### Many dangers

Champagne also points out the lives of many people, other than

students, are put in danger when a fire alarm is pulled at the school.

"There are dangers to responding personnel as well," said Champagne. "They drive fairly good-sized rigs, and there are a lot of people between here and there who could get hurt. The pranks also take emergency people away from other life-threatening situations."

Two 17-year-old students have been expelled from school and are facing arson charges in

Wayne County Circuit Court for the Oct. 16 fire.

"This is a very serious situation, and very costly," said Superintendent Chuck Little. "We are asking for them to repay the costs for damages, and for administrative costs, which were pretty substantial."

The damage from the first arson fire was about \$2,000. Little said the administrative costs could be several times that amount.

## Dispatch from page A1

the costs of moving a central dispatch to the township, as compared to renovations for dispatch at City Hall.

In a report last month to both governmental units, a consolidated dispatch in the township's newly renovated facilities would save each community \$80,000 a year.

Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy suggested to city commissioners there may be alternative ways to staff or patrol the city without having police dispatch at City Hall.

"I'm wondering if it might make some sense to think along the lines of how do we accomplish the goal of police presence, other than having dispatch (at City Hall)," said McCarthy. "If the real issue is the township got the fire department so the city should get dispatch, that may not be an issue we can resolve."

Commissioner Colleen Pobur thinks the monetary considerations make it necessary to consider moving dispatch to the township.

"I think it's irresponsible not to investigate the benefits and drawbacks. It's a significant amount of money," she told members of the joint session. "I

understand people have deeply felt positions about the institutions of their communities. But we also have fiduciary responsibilities."

Pobur also broached the subject of merging police departments.

"Where you have merged fire and rescue, and there's a compelling case for merged dispatch, the next logical step is merged police departments," she said.

"One significant factor is you have a new township police chief with no political baggage, and a city police chief scheduled to retire in January 2000," said City Manager Steve Walters.

"Once the dispatch gets consolidated, then it may be logical for the rest of the department to be consolidated," said McDonald. "However, I don't think the votes are there for that."

Township trustee Chuck Curmi is in favor of consolidating dispatch.

"It's a good economic decision," said Curmi. "However, it's too premature to talk about complete consolidation. We can't even get past the dispatch issue."



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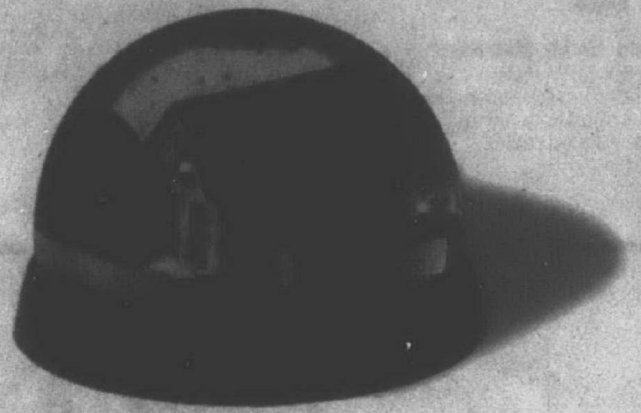


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## Cour

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER  
kabrancyk@oe.h  
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Gov. John Engler County Executive McNamara may issues such as road, they agree on road, program that will county, rather than administer a juv program.

Two remaining relative package w by the state Sen and were sent t House.

The first bill Emergency Municip to authorize stat Wayne County, considered a "cou agency" under pre tion. This bill adds tion to the origi which allows Way receive a block gra juvenile justice ser

"We'd give ther with the theory th do it more efficie they understand t better," said Sen. R-Northville.

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# County to run juvenile program

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

Gov. John Engler and Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara may disagree on issues such as roads, but apparently they agree on a block grant program that will allow the county, rather than the state, to administer a juvenile justice program.

Two remaining pieces of a legislative package were approved by the state Senate on Dec. 2 and were sent to the state House.

The first bill amends the Emergency Municipal Loan Act to authorize state loans to Wayne County, which would be considered a "county juvenile agency" under previous legislation. This bill adds more legislation to the original package, which allows Wayne County to receive a block grant to provide juvenile justice services.

"We'd give them the money with the theory that they could do it more efficiently because they understand the local needs better," said Sen. Robert Geake, R-Northville.

Introduced by Geake, the bill was approved on Dec. 2 by a 20-16 vote. Two senators did not vote. Geake's bill also allows the Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board the ability

to authorize loans to Wayne County.

A second bill would amend the Health and Safety Fund Act to allow money distributed from that fund, supported by cigarette taxes, to be used by Wayne County. That was approved, 20-18.

Both were sent to the state House, but it was not known whether the House would approve the two bills and the legislative package before the holiday recess.

If it is rejected this week, Geake expected the package will be reintroduced next year, because Engler wants the package approved. "I'm sure someone will introduce it," Geake said.

Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, voted against both proposals last Wednesday and the rest of the package when the Senate acted



**In agreement:** Gov. John Engler (above right) and Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara may disagree on a lot of issues but they agree on a block grant program that will allow the county, rather than the state, to administer a juvenile justice program.

refused the state to audit their funds. I'm not convinced of the accountability of the county at this point in time," Bennett said. Wayne County also would be alleviated of an \$80 million debt to the state.

But Mike Duggan, assistant county executive, said this program will address the problem that 64 percent of juveniles released from the state in its current system are arrested and convicted of a felony at a later

on it earlier this year.

"I am very, very concerned about this whole process of giving money to Wayne County, and the whole lack of accountability with money sent to Wayne County," Bennett said.

"I don't want to get into a yelling match with the county, but you look at the road dollars and how they

date. Juveniles generally receive probation for a first offense, then are returned to the street without any detention time unless a second or third offense is committed," Duggan said.

"It's extremely expensive and these kids aren't turned around," Duggan said. "We will treat the first offense much more seriously."

Duggan said Wayne County hopes to create a program similar to its program for adults who are sentenced to two years in jail. Through drug treatment and job training, that program has assisted 800 adults with finding full-time employment since 1993.

Duggan estimated the legislative package would yield about \$50 million in block grant money for Wayne County. The county's Department of Community Justice would start administering the program on Oct. 1, 1999.

Geake called the package "extremely controversial."

"There were concerns from union members who now work for the state could lose jobs or benefits," Geake said. "It's clear the state plans to save money by giving it to the county. The county is saying they can save money."

## Revenue sharing bill helps suburbs, protects Detroit

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER  
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After days of back-room maneuvering, the state House of Representatives produced bills that will protect Detroit's share of state revenues but cut its city income tax.

Suburbanites working in Detroit would see their city income tax rates drop from the current 1.5 percent to 1 percent over 10 years - if the House bills become law.

Gov. John Engler was visible after meetings with the House Republican caucus on behalf of the state-Detroit deal. But Rep. Judith Scranton, R-Brighton, said, "You didn't hear any bones cracking in my caucus," meaning Engler's pressure was light.

The House on Dec. 3:

Overwhelmingly approved a bill paring Detroit's city personal income tax over 10 years. Residents will see their rate drop from 3

to 2 percent, non-residents from 1.5 to 1 percent, under HB 5391. (Detroit's council and mayor could cut the tax unilaterally, but future officials could raise it again. Detroit has a special state law that permits it to levy the high rates.)

Approved 58-33 a revenue-sharing bill that freezes Detroit's share at \$334 million and revises the formula to help suburban and rural areas.

The House revenue-sharing bill will get a harsh reception in the Senate, where Glenn Steil, R-Grand Rapids, is beating the drums to cut Detroit's aid over six years to \$281 million.

Steil pictures Detroit as a city with 10 percent of the state's population gobbling up 25 percent of the shared revenue. He sees Detroit's being rewarded for losing population while having the highest

Please see SHARING, A12

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triple dresser

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BY KEN ARRAN  
STAFF WRITER  
karran@ecp.com

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# Commissioners react to ordinance

## Restaurants from page A5

By: KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER  
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Commissioner Kathleen Husk, R-Redford, calls smoking a public health concern, but she also doesn't want bad legislation passed by county commissioners in prohibiting the activity in Wayne County.

Husk said Tuesday she expects Commissioner Bernard Parker, D-Detroit, to revise his ordinance to exclude businesses with 15 or fewer employees from the smoking ban.

"That way it won't affect the mom-and-pop businesses," said Husk.

Parker could not be reached Tuesday for comment on the possible revisions. He said earlier the National Center for Disease Control has reported that cigarette smoking is the most preventable cause of death with one in five deaths smoking-related.



"In fact, scientific studies have linked secondhand smoke to heart disease and lung cancer," Parker said.

Husk added that she has received several phone calls from constituents who support the smoking ban.

"I personally think it's a good idea," Husk said. "It's important to have a healthy environment for people, but it's also important that the ordinance we pass as

commissioners is good legislation."

The ordinance is expected to bring a spirited debate next Thursday at the county commission meeting if it is revised and approved today by the commission's Health and Human Services Committee.

Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, who opposed the ordinance on Dec. 2, believes Parker will need to take the smoking ban up with the state Legislature. "The reality is he has no power to legislate in that area. State pre-emption applies. State law supersedes the county."

"The Wayne County Commission should not be trying to regulate the economy and businesses."

McCotter said the commissioners should not act without economic studies on the possible effect on Wayne County businesses. "We can't run our own airport, now Wayne County is

going to tell people how to run their businesses?"

Husk believed studies showed businesses were not hurt, as she cited a survey conducted by the Center for Hospitality Research at Cornell University that found non-smokers were eating out more often since the ban and a report that indicated New York City restaurant business had not suffered since a smoking ban was initiated there last year.

"So what I see happening is when you make a transition, it's difficult to work through in the beginning, but overall it will be healthier for everyone," Husk said.

Commission Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland, said she hasn't read the ordinance yet, so she would not comment. She has received phone calls on the matter. "Some are for it, some are against it," Beard said.

of the nonsmoker."

Anthony Gatto, general manager of Roman Forum in Canton, called the ordinance "a real dumb idea."

"The industry is getting real tired of government telling us what to do," Gatto said. "Cigarette smoking is not illegal. It should be left up to the customer to go where they want to go, and the businesses, on whether or not they want to allow smoking."

Gatto said his establishment has no problem offering a no-smoking section and discourages people from smoking cigars. "We're in the business of taking care of people. They can eat here if they want and, if it's too smoky, they can eat somewhere else. They can work here if they want or if (the smoke) bothers

them and they don't want to work here, they can quit and go down the street."

"Hopefully, it's a free country. What's next? Will they tax steaks because you might have a heart attack or hardening of the arteries?"

Tom Tomovski, the owner of Alexander the Great in Westland, does not smoke, but disagrees with the proposed ban.

"You would think it's bad for business, because there are a lot of smokers out there," Tomovski said. "We have 50 percent of our customers who smoke, and 50 percent who are non-smoking. Banning smoking will hurt us probably."

Tony Grabanica, owner of Vic's Diner in Garden City, said he was "indifferent" toward the ban.

## Commission committee to review smoking ban

The ordinance to prohibit smoking for most Wayne County businesses and workplaces was expected to be discussed today (Thursday) at 10 a.m.

If committee members approve the ordinance, it will be returned to the commission Thursday, Dec. 17. A public hearing on the ordinance will be held at the meeting.

Workplaces not subject to the

ordinance include private residences, except when used as a childcare, adult care or health care facility; retail tobacco stores; public areas where bingo is held, where at least 40 percent of the seating area is designated and maintained as smoke-free.

Only private functions in restaurants, hotel and motel conference rooms would be exempt.

The size of smoking areas in restaurants and bars will be restricted over a one-year period to smaller areas until smoking is ultimately prohibited.

As of March 1, 1999, restaurants and bars may designate a smoking area no greater than 50 percent of its seating capacity, but it must be designated in a room.

Beginning Sept. 1, 1999, smoking

will be reduced to no more than 20 percent of the seating capacity. Beginning March 1, 2000, there will be no designated smoking areas in restaurants.

Owners, operators or managers permitting violations of the ordinance may be found guilty of a civil infraction and subject to a fine of \$50 for a first offense and \$100 for each subsequent offense.

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## Hot toys!

### Young shoppers have long lists for Santa this season

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI  
SPECIAL WRITER

Pushing a miniature basket purposefully through the aisles of Noodle Kidoodle recently, Daniel Calleja, 4, was a shopper who knew what he wanted. And he wasn't going to consider a purchase from the Northville Township store until he made sure the merchandise, especially the Kawasaki guitar, worked.

The Livonia youngster was browsing with his dad, Jeff, when he quickly explained that besides the guitar he also wanted a Play Doh Play Shop, a remote control tower crane and a keyboard.

Calleja was among a number of young shoppers surveyed recently to get a glimpse of the hottest toys this holiday season. Many of the kids chose popular items, like "A Bug's Life" characters and Teletubbies. A lot of their other choices were traditional, long-time favorites, like Legos, Barbies and yo-yos.

The toys that grab Calleja's attention and the millions of children around the country amount to a \$22.6 billion annual business. A whopping 50 percent of those sales are rung up during the holidays.

If you're wondering what to buy the children on your holiday shopping list, here are some ideas from experts, like David Shore, 7, a New Hampshire resident who was interviewed while recently visiting relatives in Livonia. He was checking out the stock at the Northville Township store with his mom, Sue Shore.

Standing next to a bin filled with Beanie Babies, Sue Shore explained: "He's always looking for Beanie Babies and especially the new ones."

Nintendo, videos, Legos and yo-yos are also some of his top choices.

#### Finding the right toy

Char Crawford of Novi walked out a happy customer after learning that she bought the last Pinky Winky talking Teletubby



**Holiday mood:** Daniel Shore, 4, of Livonia fills his shopping cart with all his favorite toys for the holiday season at Noodle Kidoodle at Six Mile and Haggerty roads.

that her nephew, Jake Gosselin, 2, of Livonia wanted. His mother "looked everywhere and couldn't find it," Crawford explained.

Mike Aja, an 8-year-old Livonia resident and student at St. Michael Catholic School in Livonia, was shopping with his dad, Rich. They were looking for Legos Mind Storms. But, before he left the store, a display of yo-yos also caught his eye and prompted a convincing sales pitch to his father.

Behind the cash register and in the storage room, Shannon Prince, Noodle Kidoodle, store manager, and Traci Johnson, assistant manager, see firsthand which toys are going out the door the most. They ranked pottery wheels, a Crayola adjustable Easel, a Barbie digital camera, Blues Clues toys, yo-yos and Mind Storms as the best selling toys so far this season.

#### High expectations

Some kids we talked to were quite particular; others had general ideas about what they wanted. Some had simple wants. Others, like Dina Salhani, 7, of Dearborn Heights had higher expectations.

She was shopping recently at Toys R Us in Westland with her mom, Debbie and brother, Jordan, 9 months.

"I want everything," Salhani stated emphatically. Then she began naming her top picks, which included a basketball-playing Rebecca Lobo Barbie. A big basketball fan, Debbie Salhani explained that Dina wanted to name her brother Michael Jordan and the family settled on Jordan instead.

"She likes the hand-held Twister game and electronic everything," Debbie Salhani

Please see TOYS, A14

## MET applications available now

The Michigan Education Trust (MET) will accept new applicants Dec. 1, 1998 to Feb. 1, 1999. The MET program provides an opportunity to pre-purchase future college tuition costs for a Michigan child.

secured by the assets of the trust. Applications are available at banks, grocery stores, day care facilities, hospitals, Rite Aid stores, Secretary of State branch offices, libraries and Treasury offices. A nonrefundable \$25 fee is

required when submitting an application. For more information call 1-800-MET-4-KID (1-800-638-4543) or on the Department of Treasury's Web site at: [www.treas.state.mi.us](http://www.treas.state.mi.us)



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## Sharing

from page A9

property, local income and utility taxes in the state while "growth" areas foot the bill. The Senate passed his version of revenue-sharing last summer on 30-6 vote.

Rep. Lyn Banks, R-Redford, voted against the revenue-sharing bill in the House Appropriations Committee Dec. 2 but for it on Dec. 3 when the full House adopted it. Their reasons were identical.

Banks voted no in committee because of the rush job. "The Michigan Municipal League, Michigan Townships Association and Michigan Association of Counties had not had the bill long enough to do an analysis," said Banks, who is term-limited out. Her effort to protect Detroit and Wayne County, however, will help her politically when she takes office Jan. 1 as a Wayne County commissioner.

Here is how area lawmakers voted on the House revenue-sharing bill:

**YES** - Lyn Banks, R-Redford, Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, Tom Kelly, D-Wayne, Andrew Raczowski, R-Farmington Hills.

**NO** - Deborah Whyman, R-Canton.

**ABSENT** - Gerald Law, R-Plymouth.

Michigan has two revenue-sharing pieces of legislation:

■ The constitution, which distributes \$558 million per year on a per-capita basis. Only the voters can change it.

■ A 1971 law, which spreads \$792 million on the basis of a complicated formula that takes account of "relative tax effort." Steil calls that a "perverse incentive of giving more revenue-sharing dollars to communities that increase taxes."

The Steil bill cutting Detroit aid is SB 1181. The House bill freezing it is HB 5989 and is sponsored by Nick Ciaramitaro, D-Roseville.

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| Skis - K2 MSC 99               | \$350        |
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| Poles - Scott Classic          | \$44         |
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| Skis - Olin Discovery          | \$350        |
| Bindings - Salomon Quad 600    | \$180        |
| Poles - Scott Classic          | \$44         |
| <b>Total Retail</b>            | <b>\$589</b> |
| Skis - Salomon X-Free 08       | \$420        |
| Bindings - Salomon Quad 600    | \$180        |
| Poles - Scott Classic          | \$44         |
| <b>Total Retail</b>            | <b>\$644</b> |
| Skis - Dynastar Speed Team Jr. | \$125        |
| Bindings - Salomon Quad 300    | \$120        |
| Poles - Scott Storm            | \$29         |
| <b>Total Retail</b>            | <b>\$299</b> |
| Skis - Rossignol Cut 10.4      | \$369        |
| Bindings - Marker M-28 V-tech  | \$190        |
| Poles - Scott Classic          | \$44         |
| <b>Total Retail</b>            | <b>\$603</b> |
| Skis - Rossignol Bandit Jr.    | \$229        |
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Store Hours: Daily 10-9, Saturday 10-9 Sunday 11-7



# Toys

from page A12

added.

Other kids, like Ricky Lorenz, 8, of Livonia had simple needs.

"I'd like Legos and a pad of paper," said Lorenz, who likes to draw.

He also wants Beast Wars figures and color pencils. The ticket prices got higher and higher as he continued to ponder the question.

"I'd also like a camera case for my camera and oh yeah, Game Boy," Lorenz added.

To put it simply, his mother, Betty explained: "He wants everything that he sees on TV."

Suheil Shatara held his two children, Fred, 4, and Freda, 5, by their hands as they walked through the store. Fred wants Santa to bring a remote control motorcycle and Freda wants a Barbie car.

Billy Garbinski, 7, of Garden City hopes to see "A Bug's Life" character under his Christmas tree Dec. 25.

"I like Star Wars, PlayStation cartridges and smelly markers," he added.

Andrei Dit, 10, tried the video games as his mother watched. What does he want for Christmas? "Video games," he said simply.

Standing near the Pokemon's display, Beverly Swantner shopped with her son, George, 10.

"Well, let's see, I'd like a Vtech



**Searching:** The Shatara family of Westland (from left) Freda, 5, father Suheil and Fred, 4, stroll the aisles the Toys R Us in Westland to get gift ideas.

computer, Pikachu Number 25 Pokemon, Rad Robot and that's it," he exclaimed.

Alex Smith, 3, of Belleville looked professional as she held a Spice Girls microphone that her mom, Alycia planned to buy. Don't tell, but the toddler is also getting a Go Girl C-watch, a Mickey Mouse telephone and an

ice cream maker for Christmas.

## Popular picks

Smith and the other local kids picked many of the same toys listed by KayBee Toys as the most popular this year.

The country's largest mall-based toy retailer said the following are the hottest toys:

A Bug's Life, by Mattel, for ages 4 and up; Blues Clues Musical BlueAges, by Fisher Price, for children 1 and older; Bouncing Tigger, by Mattel, for children 18 months and older; Furby, an interactive Gremlin creature who speaks two languages; and Holiday Barbie and Holiday Sisters, by Mattel for children 3 and older.

Hot Wheels Mechanix, by Mattel for children ages 6 and older; Spice Girls by Galoob, for children 3 and up; Talking Teletubbies, by Hasbro for children age 1 and older; WCW/WWF Wrestling Figures, by Original San Francisco, for children 4 and older and Yomega X-Brain Yo-Yo by Bandai for children age 8 and older also made the top 10 list, according to Yahoo on the Internet.

But trying to track down these and other, popular toys can be a daunting experience. No one knows that more than Gary Buckingham, night manager at the Meijer store on Warren Road in Westland.

He regularly sees cases of fad toys, like the Teletubbies, being snatched up minutes after they are delivered to the store. Other customers, however, leave empty-handed.

His advice: "Don't give up and don't let the holidays get you frustrated."

**Special toy:** Alex Smith, 3, listens to her C Watch tell her the time and then say, "You Go Girl!"

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**Street Beat**  
28735 Plymouth Rd.  
734 421-7772

**MADISON HEIGHTS**  
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25805 John R. Rd.  
248 547-9759

**NOVI**  
Activate Cellular  
12 Oaks Mall  
27500 Novi Rd.  
248 349-6487

**OAK PARK**  
In Touch Communications  
21940 Greenfield Rd.  
248 967-0005

**PONTIAC**  
Mickey Sherr  
5420 Highland Rd.  
248 673-4970

**ROSEVILLE**  
Mickey Sherr  
29241 Gratiot Ave.  
810 777-8660

**ROYAL OAK**  
Mickey Sherr  
25820 Woodward Ave.  
248 398-7204

**SOUTHFIELD**  
Champion's Cellular Warehouse  
24474 Telegraph Rd.  
248 356-6666

**LeVan's**  
30825 Greenfield Rd.  
248 642-4466

**ST. CLAIR SHORES**  
Bell Electronics  
27201 Harper  
810 777-9232

**Mickey Sherr**  
22500 Harper  
810 771-7620

**STERLING HEIGHTS**  
Activate Cellular  
Lakeside Mall  
1400 Lakeside Cir.  
810 566-5882

**Digital Plus Communications**  
35818 Dequindre  
810 268-4100

**V.I.P. Paging**  
38373 Dodge Park  
810 939-2238

**TAYLOR**  
Phone Bars  
20142 Ecorse Rd.  
313 388-9670

**Mickey Sherr**  
14220 Telegraph Rd.  
313 946-4174

**TRENTON**  
Pig Pen Market  
27000 Fort St.  
734 671-6310

**TROY**  
Digital Communications  
Oakland Mall  
412 W. 14 Mile Rd.  
248 588-7161

**Mickey Sherr**  
1010 E. Maple Rd.  
248 589-1910

**WARREN**  
Autonway  
32400 Dequindre  
810 977-2730

**Mickey Sherr**  
32912 Van Dyke  
810 979-8894

**WATERFORD**  
Activate Cellular  
Summit Place Mall  
315 N. Telegraph Rd.  
248 883-6084

**WESTLAND**  
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Westland Mall  
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# Madonna business students win top honors

A Bug's Life, by Mattel, for ages 4 and up; Blues Clues, Musical BlueAges, by Fisher, for children 1 and older;ouncing Tigger, by Mattel, for children 18 months and older; urby, an interactive Gremlin creature who speaks two languages; and Holiday Barbie and Holiday Sisters, by Mattel for children 3 and older.

Hot Wheels Mechanix, by Mattel for children ages 6 and older; Spice Girls by Galoo, for children 3 and up; Talking Tebbies, by Hasbro for children, age 1 and older; WCW/WWE Wrestling Figures, by Original Action Figures, for children 4 and older and Yomega X-Brain Yo-Yo by Bandai for children age 8 and older also made the top 10 list, according to Yahoo, on the Internet.

But trying to track down these and other, popular toys can be a daunting experience. No one knows that more than Gary Buckingham, night manager at the Meijer store on Warren Road in Westland.

He regularly sees cases of fad toys, like the Teletubbies, being snatched up minutes after they are delivered to the store. Other customers, however, leave empty-handed.

His advice: "Don't give up and don't let the holidays get you frustrated."

Several students from Madonna University's School of Business were honored for their academic achievements recently during the school's 14th annual Honors Convocation.

Shannon Warner of Novi received the Meta and Bernard Landuyt Award for High Achievement. A senior majoring in business administration and pre-law, Warner received the most prestigious honor a student may attain in the Madonna School of Business. It is awarded to a senior with a grade point average of 3.7 or above, who has completed a minimum of 30 semester hours and 25 semester hours within the School of Business.

Gregory Leverette of Southfield was awarded the Frank E. and Angileri Quality Award. A graduate student in quality and operations management, Leverette received an award for demonstrating a significant contribution to quality improvements in the automotive industry and maintain a 2.5 grade point average. The award is given to a student, full- or part-time, connected with the automotive industry, pursuing a

master's degree in quality and operations management.

Madonna University's School of Business offers a program in quality improvement in conjunction with the Association for Quality and Participation in which participants earn a nationally recognized certificate in quality. The AQP pilot program is the only one of its kind in the state of Michigan. Upon completion of the program, the certificate may apply towards a master's degree in quality and operations management at Madonna.

Twenty-two students were inducted into the Epsilon Gamma Chapter of Delta Mu Delta, a national honor society in business administration. The motto of the society is "Through Knowledge, Power." A School of Business Faculty member, Tim Brennan of Livonia, was also inducted into Delta Mu Delta as an honorary member.

Receiving Highest Achievement Awards were Carol Bouchin, an accounting major from Detroit, Karen Bedy, a business administration major from Redford, Theresa Gentner, a computer information systems major



**Honored:** Five students honored with the Highest Achievement Award in their major at Madonna University are (clockwise from left) Carol Houchin of Detroit, Karen Bedy of Redford, Alice Pfohl of Wixom, Ruth Hodges of Novi and Theresa Gentner of Livonia.

at Madonna University, and 15 hours within the major with a grade-point average of 3.5 or above.

These students include: Roxanne Delozier, Christine Gerak and Patricia O'Rourke, of Canton; Christopher Bouschet, Lynn Hoag, Shanker Pathak, Carolyn Payne and Nayda Schwartz, of Farmington Hills, and Mary Barney and Pamela Leming, of Garden City.

Also, students honored from Livonia were Lynne Bain, Sheri Bajorek, Stephen Bolla, Linda Cosgrove, Irene Duncan, Maria Gardner, Nadine Janette, Christine Johnson, Sharon Kallas, Jeanette LaForge, Elaine Nading, Beverly Niedbala, Ann Rajt, Dennis Respecki, Rachelle Roy, Jamie Weaver and Sandra Wilson.

From Plymouth, Ryan Bayer, Marilyn Brindamour and Carol Stone were awarded, while Redford residents Julianne Gillis, Joanella Grimes, Michelle Mohr, Constance Pawlaczky, Cynthia Raisanen and Darren Sims were honored.

Westland residents Michael Baker and Albert Fuciarelli also received awards.

## Seat belt use up slightly – study

Michigan's just-released safety belt use rate is up only slightly from last year, according to a survey conducted by the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI).

Use of safety belts is 69.9 percent in 1998 versus 67.6 percent in 1997. The national rate in 1997 was 67.6 percent.

This is the first year Michigan and other states are reporting safety belt use rates as the average for passenger vehicles, sport utility vehicles, vans-minivans and pickup trucks.

Lowest rate of usage is among

pickup truck drivers, 54.1 percent.

It's highest among those who drive vans and minivans, 75.7 percent.

Belt use is lowest for those aged 16-29, at 63.6 percent, and highest for the 4-15 age group, 75.2 percent.

Last year Michigan traffic crashes claimed 1,446 lives. Of those who died, less than half were buckled up.

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## Land from page A1

Money to pay for the land will be taken from the general fund.

"It will be used for future recreational consideration," she said. "We don't have the money to develop it right now, but hopefully we will in the future. It is currently zoned for residential so, if for some reason we can't develop it, or a future board doesn't wish to, it can be resold for residential use."

According to McCarthy, the board had to act quickly in purchasing the land.

"Once it's sold and developed, you can't get it back," said McCarthy. "I see (the purchase) more as being proactive to ensure that there is green space in the community when it is fully developed. As we all know, we're getting near capacity."

In regard to whether the township is looking into acquiring additional land for recreational uses, McCarthy said, "I can say that the board is committed to looking at properties when they become available."

McCarthy said that there had

**I see (the purchase) more as being proactive to ensure that there is green space in the community when it is fully developed. As we all know, we're getting near capacity.'**

**Kathleen Keen McCarthy**  
—supervisor

previously been site approval to put in a new restaurant and bar but the interested developers decided not to because construction would have involved the reworking of septic fields.

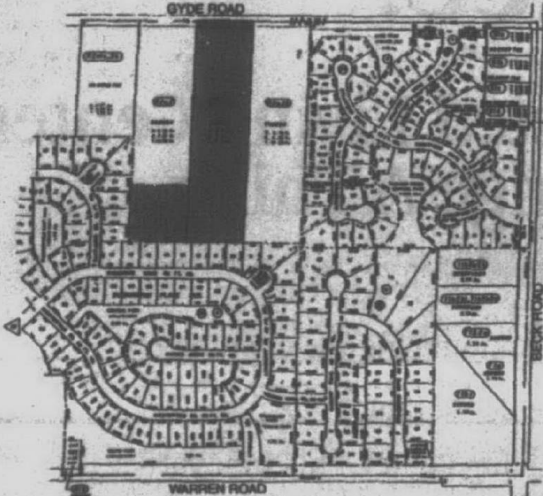
"It's all residential around that area and the residents didn't want (the bar) there anyway," she said. "I think they would much rather have an open space than a bar."

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

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, January 4, 1999** in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

**McCarthy/SKORINACIABARA REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 020 99 0005 000 AND PART OF PARCEL NO. 020 99 0004 000 FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL, TO R-2, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL.** Property is located on the south side of Gude Road between Beck and Ridge Roads. (Rescheduled from December 7, 1998)



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

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Published: December 10 & 24, 1998

## Rainout from page A1

fountain holding his trombone. He promised youngsters and adults alike that he would play if no one else showed up to lead the carolers in song. Miller made good on his promise.

Flanked by Herbon on tuba, and Ruffus on coronet, the sing-along came alive.

Boys Scouts from Troop 1540, Den 6, sang arm-in-arm to the holiday tunes as others, such as Elizabeth Gallagher, 7, and her sister Victoria, 3, swayed back and forth with battery-operated candles in hand.

Claude and Viola Shisler and Madeline McClung, who were to sing with the Salvation Army Band, enjoyed the caroling from the warmth of Shislers' minivan, parked just outside The Gathering.

It was then word began spreading that a sign posted on the door of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce door said the sixth annual sing-along at Kellogg Park was canceled.

On Monday, chamber Executive Director Fran Toney said the Walk of Trees committee met at 4:30 p.m. Sunday in the chamber office and decided to cancel. At that time, heavy rain looked as if it wouldn't be letting up. Committee members called the heads of the groups involved to inform them of the cancellation.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMAN

Miller said when he went home after the sing-along, the director of the Plymouth Community Band had left a message on his answering machine saying it was canceled.

"Those poor little kids, what could you do? We had to play," said Miller. "And we had a lot of fun, too."

Toney said the Walk of Trees and Christmas sing-along has never been canceled "not even for snow" during its six years.

**Family affair: Michon Girardot, 3, of Plymouth gives his father Bernard a kiss during the candlelight Christmas Carol sing-along.**

It won't be rescheduled since other events are scheduled for downtown, such as Friday's Home for the Holidays shopping extravaganza. Stores will stay open until 10 p.m. — rain or shine. Carolers also will be on the street and horse and carriage rides will be available.

Santa is in Kellogg Park from 5-8 p.m. on Fridays and noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays until Dec. 20.

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### CANTON TOWNSHIP ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

David Medley  
ADA Coordinator  
Charter Township of Canton  
1150 S. Canton Center Road  
Canton, MI 48188  
(734) 397-5435

Published: December 10, 1998

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD PROCEEDINGS

A Special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, December 3, 1998 at 1150 South Canton Center Road. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

#### ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bennett, Burdick, Kirchgatter, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Yack

Members Absent: Sheffery

Staff Present: Durack, Machnik, Minghine (arrived 8:00 P.M.)

Also Present: Tim Cronin, Township Counsel

#### ITEM 1 SECOND READING OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORDINANCE NO. 143

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to remove from the table and to adopt the second reading of the Telecommunications Ordinance No. 143 to become effective upon publication in the Canton Observer on December 10, 1998. Motion carried. All Ayes Present.

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON SUMMARY OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORDINANCE ORDINANCE NO. 143

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION OF THE ACCESS TO AND ONGOING USE OF PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY BY TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS; PROVIDING FOR A PERMIT AND PERMIT FEES; PROVIDING FOR A RESERVATION OF RIGHTS; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR A PERMIT APPLICATION PROCEDURE; PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL PERMIT FEES; PROVIDING FOR THE USE OF THE PUBLIC EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY BY A PERMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR INSTALLATION, CONSTRUCTION AND/OR RELOCATION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS FACILITIES; PROVIDING FOR LIABILITY AND INSURANCE; PROHIBITING THE ASSIGNMENT OF A PERMIT; PROVIDING FOR REVOCATION AND REMOVAL OF FACILITIES; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

THE TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS:

#### SECTION 1.

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of the Ordinance is to regulate the access to and ongoing use of Public Utility Easements and Rights of Way by telecommunications providers.

Section 2. Reservation of Rights. The issuance of a permit to a telecommunications provider does not waive the Township's right to require a franchise in the future or the right to claim a taking if a telecommunications provider claims it has the right to use public rights of way without compensation. In addition, a telecommunications provider may request the Township to enter into a consent agreement for the use of the Public Utility Easements and Rights of Way in place of a permit.

Sections 3 and 4. [Reserved]

Section 5. Definitions. Key terms, including Telecommunications Provider, Telecommunications Services, and Telecommunications System are defined.

Section 6. [Reserved]

Section 7. Permits. The procedures for submitting and reviewing an application for a permit are described. When an application is filed, it is reviewed for administrative completeness. After an application is complete, the Township may request additional information from the applicant. Within 75 days after an application is determined to be administratively complete, a public hearing is held on the application by the Township Board (or a committee or hearing officer designated by the Township Board). After the public hearing, the Township Board then approves, approves with conditions, or denies the application within 90 days after the application was determined to be administratively complete. The Township Board may not unreasonably deny a permit. The Township Board may grant a modification or waiver of Ordinance requirements under certain limited circumstances.

Section 8. Annual Permit Fees. A telecommunications provider is required to pay annual fees fixed by resolution of the Township Board. The fees must not exceed the fixed and variable costs to the Township of maintaining the Public Utility Easements and Rights of Way. A telecommunications provider may opt to pay an annual fee of 1 percent of its annual gross revenues from the telecommunications system within the municipality, in lieu of the annual fee established by the Township Board.

Section 9. [Reserved]

Section 10. Annual Permit Fees. This section provides for the establishment, option and payment of an annual permit fee in alternative forms and the records attendant thereto.

Section 11. Duration of Permit; Renewal. A permit is granted for a five (5) year term. An application for renewal of a permit follows the same process as the original application.

Section 12. Permit Terms and Requirements. A permit is non exclusive. A telecommunications provider is authorized to use the Public Utility Easements and Rights of Way only as authorized in the permit. A telecommunications provider may expand its system by obtaining approval of an amended permit which may be granted administratively. These provisions also address overlapping and has built maps, priorities of use of the Easements and Rights of Way, and future use of the Easements and Rights of Way by the Township.

Section 13. Use of Public Rights of Way by Permittee. These provisions regulate the use of Public Utility Easements and Rights of Way by telecommunications providers. These regulations include the following requirements: no undue burden or interference with present or future use of the easements and rights of way, restoration of easements and rights of

way, limitations on pavement cuts, marking of telecommunications facilities, relocation of facilities due to right of way work, etc.

Section 14. [Reserved]

Sections 15 and 16. Insurance, Liability and Indemnification. These provisions require a telecommunications provider to provide and maintain certain insurance coverages, to name the Township as an additional insured, and to indemnify the Township against liability arising from the acts or omissions of the provider.

Section 17. No Assignment or Transfer of Control Without Township Consent. A telecommunications provider may not assign a permit or transfer control of its business without prior written consent of the Township which shall not be unreasonably withheld. The Township may revoke the permit for failure to comply with the provisions of the permit or the Ordinance and for other specified reasons. Upon revocation of a permit, or upon expiration of a permit which is not renewed, the telecommunications provider must remove its facilities from the Public Utility Easements and Rights of Way.

Section 18. Revocation. The Township reserves the right to revoke the permit on certain failings of the applicant.

Section 19. Removal. Upon revocation, certain portions of the system may or shall be removed.

Section 20. [Reserved]

Section 21. Other Provisions Not Waived. The Township reserves its police powers to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and reserves the right of reasonable control of the Public Utility Easements and Rights of Way pursuant to the Michigan Constitution.

Section 22. [Reserved]

Section 23. Authorized Township Officials. The Code Enforcement Officer is authorized to cite violations of this Ordinance.

Section 24. Municipal Civil Infraction. A violation of the Ordinance is a civil infraction, subject to a civil fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$5,000, plus costs and sanctions. Repeat offenses are subject to a civil fine of \$1,000 \$10,000 (first repeat offense) and \$2,000 \$20,000 (second and subsequent repeat offenses).

Sections 25 through 30. [Reserved]

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY  
This Section provides that the Ordinance is severable, and if any portion of this Ordinance is declared invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall remain valid.

SECTION 3. REPEAL

This Section provides for the repeal of all conflicting Ordinances.

SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE

This section provides that the repeal and amendment provided for herein shall not abrogate or affect any acts committed or done, or any penalty or forfeiture incurred, or any pending litigation or prosecution or any right established or occurring prior to the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Section provides that the Ordinance shall take full force and effect upon publication in the Canton Observer, December 10, 1998

#### Certification

This Ordinance was duly adopted by the Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton at its special meeting called and held on the 3rd day of December 1998 and was ordered given publication in the manner given by law. Copies of the complete Ordinance are available for inspection from the Township Clerk at Canton Township Hall, 1150 South Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan.

Charter Township of Canton  
TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to set the permit application fee for access to and ongoing use of public utility easements and rights-of-way by the telecommunications providers at \$10,000. Motion carried. All Ayes Present.

Motion by Bennett, supported by LaJoy, to move from a special meeting to a study session for the purpose of discussion. Motion carried. All Ayes Present.

Supervisor Yack called for a short recess at 7:30 P.M. and reconvened the meeting at 8:15 P.M.

Discussions occurred between the Board of Trustees, Canton residents, Director Minghine and Laurie Kendall, District Landfill General Manager of Sauk Trail Hills regarding the vertical expansion of Sauk Trail Hills. Supervisor Yack reviewed the concerns of residents had raised at the October 20, 1998 study session regarding Sauk Trail Hills and followed up with researched information.

Residents voiced their concerns regarding the "beeping" of trucks. Director Minghine said that public safety monitored the area and found that the banging and beeping sounds were coming from Ryder Truck. Discussions continued regarding solutions to sounds from the dumping, hours of operation, odor problems, air quality, and increased noises soon to be coming from the research park. A request for an updated host agreement was made as Wayne County's records contained only the 1988 and 1989 agreements.

Carol Middel offered to be a part of a committee that would include three Board members to further discuss and resolve issues arising from the landfill and its proposed expansion. Supervisor Yack, Trustee LaJoy and Trustee Burdick agreed to be on this committee.

#### ADJOURN

Motion by Bennett, supported by McLaughlin, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 P.M. Motion carried. All Ayes Present.

The above is a synopsis of actions and discussions taken at the Regular Board meeting held on December 3, 1998. The full text of the approved minutes will be available following the next regular meeting of the Board on December 15, 1998

THOMAS J. YACK, Supervisor

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Published: December 10, 1998

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MARIE GREENE

Services for M of Plymouth were Schrader-Howell with the Rev. Jol eating.

She was born Nebraska. She d Livonia. She was a clerk-County, retiring came to the Plym ty two months a Park. She was a Lynn Hospital. She was an en and loved to se travel and enjoy nature.

Survivors incl band, William; Betty Ruth (Er Julian, Calif.; or (Stella) Greene, one brother, Wil Lincoln Park; fr Gindi Haberman Brian Wake of Michael Wake of Shaun Greene of Meliassa Greene six great-grand Memorials m American Red vation Army.

Services for B 89, of Plymouth the Schrader-H Home. Burial v Cemetery, Plym

She was born Plymouth. She Howell. She w clerk at Minerv Plymouth for 1 worked at the Jewelers on Pe moved with the Arbor Trail loc closed the stor She lived and mouth all her Legion Passag named after h Peter Gayde, v naval casualty World War II. She exhibited Art in the Par children, espe children.

Survivors in William (Caro Royal Oak; on Lorelee (Char ford; one siste (William) Feh eight grandch great-grandch Memorials American Lu

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## OBITUARIES

## MARIE GREENE

Services for Marie Greene, 83, of Plymouth were Dec. 2 in the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. John Sullivan officiating.

She was born May 22, 1915, in Nebraska. She died Nov. 29 in Livonia. She was a homemaker. She was a clerk-typist for Wayne County, retiring in 1975. She came to the Plymouth community two months ago from Lincoln Park. She was a volunteer at Lynn Hospital, Lincoln Park. She was an expert seamstress and loved to sew. She loved to travel and enjoyed flowers and nature.

Survivors include her husband, William; one daughter, Betty Ruth (Ernest) Wake of Julian, Calif.; one son, William (Stella) Greene Jr. of Plymouth; one brother, William Portugal of Lincoln Park; five grandchildren, Cindi Haberman of California, Brian Wake of Connecticut, Michael Wake of California, Shaun Greene of Plymouth, Melissa Greene of Detroit; and six great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to American Red Cross or the Salvation Army.

## BERNICE I. TAYLOR

Services for Bernice I. Taylor, 89, of Plymouth were Dec. 4 in the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth.

She was born Nov. 9, 1909, in Plymouth. She died Dec. 1 in Howell. She worked as a sales clerk at Minerva's-Dunning's in Plymouth for 15 years. She also worked at the original Beitner Jewelers on Penniman and she moved with the store to the Ann Arbor Trail location. Beitner's closed the store this past year. She lived and worked in Plymouth all her life. The American Legion Passage Gayde Post was named after her late husband, Peter Gayde, who was the first naval casualty from Plymouth in World War II. She was an artist. She exhibited at art shows like Art in the Park. She loved little children, especially her grandchildren.

Survivors include her son, William (Carolyn) Gayde of Royal Oak; one daughter, Loralee (Charley) Gurley of Milford; one sister, Virginia (William) Fehlig of Plymouth; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the American Lung Association.

## ESTER K. HARRIS

Services for Ester K. Harris, 95, of Howard, S.D., were Dec. 3 in the Vermeulen Funeral Home with the Rev. Dr. William C. Moore officiating.

She was born Aug. 24, 1903, in Minden, Iowa. She died Nov. 30 in Ann Arbor. She was a homemaker. She was a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Survivors include her husband, J. Arthur Harris of Plymouth; two sons, Jay (Susan) Arthur Harris of Plymouth, Daun H. Harris of Nenana, Ark.; one sister, Vera Margaret Nicholas of East Syracuse, N.Y.; and one granddaughter, Jennifer Peatee of Wayne.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

## NORMA LIZZIE HEATH

Services for Norma Lizzie Heath, 92, of Manchester, formerly of Plymouth, were Dec. 3 in the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Dr. Dean Klump officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

She was born Jan. 2, 1906, in Ontario, Canada. She died Nov. 30 in Saline. She was a homemaker. She came to the Plymouth community in 1956 from Dearborn. She lived in Plymouth for 42 years. She had been a member of the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth since 1956. She loved gardening and cooking. She was everybody's mother; she loved family gatherings and being with her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Arvy G. Heath. Survivors include her son, Thomas (Lynn) Heath of Manchester; two grandchildren, Anna (Bill) Jacob, Thomas (Angel) Heath; and three great-grandchildren, Zachary, Elijah and Gabriel Jacob.

Memorials may be made to the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

## SARAH E. SAYED

Services for Sarah E. Sayed, 87, of Plymouth were Dec. 1 in the Neely-Turowski Funeral Home, Livonia, with the Rev. Leonard Partensky officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

She was born Feb. 1, 1911. She died Nov. 29 in Plymouth. She was a secretary for the automotive industry.

Survivors include her husband, Andrew; one daughter, Frances (Robert) Culver; one son, Robert (Judith); six grandchildren; and one sister, Alberta Florida.

**Happy Holidays...**

To all our past, present and future customers... from Tammy Hambrick, Darcy Wilson and Susan Vergona at Livonia's Second Glance Salon.

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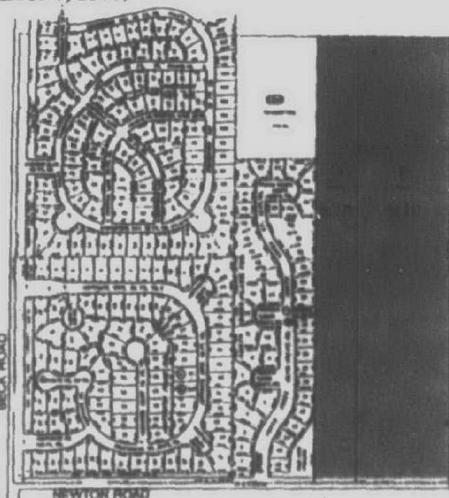
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Evening Hours Available

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

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 4, 1999 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance.

**THE LINKS OF PHEASANT RUN WEST PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE, INCLUSIVE OF PARCELS 110 99 0001 000 AND 110 99 0002 000.** Properties are located on the north side of Newton Road east of Beck Road. Preliminary Plan-1st Public Hearing (Rescheduled from December 7, 1998)



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

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: December 10 & 24, 1998

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
BOARD PROCEEDINGS

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton was held Tuesday, December 1, 1998 at 1150 South Canton Center Road. Supervisor Yack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

## ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Durack, Bilbrey-Honsowetz, Dates, Gouin, Mills, Voyles

Recreation Advisory Committee: Baker, Bradley, Gulkewicz, Lodwick,

## ITEM 1 PARKS AND RECREATION. PHEASANT RUN AND SUMMIT

## ON THE PARK UPDATE

**Recreation Master Plan (RMP)** Mike Gulkewicz, Recreation Advisory Committee, explained that the new RMP was required to replace the expiring plan and the new RMP was required to receive state grant moneys for recreation programs. A new RMP must be filed with the State by February 1, 2000 - a target filing date is December 12, 1999.

The recommendation from the RAC was to hire a professional consultant to coordinate a comprehensive assessment of the community's recreational needs and prepare a new Master Plan. Consensus of the Board was that the hiring of a consultant was the logical approach.

**Community Parks Update** Mike Gouin, Recreation Manager, updated the Board on the status of Canton's community parks. Independence Park is tentatively scheduled to opening for the 1999 Memorial Day Soccer Tournament. The fields will then be closed until the 1999 fall soccer season. The irrigation system is scheduled to be completed this winter.

**Canton Softball Center's Business Plan 1999** Mr. Gouin said the primary goal was to provide high quality programming that meets the needs of our youth baseball/softball program and our adult softball program while generating revenue that will meet operational costs. The Class C Liquor License will be assigned to the successful bidder on the Food & Beverage Service Contract. Food Service Provider proposals are due on December 17, 1998. Trustee McLaughlin emphasized that outdoor concessions and maybe a picnic areas could be great sources of revenue.

**Recreation Programming** Bob Dates, Parks and Recreation Manager, gave an update on the 1998 recreation programming and the proposed 1999 recreation programming. He said that Liberty Fest continued to grow and that the 9th annual event would be held June 17 through June 20, 1998. Liberty Fest will add new events for 1999. An Old Fashioned Picnic, a kids art mural and a Friday evening concert are concepts that may be added to Liberty Fest 1999. Octoberfest is in its third year and drew over 5,000 people to Heritage Park.

**Fellowa Creek Golf Club** Mr. Dates said that Canton's share of the revenue is estimated to be in excess of \$750,000 for the season. Mr. Dates explained that the Township had entered into an agreement with Preserved Development Inc., to put in a pedestrian and golf cart/utility vehicle bridge between hole #1 and #2 on the east course.

## Summit on the Park

**Programs** Debra Bilbrey-Honsowetz, Summit on the Park Manager, highlighted 1998 for the community center and reviewed the action plan for 1999. Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz noted that most programs are maxing out and people are being turned away. Day camps, preschool programs are being well received in the community. Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz said that programming for 1999 will include cooperative ventures like the hunter safety course held in 1998 in cooperation with Public Safety and taught by a police officer. She estimated that 89 percent of the people who sign up for programs are Canton residents. The second annual "Cutting Edge" Community Center Design and Management Institute will be held September 21 through 23, 1999.

**Seniors** Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz noted that senior citizen lifeguards are being recruited by the aquatics division. The swim lesson programs has changed from the American Red Cross to the National Safety Council. Ellis & Associates, Summit's aquatics risk management company have awarded the aquatics center a "Silver Safety Award" for the last two years.

Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz said that an unduplicated count of the number of senior citizens serviced by the center is 1,626 to date - multiple visits are 12,000 to 13,000 seniors per year. In 1997, 2,924 riders used the Senior Shuttle Service.

**Marketing** An emphasis on customer service has led to mandatory customer service training even for part-time staff. Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz said that a self-supporting free weight machine was added this year. A partnership is being initiated with Holiday Market. Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz said that their chef and the Summit's nutritionist are creating "healthier meals" available in Holiday Market for purchase that have the Summit logo on each individually prepared entrée. There will also be a joint marketing piece to go with this

## project along the lines of "Healthy Lifestyle, Think Summit."

**Expansion** Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz said that the critical areas for expansion were fitness center and the locker rooms, the family locker room and the maintenance space. She would like to see one more meeting room added on to the Summit.

In conclusion Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz said that there were 174,937 visits in 1997 by either annual pass holders or individual daily passes. Year to date there has been 146,829 visits, by the end of 1998 this number should be even or slightly higher. Revenue for the end of the third quarter is \$1,255,844.

**Banquet and Conference Center** Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz reviewed the reorganization and operations plan for the Banquet and Conference Center. The plan is to take over the operations by having a food service contractor operate the "back of the house", being food preparation, service, wait staff and liquor control. The Township would operate the "front of the house", being the sales, booking and marketing.

Request for proposals for food service providers have been accepted with a target hiring date of January 1999. Applications and screening for the hiring of a banquet/conference center coordinator and banquet/conference center specialist are taking place with a target hire date of January 1999.

Ms. Bilbrey-Honsowetz reviewed the strategies of the comprehensive marketing plan will include maintaining yellow pages advertisement in addition to advertisements in key business publications, i.e., Crains, Detroit Monthly, customized "off peak" wedding packages (Friday/Sunday and the months of January, February and March); special overall custom packages; and a development of a showcase room set up and options (photo album, display of linen selections and a short video tape available for guest viewing). Additionally, the establishing of custom community oriented services is proposed to capture the community market and increase the public awareness of the center.

**Pheasant Run Golf Club** Kevin Mill, Operation Manager, presented the year to date figures, business plan for 1999 and the Pheasant Run expansion. Mr. Mills noted that the course needed to be closed for 5-days in 1998, one of the days was due to an electrical problem and the four remaining were due to flooding. Holes #8 and #18 flooded. Discussion occurred regarding flooding expectations in the future.

Year to Date 1998 revenues were reviewed. Revenues exceeded 1997 with the exception of the month of September. It was noted that there was a decrease in the number of golf outings for 1998. Supervisor Yack commented that the biggest complaint he hears was that the range closes too early. Membership fees were lower this year, due in part due to the losing of the teaching professional early in the season. Mr. Mills said that the Pro Shop, run by PGA Pro, Dave Horstman, showed a significant increase over 1997.

**Business Plan** Mr. Mills said that the organizational chart would be restructured for 1999. The golf course Superintendent position will be assumed by the Head Greenskeeper who will report due to Dave Horstman, Head Professional Facility Manager. A Food and Beverage position will be added due to take over the functions food and beverage operation. The Assistant Golf Pro will become full-time.

The new Food and Beverage Special will develop the banquet operations. He said that the on course food service would be better developed by upgrading the beverage cart due to a food and beverage cart. This would prevent a backup on the course when golfers come in due to the pro shop due to eat and drink. The Board brainstormed possible solutions due to enhancing food and beverage services including vending machines, telephone ordering from the golf carts, banquet pavilion and drive through service.

Mr. Mills reviewed the Pheasant Run's proposed expansion and presented a rendering of the restructured and new golf holes. He gave a comparison of the 18-hole course versus a projection of a 27-holes. The new nine hole construction is tentatively scheduled due to begin in June of 1999 with a grand opening in the spring of 2001.

The future food services at Pheasant Run were further examined and suggestions for its restructuring were considered. Mr. Mills noted that booking 1999 outings was complicated because of the situation of the food and beverage services. He said that it was difficult to market for when products and costs were indeterminate. Mr. Mills said that the plan for 1999 was to improve Pheasant Run quality and customer service and then concentrate on the golf outing market with the expanded holes.

## ADJOURN

Motion by Shefferly, supported by LaJoy, to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

The above is a synopsis of discussions taken at the Regular Board meeting held on December 1, 1998. The full text of the approved minutes will be available following the next regular meeting of the Board on December 15, 1998.

THOMAS J. YACK, Supervisor

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk

Publish: December 10, 1998

Family affair: Michon Girardot, 3, of Plymouth gives his father Bernard a kiss during the candlelight Christmas Carol sing-along.

and since other downtown, such Holiday's shop will stay open. Carolers also horse and car-

from 5-8 p.m. p.m. on Satur- 20.

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G. BENNETT, Clerk



## Christmas spirit Band captures holiday magic

**H**ow many of us have complained over the last week or two that it doesn't seem like the holidays with the warm temperatures?

For those in Kellogg Park on Sunday evening, it began to feel a lot like Christmas thanks to three members of the Plymouth Community Band.

Rich Miller, Bob Herbon and Lou Ruffus are three reasons why the sixth annual Walk of Trees and Christmas sing-along happened this year — unofficially at least.

Officially, the event was a rainout. The festival committee canceled it earlier that day, although Miller, Herbon and Ruffus weren't home to take the call.

Ironically, the Walk of Trees was nearly canceled twice — once for financial reason and once for rainy weather. In both cases the community came to the rescue — first, by the merchants, who were willing to reach into their pockets, and then by Miller, Herbon and Ruffus, who reached into their hearts.

Despite the soggy conditions, the three dutifully showed up in Kellogg Park and found 50-75 others — many of them children — waiting for a Christmas sing-along. No one had seen the sign across the street in the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce door canceling the event.

Many people stood around in the rain, waiting and waiting, for something to happen — for someone to take charge. Miller, Herbon and Ruffus did exactly that. They could have packed up and left. Instead, they lightened up a few people's holidays and set up under The Gathering.

There were no song sheets or cups of hot



**Carolling:** Bob Herbon of Plymouth packs up his tuba, complete with lighted Christmas Wreath, following the sing-along at The Gathering. Rich Miller stands behind him.

chocolate. In fact, the only tree lit up in Kellogg Park was the large evergreen in the center.

The spirit of Christmas was passed on by these three men, who jokingly referred to themselves as "the three kings." It was a small gesture on their behalf, but one that signifies what Christmas is all about.

## Poor service hurts retail sales

**T**here are still two weeks until Christmas and even some confessed shopaholics we know are ready to call it a season.

That's because the reality of hitting the mall these days seldom matches the image conjured up in the media. Shopping — holiday or otherwise — is portrayed in newsprint, on television and even at the movie theater as an experience or even a "lifestyle choice." Why else would the opening of an outlet mall on the fringe of suburbia generate story after story, day after day, for weeks on end? Why else would otherwise sane people line up at 6 a.m. on the Friday following Thanksgiving so that they can purchase this year's Tickle Me Elmo — the Furby? And why else would retail analysts predict increased holiday sales each November only to have retailers turn around in January and say sales didn't quite match their expectations?

But shopping in the real world is not nearly as fun as it's made out to be. It's not just finding the time in overextended schedules or battling the crowds of holiday shoppers, either. We've seen a real slide in customer service during the 1990s.

Good, knowledgeable, courteous sales help is disappearing faster from major department stores than those hard-to-find "retired" Beanie Babies. Walk into a store on any given night and you're likely to find as many unstaffed cash registers as staffed ones. Even the large electronic stores have become virtually self-service. While product displays include price and a list of features, any customer seeking additional information via human contact is just about out of luck.

Contributing factors undoubtedly include

the current labor shortage, which affects low-paying service jobs more severely. But global competition, mergers and the squeeze on retailers' bottom lines have an impact as well. On-the-job training at many retailers is almost non-existent.

In fact, real customer service has now become the domain of a few, high-end department stores and specialty shops. Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom have carved out reputations based on going the extra mile for their clientele.

Unfortunately, what's good for top-drawer stores isn't necessarily good for retailing as a whole. There are far more shoppers — and more aggregate dollars — at the middle end of the spectrum. Surveys repeatedly show that the overwhelming majority of people who receive poor customer service never complain to management. However, they never return to the store either and they usually tell at least four other people about their experience.

Also, the evidence is mounting that middle-class consumers are beginning to vote with their computer mouse. Shopping over the Internet — really just a high-tech catalogue collection — is expected to reach \$2.3 billion during the 1998 holiday season and online sales have more than doubled every 12 months, according to Consumer Reports Magazine.

All this spells trouble for the traditional retailer, which typically counts on generating as much as half of its annual revenue during the holiday season. We can only hope the "experts" figure it out while shoppers are still willing to make the trip.

### O Christmas Tree



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

**Holiday lights:** Kellogg Park was lit up for the arrival of Santa Claus Nov. 27 as pictured here. However, the Walk of Trees wasn't illuminated for last week's festivities. The event was rained out, according to the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. About 50-75 others enjoyed a sing-along led by three members of the Plymouth Community Band.

### LETTERS

#### 'Zero' common sense

**T**he case of Greg Lankford illustrates the foolish results of a "zero tolerance" policy. In Greg Lankford's case, as reported in the past Observer, Greg wore his DARE jacket to school, and then discovered that his stepfather had inadvertently left a pack of cigarettes in the pocket. Greg dutifully turned the cigarettes in to his teacher. For his honesty, Greg was rewarded with a suspension. The administration explained that the possession of cigarettes is a violation of the district's zero tolerance policy on drugs. Apparently, Greg was punished not because they didn't believe his alibi, but because there is no such thing as an alibi under a zero tolerance policy. The messages being sent to Greg and his classmates are (1) honesty is not the best policy, and (2) you cannot trust the authorities.

In our school district, zero tolerance means that all offenses in a particular category are treated the same, regardless of the circumstances. A student who finds someone else's cigarettes in his pocket, or who brings a Tylenol to school, is treated the same as a student caught with cocaine.

Zero tolerance means that administrators abrogate their responsibility to use their judgment and deal with the situation as appropriate under the circumstances. We should expect that the administrator would consider the nature and seriousness of the offense, whether the student is a repeat offender, whether another student was hurt or threatened, and (certainly) whether the student was knowingly and intentionally violating some school rule. None of these factors are considered under a zero tolerance policy. Zero tolerance is the opposite of the time-honored policy of letting the punishment fit the crime.

Since we pay administrators for their judgment and experience, we should demand that they use it, and not hide behind a "zero tolerance" mantra as an excuse for not using common sense.

George S. Shea  
Plymouth

#### Commission should resign

**O**ur city commissioners have done it again. Just when we thought this soap opera could not get more bizarre, they have tried to take some Christmas cheer away. Referring to the Plymouth Observer, Nov. 29 edition. The city would not pay the \$2,500 for the Walk of Trees. I do agree that local business, and local clubs should help support local attractions, however the City of Plymouth does benefit from the local attractions.

In fact, if the commissioners would take the money for their weekend "feel good" getaway, and help support local attractions it would serve everyone.

The present city commissioners have forgotten why they were elected. They were elected to serve and make decisions which benefit the citizens, not their own political agenda and/or egos. To quote one of our commissioners "What are they going to do, fire me." The answer is a resounding yes. Maybe not with a recall, but next time you come and ask for support to be re-elected.

So Mr. and Mrs. Commissioner, take a deep breath, count 1-10, take a time-out, but do what you were elected to do. If this is not possible, give the citizens of Plymouth a Christmas present, resign your commission seat, so we can have a Happy New Year!

Ed Good  
Plymouth

**Opinions are to be shared:** We welcome your ideas, as do your neighbors. That's why we offer this space on a weekly basis for opinions in your own words. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you sign your letter and provide a contact telephone number.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Plymouth Observer, 794 South Main Street, Plymouth, 48170.

### COMMUNITY VOICE

#### QUESTION:

Have you visited or are you planning on going to the new Great Lakes Crossing Mall in Auburn Hills?

We asked this question at the Canton post office.



Sonia Gujral  
Canton



Debbie Cook  
Canton



Stan Sidick  
Canton



Bob Richardson  
Canton

## Plymouth Observer

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HUGH GALLAGHER, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR, 734-953-2118  
PEG KNOESPEL, ADVERTISING MANAGER, 734-953-2177  
LARRY GEIGER, CIRCULATION MANAGER, 734-953-2234  
BANKS M. DISHON, JR., PUBLISHER, 734-953-2100  
STEVEN K. POPE, VICE-PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER, 734-953-2252  
RICK FIGORELLI, MARKETING DIRECTOR, 734-953-2150

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— Philip Power

## Tree

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## POINTS OF VIEW

## Tree search bears strong resemblance to a beauty contest

It may well be that some of the romance has gone out of this affair, but what can you expect after so many years? The allure and intrigue of this oft-repeated ritual have dropped off a bit in favor of more practical considerations. Now, instead of eyeing some beauty from afar, then moving in closer until the fragrance fills my nose, and finally observing the suppleness of the limbs, I now buy my Christmas tree at one of those huge home improvement centers.

I know all about needle retention and that stuff, we've tried all the varieties and nothing holds up like a Fraser fir. The branches are firm, the needles are soft and they last a long time. We've had spruces that scratched our arms into hamburger, and we've had a Scotch pine or two whose needles got caught in the carpet for months before coming out stuck in the bottom of someone's foot.

To paraphrase Neil Young, "I've seen the needles and the damage done."

Every year at this time, the newspapers and the TV news have reports on how to pick out a fresh Christmas tree. These reports are basically elementary drivel — strictly for amateurs. Sure, freshness is important — dried-up trees are ugly and dangerous (that almost sounds like a column on Kevorkian). Beyond freshness, the other important factors are color, fragrance, balance, branch spacing, and dimension. I'm here to tell you, at least when it comes to Christmas trees, size really does matter. The perfect tree, when placed in a stand and with the star on top, will come within a quarter-inch of the ceiling. I can't help being envious of my friends, Eric and Gary, whose ceilings are about 14 and 18 feet, respectively. Both of them are also confessed tree fanatics. Frankly, I think the taller

## GUEST COLUMNIST



GARY BELANGER

tree space was the main reason Gary bought his house.

Choosing the perfect tree is much more than just simply understanding the physical characteristics. The art of the hunt is even more important than the technical knowledge. First of all, you have to look at every single tree — then you need to mark the semifinalists with a stick or some twine.

The finalists, usually two or three trees, are checked out with at least one tape measure, a transit, and a framing square. It's a lot like a beauty pageant except that the winner gets bound in plastic netting and tied to the roof of the minivan. Beware, because a good tree hunter knows how to watch other tree hunters, and you often see them scouting out each other's trees.

Tree Envy is a powerful emotional force that can ruin your holiday season. Don't get jealous because someone else scored a better-looking tree than you did — you should be happy for them and admire them. Remember the 11th commandment: "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's conifer."

One of the worst cases that I ever saw involved my brother-in-law. Since his sister had purchased a 10-foot tree, he decided to top her by getting a 12-footer. He dragged that proud and

pricey evergreen into the living room, which only had an 8-foot ceiling. He quickly found himself with only two options: display the tree horizontally or whack off about 4 feet. Since he didn't have a wall-mounted tree stand, he went for the saw instead. Now, here's where thinking might have paid off — he probably should have cut off the bottom of the tree instead of the top. He ended up with a massive, blunt bush that needed a star the size of Alpha Centauri.

Picking the right tree is a lot of work, but it's all worthwhile when you get a compliment like I did a few years ago when a friend said "Your tree is just perfect. Is it artificial?" It took her until Easter to get the pine cones out of her nose.

Gary Belanger lives in Redford. He can be reached at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1890.

## Public votes in the dark on appellate judge races too often

It was no secret, but only one medium blurted it out: Judge Myron Wahls was dying of cancer even as he campaigned last fall for a new six-year term on the state Court of Appeals.

Wahls was handily re-elected Nov. 3, but died later in the month. Had he lived, he would have been 67 on Dec. 11.

The medium who spelled it out was Observation Balloon, a newsletter published in Detroit by a one-man show named Bradford G. White, formerly a Kennedy Democratic liberal and now a bastion of political incorruptibility.

White has a propensity for rubbing a lot of politics the wrong way, so naturally he and I are good buddies. I quote from his July 24 report:

"Myron Wahls ... has been ill for years with cancer, reportedly incurable. In many other instances, judges

retire rather than seek terms they possibly won't complete.

"But Judge Wahls is rumored to have personal concerns that make him loath to leave office. Among the compensations of appeals judges is a life-insurance policy worth upwards of \$200,000. The judge is said to want to leave this to his grandchildren; but the policy is only valid while he is in office and is reduced, or ceases, upon his retirement. Judge Wahls has been seen campaigning actively in this season, however ...

"Obviously, the judicial community should find a better way for Judge Wahls to provide for his progeny."

So what?

Well, the public is fooling itself when it thinks voters elect judges. Gov. John Engler will appoint Wahls' successor. The chief executive has shown a propensity to lean to the political right, as witness his appoint-



TIM RICHARD

ment of Michael Talbot, of basketball-score sentencing fame, to the same court.

Wahls himself came up by the appointment route. His background seemed Democratic — a member of the same law firm as John Conyers and Damon Keith and membership in the National Lawyers Guild. But under Gov. Bill Milliken, Wahls chaired the Michigan Employment Security Commission Appeals Board and was Mil-

likens choice in 1974 to be the GOP sacrificial lamb against Attorney General Frank Kelley.

(Wahls apparently wanted to forget that race and didn't list it in his official state biography. Nor was it in his obituary. Nor was it in the obligatory legislative resolutions passed last week.)

The next year, 1975, Milliken rewarded Wahls by appointing him to a vacancy on the Wayne Circuit Court and in 1982 to the Court of Appeals.

I knew Wahls a little from interviews and our activities in the stage show "The Trial of William Shakespeare," relished his wit, read many of his moderate opinions and wish I could have known him better.

A lot of people — including boss Phil Power, former State Bar President Tom Kienbaum and Appeals Judge Martin Doctoroff — think there should be a better way to pick appellate

judges: a merit system that would involve appointments.

Frankly, the public can't know a whole lot about appellate court candidates, hence the propensity to elect people with Irish surnames, regardless of judicial philosophy. And as my buddy, Brad White, suggests, we need to find better ways for the judiciary to care for their progeny.

If we can't go to an appointment merit system for picking appellate judges, we should have a separate election for all members of the judiciary, from Supreme Court down to circuit and district courts.

Maybe then the public could pay better attention.

Tim Richard reports on the local implications of state and regional events. His Touch-Tone voice mail number is (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1881.

## Downtowns a vital part of community health, well-being

One of the very few catalogs I extract from the seasonal tidal waves of junk mail before they hit the trash bin is the one from Neiman Marcus.

Increasingly, I find I need a jolt of outrage at the onrushing materialism and fakery of our culture every Christmastime, and the special offerings from the good folks at Neiman Marcus seldom fail me. In past years, we've had his and hers business jet airplanes (thoughtfully painted blue and pink, in case you wondered), along with hot air balloons and God only knows what other upper-upper scale rubbish.

This year's special is a British Ferret Mark 1 armored car. "Carries a crew of two; one of two 'friendly' people may be added to the commander's seat for cruising around the ranch." If you hurry, you can still get delivery in time for Christmas for only \$25,000.

So much for this year's monument to materialism.

For a good spell of anti-fakery, I suggest you take a leisurely stroll through your downtown shopping area. Not the mall or even the discount mall. But your own hometown downtown. It turns out that as the Christmas season is (ahem, in light of the recent weather) heating up, small downtowns all across Michigan are on a roll.

"What we're seeing is a renaissance on Main Street," according to Tom Scott of the Michigan Retailers Association.

Main Streets are hardly going to steal all the business from the malls, national chain stores or big box discount centers. But retailing experts say downtowns, once mourned as near-dead, are finding their own special niche that's increasingly attractive to real people in search of real things sold by real people in real, human-sized stores.

"There are an increasing number of successful small downtowns," says Norman Tyler, director of Eastern Michigan University's Urban and Regional Planning Program. "People like to come downtown. There is a certain comfort about it."

Plainly, downtowns are not likely to compete on price only with the big retail chains or discount malls. But the ambience, scale and personal quality of good downtowns are increasingly attractive to anybody who has ever had to pound on the counter to get the attention of the bored and alienated clerk in the outlet store.

Professor Tyler's research shows that downtowns are helped by a good facelift: trees, land-



PHILIP POWER

scaping, new sidewalks. A good mix of unusual and authentic businesses helps, too, such as flower shops, specialty shops, book and gift shops. "You want to get people on the sidewalk and make them want to walk up and down the sidewalk," says Tyler.

Tyler says parking may not be as important as many city planners think. "You have to have the businesses. The parking doesn't bring the people, the businesses do," he says.

He cites a formula for downtown success: Keep your costs low. Work cooperatively with other businesses. Attract a good mix of stores. Provide excellent service and selection within your particular niche. Offer your customers something they can't get at Wal-Mart.

Brenda Sternquist, who teaches merchandising management at Michigan State University, gives this advice: "Stay away from national brands, especially national brands that have been discounted. It is the kiss of death to compete directly with national discount stores."

One of the fundamental objectives of this newspaper is to nourish the communities we serve and assist the success of local businesses. Our theory is very simple. If the hometown community flourishes, the hometown newspaper will thrive.

Our downtown is a vital part of the life and spirit of our community. That it and other small downtowns like it all across Michigan are thriving is a happy sign as we come into the Christmas season hoping for immunization against the excessively materialistic and the crassly fake.

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

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# Families celebrate at Nankin Mills



PHOTOS BY RON POWREY

**Special visit:** Allison and Derek Boatright talk with Santa at last week's family party sponsored by Friends of Nankin Mills.

Approximately 100 Wayne County residents joined Wayne County parks staff and Friends of Nankin Mills Saturday for a tree lighting ceremony and children's activities at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland.

Nearly 50 children enjoyed a visit from Santa Claus, games and crafts before the tree was lighted outside in the 60-degree weather.

Children played games to celebrate the season, such as "fruitcake bowling," said Carol Clements, a naturalist with Wayne County parks. "They used 'fruitcakes' made from Nerf balls to knock down pins that looked like little elves," Clements said.

Children played a bean-bag-toss game through a wreath hanging on the ceiling and pin-the-nose on Rudolph. The youngsters participated in several crafts as they decorated gingerbread cookies, created a reindeer out of old clothespins and dressed up pine cones.



**Yummy!** Katie Reid, 3½, enjoys a Christmas cookie at last Saturday's tree lighting.

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## COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

### P.E.T. helps kids develop brain power

I met a woman several years ago who told me a sad story which could have been titled, "The Child That Wasn't Wanted." She told me about her unplanned pregnancy and lethargic attitude about taking care of herself during the pregnancy, mainly because she didn't want the baby.

So, she drank, she smoked, she ate junk food, she stayed up all night with friends and took little interest in staying healthy for the baby.

She talked about the depression she felt when the baby came and how she would ignore the baby's needs for a time before changing her and giving her a bottle. She talked about how the baby grew, and although she was cute, the mom hated her whining and seemingly endless crying.

She remembers thinking: "I didn't like her father and she reminds me too much of him." So she ignored her. When her second baby arrived, she admitted that she acted completely different with him.

The sadness I heard in her story was only heightened by the sadness I felt for the little girl. This little girl did not ask to be born, and yet, now

Please see SENSORS, B2

■ Eight lighted candles, potato pancakes and gifts mean it's time for Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights, and two area congregations are preparing celebrations filled with plenty of food and merriment.

By CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER  
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

Elaine Gittleman, the self-proclaimed "leader of the band" for Congregation Beit Kodesh's Hanukkah celebration, sees the holiday as a cholesterol fest.

"Being Jewish, all of our big holidays, whether it's Rosh Hashana, whether it's Hanukkah, whether it's Passover time, it's cholesterol city, especially during Hanukkah and Passover because it lasts so long," Gittleman said with a hearty laugh. "We just try to watch ourselves during those holidays. But the young people, they go 'Oh, the heck with it' and we say 'Oh God, the cholesterol.'"

Food will be overflowing at the Hanukkah party which begins at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at Congregation Beit Kodesh, 31840 Seven Mile, Livonia. The charge is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 3-12 and free for children ages 2 and younger. To reserve a spot, call (734) 477-8974.

"We've invited families and we're going to have potato pancakes, egg salad, salad, tuna fish, applesauce, sour cream - that's to be served with the potato pancakes - coffee and cake. Of course, we'll have the blessing before the meal," Gittleman explained.

"We will give out gifts to the children that are ages from infancy up to 12. Anybody 13 or older, they're on their

## Festival of Lights

### Jewish congregations prepare for Hanukkah



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

All lit up: The holiday display in Plymouth's Kellogg Park includes a menorah, representing the eight-day Jewish Festival of Lights, Hanukkah.

own."

The evening will also include children from the synagogue performing Hanukkah songs. The youth group will help serve the food and clean up. Gittleman expects that the party will end by 8:30 p.m.

"It should be done and everybody content and ready to go home," she said. "By that time, everybody's latked out and thinking to themselves, 'Oh, my God, all that cholesterol.'"

On the other side of town, Congregation Bet Chaverim is having its annual Hanukkah Latkefest at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge Road at Cherry Hill Road, in Canton. The event is free.

The Latkefest will include a potluck dinner with latkes and the evening Shabbat religious service. Reservations are required by Wednesday, Dec. 16; call (734) 480-8880.

"We're going to have the traditional candle-lighting ceremony, traditional food and some traditional holiday games and festival songs and music," president of the congregation Jay Miller said vaguely.

### Eight-day celebration

This year, Hanukkah begins at sundown Sunday, Dec. 13, and wraps up the following Sunday, Dec. 20. The eight-night celebration of Hanukkah commemorates a documented historical event - the rededication of the Second Temple in 165 B.C.E., when a small band of Jews, led by Mattathias's son Judah Maccabee, overcame Syrian oppressors who sought to obliterate Jewish belief and convert all Jews to the ways of Hellenism, according to "Jewish Family Celebrations: The Sabbath, Festivals and Ceremonies" by Arlene Rossen Cardozo

Please see PARADE, B2

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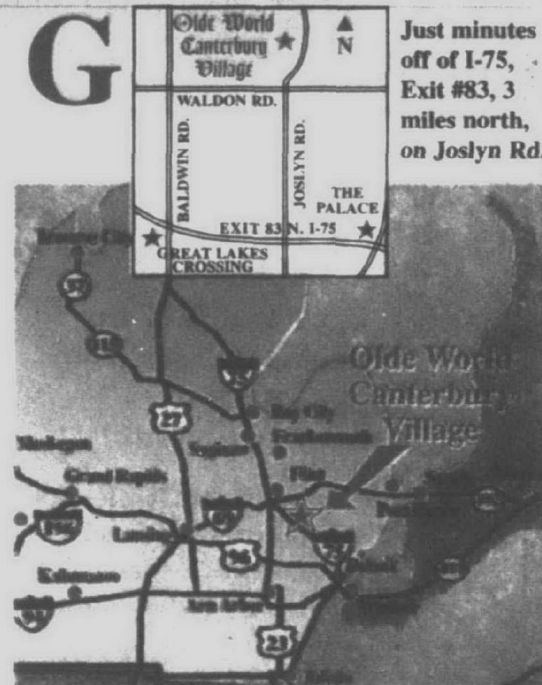
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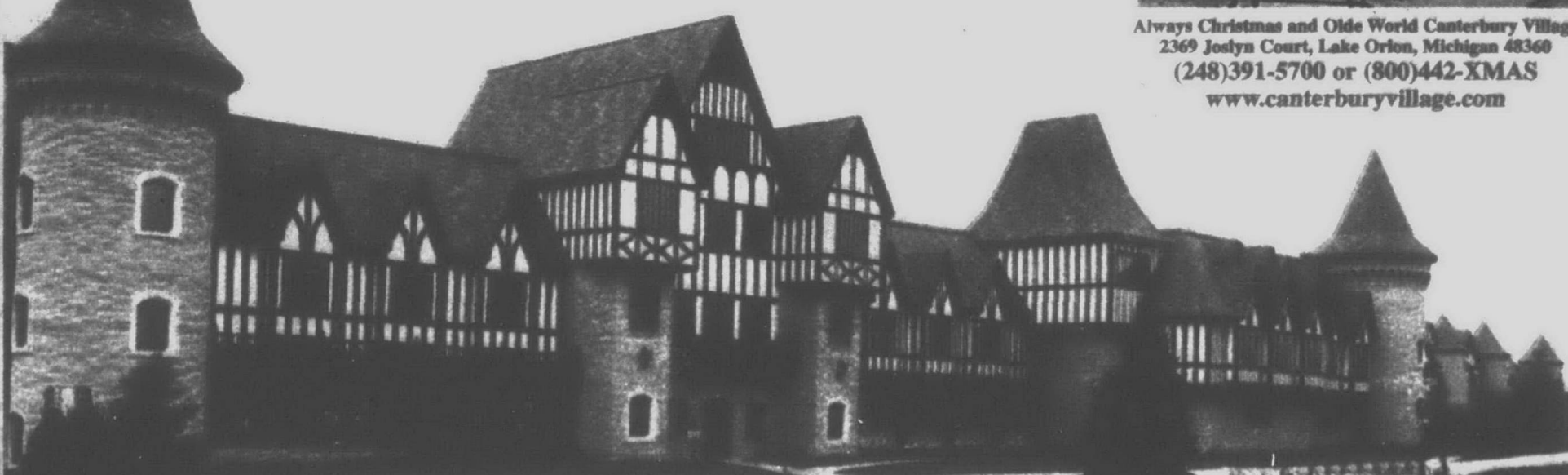
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## Sensors from page B1

that she was, she was going to miss out on so much that other parents provide.

### Making connections

Babies are born with about 100 billion neurons in their little brains. The neurons and synapse connections multiply as the baby grows until the age of 10. At that time, the number of connections begins to decrease.

The windows of opportunities to teach children specific things must be done when the child is still very young, preferably prior to 4 years old. This is the reason that my learning German as an adult is a far more tedious task than for the munchkins, and why my son's ability to learn Suzuki violin at 4 years old was phenomenal.

The brain develops and increase its capacity by interacting with its environment. Parents have all the power in determining how much interaction or stimulation the baby is going to get.

Babies that are not given

ample amounts of opportunity to "work their brain" will end up with a limited capacity for things like speaking, reading, developing emotional control and forming relationships.

Although later intervention can help make up for these deficits, children who have loving parents from the get-go, who spend time with their children, love them and teach them from day one, will fare much better. The parts of the brain of a severely abused or neglected child can be substantially smaller than that of a healthy child.

### In need of P.E.T.

Many American parents are not spending a lot of time getting to know their little ones. Unlike the lady I described, they may love them to death, but don't have what I would call P.E.T. — patience, energy or time to interact with their child on a regular basis.

When studies suggest that the quality of a child's early environment affects learning ability,

and a child's ability to learn can increase or decrease by 25 percent or more, we must be in the business of making sure this happens with every single child.

If you know of a family where the burden of raising children is overwhelming, help them out. Your interaction with their children may be the stimulation that increases their brain capacity, so that they won't be placed into a special education program or suffer with relationship problems later on.

Children are too precious a commodity to be left to cope with the world on their own. We can all play a part in helping the parents who struggle with raising children.

*Jacque Martin-Downs is the coordinator of the Family Resource Center in Westland and has a private counseling practice. If you have a question or comment, write her at The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.*

## Hanukkah from page B1

The books of Maccabees explains that the warriors cleansed the Temple then rededicated it.

The main Hanukkah celebration is the lighting of a candle each of the eight nights. The candle-lighting custom symbolizes the Jews' survival. But families also give gifts.

"We're getting back to what Hanukkah really means; the miracle of what it really signifies, but it's fun. We give our children and our grandchildren one gift but we don't go crazy."

During the week, Gittleman gives her family cookies or

"That sufficed with them. I think it's getting very commercial. I think with Christmas and the commercialness of it, everybody goes a little overboard."

"We're getting back to what Hanukkah really means; the miracle of what it really signifies, but it's fun. We give our children and our grandchildren one gift but we don't go crazy."

During the week, Gittleman gives her family cookies or

candy, "a munchy kind of thing. That's fine with them."

"The importance of the holiday is not the gift, it's understanding why we celebrate the holiday," she said. "Religious freedom meant overturning the Roman empire. The religious schools are doing a better job explaining to the children why this is important and the parents are sitting down and reading to them."

## CRAFTS CALENDAR

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

### NEW REDFORD HALL

New Redford Hall's holiday bazaar will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 14 and 21 at the hall, Ply-

mouth Road at Inkster Road. Tables are available at \$15 each. For more information, call (734) 729-8166 or (313) 592-8519.

### MADONNA UNIVERSITY

Madonna University is accepting applications from crafters for its 14th annual spring arts and crafts showcase — 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 20 in the Activities Center on campus, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. The show

will feature a variety of hand-

made arts and crafts. Booth space, measuring 9 by 6 feet with two chairs and one 6-by-8-foot table, is \$50. Booths with electricity are limited and are an additional \$5. Exhibitors can purchase up to three spaces. Crafters get a \$5 discount, if their form is received by Feb. 1. For an application or more information, call (734) 432-5603.

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New activations only. Limited to certain rate plans. \$5.99 and \$19.99 apply to access only and begin on 2nd bill. For \$5.99 plan: on 1/1/2000, regular monthly access and per-minute charges for chosen rate plan apply. Plans require 3 month term. AirTouch Extra is package offering unlimited off peak hours long distance service 2nd through 4th bill and package continues thereafter at \$10.99 per month until cancelled. AirTouch Roadside Assistance. Credits for AirTouch Extra appear on 2nd through 4th bill and package continues thereafter at \$10.99 per month until cancelled. Included airtime in home calling area only. Roaming, toll, long distance, and taxes extra. Phone model may vary by location. Other restrictions apply. Available at participating locations only. Limited time offer.

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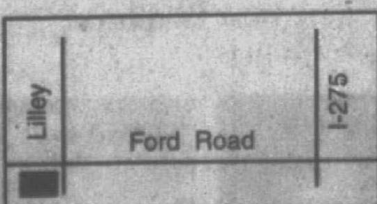


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## Paint

BY RENEE SKOGLUND  
STAFF WRITER

Like Santa, Sherri rises very little sleep before

Every morning, resident rises well before dawn and descends into her workshop to paint Christmas ornaments, paint hundreds of Christmas trees and scenes. She paints figures, construction dainty ballerinas.

But mostly the energetic owner of Yours ... By Sherri far into the night, the good boys and gone to bed.

"Every day I stay and paint until 11 o'clock until my eyes start to close."

It all started 11 years ago when Tutor was looking to earn extra money. After all, four children and lots of toys. She started handpainted ornaments at Plymouth Cultural spring craft show, was, as they say, his

"It sort of snowballed there," she said, "I couldn't believe some

## Down

HOOKED  
ON HISTORY

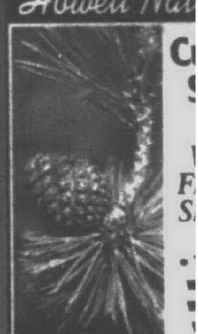


VIRGINIA  
PARKER

most senior Detroit was a place that was around Thanksgiving parade and Christmas displays.

And, he added where the real San

Howell Nat



Santa arrives 1st 2 weeks  
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# Painting personalized ornaments fills holiday season

By RENEE SROGLAND  
STAFF WRITER

Like Santa, Sherri Tutor gets very little sleep before Christmas.

Every morning, the Canton resident rises well before the sun and descends into her basement workshop to paint personalized Christmas ornaments. She paints hundreds of snowmen, Christmas trees and village scenes. She paints football players, construction workers and dainty ballerinas.

But mostly the petite and energetic owner of "Personally Yours ... By Sherri Tutor" paints far into the night, long after all the good boys and girls have gone to bed.

"Every day I start at 4 a.m. and paint until 11 or 12 at night, until my eyes start closing," she said.

It all started 18 years ago when Tutor was looking for ways to earn extra money for Christmas. After all, four children need lots of toys. She sold her first handpainted ornaments at the Plymouth Cultural Center's spring craft show, and the rest was, as they say, history.

"It sort of snowballed from there," she said, laughing, "I couldn't believe somebody would

buy something I made."

Three years ago, Tutor started selling wholesale. Her ornaments now appear in national catalogs, such as Lillian Vernon, Abbey Press and Harry & David. Most of her designs are copyrighted. She also does handcrafted Easter ornaments.

She is considering publishing a catalog of her own. "Personally Yours" is a bonafide business with tax receipts to prove it.

"I would like to duke someone between the eyes when they say this is a nice hobby," she said.

Tutor will paint just about anything a customer requests within reason and good taste. Her most popular designs are the wedding anniversaries, births and family groupings.

Have a really big family? No problem. Tutor can fit up to 11 people on one ornament. She also does caricatures of family members and likenesses of family pets.

Tutor no longer has time for local craft shows, although she still takes orders from "ordinary people." She's fortunate she doesn't require much sleep, especially during the holiday season. Last Christmas, she spent three nights without sleep filling orders.



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

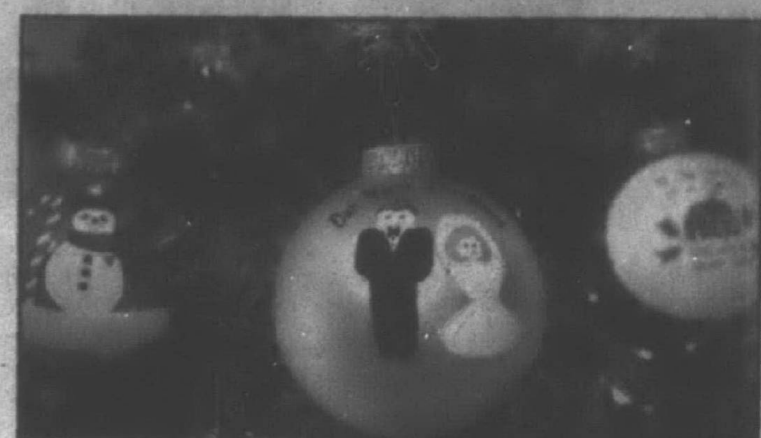
"I felt like I was having an outer body experience," she said. "I would say to myself 'I just want to go to Hawaii.' That Christmas, our son gave us a trip to Hawaii."

Huge mailbags filled with

boxed ornaments line Tutor's hallway. More mailbags spill across her family room floor and boxes fill an upstairs bedroom.

"I won't allow you into my basement," she warns.

During the holidays, she needs



**Busy season:** Eighteen years ago, Sherri Tutor was looking for ways to earn extra money for Christmas. Now, through her business, "Personally Yours ... By Sherri Tutor," she busy filling orders for personalized ornaments for national catalogs.



extra help filling all the orders. Her entire family pitches in. Daughter Shelly Mitchell helps with some of the painting and sons Jeffrey, Scott and Steven do the packing.

"Last year they packaged until

they were purple," Tutor said of her grown sons' efforts.

This Christmas promises to be busier than ever. Besides not sleeping, Tutor said she's definitely not cooking.

"We order a lot of pizzas."

## Downtown Hudson's Christmas was something magical

HOOKED  
ON HISTORY



VIRGINIA PARKER

Just mention Christmas at downtown Hudson's and you see faces brighten and reminiscences flow.

My husband, Don, is one of those people.

"Hudson's has always held a special place in the hearts of the most senior Detroiters because it was a place that was magical — around Thanksgiving for the parade and Christmastime for the displays.

And," he added, "that was where the real Santa Claus was

located."

The fun began with the ride downtown. Some folks took the bus, but Don caught the trolley.

"At the time, Michigan Avenue was all brick," Don said. "We'd walk to the middle of the street, which is where the trolley cars ran, and we'd stand on a little island until the streetcar came."

"It wasn't a very long drive into downtown, but it was still pretty exciting when I was a kid."

Cheryl Andrzejewski also remembers the excitement of trips to visit Hudson's Santa.

"My aunt would give me \$5, and I could use that either to have lunch or buy a toy. I would eat as little as possible, so I'd have enough change to bring

home a souvenir or something from Toyland."

Santa always gave the kids a treat, too. One year, it was a little ornament. Other years, there were candy canes or coloring books.

Reaching Santa once you were inside Hudson's was an adventure in itself. Parents and children wound their way in a roped-off line up a stairway, and each floor had something different; Christmas ornaments, toys, and of course, Santa himself.

Lynn Spietz worked at Hudson's as a Christmas fairy, dressed in a short red velvet skirt with white fur trim, a hat and white gloves, to guide the children to Santa.

"Visitors were very cleverly

dispersed into six separate lines, and you weren't aware you were going to see one of six Santas," she confided. "The initial line, before it split, covered two floors of stairwell. It was a very long process, although the lines moved pretty quickly because of the eventual splitting up among the six Santas."

**Wondrous displays**

Most people delight in memories of the wondrous displays they saw around each corner of that winding, multi-floor path.

"There were animated characters and lots of lights, and you felt like you were walking into a forest, which is why I think the path system worked so well," said Spietz. "And one of the

advantages to being a little kid is you're really short, so you don't see that other people are separating off. You're just dazzled by the displays there."

Most people remember details of the animation.

"They had elves that moved. I can also remember deer and their little heads moved," said Andrzejewski.

Don said riding the elevator up to the brilliantly decorated department where the line began was part of the fun.

"The elevators were really cool because they had operators who announced each floor and what was on it. When we got to the toys and Santa Claus, we'd step onto a floor that was just like a fantasyland. There were dis-

plays, Christmas scenes and life-sized figurines. It was like a winter wonderland, almost like the North Pole."

According to Spietz, not everyone wanted to go there. There were kids who screamed because they were terrified of Santa. One of the biggest problems was that excited kids often wet their pants, so Santa had to change clothes during the day.

Santa Claus arrived in Detroit via Hudson's Thanksgiving Day Parade, which came down Woodward Avenue and stopped, naturally, at Hudson's. The store's many windows, particularly at Christmastime, were glimmering showcases. Above them on the front of the building was an

Please see HUDSON'S, B10

### Howell Nature Center

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MANY VARIETIES OF FRESH CUT FIR, SPRUCE & PINE

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Santa arrives 1st 2 weekends in December  
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1 mi. E. of Howell & 1 mi. E. of I-94  
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- ALSO
- Fresh cut NC Fraser Fir up to 12' Roping • Wreaths
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Choose & cut a beautiful tree at one of our two locations. Fresh wreaths & roping. FREE tree wrap. Baws & tree carts provided.

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**LAPEER** - 2401 Farnsworth Rd. (N. on M-24, 2 mi. past city of Lapeer. E. on Daily for 1/2 mi., N. on Farnsworth for 1 mi. farm on left.)

Need a BIG tree for a high ceiling? This is the place. Thousands of beautiful spruce & pine up to 14 ft. Only \$5 per ft. in Lapeer! Open Sat & Sun 9-5. (248) 628-8899

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You cut or fresh! Fraser, Concolor & Douglas Fir, Blue & White Spruce, White & Scotch Pine. All Sizes, All Prices.

Wreaths, Gifts, Snacks. FREE rides, animals, animation, Santa weekends. Saws & Tree cleaning provided.

Daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
3360 Burtch Road  
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Once again we have a fine selection of trees. All sizes. Lots of premium...

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Come early for a better selection. Wreaths of many sizes. Cedar & Pine Roping. Excellent selection of Bravo Blankets.

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Scotch Pine, Blue Spruce, White Spruce & Balsam Fir

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Fraser Fir • Douglas Fir  
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# CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND PLYMOUTH

## WEEKEND

**LUMINARY KITS**  
■ The Plymouth Symphony League and the Trailwood Garden Club will hold their annual fund-raising sale of luminary kits 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 and 19, in Kroger at Sheldon and Ann Arbor Road, and in Plymouth Marketplace at Lilley and Ann Arbor Road and Westchester Mall. The cost of a set of 10 candles with white bags is \$4.

**ANNUAL COOKIE WALK**  
■ Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church is having its annual special Christmas cookie walk from 9 a.m. until sold out Saturday, Dec. 12, in the church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, between Newburgh and Farmington roads, Livonia. There will be fancy ethnic cookies, an assortment of Greek, Ukrainian, Russian, Italian, and many more. There will also be an assortment of homemade pierogi, stuffed cabbage, sweet bread, and nut, apricot and poppy seed rolls. For more information, call (248) 476-3432.

**PHOTOS WITH SANTA**  
■ Animal Odyssey Gift Gallery is sponsoring pet photos with Santa noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at 621 S. Main, Plymouth. Cost is \$5. Proceeds will go to help homeless animals. Bring pet food, supplies, toys, etc., to be given to homeless pets and receive a free gift. For more information, call (734) 414-MEOW.

**SINGLES' EVENTS**  
■ Single Place holds a walk in the park 10 a.m. every Saturday at Heritage Park, Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington.

■ Single Place holds the following social events every Sunday: worship 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary; brunch 12:30 p.m. at Northville Crossing Restaurant, 18900 Northville Road, Northville; coffee and cards 6 p.m. at Tuscan Cafe, 150 N. Center, Northville.

■ Suburban Singles holds a single mingle dance 8 p.m., every Wednesday in the Bonnie Brook Country Club located on Telegraph Road, South of Eight Mile, Redford. Proper attire, no jeans. Ages 21 and up. Admission is \$4, and \$3 before 8:30 p.m. For more information, call (313) 842-0443.

■ Suburban Singles holds an after dinner dance 7-11 p.m. every Sunday in the Bonnie Brook Country Club, located on Telegraph Road, south of Eight Mile, Redford. Proper attire, no jeans. Ages 21 and up. Admission is \$4, \$3 before 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (313) 842-7422.

**SING-ALONG WITH SANTA**  
■ Ring in the holiday season harmonizing with Santa Claus at the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra's annual sing-along. The benefit will be held 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth, downtown Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$5 for children, \$10 for adults, \$25 for families, and \$50 for patrons. Patron tickets include priority seating. For more information, or to order tickets, call (734) 994-4801. Tickets are also available at 527 E. Liberty, Suite 208, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or at the church beginning at 2:30 p.m. the day of the event.

**WINTER CONCERT**  
■ The Ann Arbor Youth Chorus, conducted by Ruth Datz, Richard

Ingram, Donald Williams and Shayla Powell, will hold a winter concert 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in Trinity Chapel, Concordia College, 4090 Geddes, Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$10 per family, \$7 for adults, and \$4 for students and seniors. For more information, call (734) 996-4404.

**BOYCHOIR CONCERT**  
■ The Boychoir of Ann Arbor presents its 12th annual Christmas Concert, entitled "A Boychoir Christmas," 3 and 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 19 in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Division at Catherine in Ann Arbor. The program will include traditional Christmas carols as well as John Rutter's "What Sweeter Music" and Benjamin Britten's, "There Is No Rose." Tickets are \$12 per adult and \$6 per student or senior. A family ticket is \$30. Tickets may be reserved by calling (734) 663-5377.

## AROUND TOWN

**CRAFTERS NEEDED**  
■ Madonna University is accepting applications from crafters for its 14th annual Spring Arts & Crafts Showcase, to be held 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 20, in the Activities Center on campus. The show will feature a variety of handmade arts and crafts, including pottery, jewelry, paintings, textiles and woodworking. Booth space is available for \$50. Booths with electricity are limited and are an additional \$5. Exhibitors may purchase up to three spaces. Crafters will receive a \$5 discount if their form is received before Feb. 1. For an application or information, call (734) 432-5603.

**SKATIN' STATION II**  
■ Skatin' Station II presents Toys For Kids Skate, sponsored by Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth and Canton Goodfellows, 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at 8611 Ronda, Canton. Bring in a new or gently used toy and skate for \$2. Regular admission is \$3.50; skate rental is \$2; premium is \$4 and in-line skate rental is \$4. For more information, call (734) 459-6401.

**HOLIDAY DINNER**  
■ Western Wayne County Genealogical Society will hold its annual holiday dinner 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, in the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman, Westland. Members and guests are invited. Guest speaker will be Joan Klimchuk of the Dearborn Historical Museum, speaking on Santa Claus and philately (stamp collecting). There will be holiday punch served 6 p.m., followed by 6:30 p.m. dinner. For more information, call Pat Moon at (734) 425-3079.

**TOY & HOBBY EXPO**  
■ The Toy & Hobby Expo returns 3-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, at the Novi Expo Center, located at I-96 and Novi Road (exit 162). The show will feature operating displays, including the world's largest mobile model railroad display. Vendors and collectors will be selling new, used, antique and collectible toys and hobby supplies. Admission is \$6 for adults, and \$3 for children 4-12. Parking is \$4. For more information, call (734) 455-2110.

**CHOIR AUDITIONS**  
■ The Schoolcraft College Community Choir will hold auditions for new members at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12 and 19, in the Forum Building on the Livonia campus. All voice parts are



Goodfellows: Art Ardanowski sells newspapers for the Plymouth Goodfellows on Saturday at the corner of Plymouth and Mill.

welcome. To schedule an audition or for more information, call choir President Shari Clason at (248) 349-8175 or Schoolcraft's Liberal Arts Department at (734) 462-4435.

**MEETING**  
■ The League of Women Voters will meet 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at Greenmead for its general membership meeting and Christmas tour of Livonia's Historical Village, located on Eight Mile and Newburgh. The survey questions with answers on the Charter School Study will be collected at this time. For more information, call (734) 464-0224.

**REGISTRATION**  
■ Madonna University's registration for Winter 1999 term is in progress and continues through Friday, Jan. 8, for new and returning students. Office hours will be held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and to 7 p.m. Monday and Thursdays, with the exception of Dec. 21 when the office will close at 5 p.m. All offices will be closed Dec. 24 through Jan. 3. Classes begin the week of Jan. 11. Fax-in registration is available and will be accepted through Dec. 18. Students may enroll in day, evening and weekend classes, and non-admitted students must obtain a permit to register from the admission office. Transfer students are welcome. There is no application fee. For more information, call the admissions office at (734) 432-5339.

**WORKSHOPS**  
■ The Plymouth Community Arts Council will offer a Christmas Craft Workshop/Visit with Santa 10-11 a.m. and 1-2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15. Cost is \$7 per child; this includes a visit with Santa Claus and assistance in making a holiday craft project. Photos are also available for a charge of \$2. For more information, call (734) 416-4ART.

■ Plymouth Community

Arts Council will offer "Pottery: Make A Christmas Ornament" (ages 6-12) 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. Cookie cutters and rolling pins are just some of the tools used to produce a lasting holiday memento or a great gift. Cost is \$11. For more information, call (734) 416-4278.

**SCHOOL OPENINGS**  
■ Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery has openings in all classes for 18 months through 5 years old. Located in Livonia bordering Canton, Plymouth and Westland. Quality education offered with parent involvement. Low tuition rates. For more information, contact Michelle at (734) 421-6196.

**GENERAL MEETING**  
■ The Vietnam Veterans of America general meeting will be held 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at 9318 Newburgh, between Joy Road and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. All veterans on active duty Jan. 1, 1959, to May 7, 1975, regardless of duty station, are eligible. For more information, call Don Dignan at (313) 845-3752 or (734) 525-0157.

**YMCA**  
■ The Plymouth community is accepting registrations for classes. The classes are youth travel basketball league for grades three-eight; girls' instructional basketball league for grades three-six; introductory to dance, ages 5-8; creative movement for preschoolers, ages 3-5; active older adult water exercise, youth travel floor hockey for ages 9-12, and step aerobics fitness class and aquatics. For more information, call the Plymouth YMCA at (734) 453-2904.

**SKI TRIP**  
■ Schoolcraft College EdgeRunner Ski Club is sponsoring a Blue Mountain, Ontario, skiing trip Feb. 5-7. The trip includes two-night condo accommodation, two day/night lift passes, two breakfasts, one dinner, hot tubs, saunas, and more. The club offers

this trip at a price of \$159 for members and \$189 for non-members. Trip participants must be 18 years or older to attend. For more information, call EdgeRunners at (734) 462-4422.

**KIWANIS**  
■ Plymouth-Canton Morning Kiwanis invites those interested to 7 a.m. Tuesday breakfasts at the Water Club Grill, Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275 in Plymouth Township. For more information, call (734) 453-1373.

**KOEZE NUT SALE**  
■ The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County is sponsoring a fund-raiser of Koeze nuts. The proceeds are used for local and international service projects dedicated to world peace, providing community service and improving the status of women worldwide. Orders can be delivered at your convenience. For more information, or to order, call Candy Martin at (248) 348-1410 or Kay Diggs at (734) 459-8374.

**MEDILODGE GROUP**  
■ The Medilodge Group Inc. has made available to local clubs and organizations a representative to assisted living, long-term care, services available, reimbursement under Medicare and other topics. If interested, contact the administrator or admission director at West Trail Nursing Center at (734) 453-3993.

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**  
■ The VFW No. 6695 Ladies Auxiliary of Plymouth is looking for a volunteer age 12-15 who has done exceptional volunteer work. Two \$1,000 savings bond are awarded nationally. For more information, notify Ann Smith at 453-1529.

**ADULT DAY CARE**  
■ Adult Day Care is a weekday program, open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., serving seniors who need some assistance but don't need to be in a nursing home. The program is designed to give needed relief to the caregiver while providing an enjoyable, activity-filled day in a relaxed, supervised, friendly environment. Trained professionals assist with the restroom, medications and offer a hot lunch. Transportation and financial assistance are available. For more information, call the Plymouth site at (734) 451-1455 or the Livonia site at (734) 591-2216.

**SUPPORT GROUPS**  
**STARTING OVER**  
■ Starting Over is a group for widowed men and women under the age of 45. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of the month at Plymouth Church of Christ. For more information, call (734) 662-5999.

**PARKINSON EDUCATION**  
■ The Parkinson Education and Support Group of Washtenaw County meets in Ann Arbor 1:30-4 p.m. the second Sunday of the month at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Building 5305, near parking lot P. The next meeting will be held on Dec. 13 in the Education Center. It will be a potluck/holiday party/white elephant exchange. Please bring a dish to pass as well as your own place settings. Coffee and juice will be provided and a ham will be prepared by the committee. For more information, call (734) 930-6335 or (734) 741-9209.

**ARBOR HOSPICE**  
■ Arbor Hospice sponsors a variety of grief support programs open to the public. If you would like more information or would like to sign up, call (734) 662-5999.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**  
■ Community Hospice and Home Care Services has a drop-in grief support group. The group meets 6:30-8 p.m. every third Wednesday of the month to support and affirm people grieving a loss through death. To learn more, call Becky Rouse at (734) 522-4244.

**WIDOW AND WIDOWER'S GROUP**  
■ Community Hospice & Home Care Services offers those recovering from the death of a partner a chance to gather and share their feelings of grief. A trained facilitator guides members through topics ranging from loneliness, sadness, guilt and anger, as well as learning to rebuild a new life. The meetings, which are free, take place 1-3 p.m. every first and third Wednesday of the month. To learn more or to register, call Becky Rouse at (734) 522-4244.

**DIVORCECARE**  
■ DivorceCare recovery seminar and support group meets at St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Canton every Sunday. Check-in is at 7 p.m. Child care is provided through fifth grade. The church is at 7000 Sheldon, Canton. DivorceCare features nationally recognized experts on divorce and recovery topics. Seminar sessions include facing anger, facing loneliness, depression, new relationships, KidCare, and forgiveness. There is a one-time registration fee of \$10. For more information, call Bernice at (734) 459-3333.

**COUNTERPOINT**  
■ Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for youth ages 10-17 and their families. Call (734) 563-5005.

**MDDA**  
■ MDDA (Manie Depressive Association) meets 2-4

p.m. the second and fourth Sundays at St. Joseph Mercy Health Care Center, Canton Center and Summit Parkway, Canton. MDDA of Metro Detroit is a support group for people who have experienced problems with depression. Family members are also encouraged to come. Call Nancy at (734) 455-8598.

**IMPOTENCE**  
■ Botsford General Hospital's HIM (Help for Impotent Men) has a support group. This free HIM support group meets 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month. Call (248) 477-6100.

**ANGELA HOSPICE**  
■ Angela Hospice offers monthly grief support groups at no cost for people who have experienced the loss of a loved one. All groups meet at the Angela Hospice Care Center in Livonia. For meeting dates and times, call Ruth Favor, (734) 464-7810.

## VOLUNTEER WORK

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
■ Plymouth-Canton Head Start, in Central-Middle School, is looking for volunteers to help in the classroom with large-group activities, assist children during recess, participate in the Learning Centers (art, computer, library, etc.) and assist during mealtimes. If you have a morning or afternoon free, Monday-Thursday, call 416-6196. Seniors and retirees in the Plymouth-Canton area are especially welcome.

**COMMUNITY PROGRAM**  
■ Discount at Hudson's Twelve Oaks available while earning money for nonprofit organizations or group. Inquire about the community volunteer program, (248) 344-7038.

**FISH**  
■ Do you have one or two hours a month to help your neighbors? FISH of Plymouth/Canton is a volunteer group that is available to help other Plymouth/Canton residents with transportation to doctor or dentist appointments, errands or other tasks. Call (734) 261-1011 to volunteer or for more information.

**CANCER SOCIETY**  
■ American Cancer Society needs volunteers. Call (248) 557-5353, Ext. 336.

**ALZHEIMER'S**  
■ The Alzheimer's Association is seeking volunteers to provide companionship to people experiencing memory loss. Volunteers receive an orientation. To volunteer, call Adam Sterling, (248) 557-8277.

**VOLUNTEER DRIVERS**  
■ Volunteer drivers are needed to transport area residents to meetings of the Western Wayne Parkinson's Disease support group. Meetings are 7-9 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Livonia Senior Center on Farmington Road, south of Five Mile. Parkinson's patients, caregivers and others are welcome to attend meetings, which serve Plymouth, Canton, Westland, Livonia, Redford and Garden City. Volunteers may call 459-0216 or 421-4208.

## CLUBS

**MOTHERS OF MULTIPLES**  
■ The Plymouth-Canton Mothers of Multiples Club meets 7 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month. Call Barb at (734) 207-5224. Play group meets every other Tuesday. Call Sue at (313) 459-9324.

## Sherman-Font

Andrew Robert Sherman and Cara Marie Fontana married July 18 at the Dixie Methodist Church. James Cochran performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Lawrence and Janice Fontana of Plymouth. The groom is the son of Harold and Mary Sherman of Ypsilanti.

The bride asked Mr. Fontana to be her honor with Marissa Fontana as maid of honor and Gayeaki, Lisa Smith and Salyer as bridesmaids.

The groom asked Sherman and Steve M. serve as his best men. Daniel Kolesar, Josh H. Shaysn Crabtree as groomsmen.

The couple received Hawthorne Valley Co.

## Coyle-Kimsal

Brad and Joy Coymouth announce the birth of their daughter, Melissa, to Matthew H. sal, the son of Jackie Hojna and Joseph Hojna Township and Ke. Teresa Kimsal of Springs, Ky.

The bride-to-be, mouth Salem High School, is studying engineering at Michigan State University. She expects to graduate in May. She is employed as an intern at TB Simon P. in East Lansing. She is a mathematics tutor at her fiancé's 1994 Valley High School who is studying engineering at Michigan State University. He expects to graduate in May. He also is a tutor and in the U.S. ROTC at MSU. Following graduation, he will be at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

A January wedding at First United Church of Plymouth.

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**CALENDAR FORM**

The Plymouth Observer welcomes Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Plymouth Observer, 794 South Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, or by fax to 734-459-4224. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 459-2700 if you have any questions.

Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Info.: \_\_\_\_\_

Use additional sheet if necessary



## WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

## Sherman-Fontana

Andrew Robert Sherman and Cara Marie Fontana were married July 18 at the Dixboro United Methodist Church. The Rev. James Cochran performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Lawrence and Janice Fontana of Plymouth. The groom is the son of Harold and Mary Sherman of Ypsilanti.

The bride asked Marie Elaina Fontana to be her matron of honor with Marisa Fontana as maid of honor and Michelle Gayeski, Lisa Smith and Sandee Salyer as bridesmaids.

The groom asked Michael Sherman and Steve McGregor to serve as his best men with Daniel Kolesar, Josh Harrell and Shawn Crabtree as groomsmen.

The couple received guests at Hawthorne Valley Country Club



before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Hilton Head Island, S.C. They are making their home in Ypsilanti Township.

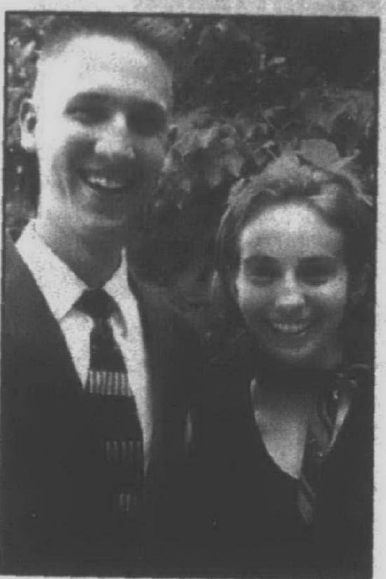
## Coyle-Kimsal

Brad and Joy Coyle of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie Melissa, to Matthew Bryan Kimsal, the son of Jackie Stockton-Hojna and Joseph Hojna of Clinton Township and Kenneth and Teresa Kimsal of Russell Springs, Ky.

The bride-to-be, 1994 Plymouth Salem High School graduate, is studying engineering at Michigan State University and expects to graduate in May. She is employed as an engineering intern at TB Simon Power Plant in East Lansing. She also is a mathematics tutor at MSU.

Her fiancé is a 1994 Chippewa Valley High School graduate who is studying engineering at Michigan State University. He expects to graduate in December. He also is a mathematics tutor and in the U.S. Air Force ROTC at MSU. Following graduation, he will be stationed at Vandenberg Air Force Base in Lompoc, Calif.

A January wedding is planned at First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.



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## Miller-Flanagan

Ronald and Gayle Miller of Pembroke Pines, Fla., announce the engagement of their daughter, Stacy Lynn, to Patrick Michael Flanagan, the son of Patrick and Irene Flanagan of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1987 graduate of Miramar High School in Miramar, Fla., and a 1992 graduate of Florida State University with a master of science degree in speech-language pathology. She is employed as a speech pathologist with a private practice.

Her fiancé is a 1986 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School. He also is a graduate of Western Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in aviation technology and operations. He is employed by Emery



Worldwide Airlines as a DC-8 first officer. A January wedding is planned at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Boynton Beach, Fla.

## Nelson-Johnson

Parnell E. Johnson Jr. and Linda S. Nelson announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is employed as a recruiter for Draw-Tite Inc. of Canton.

Her fiancé, a resident of the Canton-Plymouth area, is a part-time firefighter for Plymouth and is employed at Ford Motor Co. as a molding technician.

The couple has five children - Kenneth Johnson, Karrie Johnson, Stacey Nelson, Kelly Draeger (Lars) and Patrick Nelson. The bride-to-be also has one granddaughter, Tress Burrell, daughter of Stacey and Robert Burrell.

A February wedding is



planned at Garden City Presbyterian Church.

## Ayers-Curcru

Providence Curcru and Jason Alan Ayers were married on Sept. 12 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth.

The bride is the daughter of Serafina Curcru of New Baltimore and the late Filippo Curcru. The groom is the son of Mona Jones of Indianapolis, Ind., and the late Mark Ayers.

The bride is a graduate of the University of Michigan. She is employed by the Livonia Public

Schools as a paraprofessional.

The groom is employed by ChryslerDaimler Corp. as a product/body engineer.

The bride asked Sera Lewan to serve as matron of honor with Phyllis Curcru, Grace Curcru, Renee Curcru and Amy Ayers as bridesmaids.

The groom asked Doug Lewan to serve as best man with Keith Hall, Jeffrey Ayers, Nick Curcru and Vito Curcru as groomsmen.

The couple is making their home in Canton.



## Announcement forms available

Forms to announce weddings, engagements, births and anniversaries are available at our offices in Livonia - 36251 Schoolcraft - and Plymouth - 794 S. Main St.

They also are available by calling Sue Mason at (734) 953-2131 or Tiffanie Lacey at (734) 459-2700.

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| <b>Dearborn</b><br>Fairlane Town Center<br>18900 Michigan Ave. Ste. 5<br>313-441-1520 | <b>Livonia</b><br>Livonia Mall<br>29500 W. Seven Mile Road<br>248-471-2937                  | <b>Sterling Heights</b><br>Lakeside Mall<br>14100 Lakeside Circle<br>810-532-0460       | <b>Westland</b><br>Westland Center<br>35000 W. Warren<br>734-762-5008     |
| <b>Flint</b><br>Genesee Valley Shopping Center<br>3191 S. Linden Road<br>810-733-2028 | <b>Novi</b><br>Twelve Oaks Mall<br>27600 Novi Road<br>248-349-5316                          | <b>Troy</b><br>Oakland Mall Shopping Center<br>300 W. 14 Mile Road<br>248-597-0900      |   |

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

**December 13th**  
11:00 a.m. Guest Speaker  
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**CANTON**  
46001 Warren Road  
(West of Canton Center)  
Sunday Worship 8:30 am  
Sunday School 10:45 am  
(313) 414-7422

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
20805 Middlebelt (corner of 6 Mile & Middlebelt)  
Farmington Hills, Mich.  
WORSHIP SERVICES  
Saturday Evening 6 p.m.  
Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.  
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30  
Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

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

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

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD**  
2830 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALE  
532-2266 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Service  
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday School  
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Nursery Provided  
Rev. Victor F. Halbooth, Pastor  
Rev. Timothy Halbooth, Assoc. Pastor

## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

**Timothy Lutheran Church**  
6820 Wayne Rd.  
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)  
Livonia • 427-2290  
Rev. Caris Thompson Powell, Pastor  
9:00 a.m. Adult & Children's Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Family Worship

**NewLife Lutheran Church**  
Sunday Education - 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.  
(with children's message/nursery)  
Sunday Fellowship - 11:00 a.m.  
Our Lady of Providence Chapel  
16115 Beck Rd. (between 5 & 6 Mile Rds.)  
Pastor Ken Roberts (ELCA)  
734 / 459-8181

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

**NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
29887 West Eleven Mile Road  
Just West of Middlebelt  
248-476-8860 • Farmington Hills  
Worship Service at 9:15 and 11 a.m.  
Church School at 10 a.m.

December 13th  
"Refusing to be Comforted"  
Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack

Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack  
Rev. Kathleen Grotz  
Rev. Jana Bergquist  
Rev. Robert Bough  
Mr. Melvin Rookus

**NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
36500 Ann Arbor Trail  
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.  
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School  
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

December 13th  
"Patient Living In An Impatient World"  
Rev. Thomas G. Badley, preaching

**Contemporary Worship 5:00 p.m.**  
Faith  
Mr. Keith Nation, preaching  
visit our website: www.gpcw-usa.org/newburg-usmc



## EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

**TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth  
5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.  
From M-14 take Condit Road, South

734-459-9550  
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor  
8:00 Prayer & Praise Service  
9:30  
Lifeline Contemporary Service  
11:00 Traditional Service  
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)  
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED  
8:00-9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School for All Ages

**WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
40000 Six Mile Road  
Northville, MI  
248-374-7400  
Dr. James M. McGuire, Pastor

**Worship Services**  
Sunday School  
8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.  
Evening Service  
6:00 P.M. in the Chapel  
Nursery Provided

Worship Service  
Broadcast  
9:30 A.M.  
WMUZ-FM  
103.5



## PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

**GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**  
5838 Sheldon Rd. Canton  
(313) 459-0013

Sunday Worship & Church School  
9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Education For All Ages  
Childcare Provided • Handicapped Accessible  
Resources for Hearing and Sight Impaired

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Main & Church • (734) 453-8464  
PLYMOUTH

Worship Services 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Church School & Nursery 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Dr. James Skimins Tamara J. Seidel  
Senior Minister Associate Minister  
David J.W. Brown, Dir. of Youth Ministries  
Accessible to All

**ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH**  
16700 Newburgh Road  
Livonia • 464-8644  
Sunday School for All Ages 9:30 a.m.  
Family Worship 11:00 a.m.  
A Traditional Christmas Pageant  
http://www.unidial.com/~sttimothy

**Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)**  
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI  
(Between Mainman & Farmington Rds.)  
(313) 422-0494

Worship Service & Sunday School  
10:30 a.m.  
Nursery Care Provided  
We Welcome You To A Full Program Church  
Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor  
Rev. Ruth Billington, Associate Pastor  
Visit our Website at <http://www.jonsonet.com/rosgarden>

**Loia Park Ev. Lutheran Church**  
14750 Kinloch • Redford Twp.  
532-8655  
Pastor Gregory Gibbons

Morning Worship 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School and Bible Class 9:45 a.m.  
Now accepting applications for 1999-2000 school year.  
WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

## UNITED METHODIST

**ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST**  
30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)  
Chuck Sonquist, Pastor

10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School  
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes  
Nursery Provided • 422-6038

**"Building Healthy Families..."**  
Worship & Sunday School  
at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
• Dynamic Youth & Children's Programs  
• Adult Education  
• Child-Care Provided  
Pastors: Dr. Dean Klump, Rev. Tonya Arnesen

First United Methodist Church  
of Plymouth  
4320 N. Terminal Rd. West of Sheldon Rd.  
(734) 453-5280

**NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
36500 Ann Arbor Trail  
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.  
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School  
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

**Agape Family Worship Center**  
"A PRACTICAL CHURCH ON THE MOVE"  
45081 Geddes Road, Canton, MI 48188  
(734) 394-0357

**New Service Times**  
Sunday Worship Services - 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.  
Agape Christian Academy - K through 12

## ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

**Brightmoor Tabernacle**  
Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor  
26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI (I-696 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn) • 352-6200

Sunday Service Times - 10:00 am Worship Service • 6:30 pm Evening Service  
8:45 a.m. Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:00 p.m. "Family Night"  
Dec. 13th, 10:00 AM Pastor Doug Rhind  
Dec. 11, 12 & 13, 7:00 PM  
The Christmas musical, "Somebody It's Snowing"  
24-Hour Prayer Line 248-352-6205

**WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
40000 Six Mile Road  
Northville, MI  
248-374-7400  
Dr. James M. McGuire, Pastor

**Worship Services**  
Sunday School  
8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.  
Evening Service  
6:00 P.M. in the Chapel  
Nursery Provided

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago  
Livonia 48150 • 421-5406  
Rev. Donald Lintelman, Pastor  
9:15 Adult Class  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
and Youth Classes  
Nursery Care Available  
-WELCOME-

## CONGREGATIONAL

**Mt. Hope Congregational Church**  
30330 Schoolcraft Livonia • 734-425-7280  
(Between Middlebelt & Merriman)  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Nursery Care Available

"The Church You've Always Longed For."

**First Congregational Church of Wayne, Est. 1848**  
Michigan Ave. at Wayne Rd.  
(734) 729-7560  
Sunday Worship, Sunday School & Nursery  
10:30 a.m. Welcome!

**Gift of Christmas**  
Plymouth Baptist present the concert Christmas at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11-1 church, 42021 Ann 1/2 mile west of H mouth. The 75-mi features tradition porary Christmas "small-town" setti

**Would John Hancock sign with any church that didn't encourage independent thought?**  
Congregational Christian Churches encourage individual freedom of belief. Which naturally attracts great thinkers. And which explains why so many of our followers have been leaders. Simply put, we honor every sincere conviction that exalts our Lord. And we do so, together in fellowship, each Sunday.

**A Congregational Christian Church**  
First Congregational Church of Wayne, Est. 1848  
Michigan Ave. at Wayne Rd.  
(734) 729-7560  
Sunday Worship, Sunday School & Nursery 10:30 a.m.

**FUND-RAISER**  
Clarenceville U Methodist Church selling 1999 Enter Passbooks as a fu books cost \$40 ea available by calli son at (248) 347-1

**ASP BENEFIT**  
A spaghetti din auction at 6:30 p. 11, at Newburg U Methodist Churel Arbor Trail, Livon the Appalachia S which sponsors y adult work trips 1 For more informa Rev. Melanie Lee

# Peop

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER  
cfuoco@oe.homes.com

Creating the "Ch bration for Peopl About People Wit been satisfying an for the Rev. Rod Re Satisfying in tha and their families k cares for them. B said, it's sad to s participants die f ease.

"There's a trem the part of the pe this disease to ex hand the love tha through the chur Reinhart, a seven-y resident. "People r the Episcopal chu foundly loving and ful part of the body

"Many people w cared for have d years but they d God's love in a dea sonal level than th have."

This year's "Ch bration" will be Fr at St. John's Epis 26998 Woodward Mile Road, in Ro more information, at (734) 459-7319 at revrod@mediao

A music progr the Detroit Togeth rus and the St. J Choir, will begin lowed by a 7:30-9

The Right Rev. R. bishop of the Epi of Michigan, wil brant at the Euch Orris "Jay" Walk tor of St. Matt Joseph's Episcopi Detroit, and bish

Listings for the R should be submit no later than noon next Thursday's is be mailed to 3622 Livonia 48150, (734) 591-7279. mation, call (734)

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BY MARK SUM Your Money

Imagine not the bill drawer who gets paid wait. Imagine checks for th due." And, im even thousands your pocket ea good to be tr expert, it isn't!

Ken Towne dent of South and retail mor says that home tunity to make to be debt free by New Year's them a penny c invite homeov utes with us ov their financial



# People who care gather for 'Christmas Celebration'

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER  
cfuoco@ea.homecomm.net

Creating the "Christmas Celebration for People Who Care About People With AIDS," has been satisfying and saddening for the Rev. Rod Reinhart.

Satisfying in that the patients and their families know that God cares for them. But, Reinhart said, it's sad to see some of the participants die from the disease.

"There's a tremendous need on the part of the people touched by this disease to experience first hand the love that God gives us through the church," explained Reinhart, a seven-year Plymouth resident. "People recognize that the Episcopal church is a profoundly loving and deeply faithful part of the body of Christ."

"Many people who have been cared for have died over the years but they died knowing God's love in a deeper, more personal level than they ever could have."

This year's "Christmas Celebration" will be Friday, Dec. 11, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 26998 Woodward Ave., at 11 Mile Road, in Royal Oak. For more information, call Reinhart at (734) 459-7319 or e-mail him at [revrod@mediaone.net](mailto:revrod@mediaone.net).

A music program, featuring the Detroit Together Men's Chorus and the St. John's Festival Choir, will begin at 7 p.m. followed by a 7:30-9 p.m. service. The Right Rev. R. Stewart Wood, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, will be the celebrant at the Eucharist. Rt. Rev. Orris "Jay" Walker, former rector of St. Matthew and St. Joseph's Episcopal churches in Detroit, and bishop of the Dio-

cese of Long Island, N.Y., will preach.

A holiday party, hosted by the Michigan International Gay Rodeo Association, will follow. Reinhart asks that each participant bring a wrapped gift to be given to a person with AIDS. Each gift should be tagged with information on the age, size and gender of the intended recipient.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for people to give a gift to a person with AIDS," he said. "We're hoping that many people come there with gifts."

The offering will go to the Richard Kelch Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit institution dedicated to support the work of the People Who Care Ministries, and further education, health care and the arts.

## 'A great truth'

Kelch, a Plymouth resident and psychiatric charge nurse at Northville Psychiatric Hospital, died of pancreatic disease at age 55. Kelch formed Alcoholics Anonymous groups for people with AIDS (PWAs), sat on boards and committees dedicated to PWAs, and was the secretary for the People Who Care committee, founded by Reinhart.

"Richard's life shows us the great truth we have all come to know so painfully deep," Reinhart said. "In the midst of suffering and struggle, a human being can love and give and pray and care and make an enormous difference in the world. Richard made a difference which continues to touch all of us. I hope we can all do the same."

Raised in Waterford Township, Reinhart graduated from Waterford Kettering High School and went on to Oakland University



**Gang's all here:** The Right Rev. R. Stewart Wood, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, and the Rt. Rev. Orris "Jay" Walker, former rector of St. Matthew and St. Joseph's Episcopal churches in Detroit, and bishop of the Diocese of Long Island, N.Y., are among the ministers joining the Rev. Rod Reinhart for the "Christmas Celebration" Friday, Dec. 11, at St. John's Episcopal Church in Royal Oak.

where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1972. He studied for the priesthood at Bexley Hall in Rochester, N.Y., and was ordained in 1984 at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church in Detroit, one of Detroit's historic African-American parishes, he said.

Reinhart has headed up St. Andrew's and Emmanuel churches in Detroit. For the last two years, he has been the interim rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Monroe, while teaching English at Chadsey High

School in Detroit.

"It's really a wonderful school with a tremendous international student body with people from the Middle East and Eastern Europe, South America, Asia and folks from all over the United States," he said.

As if his schedule isn't busy enough, Reinhart also is a poet and spoken-word performer. His next reading is at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, as part of his birthday party at Xhedos Cafe, 240 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale.

"People ask me how I do all that stuff; I just tell them that God has given me the call to be a workaholic and hyperactive," he said. "Sometimes, I only sleep three hours a night."

## In the beginning

The holidays got busier for Reinhart 14 years ago when he and Kelch organized the first "Christmas Celebration."

"People with AIDS feel a sense of loss and isolation and pain," said Reinhart, 49. "At the time

we began it, it was a highly radical move on the part of the church to reach out to people so vilified by the media, politicians, religious organizations and people in general."

"Our message was that Jesus Christ came to save and care for and love and heal the poorest of the poor. He came to bring God's love to those who had been denied any kind of love."

The first year 35 people attended the event, which featured a visit from Santa Claus and his elves, at St. Andrew's Church in Detroit. The second year 60, and by the third year 200 people filled the church.

"Within a very short time, we were averaging 600-700 people in every service," he said. "I am amazed at how large this event has grown."

This Christmas, he's looking to branch out. Corporate Image Inc. of Plymouth is taping the event.

"We're hoping to have a video available for people at the service to order. We're hoping to get that broadcast by a public access cable station throughout the Detroit area," he said.

To help defray the costs of the taping, Christ Episcopal Church in Grosse Pointe raised \$1,000 in the memory of Matt Shepard, the gay college student who was murdered in Wyoming.

"We are recommitting ourselves to work for an end to the hatred and violence against minority groups in America. That kind of hatred that has been experienced by gays and lesbians and people with AIDS must be strongly opposed by churches and society in general."

## RELIGIOUS NEWS

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

### 'GIFT OF CHRISTMAS'

Plymouth Baptist Church will present the concert "The Gift of Christmas" at 7 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 11-13, at the church, 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, 1/2 mile west of Haggerty, Plymouth. The 75-minute concert features traditional and contemporary Christmas music in a "small-town" setting.

There is no admission charge, however, a Salvation Army kettle will be available for donations. Children younger than age 5 will not be admitted into the auditorium. Full nursery and preschool care will be provided. For more information, call (734) 453-5534 or e-mail [pbc@aol.com](mailto:pbc@aol.com).

### FUND-RAISER

Clarenceville United Methodist Church of Livonia is selling 1999 Entertainment Passbooks as a fund-raiser. The books cost \$40 each and are available by calling Jim Robinson at (248) 347-1535.

### ASP BENEFIT

A spaghetti dinner and basket auction at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, will benefit the Appalachia Service Project, which sponsors youth and young adult work trips to Appalachia. For more information, call the Rev. Melanie Lee Carey at (734) 422-0149.

## A 'Star Is Born'



**'At Memorial:** The Praisemaker's Choir of Memorial Church of Christ will present the Christmas musical, "The Star Is Born," at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. The choir is made up of 4-5-year-olds and includes Lindsey Spaulding (front row, from left), Bethany Pilat, Calla Ziulkowski, Alaina Dieson, Amber Prong, Travis Vincent (back row, from left), Sydney Woll, Elena Voyles, Lauren Engels, Allison Gudeman, Amanda Higgins and Devin Duran. The church's nursery department will present a brief holiday program before the free performance. For more information, call the church at (734) 464-6722.

422-0149

### 'GLORY OF CHRISTMAS'

Temple Baptist Church will present its annual Christmas program, "The Glory of Christmas," at 7:30 p.m. Fridays, Dec. 11 and 18, and 6 p.m. Saturdays-

Sundays, Dec. 12-13 and 19-20.

Tickets are \$6, \$8 and \$10 for reserved seating. To order tickets, call (734) 414-3980. The church is at 49555 N. Territorial, Plymouth Township.

### WOMEN AGLOW

The Westland/Canton Chapter of Women's Aglow International will meet 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 12, in the community room of AutoNation, 39600 Ford Road, Canton.

For the December meeting, members are asked to come pre-

pared to share a two-three-minute testimony on one thing the Lord has done and be in the spirit of giving for the needy family the chapter will be helping. There also will be a special surprise to mark the chapter's first anniversary.

Refreshments and coffee will be served. For more information, call Penni at (734) 261-5268.

### 'GLORIA'

The 50-voice Schoolcraft College Community Choir, directed by Donald Stromberg and accompanied by Linda Wotring-Cuneo, will present Vivaldi's "Gloria" at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in the sanctuary of St. Matthew United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, Livonia. The choir also will perform selections from Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols" and a variety of seasonal compositions by Bach, Beethoven and Victoria. Donations will be accepted during intermission. For more information, call the church office at (734) 422-6038.

### COOKIE WALKS

Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church will have its fifth annual Christmas cookie walk beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. There will be an assortment of Greek, Ukrainian, Russian, Italian and other ethnic cookies, homemade pierogi, stuffed cabbage, nut, apricot and sweet breads, nuts and candy for sale. For more information, call the church at (248) 476-3432.

The United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church in Garden

City will have a cookie walk and mini bazaar 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 12, at the church, 6443 Merriman. Cost will be \$8 for a large tin and \$6 for a medium tin. For more information, call (734) 421-8628.

### SUPERBOOK OLYMPICS

Children ages 5-12 are invited to a morning of fun-filled Bible quizzing, songs, stories, crafts, games and lunch 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Canton Free Methodist Church, 44815 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. For more information, call the church at (313) 981-5350.

### CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Timothy Lutheran Church's vocal choir will present its annual Christmas cantata during the 10 a.m. worship service Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Joy Road, Livonia. For more information, call the church at (734) 427-2290.

### CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

The Youth Department of Merriman Road Baptist Church will present "Christmas Crossroads" at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City. The Adult Choir has scheduled two performances of "The Father's Gift of Love" at 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 19-20. The musical focuses on the events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ as told by those who were present. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-0472.

### CHRISTMAS EVENT

Rosedale Gardens Presbyter-

Please see RELIGION, B8

## Homeowners: Debt Free For New Year's?

BY MARK SUMMER  
Your Money

Imagine not having to sift through the bill drawer each month deciding who gets paid and who will have to wait. Imagine not having to write checks for the "minimum amount due." And, imagine having hundreds, even thousands of dollars in savings in your pocket each month. Sound too good to be true? According to one expert, it isn't!

Ken Towne, executive vice president of Southfield-based wholesale and retail mortgage lender Investaid says that homeowners have an opportunity to make a New Year's resolution to be debt free (excluding mortgage) by New Year's Day, and it won't cost them a penny out of their pocket. "We invite homeowners to spend five minutes with us over the phone to evaluate their financial situation and determine

the best course of action," says Towne. "In less than five minutes we can pre-qualify a homeowner for a loan and determine the total monthly savings—it costs the caller nothing."

We asked Towne why a homeowner would ever want to consolidate their short-term credit card debt into a long-term mortgage. His answer made complete sense. "Most of the people we help have been making minimum payments on their bills for as long as they can remember. As a matter of fact, many can't even remember what they purchased. I don't consider that short-term debt—I consider that a problem," he said.

Towne explained that there is a point at which every borrower realizes that there is no way that he or she will ever pay off the debts. It is then that a decision should be made to refinance, consolidate debt, lower payments,

"In less than five minutes we can pre-qualify a homeowner for a loan and determine the total monthly savings—it costs the caller nothing."

Ken Towne, Investaid  
(800) 492-2110

take advantage of valuable tax benefits, and cut up those credit cards.

### In Debt? You're Not Alone!

Consumer debt is at an all time high. Between 1991 and 1997, consumer credit card balances and other revolving credit card debt skyrocketed to \$514 billion—from \$247 billion.

What does that mean? It means that you are not alone. Your friends, your family, your neighbors and even your colleagues are likely going through the same financial challenges. And, many

of them are doing something about it.

According to a recent study, more than 4 million families have turned to companies like Investaid in the last two years to consolidate more than \$26 billion in credit card and revolving debt into home equity or mortgage programs. The process is easy, and the programs work.

### Take Action, Become Debt Free

How about a little extra holiday cheer. Start fresh in 1999 by taking control of your financial future today.

Evaluate your current situation. Take advantage of a free payment comparison and monthly savings review. Investaid offers a free payment comparison with no application fee. Finally, weigh your options and make the best financial decision possible for your family. It really is quite simple.

Investaid offers free payment and savings comparisons. You can reach the company toll free at (800) 492-2110. "On average, Investaid saves homeowners \$300-\$500 per month," says Towne. "Not bad for a five minute toll free phone call."

However, Towne warns homeowners to be careful when choosing a lending partner. Watch out for late night television ads and fake checks in the mail offering "too good to be true" programs. "Our company's formula for success is simple," says Towne. "We have no commissioned salespeople. Our

customer savings specialists are experienced and knowledgeable and are recognized for their ability to save our customers money. Also, our roots as a wholesale lender allow us to pass significant savings on to our borrowers enabling us to offer a very flexible approval process."

Regardless of your past or current credit difficulties, consolidation programs are now available for all borrowers. Take the time to educate yourself. Don't be bullied into believing that you don't qualify. Most importantly, take action and become debt free. ■

Investaid is a Southfield-based, full-service wholesale and retail mortgage lender specializing in debt consolidation. You can reach Investaid toll free by calling (800) 492-2110. The company is located at 30300 Telegraph Road, Suite 117.





# Religion from page B7

ian Church's Children's Christmas Pageant will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 9601 Hubbard Ave., Livonia. It will feature The Children's Pageant Choir performing "The Cow Said and the Donkey Replied" as written by church member Dixie Elam.

## CHRISTMAS CHORALE

The St. Valentine Choir will present a Christmas Chorale to praise the birth of Christ at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 14841 Beech Daly Road, Redford. The concert is free of charge. Call (313) 535-8364.

## GIFT OF LOVE

"The Father's Gift of Love," a Christmas music drama, will be presented at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy, between Lilley and Sheldon, Canton.

The choral drama will feature the Celebration Choir, soloists and drama ministry of Calvary Baptist in telling how the innkeeper's wife and one of the magi discover in their own ways the significance of the newborn "King of the Jews."

There will be a separate Christmas party for children during the 8 p.m. Dec. 18 performance, and a nursery will be available at all performances.

Call (734) 455-0022.

## LIVE NATIVITY

Fair Haven Baptist Church will have a living Nativity at 7 and 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Dec. 17-18, at the church, 34850 Marquette, east of Wayne Road, Westland. The display is free of charge. For more information, call the church at (734) 728-4549.

Cherry Hill Baptist Church will have a living Nativity, "O Night Divine," 6:30, 7 and 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at the church, 1045 N. Guley Road, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call (313) 565-1489.

## HANUKKAH LATKEFEEST

Congregation Bet Chaverim will celebrate its annual Hanukkah latkefeest at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at the Cherry Hill United Methodist Church in Canton. There will be a pot luck dinner with latkas and all the fixings, followed by the evening Shabbat religious service. For more information, call (734) 480-8880. Bet Chaverim is a western Wayne County Jewish congregation that offers monthly Shabbat services led by a rabbi, a religious school and support for life cycle events.

## BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST

Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which pro-

vides spiritual, social and support assistance to divorced and separated Christians, will have a White Elephant gift exchange at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, Haggerty south of Five Mile, Plymouth Township.

The group meets regularly on Sundays for breakfast and Mass - 10 a.m. at the Redford Inn, Five Mile west of Beech Daly, Redford, and at 11:15 a.m. at St. Aidan's Church, 17500 Farmington Road (north of Six Mile), Livonia - call Val at (734) 729-1974 - for coffee and conversation at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Archie's Family Restaurant, 30471 Plymouth Road, Livonia, and for pinocle at 7 p.m. every other Friday - call Rose at (734) 464-3325.

## TLC STORYTIME

For children and their parents, there will be a TLC Storytime on Saturday, Dec. 19, Jan. 16 and Feb. 20, at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Joy Road, Livonia. There will be crafts, Christian stories, snacks and prizes. The books chosen are for children ages 3-10. Reservations aren't necessary. For more information, call the church at (734) 427-2290.

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

The Sunday school and weekday school students of Faith Lutheran Church will present "The Advent Tree" at 9:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at the church, 30000 Five Mile, Livonia. The Sunday School Choir and Youth

Choir/Bells also will perform. Punch and cookies will be served following the performance. For more information, call the church at (734) 421-7249.

## NEW BEGINNING

"Moving On" will be the topic when New Beginnings, a grief support group meets 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, east of Merriman, Livonia. The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one. There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. For more information, call the church office at (734) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (734) 462-3770.

## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other Feb. 5-7 and March 19-21 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile Road, Plymouth Township. The registration fee is \$50. Call Bill and Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan and Debbie at (810) 286-5524 or at [www.net/detroit/wmwe](http://www.net/detroit/wmwe).

## THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth has opened its new location at 494 N. Mill St., one block north of Plymouth Road,

Plymouth. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call the store at (734) 459-1250 or e-mail the church at [fpcc@juno.com](mailto:fpcc@juno.com).

## KID'S CLUB

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church is holding Kid's Club meetings 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the church, 9601 Hubbard at West Chicago, Livonia. The club is for children in first through the sixth grades. Youngsters do not have to be members of the church to participate. There will be crafts, games, fun and refreshments. For more information, call Dixie Elam at (734) 422-0494.

## SUNDAY LESSONS

Join Barbara Clevenger and Church of Today West-Unity at 10 a.m. Sundays at Meadowbrook Elementary School, 29200 Meadowbrook south of 13 Mile. The church offers youth education and fellowship follows the

service. Women in Unity, a new group organized to help with today's transitional women's role, meets 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. the last Saturday of the month at the Novi Library, 45245 10 Mile Road, Novi. A Thursday Night Study Group, led by Clevenger, also meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the library. For more information, call (248) 449-8900 or visit the Web site at [www.cotwest.com](http://www.cotwest.com).

## RITE OF INITIATION

Adults interested in joining the Catholic church are invited to "inquire" at the ongoing Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays at St. Theodore of Canterbury Church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. The process is open to any interested adult including baptized Catholics who have not completed their initiation with First Communion and/or Confirmation. For more information, call Lorraine Short, pastoral minister, at (734) 425-4421.

## 6 women join UM-D sorority

Six western Wayne County women were among 16 recently initiated into Delta Phi Epsilon International Sorority at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

The women, who successfully completed a six-week educational stint, represent the excellent academic and social standards of the sorority.

The new members include Melissa Carabott, Kate Kings-

bury and Danielle Voyles of Canton, Kerri Klink of Garden City, Jennifer Kesler of Livonia and Jeannie Castillo of Westland.

Delta Phi Epsilon was founded in 1917 at New York University's School of Law. There are now 80 chapters in the United States with more than 32,000 initiated members. UM-D's Alpha Mu chapter was founded in 1989.

## WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Wayne County Commission will hold a public hearing on the certification of revenues and appropriated budgetary expenditure adjustments to the FY 1997-98 Appropriation Ordinance as follows:

1. Certification of additional General Fund Tax Revenues for FY 1997-98 totaling \$37,400,000 and an accompanying budget adjustment to appropriate \$37,400,000 in the General Fund and to certify \$18,700,000 of revenue and appropriate the same in the Budget Stabilization Fund.
2. Certification of additional General Fund Tax Revenues from various sources for FY 1997-98 totaling \$7,900,000 and an accompanying budget adjustment to appropriate \$7,900,000 in the General Fund and to certify \$5,300,000 of revenue and appropriate the same in the Child Care Fund and to certify \$1,500,000 of revenue and appropriate the same in the General Debt Service Fund;
3. Transfer of appropriations for FY 1997-98 from the Health Fund and the Mental Health Fund appropriation units to other Health Fund appropriation unit totaling \$2,000,000.

in accordance with Budget Adjustment Nos. 98-35-180, 98-35-181, and 98-35-182.

The hearing will be held:  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1998, 10:00 a.m.  
Wayne County Building  
600 Randolph, Commission Chambers  
Detroit, Michigan

Copies of the above items may be obtained or reviewed at the Commission Clerk's Office, 406 Wayne County Building, 600 Randolph, Detroit 48226. (313) 224-0903.

Publish: December 10, 1998.

## WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Wayne County Commission Permanent Subcommittee on Veterans Services will hold a public hearing to consider:

An Enrolled Ordinance introduced by Commissioner Beard to establish guidelines for benefits provided for the relief of indigent Veterans of Wars and military expeditions in which the United States has or shall take part. (98-88-012)

The hearing will be held:

Wednesday, December 16, 1998  
10:00 a.m.  
600 Randolph St. Room 402  
Wayne County Building  
Detroit, Michigan

Copies of the proposed ordinance may be reviewed at the Commission Clerk's Office, 406 Wayne County Building, 600 Randolph, Detroit, MI 48226. (313) 224-0903.

Publish: December 10, 1998

## WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Wayne County Commission, Committee of the Whole, will hold a public hearing on the following:

An Ordinance to provide for smoke-free work environments in public and private facilities in order to protect the health of all Wayne County residents.

At its meeting held:

Tuesday, December 15, 1998, 10:00 a.m.  
Wayne County Commission, Hearing Room 402  
600 Randolph, Detroit, MI 48226

Copies of the above items may be obtained or reviewed at the Commission Clerk's Office, 406 Wayne County Building, 600 Randolph, Detroit, MI 48226. (313) 224-0903.

Publish: December 10, 1998

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- |  |  |
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There

The holidays are difficult time for a has lost a loved one every holiday tradi a reminder of happ

Cathy Clough, bereavement servi Hospice, has a few that have helped p grieving cope with season.

Since family get-be extremely diff suggests people b their feelings. Th down with the fan what they want to iday season.

"Don't set expe high for yourself Clough said. "If yo to be the same, yo be disappointed. U what each family n to handle comforta

There's no right to handle the day may wish to follow tions; others m change them, Cl what people chose year doesn't have next.

"The more you the same as it w more obvious yo absence will be," C

Other things pe ■ Keep in mind your children or members. Try to day season as joy for them.

■ Be careful of better to do what for you and your f ation looks espe over the holidays involved.

■ Set limits. I isn't going to be v things that are v important to yo you can.

■ Once you ha you and your fan the holidays, let f tives know.

■ Emotionally, psychologically, t draining. You ne strength, so try rest.

■ One possibl year may be to v friends or even g tion. Planning, p like keeps your o off the holiday a time in a differ ly, less painful se you need to be h mas Day, make

Gibson  
annual  
confere

Gibson School Redford is holding ference specifica girls ages 9-13.

The school's Conference for a.m. to 2:30 p.m. 16, at the schoo Redford.

Women profe senting many d will offer a varie and hands-on a out the day. E able to participa shops.

Dr. Alexa Ca pediatric neur Children's Hosp will present remarks.

Participants a a significant ad the conference. ent, guardian or person in the attend concurre learn effective niques.

All workshop strategies to hel best of their po their options op

The cost is \$ includes lunch Pre-registration to limited seati for more info school at (313) 5

For  
for th  
read



# There are ways to cope with holidays for those who grieve

The holidays are an especially difficult time for someone who has lost a loved one. Each and every holiday tradition serves as a reminder of happier times.

Cathy Clough, director of bereavement services for Arbor Hospice, has a few suggestions that have helped people who are grieving cope with the holiday season.

Since family get-togethers may be extremely difficult, Clough suggests people be honest about their feelings. They should sit down with the family and decide what they want to do for the holiday season.

"Don't set expectations too high for yourself or the day," Clough said. "If you wish things to be the same, you are going to be disappointed. Undertake only what each family member is able to handle comfortably."

There's no right or wrong way to handle the day. Some people may wish to follow family traditions; others may choose to change them, Clough said. But what people chose to do the first year doesn't have to be done the next.

"The more you try to make it the same as it was before, the more obvious your loved one's absence will be," Clough said.

Other things people can do:

- Keep in mind the feelings of your children or other family members. Try to make the holiday season as joyous as possible for them.

- Be careful of "shoulds." It is better to do what is most helpful for you and your family. If a situation looks especially difficult over the holidays, try not to get involved.

- Set limits. Realize that it isn't going to be easy. Doing the things that are very special and important to you. Do the best you can.

- Once you have decided how you and your family will handle the holidays, let friends and relatives know.

- Emotionally, physically and psychologically, the holidays are draining. You need every bit of strength, so try to get enough rest.

- One possibility for the first year may be to visit relatives or friends or even go away on vacation. Planning, packing and the like keeps your mind somewhat off the holiday and you share the time in a different and, hopefully, less painful setting. If you feel you need to be home on Christmas Day, make plans to leave

the next morning.

- Consider not sending or cutting back on your cards this year. It is not necessary to send cards, especially to those people you will see over the holidays. You might consider sending a Christmas letter, sharing your loss and your appreciation of those who are there for you.

- Holidays may magnify feelings of loss of a loved one. It is important and natural to experience the sadness that comes. To block such feelings is unhealthy.

Keep the positive memory of your loved one alive.

- Don't forget: Anticipation of any holiday is so much worse than the actual holiday.

"Often after the first year, people in your life may expect you to be 'over it,'" Clough added. "We are never over it, but the experience of many bereaved is that eventually they enjoy the holidays again. Hold onto that hope."

Clough also has some tips for friends and family members of

the grieving person:

- Do talk about the person who died. Grieving individuals feel worse if you don't. It makes them feel others didn't care about him or her.

- Do include them in your holiday card list. In that card, mention their loved one and how he or she is missed. If you have a picture of that person or a special memory, share it.

- Do include your bereaved friends in your family gatherings. Setting extra plates for din-

ner is a simple thing for you to do and means a lot to the person who is grieving. Don't assume that others are including them. Give them a chance to decide if they are up to it or not.

- Do call your bereaved friends on Christmas morning and tell them you're thinking of them. Bereaved individuals, even those surrounded by family, need to know that others care and are thinking of them on special days.

- Do give your grieving

friends options. Instead of saying, "Call me if you need me," say, "We can go to dinner Friday or I'll make dinner for you. Which would you prefer?"

- Do offer to help them with their Christmas shopping this year or offer to take their young children shopping. Grieving individuals often find it difficult and overwhelming to go places where holiday cheer is evident and expected.

*The moments that define our lives don't take place on the grand stage of public view ~ but rather in the warmth and love of the place we call home.*



## Gibson holds annual girls' conference

Gibson School for the Gifted in Redford is holding a special conference specifically designed for girls ages 9-13.

The school's Third Annual Conference for Girls will be 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, at the school, 12925 Fenton, Redford.

Women professionals representing many different careers will offer a variety of workshops and hands-on activities throughout the day. Each girl will be able to participate in four workshops.

Dr. Alexa Canady, renowned pediatric neurosurgeon from Children's Hospital of Michigan, will present the opening remarks.

Participants are asked to bring a significant adult with them to the conference. The adults - parent, guardian or other significant person in the girl's life - will attend concurrent workshops to learn effective support techniques.

All workshops will focus on strategies to help girls make the best of their potential and keep their options open for the future.

The cost is \$7 per person and includes lunch and refreshment. Pre-registration is required due to limited seating. To register or for more information, call the school at (313) 537-8688.

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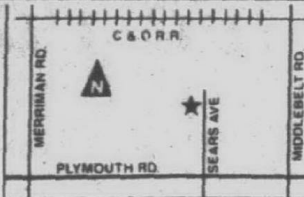
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## Historical museum to hold workshops

The Detroit Historical Museum is providing children and their families the opportunity to learn and have fun at workshops this holiday season.

Two toy train family workshops will be held at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the museum, Woodward at Kirby in Detroit's Cultural Center. The cost is \$12 per child. Parents and children will enjoy a brief talk about trains and model train history and tour the Glancy Trains and the new Frontiers to Factories exhibits before making their own toy train car to take home.

At 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, there will be an Old-Fashioned Christmas Family Workshop, also costing \$12 per child. Participants will learn about the roles of women and girls in the household a century ago as families prepared for the holidays. The workshop will include making a

holiday decoration to take home, food and toys of the past.

Advance registration is required and regular admission fees - \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for senior citizens and children ages 12-18 and free for those under age 12 - apply. Reservations can be made by calling Amy DeWys-VanHecke at (313) 833-9720.

The Children's Hanukkah Family Workshop will be 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19. It will feature films, a discussion of the traditions and meaning of "The Festival of Lights," the chance to play games with the dreidel and the opportunity to make gifts to take home. Refreshments also will be served.

This special workshop is for children ages 5-10. There is no fee for the program, but advance registration is required and regular admission fees apply.

## Hudson's from page B3

day castle and a big tree, all decked out. Santa stepped onto the overhang to greet the crowd.

### Something magical

Spizet recalled something else magical. The Salvation Army had bell ringers and small groups playing music at the various entrances, but, she says, the bells under the overhang had a special resonance, different from the jingling of bells on street corners.

"The sound reverberated; it was louder than anywhere else," she said.

Andrzejewski took her children in the early 1980s to visit Santa the last year he was at the downtown store, but it had changed by then.

"You just had breakfast or lunch with Santa, and they got to sit on his lap. But they didn't get that thrill of going through all the floors because the store didn't do it any more."

The store may be gone, but not

**'I can remember it being so lit up. It was just mesmerizing to me as a child, and I'll never forget any of those memories.'**

*Cheryl Andrzejewski*  
-remembering Hudson's

the memories.

"People came from everywhere to Hudson's," she said. "The store was always decorated spectacularly inside and out. I can remember it being so lit up. It was just mesmerizing to me as a child, and I'll never forget any of those memories."

Neither will the rest of metro Detroit's grownup children.

Historian and author Virginia Bailey Parker has a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in historic preservation. She lives in Canton Township.

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TAYLOR • (734) 374-0005

As space permits, & Eccentric News without charge, or of class reunion information to Reunions & Eccentric. 36251 Schoolcraft, 48150. Please include the reunion and last name of at least one person, and number.

**BIRMINGHAM GROW**  
Class of 1969  
A reunion is planned and a reunion picnic is planned for 1999. (248) 737-1398 or rdcarlson@aol.com

**BISHOP BURGESS**  
Class of 1989  
A reunion is planned for 1999. (313) 271-3050, Ed (248) 552-8020 (do 723-1907

**CHERRY HILL**  
Class of 1983  
Reunion and alumni picnic is planned for 1999. (734) 729-6783

**DEARBORN FORDSON**  
Class of 1989  
Aug. 14 at Hawthorn Country Club, Westland. (248) 366-9493, pr

**DETROIT CENTRAL**  
January-June class May 23 at the Hotel Novi. Marcia Pollock, 25 Woods Drive, No. 2 48034

**DETROIT COOLEY**  
Class of 1950  
A reunion is being planned for 1999. (313) 421-3150 or

**DETROIT PERSHIM**  
Classes of 1949-53  
Are planning a reunion for 1999. (248) 471-5609 or 244, Livonia 4815

**DETROIT REDFORD**  
Class of 1949  
May 15 at Plum Creek Club. (248) 476-4957 or

**DETROIT SOUTHEAST**  
Class of 1949  
A reunion is planned for 1999. (248) 476-4957 or

**DETROIT WESTERN**  
Class of 1949  
Is planning a reunion for 1999. (313) 864-5943, (313) 867-3201

**GARDEN CITY WEST**  
Class of 1968  
A reunion is planned for 1999. (517) 522-4893, (734) 486-5170

**HENRY FORD TRADE**  
Class of 1949  
A reunion is planned for 1999. (313) 565-2392 or

**HIGHLAND PARK**  
Class of 1969  
Is planning a reunion for 1999. (313) 864-5943, (313) 867-3201

**LADYWOOD**  
Class of 1988  
March 13 at the Livonia Club of Livonia. (313) 255-8078

**LIVONIA BENTLEY**  
Class of 1964  
July 24 at the Hawthorn Country Club, Livonia. (734) 416-5993 or

**LIVONIA FRANKLIN**  
Class of 1979  
Aug. 7 at the Doubletree Hotel, Southfield. (248) 366-9493, pr

**NORTH FARMINGTON**  
Oct. 2 at the Doubletree Hotel, Southfield. (248) 360-7004, pr

**NORTHVILLE**  
Class of 1979  
July 10 at Italian Village, Livonia. (800) 677-7800 or

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**Arbor Hospice**  
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Arbor Hospice young widows are under age 40. It meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month at the First United Church, 45201 Plymouth Township. For more information about the group and loss-specific programs and children of Hospice, call (800) 677-7800 or the Arbor Center (248) 348-4980.



## CLASS REUNIONS

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

## BIRMINGHAM GROVES

Class of 1969  
A reunion is planned for July 17 and a reunion picnic for July 18.  
(248) 737-1398 or  
ardcarlson@aol.com

## BISHOP BORGESS

Class of 1989  
A reunion is planned for August 1999.  
(313) 271-3050, Ext. 189 (days),  
(248) 552-8020 (days), or (248) 723-1907

## CHERRY HILL

Class of 1983  
Reunion and alumni family picnic is planned for August.  
(734) 729-6783

## DEARBORN FORDSON

Class of 1989  
Aug. 14 at Hawthorne Valley Country Club, Westland.  
(248) 366-9493, press #8

## DETROIT CENTRAL

January-June classes of 1944  
May 23 at the Hotel Baronette, Novi.  
Marcia Pollock, 29393 Laurel Woods Drive, No. 201, Southfield 48034

## DETROIT COOLEY

Class of 1950  
A reunion is being planned.  
(313) 421-3150 or (734) 525-2503

## DETROIT PERSHING

Classes of 1949-53  
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(248) 471-5609 or P.O. Box 530-244, Livonia 48153-0244

## DETROIT REDFORD

Class of 1949  
May 15 at Plum Hollow Country Club.  
(248) 476-4957 or (248) 644-7540

## DETROIT SOUTHEASTERN

Class of 1959  
A reunion is planned for Sept. 25.  
(313) 884-1243

## DETROIT WESTERN

Class of 1949  
Is planning a reunion.  
(313) 274-3214

## GARDEN CITY WEST

Class of 1968  
A reunion is planned for September 1999.  
(517) 522-4893, (734) 213-4350 or (248) 486-5170

## HENRY FORD TRADE

Class of 1949  
A reunion is planned for June 1999.  
(313) 565-2392 or (734) 261-8546

## HIGHLAND PARK

Class of 1969  
Is planning a reunion.  
(313) 864-5943, (313) 583-5418 or (313) 867-3201

## LADYWOOD

Class of 1988  
March 13 at the Italian-American Club of Livonia.  
(313) 255-8078

## LIVONIA BENTLEY

Class of 1964  
July 24 at the Holiday, Laurel Park, Livonia.  
(734) 416-5993 or  
Tink@mediaone.net

## LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Class of 1979  
Aug. 7 at the DoubleTree Suites, Southfield.  
(248) 366-9493, press #3

## NORTH FARMINGTON

Oct. 2 at the Double Tree Suites, Southfield.  
(248) 360-7004, press 2

## NORTHVILLE

Class of 1979  
July 10 at Italian America Club, Livonia.  
(800) 677-7800 or by e-mail at  
reunions@taylorpub.com.

## OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Class of 1980  
A reunion is planned for Dec. 26.  
(202) 546-4377 or  
kbrady@erg.com; (734) 455-5475 or  
gearns@pccs.k12.mi.us; or  
ebdoherty@aol.com

## PLYMOUTH

Class of 1969  
Aug. 6-8 at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi.  
(248) 446-1028 or  
Karlancast@aol.com, or (734) 420-3811 or PHS1969@aol.com

## PLYMOUTH CANTON

Class of 1979  
Aug. 7 at the Holiday Inn-West in Livonia.  
(734) 397-8766 or www.reunion-works.com

## REDFORD UNION

Class of 1979  
Aug. 28 at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi.  
(313) 592-8537 or (734) 416-0807  
Class of 1949  
Is planning a reunion for September 1999.  
(313) 937-9329 or (734) 427-4208

## ROCHESTER ADAMS

Class of 1969  
June 5 at the River Crest in Rochester Hills. Cost is \$50 per person.  
(248) 393-1151; (248) 969-8313,  
(248) 852-8744 or (248) 952-0444

## ROCHESTER ADAMS

Class of 1979  
Aug. 7 at the Somerset Inn, Troy.  
(248) 366-9493, press #6

## TRENTON

## Class of 1989

Aug. 28 at Arnaldo's Banquet Center, Riverview.  
(248) 360-7004, press 6

## WALLED LAKE CENTRAL

Class of 1979  
A reunion is planned for July 24.  
(248) 363-8211 or (248) 366-3337

## WALLED LAKE WESTERN

Class of 1979  
Aug. 14 at DoubleTree Guest Suites, Southfield.  
(248) 366-9493, press #1

## WATERFORD

## Class of 1979

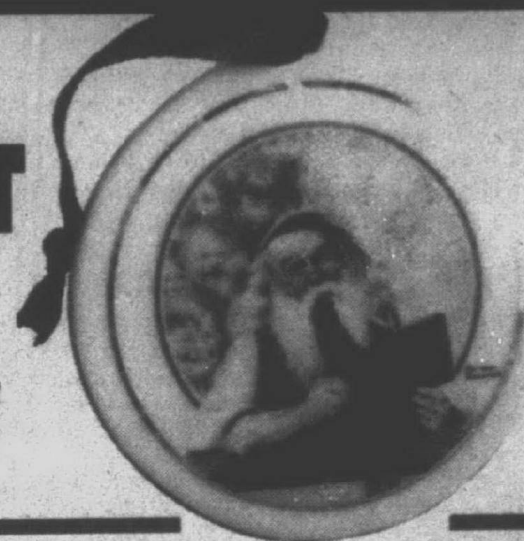
Is planning a reunion.  
(248) 674-3946

## WAYNE

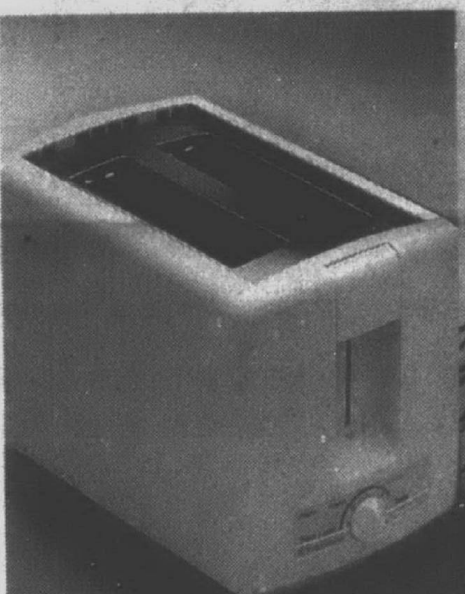
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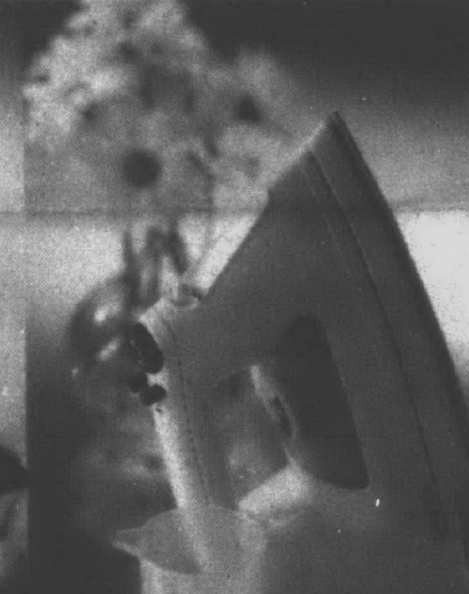
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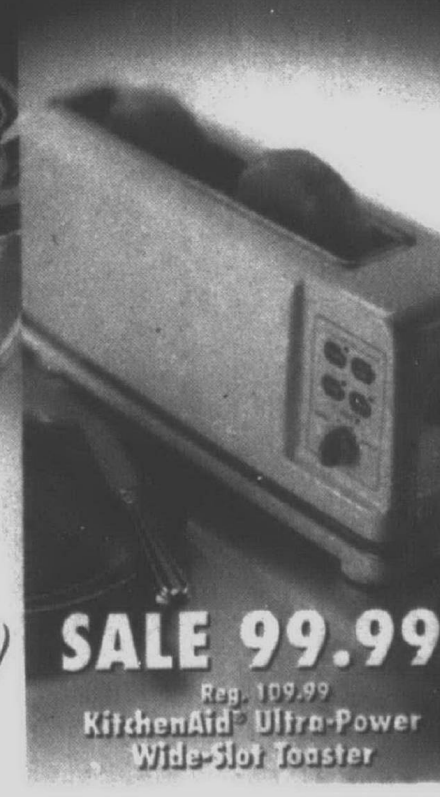
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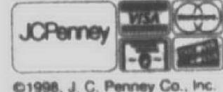
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## Arbor Hospice support group aids widowed

Arbor Hospice has a group for young widows and widowers who are under age 46.

It meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of the month at the First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, Plymouth Township.

For more information about the group and other age- and loss-specific programs for adults and children offered by Arbor Hospice, call (800) 783-5764 or the Arbor Center in Northville at (248) 348-4980.



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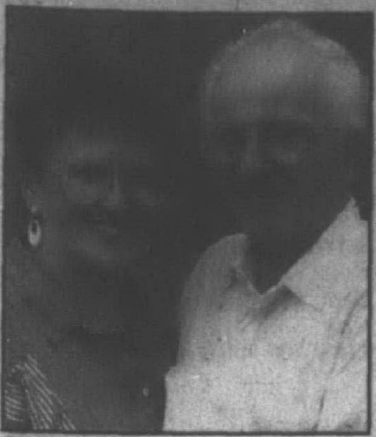
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## ANNIVERSARIES



## Kenny

Raymond and Elenor Kenny Sr. of Lake City, Mich., recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by renewing their vows at St. Edith Catholic Church in Livonia and a dinner reception, hosted by their children, at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland.

The couple met at the Third Order of St. Francis in Detroit. They were married at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church in Dearborn on Sept. 25, 1948. She

is the former Elenor Schneider.

They have 10 children - Kevin and wife Claudia of Holly, Karen Dei and husband Tim of Brighton, Joseph and wife Anne of Plymouth, Carol Selleck and husband Ronald of Livonia, Eileen Kenny and husband Matt Schneider of Westland, Maureen Kenny of Dearborn, Shawn of Cadillac, Ray Jr. and wife Jeanine of Westland, Timothy and wife Joy of Detroit and Terry of Dearborn.

They also have 13 grandchildren.



Catholic Church in London, Ontario, Canada. She is the former Jean Smith.

They have four children - the Rev. Mark of Norway, Mich., Gail of London, Ontario, Janice of Westland and Kurt of Miami, Fla. - and nine grandchildren.

Retired four years, he was a traffic manager for Don Cartage Co. for 24 years. She is a homemaker.

Their hobbies include dancing, bowling and travel.

## McQuesten

Richard and Jean McQuesten of Livonia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends at a reception at the Scotsdale Apartments clubhouse in Westland on Oct. 30.

They also renewed their vows on Nov. 1 at St. Genevieve Catholic Church in Livonia. Their son, the Rev. Mark McQuesten, officiated.

The couple exchanged vows on Oct. 30, 1948, at St. Mary



## Jacobs

Frank and Ginger Jacobs of Moran, Mich., formerly of Livonia, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at a dinner and show at the Detroit Opera House.

The couple exchanged vows on Oct. 8, 1938, at Our Lady Queen of Angels Church in Detroit. She is the former Ginger Dybas.

The couple has four married children - Eileen Urlick and husband Michael of Livonia, Ronald and wife Laurie of Grosse Ile, Donna Yergler and husband Kary of Laguna Hills, Calif., and

Richard and wife Liz of Belleville. They also have five grandchildren.

He retired from the Ford Motor Co. Rouge plant after 40 years in supervision and was active in the Knights of Columbus in Livonia. She also worked for Ford before becoming a homemaker.

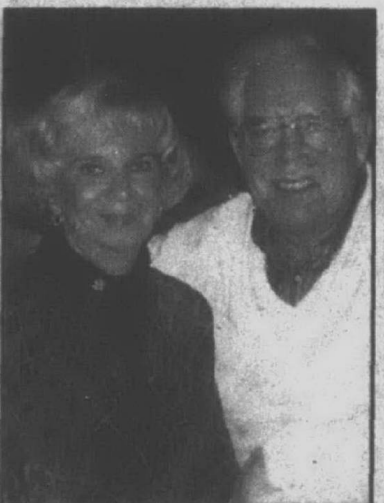
They enjoy bowling and are members of St. Michael's Parish in Livonia, where they lived for 35 years. They also enjoy traveling and quality time with their grandchildren.



## Thomas

Wayne and Phyllis Thomas of Westland celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by repeating their vows on Oct. 24 at the First Baptist Church of Garden City.

The ceremony was followed by refreshments on the lower level of the church.



## Burke

Jerry and June Burke of Redford celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by gathering with family members for Mass at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church and dinner at Hawthorne Gardens. The couple exchanged vows on Oct. 9, 1948, at St. Theresa Church in Detroit. She is the former June Berry.

The couple has four children - Kevin and Diane, both of Livonia, and Sue and Michael, both of Redford. They also have seven grandchildren.



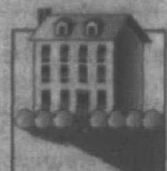
## Gutowski

Ed and Cindi Gutowski celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with family and friends on Oct. 12.

They have two children, Adam and Sara.

The son of Jane and Theodore Gutowski of Livonia, he is currently employed with Chrysler Corp. The daughter of Helen and Samuel Hassen of Dearborn Heights, she is employed by the Livonia Public School District.

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## OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

### Kicks advance

The Plymouth Kicks '89, an under-10 boys select indoor soccer team, finished first in Group A and reached the finals of the Detroit Regional Tournament for the North American Indoor Soccer Championships last weekend at the Total Soccer locations in Wixom and Fraser.

The Kicks had shutout wins over Red Star, from Georgia, and USL Team United, and also beat the San Marino Cougars in Group A play. They met Vardar, the Group B winner, in the regional final and had a 2-0 lead but lost 3-2. Both teams advance to the national indoor championships next February in Cleveland.

Kicks team members are Grant Blakey, Paul Carhini, Kevin Costa, Josh Hammond, Gabe Hicks, Andrew Koet, Matt Kulczycki, Ryan Langdon, Alex Lumley, Mike Marek, Danny McLaughlin, Blaine Paden, Jeff Selasky, Nick Vella, Brian Walsh and Brett Windecker. The team is coached by Rich Kulczycki and Paul Lumley.

### Malewski All-America

Madonna University sophomore middle hitter Brandy Malewski (Redford Thurston) was recently named NAIA second-team All-America after leading the Lady Crusaders to a 44-7 season.

Malewski, who led Madonna to a 12-0 regular season record in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference and a WHAC championship, recorded 589 kills (3.25 per game) and a .403 hitting percentage.

She also led the team in all blocking categories, including 112 solo blocks, 355 assist-blocks and 2.58 blocks per game.

### Scholars recognized

■ Senior Rayna Vert (Flint Carmen-Ainsworth) and junior Deanne Helsom (Grand Blanc) were both named to the NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete team in women's volleyball.

Vert, an outside hitter majoring in Elementary Education, has maintained a 3.62 cumulative grade-point average. She was also named first-team All-WHAC and All-Great Lakes Region after finishing second on the team with 2.53 per game. Vert also led the Crusaders in digs with 528.

Helsom, a setter majoring in Communications, carries a 3.5 GPA. She averaged better than 11 assists per game and led Madonna with 79 service aces en route to second-team All-WHAC honors.

■ In women's soccer, Madonna junior midfielder Vimbai Tsodzo (Zimbabwe) and junior forward Angie Negri (Flint Powers) both made the NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete Team.

Zsodzo, majoring in Dietetics, carries a 3.66 GPA. She played in all games for the Crusaders.

Negri, majoring in Nursing, sports a 3.57 GAP. She tallied one assist and played in all 16 games.

All-America Scholar-Athletes must be at least a junior and have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better.

### College standouts

■ Jared Biniacki, a junior at Central Michigan University from Plymouth Salem, competed for the Chippewas at the NCAA Division I men's cross country championships Nov. 23 in Lawrence, Kan.

Biniacki was CMU's seventh runner, placing 205th in the team race and 242nd overall. He completed the 10,000-meter course in 35:08.6.

CMU was 20th in the 31-team field with 476 points.

■ Wayne State's women's basketball team slipped to 1-5 overall, 0-3 in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, with a 78-61 loss to Northern Michigan last Saturday.

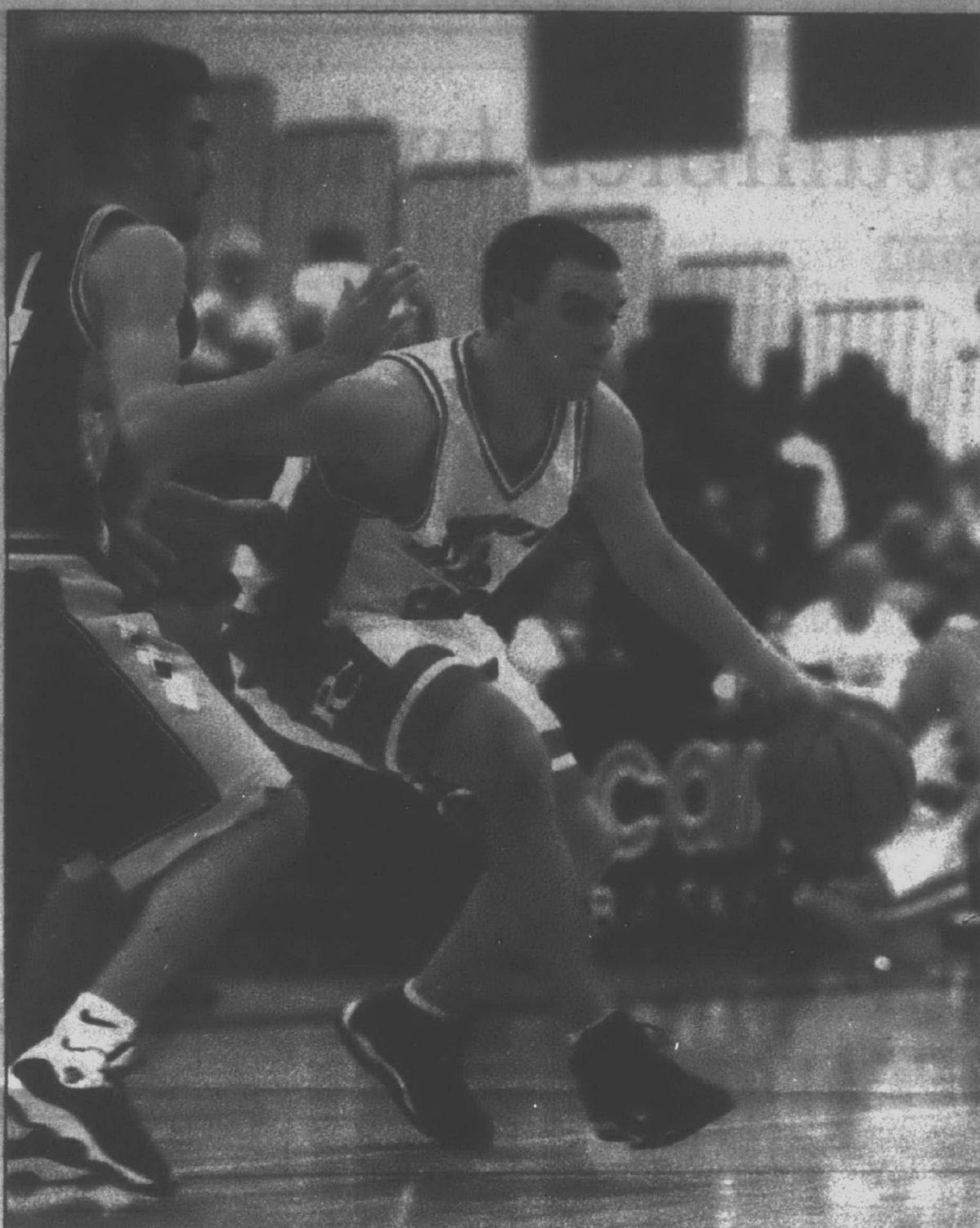
Sarah Warnke, a junior forward from Plymouth Canton HS, came off the bench to score 11 points and grab six rebounds for the Lady Tartars.

### Travel baseball tryouts

The Michigan Indians Baseball Club's Pee Wee Reese Division travel team (11-year-olds, born after July 31, 1987) is searching for three serious young players to fill its roster for the 1999 season. Indoor practice clinics begin in January. The season will consist of approximately 60 games.

For more information, call Nick Marrone evenings at (734) 459-0695.

## Canton opens with OT win



BY RICHARD L. SHOOK  
STAFF WRITER

As first games go, it was a first game. Plymouth Canton struggled past ragged Wayne Memorial, 55-53, on Scott Samulski's tip-in with 12 seconds left in overtime Tuesday night to get the boys basketball season started for both teams.

The Chiefs and Zebras both had moments of quality play as they began their annual searches for a team identity.

"We made a million mistakes," Coach Chuck Henry of Wayne said, "and he (Coach Dan Young of Canton) probably felt his kids did too."

Both teams had the game "won" at various points but it took a buzzer-beater of at least 32 feet by Canton junior Jim Reddy to send the contest into overtime.

Smith's pair of free throws with 16 seconds to play in regulation gave Wayne a 51-46 lead.

Reddy made two free throws with eight seconds left to pull the Chiefs up to 51-48. The Zebras missed the front end of a 1-and-1 with five seconds left and Canton called a quick timeout.

The Chiefs inbounded the ball to Joe Cortellini, who drove to the top of the key and dished off to Reddy when met by two Zebras. Reddy's shot was in the air when the buzzer sounded and it went through the rim like being pulled by a string.

Smith knocked in a shot from the right baseline at 2:27 of overtime to start Wayne out with a 53-51 lead but the Zebras, who turned the ball 11 times after holding a 45-37 lead with 4:41 left in regulation, couldn't score again.

Jason Waidman, who led all scorers with 22 points, made a free throw with 1:16 left to make it 53-52 and Joe Cortellini's free throw with 45 seconds to play tied the score.

Canton got the ball back on a turnover and missed a shot. But Samulski skied at just the right time and tipped the ball off the palm of his left hand. It nestled softly into the basket to break the tie.

Wayne's three-point attempt as time expired was off the mark.

"We did a great job of making plays when we had to," Young said, "and we really picked up our defense down the stretch."

Wayne's three-guard offense and pressure defense led to an 18-12 third quarter that contributed nearly put Canton out of the game. The Zebras led, 36-27, at one point.

"We're small," Henry said, "so we have to be a perimeter-oriented team. We have to be to give ourselves a chance to win."

The Zebras tried putting their two bigger players on the perimeter and cutting the guards underneath late in the game but that didn't net much.

Wayne was head, 15-11, after the first period but trailed, 23-21 at halftime. Canton got back into the game with an 8-3 run to end the third quarter and

Please see CANTON HOOP, C3

Big gun: Canton's Jason Waidman (with ball) could not be contained by Wayne's Justin Goins or any of the other Zebras Tuesday. The junior forward finished with a team-leading 22 points.

## PCA starts with a runaway victory

The first game of the boys basketball season wasn't much of a test for Plymouth Christian Academy.

PCA hosted Macomb Christian in the opener of its season-opening, sixth-annual Eagle Classic Tournament Tuesday, and the Eagles took command early and never relented in posting a 71-34 triumph.

"We played real well," said an optimistic PCA coach, Doug Taylor. "We got it going right from the beginning, and just kept on going."

### BASKETBALL

The Eagles led 18-8 after one quarter and 41-15 at the half. A 26-9 surge in the third quarter put Macomb behind, 67-24.

One good reason for Taylor's optimism is junior Derek Isensee. The 6-foot-3 junior led PCA, which finished 14-7 in 1997-98, in scoring (17.6) and rebounding (9.4) last season. "He's just going to be phenomenal,"

promised Taylor.

There's more, however. Even though the Eagles lost nine players to graduation, the likes of Isensee and junior Jordan Roose, another returning starter who averaged 9.4 points, 4.7 assists and 8.5 steals a game last season, have bolstered hopes. Isensee totaled 22 points and nine rebounds against Macomb; Roose, a 5-10 point guard, finished with 11 points, five steals and four assists.

A strong addition to the team is 6-4

junior center Mike Huntsman. A junior varsity player last season, Huntsman had 14 points and seven boards in the win over Macomb.

"The guys up from JV are going to do great for us," said Taylor. "It's going to be a lot of fun this year."

PCA has just one senior on its varsity: 6-foot forward Evan Gaines, a returning varsity player who had six points against Macomb. Among the other players who figure to contribute

Please see PCA HOOP, C3

## Whalers stay hot - and so is Druken



There seems to be no way to slow down Harold Druken.

The Plymouth Whalers' center added two more goals to his league-leading total in the Plymouth Whalers' 4-1 victory over the London Knights in an Ontario Hockey League game Saturday at Compuware Arena.

Druken increased his goal total to 37 (next highest in the league is Ivan Novoseltsev of Sarnia with 26). Druken's 60 points also tops the OHL; second in the league in total points is teammate Adam Colagiaco with 53 (16 goals, 37 assists).

Randy Fitzgerald notched the other two goals for Plymouth against the Knights, giving him four for the season, and had one assist. Colagiaco picked up three assists.

Plymouth led 2-1 after one period and 4-1 after two in improving its West Division-leading record to 22-4-2. London slipped to 11-18.

Robert Holsinger made 15 saves to



Still steaming: The Whalers' Harold Druken continues to dominate the OHL in scoring with 37 goals and 60 total points.

pick up the victory. Gene Chiarello had 40 saves for the Knights.

### Compuware splits

The Compuware Ambassadors ran their North American Hockey League-leading record to 19-4-2 by splitting a pair of games with host Soo Kewadin Casino Indians, the NAHL's second-

place team with an 18-7 mark.

The Soo won the first game Saturday by a 2-1 margin, with Mark Mink scoring for Compuware. Josh Lyerly got the Indians regulation goal, then scored the game-winning penalty shot.

On Sunday, the Ambassadors

Please see WHALERS, C4

### FOOTBALL NEWS

## MHSAA votes to expand grid playoffs

The Representative Council of the Michigan High School Athletic Association voted Wednesday to expand its post-season football playoffs to a five-week, 256-team tournament, effective in 1999.

The plan would double the number of playoff qualifiers and add a week to the post-season.

Schools that play a nine-game regular-season schedule, beginning a week earlier than years past, may qualify with at least six wins. Teams that opt to play an eight-game schedule may qualify with five victories.

Under the adopted proposal, those schools whose win total qualify them for the playoffs will be ranked by enrollment following the completion of the regular season, and then divided into eight divisions of 32 schools each. If fewer than 256 schools qualify by win total, the

Please see PLAYOFF FORMAT, C3



# 4th-place finish a step forward for Chiefs

Plymouth Canton wrestling coach John Demick made no lavish claims about turning the Chiefs' program into an instant success. He was well aware it would have to be done in steps.

Last Saturday at the Utica Ford Falcon Invitational, Canton took one of those steps.

No, the Chiefs weren't champions. They weren't even runners-up. But they did reach Demick's goal — to move up from the bottom of the standings at their tournaments.

## WRESTLING

Canton finished fourth at the seven-team event, scoring 138.5 points. And they were closer to third-place Anchor Bay (163.5) than to fifth-place Warren Mott (84.5). Ford won the tournament with 202 points.

"We had six wrestlers in the finals and three in the consolation finals," said Demick. "It was a great feeling and showed that we really have potential."

Canton did have a champion: senior co-captain John Pocock finished first in the 135-pound division by pinning Ford's Nick Miles in 5:11 in the championship bout. Five other Chiefs reached the championship round but had to settle for second place — three of those on close decisions.

"Our stars for the day were John Pocock, doing so well, and Greg Musser, who won in overtime to qualify for the finals and placed second as a freshman," said Demick.

Musser, wrestling at 130, lost to Sterling Heights Stevenson's Brian Picora 9-7 in the final. Rob Demick was also a narrow loser in the championship round, losing to Utica Eisenhower's David Jozoff by a 7-6 count at 160. The third championship-round decision for Canton was a 5-3 defeat suffered by Kevin Stone against Mott's Jamal Karmac at 152.

Other Chiefs to reach the finals were Steve Bernacki, who was pinned by Tom Conlo of Anchor Bay in 1:33 at 112,

and Jared Chapman, who was pinned by another Anchor Bay wrestler, Joe Cole, in 1:11 at 275.

Canton had two consolation-round winners in Kyle Pitt (103 division), who pinned Stevenson's Joe Carren in 2:00; and Jim Shelton (140), who pinned Mott's Mike Stauch in 2:08. The Chiefs' Chris Hossey was pinned by Mott's Justin Self in 1:47 at 125 to place fourth.

Canton wrestles Ann Arbor Pioneer and Novi Wednesday at Novi.

## COLLEGE SPORTS

# Madonna stumbles twice

The trip to that Mecca of college basketball — Lexington, Ky. — was fruitless for Madonna University's men's basketball team.

The Fighting Crusaders were winless at the Transylvania University Tournament last weekend, losing to the host team 75-72 on Friday and to the College of West Virginia 110-71 Saturday.

The losses left Madonna with a 2-7 record. Transylvania is 4-2; West Virginia is 8-3.

Against Transylvania, Madonna trailed 39-33 at the half and was behind 72-56 with 4:29 left. The Crusaders managed to trim that to 74-72 with :45 left, but never caught Transylvania; a desperation three-pointer at the buzzer by Nick Hurley (from Plymouth Canton HS) missed.

Although they shot 50 percent from the field (27-of-54) and committed just 11 turnovers (compared to Transylvania's 43.3

## BASKETBALL

percent shooting and 15 turnovers), the Crusaders lost the game with poor rebounding. They were outboarded 42-26, including a 16-4 Transylvania advantage on the offensive boards.

Mike Massey led Madonna with 31 points; he nailed 11-of-13 floor shots, including 5-of-7 three-pointers. Next best, however, was Narvin Russaw with 10 points. Russaw and Hurley had a team-high five rebounds apiece. Hurley also had eight points and four steals.

Eric Lietke's 26 points paced Transylvania; he added five assists.

In Saturday's loss to College of West Virginia, the Crusaders still came up short in the rebounding department (by a 46-38 margin), and this time they couldn't match their foes' shoot-

ing prowess. West Virginia hit 44-of-84 shots (52.4 percent), including 15-of-36 three-pointers (41.7 percent); Madonna made 28-of-70 floor shots (40 percent) and just 3-of-22 triples (13.6 percent).

West Virginia led 54-27 at the half.

Best for Madonna was Russaw with 17 points and nine rebounds. Mike Maryanski, Massey and Hurley contributed 12 points each, with Hurley adding five boards, three assists and two steals; Massey grabbing six rebounds; and Maryanski finishing with three assists, two blocked shots and two steals.

Steve Staton did the damage for West Virginia, scoring 38 points (14-of-19 from the floor and 7-of-11 on triples).

Ronald Rhodes added 15 points and Omar Logan had 12.

## Madonna women 8-1

A strong defensive effort com-

bined with solid shooting propelled Madonna University's women's basketball team to an easy 96-60 triumph over the College of Mount St. Joseph in its second game at the Hampton Inn-Concordia College Classic Saturday in Ann Arbor.

The victory pushed the Lady Crusaders' record to 8-1 overall. St. Joseph fell to 2-6.

Five Crusaders reached double figures in scoring, led by Katie Cushman and Kathy Pangonis with 17 points apiece. Cushman, who was named to the all-tournament team along with teammate Chris Dietrich, also had six assists and two steals.

Lori Enfield added 16 points and six rebounds, and Dietrich and Kristi Fiorenzi (from Plymouth Canton HS) scored 12 apiece. Dietrich also had seven assists, while Fiorenzi collected 10 rebounds and three blocked shots.

St. Joseph got 22 points from Shauna Bemmes and 15 from Nadeana Stormer.

Madonna connected on 38-of-76 floor shots (50 percent) while limiting St. Joseph to 22-of-57 shooting (38.6 percent). The Crusaders also outrebounded their opponents 45-38 and forced 19 turnovers while committing just nine.

## WRESTLING RANKINGS

This is the inaugural Observerland wrestling rankings compiled weekly by four area coaches. The panel includes Marty Altounian (Livonia Churchill), Jim Carlin (Redford Union), Dave Chiola (Garden City) and Bob Moreau (Livonia Stevenson).

### TEAM RANKINGS

1. Redford Catholic Central.
2. Plymouth Salem.
3. Redford Thurston.
4. Garden City.
5. Livonia Clarenceville.

### INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (by weight class)

- 103 pounds:** 1. Joe Moreau (Livonia Stevenson); 2. Josh Gunterman (Livonia Stevenson); 3. Chris O'Hara (Redford CC); 4. Danny Tondreau (Clarenceville); 5. Kyle Pitt (Plymouth Canton).

- 112:** 1. John Mervyn (Salem); 2. Pat Sayn (GC); 3. Mike Kassabir (Wayne Memorial); 4. Ronnie Thompson (Salem); 5. Jesse Purdon (Westland John Glenn).

- 119:** 1. Vinnie Zoccoli (GC); 2. Jon Gregg (Wayne); 3. Justin Schafer (Farmington Hills Harrison); 4. Jim Gourlay (Redford Union); 5. Dustin Obed (Stevenson).

- 125:** 1. Steve Vasiloff (Livonia Churchill); 2. Justin Beseler (Wayne); 3. Jeff Wheeler (Redford CC); 4. Brian Reed (GC).

- 130:** 1. Tony Lema (Farmington); 2. Dave Lemmon (Clarenceville); 3. Marty Dendinos (Salem); 4. Sean Donaldson (RU); 5. Jeff Albrecht (John Glenn).

- 135:** 1. Josh Henderson (Salem); 2.

- John Pocock (Canton); 3. Nate Wensko (Wayne); 4. Jeff Usher (Thurston); 5. Dave Azzopardi (Livonia Franklin).

- 140:** 1. Imad Kharbush (Stevenson); 2. Dan LeClerc (Clarenceville); 3. Greg Petrovitch (Salem); 4. Dave Fry (Franklin); 5. Jake Taylor (Harrison).

- 145:** 1. Mike Carter (Churchill); 2. Kevin Stone (Canton); 3. Mike Falzok (Stevenson); 4. Chris Wolfgang (John Glenn); 5. Micha Bear (Lutheran Westland).

- 152:** 1. Mitch Hancock (Redford CC); 2. Brandon LaPointe (Churchill); 3. Ryan Shiplett (Franklin); 4. Tony Pikur (Thurston); 5. Mark Ostash (Farmington).

- 160:** 1. Brian Barker (Stevenson); 2. Robert Demick (Canton); 3. Tony Rechoza (Clarenceville); 4. Eric Kelley (RU); 5. Pete Langer (John Glenn).

- 171:** 1. Brian Hinzman (GC); 2. Mark DeLaFuente (Thurston); 3. Adam Marcum (Clarenceville); 4. Scott Archer (Lutheran Westland); 5. Ryan Matheson (Redford CC).

- 189:** 1. Walter Ragland (Clarenceville); 2. Andy Wood (Farmington); 3. Steve Myslinski (Franklin); 4. Jeff Sinning (Churchill).

- 215:** 1. Brocc Naysmith (Redford CC); 2. Bryant Lawrence (Thurston); 3. Will Baker (RU); 4. Tom Vanderbosche (Churchill).

- Heavyweight:** 1. Casey Rogowski (Redford CC); 2. Charlie Hamblin (Salem); 3. Josh Rose (Clarenceville); 4. Mike Gaffke (Churchill); 5. Tom Mahon (Farmington).

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## Hey Kids!—Join the DETROIT LIONS CLUB!

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c/o **Observer & Eccentric**  
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Official Big Boy-Detroit Lions Kids Club  
Entry Blank

My question is:

My favorite Lion is:

NAME:

AGE:

DATE OF BIRTH:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

ZIP:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

E-MAIL (if any):

PARENT'S NAME:

On Thursday, February 4th, 1999 the Elysia Pefley Foundation will host their 3rd Annual Skate-A-Thon with the Detroit Red Wings at Joe Louis Arena.

All proceeds from the event will go to the McCarty Cancer Foundation, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, Michigan Pediatric Hospice Foundation.

Elysia Pefley was the little girl who was adopted by the Red Wings as their little angel. Although she lost her fight with cancer on St. Patrick's Day 1996 her courageous spirit lives on through the Foundation and Detroit Red Wings.

### Everyone is invited to participate!

Concourse activities are open to the public and include an interactive Hockey Hall of Fame, large Silent Auction with a variety of sports memorabilia, Zamboni Photographs, Octo Bowl, Hourly 50/50 Raffles, Clowns, plus much more! Any person who raises \$50 or more in donations will skate at the "Joe" with the "stars" and receive a T-shirt and refreshments. All individuals that raise pledges of \$300 or more will receive an autographed photo plaque by one of the Red Wings. The top four individuals who raise the most in donations will receive a special autographed Red Wing memorabilia.

For those who want to participate please complete the donor sheet, collect donations in advance and submit them to the foundation. Early registrants will receive ice time preferences. Donations can still be accepted after one has registered, just bring the additional funds on February 4th.

- \* At this time we are unable to list celebrity skaters.
- \* Sponsored by The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

## Pre-Registration 11 am-2 pm

Devonshire Arena - Livonia & Compuware - Plymouth

Dec. 12th, 19th, Jan. 9th, 16th, 23rd

Great Lakes Sports City - Former Fraser Arena (11 am-3 pm)

Dec. 12th, 19th, Jan. 9th, 23rd

St. Claire Shores Civic Arena

Dec. 12th, 19th, Jan. 16th, 23rd

Royal Oak Arena & Troy Arena

Dec. 12th, 19th, Jan. 9th, 23rd

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## Canton

ran off nine points in a... the Zebras were up 45-37. Nathan Wade had 16... lead seven Wayne score Johnson scored 10, Mike ki eight, Robert Price an scored six apiece.

Waidman scored 10 points in the second quad a nice job of setting Six other Chiefs scored four and seven points ea

"We passed the ball Young said, "and I was with the different peg ing."

Canton got some mi of offensive and defens tutions as the game down.

"It gives us more Young said, "and m fresher at both ends. I c assistants, especially Rheault, for coming that."

Salem 62, Monroe 57: bit of an up-and-down Plymouth Salem, but news is — it ended on a

The Rocks overcame halftime deficit by ou visiting Monroe 22-9 in quarter of their seas Tuesday. They ev stretched their advan before a late Trojan r rowed the final margin

## PCA ho

are 6-1 junior guard Dave Cart; 6-1 sopho ward P.J. Woodman; junior shooting guard A rill, a transfer stud Orlando, Fla.

Macomb was paced b Height's eight points.

"It's tough losing nin but we're hoping to n said Taylor.

PCA meets Detroit Christian in a tournam final at 7:30 p.m. Fri other semifinal pits S Franklin Road Christia Academy of Detroit, at Thursday.

The championship ga for 7 p.m. Saturday. A are at PCA.

Franklin Road Chri Agape Christian 59 (OT

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# Borgess to face early tests

By the end of this week, Redford Bishop Borgess' boys basketball team will have played both Detroit St. Martin DePorres and Detroit Country Day.

The Spartans, who lost their season opener to DePorres, 75-54, on Tuesday, travel to Country Day to meet the host Yellow Jackets in their tip-off tournament at noon Saturday. The Spartans will then be idle for 13 days before playing three games in the Roundball Classic hosted by U-D Jesuit Dec. 28, 29 and 30.

Borgess coach Rosey Barnes said the first week will give him an indication of where the Spartans stand but it won't tell the total picture because they're so young.

Borgess lost about 70 percent of its offense with the graduation of Kevin Jordan, Aaron Jessup and Sam Hoskin. Jessup is playing at Wisconsin-Green Bay, Hoskin at Eastern Kentucky and Jordan is playing football at a junior college in Minnesota.

Each was a three-year starter and led the Spartans to last year's Catholic League A-B Division championship. The Spartans also lost their top defender, Walter Malone, and

James Williams, who is playing at a junior college in Florida.

Country Day figures to be a tall order, even without its best player, Colin Dill, who is out with a broken leg.

"It's a good matchup for us because I can see what we're made of," Barnes said.

As for the long layoff before the Roundball Classic, Barnes said "I like it because we're young. It gives us more time to get in the gym and work with them."

The Spartans return three seniors: Curtis Allen, Justin Gleton and Ramone Scott.

Curtis is the Spartans' starting point guard and Gleton is the starting small forward.

The Spartans have an exceptional sophomore class, led by forward Marcus Young, who scored 16 points against DePorres, and guard Marcus Bennett, who had 10.

Young started off and on on the varsity as a freshman and Bennett was the Most Valuable

Player of the Spartans' junior varsity. Junior guard Donald Didlake, who scored eight points against DePorres, and 6-3 sophomore Mario Peoples also will get plenty of playing time.

The Spartans finished with a 14-10 record last year, losing in the Class C regional final to DePorres, the eventual state champion.

DePorres senior center Aloysius Anagnonye, who committed to Michigan State, made sure there was a repeat on Tuesday night with 16 points, 12 rebounds and nine blocked shots.

"We were in the game, it was not a blowout," Barnes said. "We made bad decisions, didn't take care of the ball very well."

Detroit Catholic Central, which returns all-state selection Nick Moore at guard, will be one of the favorites to win the Catholic League Central Division, but there's no shoe in, according to Barnes.

"CC is going to always be there, (Birmingham) Brother Rice and U-D Jesuit are going to be there," Barnes said. "The Catholic League is a real tough league. You can't take a night off."

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Dec. 10  
Eagle Kickoff at PCA, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, Dec. 11  
Huron Valley MHS Tourney, 6:30 p.m.  
St. Agathe at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.  
Annapolis at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.  
Redford Union at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
Franklin at Dearborn, 7 p.m.  
Fordson at Stevenson, 7 p.m.  
Wayne at John Glenn, 7 p.m.  
Garden City at Crestwood, 7 p.m.  
Taylor Truman at Thurston, 7 p.m.  
A.A. Huron at Salem, 7 p.m.  
Lapeer West at N. Farmington, 7 p.m.  
Canton at Monroe, 7:30 p.m.  
Harrison at Lapeer East, 7:30 p.m.  
N.D. Prep at Redford CC, 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 12  
Borgess at Country Day, noon.  
Eagle Kickoff at PCA, 1 & 5 p.m.  
Huron Valley at MLHS Tourney, TBA.

**WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
Thursday, Dec. 10  
Madonna at Wayne State, 6 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 12  
Ferris State at Madonna, 2 p.m.  
Cuyahoga (Ohio) at Schoolcraft, 2 p.m.  
Oakland CC at Grand Rapids, 7 p.m.

**ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
Friday, Dec. 11  
Whalers at S.S. Marie, 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 12  
Ply. Whalers vs. Erie Otters at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.

**PREP HOCKEY**  
Thursday, Dec. 10  
W.L. Central vs. Redford Unified at Redford Ice Arena, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 11  
Franklin vs. Churchill at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.  
Farm. Unified vs. Dearborn at Farm. Hills Arena, 6 p.m.  
Stevenson at W.L. Central, 8:20 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 12  
RU at W.L. Western, 2:20 p.m.  
Farm. Unified vs. S.H. Andover at Detroit Skating Club, 8:30 p.m.

TBA — time to be announced.

## Whalers from page C1

avenged their Saturday loss by beating the Soo 2-1 in overtime. Mink scored in the third period to give Compuware a 1-0 lead, but the Indians tied it on a goal by Adam Nightingale. Jack Redwood's goal 1:51 into OT won it for the Ambassadors.

Goalie Craig Kowalski, named NAHL goalie of the month for November, added another honor to his list by earning goalie of the week accolades. Kowalski leads the NAHL in goals-against average (2.04); he allowed two goals in the important show-down series against the Indians, stopping 52 of 54 shots.

| ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS |    |    |   |      |
|---------------------------------|----|----|---|------|
| East Division                   | W  | L  | T | Pts. |
| Ottawa 67's                     | 25 | 2  | 2 | 52   |
| Peterborough Petes              | 17 | 11 | 0 | 34   |
| Belleville Bulls                | 14 | 10 | 5 | 33   |
| Oshawa Generals                 | 14 | 10 | 2 | 30   |
| Kingston Frontenacs             | 9  | 19 | 1 | 19   |
| Central Division                | W  | L  | T | Pts. |
| Barrie Colts                    | 21 | 5  | 2 | 44   |
| North Bay Centennials           | 11 | 16 | 3 | 25   |
| Toronto St. M. Majors           | 9  | 15 | 4 | 22   |
| Sudbury Wolves                  | 9  | 16 | 3 | 21   |
| Miss. Ice Dogs                  | 1  | 26 | 2 | 4    |
| West Division                   | W  | L  | T | Pts. |
| Plymouth Whalers                | 22 | 4  | 2 | 46   |
| SSM Greyhounds                  | 16 | 8  | 3 | 35   |
| Samuel Sting                    | 14 | 11 | 3 | 31   |
| London Knights                  | 11 | 18 | 0 | 22   |
| Windsor Spitfires               | 8  | 18 | 3 | 19   |
| Midwest Division                | W  | L  | T | Pts. |
| Guelph Storm                    | 21 | 9  | 0 | 42   |
| Erie Otters                     | 16 | 11 | 1 | 33   |
| Owen Sound Platers              | 13 | 13 | 3 | 29   |
| Kitchener Rangers               | 8  | 19 | 2 | 18   |
| Brampton Battalion              | 4  | 23 | 1 | 9    |

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**Observer & Eccentric**

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\* U.S. Department of Education, 1993.

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(To submit item in the Observer Outdoor Calendar, please send information to 248-645-6666 or barker@oe.homes)

**ARCHERY**  
JUNIOR OLYMPICS  
The Oakland County Club in Clarkston, Michigan, will host the Junior Olympic Archery Program beginning Sundays. Call (248) 645-6666 for more information.

**JUNIOR ARCHERY**  
A weekly program for archers begins at days at Detroit A. Bloomfield. Call (313) 835-2110 for more information.

**CLASSES**  
**ICE FISHING**  
Bob "Hangman" Ford, will give a "Everything You About Ice Fishing" 7:30 p.m. Thursday the monthly meeting of the Huron Valley State the Knights of Flat Rock. Call (734) 285-0843 for more information.

**FLY TYING**  
Paint Creek Outfitters offers fly tying classes for advanced tyers. 0440 for more information or make a reservation for upcoming class.

**ACTIVITIES**  
**GAMATCHIO TRAIL**  
Come and explore the Gamatchio Trail, which runs from Tecumseh to St. Clair shore, a 10-mile trail, which begins Sunday, Dec. 27, sponsored by the Michigan Group. Participants should bring tourist information. Route 3, south of Tecumseh.

**ACCOUNT**  
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# OUTDOORS CALENDAR

(To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric's Outdoor Calendar send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to (248) 644-1314 or send E-mail to [bparker@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:bparker@oe.homecomm.net))

## ARCHERY

**JUNIOR OLYMPICS**  
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

**JUNIOR ARCHERS**  
A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

## CLASSES

**ICE FISHING**  
Bob "Hangman" Mitchel, of Redford, will give a seminar entitled, "Everything You Want to Know About Ice Fishing," beginning at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the monthly meeting of the Huron Valley Steelheaders at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

**FLY TYING**  
Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tiers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

## ACTIVITIES

**GANATCHIO TRAIL**  
Come and explore the Ganatchio Trail, which runs from Windsor to Tecumseh parallel to the Lake St. Clair shore, during this program, which begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. The event is sponsored by the Southeast Michigan Group Sierra Club. Participants should meet at the tourist information center on Route 3, south of the bridge in

Windsor. Call (313) 581-7579 for more information.

## CLUBS

**SOLAR**  
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

**CLINTON VALLEY BASS**  
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

**METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS**  
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

**MICHIGAN FLY FISHING**  
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

**FOUR SEASONS**  
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center. Refreshments will be served and visitors are welcome. For information call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843.

**FISHING BUDDYS**  
Fishing Buddys Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. The meetings are open to all anglers. Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

**BASS ASSOCIATION**  
The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

## SEASON/DATES

### DEER

The second archery season runs Dec. 1-Jan. 3. The muzzleloading season runs Dec. 4-13 in Zone I (Upper Peninsula) and Dec. 11-20 in zones II and III (Lower Peninsula). There are several other special seasons. Check the 1998-99 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide for details.

### DUCK

The open season on ducks, mergansers, coots and gallinules runs through Dec. 8 in the South Zone.

### ELK

The late elk season will be held Dec. 8-14, by special permit and in designated elk management units only.

### GOOSE

There will be a special late Canada goose season Jan. 9-Feb. 7 in the southern Michigan Goose Management Unit. Check the 1998-99 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide for specific boundaries.

### GROUSE

A special late season will be held Dec. 1-Jan. 1 in the Lower Peninsula.

### PHEASANT

There is a special late season in southern Michigan, which runs Dec. 1-15. Check the 1998-99 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide for exact boundaries of the December hunt.

### RABBIT/HARE

Rabbit/hare season run through March 31 statewide.

### SQUIRREL

Squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

## SHOOTING RANGES

**BALD MOUNTAIN**  
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 31 are 10 a.m. to sunset Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays. On Mondays and Tuesdays only the sporting clay course is open, noon to sunset. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd., which is three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills off M-24. Call (248)

814-9193 for more information.

### PONTIAC LAKE

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Road. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

### ORTONVILLE RECREATION

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are noon to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (248) 693-6767 for more information.

## METROPARKS

**METROPARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, (800) 477-7756; Indian Springs, (800) 477-3192; Kensington, (800-) 377-3178.

### 1998 PERMITS

The 1998 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permit is \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call (800) 47-PARKS for more information.

### TOYS FOR TOTS

The Huron-Clinton metroparks are serving as collection spots for the Toys for Tots program. The program is conducted annually by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve to serve needy children in local communities by providing them with new, unwrapped toys during the holiday season. Anyone wishing to donate a new unwrapped toy that has no violent connotations can drop them off at park offices of the HCMA Administrative Office through Dec. 16. Call (800) 477-2757 for more information.

### SNACKS WITH SANTA

Spend some time with Santa,

enjoy a snack and a hayride and sing some holiday songs during this program, which will be held Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12-13, at Kensington. Several sessions will be held each day and admission is by advanced ticket purchase only. Tickets are \$5 per person. Call (800) 377-3178 to register. A similar program will be held on Saturday, Dec. 12, at Indian Springs.

## OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

**COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

### GIFTS OF MICHIGAN

Celebrate the holiday season by making gifts with a Michigan theme during this program, which begins at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Independence Oaks.

## STATE PARKS

**STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area, and Island Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and additional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2423. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7067.

### HOLIDAY TREES

Take a horse-drawn hayride through farmland to pick out your holiday tree during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Dec. 12-13, at Maybury. Cost is \$30 per family and includes hayride, choice of pre-cut tree and daily motor vehicle permit.

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Unity of Livonia [http://unityoflivonia.org](http://http://unityoflivonia.org)

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Amy McCullough  
Farmington Hills Mercy



Elizabeth Posvar  
Farmington Hills Mercy



Jessica Makowski  
Livonia Stevenson



Erin Downs  
Farmington Hills Mercy



Katy Ballantine  
Livonia Stevenson



Kelly Carlin  
Farmington Hills Mercy



Julie Kern  
Livonia Stevenson



Lindsay McElean  
North Farmington



Lindsay Fetters  
Farmington Harrison

# State champs rule Observer

It was a season featuring Observerland's two dominant teams in girls swimming. One of them — Farmington Hills Mercy — was good enough to beat all takers at the Class A state championship meet.

The Marlins captured the state title by scoring well in all three relays, including a state-record swim in finishing first in the 400-yard freestyle. It was apparent Mercy was well-prepared for the state finals — seven varsity records fell en route to the victory. The Marlins had four swimmers score in the 200 freestyle.

Such preparation is what champions are made of. It also earned Mercy coach Jim Downs Observerland coach of the year accolades.

Mercy, which also extended its string of Catholic League titles, wasn't the only team that dominated. Livonia Stevenson claimed its eighth-consecutive Western Lakes Activities Association crown. Between them, Mercy and Stevenson collected 18 of the 24 all-Observer first and second team berths, including all six relays.

Not to be overlooked are some of the outstanding individual performances, such as the first at state by Mercy's Amy McCullough in the 500-yard free and the second-place swim at state meet by the Marlins' Erin Downs.

There were plenty of others, of course, so read on.

## First team

**Amy McCullough, Farmington Hills Mercy, 200-yard freestyle:** The sophomore had an outstanding season, winning the state title in the 500 freestyle (4:54.75) and placing second at state in the 200 free (1:52.46). She was also the Oakland County champion in the 200 and 500-yard freestyle. McCullough holds Mercy's record in both events, having set them at the state final. At the Catholic League meet, she was first in the 100 free (54.35) and 100 backstroke (1:00.80).

"Her potential is still way out there," coach Jim Downs said. "She's already a bona fide state champion in the 500 free with two sub-five minute performances this year."

**Elizabeth Posvar, Farmington Hills Mercy, 200-yard individual medley:** On a team of stars, Posvar was one of the brightest this year. She finished fifth in the state in the 200-yard IM (2:07.42) and 100 freestyle (52.26). At the Catholic League meet, which Mercy won, she was first in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:08.27) and swam on three first-place relays. She has school records in both the IM and 100 free.

In all, the junior qualified for seven open events at the state finals.

"I'm glad she's on our side," Downs said.

**Jessica Makowski, Livonia Stevenson, 50-yard freestyle:** Makowski was one of the Western Lakes premier freestyle swimmers. The junior never lost a dual meet race in the 50 and was the WLAA champion in the 100 freestyle (55.72). She placed second in the 50 at the WLAA meet (25.18).

"Jessica really stepped up her training this year," coach Greg Phill said. "She should be a force in the state her senior year."

**Katy Ballantine, Livonia Stevenson, diving:** The junior capped a strong season by finishing eighth in the state (330.0 points). In the WLAA championships, Bal-

lantine was second (379.20). Her 256.75 points were by far the best six-dive total recorded in Observerland.

"Along with being a very talented diver," Phill said, "Katy is a very hard worker. We're looking forward to a great senior year from her."

**Erin Downs, Farmington Hills Mercy, 100-yard butterfly:** Downs is the area's best butterfly swimmer. She placed second at state in the event (58.12) after being seeded fourth, then helped the Marlins take second in the 200-yard medley relay. A junior, Downs was first at the Catholic League finals in the 100 butterfly (59.28) and was fifth in the 100 backstroke (1:03.92).

"A brave heart is a powerful weapon," said coach Jim Downs.

**Kelly Carlin, Farmington Hills Mercy, 100-yard freestyle:** The junior was one of the area's most versatile swimmers. At the state finals, she was good enough to finish 12th in the 200 freestyle (1:56.58) and she swam on all three of the Marlins relays, which scored. Carlin also placed first in both the 500 free (5:19.06) and the 200 individual medley (2:15.04) at the Catholic League finals. At the Oakland County meet, Carlin was seventh in the 100 butterfly.

"She showed true dedication day in and day out," said Downs. "As she goes, we go."

**Julie Kern, Livonia Stevenson, 500-yard freestyle:** Kern was one of the Spartans most valuable swimmers, placing fourth in the 500 free at the state meet (5:00.82). The senior also won WLAA championships in the 200 (1:56.55) and 500 (5:06.10) freestyle events.

"Julie has been a state finalist all four years at Stevenson," said Phill. "She will be greatly missed."

**Lindsay McElean, North Farmington, 100-yard backstroke:** If you are in search of a talented freshman, look no further. McElean finished seventh in the state in the 100 backstroke (59.38), breaking a school record, and she was 15th in the 200 IM (2:14.36). She also qualified in the 100 breaststroke.

At the WLAA finals, McElean placed second in the 100 back (1:01.55) and third in the 200 IM (2:17.58).

"She did a lot of great things for us this year," coach Pat Duthie said. "She's probably one of the easiest athletes I've worked with from a coach standpoint. She's very receptive and picks up new things quickly."

**Lindsay Fetters, Farmington Harrison, 100-yard breaststroke:** Not many swimmers finish in the top six in two events at the state finals. Fetters did, taking fifth in the 100 breaststroke (1:06.61) and sixth in the 200 IM (2:08.89).

A junior, she also won both events at the WLAA finals, capturing the 200 IM in 2:12.43 and the 100 breast in 1:09.03.

"Lindsay has been all-state every year since she was a freshman," coach Ross Bandy said. "She is in a good position to make a run at being state champion next year."

**Farmington Hills Mercy, 200-yard medley relay:** The Marlins' team of Amy McCullough, Elizabeth Posvar, Erin Downs and Kelly Carlin finished second in the state in a school-record 1:48.61. They also won the Oakland County meet.

"Four good efforts produced this second place in the state," Downs said.

**Farmington Hills Mercy, 200-yard freestyle relay:** Erin Downs, Kristin Loidas, Elizabeth MacDonald and Kelly Carlin broke Mercy's school record in the event when they took 10th at the state final (1:40.36).

"These people knew that the will to achieve was important," coach Jim Downs said, "but the will to prepare was vital."

**Farmington Hills Mercy, 400-yard freestyle relay:** The Marlins complete a sweep of our all-Observer relay teams with Kelly Carlin, Kristin Loidas, Amy McCullough and Elizabeth Posvar in the 400 free. All this group managed to do was win a state title in the event, setting a new state record of 3:31.25. That win also earned Mercy a first-place team fin-

## ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS SWIMMING

### 200-yard medley relay

1. Mercy (Amy McCullough, Elizabeth Posvar, Erin Downs, Kelly Carlin).
2. Stevenson (Lindsay Dolin, Marti McKenzie, Katie Clark, Jessica Makowski).

### 200-yard freestyle

1. Amy McCullough, Mercy.
2. Elizabeth MacDonald, Mercy.

### 200-yard individual medley

1. Elizabeth Posvar, Mercy.
2. Katie Clark, Stevenson.

### 50-yard freestyle

1. Jessica Makowski, Stevenson.
2. Marti McKenzie, Stevenson.

### Diving

1. Katy Ballantine, Stevenson.
2. April Aquinto, Salem.

### 100-yard butterfly

1. Erin Downs, Mercy.
2. Teri Hanson, Canton.

### 100-yard freestyle

1. Kelly Carlin, Mercy.
2. Kristin Loidas, Mercy.

### 500-yard freestyle

1. Julie Kern, Stevenson.
2. Meghan Mocer, Stevenson.

### 200-yard freestyle relay

1. Mercy (Erin Downs, Kristin Loidas, Elizabeth MacDonald, Kelly Carlin).
2. Stevenson (Jessica Makowski, Marti McKenzie, Meghan Mocer, Julie Kern).

### 100-yard backstroke

1. Lindsay McElean, N. Farmington.
2. Christina Mocer, Ladywood.

### 200-yard breaststroke

1. Lindsay Fetters, Harrison.
2. Nevra Alver, North Farmington.

### Coach of the Year

1. Jim Downs, Mercy.

**Honorable mention (must be state qualifiers in individual events):** Angela Simetkosky, Churchill; Adrienne Doyle, Churchill; Julie Kluka, Harrison; Loretta McKay, Salem; Kari Foust, Salem; Lindsay Dolin, Stevenson; Danielle Drysdale, Canton.

ish; they were second, a point behind Zeeland, going into the final event.

"This foursome wasn't to be denied," said Downs.

## Second team

**Elizabeth MacDonald, Farmington Hills Mercy, 200-yard freestyle:** The sophomore showed she'll be a force for years to come this season. MacDonald placed eighth in the state in the 500 freestyle (5:07.63), ninth in the 200 freestyle (1:56.39) and helped the Marlins 200 freestyle relay team to a 10th place finish at the state finals.

At the Catholic League meet, MacDonald placed first in the 50 free (25.72) and sixth in the 200 IM (2:23.72).

"The good old American work ethic did not disappear," Downs said. "It lives within Liz."

**Katie Clark, Livonia Stevenson, 200-yard individual medley:** A junior, Clark was a state qualifier in five events and she took 10th at the state finals in the 100 butterfly (1:00.12). At the WLAA meet, she won the 100 fly (1:01.17) and took second in the 200 IM (2:16.44).

"She's a very hard worker and a talent," said Phill. "I am looking forward to a great senior year from her."

**Marti McKenzie, Livonia Stevenson, 50-yard freestyle:** The senior was a solid contributor to the Spartans this year. McKenzie finished fourth in both the 50 freestyle (25.70) and 100 breaststroke (1:11.10) at the WLAA championships.

"Stevenson is going to miss the depth and versatility Marti gave to our program," Phill said.

**April Aquinto, Plymouth Salem, diving:** The freshman showed lots of promise this fall. She qualified for the regional and state final meets as well as placing third at the conference showdown (331.95 points). At state, she was the highest-

placing freshman, finishing 21st. Only Stevenson's Ballantine beat her in dual meet competition.

"April has great talent and potential," Salem coach Chuck Olson said. "She has the ability and competitive attitude to challenge any diver in the state."

**Teri Hanson, Plymouth Canton, 100-yard butterfly:** Hanson, a senior, has qualified for the state finals in the 100 fly four-straight seasons, making consistency perhaps her greatest asset. At the WLAA finals, Hanson placed third in the fly (1:02.10) and seventh in the 50 free (26.03).

Hanson's best time this season in the 100 fly was 1:01.06 in the conference meet preliminaries. She placed 17th in the 100 fly at state in 1:01.23; she also swam in all three Canton relays, including the 200 medley relay which set a varsity record (1:54.43) in placing 19th.

She was Canton's MVP four-straight years.

"She's been very consistent and a quality swimmer all four years," said Canton coach Sarah Eubanks.

**Kristin Loidas, Farmington Hills Mercy, 100-yard freestyle:** The sky is the limit for Loidas. The freshman placed seventh in the state in the 200 freestyle (1:56.15) and 14th in the 500 freestyle. At the Catholic League finals, she won the 200 free (2:00.08) and was part of three winning relays.

"She performed well under pressure situations all year," said Downs. "She enjoys being coached."

**Meghan Mocer, Livonia Stevenson, 500-yard freestyle:** If dedication counts for anything, Mocer should be at the top of the list. The junior was 12th in the state in the 500 free (5:15.34), and at the WLAA meet she placed third in the 500 (5:20.43) and fourth in the 200 free (2:01.54).

"Meghan is one of Stevenson's hardest workers," Phill said. "We're looking forward to making her senior year her best."

**Christina Mocer, Livonia Ladywood, 100-yard backstroke:** The sophomore broke school records in the 200 freestyle (2:00.7), 200 IM (2:16.45), 100 butterfly (1:03.30) and 100 backstroke, and she was the first-ever Ladywood swimmer to score points at the state meet, placing eighth in a school-record 59.84. She was also second in the Catholic League in the 200 IM and in the 100 back.

"Christina continues to impress me with her great attitude and willingness to put in the extra work to improve her times," coach Randy Fergusson said.

**Nevra Alver, North Farmington, 100-yard breaststroke:** After placing sixth in the state in the breaststroke last year, the senior took 12th this season (1:08.92). At the WLAA finals, Alver finished second in the 100 breast (1:09.73) and sixth in the 200 IM (2:22.21).

"She swam just as well this year at state," North coach Pat Duthie said. "The (100 breast) just got a little tougher."

The longtime coach said Alver will be "missed next fall."

"Nevra has been outstanding for us," he added. "She has been a real key for us the last four years."

**Livonia Stevenson, 200-yard medley relay:** The team of Lindsay Dolin, Marti McKenzie, Katie Clark and Jessica Makowski won a WLAA championship in the 200 medley (1:53.59).

"With three of four girls returning," said Phill, "we're looking forward to some fast swims in 1999."

**Livonia Stevenson, 200-yard freestyle relay:** This team, consisting of Jessica Makowski, Marti McKenzie, Meghan Mocer and Julie Kern, ended up second at the WLAA championships (1:41.64). It was the best time of the season recorded by the Spartans in this event.

**Livonia Stevenson, 400-yard freestyle relay:** The Spartans' Katie Clark, Meghan Mocer, Meghan Lesnau and Julie Kern swam to a second-place finish at the WLAA meet (3:46.77). The best time Stevenson had in the 400 free this season was 3:42.27.



Elizabeth MacDonald  
Farmington Hills Mercy



Katie Clark  
Livonia Stevenson



Marti McKenzie  
Livonia Stevenson



Teri Hanson  
Plymouth Canton



April Aquinto  
Plymouth Salem



Kristin Loidas  
Farmington Hills Mercy



Meghan Mocer  
Livonia Stevenson



Christina Mocer  
Livonia Ladywood



Nevra Alver  
North Farmington

## RELAY TEAMS



Farmington Hills Mercy's 200-yard medley relay team: Amy McCullough, Elizabeth Posvar, Erin Downs and Kelly Carlin.



Farmington Hills Mercy's 200-yard freestyle relay team: Erin Downs, Kristin Loidas, Elizabeth MacDonald and Kelly Carlin.



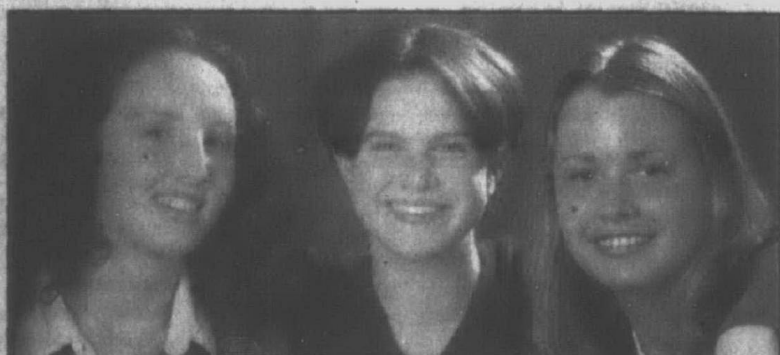
Farmington Hills Mercy's 400-yard freestyle relay team: Kelly Carlin, Kristin Loidas, Amy McCullough and Elizabeth Posvar.



Livonia Stevenson's 400-yard freestyle relay team: Katie Clark, Meghan Mocer, Meghan Lesnau and Julie Kern.



Livonia Stevenson's 200-yard freestyle relay team: Jessica Makowski, Meghan Mocer and Julie Kern (not pictured: Marti McKenzie).



Livonia Stevenson's 200-yard medley relay team: Lindsay Dolin, Katie Clark and Jessica Makowski (not pictured: Marti McKenzie).

## AD OF THE WEEK

### STANDARDER

Shapely WF, 48, brunets, no dependents, seeks intelligent, educated WM, who enjoys looking at the stars, escaping on weekends, and lively conversation. Friends first. Rochester area. \$7172

### To Place Your Free Ad, Call

1-800-518-5445

### FIRST TIME AD

DWF, 38, 5'7", 105lb, blonde/brown, mother of one, enjoys movies, dining out, loves to laugh. Seeking attractive, humorous, loving, honest DWM, 38-42 with childlike sense of humor, friendship first. LTR. \$71897

### SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT

SF, 38, loves animals, gardening, spectator sports, laughing, seeks SM, 45-50, no kids, for new start, possible LTR. \$71865

### COFFEE, TEA, OR ME?

Tall, attractive lady, HW proportionate, with great sense of humor and lots of TLC to share. Seeking tall, intelligent, romantic, quality male, 55+, with high standards, who enjoys various activities. \$72726

### YOUNGER

For romance and interesting times. Degraded, fit, fun-loving, fairly, pretty blonde, 50s. You're NWS, sporty, savvy, educated, kind. We enjoy travel, fine dining, movies, theater, concerts, cooking. Call soon. \$71807

### GENTLY USED

Blonde lady, 38, 5'3", 125lb, enjoys life. Seeking gentleman, mid-50s-60s, to enjoy life with, friends first. \$71858

### PASSION FOR LIFE

Chasey, spirited, poised DWF, 58, 5'2", seeks man of integrity, 58-65, who is romantic and fun. To share interests which include: dancing, traveling, movies, dining out. For friendship, leading to LTR. \$71858

### TEACH ME SOMETHING NEW

Attractive SWF, 27, NWS, social drinker, little heavy, enjoys travel, meeting new people, seeks attractive financial/technologically secure SWM, 28-38, NWS, with similar interests. \$71857

### TEDDY BEAR WANTED

SWF, blonde/green, 5'8", medical professional, looking for teddy bear 45+ with good communication skills, who is an athletic event watcher, enjoys winter sports. Good sense of humor a must. \$71858

### WHAT A COMBINATION

Tall, thin, fiery-tempered SF, 30, blonde/blue, passionate lover, great friend. Impassive to look at. Even better to converse and debate with. Do I mention confidence? Call me. \$71715

### MAKE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

DWF, 44, financially secure, professional musician, sexy, classy, blonde/blue, romantic, seeking an outgoing, secure, college-educated SWM, 35-50, passion for life, for possible LTR. \$71858

### BEAUTIFUL SMILE

Very attractive, athletic, slender, blonde DWF, 48, 5'7", enjoys sports, concerts, movies, laughing, looking for athletic, healthy, fun, spontaneous, honest, widowed or DWM, 48-53, with sense of humor. Birmingham area. \$71858

### I WOULDN'T...

ask anyone do anything that I couldn't do. Imaginative, educated SF, mid-50s, blonde/green, slim, sweet disposition, self-supported. Bakes good food. Fully cooked. Dutch treat. Real fun in conversation. Commitment if right. \$71857

### WAITING FOR YOUR CALL

Widowed WF, 60, 5'2", blonde/blue, NWS, social drinker, financially/technologically secure, seeks honest, caring male 58-65, good sense of humor. \$7125

### YOUNG-AT-HEART

Widowed WF, 60+, blonde/blue, NWS, enjoys movies, dancing, dining out, traveling, cooking. Seeking honest, romantic SWM, 60+, NWS, for possible LTR. \$71812

### SLENDER AND STYLISH

Active, independent, intelligent, attractive, attractive, blue-eyed blonde, 40, blonde, 5'8", Birmingham, home owner, seeks professional, witty, handsome, unencumbered, male counterpart, 6+, for extreme fun, romance and adventure. \$71803

### LET'S PLOW TOGETHER

This flirtatious, blue-eyed blonde, 38, loves to take a ride in your truck. There is something about a man in a truck. 43, who loves kids, and is attractive & successful. \$71166

### PRETTY, 45, NO KIDS

Bright, sweet, playful DWF, 5'8", 275lb, curly, blonde, enjoys sports, beach, sports, movies, reading. Seeking friendly, handsome, to share time, talking. \$71858

### SEEKS CONFIDENT, SECURE MA







# Spartans get a win; Huron drops Glenn

The drought is over.

Livonia Stevenson's boys basketball team won't be going 0-for-the season this year.

Stevenson opened its 1998-99 scheduled Tuesday night at Wyandotte Roosevelt and brought back a 70-61 victory — its first win since the 1996-97 season ended.

The Spartans didn't win in 21 tries last season.

"I was glad for the kids," coach Tim Newman of Stevenson said after his team pulled the game out with a hot 23-11 fourth quarter. "These kids work real hard and they put the ball in the basket."

Junior guard Mike Lenardon scored 18 points to lead the Spartans, junior guard Keshay McChristian had 16 and senior guard Marty Kennedy 13, including all eight free throws he tried in the fourth quarter.

Harland Beverly and Ryan Tobin each scored eight.

Wyandotte started out with a 19-14 lead after one quarter and expanded it to 38-30 at the half before Stevenson started its comeback with a 17-12 third period.

"Our kids picked it up," Newman said. "We had some trouble in the first half making choices. We didn't handle their offense very well so we made some adjustments."

"The biggest difference was in the fourth quarter we made 14-of-15 free throws."

## BASKETBALL

Jeff Mehi had 24 points for Wyandotte to lead all scorers but he was clamped down on in the second half, when he scored just nine. Jeff Powell and Chris Wayda each had 12 and Damien Meta had 10.

For the game, Stevenson made 22-of-31 free throws and Wyandotte sank 9-of-16.

**A.A. HURON 77, JOHN GLENN 65:** The middle two periods made the difference as the visiting River Rats outscored the Rockets, 37-25.

Imani Wilson paced Huron with 19 points, Andrew Walton had 17 and Amir Kasham and Derek Ginyard 15 apiece.

Ty Haygood led Westland John Glenn with 18, Bill Foder scored 16 and Ben Harris 14.

Junior guard Eric Jones was scoreless in the first half and scored seven in the second.

Huron led, 18-17, after the first quarter and John Glenn outscored the River Rats 23-22 in the final eight minutes.

The Rockets made just 7-of-25 free throws, compared to 14-of-21 for the River Rats. Huron also held the edge in triples, 5-2.

**DEARBORN 69, CHURCHILL 54:** The Chargers couldn't get the ball up the floor against host Dearborn's full-court pressure and ended up paying the price.

"That's a real solid Dearborn team," coach Rick Austin of Livonia Churchill said Tuesday night. "We played solid half-court defense, but we didn't rebound as well as I expected."

Ryan Golem, Colin Wilkinson, Colin

O'Donnell and junior Sean Turner scored 12, 13, 14 and 15 points, respectively, for Dearborn.

Junior guard John Bennett paced the Chargers with 24 points and junior forward Avery Jessup had eight.

**LUTHERAN WESTLAND 60, ST. ALPHONSUS 44:** A strong second half helped the Warriors open their new season successfully.

son successfully.

"We stayed the same in the second half," coach Dan Ramthun said Tuesday night after his team blitzed its way to a 37-17 post-intermission. "We played man-to-man."

"We were getting good shots all night, we just started hitting them in the second half."

"Our defense was better in the second half, too, so we got some turnovers and some transition baskets."

Lutheran High School Westland got 18 points from forward Tom Habitz, 14 from junior guard Charlie Hoeft and 13

from forward Ryan Ollinger.

Host St. Alphonsus led, 14-13, after one quarter and 27-23, at the half, it was led by junior forwards LaMonte Bonny, who scored 12 points, and Travis Spencer, who had 10.

## The Father's Gift of Love

A Christmas Music Drama

Sunday, December 13, 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Friday, December 18, 8:00 p.m.

Presented by the Celebration Choir and Drama Ministry

Calvary Baptist Church • 43065 Joy Road in Canton  
734-455-0022  
(Between Sheldon and Lilley Roads)

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### NOTICE

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN WINTER TAXES

Winter taxes are due December 1, 1998 and payable through February 16, 1999 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. **MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH.** Payments can be made at the Township Hall during regular working hours, Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's Office. Open Friday, December 4, 11, 18 and Wednesday, December 23 until 5:00 p.m. After hours payments can be placed in 24 hr. **DROP BOX** located in parking lot adjacent to Building #1 or **DROP BOX** adjacent to entry way. Standard Federal Bank, Plymouth Township Office, will also accept payment for your convenience through February 16, 1999.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH TREASURER'S OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** during the Christmas Holidays on Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th. The Treasurer's Office will be open to accept Tax Payments and Other Payments on Monday, December 28th through Thursday, December 31st.

RON EDWARDS, Treasurer  
Charter Township of Plymouth.

Publish: December 10th & 13th, 1998

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### CITY OF PLYMOUTH Notice to Bidders

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids until 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, December 22, 1998. For the following:

Installation of New Windows at the City Hall Building.

Location: 201 South Main Plymouth, MI

Contact person: Scott A. Baker 734-463-7787

Specifications and proposal forms are available at the office of the City Clerk during regular office hours. Vendors shall meet or exceed the attached bid specifications with a comparable product and procedures in installing the Windows. Vendor is responsible for all measurements and verification of all window quantities and Sizes.

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or part, and to waive any irregularities.

Send Sealed Bids to:

LINDA LANGMESSER, CMC/AAC  
City Clerk  
201 S. Main, Plymouth, MI 48170

Publish: December 10, 1998

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## THE WEEKEND

### FRIDAY



Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Players present "Shorts - A Theatrical Potpourri," featuring works by Edward Ablee, Robert Harling, Louis Phillips, Neil Simon and Tom Topor, 8 p.m. at the Orchard Ridge Campus, Orchard Lake Road at I-696. Tickets \$8 adults, \$5 students, available at the door, or call (248) 471-7667.

### SATURDAY



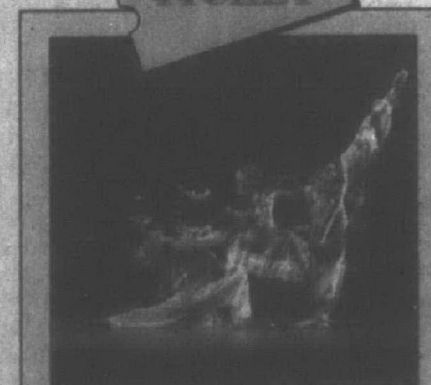
Join Alabama for a Country Christmas 8 p.m. at the Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. Tickets \$24.50, (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100.

### SUNDAY



St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook presents "The Sleeping Beauty," 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. at the playhouse, 400 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets are \$6 per person, call (248) 644-0527.

## HOT TICKET



Detroit Symphony Orchestra presents "The Nutcracker" with Ballet International, featuring ballet stars from around the world, and opulent new sets and costumes. Over 85 young dancers from metro Detroit area will also appear in the production, Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 10-13 and Dec. 17-20 at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets \$16 to \$36, call (313) 576-1111 or (248) 645-6666.

# STOCKING STUFFERS

## Pop music's top acts celebrate holidays

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER  
[cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net)

A quarter-filled St. Andrew's Hall looks dank. Stage lighting reveals gum stuck on the hard wood floors, the sticky film of spilled drinks, and a thin haze of swirling smoke.

The first of Cheap Trick's three nights at the club were sparsely attended, but Grosse Pointe native Gregg Alexander took it as an opportunity to show Detroit why he left home.

Alexander, singer/songwriter/producer of the pop band New Radicals, ran away from home, as the story goes, about 10 years ago to pursue a music career. After two failed albums, Alexander is finally getting his due.

St. Andrew's Hall showed new life the minute his scantily clad background singer, former child actress Danielle Brisebois, took the stage reciting lines from the New Radicals' sprightly hit "You Only Get What You Give."

Alternating between jumping around the stage and stretching out his long arms, the gangly, bald Alexander seemed at home pounding out a four-song, half-hour set that included two renditions of "You Only Get What You Give." Alexander, Brisebois and their five-piece band had all the energy of a veteran pop band playing to a sold-out arena.

One of Alexander's fondest memories of Detroit is seeing the rock band Almighty Strut open for Cheap Trick. Heading downstairs to the Shelter after the set, Alexander was greeted by Cheap Trick singer Robin Zander. Alexander's career had come full circle.

According to Alexander, he ran away at age 16 because he "couldn't take the Grosse Pointers," whom he compares to the cast of "The Truman Show" with "an extra \$50,000 per year in disposable income." With his parents' blessing, he went to California.

"Specifically I told my dad I was running away and he said, 'Fine, be back by September.'"

He didn't come back.

"I wanted to have some adventures and make rock 'n' roll records and cause some trouble," he said.

His first album, "Michigan Rain," was recorded under the name Gregg Alexander for A&M Records in 1990.

"I made an album that came out amongst the hype of grunge that got lost. It didn't make me too bitter or anything. You can't blame yourself if your record doesn't get through the myriad of 35,000 records that come out a year," said Alexander who splits his time between California, New York City and London.

Two years later, he signed with Epic Records who re-released "Michigan Rain," and put out his follow-up "Intoxification," which also flopped.

Staying at the home of a friend who was out of town, he tooled around in the recording studio putting to tape "magic moments of a difficult time."

"When I was done with the songs, I was listening and thinking, 'God, I hope these things get heard by people.' I played it for a few friends and pretty soon

Please see STUFFERS, E2

Stocking photos above

**A. Returning home:** Former Grosse Pointer Gregg Alexander returns to town with his band the New Radicals to play "The River's Cool Yule '98" at the Detroit Opera House on Dec. 30.

**B. Rare appearance:** Swedish pop stars Ace of Base - from left, Linn Berggren, Ulf Ekberg, Jenny Berggren and Jonas Berggren - make a rare live appearance on Saturday, Dec. 12, as part of WDRQ's "Freeze for All" concert at the Royal Oak Music Theatre.

**C. Holiday fete:** The Goo Goo Dolls - from left, drummer Mike Malinin, guitarist/vocalist Johnny Rzeznik, and bassist/vocalist Robby Takac - are set to play Cobo Arena as part of WPLT-FM's "Holiday Hootenanny" concert on Friday, Dec. 11.

## Take note

This year's stocking is stuffed with radio station-sponsored holiday concerts. Here's a nice tidy Christmas list to prepare you for the season. Tickets for all concerts are available at Ticketmaster outlets, by calling (248) 645-6666 or by visiting <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

### "Holiday Hootenanny"

SPONSORED BY WPLT-FM (96.3)

features the Goo Goo Dolls, Christian rappers DC Talk, Semisonic, Better Than Ezra and Edwin McCain, at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Cobo Arena, Detroit. Tickets are \$15.96 and \$25.96 for the all-ages show. For more information, visit <http://www.planet963.com>.

### "Rockin' for the Hungry"

SPONSORED BY ANN ARBOR'S WQB-FM (102.9)

features Candlebox, The Hunger and Blue Plate Special, at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at the Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$21.03, \$27.50 limited superfan seating includes afterparty ticket. For more information, call (734) 763-TKTS.

### "WDRQ Freeze for All"

SPONSORED BY WDRQ-FM (93.1)

features 98 Degrees, Ace of Base, Voices of Theory, Monifah, L.F.O., Inoj and C Note, at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. The show is sold out. Call (248) 546-7610 for more information.

### "Holiday Concert for a Cure"

SPONSORED BY WKQI-FM

features Bryan Adams and Sixpence None the Richer at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. The concert, open to those 21 and older, is sold out, but Q95 is conducting on-air contests to win tickets. Visit <http://www.q955.com> for a complete line-up. Net proceeds benefit the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

### John Berry and JoDee Messina

SPONSORED BY WYCD-FM (99.5)

perform as part of radio station WYCD-FM (99.5) Christmas show at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets are \$25 for the all-ages show. For more information, visit <http://www.wycd.com>.

### "A Smooth Jazz Christmas"

with Dave Koz, David Benoit, Brenda Russell and Peter White, begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at the State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets are \$20 and \$25 for reserved theater seating. For more information, call (313) 961-5451.

### "The Night 89X Stole Christmas"

SPONSORED BY CIMX-FM (88.7)

features performances by Beck, Garbage, Everlast, Placebo and Marcy Playground, and is emceed by Kid Rock, at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit. Tickets are \$20.89, \$25.89 and \$30.89 for the all-ages show. For more information, visit <http://www.89x.com>.

### "The River's Cool Yule '98"

SPONSORED BY CIDR-FM (93.9)

features performances by Rusted Root, New Radicals and Susan Tedeschi, at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets are \$22.50 in advance. Visit <http://www.river939.com> for more information.

## THEATER

## 'Resident Alien' visits Jewish Ensemble Theatre

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER  
[kwygolik@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:kwygolik@oe.homecomm.net)

Repeating the magical words "there's no place like home," Dorothy escapes the alien Land of Oz and returns home to her beloved Kansas in "The Wizard of Oz."

Dorothy always knew her heart and home was in Kansas, but playwright Stuart Spencer, who also grew up in a farming community, felt like an alien.

"I remember being four or five and telling my mother 'we ought to move to the city,' and I didn't even know what it was," said Spencer whose play "Resident Alien" is being presented by the Jewish Ensemble Theatre through Jan. 3 at the Aaron DeRoy Theatre on the lower level of the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield. "We lived outside of a

Please see ALIEN, E2

## On Stage

WHAT: Jewish Ensemble Theatre presents "Resident Alien" by Stuart Spencer

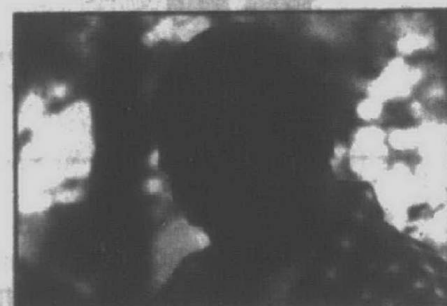
WHERE: Aaron DeRoy Theatre, lower level, Jewish Community Center, 6800 W. Maple Road (corner of Maple and Drake Roads), West Bloomfield

WHEN: Continues through Sunday, Jan. 3. Performances 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday; 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. Additional matinee 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23.

TICKETS: \$13-\$23, call (248) 788-2900 or <http://commnet.org/jet> for more information.

### HIGHLIGHT

JET will present two special New Year's Eve performances of "Resident Alien," 6:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31. Tickets for the 6:30 p.m. show \$35 per person includes hors d'oeuvres, champagne, and party favors. Tickets for the 10 p.m. show \$50 per person includes champagne, party favors, and breakfast. Call number listed above for reservations/information.



Playwright: Stuart Spencer wrote "Resident Alien." Jewish Ensemble Theatre is presenting the Michigan premiere of his work at the Aaron DeRoy Theatre on the lower level of the Jewish Community Center.



## Stuffers from page E1

20 labels were pounding on my door."

The result is "Maybe You've Been Brainwashed Too" (MCA), an amalgamation of pop, R&B, funk and dance. "You Get What You Give," he explained, is a hit because the lyrics hit close to home for so many people.

"There's certain aspects of the song that are hitting a core with people's lives. I sing the lyrics 'Health insurance rip-off lying/ FDA big bankers buying/Fake computer crashes dining/Cloning while they're multiplying.' The lyrics of the song cover a lot of bases," Alexander explained.

"It touches upon this overall feeling of frustration about the big machine that society has built around us. The machine known as society. The song is saying don't let go, we have something that the machine doesn't have - heart, spirit, flesh, tangible goey things."

### Expanding audience

New Radicals is one of more than 30 bands coming to town to celebrate Christmas with local radio station listeners. Alexander's band performs as part of "The River's Cool Yule '98," while Beck, Garbage and others play Joe Louis Arena for "The Night 89X Stole Christmas."

Last year there were only a handful of holiday shows. Now there's nary a pop station that hasn't gotten involved. (See sidebar for more information.)

WPLT-FM gets extra points for its diversity at this year's "Holiday Hootenanny." Pop superstars the Goo Goo Dolls are co-headlining with Christian rockers DC Talk, who until now hadn't received airplay on the station. (see story inside)

English/American androgynous pop act Placebo is a baby band compared to the acts with whom it is sharing the

Joe Louis Arena stage for 89X's festival. Bassist Stefan Olsdal sees radio station shows as a way of broadening Placebo's audience.

"We're getting across to a lot of people who haven't heard you. Plus, the radio station's gonna play your records. That's what we're doing this time," he said.

### Detroit debut

The voice of Ace of Base member Ulf Ekberg is being gradually drowned out by the sounds of bongo drums. He's trying his best to speak louder into a friend's cell phone but a cold is getting the best of him.

"I'm on the stage now. Our band is performing but they're singing some other songs though," Ekberg said with a raspy laugh. "They're waiting for me to finish."

Late last week, Ace of Base performed live on television in London, England. Since the release of its third album, "Cruel Summer" (Arista), Ekberg and the rest of Ace of Base - siblings Jenny, Linn and Jonas Berggren - have been running non-stop.

This month marks the first time that the Swedish pop group Ace of Base, which has scored hits like "The Sign," "Don't Turn Around" and its cover of Bananarama's "Cruel Summer," has toured the United States.

"We spent a lot of time in the States but only in Miami, Chicago and New York. The rest is actually black places for me. Detroit, I don't have the picture for Detroit in front of me. I'm very excited to go there," Ekberg explained.

Ace of Base decided to do a few radio shows in untouched markets at the suggestion of its record company. So the Swedish quartet cancelled a European jaunt and scheduled a handful of shows, including WDRQ-FM (93.1)'s

**'I made an album that came out amongst the hype of grunge that got lost. It didn't make me too bitter or anything. You can't blame yourself if your record doesn't get through the myriad of 35,000 records that come out a year.'**

**Gregg Alexander**  
—Singer/songwriter

### "Freeze for All"

"We're planning on doing a world tour next summer. This is a touch of how it feels to be performing in the United States."

Is Ekberg a little nervous about the tour? "You want to do the best you can. It's good to be a little bit nervous and have some ants in your stomach."

The album "Cruel Summer" marks the first time the band has worked with non-Swedish producers. With acclaimed producers Cutfather and Joe, Ace of Base expanded its sound with background singers, which Ekberg refers to as "choirs," and orchestras. The reliance on electronic music has lifted.

"We worked more with live instruments, live orchestras and choirs. I think we're a little bit more open-minded for people's ideas. We didn't want the same old routine. We felt like now we've done that and done it all," Ekberg explained.

"Now see we do it in a different way. The rest of the world's work was completely black. Now we started to see that. On the fourth album (due in fall 1999), which we've already started, you will hear the next step."

## Alien from page E1

small town in Wisconsin, there wasn't even a neighbor nearby. I used to make up friends as a young child."

"Resident Alien" is a play about what it feels like to be an alien - different from everyone else. "It never occurred to me that this was a universal feeling," said Spencer. "I'm delighted that others see themselves in it."

Spencer says the play just "kind of evolved." Michael, and the Alien, are the main characters.

"Michael is who I am had I stayed behind in the town I grew up in," said Spencer who left to attend college, and later moved to New York. "No matter who I write about I put myself in that position. Writing a play is not always rational."

He began by imagining himself as Michael the town crackpot who enjoys listening to Beethoven and reading Kierkegaard. He's divorced and the father of a son, Billy, who is abducted by aliens as the two are walking through the woods at twilight.

How does Michael explain this to his ex-wife Priscilla? Her husband, Ray, or the Sheriff? Then there's the matter of the Alien, the green man who stays behind for a vacation. Like Michael, the Alien feels like an outcast on his planet.

"Resident Alien" is a comedy and a story about friendship with some serious undercurrents. "The Alien fits in, Michael doesn't belong," said Spencer. The Alien is surprised people are

upset by his green skin "We base our feelings about people on superficial things like skin color," said Spencer. "I tried to take it to its conclusion, I thought it was honest."

In the play, the Alien says "Nobody else in the entire universe ever heard about this 'race' thing, but here you completely obsess about it, even though at the same time you say it's not important."

We also divide people into categories according to sexual preference. The Alien doesn't. "Where I come from," he says, "we take a slightly simpler approach: you find somebody you like, and everything else - well, you work around it."

For Spencer, home is "finding where you belong - home is the place where you're centered and belong."

"Resident Alien" is about people searching for home, who are not where they belong.

Evelyn Orbach, artistic director of Jewish Ensemble Theatre, saw Spencer's play at the Humana Festival of New American Plays in Louisville, Ky. in March, and helped bring it to the Aaron DeRoy Theatre.

"In a sense it's the lightest thing we've done," said Orbach. "It was the funniest thing I'd ever seen, but it's also about prejudice, racism and people who feel alienated from society. What happens to one person can happen to any person."

John Siebert is making his directing debut at Jewish

Ensemble Theatre with "Resident Alien."

"It lends a special perspective to some people's lives," said Siebert about the play. "It forces them to think about some of their prejudices and touches on the human experience. It's a comedy with a human touch that touches on spirituality."

Jewish Ensemble Theatre and Meadow Brook Theatre collaborated on this production. Peter Hicks of Meadow Brook designed the set, Reid Johnson the lighting, and Brett Rominger the sound.

"Collaboration is on the increase," said Mike Vigilant, public relations manager for Meadow Brook Theatre. "Everyone is working hard to build a theatre audience in metro Detroit. We're constantly sharing information and resources."

For Siebert, who has been cast in a lot of Meadow Brook Theatre productions, working on this production has been a dream come true. For him, the message of "Resident Alien," is "don't sweat the small stuff. Keep it simple."

"Resident Alien" features Scott Screws as Michael, Greg Trzaskoma as the Alien, Sarab Kamoo as Priscilla, Jim Shanley as the Sheriff, John Michael Manfredi as Ray, and Scott Goci as Billy.

Ring in the New Year at the Jewish Ensemble Theatre. There are two special New Year's Eve performances. See chart for details.

## Michigan Theatre presents musical treat for families: 'Babes in Toyland'

Start with Old Mother Hubbard, Jack and Jill, Bo Peep and Simple Simon, add a black-caped villain and a fairy godmother, mix in some special effects, lively music and dance, add a pinch of good old-fashioned humor, and you have Victor Herbert's much loved classic, "Babes in Toyland."

This merry holiday treat, presented by New York's Theatreworks/USA, will be performed 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at the

Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty, downtown Ann Arbor.

Tickets for this musical for families with children ages 4 and older are \$10, call (734) 763-TKTS or (734) 668-8397.

"Babes in Toyland" takes place in Fairy Tale Land where Mother Goose and her daughters, Mary Contrary Goose and Bo Peep Goose must sell their eggs, flowers and sheep's wool each

month to pay rent to the sinister shoelord, Barnaby Barkwell.

Barkwell is a wicked villain and raises the rent on the shoe, unless Mary agrees to become his wife, he will throw the Goose family out on to the street. Mary agrees, but is later convinced by Bo Peep to run away to Toyland, where "all the toys are magic and all your dreams come true." Soon, everyone is on the way to Toyland.

**The**  
**"Where Will I Be On New Year's Eve?"**  
**contest**  
**Ring in the New Year**  
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**Best Night Out!**  
**The Second City**  
**and THE**  
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 invite you to send a postcard to the  
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 Are A Girl's Best Friend", at 7:30pm.  
 Winners will be welcome to stay around  
 at The Five Hole after the show, to ring  
 in the New Year.

Entries must be received by 12/14 @ 5pm with the winners  
 notified on 12/15 between 9am - 5pm and published on 12/17  
 in the Observer & Eccentric classified section.

**Contest Rules**  
 • You must be 21 and over  
 • Employees and their families of the  
 Observer & Eccentric & The Second  
 City are not eligible.  
 ("Dinner & drinks not included).  
 • One entry per household

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# Theater productions designed with children in mind

The 1998 holiday theatrical calendar is brimming with musicals and traditional productions of many of our old favorites, brought to life by some of the area's finest children's theaters.

**CINDERELLA**  
Members of Paper Bag Productions children's lunch-theater will perform Rodgers and Hammerstein's classic tale Saturdays and Sundays through December at the Players Club of Detroit (3321 E. Jefferson, one mile east of downtown Detroit).

Cost for lunch and the show is \$7.50 per person. Saturdays, lunch is served at noon with the play at 1 p.m. and Sundays, lunch is served at 1 p.m. with a 2 p.m. play performance. Group rates are available. Call (313) 662-8118.

## ONCE UPON A SHOE

Tinderbox productions present a holiday musical for the family — Once Upon a Shoe. Dec. 12 and 18 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. Performances will be hosted at The Cathedral Theatre, Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit.

Tickets are \$10 at the door; \$8 in advance. Guest performances by the Tinderbox Show Choir, the Tinderbox Jazz/Swingers, and FOOTWORK, featuring top notch tap dancers from the Detroit High School for the Fine and Performing Arts. For group rates and other information please call (313) 635-8962 and leave a message.

**ICELES & SNOWFLAKES**  
The junior actors of the Ridgedale Players present "Iceles and Snowflakes" and meals with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 12 at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 13 at 1 p.m.

"Iceles and Snowflakes," written by Suzanne Barcovic, and directed by Barcovic and her daughter Shauna, tells the tale of three siblings who build a snowman which comes to life. A variety of winter characters come to show the snowman how to have fun. The "Heart Miser" attempts to ruin their fun by melting them.

Tickets are \$6.50 and includes the play, a meal and a visit and gift from Santa. Reservations are a must. Call (248) 988-7049. Visa and Mastercard accepted. Ridgedale Playhouse is at 205 W. Long Lake between Crooks and Livernois in Troy.

## PUPPETART'S CINDERELLA

PuppetART is bringing back its popular performance of Cinderella, featuring

classical marionettes with music by Tchaikovsky. Performance dates and times are Saturday, Dec. 12, 19 and 26 at 2 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 27 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. and Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 28 and 29 at 2 p.m.

All performances will be held at PuppetART's new home the Detroit Puppet Theater, located at 26 East Grand River (between Woodward and Farmer) in downtown Detroit.

Tickets are \$6.50 for adults and \$5 for children. Special holiday family ticket packages are available for \$20 - includes two adults and two children. Call (248) 557-8599 for tickets.

## THE SNOW QUEEN

Stagecrafters Youth Theatre will present five performances of Hans Christian Andersen's classic, The Snow Queen, Dec. 10-13 at the historic Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. All proceeds from the Dec. 11 performance will be donated to the Give-A-Christmas-Year-Round campaign. Patrons are also asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy to benefit the Salvation Army's Toy Drive for needy children.

All tickets are \$5 and all seats are reserved. Call (248) 541-6430. Dates

and times include: Dec. 10, 7 p.m.; Dec. 11, 7 p.m.; Dec. 12, 11 a.m.; Dec. 12, 3 p.m.; and Dec. 13, 1 p.m.

## CINDERELLA

A musical adaptation of the classic tale of Cinderella will entertain festive audiences this holiday season at the Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main Street, Northville. Performance dates and times are: Saturdays, Dec. 12, 19, and 26, and Jan. 2 at 2 p.m.; and Sundays, Dec. 13, 20, 27 and Jan. 3 at 2:30 p.m. Weekdays performances are Monday through Thursday at 2:30 p.m. Dec. 28, 29, 30 and 31. Tickets to all general performances are \$6.50.

## THE SNOW QUEEN

The New Millennium Youth Theatre Company production of The Snow Queen will be performed Dec. 12 and 19 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5, general admission or \$4 groups of 10 or more. Sponsored by Hudson's, this production of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale was adapted for the stage by Ben Martin.

Located at 15600 J.L. Hudson Drive, Southfield. Call (248) 552-1225 for information.

## JOSEPH/AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

The Dearborn Family Theatre will perform Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at 8 p.m. Dec. 11-13 at Edsel Ford High School, 20601 Rotunda Drive, 1.5 miles west of the Southfield Fwy. Tickets for the show are \$10 general admission and \$9 for senior citizens. Group rates are available. Reservations: (313) 561-0599.

## THE CRICKET IN TIMES SQUARE

Wild Swan Theater will present the first stage version of George Selden's The Cricket in Times Square, in collaboration with Henry Ford Museum. This tender Newberry Award winning tale of how the song of a gifted cricket saves the Bellini's newsstand in the subway station under Times Square has become an American classic.

Appropriate for children in grades K-5, this play will be performed from now until Jan. 2 at the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in Dearborn. Tickets are \$6 for children; \$8 for adults and can be purchased by calling 763-TKTS or any Ticket Master outlet. For touch tours and audio-description, or for group reservations, call (734) 995-0530.

## Little Women continues to engage audiences alike

"Little Women," based on the beloved novel by Louisa May Alcott, runs one more weekend at the Bonstelle Theater, Wayne State University's undergraduate theater. Performances are at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. The Bonstelle is located at 3424 Woodward in Detroit. For information or tickets, call (313) 577-2960. Group discounts are available.

## BY SUE SUCHYTA

### SPECIAL WRITER

The Bonstelle's production of the beloved Alcott classic Little Women is well-acted and staged. However, its 2.5 hour running time (with two intermissions) makes it more suitable for adults and older children.

Set in the 1860s during the American Civil War, Little Women is the story of the spirited March sisters and their optimism as they celebrate holidays and life itself with little material wealth but the riches of friends and family.

Maribeth Monroe of Fraser plays the tomboyish sister Jo, an aspiring novelist and alter-ego for Alcott herself. Monroe is bigger than life, with the expansive gestures of the impulsive Jo, and the loud, eager outbursts of the impulsive character. Although a talented actress, Monroe overshadowed the rest of the cast by constantly being more effusive than the rest.

## 'Tiffany Bedwell of Garden City was delightfully saucy ...'

She needs to temper her performances with more subtle manifestations of her much evident talent.

Gina Lohman of Warren plays the eldest sister Meg with equal measures of charm and naiveté. She comfortably conveys both a self-assured oldest sister and a nervous neophyte romantic.

Tiffany Marie Bedwell of Garden City was delightfully saucy as the impulsive and somewhat spoiled youngest sister Amy. She perfected the pout and the flounce, accentuated by wonderful gold curls and the spirited demeanor of a young girl on the verge of womanhood.

Julie Ann Yurconis of Detroit completed the quartet as the musically talented sister Beth, while Diana Clark, herself a mother of five, made her Bonstelle debut as their mother, affectionately known as Marmee.

The costumes were accurate to the Civil War period and reflected the limited means of the March family, while the set, the interior of the March home, was richly detailed and enhanced the warm atmosphere of the home.

A nice touch was the seasonal changes reflected by the foliage and falling snow outside the picture window.



The cast of Little Women at the Bonstelle Theatre.

## Students present classic tales

Celebrate the holidays by enjoying a night at the theater. Eastern Michigan University is presenting "The Gifts of the Magi," this weekend, and Charles Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities," is opening Friday at the Hilberry Theatre on the campus of Wayne State University.

EMU Theatre celebrates the Christmas season with the musical "The Gifts of the Magi," based on stories by O. Henry, Friday-Sunday, Dec. 11-13 and Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 19-20 at the Sponberg Theatre on the Ypsilanti campus.

Performances 8 p.m. Dec. 11-12 and Dec. 19, and 2:30 p.m. Dec. 12-13, and Dec. 19-20. Tickets are \$12 for Friday-Saturday performances, and \$10 for Sunday matinee. There is a \$2 discount for tickets purchased more than 30 minutes in advance, call (734) 487-1221.

"A Tale of Two Cities" opens 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11 on the Hilberry stage, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit, and runs in rotating repertory until March 4. Additional performances 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 and 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 17-18.

Based on the novel by Charles Dickens, the play was adapted for the stage by Nagle Jackson.

Tickets are \$10-\$17 and can be purchased by calling the box office (313) 577-2972 between the hours of 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday-Friday.

The timeless joys to be found in love and giving are the focus of this musical adaptation of "The Gifts of the Magi," with book and lyrics by Mark St. Germain, music and lyrics by Randy Courts, in which six performers bring to life the story of newlyweds Jim and Della.

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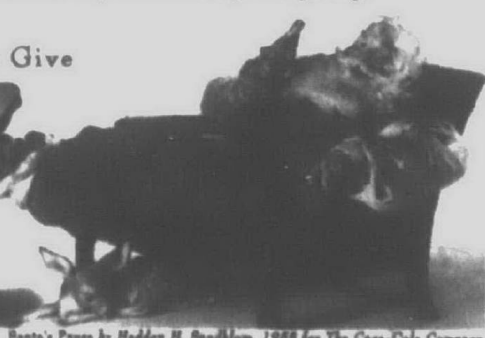
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## A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

### THEATER

**DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE**  
"Ad Altare Dei (Unto the Altar of God)," John Shea's play about faith, beauty and a priest who uses a hockey stick to straighten out sinners, through Dec. 31, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 8:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays, and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. \$15. (313) 868-1347 or DetRepTheat.com

**GEM THEATRE**  
"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change," through Jan. 3, at the theater's new location, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$27.50), 8 p.m. Thursdays (\$27.50), 8 p.m. Fridays (\$32.50), 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays (\$32.50), 2 p.m. Sundays (\$27.50) and 6 p.m. Sundays (\$19.50). (313) 963-9800

**FISHER THEATRE**  
"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 16-27, at the theater, 3011 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 22, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. \$26.50-\$49. (248) 645-6666/(313) 871-1132

**JET**  
"Resident Alien," an intergalactic comedy of love and acceptance by Stuart Spencer, through Sunday, Jan. 3, at the theater, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. (248) 788-2900 or http://cometnet.org/jet

**MEADOW BROOK THEATRE**  
"A Christmas Carol," continues to Sunday, Dec. 27, Wilson Hall, Oakland University campus, Rochester. \$25-\$36. (248) 377-3300

### COLLEGE

**EMU THEATRE**  
"Gifts of the Magi," based on stories by O. Henry, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturdays, Dec. 11-12, and 19, and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays, Dec. 12-13 and 19-20, at the Sponberg Theatre on Eastern Michigan University's campus, Ypsilanti. \$7 Thursdays, \$12 Fridays-Saturdays, and \$10 Sundays. (734) 487-1221

**ORCHARD RIDGE PLAYERS**  
"Shorts: A Theatrical Potpourri," featuring works by Edward Albee, Neil Simon, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 10-11, in Smith Theater on the Oakland Community College campus, Orchard Lake Road and I-696, Farmington Hills. \$8, \$5 students. (248) 471-7667

**WSU BONSTELLE THEATRE**  
"Little Women," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Saturday, Dec. 12, at the theater, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8-\$10; ages 5-12, \$6. (313) 577-2960

**WSU HILBERY THEATRE**  
"Scapin," in rotating repertory to Feb. 3; Charles Dickens' classic "A Tale of Two Cities," opens Friday, Dec. 11, and runs in rotating repertory to March 4, at the theater, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$17. (313) 577-2972

### DINNER THEATER

**BACI ABBRACCI ITALIAN CHOPHOUSE**

"Tony n' Tina's Wedding," an interactive theatre show with patrons having an Italian dinner, and dancing to a live band performing traditional Italian wedding songs, has an open-ended run, at the restaurant, 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays. \$50 Thursdays and Sundays, \$55 Fridays and Saturdays, in advance at 8 W. Lawrence St., Pontiac. (248) 745-8668/(248) 645-6666

**GENIUS' HOLE-IN-THE-WALL**  
Live interactive children's theatre program, "Santa's Workshop," Friday, Dec. 11, and Saturday-Wednesday, Dec. 12-23, at the restaurant, 108 E. Main St., Northville. \$9.65 for children, \$11.65 adults, includes lunch, show, tax and gratuity. (248) 349-0522

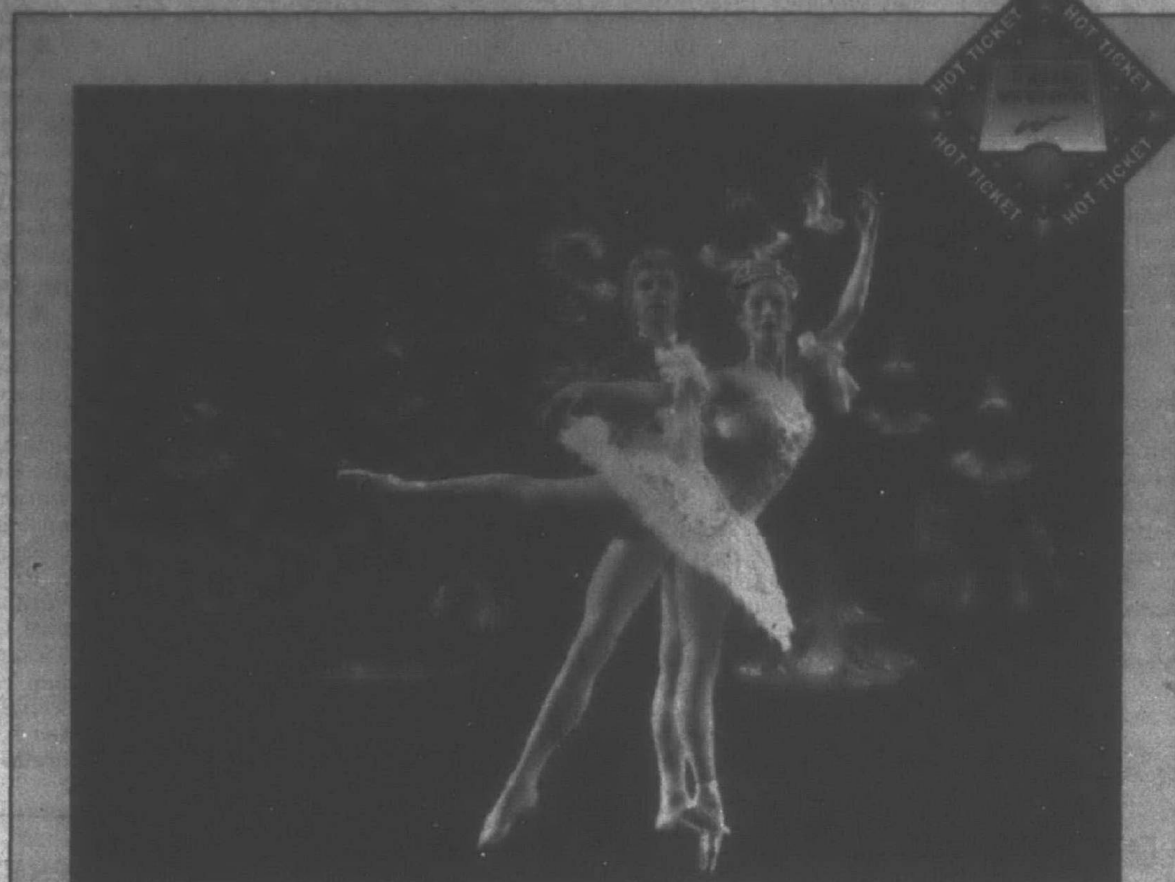
### YOUTH

**MARQUIS THEATRE**  
"Cinderella," through Jan. 3, at the theater, 135 E. Main St., Northville. 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 12; 19 and 26, and Jan. 2; 2:30 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 13, 20, and Jan. 3; and 2:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Dec. 28-31. \$6.50, (248) 349-8110

**ST. DUNSTAN'S THEATRE GUILD**  
"Sleeping Beauty," 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12; 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at the playhouse, 400 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$6 per person, fifty percent of net profits from all six performances benefit the Old Newsboy's Goodfellow Fund of Detroit. Call (248) 644-0527 for tickets and information.

**PAPER BAG PRODUCTIONS**  
"Cinderella," Saturdays-Sundays through Dec. 20, Historic Players Club, 3321 E. Jefferson, between Mount Elliott and McDougall, Detroit. Saturday programs start with lunch at noon and performances at 1 p.m., Sundays with lunch at 1 p.m. and performances at 2 p.m. \$7.50, \$6.50 groups of 20 or more. (810) 662-8118

**PUPPETART**



**Holiday tradition: Ballet Internationale, featuring ballet stars from around the world, with choreography by former Kirov Ballet star Eldar Aliev, performs "The Nutcracker," with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and 85 young dancers from the metro Detroit area, through Sunday, Dec. 20 at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit (at the corner of Madison Ave.) Performances 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 10-12; Dec. 17-19; with additional performances 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19; 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20. Tickets \$16 to \$35, call (313) 576-5111, Ticketmaster (248) 645-6666, Detroit Opera House, (313) 874-SING or online at www.detroitssymphony.com**

"Cinderella," 2 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 12, 19 and 26, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, and 2 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 28-29, at the Detroit Puppet Theater, 26 E. Grand River, between Woodward Avenue and Farmer Street, Detroit. (313) 961-7777

**STAGECRAFTERS YOUTH THEATRE**  
Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale, "The Snow Queen," 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 10-11, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. \$5, all seats reserved. Patrons are also asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy to benefit the Salvation Army's Toy Drive for needy children. (248) 541-6430

**TINDERBOX PRODUCTIONS**  
"Once Upon a Shoe," a musical for children about children who live in a shoe with Mother Goose and are about to lose their home to a new building in Mother Goose Land, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and Friday, Dec. 18, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, The Cathedral Theatre, Masonic Temple, 500 Temple Dr., Detroit. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. (313) 535-8962

**WILD SWAN THEATRE**  
"The Cricket in Times Square," through Saturday, Jan. 2, Anderson Theatre at Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn. (734) 763-TKTS/(734) 995-0530/(248) 645-6666

### HOLIDAY EVENTS

**"A HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR"**  
Featuring a sing-along, and a winter wonderland of G-Gauge trains (30 ft. by 9 ft. layout) in the Orchestra pit, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Historic Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser Road at Grand River, Redford. \$8. (313) 537-2560

**"A LIVING NATIVITY"**  
An enactment of the birth of Jesus with actors in costume, live animals and full-size crèche, 8:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-13, in the lower public courtyard of First Baptist Church, on Ring Road at the corner of Willits and Bates, Birmingham. Free. (248) 644-0550

**COBO CARNAVAL**  
Featuring a full-scale midway including games, rides and family entertainment, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Cobo Conference and Exhibition Center, Detroit. Free admission but a charge for rides and games. \$15 ride-all-day wristband. (313) 877-8111

**DIA WASSAIL FEAST**  
Holiday feast 6:30-10 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, Dec. 10-12 and 17-19, in the Kresge Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave. \$135 Thursdays, \$150 Fridays-Saturdays, proceeds to benefit the museum's general operating fund. (313) 835-4005

**"EXPLOSION OF HOLIDAY MUSIC"**  
Featuring Motor City Brass Band, and the church's chancel choir with soloists Thoretta Davis in John Rutter's "Gloria" and Jackson Barkey's "The Glory of His Majesty," 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, 8625 East Jefferson, in Detroit's Indian Village. \$10. (313) 822-3456

**"FOUR TICKETS TO CHRISTMAS"**  
A drama musical with live orchestra, Victorian costumes, Barber Shop Quartet, and chorus presenting Broadway and ragtime style music along with traditional Christmas carols,

also live nativity and petting farm for children, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Northville Christian Assembly, 41355 Six Mile, west of I-275, Northville. Free. (248) 348-9030

**"HOLIDAZE"**  
Featuring more than 40 metro Detroit retailers selling their wares, along with a holiday wine sampling, DJ dance music, and live music performances by The Wild Bunch, Immigrant Suns and The II V I Orchestra, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$5, \$4 with donations to the second annual Santa Paws Pet Supply Drive to benefit the Humane Society, Anti-Cruelty Society, Greyhound Connection and the Leader Dog School for the Blind. (313) 961-5451 or http://www.ticketmaster.com or http://www.radioedge.com

**DEXTER'S VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS**  
Featuring free street performances, horse-drawn sleigh rides, carolers and musicians throughout town, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in the village, northwest of Ann Arbor. (734) 428-5514.

### CLASSICAL

**BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE CHORALE ENSEMBLE**  
Under the direction of Judith Premin perform Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols" with guest harpist Allegra Lily 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Central Woodward Christian Church on the southeast corner of Adams and Big Beaver roads. Free. A festive tea follows the concert. (248) 475-5978

**JANE CHEVALIER**  
Hammered dulcimer player performs 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, west of Sheldon Road, south of M-14, Plymouth. \$7, \$5 students/seniors, \$18 family. (734) 453-5280

**"CLASSICS ON THE LAKE"**  
With Alexander Zonjic and Friends, Ervin Monroe, principal flutist with Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Margaret Kapasi, concert pianist, Peggy Dwyer, soprano, and Barb Ogar with her Student Flute Choir, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Shrine Chapel, St. Mary's College, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake. (248) 683-1750

**LIVONIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
With Alexander Zonjic and Ervin Monroe, principal flutist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia. \$15 adults, \$12 children. (734) 421-1111

**LYRIC CHAMBER ENSEMBLE**  
Performs opera choruses that have a sacred theme 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, scenes will be introduced by Dr. Wallace Peace, a frequent lecturer for the Michigan Opera Theatre, at Christ Church Detroit. \$15, \$12 seniors/students. (248) 357-1111

**"A SYMPHONY OF TOYS"**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, a concert featuring the Rochester Symphony Orchestra, Rochester High School Chorus, Rochester Community Chorus, and the Oakland Youth Singers, at St. Andrew Church, Rochester. \$15, please bring an unwrapped toy for the Marines' "Toys for Tots" program. (248) 651-4181

**WARREN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
With the Glass Act Singers and St.

Edmund Handbell Choir, as part of a "Christmas Jubilee" concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at St. Edmund Church, 14025 12 Mile Road, east of Schoenherr. \$18, \$16 seniors, \$10 college student with ID, \$5 ages 17 and younger. (810) 754-2950

### BRASS

**RIVER CITY BRASS BAND**  
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road. \$15, \$10 seniors/students, \$25 a family. (248) 424-9022/(248) 616-9725

### POPS/SWING

**"CHRISTMAS WITH MANTOVANI"**  
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

**DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
With maestro Erich Kunzel, narrator Huel Perkins, the Madrigal Chorale of Southfield, the Highland Park Baptist Church, and the Boys and Girls Choir of Christ Church of Grosse Pointe, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, and 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$17-\$45, \$65 box seats; "Colors of Christmas" concert with the symphony, Philip Bailey, Sherrie Easton, Jeffrey Osborne and Deniece Williams, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, at Orchestra Hall. \$25-\$52, \$75 box seats. (313) 576-5111

**LIVONIA SYMPHONY**  
With Alexander Zonjic and Ervin Monroe performing "Piper's Holiday," 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Churchill High School's Carl Auditorium, 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia. \$15, \$8 for children ages 12 and younger. (734) 421-1111/(734) 464-2741

**"WAYNE NEWTON CHRISTMAS"**  
7:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 14-15, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$39, \$35 students and seniors, \$43 gold circle. (810) 286-2222

**SWING SYNDICATE**  
9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (swing)

**T. TURNER**  
Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, at D.L. Harrington's Roadhouse, 2086 Crooks Road and M-59, Rochester Hills. (810) 852-0550

**ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOW**  
8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$32.50. All ages. (248) 377-0100

### AUDITIONS

**EDE CENTER FOR DANCE**  
Swing Workshop with Kristin Taylor 7:30-8:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 14-16, ages 14 and up, no partner needed, at the dance studio, 1541 Hamlin Road, Rochester Hills. \$40, \$75 a couple. (248) 852-5850

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY CHORALE**  
Holding auditions for 1999 season from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, with artistic director Marilyn Jones. Beginning in January, the rehearsals for the chorale will be 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Tuesdays at Howell High School. (810) 229-2712.

### NOVI THEATRES

Auditions for ages 7-97 for "The Wizard of Oz," 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. Once cast, all actors must pay a \$125 participation fee. For performances March 5-6 and 12-13. (248) 347-0400

### VOCAL ARTS ACADEMY

Auditions by appointment only for second semester 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in Varner Hall, Room 134 at Oakland University, Rochester. (248) 625-7057

### CHORAL

**EMU WOMEN'S CHORUS**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Holy Trinity Chapel, 511 West Forest, Ypsilanti. Free. (734) 487-4380

**FARMINGTON COMMUNITY CHORUS**  
"Once Upon a December" program, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, Mercy High School auditorium, at 11 Mile and Middlebelt roads, Farmington Hills. \$8 in advance, \$6 for seniors 65 and older or a student, \$10 at the door. (248) 473-9670/(248) 788-5322

**"HOLIDAY FAVORITES"**  
A Cantata Academy concert of music of the season including the Robert Ray Gospel Magnificat and works by John Rutter, 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic Church, 2215 Opyke Road, Bloomfield Hills. \$15, \$12 seniors/students. (248) 358-9869

**OAKLAND UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY CHORUS**  
Yuletide concert of more than 100 voices performing Mozart's "Vespers," and Charpentier's "In Nativitatem" featuring soloists Barbara Bland, Kim Lozon, Lisa Agazzi, Raymond Roberts, and John Paul White 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, also on the program is Robert Shaw's "Many Moods of Christmas" the accompanying orchestra is comprised of musicians from around the Detroit metropolitan area, in Varner Recital Hall on the Rochester campus. \$10, \$8 seniors, \$5 students. For reservations, call (248) 370-3013/(248) 645-6666

**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHOIR**  
"Festival of Lessons and Carols," featuring the choirs of St. Andrew's, and nine lessons telling the story of mankind's fall and redemption from the Old and New Testaments, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 306 N. Division, Ann Arbor. Free-will offering benefits the Shelter Association of Ann Arbor, and the St. Andrew's Breakfast Program. (734) 663-0518

**ST. VALENTINE CHOIR**  
Christmas choral, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at St. Valentine's Church, 14841 Beech Daly, Redford. Free. (313) 535-8364

**SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR**  
Holiday concert, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road, between Merriman and Middlebelt roads, Livonia. Donations accepted during intermission. (734) 462-4435

**"THE FATHER'S GIFT OF LOVE"**  
A Christmas choral drama presented by the Celebration Choir, soloists and drama ministry of Calvary Baptist Church of Canton, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at the church, 43065 Joy Road, between Lilley and Sheldon, Canton. Free. (734) 455-0022

### JAZZ

**DWIGHT ADAMS TRIO**  
8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Dec. 10, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (trumpet/piano/bass)

**JUDIE COCHILL TRIO**  
8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Fridays, Dec. 11 and 18, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocals/piano/bass)

**COLEMAN-RHOADES DUO**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue at Mack, Detroit. Reservations (313) 831-3838 (r & b)

**EXPLOSION CEREAL**  
9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

**BUDDY GRECA AND ANNA MARIA ALBERGHETTI**  
1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

**HEIDI HEPLER & MICHELE RAMO**  
6:10 p.m. Mondays at Too Chez, 27155 Sheraton Dr., Novi. (248) 348-5555; 7:10 p.m. Wednesdays to Saturdays at Encore in the Quality Inn, 1801 S. Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 335-3790; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, at Vic's Market, 42875 Grand River Ave., Novi. (248) 305-7333 (vocal/piano/bass)

**JUBILATION RUN**  
The Dixieland Jazz Band and the New Windsor/Detroit Jazz Club offers jazz/ragtime, 3-6 p.m. Saturdays, at Steak 'n Ale, 32750 Concord St., east of I-75 north, south side of 14 Mile, Madison Heights. \$3. (248) 588-4450

**KATHY KOSINS**

8-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, and 8:30-9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, Giovanni's Cafe Italiano, 31 N. Saginaw St., at Lawrence Street, Pontiac. Free. All ages. (248) 334-5241; 8 p.m. Tuesdays in December, Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave. at Mack Avenue, Detroit. (313) 831-3838

**SHEILA LANDIS AND RICK MATLEY**  
9:30 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Dec. 10, Rochester Mills Beer Co., 400 Water St., Rochester. Free. 21 and older. (248) 650-5080; 7:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, The Coffee Beanery, 152 N. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 646-6022

**MATT MICHAELS TRIO**  
With Louis Smith, trumpet 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, with Larry Nozaro, sax, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Botsford Inn, Farmington Hills. (248) 474-4800

**MUTUAL ADMIRATION SOCIETY**  
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, and Wednesday-Saturday, Dec. 16-19, at Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., at Mack Ave., Detroit. (313) 831-3838

**SHAHIDA NURULLAH TRIO**  
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocals/piano/bass)

**JOHNNY O'NEAL**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$10, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

**ROBERT PIPHO**  
8 p.m. Mondays in December, Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue at Mack, Detroit. (313) 831-3838

**"A SMOOTH JAZZ CHRISTMAS"**  
With Peter White, Dave Koz, David Benoit and Brenda Russell, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$20 and \$25. All ages. (313) 961-5451

**PAUL VORNHAGEN TRIO**  
8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Dec. 17, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocals and sax/piano/bass)

**URSULA WALKER AND BUDDY BUDSON**  
With Dan Kolton, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays at Forte, 201 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 594-7300

**SUNNY WILKINSON**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

**ALEXANDER ZONJIC**  
9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, and Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, Baci, 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac. Free. All ages. (248) 253-1300

**GOSPEL/CHRISTIAN**  
**ORTHEIA BARNES-KENNERLY**  
7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile Road, Livonia. \$15. (734) 421-1760

**GAITHER CHRISTMAS**  
**HOMECOMING**  
With Gaither Vocal Band, Janet Paschal, Larry Ford, The Happy Goodmans, Anthony Burger, The Martins, Candy Christmas, Jake Hess, Amy Lambert, Mark Lowry, Ben Speer, Bob Cain, Jessy Dixon, The Easters, and others, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$17.50 reserved. Superfan seating is available. Seniors ages 60 and older receive \$3 off reserved seating and children ages 12 and younger receive \$8 off reserved seating. Group rates are also available. (248) 377-0100 or http://www.palacenet.com

**WORLD MUSIC**  
**KLEZMER CONSERVATORY BAND**  
The Jewish Community Center present the group's performance of a combination of Jewish ragtime, dixieland and jazz music, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the West Bloomfield High School Auditorium. \$10 members, \$15 non-members. (248) 661-7649

**MARELLI**  
7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, and Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 15-16, at Luciano's, 39031 Garfield, Clinton Township. (810) 263-6540; 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Benedetto's, 15505 15 Mile, Clinton Twp. (810) 790-1010 (English/Italian/Spanish)

**"WILL MILLAR'S CELTIC CHRISTMAS"**  
Former Irish Rover with Robbie O'Connell and Angus, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

**POETRY/SPOKEN WORD**  
**THE REV. DANIEL BERRIGAN**  
Poet and peace activist reads from his new collection of poems with Detroit poet Joan Gartland and Plymouth poet the Rev. Rod Reinhardt, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Central United Methodist Church, 23 E. Adams St., at Woodward Avenue, Detroit. (313) 267-5300, ext. 338/(313) 965-5422

**M.L. LIEBLER**  
And the Magic Poetry Band, poetry you can dance to, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at the Scarab Club, 217

**ARGENTINE TANGO**  
With Tango Master Ru p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 Sunday, Dec. 13, at Studio, 4963 Rock Lake Road, Troy. (248) 546-7488

**CONTEMPORARY C**  
Rose Marie Floyd's w Stowell of the San Fr 2:30 p.m. Sunday, De Scottish Rite Cathedr Masonic Temple, 500 \$5; 3:30 p.m. Saturd Troy High School. \$8. 9063/(248) 546-7488

**DETROIT SYMPHON**  
With Ballet Internatio Nutcracker" Thursday 10-13, and Dec. 17-20 Opera House, 1526 B \$16-\$35, \$12-\$23 for seniors. (313) 576-11 http://www.detroitssymphony.com

**EISENHOWER DAN**  
"Holiday Dance Extra p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1 Sunday, Dec. 13, Lak School Performing Ar Scripps Road, Lake O ble at the Lake Or Education Office, 45 Lake Orion. (248) 69

**ANN ARBOR CONT**  
English Country Dan Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Condominium Clubho Road, north of Plym Arbor. \$4. (734) 662

**FULL CIRCLE DAN**  
Annual children's dan for Thought Song and "Top Banana," 7 p.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Auditorium, MacKen Building, Henry Ford College, 5101 Everg \$5. (313) 845-6314

**LAKES AREA CIVIC**  
With guest artist Jar Winnipeg Royal Bail Canada, Saturday, D \$10, and school gro Thursday-Friday, Dec West Bloomfield Hig Orchard Lake Road.

**LIVONIA CIVIC BAL**  
"The Nutcracker," 7 Dec. 12, and 2 p.m. at Clarenceville High Auditorium, 20155 E south of Eight Mile \$9 seniors/students \$9. (734) 427-9103

**OAKLAND COUNT**  
**DANCE SOCIETY**  
Contra and square d Gold and Golden Gri Saturday, Dec. 12, F Church, 309 N. Ma \$7. No partner or ex required. (248) 542

**PLYMOUTH CANTO**  
**COMPANY**  
More than 150 mus Plymouth Symphony Plymouth-Canton Ba Nutcracker" with g Dyrja and Cameron Cincinnati Ballet Co Friday, Dec. 11, and Sunday, Dec. 12-13 Salem High School Joy Road, Canton. \$ K-12th grade. \$5 S (734) 451-2112

**RADIO CITY CHRIS**  
**SPECTACULAR**  
Featuring the Rocke Wednesday, Dec. 30 2211 Woodward Av \$52.50. (248) 645-

**"SPIRIT OF THE D**  
Featuring Irish rou Russian Cossacks, and tap dancing, 3 Saturday, Dec. 12, the Performing Arts Road, Clinton Town dents and seniors. \$ WOLVERINE SILV DANCERS 7:30 p.m. to midnig 12, Italian America 28111 Imperial St. WSD members. (81

**JOEY'S COMEDY**  
Ross Amicucci, Jim Higginbottom, Thur (512); Jeff Dunham Friday-Saturday, De "Fabo Man" Nolan and Rich Higginbot Saturday, Dec. 17- club above Kicker's 36071 Plymouth R Wednesday-Thursd 10:30 p.m. Fridays Third Level Improv nights, 8 p.m. Sund 261-0555

**JOEY'S COMEDY**  
**PAISANO'S**  
John Di Crosta, 8:1 p.m. Friday-Saturda \$24.95 dinner show p.m. Sunday, Dec dinner show packa 5070 Schaefer Roa 584-8885,

**MARK RIDLEY'S**

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John Di Crosta, 8:1 p.m. Friday-Saturda \$24.95 dinner show p.m. Sunday, Dec dinner show packa 5070 Schaefer Roa 584-8885,

**MARK RIDLEY'S**



# 8 days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Christina Fuoco; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

Continued from previous page

Farnsworth, behind the Detroit Institute of Arts. \$2. (313) 831-1250

## DANCE

**ARGENTINE TANGO WORKSHOP**  
With Tango Master Ruben Terbaica, 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Troy Dance Studio, 4963 Rochester Road at Long Lake Road, Troy. (248) 689-3393

**CONTEMPORARY CIVIC BALLET**  
Rose Marie Floyd's with Christopher Stowell of the San Francisco Ballet, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Scottish Rite Cathedral Auditorium in Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit. \$5; 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at Troy High School. \$8. (248) 641-9063/(248) 546-7484

**DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
With Ballet Internationale dance "The Nutcracker" Thursdays-Sundays, Dec. 10-13, and Dec. 17-20 at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. \$16-\$35, \$12-\$23 for children and seniors. (313) 576-1111 or <http://www.detroit-symphony.com>

**EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE**  
"Holiday Dance Extravaganza," 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Lake Orion High School Performing Arts Center, 495 E. Scripps Road, Lake Orion. Tickets available at the Lake Orion Community Education Office, 455 E. Scripps Road, Lake Orion. (248) 693-5436

**ANN ARBOR CONTRA**  
English Country Dancing, 7-9:45 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Chapel Hill Condominium Clubhouse, 3350 Green Road, north of Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 662-5158

**FULL CIRCLE DANCE COMPANY**  
Annual children's dance concert, "Food for Thought Song and Dance Revue" with "Top Banana," 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in Adray Auditorium, MacKenzie Fine Arts Building, Henry Ford Community College, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. \$5. (313) 845-6314

**LAKES AREA CIVIC BALLET**  
With guest artist James Tolt of the Winnipeg Royal Ballet in Manitoba, Canada, Saturday, Dec. 12 (\$8.50-\$10), and school group matinees Thursday-Friday, Dec. 10-11 (\$5) at West Bloomfield High School, 4925 Orchard Lake Road. (248) 666-1971

**LIVONIA CIVIC BALLET COMPANY**  
"The Nutcracker," 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Clarendonville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, south of Eight Mile Road, Livonia. \$12, \$9 seniors/students, \$6 children ages 5-9. (734) 427-9103

**OAKLAND COUNTY TRADITIONAL DANCE SOCIETY**  
Contra and square dances with Steve Gold and Golden Griffin, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, First Baptist Church, 309 N. Main St., Royal Oak. \$7. No partner or experience is required. (248) 542-2093

**PLYMOUTH CANTON BALLET COMPANY**  
More than 150 musicians from the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and the Plymouth-Canton Ballet perform "The Nutcracker" 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. \$17, \$10 students K-12th grade, \$5 Sugar Plum Tea. (734) 451-2112

**RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR**  
Featuring the Rockettes, through Wednesday, Dec. 30, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$52.50. (248) 645-6666

**"SPIRIT OF THE DANCE"**  
Featuring Irish routines, jazz funk, Russian Cossacks, Flamenco dancing and tap dancing, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$29, \$26 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

**WOLVERINE SILVERSPUR DANCERS**  
7:30 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Dec. 12, Italian American Cultural Center, 28111 Imperial St., Warren. \$7. \$6 WSD members. (810) 573-4993

## COMEDY

**JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB**  
Ross Amicucci, Jim Hamm and Rich Higginbottom, Thursday, Dec. 10 (\$12); Jeff Dunham and Joey Bielaska, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12 (\$20); Kirk "Fabio Man" Noland, Keith Valentine and Rich Higginbottom, Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 17-19 (\$14), at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

**JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S**  
John Di Crosta, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner show package), and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 (\$10, \$22.95 dinner show package); at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

**MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE**  
With Zany and Mark Boyd, Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 10-13; Tom McTigue and Gary George, Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 16-20, at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays (\$5), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays (\$12), and 7:30 p.m. Sundays (\$6). Prices subject to change. (248) 542-9900 or <http://www.comedycastle.com>

**SECOND CITY**  
"Daimiers are a Girl's Best Friend," a fifth anniversary celebration show retrospective, 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays with additional shows at 10:30 p.m. on Fridays-Saturdays through Feb. 7, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays. \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. (313) 965-2222

**MUSEUMS AND TOURS**  
**DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM**  
"Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901," formerly known as "Furs to Factories," with a new Land Office, a "Wheel of Fortune" style land acquisition interactive, three new video screen interactives, a documentary video, a new Heavy Industry section and a display explaining Detroit's move from "Stove Capital of the World" to the Motor City, automobile capital of the world, opens Dec. 5: "The Fantasy World of Doll Houses," through Jan. 31; "Remembering Downtown Hudson's" exhibit, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805

**DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER**  
"Art from the Fuzzy and Famous" continues to Dec. 11; IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest" at 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, "Special Effects" at 1:10 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" multiple showings seven days a week at the center, 5020 John R (at Warren), Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$9 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4. (313) 577-8400

**GREENMEAD HISTORICAL VILLAGE**  
Tour 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, with free concert by St. Paul's Lutheran School Bell Choir at the church in the village, 20501 Newburgh Road, south of Eight Mile, Livonia. \$2, \$1 children. (248) 477-7375

**CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM**  
"The Buffalo Soldier," through Jan. 3, 315 E. Warren Ave., Detroit. \$5, \$3 children ages 17 and younger, free for members and children younger than 5. (313) 494-5800

**GREENFIELD VILLAGE & HENRY FORD MUSEUM**  
Traditions of the season continues through Jan. 3, lots of holiday activities in the museum and village located in Dearborn at Oakwood Boulevard and Village Road west of the Southfield Freeway. Admission \$12.50 adults, \$11.50 senior citizens 62 and older, \$7.50 kids 5-12, children under 5 and members admitted free, call (313) 271-1620 for information.

**POPULAR MUSIC**  
**ALL HAIL ME**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5. 21 and older. (313) 875-6555 or <http://www.lilis21.com>

**THE ALLIGATORS**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Karl's, 9779 Goffredson Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 455-8450; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (248) 625-3900 (blues)

**DUKE DANIELS**  
8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$6. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 (rock)

**DIVESPIRE**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-9292 (rock)

**DOMESTIC PROBLEMS**  
With Fat Amy and Big Sam, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$6. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicbag.com> (rock)

**THE DOPES**  
With Superfiction, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-9292 (rock)

**E.A.R.**  
Experimental Audio Research with Sonic Boom, 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

**EARTH CRISIS**  
5:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$11. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

**GLEN EDDIE**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Duggan's Irish Pub, 6722 Dixie Highway, Clarkston. Free. 21 and older. (248) 625-3900; 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec.

**BIG DAVE AND THE ULTRASONICS**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, Karl's, 9779 Goffredson Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 455-8450 (blues)

**BLACK BEAUTY**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, Bobby J's Music Cafe, 29 Front St., Lake Orion. Free. 21 and older. (248) 814-8550; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-8609 (rockabilly)

**"BLIND PIG SHOWCASE"**  
With The Arthur White Experience, Lunar Crush, 52 Static and Echo Park, 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Free. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (variety)

**BLUE SUIT WITH ALBERTA ADAMS**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Bad Frog Tavern, 555 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 624-9400; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**BILLY BRAGO AND THE BLOKES**  
With Corey Harris, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Tickets at Ticketmaster. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.a2ark.org> (pop)

**SKEETER BRANDON**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Amer's First Street Grill, 102 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. 21 and older. (734) 213-6000 (blues)

**BROADZILLA**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5. 21 and older. (313) 875-6555 or <http://www.lilis21.com> or <http://www.detroitmusic.com/broadzilla> (rock)

**BUFFALO TOM**  
With Jack Drag, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$8.50 in advance. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (pop)

**BUSTERS BLUES BAND**  
9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursdays, Dec. 10 and 17, Giovanni's Cafe Italiano, 31 N. Saginaw St. (at Lawrence Street), Pontiac. Free. All ages. (248) 334-5241 (R&B)

**CANDLEBOX**  
With The Hunger and Blue Plate Special, perform as part of radio station WQBF's "Rockin' for the Hungry" concert, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. \$21.03, \$27.50 limited superfan seating includes afterparty ticket. (734) 763-TKTS/(248) 645-6666 (rock)

**JOHNNY CHAN**  
With New Dynasty 6, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 832-6873 or <http://www.gold-dollar.com> (rock)

**JAMES CLOYD GROUP**  
Hosts electric blues jam, 9 p.m. Thursdays, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard, Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340 or <http://www.siskos.com> (blues)

**COLEMAN-RHODES DUO**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave. at Mack, Detroit. (313) 831-3838 (R&B)

**"A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS STARRING ALABAMA"**  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. \$24.50 reserved. Superfan seating available. Groups of 20 or more receive \$2 off \$24.50 tickets. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (country)

**WES CUNNINGHAM**  
With Shaken Not Stirred, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Mill Street Entry below Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. \$5. 21 and older. (248) 333-2362 or <http://www.961melt.com> (pop)

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17, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**THE REV. MARC FALCONBERRY**  
Hosts acoustic blues jam, 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard (at Van Born Road), Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340 (blues)

**DEAN FERTITA**  
With Cloud Car, The Sights and Fletcher Pratt, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (313) 833-POOL or <http://www.99music.com> (alternative rock)

**ROBERT NOLL BLUES MISSION**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Bad Frog, 555 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 624-9400 (blues)

**TED NUGENT**  
50th birthday bash, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$45, \$60, and \$75, \$75 tickets include wild game dinner. 18 and older. Partial proceeds to charity wild game dinner, (313) 961-5451 (rock)

**OVER THE RHINE**  
Special Christmas show, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$10 in advance. All ages. (734) 761-1800 (pop)

**FOOTNANNY**  
With Gravel Train and Sovines, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.golddollar.com> (roots rock)

**PROPELLER**  
With Kuz and The Triggers, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

**QUEEN BEE**  
With Silencers and Poppa Wheelie, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.golddollar.com> (melodic rock)

**HAPPENSTANCE**  
With J.D. and the B.B.'s, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-9292 (rock)

**AL HILL AND THE LOVE BUTLERS**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 451-1213

**MICHAEL HILL'S BLUES MOB**  
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, First Street Grill, 102 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance. 21 and older. (734) 213-6000 (blues)

**"HOLIDAY HOOTENANNY"**  
Featuring the Goo Goo Dolls, DC Talk, Semisonic, Better Than Ezra and Edwin McCain, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Cobo Arena, Detroit. \$15.96 and \$25.96. All ages. (248) 645-6666 or <http://www.ticketmaster.com> or <http://www.planet963.com> (pop)

**THE HOPE ORCHESTRA**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Cafe Zola, 112 W. Washington St., Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 769-2020; 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Woody's, 208 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 543-6911; 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Borders Books and Music, 30995 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 737-2225 or <http://www.concentric.net/~hopeorch> (pop)

**LISA HUNTER**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Six String Coffeehouse inside the Michigan League, University of Michigan campus, Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (734) 763-4652; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Lonestar Coffee, 207 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 642-2233 (acoustic rock)

**JIMMIE JACKSON AND THE BLUES CONNECTION**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**JELLY'S PIERCED TATTOO**  
With Kristiva and Masaline, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom.com> (rock)

**THE KINGSNAKES**  
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Mr. Sports, 13090 Inkster Road, Redford. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 534-7420 (rock)

**THE KINSEY REPORT**  
10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, First Street Grill, 102 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance. 21 and older. (734) 213-6000 (blues)

**KNEE DEEP SHAG**  
With Sugar Buzz, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (funk)

**LOVERBOY**  
With Blue Oyster Cult, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. \$10 and \$15. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

**MAN OR ASTROMAN**  
With Causey Way and Gravity Well, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Magic Stick in the Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8. 18 and older. (313) 833-POOL or <http://www.961melt.com> (space rock)

**DAVE MATTHEWS BAND**  
With Maceo Parker, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. Sold out. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

**MIND CIRCUS**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or

<http://www.alvins.xtcom.com> (rock)

**STEVE NARDELLA**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Duggan's Irish Pub, 6722 Dixie Highway, Clarkston. Free. 21 and older. (248) 625-3900 (rockabilly)

**NEW BOMB TURKS**  
With The Helicopters and The Quadrjets, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8. 18 and older. (313) 833-POOL or <http://www.99music.com> (alternative rock)

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**"HOLIDAY HOOTENANNY"**  
Featuring the Goo Goo Dolls, DC Talk, Semisonic, Better Than Ezra and Edwin McCain, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Cobo Arena, Detroit. \$1



# New twist to old favorite is heartwarming, enchanting

BY JON KATZ  
SPECIAL WRITER

*Frosty the Snowman*  
Was a fairy tale they say.  
He was made of snow,  
But the children know  
How he came to life one day.

Inspired by the song's lyrics, "Jack Frost" will doubtless go on to do some inspiring itself. It's a motion picture that's as warm as its lead character is cool, and has the staying power to become, if we dare employ the overused expression, a Christmas classic.

Did we say cool? Young Charlie Frost's dad is the coolest! But not right away. Jack Frost (Michael Keaton) is a Colorado-based blues singer whose band is

about to break out, as they say in the business. This necessitates his being away from home, missing out on things like the 12-year-old's hockey games.

"Someday he's gonna score his first goal," cautions wife Gabby (Kelly Preston), "and you're gonna miss it—like the time he got the measles or stuck a jelly sandwich in the toaster."

To appease them both, Jack builds a snowman with Charlie (Joseph Cross), then gives him an old harmonica, telling his son that it has magical powers.

"Whenever you play this, no matter where I am, I can hear it," Jack promises. Driving to a big gig on a blustery Christmas eve, he abruptly turns around, realizing that his priorities are

back home. He never makes it.

A year later, Charlie is not over his dad's death. But one fateful blow on the harmonica changes all that, and Jack comes back... as the front lawn's snowman!

Well let's stop right there. You can get the rest of the story from Scrooge, 'cause we're not telling. With dad as a "Wizard of Blizard," however, it's safe to say there are liberal elements of "E.T.," "Mr. Ed" and "Harry and the Hendersons" which means that your kids will do a lot of giggling, and you'll be grateful for a holiday film that really delivers the goods, with nothing more objectionable than an occasional double entendre on the rotund one's anatomy—or lack of one.

Michael Keaton is a delightful dad in both incarnations, but it's the snowman, not the man who has the best lines ("As if I don't have enough problems with these stick arms and a huge butt"). Kelly Preston ("Jerry Maguire") is an appealing and ever-understanding wife/mom out of the "Leave It To Beaver" mold, and young Joseph Cross ("Desperate Measures") is just marvelous as Charlie; he gamely resists multiple opportunities to go for the broad reaction, doing wonders with tender looks and inflections.

The film's star, of course, is Frost, the amazing animation from Jim Henson's Creature Shop and George Lucas' ILM special effects lab. Five specialized puppeteers operated over 60 different combinations of the big guy, giving him life and limbs with which to throw snowballs at super-speed, play a mean goalie and even cry on cue.

First-time director Troy Miller and veteran director of photography Laszlo Kovacs provide refreshingly creative shots throughout, getting only a bit too gimmicky with early demonstra-



Enchanting: Charlie Frost (Joseph Cross) with his dad Jack Frost, who has returned to life as a snowman, in Warner Bros.' heartwarming family comedy, "Jack Frost," starring Michael Keaton and Kelly Preston.

tions of Frost's newfound mortality. Former Yes bandmember Trevor Rabin furnishes a wonderful score, supported with a soundtrack that includes Hanson, Stevie Ray Vaughn and a

superb use of Fleetwood Mac's "Landslide."

Holiday cheers for "Jack Frost." It will warm the heart, light up a smile and melt the winter blues.

## Holiday gems

### Share classic movie favorites

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
STAFF WRITER  
lrogers@oe.hometel.com

With shopping, parties and other assorted merrymaking, the holidays can be a very hectic time.

Sometimes it's nice to take a breather—to put your feet up and relax with a video. Movies, seasonal or not, are part of our collective memories.

There are some obvious traditional films people enjoy watching around the holidays. Like "It's a Wonderful Life" or "Miracle on 34th Street"—the latter a particular favorite of mine since childhood. There are the myriad of "A Christmas Carol" adaptations—my personal favorite is the one with George C. Scott although my seven-year old niece was quite amused by the Looney Tunes version.

Some of the other choices may not be so obvious. Another Christmas season favorite in our family was "The Shop Around the Corner." The 1939 romantic comedy starring James Stewart and Margaret Sullivan tells the story of bickering co-workers who don't realize they're lovelorn pen pals. (The e-mail version "You've Got Mail" is due in theaters shortly.) Everything gets

resolved on Christmas Eve.

Another fun holiday movie is "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" the 1987 comedy in which uptight businessman Steve Martin and shower curtain ring salesman John Candy encounter all sorts of obstacles, calamities and annoyances in an effort to get back to home for Thanksgiving. The version shown a television is very funny but the uncut video version is even funnier.

While probably not a film that immediately comes to mind around the holidays, there is always "Meet Me in St. Louis," the 1944 musical that manages to hit most of the major holidays during the year leading up to the opening of the 1903 World's Fair. Among the terrific songs is Judy Garland singing "Have Your Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

An important rule in life is "know your audience." That's especially true if you are going to show a movie to a collection of friends and relatives of varying ages and tastes. I recall spending a holiday with friends when one of the siblings pulled out a copy of "Angel Heart," a terrific but quite violent film. As one synopsis summed it up "Absolutely not for the squeamish or children." A

shockingly bad choice for a family gathering.

We'd like you to share your memories and thoughts about your favorite holiday movie viewing over the years. Send your comments with your name, age and hometown to kwygonik@oe.hometel.com or fax at 734-591-7279 no later than Dec. 17. We'll run a sampling of your responses in our Dec. 24 edition.

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 11

**"JACK FROST"**  
Fantasy adventure about a man who becomes a real father after returning to life as a cooler guy than he ever imagined possible—below freezing to be precise. Stars Michael Keaton, Kelly Preston.

**"STAR TREK: INSURRECTION"**  
The ninth entry in the "Star Trek" motion picture franchise finds Captain Picard saving the Federation from itself. Stars Patrick Stewart.

**"WAKING NED DEVINE"**  
A comedy fable about the true meaning of fortune. Someone in a small Irish town wins a lottery and the towns people want to share.

**"HARD CORE LOGO"**  
Exclusively at the Landmark Main Art Theatre. The story of four characters who struggle to reconcile their mythic punk rock past with the hangover realities of the present. A tale of lost dreams, the lure of the open road and memories of youth that fade in the rearview mirror.

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 18

**"THE LAST EMPEROR"**  
Re-release of Bernardo Bertolucci's director's cut of the Academy Award-winning drama based on the life of Puyi, the child who was the last emperor of China.

**"THE PRINCE OF EGYPT"**  
Feature-length animated musical about the life of Moses from Egypt's prince to delivering the Hebrews. Voice talents of Val Kilmer, Ralph Fiennes, Sandra Bullock, Michelle Pfeiffer.

**"YOU'VE GOT MAIL"**  
A romantic comedy about two book store owners, rivals who accidentally fall in love in cyberspace with Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan.



Networking: Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan in Warner Bros.' comedy-romance, "You've Got Mail."

Scheduled to open Wednesday, Dec. 25

**"DANCING AT LUGHNABHA"**  
Exclusively at the Landmark Maple Art Theatre. The film adaptation of Brian Friel's 1991 Tony Award-winning play about five lonely sisters living a hard-scrabble life in rural Ireland whose world is shaken when their brother, a priest, returns from Africa a broken man. Stars Meryl Streep.

**"DOWN THE DELTA"**  
An emotional and riveting story where big city meets small town, young meet old, parents reconnect with children, and life for everyone becomes something unexpected.

**"THE FACULTY"**  
Science fiction thriller that blends teenage angst, cutting edge comedy

and out of this world special effects as the students of Herrington High School struggle to save the world from alien domination.

**"SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE"**  
Witty and fast moving comedy set in 1593 that follows the trials and tribulations of William Shakespeare, a struggling young playwright who's suffering from a terrible bout of writer's block until he falls in love. Stars Joseph Fiennes, Gwyneth Paltrow, Geoffrey Rush.

Scheduled to open Friday, January 15

**"THE THIN RED LINE"**  
The story of an American rifle company during several months of one of the fiercest struggles of the twentieth century—the Battle of Guadalcanal. Stars Sean Penn, George Clooney, Woody Harrelson, and John Travolta.

Read Sports Sundays & Thursdays

## GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

### National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

**Showcase**  
Anderson Hills 1-14  
2150 N. Opdyke Rd.  
Between University & Walton Blvd  
810-373-2660  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.

PSYCHO (R)  
BARE (G)  
BUG'S LIFE (G)  
HOME FRIES (PG13)  
JERRY SPRINGER: BINGMASTER (R)  
VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
AMERICAN HISTORY X (R)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
RUGRATS (G)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
WATERBOY (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**Showcase Dearborn 1-8**  
Michigan & Telegraph  
313-561-3449  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sun.

PSYCHO (R)  
BARE (G)  
BUG'S LIFE (G)  
HOME FRIES (PG13)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
WATERBOY (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**Showcase Pontiac 1-5**  
Telegraph Sq. Lake Rd. W Side of  
Telegraph  
810-332-0241  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily

BUG'S LIFE (G)  
VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
WATERBOY (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**Showcase Pontiac 6-12**  
2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of  
Telegraph  
810-334-6777  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Fri. & Sat.

PSYCHO (R)  
BARE (G)  
HOME FRIES (PG13)  
JERRY SPRINGER: BINGMASTER (R)  
RUGRATS (G)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**Qno Yards**  
Warren & Wayne Bids  
313-425-7700  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.

PSYCHO (R)  
BUG'S LIFE (G)  
JERRY SPRINGER: BINGMASTER (R)  
VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)

### ANTZ (PG)

ALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**Showcase**  
Westland 1-8  
6800 Wayne Rd.  
One blk. S. of Warren Rd.  
313-729-1060  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.

BARE (G)  
ELIZABETH (R)  
HOME FRIES (PG13)  
BUGRATS (G)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
WATERBOY (PG13)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)

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The World's Best Theatres  
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**Star John 8**  
at 14 Mile  
32289 John R. Road  
810-585-2070

No one under 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

BARE: PIC IN THE CITY (PG13)  
NP JERRY SPRINGER: BINGMASTER (R)  
NP HOME FRIES (PG13)  
BUGRATS (G)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
CELEBRITY (R)  
SIEGE (R)  
WATERBOY (PG13)  
PLEASANTVILLE (PG13)  
ANTZ (PG)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**Star Rochester Hills**  
200 Barclay Circle  
853-2260

No one under 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP PSYCHO (R)  
NP ELIZABETH (R)  
NP HOME FRIES (PG13)  
NP VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)  
THE SIEGE (R)  
I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)  
ANTZ (PG)  
THE WATERBOY (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**Star Southfield**  
12 Mile between Telegraph and  
Northwestern, Off I-496  
248-389-STAR

No one under 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP PSYCHO (R)  
NP A BUG'S LIFE (G)  
NP BARE: PIC IN THE CITY (PG)  
NP HOME FRIES (PG)  
NP VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
NP ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
BUGRATS: THE MOVIE (G)  
CELEBRITY (R)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)  
WATERBOY (PG13)  
THE SIEGE (R)  
ANTZ (PG)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**Star Winchester**

1136 S. Rochester Rd, Winchester  
Mail  
248-656-1160  
No one under 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP A BUG'S LIFE (G)  
NP BARE: PIC IN THE CITY (PG)  
NP JERRY SPRINGER: BINGMASTER (R)  
BUGRATS (G)  
CELEBRITY (R)  
AMERICAN HISTORY X (R)  
PLEASANTVILLE (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**United Artists Theatres**  
Bargain Matinees Daily for all shows  
starting before 6:00 PM  
Same day advance tickets available.  
NP - No V.I.P. tickets accepted

**United Artist Oakland**  
Inside Oakland Mall  
248-988-0706

I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R) NV  
THE WATERBOY (PG13)  
THE SIEGE (R)  
RUSH HOUR (PG13)  
WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (PG13)  
PRACTICAL MAGIC (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**United Artists 12 Oaks**  
Inside Twelve Oaks Mall  
248-349-4311

A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV  
VERY BAD THINGS (R) NV  
BUGRATS (G) NV  
THE WATERBOY (PG13) NV  
THE SIEGE (R) NV  
ANTZ (PG)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**United Artists West River**  
9 Mile  
2 Block West of Middlebelt  
248-788-6572

PSYCHO (R) NV  
A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV  
HOME FRIES (PG13) NV  
VERY BAD THINGS (R) NV  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R) NV  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13) NV  
BUGRATS (G) NV  
JERRY SPRINGER (R) NV  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R) NV

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

**United Artists Commerce Township 14**  
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Just North of the Intersection of  
14 Mile & Haggerty Rd.  
248-960-5001

All Show \$1 except shows after 6 p.m. \* All Shows \$1.50

PSYCHO (R) NV  
A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV  
BARE: A PIC IN THE CITY (G) NV  
HOME FRIES (PG13) NV  
JERRY SPRINGER: BINGMASTER (R) NV  
VERY BAD THINGS (R) NV  
CELEBRITY (R) NV  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R) NV  
BUGRATS (G) NV  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13) NV

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**Birmingham Theatre**

211 S. Woodward  
Downtown Birmingham  
248-644-3419

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will apply to all telephone sales)

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NP A BUG'S LIFE (G)  
NP ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
NP BARE: PIC IN THE CITY (PG)  
NP BUGRATS (G)  
NP CELEBRITY (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
THE WATERBOY (PG13)

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Please Call Theatre for Showtimes

PARENT TRAP (PG)  
A NIGHT AT THE ROXBURY (PG13)  
SHAKE EYES (R)  
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (R)

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NP BARE IN THE CITY (G)  
NP A BUG'S LIFE (G)  
NP HOME FRIES (PG13)  
JERRY SPRINGER: BINGMASTER (R)

VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
NP THE RUGRATS MOVIE (G)  
THE ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
THE WATERBOY (PG13)

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Royal Oak  
(248) 542-0180  
\$3.00 (TWO-LITE) SHOWS DAILY

ELIZABETH (R)  
AMERICAN HISTORY X (R)  
VELVET GOLDMINE  
HAPPINESS (NC17)  
NO ONE UNDER 18 ADMITTED

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Children Under 6 Not Admitted

**Maple Art Cinema III**  
4135 W. Maple, West of Telegraph  
Bloomfield Hills  
248-855-9090  
DISCOUNTED SHOWS!

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (PG13)  
CELEBRITY (R)  
SHATTERED IMAGE (R)

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**Oxford 3 Cinemas, L.L.C.**  
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A BUG'S LIFE (G)  
PSYCHO (R)

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734-542-9909

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75c every Tuesday.  
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COME IN AND FIND OUT HOW  
Box Office opens at 4:00 pm  
Monday - Friday only

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

## STREET

## 'Hoot'



CHRISTINA FUOCO

McCain and Sen. McCain While it might seem to win over secular band member Toby just stays focused. "When we're in the pretty much in our music speak, what we're about, concerned with social, we're spiritual, important to us," he says. "But we try not to let radio station invite music's what got us to try to be respected. In this case, it's Friend (So Long, Blur's "Parklife"), acerbic song tears that turned secular saw your video on spent a ton! How flavor for a spell!

## ANIMATION

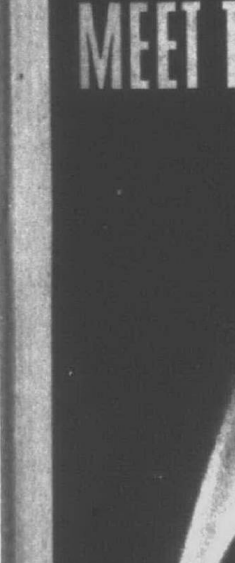
The 6th Annual Mike's Sick and Twisted Animation Debut Dec. 16 - Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The show is \$6 at the door, open at 7:30 p.m. / shows 18+. All doc film 10:30 p.m. show.

South Park creator Trey Parker and Matt Stone's animated series "South Park" is the latest in the "Spirit of Christmas" series.

Determined to get out success of last year's "Spirit of Christmas" (which was a flop), the folks at Spill the Ink have decided to do a compilation, including never-before-seen sketches from the creators of "South Park."

"Frosty" was the made by animators and Matt Stone, a between a homic and baby Jesus. I versions of the c later appeared in "Spirit of Christmas" eventually the hi Park" television Christmas", which again this year's ing last year's Santa and a grow Kung Fu battle while the profan ers of South P

## 0 MEET T



Networking: Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan in Warner Bros.' comedy-romance, "You've Got Mail."

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## STREET SCENE

## 'Hootenanny' pairs biggest Christian, secular acts



CHRISTINA FUOCO

DC Talk has won multiple Grammy Awards, sold millions of records and packed The Palace of Auburn Hills. The trio is considered superstars in the Christian rock world, yet, it's probably the least known band of Friday's "Holiday Hootenanny" line-up of Goo Goo Dolls, Edwin McCain and Semisonic.

While it might seem hard for DC Talk to win over secular music listeners, band member Toby McKeehan says he just stays focused on the music.

"When we're invited by a radio station we pretty much play our music and let our music speak for who we are and what we're about. We're definitely concerned with social issues, and obviously we're spiritual and our faith is very important to us," he said.

"But we try not to be preachy. When a radio station invites us to play a gig, the music's what got us invited there and we try to be respectful."

In this case, it was the song "My Friend (So Long)," a musical nod to Blur's "Parklife" album. The lyrically acerbic song tears into a Christian band that turned secular to get attention: "I saw your video on VH1/Looks like they spent a ton/How does it feel to be the flavor for a spell/And I remember when

you used to say/ 'Jesus is the way.'"

The song came about during a songwriters' retreat at a chateau in France owned by Miles Copeland.

"We wrote it with Dominick Miller, who is Sting's guitarist, and Mark Hudson of the Hudson Brothers' Variety Show. It was 9 in the morning, we were all tired. We'd been writing every day for five days and this song comes out," he said. "We love it. It's a quirky little number. It's Queen meets the Beatles meets 'Grease.'"

Like most of DC Talk's material, it has full crossover potential — just look at the numbers.

"Detroit is our No. 1 market. The biggest show of our tour was at The Palace. I think we had between 10,000 and 12,000. Our opening gig after we got a record deal was at Cobo opening for DeGarmo and Key. We're looking forward to going back to Detroit. Detroit has been very, very good to us."

## Soundtrack stars

The way Goo Goo Dolls guitarist/vocalist Johnny Rzeznik sees it, there's two types of musicians.

"They're either dumb or they're (jerks). With this album, I was determined to have a good time because I'm miserable. I'm usually a miserable (jerk)," explained Rzeznik, who was unusually jovial.

Recording the Goo Goo Dolls' latest album "Dizzy Up the Girl" (Warner

Bros.) wasn't so miserable, he said, thanks to new drummer Mike Malinin. "Until Mike came into the band, it was always difficult. It had nothing to do with (the former drummer's) skill at playing the drums. He was a fine drummer. Mike would just cast a whole vibe on our situation. Mike really injected new life into the band," Rzeznik said.

Part of that "new life" included Rzeznik using an effects pedal with his guitar for the first time. Besides that, there's a more upbeat feel on the album, take the single "Slide," for example. Rzeznik attributed that to Malinin and the hits "Iris," from the movie "City of Angels," and "Name."

"It shocked the hell out of me," Rzeznik said about the success of "Iris." "I'm on a record with Alanis Morissette and U2 and Peter Gabriel. I take my hat off to (soundtrack producer) Danny Branson. He thought about making an actual soundtrack for once instead of slapping a bunch of songs on a CD and none of them are in the movie."

Banking on that success, the Goo Goo Dolls, which also includes bassist/vocalist Robby Takac, brought in Jack Joseph Puig to mix "Dizzy Up the Girl." He also mixed "Iris."

"He's got the most unbelievable studio. We camped out there for a month with him," Rzeznik explained. "We made out additions to it. I believe they're still there. I bought a bar. I installed a bar

too. It was so much fun at 2 in the morning. We'd walk out of the control room and then you could just go out to the bar. I'd mix some drinks for the boys and sit around and (talk)."

The Goo Goo Dolls are veterans of radio station promotional shows. Last month the band played a show for WXDG-FM (The Edge) at the 7th House in Pontiac. Now the trio will return to play WPLT's "Holiday Hootenanny" at Cobo Arena on Friday.

"I enjoy doing those shows. Occasionally we wind up taping those shows because they wind up being the coolest."

## Big party

Stefan Olsdal of the androgynous Brit pop band Placebo has a different take on radio gigs. It's one big party — even if it does mean missing the acts he would like to see. At a recent East Coast show, Placebo was on the bill with former House of Pain rapper Everlast. But he and his band were much too busy to watch Everlast.

"We were having a disco in our bus. We just got this great bus with a really good sound system. We played some Barry White and got down."

Olsdal, Placebo and Everlast will come together once again to play "The Night 89X Stole Christmas" at Joe Louis Arena on Dec. 20. Placebo is touring in support of its sophomore effort "Without You I'm Nothing" (Virgin). The first single, "Pure Morning," which

debuted on the UK singles chart at No. 4, almost wasn't.

"We went into the studio to record some b-sides and 'Pure Morning' was part of the b-sides session. We brought in a guitar loop that we would never think we would ever use, laid down some bass and drums. By the end of the day, Brian (Molko, lead singer/guitarist) had some lyrics and vocals," Olsdal explained.

"When we were done, we thought it was way too good for a b-side. This has got to be a single. We gave it to the record company and they said, 'OK. Let's put it out.'"

Although "Pure Morning" has made Placebo stars in the UK, it has merely broke the band in the United States.

"We've been playing really small clubs. We played Aerosmith's club in Boston to like 50 people. The day before we played in Paris, France, to 2,000 screaming fans. We're going back three years to the type of clubs we used to play."

Christina Fuoco is the pop music reporter for The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have a question or comment for her, you can leave her a message at (734) 953-2147, mailbox No. 2130, or write to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

## ANIMATION FESTIVAL

The 6th Annual Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation debuts Wednesday, Dec. 16 - Sunday, Jan. 3. Admission is \$6 at the door. All doors open at 7:30 p.m. / film 8:00 p.m. shows 18+. All doors 10:00 p.m. / film 10:30 p.m. shows 21+.

South Park creators unleash 'Frosty' in latest Sick and Twisted Animation Festival!

Determined to outdo the sold-out success of last year's festival, the folks at Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation have compiled over a dozen brand new cartoons (plus old favorites) for their latest compilation, including "Frosty," a never-before-screened cartoon from the creators of "South Park."

"Frosty" was the first cartoon made by animators Trey Parker and Matt Stone, about the battle between a homicidal snowman and baby Jesus. It features early versions of the characters who later appeared in their follow-up "Spirit of Christmas" short and eventually the high-rated "South Park" television show. "Spirit of Christmas," which will be shown again this year after highlighting last year's festival, finds Santa and a grown-up Jesus in a Kung Fu battle to the death while the profane grade schoolers of South Park stand by.

Essentially a pilot for "South Park," it's extreme rudeness makes it impossible to show on television.

Also on this year's bill: Floss: A humorous look at the many uses for dental floss.

Beyond Grandpa: A sick caricature of a typically benevolent family figure.

Monica Banana: A lewd take on the relationship between President Clinton and Monica Lewinsky.

Coco, the Junkie Pimp: In which marionettes engage in prostitution and drug use. Animalistic Times: The latest from the creator's of last year's gross-out squirm-fest, Sloaches Fun House.

Boris the Dog: About a happy-go-lucky dog who will do anything...and we mean anything...to get to the big city.

Sick and Twisted Special Games: Where bad taste meets people with special needs.

How to Get Pronged: In which the hapless Lloyd (who's self-mutilation antics have made him a festival favorite) gets a girlfriend. Plus: new episodes of No Neck Joe.

The Magic Bag began hosting the Sick and Twisted festival in 1993, unleashing Beavis and Butthead for the first time on

unsuspecting Detroit audiences. Spike and Mike are California-based cartoon connoisseurs who have been producing and showcasing new animation for the past 20 years. The Sick and Twisted show plays to sold-out houses regularly around the country. The festival runs Wednesday, Dec. 16 through Sunday, Jan. 3. Tickets are \$6. For more information, visit: <http://www.sickandtwisted.com>

The upcoming schedule:

Wednesday, Dec. 16 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 P.M. / Film 9:30 P.M. - 18+

Thursday, Dec. 17 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 p.m. / Film 9:30 P.M. - 18+

Sunday, Dec. 20 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 p.m. / Film 9:30 p.m. - 18+

Monday, Dec. 21 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 p.m. / film 9:30 p.m. - 18+

Tuesday, Dec. 22 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 P.M. / Film 9:30 p.m. - 18+

Wednesday, Dec. 23 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 P.M. / Film 9:30 P.M. - 18+

Doors 8 P.M. / Film 9:30 P.M. - 18+

■ Closed Christmas Eve  
Friday, Dec. 25 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 p.m. / film 9:30 p.m. - 18+

Saturday, Dec. 26 - 2 Shows  
Doors 8 p.m. / Film 9:30 p.m. - 18+ & Doors 10 p.m. / Film 10:30 p.m. - 21+

**"A BLOCKBUSTER ADVENTURE!"**  
NEWSWEEK

**"THE RUGRATS MOVIE IS A DELIGHT!"**  
Anita Gates, THE NEW YORK TIMES

**THE RUGRATS MOVIE**

[www.rugratsmovie.com](http://www.rugratsmovie.com)

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| AMC BEL AIR 10                  | AMC EASTLAND 5            | AMC LAUREL PARK           |
| AMC LIVONIA 20                  | AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY       | AMC STERLING CTR. 10      |
| BIRMINGHAM 8                    | GENERAL CANTON            | SHOWCASE STERLING         |
| SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS           | SHOWCASE STERLING HEIGHTS | SHOWCASE WESTLAND         |
| STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE         | STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE    | STAR LINCOLN PARK 8       |
| STAR SOUTHFIELD                 | STAR TAYLOR               | STAR WINCHESTER 8         |
| UNITED ARTISTS COMMERCE TWP. 14 | UNITED ARTISTS 12 OAKS    | UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER |

**"NON-STOP MAGICAL FUN."**  
A DELICIOUS TREAT FOR THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!  
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**"MICHAEL KEATON AND KELLY PRESTON GIVE TOP-NOTCH PERFORMANCES."**  
-Jeffrey Lyons, WABC-TV

**"MICHAEL KEATON AT HIS MOST CHARMING...COOL FAMILY FUN."**  
-Bob Healy's, QUINCYVILLE BROADCASTING

**"A MUST SEE FAMILY FILM."**  
-Steve Olsfeld, WOFL FOX TV ORLANDO

**"JACK FROST WILL WARM YOUR HEART THIS HOLIDAY SEASON."**  
-Mario Salas, CBS-TELEVISION

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| MJR SOUTHGATE 20  | QUO VADIS                       | SHOWCASE AUBURN           |
| SHOWCASE DEARBORN | SHOWCASE                        | SHOWCASE LINCOLN          |
| STAR GRATIOT      | STAR LINCOLN PARK               | STAR SOUTHFIELD           |
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| STAR WINCHESTER 8         | UNITED ARTISTS COMMERCE TWP. 14 | UNITED ARTISTS 12 OAKS    |
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# Archie's celebrates anniversary, thanks customers

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER  
kwygonik@oe.homedomain.net

Open since 1981, Archie's in Livonia has been renovated three times. "We remodeled almost from the ground up, at least that's what the checkbook feels like," said Tom Palushaj of Farmington Hills who runs the kitchen of the family owned and operated restaurant. "You get into a project, and make changes as you go."

"We're established here, people know us," added his brother George of Livonia who manages the restaurant. Brothers Pasko, Nick, Kola and Michael also work there along with other family members. "You've got to put money back into the business. From the beginning we had the relentless pursuit to become the best restaurant on the west-side. We have the best service, the best food, and now we have the best atmosphere."

Archie's stayed open during construction, which began in 1996 with the new, expanded parking lot. To thank customers, and celebrate their anniversary, Archie's is offering 25 percent off, excluding alcoholic beverages, on Monday, Dec. 21.

The light fixtures, booth coverings, floor and kitchen are new. Oak trimmed doorways, booths and tables, and glass etched accents help create a comfortable dining atmosphere.

Architect Robert J. Tobin of Tobin Associates in Troy redesigned the upscale contemporary exterior of the restaurant. The bathrooms were also remodeled. Luke Palushaj, an art director at R.J. Thompson,

**Archie's**  
**Where:** 30471 Plymouth Road, (between Middlebelt & Merriman), Livonia, (734) 525-2820.  
**Hours:** 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Closed Sunday. Will be open until 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24, closed Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25 open 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. New Year's Eve, Thursday, Dec. 31, open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. New Year's Day, Friday, Jan. 1.  
**Menu:** Upscale family restaurant, daily specials, American favorites including chicken, seafood and steaks, some Italian and Greek dishes. Lots of daily breakfast, lunch and dinner specials. Children's menu just for kids under age 10.  
**Cost:** Reasonable; dinner entrees and specials \$5.99 to \$10.50, sandwiches \$2.85 to \$5.50, breakfast \$2.09 to \$7.99.  
**Discounts:** Senior citizens receive 10 percent off regular dinner menu. **Frequent Diner Card**, buy 15 dinners or lunches, and get \$5 off next meal.  
**Credit Cards:** All majors accepted  
**Carry-out:** Available  
**Banquet Room:** Seats up to 70 people  
**Highlights:** 17th Anniversary Celebration and Customer Appreciation Day, Monday, Dec. 21. Twenty-five percent off all day, not including alcoholic beverages.

designed the interior which has a green, beige, and brown color scheme. There are lots of hanging plants and bright red poinsettias.

The good news for customers is that prices were raised very little. "We want to make sure we keep our prices affordable for families," said Tom. "Our secret to cooking is keeping the food fresh and buy the best quality ingredients we can buy."

"A couple can have dinner with wine for under \$30," said George.

You're sure to find something to satisfy your appetite at Archie's. There are daily breakfast, lunch and dinner specials, homemade soups, and rice pudding. Often ordered dishes include Archie's Famous Fish & Chips, and the Grilled Reuben

on Rye. Broasted Chicken was added to the menu this summer.

Regular customers know what daily dinner specials to expect - Monday, baked meatloaf; Tuesday, baked Salisbury Steak; Wednesday, City Chicken; Thursday, Stuffed Cabbage Rolls; Friday, Fish & Chips, Saturday, Chicken Florentine with Fettuccini Alfredo. If what you're looking for isn't on the menu, check-out the numerous daily lunch and dinner specials. The ones listed are just a sample.

George welcomes many customers by name, Archie's is still a family restaurant, but now, it's a little more. "It looks like you're going somewhere really nice, it's no longer the neighborhood restaurant," said Tom. "People want to spend more time here on Saturdays," added Tom.



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

**Happy holidays:** George (left) and Tom Palushaj in the newly renovated dining room at Archie's. Broiled N.Y. Steak, Broasted Chicken with mashed potatoes, and Greek Salad are among the many dishes you'll find on the menu at Archie's.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE

BY ELEANOR HEALD  
SPECIAL WRITER

The musical question "What are you doing New Year's, New Year's Eve?" has been asked for many decades. It's time to answer it for this year.

Whether you want a quiet dinner, one that includes romantic dancing or a grand party with midnight champagne toast and party favors, one of the following restaurants is sure to please. Please note that some restaurants require tickets paid in advance. But if you wait until the last minute to reserve, you'll most likely be disappointed just about anywhere.

■ **Big Rock Chop & Brew House** - 245 S. Eton, Birming-

ham (248) 647-7774.

A la carte menu including appetizers, soup, salad, main courses (ranging \$19-30), vegetable accompaniments and dessert. With any entree, one-half pound Alaskan King Crab Legs or lobster tail can be added for an additional charge. For reservations 10 p.m. or later, enjoy the music of Reggie Braxton on the Stone Terrace and ring in the New Year with champagne toast and party favors at no additional charge. Big Rock's fabulous upper level Got Rocks lounge is first come, first served, but be advised, it was packed last year at midnight.

■ **Cafe Bon Homme** - 844 Penniman, Plymouth (734) 453-6260.

From 5 p.m. to midnight an all a la carte menu has eight entree selections ranging \$29-33 and includes seafood, duck, lamb, veal, steak and Wellington of beef.

■ **Cafe Cortina** - 30715 W. 10 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills (248) 474-3033

Early diners can choose from the open menu beginning at 4:30 p.m. Starting at 9:30 p.m. there's a special package, \$85 per person including antipasto, pappardelle with pomodoro and basil, winter salad, choice of entree from among salmon, veal medallions, filet mignon or French-cut veal chop, and completed with Napoleon dessert. Also included are DJ dancing to top 40s, party hats and champagne at midnight.

Cafe Cortina is also offering a Christmas Eve Dinner with live holiday music, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24. The cost is \$65 per person. Entree choices include Rack of Lamb with roasted peppers and garlic, Filet of Sole "Meunier" or Veal Medallions "Limone" Imported Artichokes. Call for information/reservations.

■ **Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro** - 26053 Town Center, Novi (248) 380-8460

Want dinner with quiet jazz music? That's on tap at Diamond Jim's between 4 p.m. and midnight. Five special entrees accompanied by a salad range \$15-19. Start with an appetizer at \$8 and add dessert for \$7.

■ **Excalibur** - 28875 Franklin Road, (corner of 12 Mile Road and Northwestern Highway), Southfield (248) 358-3355. New Year's Eve party (reserved seating by prepaid tickets only) with dancing and entertainment by The Warren Commission begins 9:30 p.m. at \$100 per person (not including liquor, tax or gratuity). Menu includes appetizer medley, mixed salad and choice of an entree from 2-pound lobster, veal porterhouse, sauteed chicken breast, swordfish or filet mignon, completing with dessert medley.

At the banquet center between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. at \$125 per person, same as restaurant menu but dancing and entertainment by The Jerry Ross Band.

■ **Fox & Hounds** - 1560 North Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, (248) 644-4800. Regular menu selections with entrees ranging \$18-25 will be offered. Reservations 10 p.m. and later will have party favors and midnight champagne toast. Pub entertainment throughout the evening.

■ **Opus One** - 565 East Larned Street, Detroit (313) 961-7766. Two seating periods 5 or 5:30 and 7:30 or 8 include offerings from the regular menu. A 9:30 or 10 p.m. seating at \$75 per person includes a four-course dinner from a special expanded menu. Also, at this time, you can listen and dance to the smooth sounds of B&B. Price includes party favors, but not beverage, tax or gratuity.

**FRIDAY SPECIAL**  
Fish & Chips  
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All You Can Eat  
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**The Botsford Inn**  
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We've Got It Here On  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE!**  
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• **PREMIUM BAR PKG.**  
• **BREAKFAST**  
(Scrambled eggs and  
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Reservations also  
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New Year's Eve  
**EARLY DINNER** (from 5 pm-out by 9 pm)  
**ONLY \$60 per person**  
INCLUDES All Tax & Gratuities!  
**MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE**  
Your Choice of These Complete Dinners  
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