

Fame game

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce and the Evening Kiwanis Club are inducting three new members into the Plymouth Hall of Fame, and they want you to be there.

The induction banquet is set for Tuesday, April 18 at City Limits Grille. Dinner starts at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person.

This year's honorees are Jim Jabara, Jim McKeon and Jack Wilcox.

For more information about the honorees or the banquet, or to get tickets, call the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, 453-1540.

Neighbors search for solution

Residents schedule meeting to discuss truck, traffic problems

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER
sbuck@oe.hometown.com

Sometimes, there's strength in common goals and numbers.

To that end, more than 400 fliers have been hand-delivered to residents' homes in the seven-street Ann Arbor

Road Corridor between Main Street and Sheldon Road inviting residents to a meeting of the recently-formed Green Meadows Citizens Group.

The meeting, open to the public, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, April 13, in the Plymouth Township Clerk's meeting room on Ann Arbor and Lilley roads. The room is often used for home-

owner's association meetings.

Elaine Hovey, a Plymouth Township resident, has been the dynamo behind organizing Green Meadows Citizens Group for several months.

Several immediate issues including truck traffic, car haulers and the proposed expansion of Sunshine Honda on Ann Arbor Road have been identified.

"We hope to come up with a group consensus," Hovey said. Residents can also share information, she added.

The flier is direct in its call-to-action.

"We are asking you to attend a neighborhood meeting to gain support for a citizens group whose purpose is to

■ 'We hope to come up with a group consensus.'

Elaine Hovey

—Plymouth Township resident

stand up for our rights and to determine if there is unequal enforcement of code, truck, and traffic violations," it reads.

"Zoning of the Ann Arbor Road Corridor and the Honda expansion will also be discussed. Let's exercise our

Please see NEIGHBORS, A3

THE WEEK AHEAD

TUESDAY

School days: The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education meets at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth Salem High School media center.

Township meets: The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees meets at 7:30 p.m. at the township hall.

THURSDAY

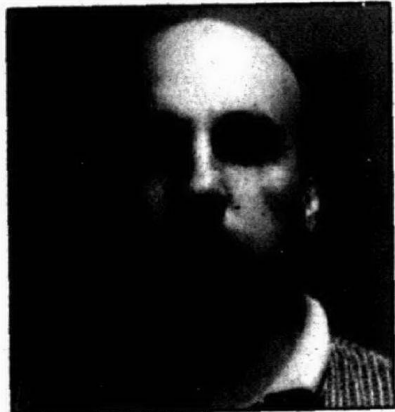
Historical night: The Plymouth Historical Museum hosts "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" night, complete with refreshments and a talk by David Martin on baseball history and Tiger Stadium. The night starts at 6:30 p.m.

SPECIAL SECTION

Tee time: Check out the map of area golf courses and fascinating articles in our special section on golf./Inside

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Timothy Hawley

Plymouth man charged with assault on teenager

BY MATT JACHMAN
STAFF WRITER
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A teaching assistant is suspended pending the outcome of charges that he sexually assaulted a 14-year-old boy at Livonia's Rosedale School.

Timothy Jay Hawley, 38, of Plymouth, is charged with one count of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and one count of second-degree criminal sexual conduct. Judge Kathleen McCann ordered him sent to trial on the charges after a hearing Thursday in 16th District Court.

The boy is a ninth-grader in the Redford Union Schools' Adolescent Day Treatment program for emotionally impaired students between 14 and 18. The program, funded by the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency, accepts students from six area school districts.

Hawley is being held in the county jail on a \$250,000 cash or surety bond.

The victim testified Thursday that Hawley encountered him in a hallway one day and asked him to go to a supply room. At first he could not remember the exact date, but after looking in his journal, the boy said it was March 16.

There, the boy told assistant county prosecutor Larry Talon, "He started hugging me and kissing me" before beginning a sex act.

That stopped when a teacher walked in, the boy said. Though he had not seen exactly what was going on, the teacher later told police about the incident, police said.

The boy said he had two other physi-

Please see CHARGES, A2



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Chow down: Kristen Larsen, 6, savors her pizza during the pizza dinner at the West Middle School Silent Auction Wednesday evening. Hundreds of items, from a live hamster to Red Wings jerseys and autographed pucks, were up for bid. There was also the pizza and ice cream, a cake walk and bingo for the whole family.

Bidding bonanza

West auction benefits school, students

If early prognostications are any indication, Wednesday's West Middle School silent auction was a huge success.

Though final totals weren't yet available, the auction appears to have pulled in thousands of dollars, which will be used to purchase materials to benefit the entire school.

"It went very well," seventh-grade teacher Lori Parks said.

The auction got more than 220 donations from businesses and people around the area. Also among the evening's activities were a cake walk and face painting, both sponsored by the student council, free bingo, and a pizza dinner, all arranged to give auction participants a special "West Middle School night," Parks pointed out.

At press time, some items still needed to be picked up, so an accurate total couldn't yet be reached. But Parks estimated that, as of Friday afternoon, the auction proceeds stood around \$8,000.



Inspecting: Jamie Carter, 15, and her mom Brenda check out some of the items for auction, including this multi-colored basketball.

Local rider ready to pedal for leukemia

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER
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John Kwiczen of Plymouth is training hard these days.

Kwiczen will be among hundreds of bike riders from across the country to participate in the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America's 100-mile ride in Lake Tahoe, Nev., in June.

"I've already been training, riding 50 miles at Kensington Park on the weekends," said Kwiczen, the owner of Trader Jack's Sports Collectibles in downtown Plymouth. "I'm getting in good shape for the ride. I'll be ready."

Kwiczen said he was looking for a charitable organization to align himself with, and one day was introduced

to the society by a friend who ran a 26-mile marathon in Alaska to raise money for the organization.

"I was really impressed that he did it, and I knew then that I wanted to do it someday," he said.

Last November Kwiczen raised \$3,600 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society during a 100-mile ride in Las Vegas.

"That was tough, but I made it. I didn't get back on the bike for three months after that," Kwiczen said with a laugh. "The Lake Tahoe ride will be harder because the hills are a lot steeper. It will be much more challenging."

Kwiczen said the night before last year's Vegas ride, his decision to raise

Please see LEUKEMIA, A2

Ready to roar



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Circling: One of the tigers on the new carousel in Comerica Park, the Detroit Tigers new ballpark. See sports for a pre-view story.



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Charges from page A1

cal encounters with Hawley, once in an office, once in a classroom.

Asked by defense attorney Marc Hart why he had not told his counselor about the events, the boy said, "It's not easy to do."

Hart argued Thursday that the boy's testimony did not indicate Hawley used coercion, such as threats of violence or threats of using his position of authority to retaliate.

"There is nothing on this record to suggest that he coerced him," Hart said.

But Talon responded that Hawley's position of authority over students was coercion enough.

"He uses his authority to coerce. It's not the defendant who initiates the physical contact," Talon said.

Judge Kathleen McCann agreed.

"For a probable-cause hearing, I think there is enough," she

■ **'For a probable-cause hearing, I think there is enough.'**

Kathleen McCann
—16th District Judge

said.

Hawley, police said, is also an assistant director of Camp Niobee, a camp for emotionally impaired children in Dryden, Mich. He had also been a Boy Scout leader in the 1980s, he told police.

Hawley is scheduled to be arraigned in Wayne County Circuit Court on Thursday, April 20. He is suspended without pay while the district conducts its own investigation, said Thomas Gay, district superintendent.

Hawley was in his fourth year with the district, Gay said. About 100 high-school-age students attend Rosedale, he said.

Leukemia from page A1

money for the cancer organization really hit home.

"The night before we had a pasta party with cancer survivors," Kwiciecien remembered. "I can't imagine what it would be like to have leukemia and attack life like they do."

"Fortunately, no one in my family has been stricken with leukemia. I just want to give back ... I can ride a hundred miles ... I'm doing it for someone who can't," he added.

Kwiciecien will join 66 other bikers from Michigan who will help raise \$280,000 for the Michigan chapter in the June 4 ride.

"The money raised stays in the state of Michigan," said Beth Smith, Michigan's senior campaign director for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America. "The money will be used for cancer research and to help patients."

Kwiciecien is hoping area residents will be as generous as they were last year in helping him reach his \$3,600 goal.

Smith said she expects the Michigan chapter to raise \$2.5 million this year.

Kwiciecien said the entire experience has been extremely rewarding for him.

■ **'The money will be used for cancer research and to help patients.'**

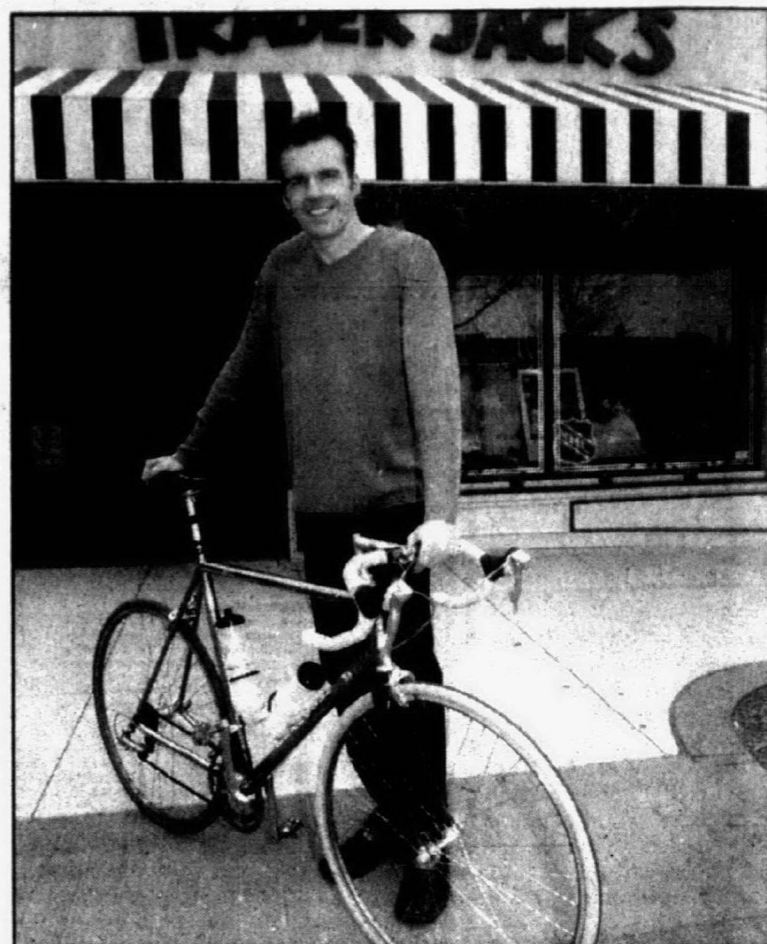
Beth Smith
—Leukemia Society

rience has been extremely rewarding for him.

"What really helped me were the \$10-\$30 donations I received," he said. "There were people I didn't even know who came in and wrote checks for \$100. There are a lot of good people in this world who are overlooked."

"I believe you get from the world what you give to the world. There's going to be a cure for this someday, and I want to be a small part of it," he said.

Anyone who would like to sponsor Kwiciecien's ride can stop in at Trader Jack's, 924 W. Ann Arbor Trail, in Plymouth, or call (734) 453-6611. Checks must be made payable to Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

Hitting the road: John Kwiciecien, owner of Trader Jack's Sports Collectibles, poses with his bicycle in front of his shop on Ann Arbor Trail.

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Knights ready to resume raising funds

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER
sbuck@oe.homecomm.net

The Knights of Columbus will be no different.

In keeping with a tradition every Palm Sunday weekend, The Knights of Columbus Victor J. Renaud Council #8292 of Plymouth solicits donations to help the mentally handicapped.

The council's fund-raising drive this year is scheduled to take place April 14-15.

To date, the council has collected about \$135,000 to help the mentally handicapped at Plymouth Opportunity House on Wing Street, at Our Lady of Providence School and residential facility in Northville and through Special Olympics.

Look for members dressed in orange and red aprons standing

at Ann Arbor Trail and Main, Penniman and Main, and Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth. They will also be in front of the Kmart in Plymouth Township.

"We raised \$6,000 last year," Phillips said. "About 85 percent of the proceeds raised is annually returned to the community. The rest goes to the K of C."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy recently signed a proclamation

in honor of the council's efforts that declares April 10-17 "Help the Mentally Handicapped Week."

Paul Nagrant, administrator of the Plymouth Opportunity House, welcomes the ongoing support of the K of C. The independent living residence helps both male and female adults. K of C's donations go into the general budget, which helps pay for staffing, a van, utilities, etc., Nagrant said.

"Plymouth has always been a great supporter of the mentally handicapped," he said. "Plymouth has always been accepting to us."

CORRECTION

A photo in the April 6 issue of the Plymouth Observer should have identified an Isbister student as 9-year-old Ben Milan of Plymouth. The Observer apologizes for the error.

AWARDS

Cynthia DeSousa, a second grade teacher at Bentley Elementary School, was awarded the Extra Miler Award at the board of education meeting March 28.

DeSousa was cited for her creative ideas, hard work, and dedication to the staff, students, parents and programs at Bentley Elementary.

"Miss DeSousa is always at work early and stays late," parent Sarah Calupino said. "Her 'homework' is evident in the great preparation for the class. She is always smiling and positive with the kids."

Another parent says DeSousa goes "way beyond the call of duty. Her accomplishments with her students show that she is self-motivated."

DeSousa received a certificate of recognition, a pin of the Flag of Liberty and Learning, and a dinner gift certificate, all presented by school board member Roland Thomas.

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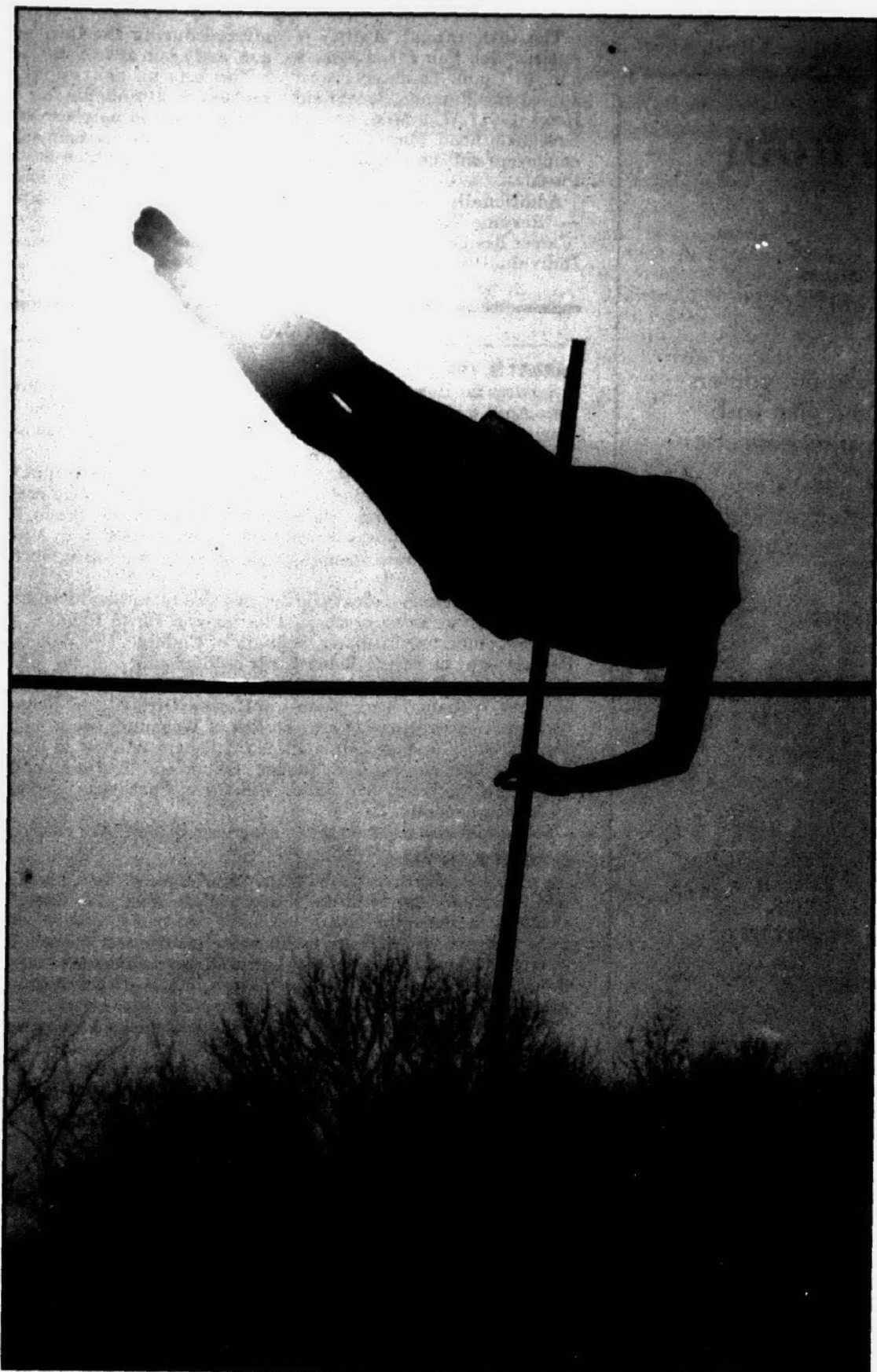
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Sky high



Up in the air: A pole vaulter is silhouetted against the late afternoon sky at a track meet as the Plymouth Canton Chiefs faced off against the Plymouth Salem Rocks at the P-CEP stadium Thursday. For complete coverage, turn to today's sports section.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMAN

Police searching for source of fliers

BY SUE BUCK
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Several Plymouth Township residents complained to the police last week that they received what some called "offensive" and "racist" literature in their newspaper boxes.

The literature from the White Aryan Resistance group was found in boxes in the west end of the township, in the Ann Arbor Road area, and in the area of M-14 and Ridge, according to Jamie Senkbeil, Plymouth Township community resource officer.

"Ten people on our block got them," said Kelly Crump, an Oakview resident who came to the Plymouth Township Police station Thursday to give hers to a police officer. She viewed the literature drop distastefully.

The literature calls for "white men to consider their station in life and become leaders." It slams African-Americans, Jews and the Clinton administration.

The website listed offers subscriptions to WAR, which bills itself "the most racist, revolutionary newspaper available in the world." A Fallbrook, Calif., post office number is listed.

There's a 24-hour Aryan update hotline, racist cartoons, and an opportunity to purchase books and videos. Some are titled, "Blast the Holocaust" and "Nazi Bikers on Harleys."

E-mail is also offered. Anyone with information about who is distributing these fliers or who can provide police with a license plate number should call the police at (734) 354-3250.

"We're looking for leads," Senkbeil said.

Woman jumps

A Plymouth woman was transported by med-flight to St. Joseph Hospital in Ypsilanti in critical condition March 31 after jumping from the Joy Road overpass about 3:40 p.m. onto the northbound lanes of I-275 in Plymouth Township.

Using their noodles

Spaghetti dinner benefits charity runners

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.homecomm.net

A spaghetti dinner, car wash and bingo aren't activities you'd associate with training for a marathon, but it is for four women who are part of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America's Team in Training fundraiser.

Kelly Nabozny of Garden City, Jessica Lopez of Plymouth, Denise Cuper of Ann Arbor and Lisa Menyhart of Northville are holding a spaghetti dinner and raffle Thursday, April 13, at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City to raise the money they need to compete in June marathons in San Diego, Calif., and Anchorage, Alaska.

Team in Training is the largest endurance training program in the U.S., providing its members with the coaching, training and even the travel in exchange for raising

money to find a cure for leukemia and lymphoma.

Last year, the Team in Training raised millions of dollars towards finding cures for leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma. Leukemia is the number one disease killer of children under age 15, while lymphoma is the leading killer of men and women under 35.

"It's one of the greatest things I've done in my life," said Lopez, who will be running in the Mayor's Midnight Sun Marathon on June 17 in Anchorage with Cuper and Menyhart. "I'm already thinking about doing another one next year."

Raising money

The foursome, part of an 11-member team, decided to join forces to raise the money needed to meet their commitment to the program. Nabozny has about \$1,500 of the \$3,600 she needs to raise. Lopez, Menyhart

and Cuper must raise \$4,500 each.

"People have been so generous and supportive," said Lopez, who has \$3,000 in her Team in Training Account. "They've really been helpful with donations."

As a group, the four women have sent out phantom solicitation cards to get donations and have the dinner, a car wash on April 22 at the Penske Auto Center in front of the Garden City Kmart in April 22 and a bingo benefit in May as fund-raisers.

They have gotten the Buca di Beppo Restaurant in Livonia to donate the spaghetti and sauce for the dinner and are using \$10 certificates, donated by Kroger, to purchase the pop. But the toughest part, according to Nabozny, is getting donations of paper products.

The dinner will run from 5 to 9 p.m. at the center on Maplewood west of Merriman Road. The cost is \$5 a plate with children age 3 and under free and refills \$2 each.

Neighbors from page A1

rights and explore the vast amount of knowledge and personal resources we already have and are paying for with our tax dollars. Join the team."

Tom Bohlander, the owner of Sunshine Honda, hopes to rezone property for additional storage and parking, and is expected to be the first to redevelop under an amended master plan.

He seeks to rezone property from single-family residential to a new zoning called Ann Arbor Road Corridor (ARC). Ten residential lots are included in the rezoning.

The Plymouth Township Planning Commission will consider the rezoning at its 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, public hearing held in the Plymouth Township board meeting room

located on Ann Arbor and Lilley Roads.

Bohlander says that truck traffic isn't specific to just his business but stems from all the businesses who get deliveries on Ann Arbor Road. The delivery trucks aren't his; he tries to be a good neighbor, he said.

Sunshine Honda cooperated with Plymouth Township Police in providing its list of transport companies, said Jamie Senkbeil, Plymouth Township community resource officer.

Plymouth Township Police Chief Larry Carey sent a letter March 23 to Sunshine Honda, transport companies, and local residents, so that all parties are aware of the problem and the actions being taken by the police department.

"Some, not all, transport companies called the department to see what they could do to avoid tickets," Senkbeil said.

The three issues of concern, according to police, are loading and unloading of trucks from transports before 7 a.m. and after 7 p.m., truck traffic traveling south on Northern from Sunshine Honda, and the proposed addition to Sunshine Honda.

The police department contacted Jim Anulewicz, Department of Public Services director, regarding the proposed addition to Sunshine Honda. Anulewicz said that he would meet with the residents, Carey said.

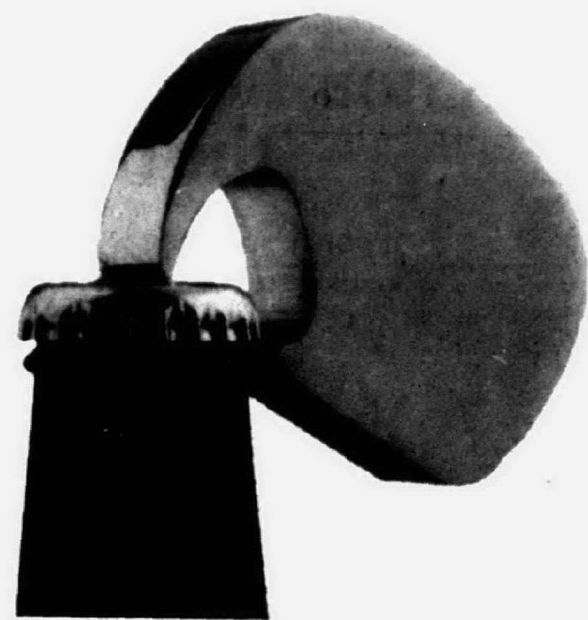
"It affects those neighbors and the problems they are having," Carey said Thursday. "What would help most is if they

change their operating practices. We have given warnings for trucks and issued parking violations. I have noticed parking violations myself."

Though Sunshine Honda is renting a Canton Township lot to store the new cars, a solution police hope will alleviate the problem, Bohlander said Thursday that the new cars are still delivered to the Ann Arbor Road location. "That's 12 trucks a month," Bohlander said. "I don't get new cars every day, although I wish I did."

A car dealership has always been located at his location Ann Arbor Road, he said. "Before that this was a horse and buggy place," Bohlander said.

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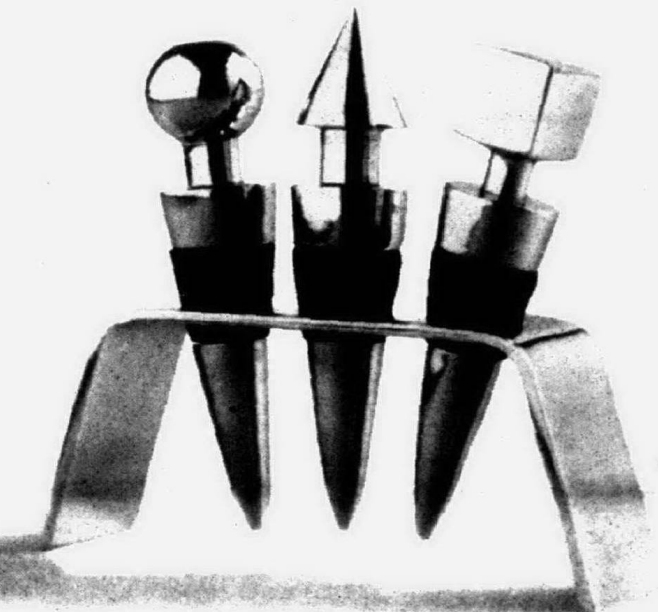
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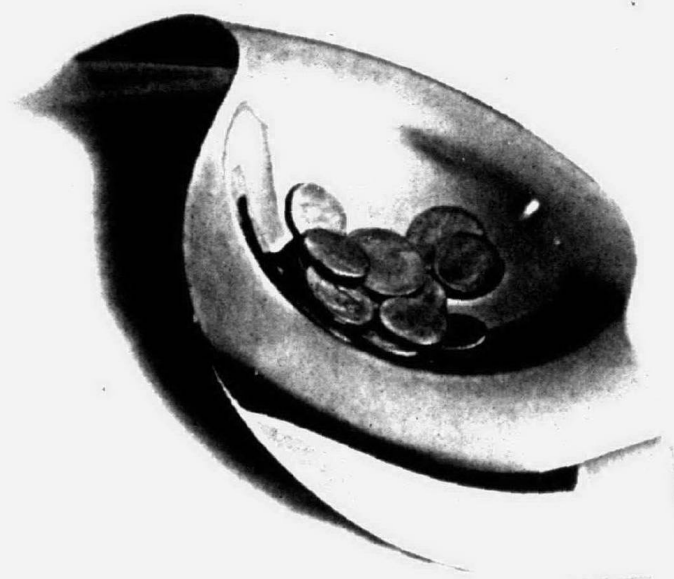
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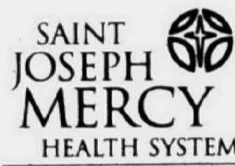
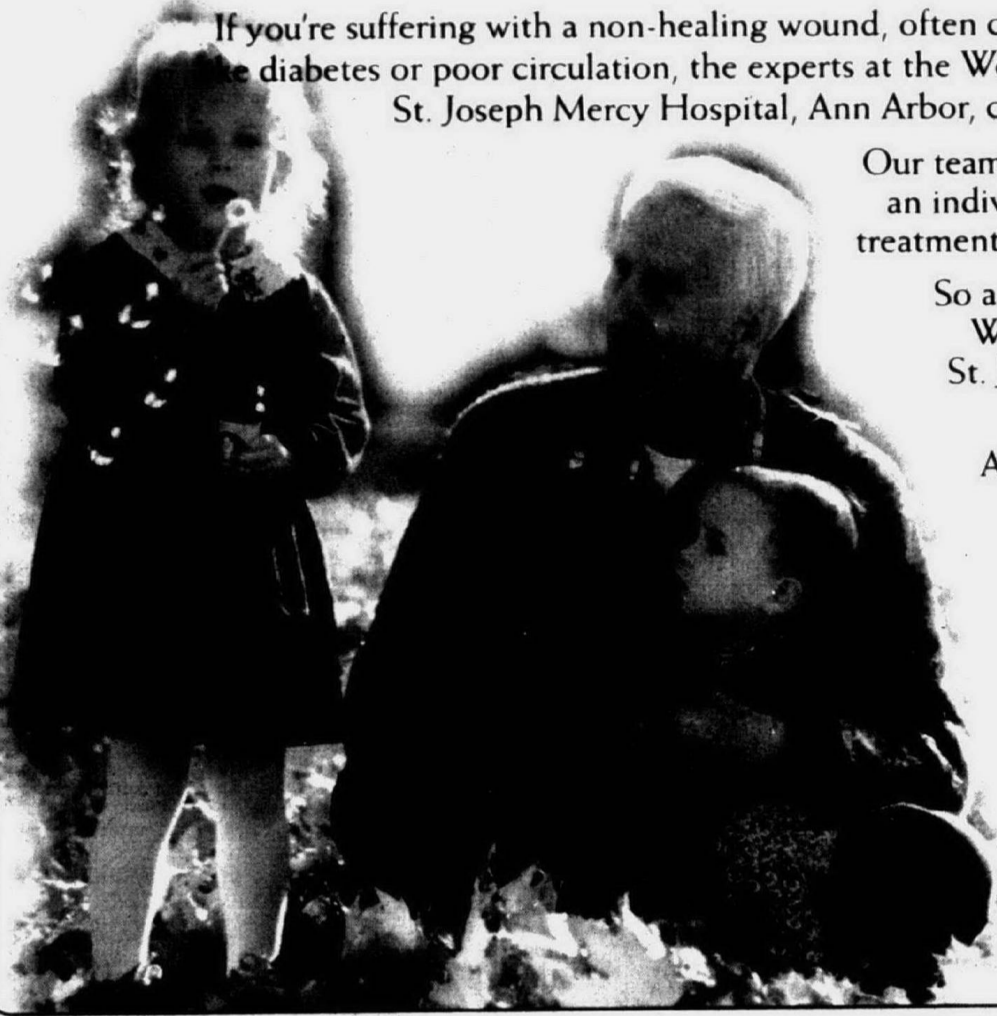
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'Ageless Job Fair' set

The 14th annual "Ability is Ageless" Job Fair takes place 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at the Ramada Southfield Hotel, 17017 W. 9 Mile, west of Greenfield Road. More than 100 employers will be recruiting at the fair.

Additionally, two workshops — "Resume Writing Tips" and "Career Resilience Strategies for Individual Success" — will be

offered during the fair, at 10 a.m. and again at 11 a.m.

There is no charge for job seekers to attend the fair and workshops, and no reservations are required. Job seekers should bring 30 copies of their resume, dress for an interview and be prepared to complete employment applications.

For more information, call (800) 922-4473.

OBITUARIES

HARRIET M. FOX

Services for Harriet M. Fox, 77, of Cadillac (formerly of Plymouth) were April 6 at the Fosnaught Funeral Home, Marion with the Rev. Howard Harvey officiating. Burial was in Highland Township Cemetery.

She was born Oct. 6, 1922, in Chicago, Ill. She died April 3 at Mercy Hospital in Cadillac. She was a homemaker. She enjoyed bingo, crafts and sewing. She retired to the Cadillac area in 1987. She was a member of the South Community Methodist in Marion. She especially enjoyed spending time going to yard sales, auctions and flea markets.

She was preceded in death by her two sisters, Lillian Muscott and Lois Parent; and two brothers, Charles and David Renner. Survivors include her husband, William of Cadillac; two daughters, Patricia Gray of Tustin, Roberta Fox of Plymouth; one son, Michael (Sharon) Fox of Tustin; one sister, Kathryn Seres of Gladwin; two brothers, William (Peggy) Renner of Hersey, Orris (Carol) Renner of Plymouth; sister-in-law, Carolyn Fox of Wyoming; two grandchildren, Trisha Canady of Raleigh, N.C., Robert Willnow of Cheboygan; and four great-grandchildren, Olivia and Justin Canady of Raleigh, N.C., Travis and Lance Willnow of Cheboygan; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Foundation.

BENEDICT R. WINKLER

Services for Benedict R. Winkler, 75, of Canton (formerly of Lincoln Park) were April 6 at the Kingdom Hall, Westland. Burial was at Michigan Memorial Park.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dolores; and one son, Paul. Survivors include his daughter, Lorraine (Robert) Glanz; and one son, Benedict M. (Lynn); two grandchildren, Elizabeth Eggleston and Amy; and one great-grandchild, Delores.

Local arrangements were made by the R.C. Aleks & Son Funeral Home, Lincoln Park.

MARY E. PIZZURRO

Services for Mary E. Pizzurro, 39, of Plymouth were April 8 at St. Robert Bellarmine Church. Burial was in St. Hedwig Cemetery.

She was born Jan. 6, 1961, in Dearborn. She died March 5 at St. Joseph Hospital. She was a medical assistant.

Survivors include her husband, John M.; parents, Chester and Elizabeth Pawczuk; one sister, Debbie (George) Bennett; two brothers, John (Marlene) Pawczuk, Edward (Tracey) Pawczuk.

Local arrangements were made by the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Canton.

NANCY ANNE MANSER

Services for Nancy Anne Manser, 52, of Plymouth (formerly of Livonia) were April 7 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Larry Austin officiating. Burial was in Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia.

She was born Sept. 9, 1947, in Detroit. She died April 4 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor. She was employed by Cellcrete Inc. in Plymouth for 10 years and was previously employed at Tax Specialist Inc. in Livonia as a secretary. She attended McKenzie High School in Detroit.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Dorothy. Survivors include her husband, Alfred J. Manser; one son, Al J. Manser III of Clarkston, Mich.; two daughters, Melissa (Paul Tarkowski) of Clarkston, Krista (Dustin Kennedy) of Plymouth; father, Arthur Pfander; and one brother, Richard (Valerie) Pfander of South Lyon.

Memorials may be made to Krista Manser Education Fund, c/o of the family.

HENRY KEMMERLING

Services for Henry Kemmerling, 73, of Lake Panasoffkee, Fla., were April 8 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth, with pastor Jerry Yarnell officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth.

He was born June 15, 1926, in Cleveland, Ohio. He died April 2 in Inverness, Fla. He was a supervisor for Detroit Aluminum Co. He retired in 1987. He moved to Florida in 1975 from Plymouth. He was a member of the "Good S.A.M. Club." He loved to travel and camp. He did all the flowers and landscaping at the Campers World in Lake Panasoffkee, Fla.

He was preceded in death by his son, Henry Kemmerling Jr. Survivors include his wife, Mary M. Tomlinson Kemmerling of Florida; 14 children, Robert (Thelma) Applegate of Grand Rapids, Frank Applegate of Canton; George (Marlene) Applegate of Salt Lake City, Utah; Mary K. Applegate of Denver, Colo.; Linda Kimmerling-Applegate of Candler, N.C.; Joseph (Rose) Applegate of Newaygo, Mich.; Mary Jane (Ken) Graham of Canton; Jean Applegate of Cadillac; Diana Canzoneri of Dundee, William (Mona) Applegate of Canton; George C. (Debbie) Kemmerling of Mesick, Pamela (Dennis) Brokowski of Farmington Hills, Jeff Kemmerling of Mesick, Dwayne (Jenice) Kemmerling of Garden City; one sister, Frances Gray of Richmond, Va.; 50 grandchildren; and 30 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Kemmerling family.

AUBREY M. VAUGHN "SMOKEY"

Services for Aubrey M. Vaughn "Smokey," 82, of Plymouth were April 8 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington with the Rev. Leonard Partensky officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia.

He was born Sept. 11, 1917, in Ravenna, Texas. He died April 5 at Farmington Health Care Center, Farmington. He was self-employed as Commercial Painter and Sandblaster.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary; and parents, John Vaughn; and Lena. Survivors include his daughter, Sharon Vaughn Broo (Robert) of Alpharetta, Ga.

Memorials may be made to the American Lung Association, 26555 Evergreen, Suite 375, Southfield, MI 48076 or to the American Cancer Society, 18505 W. 12 Mile Road, Southfield, MI 481076.

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR April meeting Tuesday, April 18, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tape of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary
Plymouth District Library
223 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-0750
X217

Publish: April 9, 2000

Probate code changes draw strongly mixed reactions

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oe.homecomm.net

Reactions ranged from joyous to cautious regarding the new statewide probate code, which took effect Saturday.

Financial planner Mark Wira welcomed the code with near open arms, while attorney Walter Sakowski and Chief Probate Judge Milton L. Mack Jr. were wary.

While Wira saw the new code as a great improvement administratively, Sakowski said it could open the doors to thievery and Mack, chief judge of Wayne County Probate Court, said parties to the administration of wills better pay attention.

Wira, founder and president of Ann Arbor Financial Investment Advisory Corp. in downtown Plymouth, declared the new code will "greatly reduce the administrative nightmare of probate."

Sakowski, who's practiced law in Livonia since 1983, agreed the new code "makes it easier to probate an estate," but "it also makes it easier to rip off an estate, as a general rule."

And Mack flat-out warned the parties to wills, "You better make sure that you stay in close contact with whoever's in charge of the estate and stay fully informed."

The new code, known as EPIC - for the Estates and Protected Individuals Code - replaces the Revised Probate Code, which has been in effect almost 21 years.

EPIC is expected, among other things, to reduce up-front legal fees, simplify probate by making it more difficult to contest wills, increase privacy of the parties involved and equalize shares for grandchildren.

Judges concerned

While EPIC "significantly reduces" court involvement in wills, Mack said, there's concern among probate judges that citizens won't be ready for it due to past dependency on the judges to make sure everything is right.

"This burden will shift to the heirs," Mack said. "We will (now) deal with" problems "more on a complaint basis."

Mack said judges can still hear disputes in court, "but (EPIC) makes court review optional." Besides, he noted, "a relatively small number of cases result" in contested wills, anyway.

Under the new, informal proceedings, parties will administer an estate and then file a paper with the court saying everything's done, Mack said.

Adds Wira, "As long as a will is witnessed by three people, the will is (now) considered non-penetrable."

Also, noted Mack, as long as "the intent of the testator is carried out," that will be considered good enough.

EPIC "eliminates a lot of technical objections that can be raised," he said. "In theory, it reduces the amount of litigation." Reduction in court involvement means reduced public scrutiny and thus more privacy, he added.

Gone also - unless requested by the parties - is the issuance by the court of bonds on estates, said Sakowski.

"Before, the court had the authority, based on the assets of an estate," to require a bond equal to the assets, said the Farmington Hills resident who's practiced law 17 years at Middlebelt and Five Mile Roads.

Will is all

Furthermore, he said, now the deceased partner's will is all the

The new code, known as EPIC - for the Estates and Protected Individuals Code - replaces the Revised Probate Code, which has been in effect almost 21 years.

surviving spouse or child needs to close the deceased's bank accounts

"Before, they had to go to court and get a small-estate order," he said. In effect, "There's no way to prevent them from doing that at 10 different banks."

"Banks are going to love this

one," he commented.

Mack said the new code also will even things out for grandchildren in some cases, making them equals among themselves. "Studies show that's what most people want," he said.

Sakowski said that "Overall, (EPIC) is a good change because

it reflects some of the changing circumstances in the way people think of inheritances, in the way things should be handled."

'License to steal'

But it also "may be a license to steal," he said.

Mack noted that, with fewer bonded fiduciaries (trustees), it will be harder to correct problems. "I'm kind of concerned about that," he said.

Probate "is now sort of taken out of the preventive mode and put in a clean-up mode. We don't expect to really see the consequences (of EPIC) until probably

the end of the year," Mack said. "That's when problems will start to surface," said the chief judge.

Wira, who's been in business since 1993, agreed with Sakowski and Mack, saying "If a person has the propensity to rip off an estate the door would always be open. One should always be cautious in planning for your estate."

Furthermore, he said, "People often put off estate-planning to the last minute. They don't always value the true effect (that has) on the family business or on loved ones."

But he believes the good in EPIC will outweigh the bad.

"Michigan has always been in the dark ages when it comes to probate court," he said, "mainly because so much money is to be made by the court system and the paper-pushing attorneys."

"Also, Michigan left it wide open for contesting wills." Now, "the law will give a chance for mediation or settling estates without having to go to court."

"And any opportunity not to have to go to downtown Detroit is greatly appreciated," he said with a grin, citing parking-lot fees.

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Secretary's Day program all about attitude

It's all about the attitude! Join Schoolcraft College for an enlightening and enjoyable day that celebrates and supports secretaries, administrative assistants, office personnel and general office staff. Schoolcraft College presents its annual Secretary's Day, Wednesday, April 26, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia, focusing on attitude and self-discovery.

Presenter Joanne Estes, founder and president of Vision Quest, will share techniques for analyzing, adjusting and maintaining your attitude, the differ-

ence your choices can make, and strategies for helping others improve their attitudes at work and at home.

Lunch and a vendor showcase highlighting the newest in office supplies begin the afternoon session. Aj D. Jemison, general manager of Fairlane Town Center, will describe fashion in the workplace and corporate expectations in the light of the more casual trend, and offer shopping tips.

The afternoon wraps up with relaxation as herbalist, aroma therapist and author Colleen K.

Dot presents an introduction to aromatherapy and offers ways to "spring clean" your body with natural herbs and pure essential oils.

The fee for the daylong session and lunch is \$89. To register or

for more information, contact Continuing Education Services at (734)462-4448.

Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road in Livonia, between Six and Seven Mile roads, just west of I-275.

Learning Center takes applications for summer

The Learning Center at Madonna University in Livonia is currently accepting applications for its summer term, which begins in June. Since enrollment is limited, it is important that applications be completed as soon as possible. Early applications will allow sufficient time for an assessment of each student before classes begin.

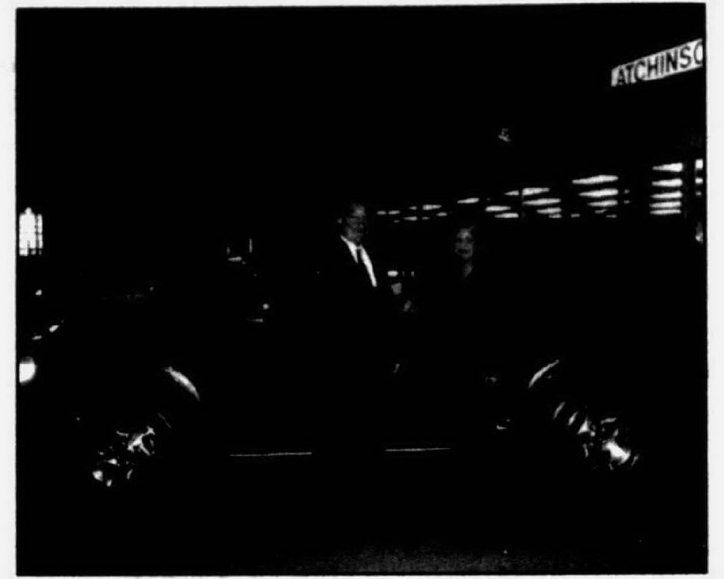
The tutorial sessions are designed for students from the first through 12th grades who are experiencing difficulty in reading and its related skills. Parents/guardians may choose one session in Block I: 9-10:30 a.m. June 19 to July 14; Block II: 9-10:15 a.m. or 10:30-11:45 a.m. June 19-30; Block III 8:30-10:15 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. July 5-14; or Block IV 8:30-10 a.m. or 10:15-11:45 a.m. July 17-28. Individual or group instruction (two students) is available. Certified teachers who are

graduate students in Madonna University's literacy education and learning disabilities master's degree programs will offer the tutoring sessions in Blocks I and II.

Prior to admission, each student will be informally assessed and a tailored remedial plan will be designed. Instruction is designed to enable the student to be a more successful and independent reader and will include strategies for reading fiction and non-fiction text, process writing and study skills. Students will develop a portfolio of their work during the session.

For more information, call (734)432-5586 or Sister M. Duane, (734)432-5585. Madonna is in Livonia at I-96 and Levan Road.

Lucky key



Prize winner: Tracy Rutkowski of Canton was the winner of a two-year lease of a 2000 Ford Explorer sponsored by the 18 Suburban Ford Dealers Association. The five finalists for the award received a key in between the second and third periods of the March 22 Detroit Red Wings game and each finalist had a chance to start the 2000 Explorer. The finalists were chosen from nearly 5,000 entries. Tracy receives her Explorer March 27 from Craig Atchinson of Atchinson Ford in Belleville.

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On the other hand, the physician must encourage you to undertake efforts to preserve the strength and stamina of your body. You need to be prepared to take advantage of the healing your body provides; otherwise, your state of poor conditioning will counter the gain of healing.

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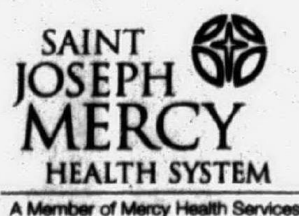
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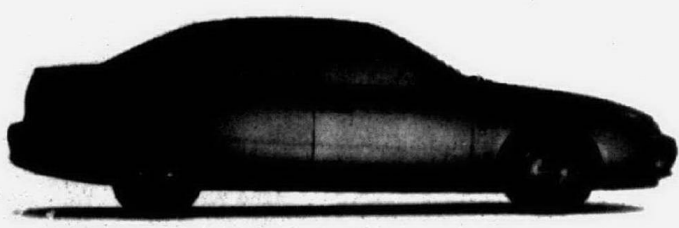
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Once polluted Newburgh Lake will be site of August triathlon

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oe.homecomm.net

Ever think you'd see anyone swim in the Rouge River? The day may be closer than you think.

To show the progress made in cleaning up one of Michigan's - and the country's - most polluted rivers, Wayne County is planning a triathlon in late August, the highlight being a half-mile competitive swim in Newburgh Lake, an impoundment of the Rouge on the border of Livonia and Plymouth Township.

According to James E. Murray, Wayne County environmental director, the event, scheduled for 8 a.m. to noon Sunday, Aug. 20, will also include a five-kilometer run around the lake and an 18-mile bicycle race through Hines Park, home to the lake.

"I think it's a real signal to the public and the world that the Rouge River is on a comeback," said Murray, a Livonia resident

'I think it's a real signal to the public and the world that the Rouge River is on a comeback.'

James E. Murray
Environmental director

who got the triathlon rolling.

But, he cautioned, "We're not encouraging open recreational swimming in the lake yet." Only trained athletes will compete.

Public swimming will wait until plant life is firmly re-established, he said, adding that County Executive Ed McNamara "is hoping, long-term, to have a swimming beach" either at the lake or farther upstream.

For now, Murray said, "the water qualities have improved enough that in this portion of the river" - Newburgh Pointe - a swimming competition "is

acceptable."

The county health department "signed off about two months ago on the water quality," he said.

"And what a great accomplishment that is," he added, noting that, for the last 30 years, officials have "warned everybody to stay out of the river" due to pollution from more than 50 years of industrial waste-dumping and natural runoff of fertilizers and road chemicals.

Newburgh Lake, a collection basin in the Rouge system, was drained and dredged in 1998 at a cost of \$12 million to remove PCBs and other contaminants.

That was just part of the \$600 million spent since 1992 on the federally mandated cleanup of the Rouge Basin, which stretches from the Detroit River to Oakland County.

Plants and fish have since been successfully re-introduced into the lake and boating and fishing are allowed, although the fish still cannot be eaten.

Sullivan plans to seek re-election

Pledging to make Wayne County more "user-friendly," County Commissioner John H. Sullivan, D-Wayne, announced Thursday his intention to seek election to a second two-year term.

"Wayne County government needs to be more user-friendly for residents," said Sullivan, whose 11th District includes the cities of Wayne, Belleville and Romulus and the townships of Canton, Huron, Sumpter, and Van Buren.

Issuing a call for satellite offices, Sullivan said, "Western Wayne residents must drive 20 to 40 miles to downtown Detroit, then battle to find a parking space every time they need to pay property tax bills or conduct other county business.

"Satellite offices are needed in the western part of the county," he said.

Sullivan, who serves on more commission committees - seven - than any other commissioner, said he also plans to work on



John Sullivan

regional transportation and "fight for a light rail system from" Wayne County's Detroit Metropolitan Airport to downtown Detroit.

"Our region needs to develop a comprehensive public transportation plan for western Wayne County and downtown Detroit," he said.

Sullivan said his efforts in his first term on the commission have led to "competitive bidding of all contracts" at Metro Airport; "the widening, reconstruction, paving and building of many roads" in the district and "improving the relationship" between the county government and the district's communities.

He said he also ensured that approximately one-third of the entire Wayne County road budget was spent in his district in 1999 and plans "to top that figure this year (2000).

"Citizens in my district know that they can count on me and that I am always willing to listen to them and to work hard on their behalf," he said. "I appreciate having the opportunity to serve the people of the 11th District."

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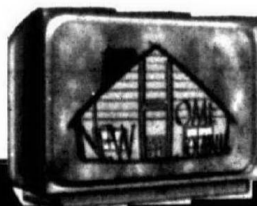
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Cruisers registration

The Plymouth-Canton Cruisers Swim Club will have registration from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, in the main hall outside of the Plymouth Salem pool.

Registration will be for kids six and over, from beginners to advanced. They will also be registering Masters swimmers (18 and over).

The Cruisers' season begins May 1. The team competes in U.S. Swimming Federation and Southern Michigan Swim League meets.

For more information, contact Janice Derian at (734) 455-3103, or under-18 coach Leslie Greeneisen at (734) 207-7780, or Masters coach Sarah Eubanks at (734) 207-0883.

Sonnanstine helps

Junior Amy Sonnanstine (Plymouth/Canton HS) took first in the pole vault to help Wittenberg University take first in the Mountain Laurel Invitational Track Meet at University of the South in Tennessee.

Sonnanstine was also fourth in the 400 hurdles and ran a leg on her school's third-place 1600 relay team.

Chiefs' boosters meet

The Canton Chiefs Football Booster Club will host their monthly meeting in Room 165 of Canton HS at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 12. Nomination and election for the office of president will be held.

All parents of Chief football players are encouraged to attend the meeting. If you have any questions, call Paul Szejewski at 453-0985.

Sports auction

The Institute for Preventive Sports Medicine will hold a celebrity sports auction Friday, April 14 at the Marriott Eagle Crest Conference Resort in Ypsilanti (1275 S. Huron St.). The three-hour event begins at 7:00 p.m.

Radio personality Dick Purtan and former NBA and University of Michigan standout Tim McCormick will be the host auctioneers. They will be auctioning off various sports memorabilia signed by the likes of Arnold Palmer, Gordie Howe, Walter Payton, Grant Hill, Brett Favre, Mia Hamm, Wayne Gretzky and John Elway, as well as a host of Red Wings and Tigers.

The wide variety of signed items include photographs, jerseys, hockey sticks and pucks, balls, helmets and NASCAR car pieces.

In addition a Mickey Mantle autographed jersey, as well as a Las Vegas trip and jewelry will be raffled off.

Admission to the event is \$10. Proceeds benefit a non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of sports-related injuries and health care containment.

For more information call (734) 424-1706.

Women's golf league

A women's Friday morning golf league will get underway May 8 at Fellows Creek Golf Course in Canton. All ability levels are welcome; individual handicaps will be established.

Tee times begin at 9 a.m. The 16-week season costs \$15 to register and weekly greens fees. There are no residency requirements.

There will be a league meeting at 9 a.m. April 14 at Fellows Creek. Registration begins Monday. For more information, call (734) 397-5110.

Futures Classic back

Mystic Creek Golf Club in Milford will again host the MEDHEALTH Futures Golf Classic for the second year, on May 24-27.

The SBC Futures Tour is the developmental tour for the LPGA and features 20 tournaments in 15 states. The Pro-Am will take place on May 24, while the tourney is May 25-27.

Hockey coach wanted

Redford Unified is seeking a varsity hockey coach.

Those interested should call Redford Union athletic director Jim Gibbons at (313) 592-3408.

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

Dispute roils Bolger-Mangan

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

A sour finish marred a sweet meet.

The memorial Bolger-Mangan annual meet kicking off the outdoor track season Thursday for Plymouth Canton and Salem went right down to the last event — and beyond.

Plymouth Salem was ruled the victor Friday, 69-68, when Canton's mile relay team was confirmed as being disqualified for running with the wrong color Spandex uniform.

"Two different runners wore different Spandex," Chiefs' coach Bob Richardson said. "One wore black and one wore white."

"I did not check before the race like I should have. We know (the rule), but I didn't double-check. It was right near the end of the meet."

"We felt (we) could win the race, which would then win the meet. I erred because I didn't double-check that."

"The rule says it's got to be the same color undergarments."

"That allowed us to win the meet," Coach Geoff Baker of Salem said. "We saw (the uniform violation) and made the official aware of it."

"That's not the way you like to win a meet."

"I'm not happy about the way it came down, but the rule is the rule."

"There's one thing, if this was the regionals and they get disqualified, they don't go on to states. But that's coming from my point of view and I'm a little biased."

Thus Salem's 1600 relay foursome of Rob Showalter, Robbie Kamman, Tony Stott and Steve Shull were rule the winner with a time of 3:50 that was 10 seconds slower than Canton's time.

And instead of losing by nine, Salem won by one.

As if that weren't enough controversy to mar the meet meant to memorialize two tragically deceased Plymouth athletes, basketball player Mark Bolger



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSHMANN

Over and out: Plymouth Canton hurdler/vaulter Chris Kalis didn't run away from the field in Thursday's Bolger-Mangan meet but he did win the 110-meter hurdles, beating Salem's Ryan Silva by .15-second. The Rocks won, 69-68, on a rules violation by the Chiefs in the meet's final event.

and runner Jeff Mangan, the Plymouth Salem shot putters didn't have identical uniforms on, either.

The difference, Baker said, was because the shot put results were complete before the improper uniform issue was raised.

"Bob and I have not talked yet," Baker said. "He was questioning our shot putters. What they were wearing. That was okay, as of what I heard from

the MHSAA.

"John Davidson, the starter, called the MHSAA Friday morning, to get an interpretation on the rule about Spandex."

Nate Hampton, their rules expert, told John it's a pretty cut and dried rule.

"I went further. Our shot putters wear T-shirts that say 'PS Track and Field.' They were wearing shorts, not

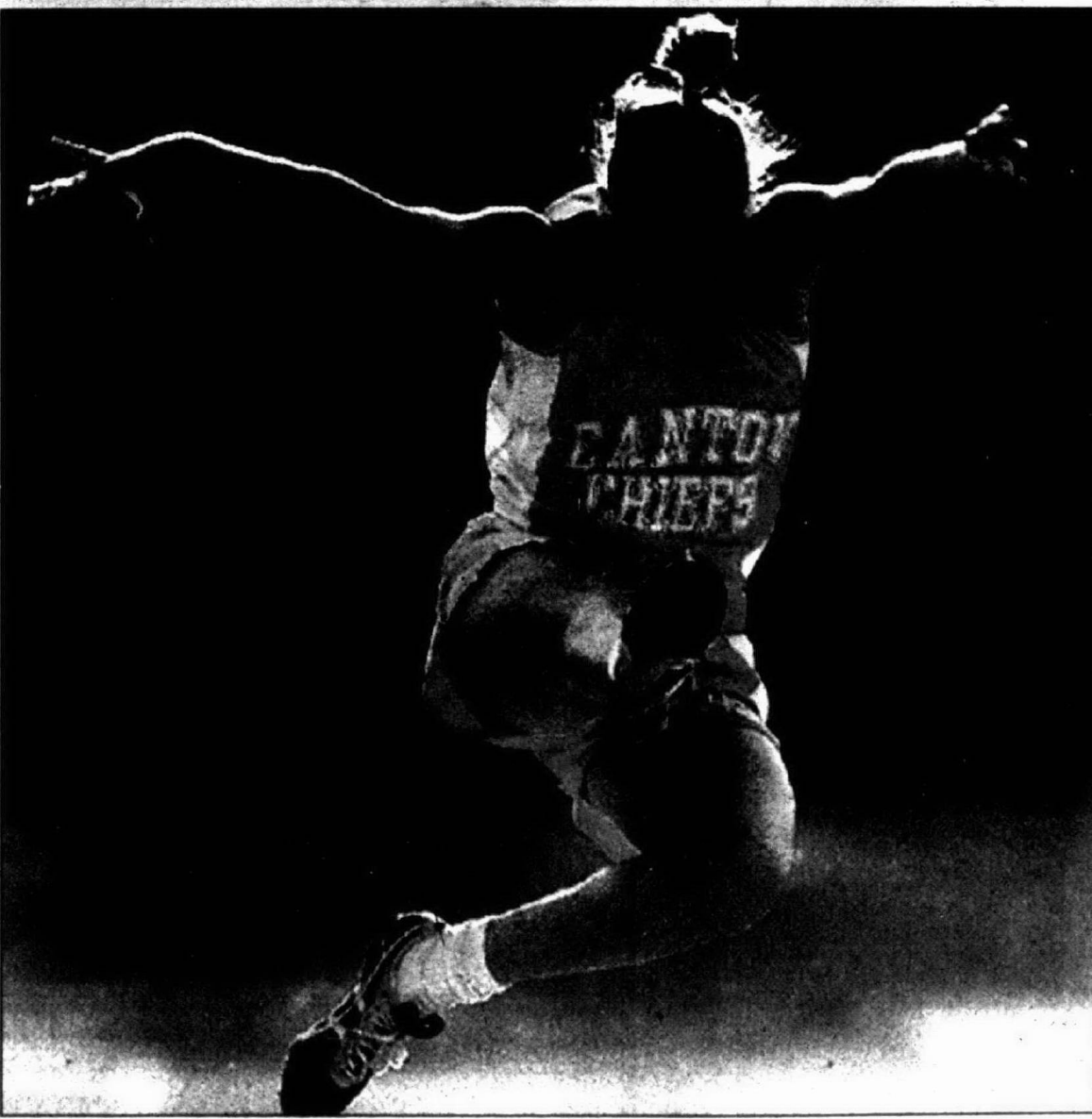
the regular ones.

"He explained they must be in (the school) colors. The one who scored (for Salem) wore blue. One of others, a non-scorer, wore light grey; close to white."

"He said it did not sound like there was a violation there."

Richardson offered a different view. "They were not in their team uniform," the Chiefs' coach said. "He

Please See **BOYS TRACK, B3**



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSHMANN

In for a landing: Plymouth Canton had few bright spots in its lop-sided Bolger-Mangan meet loss to Salem (101-36) but Amy Driscoll was one, shown here on her winning long jump effort. She bettered 16-feet in her first venture outdoors.

Lady Rocks batter Chiefs in track meet

The outcome was a little one-sided but both coaches saw good things come out of Thursday's Bolger-Mangan meet, the opening of the girls outdoor track season.

Plymouth Salem's veterans beat rival Canton's youngsters, 101-36.

"We expected that with the veteran team we had returning, it would be a pretty competitive meet for us," Coach Mark Gregor of victorious Salem said.

"The conditions were fairly good at the beginning. It was windy and cold at times, though," he added. "I thought our team handled the first outdoor meet of the season fairly well."

"There were a few slipups, but that was to be expected."

"The thing I liked most, all 70 girls on our team who competed were focused and competitive."

On the Canton side, Coach John Venning was enthusiastic about what he saw from his largely inexperienced squad.

"The girls ran great races," he said. "They were very competitive throughout the lineup."

"This is a very good starting point for a young team. They need to keep working hard and stay together and focused as a team."

"The coaching staff is very proud of their overall effort and sportsmanship."

Tiffany Grubaugh fought through the wind to set a new school record for the Rocks in the discus. She also won the shot put.

Grubaugh's new school discus record, which she'll undoubtedly threaten or extend throughout the season, is 143-feet, 6-inches.

"The throwers had a wind in their face for each of the two events," Gregor said. "My hat's off to them."

"It was difficult for them. The fact Tiffany threw the discus that far was pretty

Please See **GIRLS TRACK, B3**

Ballpark Franks? No, C. J. and Paul

Ballpark junkie. Is it someone who tries to go to every park or someone who just enjoys them?

In any case, we figure we've been to roughly 18 between us.

We've been to the old (Tiger Stadium, Fenway Park, Wrigley Field, old Comiskey Park), the new (Sky-Dome, Turner Field), the good (County Stadium), the bad (Metrodome) and the ugly (Riverfront Stadium, Veterans

Stadium, Three Rivers Stadium).

Last week, we went to one more — Comerica Park. You'll love it, you'll hate it, but you'll go to it. You may even go to watch the Detroit Tigers.

We went with one thing in mind — helping you know what to look for and what to look out for. OK, there was free food, but we only ate in the name of helping you the consumer.

We've reviewed many different parts of the park — all with Comerica's predecessor in mind. In the end, you'll have to make up your own mind if you go.

Think of this as Siskel and Ebert go to the ball park. We'll grade the items as Bats Up, Bats Down, or a Checked Swing. Ready? Let's go to the ball park.

ACCESS

CJ: Just 35 minutes. That's all it took to drive from our office (Levan and Schoolcraft in Livonia) to the new ball park — and on opening day! OK, so the Tigers opened in Oakland. Still, the drive wasn't all that different. Took I-

96 to I-94 east to the Chrysler south and got off at the first exit — Mack. Took that to Woodward, turned left and voila! We were there. Signs leading you to the park all the way. Access is possible, but easy? Ah — doubtful. Have to wait and see. **CHECKED SWING.**

PAUL: There's an old saying about how you can't get there from here. Its latest installment is Comerica Park. While there are signs everywhere on how to find the park, you might want to bring a book, a good tape or maybe a hand-held video game while waiting for

Please See **BALLPARK, B2**



C.J. RISAK



PAUL BEAUDRY

Ballpark from page B1

traffic to move. One of the advantages of Tiger Stadium was the ballpark came first, the freeways were built around it and Michigan Avenue had three lanes of traffic in both directions. Comerica Park doesn't have that luxury. Woodward is narrow and the freeways are close, but with no immediate access. Prepare to use a lot of sidestreets and to be creative. **BATS DOWN.**

PARKING

Paul: Parking? There's parking? I'd like to say I'm kidding, but I'm not. At Tiger Stadium, you usually went to the same lot for every game because you always went there. At Comerica, you, eventually may. Unfortunately, it might be the same one you parked at near Tiger Stadium. Good luck. Prepare to walk. And if there's an event at the Fox or State Theater or Second City, well, *May the Force Be With You.* The parking gods won't. Two words of advice: People Mover. **BATS DOWN.**

CJ: According to material provided by the Tigers' PR department, there are "approximately 2,000 parking spaces" that were created during park construction, with 1,000 in an adjacent parking structure and a total of 16,700 within 15 minutes of the park. Or, as my cohort advised, you can park at that same space near Tiger Stadium and bus to the new park. My advice: That apparently empty lot outside the

leftfield fence (near the Fox) isn't for parking. Only go in there if you have one helluva SUV — that's where they're building Ford Field. **BATS DOWN.**

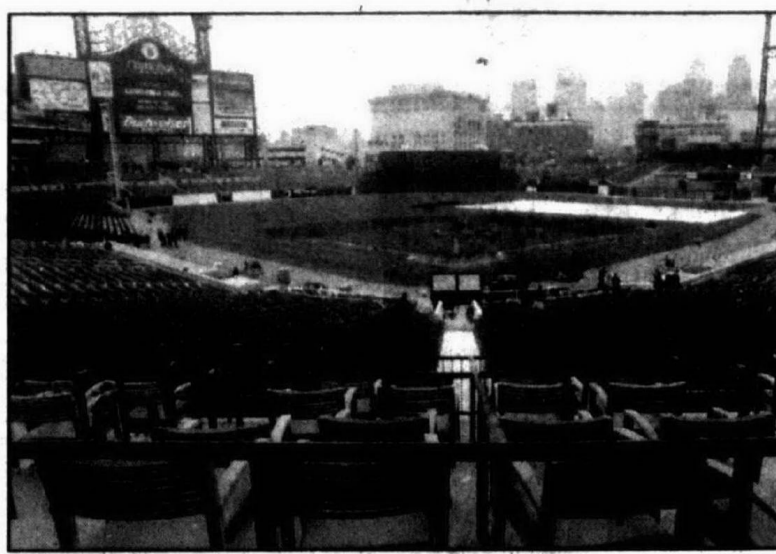
STADIUM EXTERIOR

CJ: OK, it doesn't have that lush, white aluminum siding that made Tiger Stadium so special. But it does have a lot of really neat Tiger stuff, like sculptures of Tigers on the outside walls. There's a lot of brickwork that looks good now and will probably look even better when the park is finished. There's lots to be done before this park is 100 percent open, and it won't reach that level by Tuesday. Three of the four streets surrounding Comerica were still under construction when we were there. But it does look good. **BATS UP.**

Paul: Tiger Stadium is an old ballpark that looks like a warehouse in the middle of a historic district. Comerica Park is a new ballpark that looks like an old ballpark in the shadow of the old Hudson's warehouse. When finished it will be wonderful. It's still pretty impressive. My two favorites are the statues at the main ballpark entrances and the Pewabic tile around some of the building entrances. I like, I like, I like. **BATS UP.**

CONCOURSES

Paul: One of the nice things



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

What's the score? The giant scoreboard in left field, along with the downtown Detroit skyline, will be the dominate view in the Tigers' new Comerica Park.

about Tiger Stadium was the interior concourses. True, they were small and cramped. But that was part of the charm. You walked into the stadium; you were hit with the smells of cooking onions and hot dogs. The CoPa has large, wide, roomy concourses, but you lose the perspective of being inside. With no overhangs and no true enclosed area, good luck on a rainy day. I like the fact there is more space, but it's too open, if that's possible. **CHECKED SWING.**

CJ: Yeah, I'll miss that Tiger

Stadium charm — the smell of whatever was cooking, the enclosed, dark, almost claustrophobic feeling. And although it did protect you from the rain, I always wondered what was dripping on my head while walking through those lower concourses on a sunny day. I like the CoPa. The airiness, the wideness, the easy access — heck, we could walk around the entire perimeter of the park! Couldn't do that at the Corner. **BATS UP.**

SEATING

CJ: There are, according to the Tigers' PR department, 30,000 chair seats, 3,000 club seats, 2,000 suite seats and 5,000 bleacher seats (total of 40,000), ranging in price from \$8 to \$75. There's no overhang to block views, no poles to block views and you can actually see buildings outside the park from the lower deck. There are even (get this) cup holders at every seat (except the bleachers). And a guy can stand at a railing in center field and actually watch the game. And you can see most of the park from the lower-deck concourse. I like it. **BATS UP.**

Paul: We made the trek to section 210, row 22, seat 1 — the furthest seat in the last row down the upper deck in right. The last time I sat in such a seat was in new Comiskey Park and the concessionaire sold binoculars and oxygen. Don't need 'em here. The climb isn't as high as it looks and the sight line was much better than the worst seat in Tiger Stadium (those not behind poles.) Wider seats (perfect for wider posteriors) and better sight lines make the grade

here, but the best are the Tiger Den seats with actual padded, wooden, movable chairs (at \$75 a pop and only available to season ticket holders, they should be Barcaloungers). Tiger Stadium seats were closer to the action, but this works well. **BATS UP.**

FOOD

Paul: A \$7.25 beer and a Ball Park Frank for \$2.75? It makes Metro Airport food prices seem like Rally's. I know they have to pay for the stadium somehow, but geez. The food court eats were OK (It's a ballpark, not East Side Mario's), but more dough in the buns shouldn't mean less dough in the wallet. **BATS DOWN.**

CJ: I'm a beer and a dog kinda guy, and I always treasured those served at the Corner. But times change and, know what? CoPa's weren't bad. It's just that there's so much to choose from — chicken sandwiches, fish sandwiches, gyros, subs, french fries, etc. The dogs they serve are thick-skinned, authentic coneys, which is great. And you certainly get a lot of bun for the buck — they're huge. There are all sorts of different restaurants, including a McDonald's in right field. We ate in the Big Cat Food Court. It's good, but pricey — sandwiches are all \$6, beers range from \$4.50 to \$7.25, dogs are \$2.75 to \$3.50. **BATS UP.**

BATHROOMS

CJ: I remember going to see Mark Fidrych pitch in front of a packed house at Tiger Stadium. Went to the men's room, waited in line to get to one of those troughs inside, then wondered why since all these guys were just going wherever they wanted to. By the time I got back to my seat, I'd missed two innings. My sister was with me; the line for her was 3-1/2 innings. There are more bathrooms, so there will be fewer missed pitches at CoPa. **BATS UP.**

Paul: No matter how hard you tried to forget, 87 years of ballpark memories had to include the sights, sounds and smells of Tiger Stadium bathrooms. The dung of your ancestors are a thing of the past. There are 462 of American Standard's finest at 35 locations around the park. This is not to say that people aren't going to have to wait. But it's going to be a lot easier. **BATS UP.**

DISTRACTIONS

Paul: A carousel? A ferris wheel? In a ballpark? Yup, and

it works too. It's out of the way, unobtrusive and blends in very nicely. Scoreboard is big. Real big. So big the upperdeck of the left field stands block out the Channel 50 ad because someone designed the board to go 30 feet too close to the stands (word is the Mike Ilitch ain't too happy 'bout it). And there's an out-of-town scoreboard, too, for the first time in years. Lot of places to buy souvenirs and lots of room to roam. If you don't like the fact there's a carousel, don't use it. **BATS UP.**

CJ: Let's face facts here. This park cost \$300 million, so it better have plenty to offer. Since it appears the Tigers won't have an awful lot to show, distractions like carousels (in the Big Cat Food Court) and Ferris wheels (with baseballs as gondolas) may come in handy. There are restaurants, pillars featuring Tiger greats, shops to spend money in (yes, there are ATMs), and sometime soon a waterfall in center field and fireworks for home runs over a scoreboard bigger than any in America. **BATS UP.**

OVERALL

CJ: I won't dwell on the past, knowing all the special places to park, the smell of the hot dogs, the feel of walking up the grandstand ramp to the stands and seeing the field ... Well, anyway, I'm not going to dwell on it. I like CoPa. It'll work well, once everything opens and parking spots are located close to Mars. You can sit and watch the game, you can stand and watch it, you can go to a restaurant and sit and watch it. And hopefully, someday soon, the Tigers will be worth watching. The price will be steep, to be sure. Outside the Pepsi Family Section, which is bleacher seating, look to spend about \$80 for four tickets, four plain hot dogs and Cokes, a program and parking. **BATS UP.**

Paul: Comerica Park is not Tiger Stadium. Nor was it meant to be. And in today's time of big-money ballparks and bigger contracts for less talented players, someone's got to pay for it — although I do have a problem with the fact that two Chicago-style hot dogs and two medium beers cost the same amount as tuition did per credit hour my freshman year in college. It's fun, it can be exciting and it is v-e-r-y expensive. Go early, go often (check to see if you're eligible for a second mortgage), but above all go. Once you find a place to park, you'll have fun. **BATS UP.**

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Guide to tickets; parking

TICKETS: You'll be able to get them, but probably not for Tuesday's opener. Tickets will run from \$30 from the infield box seats to \$8 for the Pepsi Family Section in right field. Best seats for the buck might be the pavilion seats in left field for \$14 a throw. For information and availability, call (248) 25-TIGER.

GETTING THERE AND PARKING: It's going to be tough. The signs are well marked on all major freeways and surface streets. But it's going to be crowded. Parking is the same boat. Best bet from the Observerland might be to take the Lodge to Bagley exit and finding parking in the Washington Blvd.-Grand Circus Park area. Or you can park near the Renaissance Center and either take a cab or jump on the People Mover to the Grand Circus Park stop. Until people get into a routine, be prepared to leave early.

POINTS OF INTEREST: Go early anyway and check the place out. The statues in left-center field of Tiger greats are outstanding and the architecture alone is worth a long look. And yes, the Ferris wheel and carousel can hold adults. Even overweight sports writers.

— Paul Beaudry

WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL

Monday, April 10

Canton at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Franklin at W.L. Western, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.
Farmington at John Glenn, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11

Churchill at Garden City, 4 p.m.
Huron Valley at Macomb, 4:30 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Shrine, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12

Churchill at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
Franklin at N. Farmington, 4 p.m.
Harrison at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
CC at Notre Dame (2), 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 13

Churchill at W. Bloomfield, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Redford CC at G.P. South, 4 p.m.

Friday, April 14

Liggett at Luth. Westl. d., 3:30 p.m.
Northville at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Franklin at Harrison, 4 p.m.
Wayne at Ypsilanti, 4 p.m.

(all double-headers)

Stevenson at Redf'd Union, 11 a.m.
John Glenn at Belleville, 11 a.m.
Redford CC at Salem, noon.
Churchill at Crestwood, noon.

GIRLS SOFTBALL

Monday, April 10

Churchill at Canton, 4 p.m.
W.L. Western at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Salem at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
John Glenn at Farmington, 4 p.m.
Ypsilanti at Wayne, 4 p.m.
PCA at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11

Garden City at Churchill, 4 p.m.
Huron Valley at Macomb, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12

Stevenson at Churchill, 4 p.m.
N. Farmington at Franklin, 4 p.m.
John Glenn at Harrison, 4 p.m.
Redford Union at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Riv. Rich at Ladywood (2), 4 p.m.

Thursday, April 13

John Glenn at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
Huron Valley at Agape, 4:30 p.m.

Friday, April 14

Churchill at Northville, 4 p.m.
Harrison at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Mercy at Ladywood (2), 4 p.m.
Liggett at Luth. Westl. d., 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 15

Taylor Invitational, 9 a.m.
Huron Tournament, TBA
(all double-headers)

Country Day at Churchill, 11 a.m.
Stevenson at Redf'd Union, 11 a.m.

BOYS TRACK

Monday, April 10

Redford CC at U.D. Jesuit, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11

Country Day, S'field Christian at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 13

Churchill at Franklin, 3:30 p.m.
Stevenson at Farmington, 3:30 p.m.
W.L. Cent. at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.
Wyandotte at Wayne, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 15

Novi Relays, 10 a.m.
Belleville Relays, 9:30 a.m.
Dearborn Elks Relays, 11 a.m.
Jefferson Invitational, TBA.

TBA — time to be announced.

GIRLS TRACK

Tuesday, April 11

Country Day, S'field Christian at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 13

Franklin at Churchill, 3:30 p.m.
Farmington at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.
John Glenn at W.L. Cent., 3:30 p.m.
Trenton at Wayne, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 15

Belleville Relays, 9:30 a.m.
Lady Chief Relays, 9:30 a.m.
Novi Relays, 10 a.m.
Jefferson Invitational, TBA.

GIRLS SOCCER

Monday, April 10

Wayne at Romulus, 4 p.m.
Luth. Westl. d. at Luth. Nor., 4:30 p.m.
Churchill at Harrison, 7 p.m.
Farmington at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Canton at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Salem, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11

Borgess at Ladywood, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12

Lincoln Park at Wayne, 4 p.m.
W.L. Cent. at John Glenn, 5:30 p.m.
Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.
N. Farmington at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 13

Ladywood at Mercy, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, April 14

Wayne at Garden City, 4 p.m.
Luth. Westl. d. at Luth. Westl. d., 4 p.m.
N.D. Prep at Ladywood, 5:30 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL

(all double-headers)

Sunday, April 9

Indiana Tech at Madonna, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11

Madonna at Tri-State (Ind.), 2 p.m.

Friday, April 14

Madonna at Tiffin (Ohio), 1 p.m.

Saturday, April 15

Madonna at Concordia, 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 16

Tri-State (Ind.) at Madonna, 1 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL

(all double-headers)

Sunday, April 9

Madonna at St. Francis (Ind.), TBA.

Tuesday, April 11

Madonna vs. Spring Arbor at Liv. Ladywood H.S., 4 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12

Madonna at Spring Arbor, 4 p.m.

Friday, April 14

Madonna at Siena Heights, 4 p.m.

Saturday-Sunday, April 15-16

St. Francis (Ill.) Tourney, TBA.

Schuette quits job as Rocket hoop coach

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

The domino theory continued Wednesday for area high school basketball coaches as Westland John Glenn's Mike Schuette becomes the latest to leave.

Schuette, who finished 101-70 in eight seasons with the Rockets, becomes the fourth area varsity cage coach and the third in the Western Lakes Activities Association to step down shortly after the 1999-2000 season. Two other WLAA positions are also reportedly open, bringing the total to five.

Schuette, who turned in a letter of resignation to Glenn athletic director Gerald Szukaitis, becomes the second varsity boys basketball coach in the

Wayne-Westland Schools to walk away within the past week. Wayne Memorial's Chuck Henry also resigned after 17 seasons.

Schuette cited family considerations for his departure, just as Dan Robinson had recently done at Livonia Franklin, and Tim Newman had done at Livonia Stevenson.

"I don't want to miss my two boys playing at the high school level," said Schuette, who has a sixth-grader and an eighth-grader, both in the Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Schools (where his wife is also employed). "Last November I told my assistant Joel Lloyd that it was probably my last year at Glenn."

"The decision was simple, either continue to coach at Glenn and miss my kids' growth at the

high school, or put aside coaching. I saw what happened with Jim McIntyre (Stevenson) and Bob Brodie (Plymouth Salem) when they couldn't watch their sons play because they were coaching at another school. I didn't want to go through that."

Schuette, however, hasn't completely put aside coaching. He'll remain as the varsity girls coach in the fall at Redford Thurston where he has spent the past 15 years and continue to coach varsity baseball in the spring at Cranbrook.

"I love coaching and being with young kids — it's high school sports," said Schuette, a guidance counselor at Glenn. "I loved being part of such a school activity, the excitement, being with the kids

and just the overall excitement of the game.

"I'm sure I'll try to get back into it at some place and time in our school system."

Schuette's final campaign at Glenn ended with a disappointing 4-16 mark.

Coming off a 14-8 season in 1998-99 and buoyed by the return of 6-foot-8 Yaku Moton, a transfer from national high school power Mount Zion Christian Academy (N.C.), Glenn had high hopes entering the 1999-2000 season. A preseason poll even had the Rockets among the top 25 teams in the state.

And despite an impressive early season victory over state-ranked Adrian, Glenn's season turned sour after two returning starters, forward Ben Harris and guard Eric Jones

were both gone by mid-season. The 6-8 Moton, surrounded by an inexperienced team, was the only senior left on the roster.

In 1992-93, Schuette left a varsity boys position at Thurston to replace Pat Bennett at Glenn. His first team finished 12-9.

In Schuette's second season (1993-94), Glenn captured its first-ever regional championship in Jackson with a thrilling win over Ann Arbor Pioneer. The Rockets then lost a close Class A quarterfinal battle with Battle Creek Central and wound up 20-5 overall.

That team featured 6-10 Guy Rucker, who became a starting center at Iowa; 6-6 Tony Goins, Wayne State's all-time leading scorer; Brent Washington, who earned a football scholarship at Michigan;

and Albert Jones, who played at Oakland Community College.

"They not only had the most talent, as good of talent as I've had, but they were also very focused," Schuette said.

Never short on athletes, Schuette had six winning seasons with the Rockets.

"Mike is the only coach ever to get us to the quarterfinals," said Szukaitis, who indicated the vacant position will be posted soon within the Wayne-Westland Schools.

Lloyd, Glenn's JV boys coach and entering his third year as the varsity girls coach, appears to be the leading candidate.

"It's only my editorial comment, but Joel has probably been ready the last two years," Schuette said.

Chiefs, Rocks continue collision course in early soccer

There's a showdown in the offing somewhere down the road.

Several, perhaps. Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem's soccer teams remained unbeaten

Wednesday, winning their respective Western Lakes Activities Association openers in their third games of the season.

Canton drubbed Walled Lake Central, 5-0, as

Amanda Lentz got a hat trick on the Chiefs' own turf.

Ashley Rosaen and Allison Mills scored the other Canton goals.

Erica Aherns, Beth Sandusky and Sarah Plymale each had an assist.

Salem overcame a 1-0 Northville halftime lead to defeat the host Mustangs, 3-1.

Jami Coyle, Janae Bucks and Jeannine Edwards scored the Rocks' goals.

Jessie Bucks, Coyle and Kellee Mullin had the assists.

So both have yet to lose, but somewhere along the

line they'll run into other WLAA powers.

And don't forget their own regularly scheduled meeting May 15.

Should be a fun season.

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RECREATION & BOWLING

Westland's preserve: Holliday hidden gem

BY KURT KUBAN STAFF WRITER

Westland resident Bob Duda led a small group of hikers along a narrow path that wound its way through the shadows of magnificent, towering beech trees, some of the defining features of the William P. Holliday Nature Preserve.

"Some of these beech trees can be traced back a thousand years," Duda explained to the ten members of the hiking troop.

As they made their way through the surrounding woodland on a lovely spring morning, with temperatures in the mid-60s, winter and the bustle of civilization faded away.

As the group was listening to a chorus of songbirds, the unmistakable roar of a train suddenly thundered out, quickly making everyone realize they were not in some remote northern wilderness, but smack dab in the middle of urban Wayne County.

The hike, organized by the South East Michigan Group (SEMG) of the Sierra Club, took place on the first weekend of spring at Holliday, a 500-acre swath of woods that runs through Westland.

It was just one in a series of outings SEMG organizes during the year at various parks and preserves throughout the five-county area surrounding Detroit.

"We try to do one hike every weekend, 52 a year," said Duda, calling this hike "a kind of spring wake-up tour."

Duda, who has been a SEMG member for 12 years, arranged the hike and acted as leader for the group, which consisted of both members and non-members.

While the group weaved its way through the preserve at a leisurely pace, Duda and fellow hikers Marty Johnson and Phil Crookshank took time to speak to each of the hikers. They described the various attributes of the nearly 40-year-old park, including the wildlife that lives there and the forces that threaten it.

"It is really interesting when

you realize that in the middle of an urban area we have a natural area like this that is home to many deer and even some coyotes," said Johnson, who is not affiliated with SEMG, but is a member of the Holliday Nature Preserve Association (HNPA), a group of volunteers who care for the park.

While most of the park is comprised of deciduous forest, Duda led the hikers to a majestic stand of red and white pines, which was one of the highlights of the outing.

After about an hour of walking, the hikers came to a small bridge that skirts Tonquish Creek, the main waterway of the preserve and a vital component of the Rouge River watershed. They rested on the bridge, and discussed the storied history of the park, including tales of buried Indians within its borders.

"This is a nice place to get away," Johnson said. "It kind of gives you an idea of what this area looked like years ago, before they homogenized it, drained it, and threw concrete over it."

Holliday is a particularly special place for Duda, who has become an active environmentalist over the course of the last decade.

About 12 years ago, Duda got involved with both the Sierra Club and the HNPA when he heard Westland officials were considering building a golf course through the preserve, which at the time was neglected and rundown.

"This was my first battle," Duda said. "I knew it was time to get off of my butt and get involved, rather than just saying I was for the environment. Since then, this has become my favorite place."

The Sierra Club and the HNPA actively campaigned against the golf course, and their efforts helped keep the preserve intact. They also drew awareness to the plight of the preserve, which is one of the main reasons for outings such as the spring hike.

"We are trying to accomplish



Hiking: Bob Duda (right) of the Sierra Club discusses some of the features of the Holliday Nature Preserve.

two things with these hikes," Duda said. "First, we love to get outside and enjoy the outdoors, and Holliday is a great place to do that. Secondly, we are trying to introduce other people to the natural beauty of the area, and hopefully they will want to get involved to save it."

Other areas where SEMG has planned upcoming outings include Pontiac Lake Recreation Area (April 16), Maybury State Park (April 22), Proud Lake Recreation Area (April 30), and a wildflower hike through Sharon Hollow (May 7). Anyone with an interest in the outdoors is invited.

Crookshank will be conducting a wildflower walk at Holliday on Mothers Day, which is another way SEMG and the HNPA are able to showcase the preserve.

"We don't want to love it to death, but we want to raise awareness and appreciation of

this place," Johnson said. "The preserve is special, but a very vulnerable piece of property."

After the break at the bridge, the group made its way back along the same path. Once in the parking area, it was clear the participants in the hike were impressed with the experience.

"This place is a real gem," said Southfield resident Dan Kolton, who read about the hike in the Observer. Kolton came along with his fiancée Mary Christner. Neither are members of the Sierra Club, but they try to get outdoors as much as possible.

"Places like this are important because you don't have to go very far to be able to do something like this," said Kolton, who is retired. "I always feel so much better afterwards."

For more information about Sierra Club outings or membership, call (810) 632-6309.

Crickets find underground

Fossorial is a word not often used by non biologists.

It does not have anything to do with fossils, actually it refers to animals that spend most of their time burrowing underground.

Maybe we don't use fossorial very much because we don't often think about those animals that are out of sight.

My neighbor, Bernadette Flanagan, recently brought me an insect she came upon at a local nursery.

She brought it to me in a tall potato chip can because it was able to run very fast. It never attempted to fly, but its back legs were cricket like.

Extending from both the front and the back were two thin extensions. One set were antennae, the other set were abdominal extensions. Overall length was about an inch. Color was a medium brown.

After transferring it to a glass jar so we could see it better, more of its features became apparent. Those hind legs were large, but not as large as those of a cricket we see in late summer.

The eyes were just tiny dark brown dots not much bigger than a 7-millimeter pencil lead. But most importantly we could see the first pair of legs.

At the end of each swollen front leg were black finger-like projections similar to those found on a garden rake. Those projections were part of a flat, widened section of the foot. The whole structure looked like a garden trowel with rake-like projections.

NATURE NOTES



TIM NOWICKI

After we saw these distinctive front feet, it was easy to identify the insect as a mole cricket.

The northern mole cricket is the most common species in our area, although we have a pygmy mole cricket in the state too. Like the name mole suggests, this cricket spends most of its time burrowing in moist soils. If they do come to the surface, its generally at night.

It's interesting to compare the features of this mole cricket with the black field cricket which is not fossorial. Large jumping legs would be impractical while burrowing, so they are greatly reduced in the mole cricket compared to the field cricket.

Eyes on the mole cricket are much smaller than on the field cricket because they cannot see while underground. Actually the entire head of the mole cricket is large and rounded for burrowing through soil.

And of course the spade like front legs of the mole cricket are designed for pushing soil while digging underground, a habit the field cricket does not exhibit.

Both the eastern and star-nosed mole, far bearers in the mammal group, have similar fossorial features. They too have small eyes and paddle shaped front feet for burrowing.

Interesting how two very different groups of animals have developed similar features to burrow in soil.

Now that you know mole crickets look like moles, can you guess why a camel cricket is so named? It has a humped back.

Keep your eyes open for either of these two unusual crickets this summer.

Salem, Canton shine

How do you get from ground zero to a state championship in just one full season?

That is exactly what Cliff Richards accomplished as the coach of both Plymouth Salem and Canton high schools.

Richards brings more to the table than most bowling coaches, however, as he is certified as a Silver Level coach by Bowling USA and a Level 3 coach in the Dick Ritger Bowling Camps.

Canton won the Southeastern Conference title by beating Salem for the title, but Salem came back and beat Canton for the chance to go to the state high school finals last month at Century Bowl in Waterford.

Salem captured the state title, led by their own version of Mateen Cleaves in Pat Brown, who demonstrated the leadership and ability of a true champion.

As for the Canton boys, the team was comprised of Alan Florka at leadoff, along with Ken Bazman, Brian Kaufman, Keith Moore and Tony Vitali at anchor, along with Keith Kingsbury.

Drew Barth, Brett Moore and Jon Robison rounded out the squad.

"We were unable to field any girls teams as only two from each school signed up and that is not enough," Richards said. "We will make every possible to get up girls teams this next season."

The girls competition was every bit as good as the boys.

"I was fortunate to have the talented kids to work with, and the parents were more than enthusiastic in their support all the way through to the state finals," Richards said. "The Bowling Proprietors organiza-

tion (B.C.A.M.) was the key to getting us started.

The management of Super Bowl was very helpful, placing the ads in the Observer for our tryouts, along with their continued support.

"Next year we hope to continue in our successful ways. We will be announcing the tryouts again and the Spring Break Bowling Camp, 9 a.m. until noon Tuesday through Friday, April 25-28, at Super Bowl.

"The program is designed for the beginner as well as the advanced player and anyone can come in."

The cost is \$95 for the complete course. For more information call (734) 459-6070.

Country Lanes, located on Nine Mile Road between Middlebelt and Grand River in Farmington will be running a single 9-pin no-tap as a Leukemia Fund Raiser on Sunday, April 16.

The special sponsor child is Matthew.

There will be four bowlers to a lane, Door Prizes and Cash Prizes. Check in is at noon with a 12:30 start.

Call Diana Herman at (734) 427-8703 or sign up at the counter.

On Saturday, April 15, the final scratch tournament of this season for the Bacardi-Brunswick Blue Ribbon Group will be at Roosevelt Lanes in Allen Park, off Allen Road, just west of Southfield.

First prize is \$1,000 guaranteed and \$500 is also guaranteed for second. One of every two entrants will cash in.

It is open to any bowlers with averages of 217 and under. For more information, call Roosevelt Lanes at (313) 381-0222.

The score may look odd, but Dave Silverman had two 300 games in separate series the same day at the Lost Weekenders League at Mayflower Lanes.

They had a make up from the earlier schedule and his first 300 was in a 814 series, then he bowled another 300 in the following make-up set.

See bowling honor roll.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL

Table listing bowling honor roll for various leagues and events including Mayflower Lanes, Thursday Nite Mixed, St. Aiden's Men, and others. Each entry lists names and scores.

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ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Angelic choir takes wing after revival

There were only three members of the Livonia Youth Choir singing, but their voices sounded like a choir of angels.

The mini-performance of "Amani Utupe," an African song, followed an interview with choir members Rachel Bhagwat, and Sarah and Emma Stitt and their moms. They'll sing the entire program Sunday, April 16, at Newburg United Methodist Church. Churchill High School Choralation, a show choir under the direction of Pat Hutchison, will perform.

"It's an innocence and joy that you hear in their voices," said Haika Gay, Rachel's mother. "It's a bunch of kids who want to be there. Rachel loves to sing and she's found a place where she can sing in a secular situation. It gives her this broad experience. It's a cooperative effort to sing together as a unit."

If it hadn't been for Hutchison, though, Rachel would still be looking for a children's choir with which she could hone her singing skills. Until January when Hutchison resurrected the Livonia Youth Choir, local children could sing as a group only if they joined a church choir.

"It was a friendly atmosphere at the audition," said Bhagwat, a 9-year-old student at Webster Elementary. "I like singing together with different harmonies. And I like that we don't just stick to American music but have songs from different places."

Hutchison revived the choir because of children like Rachel, Sarah and Emma. Her own son sang in the Livonia Youth Choir 15 years ago. Shortly after, the group was disbanded.

"He made some lifelong friends," said Hutchison, chairman of the music department at Churchill High School in Livonia. "Even though today

- **What:** Livonia Youth Choir's Spring Concert
- **When:** 4:30 p.m. Sunday, April 16
- **Where:** Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, (between Wayne and Newburgh roads), Livonia. Admission is free, call (734) 425-1749.



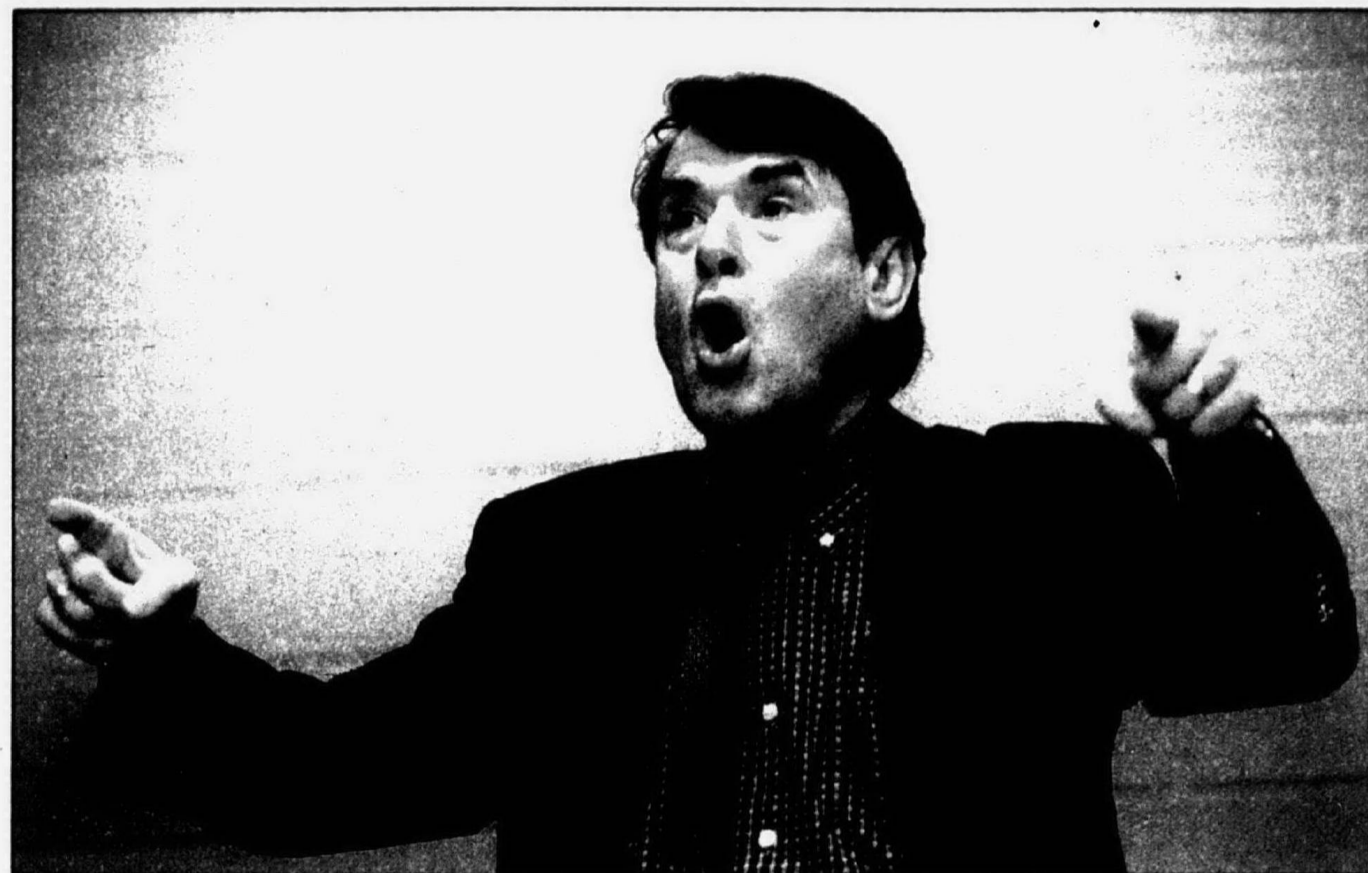
Angelic voices: The Livonia Youth Choir rehearses for their first concert.

Hutchison had another reason for reviving the choir in addition to encouraging children to develop social and musical skills. When instrumental instruction was restored in Livonia elementary schools last September, fifth- and sixth-grade vocal music classes were eliminated.

"When the Livonia Public Schools changed the program by offering a little less vocal and more instrumental for elementary students, we wanted to supplement by giving them another opportunity to sing," said Hutchison. "It's a good feeder program for high schools."

Auditions for the choir were held in January. A \$3,000 grant from the Livonia Arts Commission got the project off the ground by providing funding for sheet music, rehearsal space, and director Leigh Emmett, a graduate of Churchill High School and former Livonia Youth Choir accompanist. Students rehearse 4:30-6 p.m. Sundays. The cost for 12 weeks

Please see EXPRESSIONS, C2



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Solemn sounds: Dave Wagner leads the Madonna University Chorale in a rehearsal of Duruflé's "Requiem."



Holy Week tradition: Chorale members Ellen Oivier Smith of Canton (left), Larry Banas, Howell and Ted Grabarczyk, Farmington Hills prepare for their annual performance with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra.

olodymyr Schesiuk remembers Palm Sunday as a solemn time when the priest would bless pussy willow branches before passing them out to parishioners at his church in Ukraine. The ceremony marked the beginning of Holy Week services and the retelling of events leading up to the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

So it's fitting that this Palm Sunday, the Livonia Symphony Orchestra conductor will keep the day sacred by playing Maurice Duruflé's "Requiem" at St. Edith Church in Livonia. A French composer who lived from 1902 to 1986, Duruflé wrote the music to celebrate the repose of souls of the dead. Schesiuk and the orchestra join together with the Madonna University Chorale and conductor/organist David Wagner to present the work.

"It's very nice music written shortly after the Second World War in 1947," said Schesiuk, a Garden City resident who immigrated to the U.S. in 1991. "It's not an easy piece of music. As compared to Mozart, it's a Gregorian chant, but everything is a little softer but very emotional."

Program

In addition to the "Requiem," the program reflects on life and death with Handel's "Concerto for Organ & Orchestra," Grieg's "Death of Asle"

MUSICIANS REFLECT ON LIFE DEATH

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

- **What:** A Palm Sunday concert by the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, Madonna University Chorale and organist Dave Wagner
- **When:** 3 p.m. Sunday, April 16
- **Where:** St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, south of Five Mile, Livonia
- **Tickets:** \$15, \$10 students/children. Call (248) 645-6666 or (734) 464-2741

from "Peer Gynt Suite," Chadwick's "Serenade for Strings," Dvorak's "Largo" from the "New World Symphony," and Sibelius' "Valse Triste."

"We selected these for what will be good for acoustics in church," Schesiuk said. "The concerto is really church music. The 'Requiem' is a question of life and death. It's like life. It must be used in the right place and time."

Schesiuk is looking forward to performing with Wagner and the chorale again. In January, they presented Beethoven's "Ninth Symphony" at Livonia's Churchill High School Auditorium.

In 1998 and 1999 the orchestra and chorale joined the St. Genevieve Interdenominational Choir to perform Requiems by Rutter and Faure on Good Friday. St. Genevieve choir director Laverne Lieberknecht ini-

tially came up with the idea for a joint concert with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra during Holy Week. Due to illness, Lieberknecht and her choir will be unable to perform this year.

The chorale and Wagner, now in his second season as conductor, began working on the "Requiem" in January.

"It's one of the great masterpieces of 20th century choral music," said Wagner. "Throughout the ages, composers have set these texts for the Mass of the Dead or Mass of Resurrection. It has ancient chant melodies with impressionistic sort of harmony. I don't want to people to be scared off because it's 20th century music. This is very accessible, a beautiful, lush work."

An accomplished organist, Wagner leads off the program as soloist for the Handel concerto. Wagner won Best Classical Recording of a solo artist at the 1998 Motor City Music Awards for his CD "Bright and Clear." Previous to becoming a full-time music professor at Madonna University two years ago, he was program director of classical music station WQRS for 18 years before it switched formats.

"The concerto Handel wrote was to be performed as intermission music for one of his oratorios," Wagner said. "During Lenten season, opera and theater performances

Please see LIFE, C2

University Musical Society resurrects Bach masterwork

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@oe.homecomm.net

Conductor Thomas Sheets believes that if not for Felix Mendelssohn, the University Musical Society Choral Union might not be performing Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" on Palm Sunday.

By the time Mendelssohn rediscovered the masterwork a little more than 100 years after it was written, the Passion and its composer had fallen out of favor and nearly been forgotten. Mendelssohn revived the large-scale oratorio in 1829. In so doing, the young conductor initiated the modern era of Bach scholarship and helped bring his music into the mainstream of performance repertoire.

Soloists

Sheets and the Choral Union together with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and Ann Arbor Youth Chorale will perform Bach's masterwork with soloists on Sunday, April 16. Thanks to the generosity of Carl and Isabelle Brauer, the University Musical Society was able to engage soloists with international reputations to sing the elaborate and lengthy production requiring an adult attention span. Joining them will be Russell Braun, a baritone regularly appearing with the Metropolitan Opera, singing the role of Jesus; soprano Maya Boog, alto Susan Platts, tenor Steven Sharp, and bass-baritone Clayton Thraier with Edward Parmentier on harpsichord/organ. Tenor Hans Peter Blochwitz is the Evangelist, a narrative character complemented by arias, choruses and chorales.

"Mendelssohn at the tender age of 19 came across the score of this work and was fascinated," said Sheets. "He single-handedly wrote out the parts and

Please see BACH C2



Thomas Sheets

"St. Matthew Passion"

- **What:** University Musical Society Choral Union, Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and Ann Arbor Youth Chorale perform Bach's masterwork
- **When:** 4 p.m. Sunday, April 16
- **Where:** Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor
- **Tickets:** \$10-\$22, call (734) 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229

CONCERT

Pianist spices concert with Latin American fare

Pianist: Dimas Caraballo rehearses for his "Music Through the Ages" concert.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@oe.homecomm.net

While Latin American music is all the rage right now little is known about classical works written by composers from Argentina and Spain. Dimas Caraballo thinks that's a shame. The Cuban-born pianist plans to change that by giving two concerts at the Plymouth Community Arts Council on Saturday, April 15.

The "Music Through the Ages" program features works ranging from baroque to contemporary with a little Latin thrown in for spice.

"Classical is the foundation of all music," said Caraballo. "It's master music that's 200 years old. Some people think you put it on and fall asleep. It has some life, vitality. It's not boring."

"In Spanish culture European music is just part of the culture, part of education," continued Caraballo:

- **What:** Concerts by pianist Dimas Caraballo
- **When:** 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, April 15
- **Where:** Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon Road.
- **Tickets:** \$5, call (734) 416-4278

"The program has my Spanish roots. I wanted to give people a flavor of Latin American music and how it was influenced by classical music but retains folk themes."

Caraballo began playing piano shortly after coming to the U.S. in 1967. His mother instilled a love of music in him early. She was his first piano teacher when he was 5. Caraballo's talent and hard work won him full scholarships to the University of Michigan School of Music in 1986. Now the award-winning pianist is sharing them in a high-energy program of music by Bach, Beethoven, Liszt, Enrique Granados, Louis Gottschalk, Ernesto Lecuona, and Alberto Ginastera. Caraballo is playing the same recital at the University of Miami in August.

"The Granados has a flavor of Spanish dancers with castanets and Gottschalk was influenced by Latin

Please see CONCERT, C2

Life from page C1

weren't allowed, so Handel would put on the oratorios."

Intermission

During intermission, the audience will be able to support the chorale by purchasing a T-shirt touting their upcoming concert tour of Ireland. Before leaving though, they'll perform their Irish concert program 4 p.m. Sunday, June 18, at St. Paul's Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. That concert is free but donations are gratefully accepted to help defray the cost

of the tour.

Schesiuk is busy as well. He's nearly completed a recording of the Mass by Ukrainian composers dating as far back as the 17th century with his choir at St. Josephat Church in Warren. It will be released later this year. Wagner's CD will be available at the concert.

To purchase a T-shirt or support the Madonna University Chorale, call (734) 432-5708 or send e-mail to wagner@smtp.munet.edu

Concert from page C1

American music," said Caraballo. "Gottschalk is a lot of fun, very rhythmic. Lecuona's 'Malaguena' is a famous piece. They used a lot of his music in Hollywood. Liszt was responsible for changing the piano. His music was so technically difficult they restructured the piano."

Memories

Ginastera's sonata brings back special memories for Caraballo. The Canton pianist attended a master class and played for the Argentine composer while a student at the University of Miami.

"I played his 'Argentinian Dances,'" Caraballo said. "It was nerve wracking but he gave me insight that he didn't write in his music. He told me ways to make it more exciting. In the sonata, he did the same things as Bartok and Prokofiev. He

used a lot of tone cluster and loud tone. He explores the whole sonority of the keyboard."

Beginning in the fall, Caraballo and his wife Maria will be teaching a salsa class at the arts council. A visiting associate professor of dance at the University of Michigan two years ago, Caraballo taught music history to dancers and collaborated with companies such as the Dance Theatre of Harlem, the American Ballet Theatre and the Gyori Ballet of Hungary.

Salsa

"Salsa is a term from New York in the 1960s," said Caraballo. "But the dance 'Guaraja' goes back to pre-Castro times in Cuba. It's the type of dance where there's a good relationship between man and woman."

Bach from page C1

score. He had turned 20 by the time it was performed.

"Bach's 'St. Matthew Passion' is the sublime choral work of all time, a marathon work, the apex of choral music in intellectual and musical content. At every level there's nothing on the same plane."

The Passion

The Passion uses Biblical text from the Gospel according to St. Matthew to relay the story of Christ's crucifixion. To supplement the account of Matthew, one of Christ's 12 apostles, Bach enlisted the help of librettist C.F. Henrici. The Leipzig poet, who used the pseudonym Picander, wrote several poetic passages to accompany the text traditionally read in churches on Palm Sunday. First performed on Good Friday in 1727, the large scale oratorio features

"The thing about Bach is he was very much a perfecter of many of the different styles. Passions had been written for 150 years before this but he took it to the greatest heights. 'St. Matthew' represents the summit."

Thomas Sheets
Conductor

soloists, choruses and instrumental interludes by weeping violins.

"I have taken to thinking of this piece as the opera that Bach never wrote," said Sheets. "The drama is at the same level although it's a sacred work but that same character breadth. His style was influenced by Baroque opera. He incorporated elements of Baroque opera and used them in novel ways in this piece."

This is first time the Choral

Union is performing Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" although Sheets has conducted it once before and sung it many times. Now in his seventh year of leading the 150-voice Choral Union, Sheets is well-versed when it comes to Bach. He teaches graduate choral music studies at Wayne State University.

"The thing about Bach is he was very much a perfecter of many of the different styles," said Sheets. "Passions had been

written for 150 years before this but he took it to the greatest heights. 'St. Matthew' represents the summit."

End of celebration

The performance marks the end of the University Musical Society's celebration of Bach on the 250th anniversary of his death. To mark the occasion the audience is being invited to sing along on 11 of the 12 chorales. Text and music will be provided.

"This is not a marketing ploy," said Sheets, who also conducts the Oakland Community College Choir in Farmington Hills. "In Bach's time, the congregation would have known all these tunes and words from memory so he incorporated them into the chorales that serves the function of a Greek chorus and comments on the drama of the arias."

Expressions from page C1

is \$60. Especially needed are boys whose voices haven't changed.

"We decided on a 12-week workshop to see how it would work," said Hutchison. "In fall, we'll be looking for singers from fifth to eighth graders."

Hutchison hopes to expand membership to singers in Westland and Redford, although the choir is now composed primarily of Livonia children from fourth to seventh grade.

As Sarah Stitt sees it, a lack of members is the only problem facing the choir. She and the others would like to have more children join their 23 voices.

"I think the choir would be better if more kids would join," said the 9-year Webster Elementary student. "I like the choir because

I get to be with other kids. We get to sing a lot of fun songs and get to practice singing in different languages. I like the versatility of the repertoire because my private voice classes are in Italian."

Sarah's older sister, Emma, enjoys singing songs such as the Hebrew "Al Shlosha D'Varim" as well. Emma, now 11, used to leave singing messages on her grandparents' answering machine when she was younger.

"I like singing in foreign lan-

guages and learning how much I can do."

Mother Susan Stitt can't believe the progress the choir's made since rehearsals began in January. In fact, they're so good Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey has invited them to perform at the city's 50th anniversary celebration Sunday, May 21, at city hall.

"Leigh's instilled a discipline," said Susan. "I remember her telling them that if you can hear yourself singing, you're singing

too loud, so they're learning to sing together. I really believe music is a lifelong skill."

Churchill's Choralation performs a concert of music ranging from classical to jazz 8 p.m. Friday, June 2. Tickets are \$5, \$3. Call (734) 523-9230.

Have an interesting idea for a story? Call arts reporter Linda Ann Chomin at (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to lchomin@oe.homecomm.net

MOT waltzes proudly to Strauss' famous opera

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER
fprovenzano@oe.homecomm.net
Don't expect David DiChiera to gloat. It's not his style.

But forgive him, if he manages even the slightest smug expression.

This Saturday, DiChiera will once again stretch the notion of what is possible when the Michigan Opera Theatre presents *Der Rosenkavalier*, a lushly orchestrated opera by Richard Strauss. It is the first-ever performance of the early 20th-century opera at the acoustical gem located in downtown Detroit's theater district.

Since it was first performed in 1911, *Der Rosenkavalier* is considered one of the most performed German operas written in the 20th century. Among Strauss other popular operas are *Salome* and *Electra*.

Der Rosenkavalier is filled with waltz rhythms that require an enormous orchestra. More than 100 instruments are used. In addition to traditional instruments, the orchestra requires harps, Glockenspiel, tenor drum, bells and castanets.

"With the Opera House, we can now perform all the magnificent works," said DiChiera, founder and general director of MOT.

While Strauss' poem works portrayed emotion with a thorough orchestration, his palette is much broader with the characterizations and melodrama of opera, said DiChiera.

On Stage
What: "Der Rosenkavalier," an opera by Richard Strauss
When: Opening — 8 p.m. Saturday, April 15; performance times — 2 p.m. Sunday, April 16, and April 30; 8 p.m. Saturday, April 16, and April 22
Where: Detroit Opera House, at the corner of Madison Avenue and Broadway, Detroit
Tickets: \$18-\$98; call (313) 237-3429 or (248) 645-6666.

"With Strauss, the orchestration is an equal partner with the operatic singing and story," he said. "The eroticism of the sound is overwhelming."
While the waltz was a 19th-century development, *Der Rosenkavalier* blends the social sensibilities of the 18th century with the romantic music inspired by Mozart. In opera, anachronisms are hardly a concern.
The MOT production features one of the few family acts in opera. Helen Donath will sing the role of Marschallin. Meanwhile, her husband, Klaus Donath conducts the orchestra and her son, Alexander Donath directs the production.

While *Der Rosenkavalier* is a

Please See MOT, C5

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sale of Plymouth Canton Community Crier, Inc. as a going concern

The Plymouth Canton Community Crier, Inc., Debtor-in-Possession in U.S. Bankruptcy Case No. 99-56542, has received an offer from Willow Media, L.L.C. for the purchase of substantially all of its assets, including accounts receivable, inventory, work-in-process, customer lists, copyrights, corporate names, certain office equipment and other assets for the sum of \$340,000 plus assumption of the Debtor's post-petition trade payables. The exact terms and conditions of the current offer are available by contacting the Debtor's attorney listed below.

The Debtor is accepting higher and better offers for the purchase as a going concern, and interested parties should contact the Debtor's attorney, Willard E. Hawley, 30150 Telegraph Rd., Suite 263, Bingham Farms, MI 48025, (248) 646-5070. Potential purchasers will be required to submit a \$10,000 good faith deposit with Debtor's attorney and enter into a confidentiality agreement prior to commencing due diligence, the terms of which are available upon request. Bids will be accepted in \$5,000 increments. Potential purchasers must be available for an auction which will be held at Debtor's counsel's office on Wednesday, April 19, 2000 at 2:00 p.m.

Publish: April 9, 13 and 16, 2000

Tinderbox Productions presents



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The Musical

If you enjoyed our production of "Annie" you'll love "A Little Princess!"

Tickets: \$7, \$10, \$12
Reserved Seating Section Call: (313) 535-8962

Coming to
The Masonic Temple Cathedral Theatre
500 Temple St Detroit, MI 48201
April 9, 16 at 2:00 p.m.
April 14, 15 at 7:00 p.m.



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Join us for a fabulous Easter Brunch, Sunday, April 23rd
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Adults \$19.95 Seniors \$15.95 Children \$9.95

\$99 Easter Room Package
includes overnite stay
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ROBERT C. HALL, Attorney, 24500 Ford Road, Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48127
STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF WAYNE, File Number 2000-618942 IE

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Independent Probate
Estate of PETER DONAWICK, Deceased, Social Security Number 075-01-0946 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following: The decedent, whose last known address was 2250 North Canton Center Road, Apt. 116, Canton, Michigan 48187, died January 4, 2000. An instrument dated April 5, 1996 has been admitted as the will of the decedent.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, Peter Michael Donawick, 11319 Springfield Drive, Frederickburg, VA 22408-1151, or to both the independent personal representative and the Wayne County Probate Court, Detroit, Michigan 48226, within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.
Attorney: Robert C. Hall, P-34400, 24500 Ford Road, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127; Telephone: (313) 274-4064
Publish: April 9, 2000

WAYNE COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. PUBLIC NOTICE

The Wayne County Department of Public Health announces that family planning services only will no longer be available at their health centers effective May 1, 2000.

All other services and programs continue to be provided at these locations. If you have any questions regarding family planning services, your medical records, or access to alternate providers, please call the health center where you received services or our Administrative Offices at (734) 727-7000.

Wayne County Department of Public Health
Publish: April 9, 2000

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THE Plymouth Job Fair

May 3, 2000
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
at the
Hilton Garden Inn
(Northeast Corner of Exit M-14 and Sheldon Rd.)
14600 Sheldon Road
Plymouth, MI 48170

Brought to you by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce and our sponsors, The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, WB Channel 20, and the Plymouth Hilton Garden Inn

Please join us at Plymouth's Job Fair. It's Free!

There will be a variety of employers at the Fair looking for full and part time employees

Positions employers are looking to fill include:

- Engineers • Manufacturing
- Teachers • IT • Retail • Drivers
- General Labor • Administrative, plus many more...

Please call the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce for details.
734/453-1540

Be sure to tell your friends... We'll see you at the Fair!

Noteworthy

Gallery exhibits, art shows, classical concerts

MAKING CONTACT: Please submit items for publication, at least two weeks in advance to the event, to Noteworthy, The Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 or fax (248) 644-1314

ART SHOWS

DTE ENERGY BIOMFEST
Detroit's annual flower show featuring an art exhibit is at Cobo Convention Center April 9.

DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY FLEA MARKET
Antiques, collectibles and contemporary treasures are available 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at Historic Fort Wayne in Detroit. (313) 821-7795.

DETROIT ARTISTS MARKET
An open house of the new home on Woodward is 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, April 12 at 4719 Woodward (at Forest), Detroit. (313) 393-1770.

AUDITIONS & CALL FOR ARTISTS

ART IN THE VILLAGE
Artists are needed to exhibit their work at the fourth-annual fine arts exhibit June 10-11 at Livonia's Historic Greenmead Village. Applications must be in by April 15. Applications and information may be obtained by calling Debbie Dufour at (734) 466-2540.

HUDSON'S ART PARK
Michigan artists are welcome to submit proposals for Hudson's Art Park, which will be located in Detroit's Cultural Center. Deadline for proposals is Monday, April 24. Artists must submit no more than 10 slides, a list of works, resume and cover letter to Hudson's Art Park, DAM-Detroit Artists Market, 300-River Place, Suite 1650, Detroit.

LIBERTY FEST 2000
Call for artists for the ninth-annual fine art and fine craft show on June 24 and 25 in Canton Township. Application deadline is April 15. (734) 453-3710.

BENEFITS

ART FOR A CAUSE
A benefit for FAR conservatory is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at the Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham. The event features Alexander Zonjic and a live auction. Reservation — \$50 per person. (248) 540-4755.

EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE
The annual benefit *Celebrate the Dance* is at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 14 at the Community House, 380 Bates, Birmingham. The evening includes a live dance performance, dinner and a live auction. Tickets \$75-\$200. For reservations, call (248) 362-9329.

PEACE BENEFIT
Performances by Mary Callaghan Lynch, Ursula Walker and Buddy Budson and others at this benefit for the Center for Peace & Conflict Studies is 2 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at the Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington. (313) 577-3453.

SFLF BENEFIT CONCERT
The Stewart Francke Leukemia Foundation's Celebration of Life, a concert featuring Francke, Marshall Crenshaw and Commissioned is at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 314 Fourth, Royal Oak. For ticket info call (248) 828-2865.

CLASSES

ART CLASSES
D & M studios offers fine art classes for preschoolers through adult. Classes held at three locations: 8691 N. Lilley Road, Canton; 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton; 525 Farmer, Plymouth (734) 453-3710.

DETROIT BALLET
Classes in child and adult classical ballet, tap and jazz. Adult beginners welcomed. Classes offered at the Betty Johnston Dance Studio in Farmington Hills at Folsom and Nine Mile. (248) 474-3174.

EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE
All levels of classes for recreational and professional students, including modern, ballet, pointe, tap and jazz for children ages 3 and older. 1541 W. Hamlin, between Crooks and Livernois, Rochester Hills. (248) 852-5850.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
Adult art classes 9 a.m. to noon every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Woodworking classes at 9 a.m. Monday-Friday, 15110 West Ten Mile, Oak Park. (248) 967-4030.

KAMMUELLER DANCE CLASSES
Advanced and professional classical ballet program, 9:30 a.m. Monday-Friday, intermediate level, 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 5526 W. Drake, West Bloomfield. (248) 932-8699.

VISUAL ART ASSOCIATION OF LIVONIA
Classes in watercolor, figurative

drawing and painting; workshops in batik and watercolor monotypes at the Jefferson Center, Room 16, 9501 Henry Ruff, Livonia. (734) 455-9517.

CONCERTS

BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE
Benefit concert featuring Flavio Varani, Nadine Deleury and Velda Kelly is 7 p.m. Sunday, April 9 in Varner Recital Hall on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester. (248) 626-2820. The Musical will feature the winners of scholarship auditions at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 13 at the Birmingham Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham.

CATHEDRAL CULTURAL SERIES
A performance of Requiem by Giuseppe Verdi is 3 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 865-6300.

DETROIT CHAMBER WINDS & STRINGS
Performs Stravinsky at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Birmingham Unitarian Church, Woodward and Lone Pine in Birmingham. (248) 362-9329.

p.m. Sunday, April 9 at the Best Western Sterling Inn at Van Dyke and 15 Mile in Sterling Heights. (248) 645-9705.

STRING CHEESE INCIDENT
The musicians perform at 9 p.m. Saturday, April 15 at the Majestic Theatre, 4140 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 561-2299.

TOMMY FLANAGAN
The jazz piano legend performs at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. (313) 576-5111.

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY
Susanne Mentzer and Sharon Isbin perform at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University, Ann Arbor. The Australian Chamber Orchestra performs at 8 p.m. Friday, April 14 at Rackham Auditorium, 915 East Washington, Ann Arbor; and the UMS Choral Union and the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra perform Bach's St. Matthew Passion at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Hill Auditorium, 825 North University, Ann Arbor. 1-800-221-1229.

— *Art of a New Century*, sculptures by members of the Sculptors Guild of Michigan through May 5. 1516 Cranbrook, Birmingham. (248) 644-0866.

MEADOW BROOK ART GALLERY
Opens Friday, April 14 — *Progressions*, the Department of Art and Art History Student and Faculty Art Exhibition through May 14. Opening reception is 4-7 p.m. Friday, April 14.

ORION ART CENTER
Opens Thursday, April 13 — the annual watercolor exhibition through April 27. Opening reception is 7 p.m. Thursday, April 13. 115 S. Anderson, Lake Orion. (248) 693-4986.

PAINT CREEK CENTER FOR THE ARTS
Opens Friday, April 14 — Eric Mesko: Mixed Media Constructions through June 17. 407 Pine, Rochester. (248) 651-4110.

SUSANNE HILBERRY GALLERY
Opens Friday, April 14 — Megan Parry paintings through May 27. Opening reception 6-8 p.m. Friday, April 14. 555 S. Old Woodward, Birmingham. (248) 642-8250.

SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES GALLERY
Opens April 14 — *Hot Gun Art: Artful Weapons for Peace*. Opening is 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 14. 33 E. Adams, Detroit. (313) 963-7575.

WILD WINGS GALLERY
A Master Highlighter event is scheduled April 14-16 at the Wild Wings Gallery, Main Street at Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth. (800) 755-3401.

GALLERY EXHIBITS (ON-GOING)

A.C.T. GALLERY
Through May 19 — *Go-Figure 35*. East Grand River, Detroit. (313) 961-4336.

ALFRED BERKOWITZ GALLERY
Through April 30 — Richard Ritter *Suspended Expressions: Visions in Glass*. The gallery is on the third floor of the Mardigian Library at the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus. (313) 593-5400.

ART LEADERS GALLERY
Through April 15 — *Experience Europe*, a group exhibition. Celebrate Glass Month with a group glass art show through April 30. 33216 W. 14 Mile, West Bloomfield. (248) 539-0262.

ART CORRIDOR GALLERIES
Through May 31 — The work of Donna Vogelheim in the second floor of the Farmington City Hall, 23600 Liberty, Farmington.

BOOKBEAT
Through April 30 — Jeffrey Silverthorne *Letters Home*. 26010 Greenfield, Oak Park. (248) 968-1190.

BREAKFAST CLUB
Through April 30 — Myth paintings by Brian Taylor, 234 E. Main, Clawson. (248) 288-9966.

CARIBBEAN COLORS
Through May 21 — *Island Life* by Lee Kroll, 2966 Biddle, Wyandotte. (734) 285-6544.

CARY GALLERY
Through April 25 — Group exhibit with Olga Pawlowski and gallery artists. 226 Walnut, Rochester. (248) 651-3656.

CASS CAFE
Through June — Paintings by Diana Alva and James Puntigam. 4620 Cass, Detroit. (313) 831-1400.

CENTER GALLERIES
Through April 29 — Larry Bell, *Fractions*. 301 Frederick Douglass, Detroit. (313) 664-7800.

COMMUNITY ARTS GALLERY
Through May 12 — 2000 Undergraduate Exhibition. 5400 Gullen Mall on the campus of Wayne State University, Detroit. (313) 577-2423.

JOHANSON CHARLES GALLERY
Through May 6 — *Heroes* — a theme show. 1345 Division, Detroit. (313) 567-8638.

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER
Through April 26. *Seeds of Expression* a multimedia exhibit. 47 Williams, Pontiac. (248) 333-7849.

DAVID KLEIN GALLERY
Through April 30 — New Photography II, photographs of 14 artists from around the world. 63 Townsend, Birmingham. (248) 433-3700.

DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY
Through April 15 — 20 Year Photo and Costume Retrospective of the Detroit Dance Collective. 5201

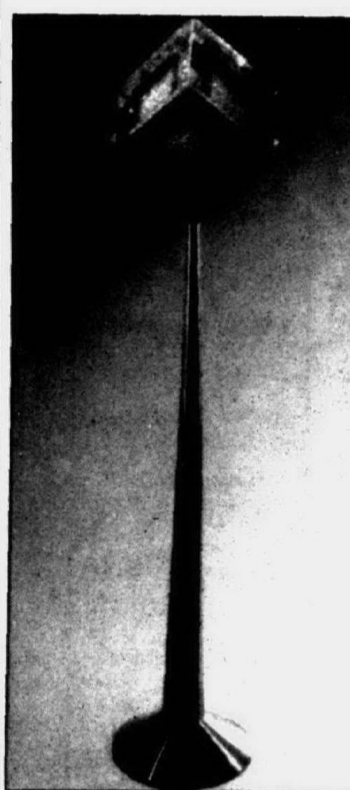
Woodward, Detroit.
HILL GALLERY
Through April 15 — recent works by Melba Price and Richard DeVore: *Black Vessels*. 407 W. Brown, Birmingham. (248) 540-9288.

JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN GALLERY
Through May 4 — Glass artist Jon Kuhn. 6600 West Maple, West Bloomfield. (248) 661-7641.

FORD GALLERY
Through April 14 — The annual student show. 114 Ford Hall, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. (734) 487-1268.

GALERIE BLU
Kaiser Sudan: *Evolution*. 7 N. Saginaw (2nd floor), Pontiac. (248) 454-7797.

HABATAT GALLERIES
Through May 14 — The 28th annual International Glass Invitational. 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 333-2060.



Now appearing: "Modernism and Post-Modernism: Russian Art at the End of the Millennium" is showing at the Elaine Jacob Gallery.

ELAINE JACOB GALLERY
Through May 19 — Modernism and Post-Modernism: Russian Art at the End of the Millennium. 480 W. Hancock, Wayne State University. (313) 993-7813.

ROBERT KIDD GALLERY
Through May 13 — Exhibition of paintings by Bob Nugent, sculpture by Christine Hagedorn and a group show of Sculptural Glass. 107 Townsend, Birmingham. (248) 642-3909.

LAWRENCE STREET GALLERY
Through April 29 — *Clay from the Soul II*. 6 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 334-6716.

LEMBERG GALLERY
Through May 6 — Books by Susan Goethel Campbell. 538 N. Old Woodward, Birmingham. (248) 642-6623.

LIVONIA ARTS COMMISSION
Through April 19 — The Livonia Public Schools student art in the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. (734) 466-2490. Through April 28 — exhibition by the Artifacts Club of Livonia members, at the Livonia City Hall Lobby, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia. (734) 466-2540.

MANISCALCO GALLERY
Through June 3 — *Reconstructionism* featuring Jon Lockard and Willis Davis. 17329 Mack, Detroit. (313) 886-2993.

OAKLAND COUNTY GALLERIA
Through April 28 — *Image Light & Structure 2000*. 1200 North Telegraph, Pontiac. (248) 858-0415.

PALETTE AND BRUSH CLUB
Through June 16 — a joint exhibit of the club's paintings at the BPS Corporate Conference Center. 31301 Evergreen, Beverly Hills. (248) 646-7033.

PEWABIC POTTERY
Through April 15 — *Possy Bloopoons* in the Stratton Gallery and *Wax & Fire* Sat. fired a group exhibit in 3025 E. Jefferson, Detroit. (313) 822-0954.

REVOLUTION
Through April 22 — Scott Richter and Jim Chatelein: *The Notebook Drawings*. 23257 Woodward, Ferndale. (248) 541-3444.

SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
Through April 30 — *Helping Hands: The African American Health Care Experience in Southeastern Michigan*. *Residential Reflections*, glass works by Donna Maskill will also

be on display through April 30. 26000 Evergreen, Southfield. (248) 948-0460.

SOUTHFIELD CENTER FOR THE ARTS
Through April 28 — The Waterford Friends of the Arts presents *Spectrum*, a multi-media exhibit. Opening reception is 6-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 6. 24350 Southfield, Southfield. (248) 424-9022.

UZELAC GALLERY
Through May 12 — *Interpretations in Glass*. 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 332-5257.

WASHINGTON STREET GALLERY
Through May 6 — Janet Keiman's *For the Love of Glass*. Opening reception 2-4 p.m. Sunday, April 9. 215 E. Washington, Ann Arbor. (734) 761-2287.

ZEITGEIST GALLERY
Through May — *Altered Landscapes* (three Canadian perspectives) James Gordaneer, Jeremy Gordaneer and John Climenhage. 2661 Michigan, Detroit.

LECTURES

AFRICAN AMERICAN LECTURE SERIES
The Wayne State University Department of Art and Art History present Tyree Guyton, creator of Detroit's Heidelberg Project at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 12 at the DeRoy Auditorium on the campus of WSU. (313) 577-2980.

FARMINGTON ARTISTS CLUB
Guest lecturer is photographer Balthazar Korab at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 12 at the Farmington Library on 12 Mile in Farmington.

PONTIAC-OAKLAND TOWN HALL
Sally Ann Howes presents a Broadway musical program at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 12. 1515 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 625-3117.

LITERARY

BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
Writers Live with Elinor Lipman author of *The Ladies' Man* meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at the library, 300 Merrill, Birmingham. (248) 647-1700.

SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
In celebration of National Poetry Month, the library will have poetry readings daily at 11:30 a.m., 4:15 p.m., and 7:15 p.m. Monday, April 10 through Friday, April 14. 26000 Evergreen, Southfield. (248) 948-0460.

WEST BLOOMFIELD POETRY
The Greater West Bloomfield Arts Council presents an open mike reading of your favorite poems at 3 p.m. Saturday, April 15 at Barnes & Noble, 6800 Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield.

MUSEUMS

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Sunday brunch lecture at 11 a.m., April 9 is on facial reconstruction in forensic science. 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 645-3210.

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Cynthia Canty, from WNIC FM 100.3 is the celebrity tour guide for the *On the Air* exhibit from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, April 9. The exhibit runs through April 30 at the museum, Woodward and Kirby, Detroit. (313) 833-1805.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
Opens Sunday, April 16 — Detroit Public Schools Student Exhibition through May 21. Through June 4 — *Van Gogh: Face to Face*. Through May 31 — *Glass, Glass, Glass*, from the DIA's Collection. Through June 4 — *Mathew Lewis: Drawings and Related Prints*. 5200 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 833-7900.

THEATER

GEM THEATER
Escanaba in da Moonlight, a comedy by Jeff Daniels, extended through June 25. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays, Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sundays. 33 Madison, Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800.

JEWISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE
Arthur Miller's *Broken Glass* through April 9 at the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield. Tickets \$15-25. To purchase tickets, call (248) 788-2900.

THE KING KORN TRIO
A romp back to the 1950s presented in the McAuley Theatre of the University of Detroit Mercy through April 16. Tickets \$10 for regular admission. For information call (313) 993-1130.

Howes this?

On stage: Sally Ann Howes presents a Broadway musical program at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 22, at the Pontiac-Oakland Town Hall, 1515 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 625-3117.

DINNER THEATER

BACI THEATRE
Tony in Tina's Wedding, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sundays. 40 W. Pike, Pontiac. (248) 745-8668. (248) 645-6666.

FOR KIDS

KINDERMUSIK
Enroll anytime for classes for new-borns to age 7. Parents participate in classes for children under 3. Classes are held at the First Baptist Church of Plymouth, 45000 N. Terrestrial, Plymouth. Call Lon at (734) 354-9109.

WEST BLOOMFIELD COMMUNITY EDUCATION
Rita's songs and puppets for ages birth to 4 years. Classes are at the Sports Club, Farmington Road, West Bloomfield. Register at (248) 539-2290.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT
Features a wild west theme with Rossini's *William Tell Overture* and Copland's *Rodeo*. The event is 11 a.m. Saturday, April 15 at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. (313) 576-5111.

GALLERY EXHIBITS (OPENING)

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD ART CENTER
Opens Friday, April 14 — Art Awards 2000 BBAC High School Competition through May 5. Reception is 4:55-6:30 p.m. Friday, April 14. Opens Friday, April 14 — *Joe Zajac: Vitreous Ideas* through May 27. Opening reception is 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, April 14. Opens Friday, April 14

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14
 2150 N. Opdyke Rd.
 Between University & Walton Blvd
 248-375-2660
 Bargain Matinees Daily
 All Shows until 6 pm
 Continuous Shows Daily
 Late Shows Fri. & Sat.
 THRU THURSDAY
 NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (R)
 1:15, 1:45, 4:00, 4:30, 7:10, 7:40, 9:50, 10:20

NP READY TO RUMBLE (PG13)
 12:30, 2:30, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00

NP RETURN TO ME (PG)
 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 9:50

NP BLACK AND WHITE (R)
 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10

NP SKULLS (PG13)
 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:10

NP HIGH FIDELITY (R)
 1:40, 4:25, 7:05, 9:30

NP THE ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG)
 12:30, 1:00, 2:30, 3:00, 4:30, 5:00, 6:30, 7:00, 8:30, 9:15

NP PRICE OF GLORY (PG13)
 2:25

NP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
 1:20, 3:55, 6:40, 9:20

ROMEO MUST DIE (R)
 1:15, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

FINAL DESTINATION (R)
 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:40, 9:55

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R)
 1:10, 3:50, 6:50, 9:35

MISSION TO MARS (R)
 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

MY DOG SKIP (PG)
 12:30

Showcase Dearborn 1-8
 Michigan & Telegraph
 313-561-3449
 Bargain Matinees Daily
 All Shows until 6 pm
 Continuous Shows Daily
 Late Shows Fri. & Sat.
 THRU THURSDAY
 NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (R)
 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 10:00

NP READY TO RUMBLE (PG13)
 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

NP BLACK AND WHITE (R)
 12:45, 2:55, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55

NP SKULLS (PG13)
 12:40, 2:50, 5:15, 7:35, 9:50

NP THE ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG)
 12:30, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:30

NP PRICE OF GLORY (PG13)
 12:30

ROMEO MUST DIE (R)
 1:20, 4:00, 7:10, 9:35

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R)
 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:45

FINAL DESTINATION (R)
 12:50, 3:10, 5:20, 7:25, 9:40

Showcase Pontiac 1-5
 Telegraph-Sq. Lake Rd. W. Side of
 Telegraph
 248-332-0241
 Bargain Matinees Daily
 All Shows until 6 pm
 Continuous Shows Daily
 Late Shows Thurs. Fri. & Sat.
 THRU THURSDAY
 NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (R)
 1:15, 1:45, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:10

NP SKULLS (PG13)
 12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:25, 9:55

NP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
 1:30, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R)
 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20

Showcase Pontiac 6-12
 2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of
 Telegraph
 248-334-6777
 Bargain Matinees Daily
 All Shows until 6 pm
 Continuous Shows Daily
 Late Shows Thurs. Fri. & Sat.
 THRU THURSDAY
 NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP READY TO RUMBLE (PG13)
 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:40

NP RETURN TO ME (PG)
 1:10, 4:10, 7:15, 9:50

NP BLACK AND WHITE (R)
 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00

NP HIGH FIDELITY (R)
 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:45

NP THE ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG)
 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:10

NP PRICE OF GLORY (PG13)
 12:30

ROMEO MUST DIE (R)
 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:35

FINAL DESTINATION (R)
 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20

One Yacht
 Warren & Wayne Rds
 313-425-7700
 Bargain Matinees Daily
 All Shows until 6 pm
 Continuous Shows Daily
 LATE SHOWS FRIDAY & SATURDAY
 NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP READY TO RUMBLE (PG13)
 12:40, 2:55, 5:25, 7:50, 10:05

NP BLACK AND WHITE (R)
 12:45, 3:00, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55

NP SKULLS (PG13)
 12:50, 3:05, 5:15, 7:35, 10:00

ROMEO MUST DIE (R)
 1:30, 4:00, 7:10, 9:35

FINAL DESTINATION (R)
 12:55, 3:10, 5:20, 7:45, 9:50

MY DOG SKIP (PG)
 1:00, 2:55

MISSION TO MARS (R)
 4:50, 7:20, 9:40

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 Fri. & Sat.
 THRU THURSDAY
 NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (R)
 1:15, 1:45, 4:00, 4:30, 7:10, 7:40, 9:50, 10:20, 12:30

NP RETURN TO ME (PG)
 1:30, 4:15, 7:30, 10:00

NP HIGH FIDELITY (R)
 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 8:00, 10:20

NP THE ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG)
 12:50, 1:20, 2:50, 3:20, 4:50, 5:20, 6:50, 7:20, 8:50, 9:20

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R)
 1:00, 3:40, 6:40, 9:20

NP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

Star Southfield
 12 Mile between Telegraph and
 Northwestern off I-696
 248-353-STAR
 No one under age 6 admitted for
 PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm
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 TICKETS BY PHONE
 CALL 248-372-2222
 www.STAR-SOUTHFIELD.com
 NP FEATURES: SORRY NO VIP
 DISCOUNT TICKETS ACCEPTED

NP RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (R)
 SUN. 11:00, 12:00, 12:50, 1:20, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 4:40, 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 10:30, MON-THURS. 12:00, 12:50, 1:20, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 4:40, 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 10:30

NP RETURN TO ME (PG)
 SUN. 11:10, 1:40, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30; MON-THURS. 1:40, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30

NP READY TO RUMBLE (PG13)
 SUN. 11:00, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20; MON-THURS. 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20

NP BLACK AND WHITE (R)
 SUN. 11:10, 1:24, 4:10, 3:20, 4:20, 5:45, 6:40, 8:30, 9:20; MON-THURS. 12:45, 1:40, 3:20, 4:20, 5:45, 6:40, 8:30, 9:20

NP THE ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG)
 SUN. 11:00, 11:40, 12:30, 1:10, 2:10, 2:40, 3:40, 4:30, 5:20, 6:00, 7:00, 7:45, 8:15, 9:15

NP SKULLS (PG13)
 12:00, 1:10, 2:45, 4:10, 5:30, 7:20, 8:15, 10:15; MON. 4:10 & 7:20 ON TUE & WED. 4:11 & 12

OPEN CAPTIONED SHOWS ON TUES & WED. 4:11 & 4:12

THE HURRICANE (R)
 3:40 & 7:00

NP HIGH FIDELITY (R)
 SUN. 11:00, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30; MON-THURS. 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30

NP PRICE OF GLORY (PG13)
 10:15 PM ONLY

ROMEO MUST DIE (R)
 SUN. 11:30, 2:30, 3:30, 5:30, 6:30, 8:45, 9:40, 7:00, 8:00, 8:30, 9:30, 9:45; MON-THURS. 2:30, 3:30, 5:30, 6:30, 8:45, 9:40

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R)
 1:20, 4:20, 6:15, 7:20, 9:15, 10:20

FINAL DESTINATION (R)
 SUN. 11:15, 1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; MON-THURS. 1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50

MISSION TO MARS (PG)
 12:30 PM ONLY

AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

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 SUN. 11:30, 1:45, 4:00; MON-THURS. 1:45 & 4:00

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PRICE OF GLORY (PG13)
 SUN. 1:00, 7:40
 MON-THURS. 2:50, 8:00
WHATEVER IT TAKES (PG13)
 SUN. 3:30, 5:10, 10:00
 MON-THURS. 5:30 PM ONLY

HERE ON EARTH (PG13)
 SUN. 12:30, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50
 MON-THURS. 3:10, 5:45, 7:50

WONDERBOYS (R) NV
 1:30, 4:20, 3:00, 7:30, 9:50
 MON-THURS. 3:00, 5:40, 8:10

BOYS DON'T CRY (R)
 SUN. 1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
 MON-THURS. 2:40, 5:10, 7:40

THE WHOLE HORSE YARDS (R)
 SUN. 12:50, 2:50, 5:20, 7:10, 9:20
 MON-THURS. 3:20, 5:20, 8:10

United Artists 12 Oaks
 Inside Twelve Oaks Mall
 248-349-4311
 ALL TIMES SUN-THURS.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (PG)
 SUN. 12:40, 3:45, 7:10, 9:50
 MON-THURS. 5:00, 7:35

RETURN TO ME (PG13)
 SUN. 12:50, 4:05, 7:30, 9:55
 MON-THURS. 5:05, 7:40

BLACK AND WHITE (R)
 SUN. 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00
 MON-THURS. 5:15, 7:30

ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG)
 SUN. 12:10, 2:30, 4:30, 7:20, 9:20
 MON-THURS. 5:10, 7:20

BOYS DON'T CRY (R)

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NP READY TO RUMBLE (PG13)
 12:30, 2:40, 5:00, (5:00 @ \$4.00) 7:20, 9:40

NP RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (R)
 12:50 (4:10 @ \$4.00) 7:00, 9:45

NP RETURN TO ME (R)
 12:50 (4:10 @ \$4.00) 6:50, 9:20

NP BLACK & WHITE (R)
 1:00 (4:00 @ \$4.00) 6:30, 9:00

NP ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG)
 12:30, 1:20, 2:30, 3:40, (4:30 @ \$4.00) 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:40

NP SKULLS (PG13)
 1:15, (4:45 @ \$4.00) 7:10, 9:45

NP HIGH FIDELITY (R)
 1:50, (4:50 @ \$4.00) 7:20, 9:50

PRICE OF GLORY (PG13)
 9:30

NP HERE ON EARTH (PG13)
 1:10, (4:15 @ \$4.00) 7:00, 9:20

WHATEVER IT TAKES (PG13)
 1:30, 9:55

ROMEO MUST DIE (R)
 1:40 (5:00 @ \$4.00) 7:30, 10:00

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R)
 12:45, 1:30, (4:00 @ \$4.00) 6:40, 9:15

FINAL DESTINATION (R)
 1:45, (4:50 @ \$4.00) 7:40, 9:50

MISSION TO MARS (PG)
 (4:40 @ \$4.00) 7:15

MY DOG SKIP (PG)
 12:45, 3:00, (5:10 @ \$4.00) 7:30, AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
 1:00 (4:10 @ \$4.00) 6:45, 9:15

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HIGH FIDELITY (R)
 (1:45 4:15) 7:15, 9:45

GHOST DOG (R)
 (2:00-4:30) 7:00, 9:30

TUES. (1:45, 4:30) 9:45

THE CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG13)
 (1:30 4:45) 8:00

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THE LIFE & TIMES OF HANK GREENBERG (UNR)
 (2:15 4:30) 6:45, 9:00
 (4:30) 6:45, 9:00

BOYS DON'T CRY (R)
 SUN. (2:00 4:30) 7:00, 9:30
 MON-THURS. (4:00) 7:00, 9:30

BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE (R)
 SUN. (1:45 4:45) 7:15, 9:45
 MON-THURS. (4:45) 7:15, 9:45

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 pm except on C or PG rated films)
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GALAXY QUEST (PG)
 SUN. 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
 MON-THURS. 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

STUART LITTLE (PG)
 SUN. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00
 MON-THURS. 5:00

THE SIXTH SENSE (PG13)
 7:00, 9:30

United Artists West River
 9 Mile
 One Block West of Middlebelt
 248-788-6572
 ALL TIMES SUN-THURS

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (PG13)
 NV
 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

RETURN TO ME (PG) NV
 1:20, 4:15, 7:05, 9:40

READY TO RUMBLE (R) NV
 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00

BLACK AND WHITE (PG) NV
 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45

ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG) NV
 12:25, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20

SKULLS (PG13) NV
 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05

AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
 1:15, 4:10, 6:55, 9:30

ROMEO MUST DIE (R)
 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:55

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R) NV
 1:00, 4:00, 6:45, 9:35

FINAL DESTINATION (R) NV
 12:05, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:35

MISSION TO MARS (PG)
 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:50

MY DOG SKIP (PG) NV
 12:10, 2:30, 4:45

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RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (R) NV
 12:00, 1:20, 1:15, 3:25, 4:30, 6:40, 7:30, 9:35, 10:25

RETURN TO ME (R) NV
 11:05, 1:35, 4:10, 6:50, 9:40

READY TO RUMBLE (PG13) NV
 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:10, 9:45

BLACK AND WHITE (R) NV
 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:25, 9:55

ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG) NV
 10:40, 11:45, 12:45, 1:50, 2:45, 4:00, 4:50, 6:15, 7:00, 8:25, 9:05, 10:25

SKULLS (PG13) NV
 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

HIGH FIDELITY (R) NV
 11:30, 2:20, 5:05, 7:45, 10:20

WHATEVER IT TAKES (PG13) NV
 10:50, 3:55, 8:20

HERE ON EARTH (PG13) NV
 1:10, 4:10, 10:35

ROMEO MUST DIE (R)
 5:00, 7:30, 9:55

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R)
 10:30, 1:20, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15

FINAL DESTINATION (R)
 11:10, 1:25, 3:40, 6:05, 8:15, 10:30

MY DOG SKIP (PG)
 10:45, 12:55, 2:50

AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
 11:20, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:05

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 \$5.00

NP RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (R)
 1:30, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R)
 1:30, 4:10, 6:30, 7:00, 9:05, 9:35

NP THE SKULLS (PG13)
 12:45, 2:50, 5:00, 7:30, 9:40

NP HIGH FIDELITY (R)
 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

WHATEVER IT TAKES (R)
 12:35, 2:30, 4:30

FINAL DESTINATION (R)
 12:40, 2:40, 4:40, 6:40, 8:40

BOILER ROOM (R)
 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG13)
 1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15

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 (SUN. No children under 6 after 6
 pm except on C or PG rated films)
 MATINEES DAILY

GALAXY QUEST (PG)
 SUN. 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
 MON-THURS. 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

STUART LITTLE (PG)
 SUN. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00
 MON-THURS. 5:00

THE SIXTH SENSE (PG13)
 7:00, 9:30

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NP READY TO RUMBLE (PG13)
 12:30, 2:40, 5:00, (5:00 @ \$4.00) 7:20, 9:40

NP RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (R)
 12:50 (4:10 @ \$4.00) 7:00, 9:45

NP RETURN TO ME (R)
 12:50 (4:10 @ \$4.00) 6:50, 9:20

NP BLACK & WHITE (R)
 1:00 (4:00 @ \$4.00) 6:30, 9:00

NP ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG)
 12:30, 1:20, 2:30, 3:40, (4:30 @ \$4.00) 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:40

NP SKULLS (PG13)
 1:15, (4:45 @ \$4.00) 7:10, 9:45

NP HIGH FIDELITY (R)
 1:50, (4:50 @ \$4.00) 7:20, 9:50

PRICE OF GLORY (PG13)
 9:30

NP HERE ON EARTH (PG13)
 1:10, (4:15 @ \$4.00) 7:00, 9:20

WHATEVER IT TAKES (PG13)
 1:30, 9:55

ROMEO MUST DIE (R)
 1:40 (5:00 @ \$4.00) 7:30, 10:00

EBIN BROCKOVICH (R)
 12:45, 1:30, (4:00 @ \$4.00) 6:40, 9:15

FINAL DESTINATION (R)
 1:45, (4:50 @ \$4.00) 7:40, 9:50

MISSION TO MARS (PG)
 (4:40 @ \$4.00) 7:15

MY DOG SKIP (PG)
 12:45, 3:00, (5:10 @ \$4.00) 7:30, AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
 1:00 (4:10 @ \$4.00) 6:45, 9:15

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 VISA AND MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

HIGH FIDELITY (R)
 (1:45 4:15) 7:15, 9:45

GHOST DOG (R)
 (2:00-4:30) 7:00, 9:30

TUES. (1:45, 4:30) 9:45

THE CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG13)
 (1:30 4:45) 8:00

Maple Art Theatre III
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 Bloomfield Hills
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THE LIFE & TIMES OF HANK GREENBERG (UNR)
 (2:15 4:30) 6:45, 9:00
 (4:30) 6:45, 9:00

BOYS DON'T CRY (R)
 SUN. (2:00 4:30) 7:00, 9:30
 MON-THURS. (4:00) 7:00, 9:30

BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE (R)
 SUN. (1:45 4:45) 7:15, 9:45
 MON-THURS. (4:45) 7:15, 9:45

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GALAXY QUEST (PG)
 SUN. 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
 MON-THURS. 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

STUART LITTLE (PG)
 SUN. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00

ART BEAT

Art Beat features various happenings in the suburban art world. Send Wayne County arts news leads to Art Beat, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

LOCAL SINGER PERFORMS TODAY

Tenor Michael Parr of Livonia will sing a duet with Danica Randall in a concert by the Memorial Church Festival Choir 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Tickets are \$15, \$10 students/seniors. Call (313) 882-5330.

The "For the Love of Music" concert features the sacred music of Maurice Durufle, Benjamin Britten, Maurice Ravel, and Ernest Bloch. It celebrates Randall's 20th anniversary as alto soloist and section leader with the Memorial Church Choir. She and Parr sing in Britten's "Canticle II," a duet setting the story of Abraham and Issac.

ART FOR A CAUSE

If you love art and want to help a good cause, plan on attending an auction 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham.

Art for a Cause is sponsoring the event to benefit FAR Conservatory of Therapeutic and Performing Arts. The Birmingham-based organization provides creative arts therapy and recreation services for children and adults

with mental, physical and emotional impairments.

On the auction block will be an original Erte print, Fred Bear painting from the Fred Bear Museum in Florida, fine jewelry from Joseph DuMouchelle Fine & Estate Jewelers, a Harbor Springs vacation including Boyne golf, and whimsical hand-painted furniture by Birmingham artist Lisa Knoppe-Reed. DuMouchelle conducts the live auction. Music is by flutist Alexander Zonjic.

Art for a Cause is a nonprofit dedicated to raising funds for local charities and at the same time providing functional works by local artists.

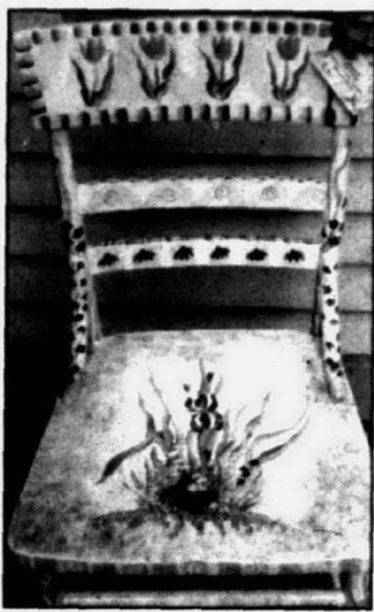
Tickets are \$50, reservations necessary. Call (248) 540-4755.

TRUNK SHOW

Plymouth quilt artist Meena Schaldenbrand will be guest speaker for the Needlework and Textile Guild of Michigan 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 11 at First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Road, Birmingham.

The event is open to the public for a guest fee of \$5. For information, call (734) 475-5851 or (248) 363-5697.

The program will include a trunk show reflecting 20 years of Schaldenbrand's work - personal story quilts, computer-generated quilts, group quilts, three-dimensional landscape, portraiture, Internet swaps, and quilted clothing. Schaldenbrand was the grand prize winner in the national Kaye Wood competition



Whimsical: This hand-painted chair is one of the items in an auction sponsored by Art for a Cause.

in 1997.

HIGH-ENERGY YOUTH MUSICAL

The 41-member New Generation Youth Choir presents IMAGE, a high-energy musical featuring toe-tapping music and humorous dialog, 7 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29877 W. 11 Mile, west of Middlebelt, Farmington Hills.

Admission is free, although a free-will offering will be taken to help offset the cost of the group's

spring break tour in Ohio and Pennsylvania. During the tour 24 members of the choir will present IMAGE to three congregations. Church families in each will host the youth after performances.

For more information, call (248) 476-8860.

GLASS BLOWING DEMONSTRATIONS

Erin Gross of Farmington Hills is one of the students displaying work in "A Glass Passport 2000," a group exhibit continuing through April 20 at Center for Creative Studies, 201 E. Kirby, Detroit

The school will host a "Hot Glass Bonanza" featuring on-going glass blowing demonstrations by CCS students, faculty and alumni noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 16 in the hot glass studio in the Yamasaki Building. Works created at the "Bonanza" will be available for sale to the public. The event is free. Call (313) 664-7560.

ART EXHIBIT

Artifacts Art Club members will exhibit their work through Friday, April 28 at Livonia City Hall.

The multi-media show

includes pastel, colored pencil, watercolor, photography, oil, and sculpture.

Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 7-9 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

AWARD WINNING SINGERS

students at Central and Pioneer Middle Schools, and Plymouth-Salem High School are celebrating their victories in the District Festival at Chelsea in mid-March. Central's eighth grade band received a Superior performance rating, as did all four of Plymouth-Salem's choirs.

On Saturday, April 1, the choirs from Central and Pioneer received Superior ratings in the Middle School Choir Festival in Ypsilanti.

District Festivals are hosted by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association and the Michigan School Vocal Music Association. Several of the choirs will go on to participate in state and competitive festivals this spring for fun.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Farmington Community Band will award a \$500 scholarship to a student (from one of the three Farmington High Schools) who demonstrates a proficiency

as an instrumentalist in woodwind, brass or percussion.

Deadline for application is May 1. Entrants will compete in the scholarship audition during the Farmington Arts Festival April 30 to May 7 at the William Costick Center. For more information, call (248) 926-8438.

The Barbara Hughes Memorial Scholarship is named after the Farmington Hills resident and former band member.

ART EXHIBIT

Farmington Hills artist Edee Joppich is one of 13 artists exhibiting work in "Pieces" April 14 to May 20 at Paint Creek Center for the Arts, 407 Pine Street, Rochester.

An opening reception takes place 6-8 p.m. Friday, April 14. The exhibit looks at how materials, influences by American culture, are used by artists to construct objects which document the world around them. A total of 25 collage and assemblage works will be exhibited.

Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, except for Friday-Saturday, April 21-22.

For information, call (248) 651-4110.

MOT from page C2

fairy story about a woman who faces the middle-age realities of being stuck in an arranged marriage, the theme of longing for passionate love is unmistakably universal.

In the melodramatic tradition, the opera follows the 32-year old Princess Marchallin, who fears growing old, and the lover's triangle among her, her 17-year old lover and the young girl who falls in love with him.

Long before the Detroit Opera House opened at the corner of

Madison and Broadway in 1996, DiChiera was considered either a visionary for his promising talk about the future of the downtown theater district.

Then again, to some DiChiera was thought to be a modern-day Don Quixote.

Several months after last fall's sold-out performances for Andrea Bocelli's operatic debut in Werther at the Detroit Opera House, DiChiera's vision is an unquestionable reality.

Perhaps the best indication of

the fledgling cultural area and MOT's success are increased ticket sales and the lack of parking.

The two Sunday matinee performances fall on the same dates as Detroit Tigers' afternoon home games. With Comerica Park located across from the Opera House, patrons and baseball fans will compete for parking.

All in all, an enviable problem. And maybe a reason to gloat.

SUMMER 2000

MAY

23 Meadow Brook Music Festival & Pine Knob Music Theatre Opening Act Contest Finals
Watch tomorrow's stars compete for the chance to perform at an event this summer!
Free Admission & Parking

25 Trisha Yearwood w/Jessica Andrews
\$30 pav / \$15.50 lawn

27 Andre Rieu & The Johann Strauss Orchestra
\$30.50 pav / \$22.50 lawn

JUNE

21 Franklin The Turtle & The Magic Fiddle w/Joanie Bartels
2 Shows - 11am & 7pm
\$12.50 pav / \$8 lawn

23 Pure Prairie League/Poco
\$25.50 pav / \$15.50 lawn

25 The Chieftains/Los Lobos
\$35 pav / \$20 lawn

26 Michigan Professional Firefighters Union Presents B.J. Thomas w/Billy Joe Royal
Tickets on sale June 12
\$15 pav and lawn

30 Weird Al Yankovic
\$24.50 pav / \$12.50 lawn

JULY

1 Martina McBride
\$32.50 pav / \$22.50 lawn

2 Get Back! The Cast of Beatlemania
\$17.50 pav / \$10 lawn

3 Todd Rundgren w/ Special Guest to be announced
\$25.50 pav / \$12.50 lawn

12 Maurice Sendak's Little Bear w/Eric Nagler
2 Shows - 11am & 7pm
\$12.50 pav / \$8 lawn

18 "Grease" Featuring Cindy Williams & Eddie Mekka "Carmine" from Laverne & Shirley
\$25.50 pav / \$15 lawn

26 Scholastic's The Magic School Bus. Live! w/Norman Foote
2 Shows - 11am & 7pm
\$12.50 pav / \$8 lawn

AUGUST

10 John Berry/Suzu Bogguss/Billy Dean
\$25 pav / \$15 lawn

12 Rick Springfield
\$27.50 pav / \$17.50 lawn

13 Peter, Paul & Mary 40th Anniversary
\$32.50 pav / \$14.50 lawn
Kids 12 & Under FREE on the lawn

19 Alison Krauss & Union Station
\$24.50 pav / \$12.50 lawn

24 Wimzie's House w/Linda Arnold
2 Shows - 11am & 7pm
\$12.50 pav / \$8 lawn

25 Trinity Irish Dance Company
\$20 pav / \$15 lawn

27 Terri Clark
\$30 pav / \$15 lawn

SEPTEMBER

1 Lonestar
\$22.50 pav / \$12.50 lawn

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SHOP TALK



NICOLE STAFFORD

Enough now. We've all heard the fashion reports for spring and summer.

And, since the season has officially arrived, we're probably ready to make a few purchases. Yes, that's I what I said - a few purchases.

Though retailers and designers would like to think differently, most of us have a limit on the number of times we'll turn over our credit cards for an addition to the wardrobe, especially when the new piece falls under the category "trendy." In my opinion, that's particularly the case in the Midwest. We don't necessarily salivate over the so-called hottest and latest fashion.

We're more conservative than that. We sit back and wait like scientists. How long will the trend survive? If I wait a few months, will I be able to take advantage of the trend more inexpensively? Is that trend really for me?

Besides, most of us don't spend thousands of dollars overhauling our wardrobes simply because they're not brimming with certain colors, fabrics and patterns. We take stock of our choices and make purchases in light of our needs and budget.

With that in mind, I decided to weigh in on some of the trends we've been hearing so much about.

COLORS

While vibrant, bright colors like hot pink, turquoise and orange are being touted as the shades of the season, neutral tones like black, Navy, white and tan are being ignored.

On the one hand, I do believe beautiful colors should be cherished and experienced, especially when they positively affect our mood and appearance. However, I don't believe we should abandon our black separates in favor of an all-color wardrobe. Not only does that fly in the face of building a wardrobe, but also many of us simply don't feel comfortable and at our best in such bold colors.

More importantly, not every color complements every person. In other words, don't feel pressured to inject loads of color into your wardrobe. Buy a few pieces - a top and a skirt - in your favorite bright tone and wear it with the neutral items you already have. Or, purchase an inexpensive hat, pair of shoes or handbag in a bright tone that you know you'll wear.

REPTILE PATTERNS

If you especially like reptile patterns, and they suit you to a tee, by all means buy as much as you'd like. You'll probably wear your purchases next year, whether they're still in style or not. But, that's because they suit you.

Otherwise, I'd cross reptile, both faux and real, off your shopping list. Obviously, the real deal can be expensive. More importantly, reptile prints have a very particular sensibility. They're sexy, yes, but they're tough and bold, too. And, if that isn't your style, why dilute the look you have.

While a pair of shoes or a handbag in a reptile pattern wouldn't strain the budget, I'm not convinced a small dose would have much impact, not anymore than, for example, a high-quality, leather bag you'll use for years to come.

LOGOS

Personally, I detest logos and, except for jeans, won't purchase clothing embellished by them. To me, they are the antithesis of style, a substitute for interesting details and good design.

Once more, they seem to suggest the wearer lacks his or her own sense of style and must rely on others for guidance.

POLKA DOTS AND GINGHAM

Like plaid, these prints don't really go out of style. Gingham, in particular, always looks appealing and comfortable in the summer. And, a small polka dot print on a lightweight skirt or dress is a classic summer look.

As with all prints, the issues are personal preference, size and proportion. If you like either of these prints, find one that works for you.

CHIFFON

I think the chiffon dresses we're seeing are beautiful. My only recommendation - find one that you can wear in both casual and formal settings. Look for a chiffon dress you could wear to a wedding with fine jewelry and slip on with a pair of sandals for an afternoon picnic.

All in the family Retailer offers way to celebrate puppy love during Easter

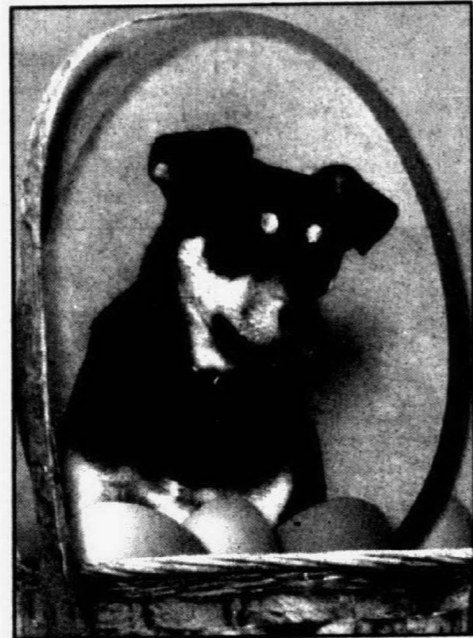


PHOTO COURTESY OF RICK DUPLER

Easter puppy: We take our children for Easter and other holiday portraits, so it only makes sense we want to do the same for the canine members of the family.

freshly baked, nutritious dog treats, offered photos with Santa Claus during the Christmas season and as a result received numerous requests for similar photo opportunities from customers.

Slated noon-4 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at the Rochester store and 5-9 p.m. Thursday, April 20 at the Birmingham store, the sittings will be similar to those held by the retailer in December.

While walk-ins will be accepted, appointments are encouraged. The cost, \$12 per sheet of photos, will benefit local animal welfare efforts.

Rick Dupler, the photographer hired by Potthoff and her business partner for customers can view images of their dog before making a selection for print. He'll also offer a variety of photo sizes, including the kind that fits into your wallet, and several holiday borders commemorating Easter.

Pooch portraits

What: Photos of your dog with the Easter Bunny

Where: Three Dog Bakery stores at 413 Main Street in downtown Rochester and 223 E. Maple in downtown Birmingham

When: Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, April 16 in Rochester and 5-9 p.m. Thursday, April 20 in Birmingham

Cost: \$12 per sheet of photos with portion of proceeds benefiting local animal welfare efforts

Appointments: Call (248) 608-8877 or (248) 723-1582

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
SPECIAL EDITOR
nstafford@oe.homecomm.net

A bag of gourmet dog bones from a bakery.

A cozy set of knit booties to protect the paws.

A leather collar in pooch's favorite color.

Dogs have long been members of the family. It's how we're confirming their status that's changed, making for big business in retail.

Indeed, anything we might purchase or do for our children, we want for Spot, too, especially if we have the disposable income.

That's why the owners of Three Dog Bakery, one at 223 E. Maple in downtown Birmingham and the other at 413 Main Street in downtown Rochester, decided to hire a pet photographer, arm an actor in a bunny suit with a load of dog treats and offer Easter portrait sittings in April.

"It was kind of a supply and demand thing," said Nora Potthoff, co-owner of the two specialty stores, part of a chain that started 10 years ago as one bakery in Kansas. The local stores, which primarily sell

more amenable than children when it comes to acts of bonding and association.

"We give (children) toys, we dress them, but dogs tend to be much more compliant," Potthoff joked, explaining that pets almost always serve as an extension for our personalities.

That's why, in truth, most of the merchandise and services we purchase for our pets we're actually buying for ourselves, she said.

So, though Spot may seem overjoyed when you walk in the door with a new box of dog treats, that's probably your perception. After all, until he tastes his new treats, he can't really appreciate them. Not to mention, only dogs know how they feel about collar scarves, winter booties and portrait sittings.

"It just makes you feel good," said Potthoff. "And, you want to indulge (your pets) as much as you can because they give you so much."

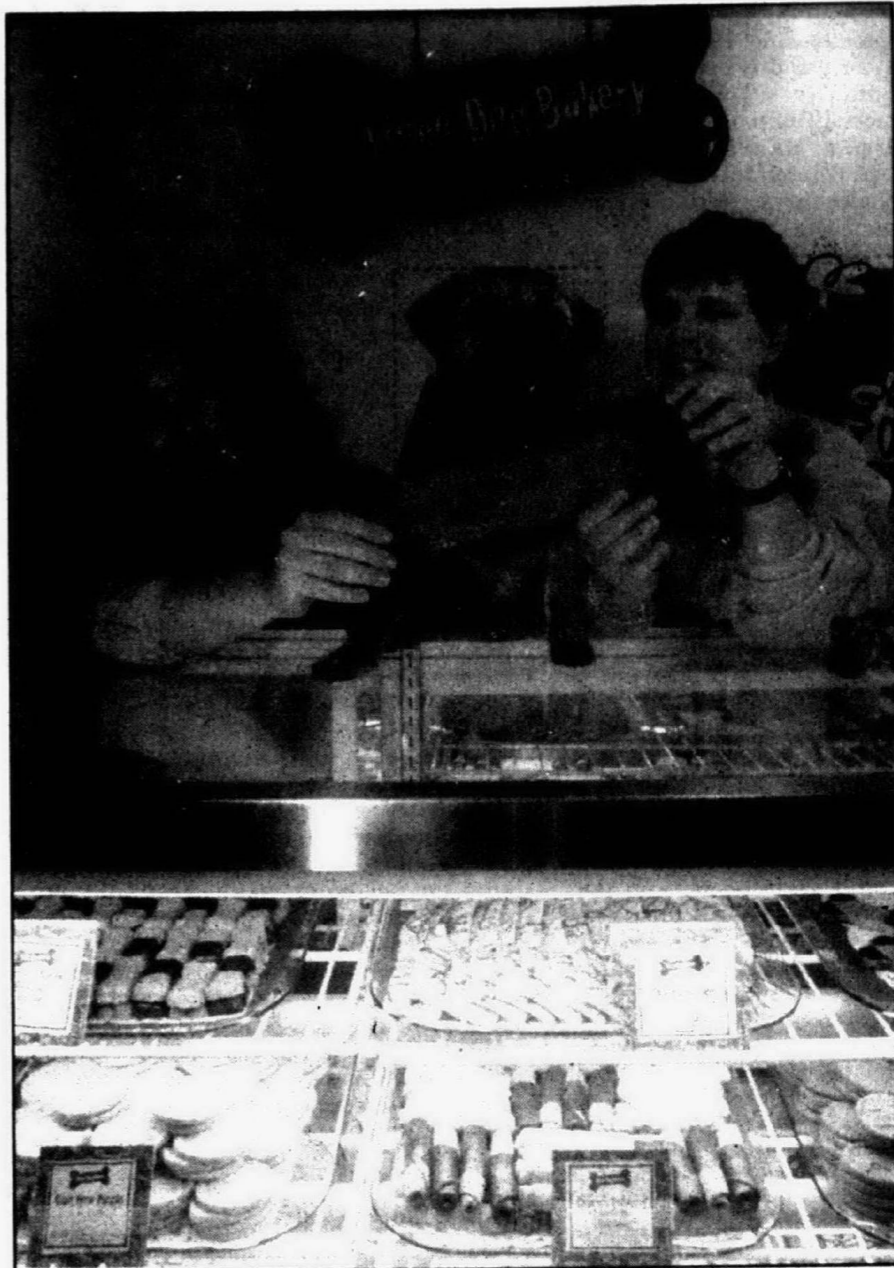
"We treat animals much like we treat our children," said Potthoff of the current demand for pet products and services.

While many shoppers scoff at the sight of some of Three Dog Bakery's merchandise - decorated birthday cakes for dogs, baby books for puppies and an assortment of freshly prepared dog treats, from "Pet-It Fours" to "Pawlines" - most end up making a purchase.

"Something just clicks, and it makes them laugh and feel good. ... And, there's not a lot out there that makes us feel good," said Potthoff, adding that her stores will begin selling cat treats similar to what they have for dogs this month.

For those couples and individuals who don't have children, patronizing Three Dog Bakery is an outlet for maternal and paternal feelings, said Potthoff. "And, there are a lot of couples who are choosing not to have children."

Besides, pets, especially dogs, are



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Dog days: Nora Potthoff (left), co-owner of Three Dog Bakery in Birmingham and Rochester where Easter dog portraits will be offered later this month, and store associate Audrey Metro tempt Rowdy, the Birmingham store's resident dog, with a homemade treat.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF RICK DUPLER

Tricks and toys: Photographer Rick Dupler will offer several photo sizes and different holiday borders to customers who bring their dogs to Three Dog Bakery for Easter portraits. And, he'll have a supply of dog treats and toys on hand to coax his subjects. Cost of the photos, \$12 per sheet, will benefit local animal welfare efforts.

Retail, style and special store events are listed in this calendar. Please send information to: Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax: (248) 644-1314. Information must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for publication the following Sunday.

MONDAY, APRIL 10

KNITTING TRUNK SHOW

The Knitting Room, 251 Merrill Street in Birmingham, hosts a Berroco Yarns trunk show through April 11, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call (248) 540-3623.

HEALTH SERVICES

Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield hosts Health-O-Rama, free and low-cost health screening and services sponsored by the United Health Organization through April 11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. For details, call (248) 353-4111.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

ELLEN TRACY ON RUNWAY

Ellen Tracy's spring collection comes down the runway and the Matilda R. Wilson Award is presented at Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy to benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan, 11 a.m., Ellen Tracy Boutique, second floor. Tickets are \$35, include brunch and require reservation by April 10. To attend, call (248) 203-1260.

HEALTH EVENT

Wonderland Mall in Livonia hosts a Project Healthy

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

Living event through April 13, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Food Court. For more information, call (734) 522-4100.

CHANEL MAKEOVERS

Receive a makeover by a Chanel national makeup artist at Jacobson's, Laurel Park Place in Livonia through April 12, noon-7 p.m., Cosmetics department. To make an appointment, call (734) 591-7696.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

JONES NEW YORK EVENT

Hudson's, Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi, hosts a wardrobe seminar featuring spring pieces by Jones New York, 7 p.m. To make a reservation, call (248) 344-6800.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

AUSTIN REED WORKSHOP

Jacobson's stores offers wardrobe seminars featuring clothing by Austin Reed through April 15, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Dates and locations are as follows: April 13 at Rochester Hills store; April 14 at Birmingham store and April 15 at Laurel Park Place store in Livonia. For more information, call (800) 837-5227.

USED BOOK SALE

The League of Women Voters holds a used book sale at Wonderland Mall in Livonia through April 16, near Dunham's. For details, call (734) 522-4100.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

MOONLIGHT MADNESS SALE

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce sponsors Moonlight Madness in downtown Plymouth, 7-11 p.m. For details, call (734) 453-1540.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

PROM DAY

Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy, presents Prom 2000 Focus Day a showcase of evening wear, complimentary makeovers by Stila and a drawing for prom services and merchandise. Evening Collections, second floor. For details, call (248) 614-3385.

FASHION DAY AT HUDSON'S

Hudson's, Somerset Collection in Troy, presents three fashion shows: looks from the Women's Way Department at 11 a.m., a rundown of spring trends at 2 p.m. and the Ralph Lauren collection for juniors at 4 p.m. Reservations are required. Please call (248) 816-4605.

HANDBAG DESIGNER VISITS

Handbag designer Maya Evangelista and a trunk show of her collection come to Jacobson's in downtown Birmingham, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Handbags department. For more information, call (248) 644-6900.

SWING THE NIGHT AWAY

Wonderland Mall in Livonia offers free swing dance lessons, 6-9 p.m., Food Court. For additional information, call (734) 522-4100.

WHERE CAN I FIND?

This interactive feature is dedicated to helping readers locate merchandise that's difficult to find through reader feedback. If you've seen or are looking for an item, call (248) 901-2555 and leave a message with your name and phone number. We publish readers' requests for merchandise twice. If you don't hear from us or see information about the item within a few weeks, we were unable to locate it. When we find an item owned by another reader, rather than for sale at a store, we will call you. But, please, be patient; we handle an overwhelming number of requests each week.

WHAT WE FOUND:

- Wicked Wahini perfume can be purchased for \$9.99 (item BVK) by calling (808) 676-2772.
- To recycle plastic bags, call the **Enviro Bag Company**, (800) 866-3954. The company can give you a list of schools in your area that accept plastic bags for fund-raising events.
- For the reader looking for a small piano for a child, another reader suggested buying an inexpensive keyboard.
- For a pet portrait, readers suggested **Jill Andra-Young** in Plymouth, (734) 455-7787, and **Portraits by Sayles** in Birmingham.
- Miniature Red Wings pennants may be available at **The Sports Gallery** on Woodward Avenue in Birmingham. The store carries Red Wings memorabilia.
- For the reader looking for copies of "Life" magazine, a reader suggested calling **Hitching Post Antiques Mall**, (517) 423-8277.
- For readers looking for various brands of designer perfume, try www.eve.com on the Internet.
- Pete and Hank's in Windsor offers fish dinners like Sutherland's.
- Tea bag tags can be donated to the **Redford Suburban League**. The group meets 11 a.m.-2 p.m. every second Wednesday at the Antiochian Orthodox Church on Merriman.
- Memorabilia for a 50th anniversary of Stuckey Elementary School in Redford.

FIND & SEARCH NOTES:

- We had many responses to requests for Party Lite consultants and Amway Distributors and no longer need additional information.

- "Life" magazine did not publish an August 8, 1955 issue.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- Noritake china serving pieces and place settings in the Polonaise pattern (#2045) for Peggy.
- A store that sells Faygo "Diet Sensation" soda pop.
- A porcelain doll set called "Rosie & Rags," by Marie Osmond, for Carole of Livonia.
- An item from Paintings by Peg called "A Special Event for Baby's 1st Year" for Tina.
- The book "Proud Breed," by Celeste DeBlassis.
- A store in the Livonia/Northville/Novi area that sells extra backings for pierced earrings for Sally.
- My Sin perfume made by Lanvin, either new or used, for Karen.
- A store that sells Little Tyke's outdoor houses for Catherine.
- A store that sells soft-sole house slippers in a size 12 for Mrs. Amato.
- A Polly Pockets toy in a bag for Barbara, who lives in Livonia.
- A business or crafts person who will make a quilt that is already designed for Stephanie.
- A store where Howard Johnson's frozen clam strips can be bought for Donna of Redford.
- The children's book "Flip-ity Jebbit" for Winifred.
- A store that sells 100-percent petroleum jelly lip treatment for Anne of Redford.
- A store where Chicklets chewing gum is sold for Ron of Troy.
- A videocassette tape of "Mickey Goes to a Circus" for Dee.
- A store in the Canton area that sells mother-of-the-bride dresses.
- A store where a cover for an ironite mangle can be bought for Eleanor.
- A store where a silver shower curtain can be bought for Naomi.

- An arts and crafts store that sells 14-inch, flat, round wicker circles with a lace design for Ethel of Redford.

- A craft store that sells directions for making copper sprinklers for Karen of Garden City.

- A store that sells the birthstone "Baby Bleeze" for Lou.

- A grocery store where Pillsbury Grand Sweet caramel sweet rolls can be bought for Jean.

- Videocassette tapes of the television show "My Little Margie" for Kertia of Southfield.

- A store where potato chips that are sliced and made in the microwave at home are sold for Gail.

- A large poster from the musical "Showboat" for Dolores of Livonia.

- The game "Bubble & Squeak" for Nancy of Commerce.

- The Henry Mancini Orchestra's romantic piano CD, formerly sold by "Reader's Digest."

- A store where a calf-length, beach cover-up in white cotton can be bought for Virginia of Waterford.

- A 1977 Mumford High School yearbook for Pamela of Canton.

- A 1966 Cooley High School jacket and letter sweater for Roger of Redford.

- Compiled by Sandi Jarackas



Easter Events will keep you informed about Easter Bunny appearances and other activities for children and families being offered by local retailers and shopping malls in April.

EASTER MUSICAL AT TEL-TWELVE

"Wake Up Spring," a family musical to commemorate the season, is presented at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 15 on the center court stage at Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield. For more information, call (248) 353-4111.

EASTER PARTY AT WONDERLAND

Wonderland Mall in Livonia hosts an Easter party featuring an egg hunt, bonnet parade, magic shows, crafts and other entertainment for kids, 2-6 p.m. Saturday, April 15 in the center's food court. For additional information, call (734) 522-4100.

LIVONIA MALL'S BUNNY

The Easter Bunny has taken residence in Value City Court at the Livonia Mall to visit with children and sit for photos, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, now through Easter. For more information, call (248) 476-1160.

EASTER BUNNY PHOTOS AT WESTLAND

The Easter Bunny visits with children and sits for portraits at Westland Shopping Center in Westland 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon-6 p.m. Sunday, now through Easter. The Easter Bunny sets up residence in the mall's East Court. For details, call (734) 425-5001.

PETER RABBIT AT TWELVE OAKS

Peter Rabbit and Mr. McGregor's Storybook Garden, as well as, other displays of Beatrix Potter

characters await young visitors at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi. Dozens of spring flowers are on display for shoppers of all ages. More importantly, Peter Rabbit visits with children and sits for portraits during the event, which runs 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, now through April 22, in the mall's Center Court. For details, call (248) 348-9411.

BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

Hudson's popular Easter Bunny breakfasts for children returns. All breakfasts start at 9:15 a.m. and are held in the retailer's store restaurants. Tickets are \$10. Please call ahead for reservations, (800) 246-6648. Breakfast dates and locations are as follows: Saturday, April 15 at Oakland Mall in Troy, Lakeside Mall in Sterling Heights and Westland Shopping Center in Westland; April 16 at the Somerset Collection in Troy and Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.

EASTER BUNNY AT TEL-TWELVE

The Easter Bunny sits for photos and visits with children at Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield. The bunny will wait for visitors in the mall's Center Court noon-8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday, now through April 22. Photo packages and a free gift for children are available. Also, shoppers can enter to win a giant

Easter basket filled with toys and candy. For details, call (248) 353-4111.

BUNNY AND TREATS AT ART VAN

The Easter Bunny will visit with children and hand out Easter treats 2-4 p.m. Saturday, April 15 at Art Van Furniture in Livonia. Call (734) 478-8870.

PETER RABBIT AT FAIRLANE

Peter Rabbit springs into Dearborn's Fairlane Town Center to visit with children, sit for portraits and pass out small Easter gifts 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday, now through April 22.

Peter Rabbit will inhabit a recreated version of Beatrix Potter's garden complete with oversized flowers and vegetables and giant pop-up storybooks in the mall's Fountain Court. Several photo packages are available. For details, call (313) 593-1370.



Think you've got all the answers?
Then enter our

Battle of the Sexes Trivia Challenge

with the

Breakfast Club

Saturday, April 29. Noon-2 pm
In the mall in front of Star Theatre

10 men. 10 women. 10 teams of two will be selected to defend the honor of their gender. And compete for a trip for two to Chicago!

Get together with a friend and register throughout Great Lakes Crossing. Receive a free sheet of valuable coupons, just for entering. And be entered in a drawing to win other exciting prizes like two diamond tennis bracelets from Friej Jewelers! Or two deluxe patio sets from Master Spas!

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To enter, you and a friend or relative, simply fill out this form and return to Great Lakes Crossing. Or mail this form to Great Lakes Crossing, Marketing Department, 4000 Baldwin Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326. Must be 21 years of age or older. Winners will be announced Saturday, April 29. No purchase necessary to win. You need not be present to win alternative prizes. One entry per person. Winner(s) will be notified by phone or mail. Prizes are non-transferable and may not be given, bartered or sold. There are no prize or cash substitutes. Winner's entry and acceptance of prizes constitutes permission to use his/her name, photograph and likeness for purposes of advertising and promotion without compensation. Winner(s) are responsible for all local, state and federal taxes associated with winning any prize. This contest void where prohibited by law. Employees of Great Lakes Crossing and its merchants, managing agents, affiliates, subsidiaries and their families are not eligible. Contest ends April 29th at 2:00 pm.

GREAT LAKES CROSSING

For more information call 1 877 SHOP GLC (746 7452) Auburn Hills, Michigan 175, Ext 84

a la carte

STUFF WE CRAVE

Cosmic pink: Nars "Galaxy Girl" lip-stick has a soft gold shimmer and is so sheer, making it a perfect pink lipstick to wear now and through summer, about \$19 at department stores.

Flower frenzy: Intricately embroidered flowers on girls' dresses, tanks and Capri pants are signs of the season and give more casual styles a dressy touch, by Monkeywear, \$56-102 at Jacobson's stores.

TRAVEL

Cruise from New Orleans to Mexico

BY NORMA AND WENDY SCHONWETTER
SPECIAL WRITERS

Do you want to take a cruise, see the world, eat exotic foods, drink, shop, and soak up the rays... and you're on a budget? New Orleans is just the place for you.

New Orleans is a lively port city with fascinating history, culture, architecture, food, music, steamboats, and oh yeah...cruise ships. Done right, you can do everything you want and not break the bank.

Value

Commodore Cruise's motto is "The best value in the Caribbean," and they mean it. Rates for the 5-day cruise start at \$359 (plus port charges of \$90); the 7-day cruise starts at \$479 (plus port charges of \$120). Shore excursions are not included in the price of the cruise. Tours range from \$28 to \$79. We cruised from New Orleans to Mexico on the Enchanted Capri - ate, gambled, played, shopped, and sunned for 5 days. The Enchanted Capri is half-owned by the Isle of Capri casino chain, located in Southern states, which means that the casino is sizable compared to other ships. Drinks are on-the-house while gambling. Dress is casual on Commodore.

Excursions

We stopped at Playa del Carmen to discharge passengers for shore excursion to an EcoPark at Xcaret. Then on to Cozumel and Progreso (the port for Merida). Most shore excursions on Cozumel involved snorkeling and visiting pristine white sand beaches; at Progreso the choices included visits to either of two important archeological sites (Mayan ruins) at Uxmal and Chichen-Itza.

Commodore has three small ships, carrying only 500 to 750 passengers each, with one crew member for every two passengers. The result - great service. Cruises are from five to seven days with itineraries to the Caribbean and a combination of Caribbean and Mexico, Key West or Central America (Belize and Honduras). Cabins are small and not very glamorous - but remember, you spend little time there and this is a bargain cruise. Inside cabins are more spacious but are without pot-holes. The few bedroom suites, the lounge, and movie theater are glitzier. For a budget cruise, the variety and excellent quality

If you go

■ For information and reservations on any Commodore Cruise Ship, call (800) 237-5361 or visit their Web site, www.commodorecruise.com



Jazzy: Musicians perform in front of a boat on the Mississippi River.

■ A passport or birth certificate is required as proof of U.S. citizenship.

■ Opt for the shore excursion to the Tulum Ruins and snorkeling at Playa Del Carmen instead of Cozumel.

■ Commodore's Enchanted Isle offers youth programs for three different age groups of children at no extra charge. Plan a wedding and reception while the vessel is docked in New Orleans.

■ Call (800) 584-3183 for a "Free Good Times Guide to New Orleans," with over \$2,500 in coupons or visit their Web site, www.new-orleansonline.com

■ Check out Preservation Hall in the French Quarter where \$4 gets you some of the best jazz in the city.

■ Public transportation (buses and trolleys) save money. The St. Charles Avenue Trolley is one of the oldest continuously operating street railways offering a view of beautiful mansions of the Garden District and Carrollton Avenue.

■ Your best bet is to stay in hotels/motels on the perimeter of the French Quarter. They are quieter and reasonably priced; most include a continental breakfast. Check rates at the Ambassador Hotel, Comfort Suites, Best Western Parc St. Charles, and Chateau Dupre. Motels in the suburb of Metairie offer free shuttle service to the French Quarter.

of the meals surprised us. Diner entrees included filet mignon, prime rib and lobster tails. You can literally eat from 6 a.m. until midnight.

This is a fun ship with great group games and first class entertainment in the lounge. You can spend your casino winnings overseas in upscale shops geared to American tastes and expectations, or wait to treat yourself in New Orleans.

Extraordinary experience

Leave the ship by 9 a.m. when the cruise ship docks in New Orleans and you are ready to start on another extraordinary experience. New Orleans is geared to tourists. There's something for everybody. The French Quarter is an area of about 90 square blocks. It contains many historical buildings, such as the Cabildo (the Louisiana State Museum), the Presbytere, and the Old U.S. Mint. These buildings house exhibits like the History of Jazz and Mardi Gras. Walk the narrow streets and enjoy the variety of enchanting 1800s architecture, charming courtyards and elegant antique shops. Delight in the music that abounds on the streets, luxuriate



Music: Preservation Hall in the French Quarter where traditional jazz is presented every night.

jewelry and trendy boutiques. For a taste of New Orleans try Arnaud's, Tujaques, Court of Two Sisters, Gallatoire's, The Gumbo Shop, and Ralph &

in cafe au lait and beignets at the Cafe du Monde or gamble at Harrah's.

New Orleans is famous for its eateries and unique foods, jazz, riverboats, Mardi Gras, art galleries, elegant antique shops with fine silver



Cruising: Enchanted Capri is one of Commodore Cruise Line's ships.

Kacoo's

There's a first class, easy-to-get-around aquarium with many huge floor-to-ceiling tanks and adjacent IMAX Theater. The Audubon Zoo is easy to cover without too much walking. The exhibits are unusual and the grounds are imaginative, particularly the Louisiana Swamp and white alligators.

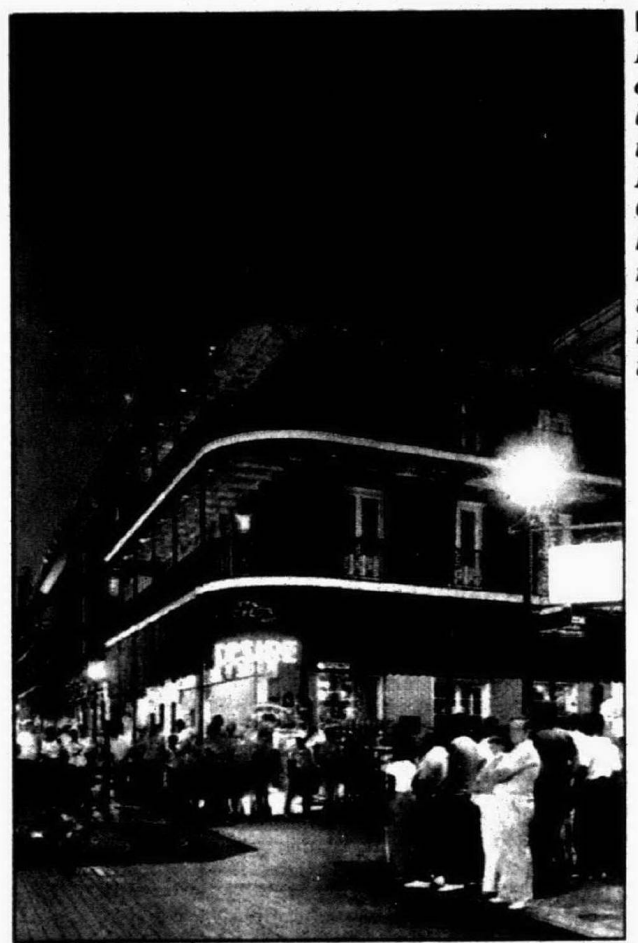
A short free ferry ride takes you to Mardi Gras World where you get insights into how those fabulous parade floats are made, as well as seeing completed floats. You can also try on flamboyant headdresses and costumes, so bring your camera.

The New Orleans Art Museum in City Park deserves the attention of art lovers. It has one of the finest collections of French painting, American artists, decorative artists and a Faberge collection.

Unique, food, family fun, tours, nightlife, and inescapable history emanating from most every street and shop - New Orleans has it all. Visit, and join the ranks of people who rave about this most unusual port city.

Norma and Wendy Schonwetter are Farmington residents. Tell us about your trip. Send stories, with photographs, for consideration on our Travel page to Keely Wygonik, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or e-mail stories to kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net.

Historical: Buildings on Bourbon Street in the French Quarter have ornamental wrought iron railings.



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MAIN DISH MIRACLE



MURIEL WAGNER

Tofu soaks up flavors in stir-fry

Tofu (bean curd) was always something I'd rather not eat, until my friend on the next treadmill at the gym suggested marinating it in black bean sauce with dry sherry. Tofu is bland but chameleon-like, taking up the flavor of its surroundings.

It's perishable and should be kept refrigerated. I bought mine in a sealed package with an expiration date. After opening I discarded the water. (It will stay fresh for a week after opening with a daily change of water.) I found the black bean sauce on the supermarket shelf.

The stir-fry vegetables in this recipe are most delicious and best in the spring - asparagus and sugar snap peas. After tasting the recipe, I not only became an ex-tofu avoider, but a charter member of the tofu booster club as well.

TOFU-VEGETABLE STIR-FRY

- 1 tablespoon black bean sauce
- 1 tablespoon dry sherry
- 1/4 teaspoon sugar
- 1 pound firm tofu, cubed
- 2 teaspoons, canola oil
- 1/2 cup, sodium-reduced nonfat chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons, sodium-reduced soy sauce
- 2 teaspoons, minced ginger
- 1 teaspoon, minced garlic
- 1 red bell pepper, washed and cut into strips
- 1/2 pound, fresh asparagus, washed and broken into 2-inch pieces
- 1/2 pound, sugar snap peas, washed
- 2 cups bok choy, washed and sliced
- 4 green onions, peeled and slivered
- 2 plum tomatoes, washed and quartered
- 2 cups cooked rice or Chinese noodles

Mix the black bean sauce, sherry and sugar. Add the cubed tofu. Toss. Set aside to marinate for 15 minutes.

Heat the oil in a heavy nonstick skillet or wok. Add the soy sauce, ginger and garlic. Stir to combine. Add all the vegetables except the tomatoes. Stir-fry until tender crisp, adding broth as needed. Add tomatoes. Stir-fry for one minute. Add tofu and marinade. Toss the ingredients to heat through. Serve with cooked rice or noodles. Serves 4.

Nutritional information per serving with 1/2 cup rice:

- Calories, 205
- Total fat, 2.5 grams
- Saturated fat, 1.8 grams
- Cholesterol, 0
- Sodium, 600 mg

Food exchanges:

- 1 medium fat meat
- 1 bread
- 2 vegetables

Look for Main Dish Miracle on the second Sunday of the month in Taste. Muriel G. Wagner is a registered dietitian and nutrition therapist with an office in Southfield. She publishes "Eating Younger," a quarterly newsletter with recipes and nutrition tips. To subscribe, send a check for \$13.50 to "Eating Younger," P.O. Box 69021, Pleasant Ridge, MI 48069.

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Taste next week:

- Spring holiday food traditions
- Focus on Wine

STADIUM FARE

TOUCHES ALL THE BASES

STORIES BY RENEE SKOGLUND • PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL



Four reporters who never met before gathered around a table in the Big Cat Court and rated the food. (It was a difficult task, but somebody had to do it.) Here are our comments and ratings (from one to four tiger heads, with four being best):

- **Chicago-style hot dog**
 - "Tasty, but cold"
 - "Nicely grilled, not boiled"
 - "Too much bread"
 - "Loved the dill pickle"

- **Marinated chicken breast sandwich**
 - "Needs something"
 - "Too bland - needs some kicky mustard"
 - "Nice size"
 - "Good taste, but where's the sauce? Could've been warmer"

- **Philly-style steak sandwich**
 - "Bland - no seasoning"
 - "Ditto"
 - "Needs something"
 - "It's just beefy, you know what I mean?"

- **Gyro**
 - "Tasty"
 - "Better than the Philly"
 - "Good whatever-kind-of sauce"
 - "It's OK"

- **Hand-rolled pretzels**
 - "To die for"
 - "Oh, my God!"
 - "Mmmm, mmmm"
 - "I wish I could take a bunch home"

- **Elephant ears**
 - "Very good"
 - "Fluffy, light, delicate"
 - "Big!"
 - "Not too greasy"

- **Dippin' Dots**
 - "Unique"
 - "The pink, white and brown ones are the best"
 - "I like the banana split flavor"
 - "Kids will love it"

- **Stuffed baked potato**
 - "Ooh, this is good"
 - "Fun to eat"
 - "Not dry"
 - "Nice meal"

- **Catfish sandwich**
 - "Too much bread"
 - "Doesn't taste like anything"
 - "The only way it was Cajun is if the catfish could spell Louisiana"
 - "Needs spices"

- **Corn dog**
 - "Big"
 - "This is my first corn dog - not bad"
 - "Corn bread and a hot dog?"
 - "Nice taste, but could've been hotter"

- **Ball Park Frank**
 - "Good, as usual"
 - "Can't screw up a Ball Park Frank"
 - "Got to have a real ballpark hot dog"
 - "I love these things"

A little hotdog trivia:

Fans attending Los Angeles Dodgers games hold the record for hot dog consumption among the major league teams. An estimated 2.2 million are consumed each year. Overall, Americans will eat 26 million hot dogs in major league ballparks throughout the country, enough to stretch from Yankee Stadium in New York to Dodgers Stadium in Los Angeles.

Source: National Hot Dog & Sausage Council, www.hotdog.org

Take me out to the ball game. Take me out to the crowd. Buy me some peanuts and ... gyros, corn dogs, corned beef, barbecued pork, Cajun catfish, Caesar salads, and lots of luscious golden fries. Whew! Did I miss anything? Of course, hot dogs! Comerica Park serves them Chicago-style with tomatoes, onions and a dill pickle; Coney-style with chili; and your basic, no-nonsense, got-to-have-one Ball Park Frank.

Press Day at Comerica Park earlier this week was a grand slam assignment for any reporter. Not only did we tour the new ballpark, we sampled all the food, from frozen yogurt pellets to sugar-dusted elephant ears big as a catcher's mitt.

"We added lots of new items, new to the baseball market in Detroit," said Steve Facione of Clarkston, group vice president for Olympia Entertainment Inc. "But we have the same hot dog, the same great ballpark hot-dog."

Foodwise, attending a ball game at Comerica Park is like a day at the state fair. Walk into the Big Cat Court and your eyes sweep a semi-circle of eight eateries, including Lots O' Knots, which makes wonderfully tender and buttery hand-rolled pretzels for \$2.75. Add a side of hot cheese for 75 cents and you've reached pretzel perfection.

"That pretzel is to die for," said Connie Kline, executive assistant and office manager for WDWB-TV (Channel 20) in Southfield. "Simply to die for."

'Something different'
Measuring 100 feet in diameter, Big Cat Court is behind Section 119 on the first-base side of the main concourse. After you've polished off the pretzel, you might try a stuffed baked potato and some chicken fingers from Side Kicks. Or a Philly-style steak hoagie with mushrooms, cheese and sweet peppers from Subs & Hoagies. Or a bat-sized corn dog never to be served at a cardiology convention.

In other words, come hungry and bring money. Leave your will power at home.

"We wanted to do something different," said John Baaki of Farmington Hills, director of



All tied up: Blair Woods hand-rolls a pretzel at Lots O' Knots in the new Comerica Park. A Chicago-style hot dog is pictured below.

concessions for Olympia Entertainment, Inc. "We wanted to create two concepts in the court: the sandwich foods and the state fair type of food - the corn dogs, elephant ears and pretzels. It's a very family-oriented area with the carousel."

Carousel? Yup, and it's a beauty. Said to be the pride of Tigers owner Mike Ilitch, the carousel is the focal point of Big Cat Court. Riders can take a spin on one of 30 brightly painted, handcrafted tigers or ride in one of two carousels, one of which is wheelchair accessible. Suggestion: Don't eat before you ride.

If you're in the mood for some grilled goodies, head to the Brushfire Grill, a 16,000-square-foot open-air garden area with wood picnic tables



and a fountain with a giant floating baseball. The barbecued sandwiches - roast beef, smoked turkey and pulled pork - are the size of first base. Well, maybe I exaggerate ... but they are baseball big.

A regular-size sandwich at the Brushfire Grill sells for \$7.50, while the deluxe version (why not, your diet already struck out!) goes for \$8.50 and comes with cole slaw and baked beans. And if you feel like "vegging out," try the grilled portobello mushroom sandwich with roasted red peppers and pesto mayonnaise at \$7.50.

Belly up to this bar

We all know rooting for the Tigers is hard work. So why not

Please see FARE, D2



Going to Comerica Park with some family or friends? Bring your wallet and you can try the variety of foods the stadium offers. For a family of four, you can expect to pay about \$28 for four hot dogs, four bags of potato chips and four medium soft drinks.

A sampling of food and beverage prices:

- Hot dogs \$2.75
- Kielbasa and smoked sausage \$3.75
- Large popcorn \$3.25
- Peanuts \$3.50
- Pizza slice \$2.50
- Corned beef, turkey or steak sandwich \$6
- Chicken Caesar salad \$6
- Chicken fingers \$3.25
- Super pretzel \$2.50
- Nacho grande \$6
- Large french fry \$3
- Ice cream sandwich \$1.50
- Pop \$2 - \$3.75
- Beer \$4.50 - \$7.25
- Bottled water \$2.75

* You may want to check on ticket packages for the Pepsi Family Section in right field. For \$8 a ticket you can also get a hot dog or a pizza slice and a small soft drink.

Supposedly Jack Norwitz, who wrote the words to "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" in 1908, had never seen a major league baseball game until after his song was published. Maybe he was too busy getting married five times. Albert Von Tilze wrote the music. Tiger fans have long substituted "peanuts" for "popcorn" in the original lyrics, and it has become the official Michigan version. In case you want to sing along on opening day, here's it is:

Take me out to the ballgame,
take me out to the crowd.

Buy me some popcorn and Cracker Jack,
I don't care if we never get back.

So it's root, root, root for the home team.
If they don't win it's a shame.

For it's one, two, three strikes you're out
at the old ball game!

Apple-cranberry sauce sweetens baked German puffed pancake

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

German pancakes should be served directly from the oven or, like souffles, they will fall. But this Puffed Pancake With Apple-Cranberry Sauce is worth the risk. It is low in calories, fat and cholesterol and can be put high on the list for a healthy brunch.

The recipe is in the newly released "American Heart Association Around the World Cookbook" (Times Books, \$17). According to the authors, among the best cooking apples are Rome Beauty, Golden Delicious, Granny Smith, Jonathan and Winesap.

The apple-cranberry sauce can be made ahead and refrigerated. Reheat it in a small saucepan over low heat, stirring occasionally. Or place it in a microwave-safe cup or bowl, cover loosely with plastic wrap or waxed paper and put it in the microwave on 100 percent power (HIGH) for 1 to 2 minutes, stirring twice.

- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened apple juice or water
- Sifted powdered sugar
- Preheat oven to 400 F.

Spray a 10-inch ovenproof skillet with vegetable oil spray. Add margarine. Place skillet in oven for 3 minutes, or until margarine is melted.

In a medium mixing bowl, combine egg substitute, flour, milk and salt. Beat with an electric mixer or wire whisk until smooth. Immediately pour egg mixture into the hot skillet and bake, uncovered, for about 25 minutes, or until puffed and well browned.

Meanwhile, in a medium skillet, combine apples, 3/4 cup apple juice, berries, sugar and cinnamon. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat, cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, for about 10 minutes, or until fruit is tender. Place cornstarch in a small bowl. Stir in 2 tablespoons apple juice or water. Add to the apple-cranberry mixture. Cook for about 2 minutes, until thickened and bubbly, stirring often.

To serve, sprinkle pancake with powdered sugar, cut it into wedges and spoon warm sauce over each serving.

Nutrition information per serving: 166 cal, 5 g pro, 34 g carbo, 0 mg chol, 119 mg sodium, 2 g fat (1 g polyunsaturated, 1 g monounsaturated).

PUFFED PANCAKE WITH APPLE-CRANBERRY SAUCE

- Vegetable oil spray
- 2 teaspoons margarine
- Egg substitute equivalent to 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup skim milk
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 2 large cooking apples, peeled, cored, and thinly sliced
- 3/4 cup unsweetened apple juice
- 1/2 cup fresh or frozen cranberries

Contest promotes fruits and vegetables

Consumers can celebrate the season of healthy eating by entering the fresh fruit and vegetable recipe contest at Kroger.

One grand prize winner will receive \$750 in Kroger gift certificates and three runner-up contestants will each receive \$250 in Kroger gift certificates. The contest emphasizes the use of fresh vegetables and fruits in entree, dessert or side dish recipe.

Contest organizers want to encourage Michigan residents to get back into the kitchen and be creative and promote consumption of vegetables and fruit. The average adult Michigan resident consumes 3.7 servings of vegetables and fruits each day, which falls far below the recommended five to nine servings.

Recipes must feature fresh fruits and vegetables. Canned fruits, frozen, dried and juice fruit and vegetable products may

be present in the recipe as minor ingredients.

Recipes for appetizers, entrees, side dishes, soups and desserts are acceptable. Vegetables and fruits can be combined with other food groups such as grains/pasta, eggs or meat. All entree recipes must provide two servings (1 cup cooked) of vegetables or fruits. For example, a serving from a recipe may contain 1/2 cup of fresh sugar snap peas and 1/2 cup fresh raspberries or an entree recipe may provide 1 cup cooked broccoli per serving (1/2 cup cooked) vegetable or fruit.

Recipes must contain no more than 30 percent of the total calories from fat, as determined by recipe analysis. Recipes will be judged based on creativity, presentation, nutritional value, taste and overall appeal. All recipes become the property of the Kroger Company of Michigan.

Finalists will be required to bring one prepared dish of their submitted recipe to the Orion Township Kroger, 3097 Baldwin Road at 10 a.m. Sunday, May 21, for judging. A panel of judges will sample the prepared recipes and select one grand prize winner.

Send your favorite, original fresh fruit or vegetable recipe to: Kroger Nutrition Center, Make Mine Fresh Recipe Contest, The Kroger Company of Michigan, P.O. Box 4444, Livonia, MI, 48151-3084. Recipes must be postmarked by Saturday, April 15.

Anyone with questions can call Kroger's registered dietitians Diane Reynolds and Tina Miller at 1-800-KROGERS (select 3 twice on the automated phone menu) or e-mail them at mnutritionist@kroger.com

Fare from page D1

quench your thirst and fill your belly at the same time? The Downtown Detroit Beer Hall, located across from the Brushfire Grill, sports an impressive 70-foot bar and offers a variety of beers and mixed drinks. It also has a buffet featuring Italian sausage, corn-on-the-cob, honey-mustard chicken, fish and chips and more.

If you're worried about missing the game while you're doing a little elbow bending at the Beer Hall, forget it. A built-in radio broadcast booth will keep you on top of the action.

Speaking of action, hold the brew and bratwurst until after your ride on the 50-foot-high Fly Ball Ferris Wheel, which is near the third-base side of the main concourse (near both the Brushfire Grill and the Beer Hall). The 12 wheelchair-accessible cars shaped are shaped like - what else? - baseballs.

The new food concepts and restaurants at Comerica Park are great, but what about a bag of peanuts, a plain hot dog or an ice cream bar? They're still available. "Even though we have added a lot of exciting new con-

cessions, we've kept the old favorites around," assured Facione.

The main concourse boasts 11 Big League Grill stands that offer hot dogs, peanuts, smoked kielbasa, bottled water, beer, and ice-cream bars. The upper concourse has six Big League Grills and the lower concourse has five. Like they say, don't mess with tradition. At least not too much.

See hot dog recipes inside Taste.

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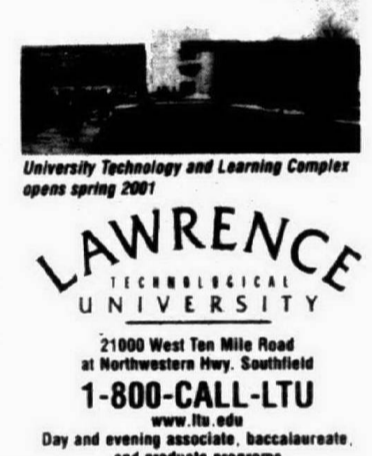
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Rice and beans: Try this flavorful, fiber-rich dish of red beans and rice salad for a quick, nutritious lunch.

Red beans, rice pack a lunch salad with fiber, flavor and very little fat

Fiber's reputation in terms of cancer prevention has had its ups and downs in recent years. Initially, fabulous claims were made.

Later, ongoing research began to cast doubt on fiber as a magic bullet against cancer. Regardless, health studies continue to suggest that fiber contributes to overall good health and probably plays a role in the prevention of a variety of diseases, including cancer.

Fiber is the indigestible part of plant foods and exists in two forms: water-soluble and water-insoluble. Soluble fiber is found in foods such as fruit, barley, oatmeal, oat bran and legumes. Insoluble fiber is highest in whole grain breads and cereals, vegetables and seeds.

A number of population studies link high-fiber diets to reduced incidence of colon cancer, although fiber's exact role in prevention remains unclear. Claims that fiber protects against breast cancer are more controversial, but continue to be studied. Scientists still aren't sure which type of fiber may cut cancer risk, since high-fiber foods usually contain both forms. Plant foods also contain other protective substances, such as antioxidants and phytochemicals, so it's difficult to determine which factors are most beneficial.

Health experts suggest that consumption of 25 to 35 grams of fiber each day is a healthy goal. We can get this fiber from fruits, vegetables, whole grains and beans. Most Americans consume only about 15 grams of fiber, so we have lots of room for improvement. Remember to increase your fiber intake slowly, and always drink lots of fluids.

You can begin to add more fiber to your daily diet by eating whole-grain cereal for breakfast. Look for brands that contain at least five grams of fiber per serving. Then look for ways to include more fiber-rich foods in your snacks and other meals.

Raw, cut up vegetables are generally high in fiber and are a perfect side-item for lunch. Instead

of satisfying your late-afternoon munchies with potato chips or pretzels, reach for a piece of fresh or dried fruit, or a whole-grain treat like a currant bran muffin.

When possible, avoid peeling fruits such as apples and pears or vegetables, because much of the fiber is found in the skin. Boost the fiber in soups, stews and salads by adding beans.

Try this flavorful, fiber-rich dish for a quick, nutritious lunch:

RED BEAN AND RICE SALAD

- 2 cups cooked brown rice, such as basmati or Texmati
- 15-ounce can red kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 3/4 cup finely chopped green bell pepper
- 1/2 cup fresh mango, cut in 1/2-inch cubes
- 1/2 cup finely chopped red onion
- 1/2 cup salsa
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons, chopped cilantro

In a large bowl, use a fork to combine the rice, beans, pepper, mango and onion. Drain the salsa well and mix it into the salad.

Season to taste with salt and freshly ground pepper.

Just before serving, sprinkle with the cilantro. This salad keeps 2 to 3 days, but the rice gets hard when refrigerated.

Each of the 4 servings contains 230 calories and 1 gram of fat.

Recipe courtesy of the American Institute for Cancer Research. AICR offers the AICR Nutrition Hotline (1-800-843-8114). Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, this free service allows you to ask a registered dietitian your questions regarding diet, nutrition and cancer. AICR's Internet Web address is www.aicr.org.

Like a utility infielder, hot dogs are versatile

Try these recipes on your Opening Day

All recipes compliments of the National Hot Dog & Sausage Council. See related story on Taste front.

CHEESY HOT DOG POCKETS

- 1/2 pound hot dogs, cubed
- 1/2 pound sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- 2-ounce jar stuffed green olives, chopped
- 1/2 cup frozen diced onions
- 1/2 cup chili sauce
- 1 teaspoon mustard
- 2 hard boiled eggs, chopped
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 4 pita rounds
- Heavy duty aluminum foil

Cut hot dogs into fourths lengthwise, then slice into 1/4-inch cubes. Combine with olives, eggs, mustard, mayonnaise, chili sauce and cheese, mixing well. Cut pita rounds in half. Open pocket and fill with approximately 1/3 cup filling - be generous. Wrap individually in foil and refrigerate.

When grill is hot, place foil-wrapped sandwiches on grill and heat for 10 minutes. Uncover and continue heating until pita bread is crisp and filling is hot - 10-15 minutes more, depending on desired crispness.

POLYNESIAN KABOBS ON RICE

- 2 Polish sausages (or any other pre-cooked sausage)
- 4 green peppers
- 2 cups pineapple, cubed
- 1 cup sweet and sour sauce
- 4 servings rice

Cut sausages into eighths. On a skewer alternate chunks of pineapple and green peppers with the sausage. Place on grill four to six inches from coals from flame until heated thoroughly. Baste with the sweet and sour sauce. Serve over rice. Serves 4.

SAUSAGE STIR FRY

- 1/2 pound Polish sausage or your favorite type
- 2 cups broccoli, chopped
- 2 cups carrots (sliced)
- 3 cups cooked rice

Slice sausage, carrots and broccoli. Cook rice according to package, making enough for three cups. Spray pan with cooking spray, add sausage and saute. Add vegetables, stir and cover to let simmer for five to seven minutes until vegetables are tender. Serve over a generous portion of cooked rice and enjoy.

FRANKLY THE BEST BAKED BEANS

- 1 1/2 tablespoons, yellow mustard
- 1/3 cup ketchup (For spicier beans, use barbecue sauce.)
- 1/4 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon, onion powder
- 2 (16 ounce) cans of baked beans (dark brown, small beans work best)
- 1 package hot dogs

Mix all ingredients together in an oven-proof, 2 quart casserole dish. Bake at 350° F for 20-25 minutes. Serves 8-10.

SAUSAGE AND BLACK BEAN TAMALE PIE WITH CHEDDAR CRUST

- 1 pound pork sausage links, casings removed
- 2/3 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper
- 1 15-ounce can black beans, drained
- 1 1/2 cups medium hot picante sauce
- 1 8 1/2 ounce package corn muffin mix
- 2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese, divided
- 1/4 cup half and half
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 pint sour cream
- 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/4 cup sliced black olives

Heat oven to 375° F. Grease 10-inch glass pie plate. In a large, 12-inch skillet, crumble the pork sausage and brown. Drain excess fat. Add onions and green pepper and continue cooking until vegetables are crisp-tender. Stir in drained black beans and the picante sauce. Set aside. In a medium bowl, combine corn muffin mix, one cup of the cheddar cheese, the half and half and the egg. Stir just until moistened. Press mixture on bottom and up sides of the greased pie plate. Spoon sausage mixture into crust. Bake 25 minutes or until mixture is set.

Remove from oven; sprinkle with remaining cup of cheddar cheese. Bake five minutes or until cheese is melted. Allow to stand five minutes. Cut into six wedges and serve with a dollop of sour cream and a sprinkle of fresh cilantro and black olives. Makes six servings.

Council hint: Recipe also would work well with cajun style bratwurst and chorizo. This recipe from Eleanor Froelich of Rochester won third place in the 1996 National Sausage Month Award-Winning Recipes.

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Couscous doubles as Tunisian dessert with dates

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cookbook author Martha Rose Shulman says when she was in Tunisia, "some of the most delightful dishes we were served were desserts made with couscous."

Most American cooks are just waking up to the versatility of the North African starch, tiny granules of pasta made from semolina wheat. In U.S. homes, the quick-cooking couscous is most often served as a side dish, sometimes flecked with chopped vegetables but more often fluffed up with a little butter stirred in.

Shulman includes Dessert Couscous With Oranges and Dates (recipe follows) in "The Light Basics Cookbook" (William Morrow & Co.), because it fits her idea of good food: "food that is delicious and that makes you feel good, food that is vibrant and light but by no means aesthetic."

A similar recipe, Sweet Orange Couscous With Dried Fruit (recipe follows), appears in the April

issue of Cooking Light magazine.

DESSERT COUSCOUS WITH ORANGES AND DATES

- 2 1/4 cups water
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons orange flower water, if available
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 1/2 cups instant couscous
- 1/4 cup dried currants or golden raisins
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Generous pinch of salt
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped orange zest (from 2 oranges)
- 3 seedless navel oranges
- 10 dates, quartered lengthwise and seeds removed

In a 2-quart saucepan, combine water and sugar and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium and boil

slowly until the mixture thickens slightly, about 10 minutes. Stir in the orange flower water and remove from the heat. Stir in the butter and allow it to melt.

Place couscous in a bowl. Stir in currants or raisins, cinnamon, salt and orange zest. Pour the syrup over the mixture. Let sit for 20 minutes, stirring from time to time with a wooden spoon to break up any lumps. Line a steamer, the top part of a couscoussiere, a strainer or a colander with a clean kitchen towel and place the couscous in the towel. Cover and steam for 15 minutes above boiling water, making sure that the water is well below the couscous. Turn into a bowl.

Peel oranges, holding the orange above the couscous so that any juice that escapes will go into the couscous. Remove the skin and pith at the same time by holding the knife against the orange at a slight angle and turning the orange against the knife so that the skin comes off in a spiral. Squeeze the skin

over the couscous to obtain any juice from the pulp you may have cut off with the skin. Cut 2 of the oranges in half crosswise, then into small sections. Section the third orange for decorating the top of the couscous. Toss the steamed couscous with the chopped oranges. Transfer to the serving dish and shape the couscous into a cone-shaped mound. Decorate the top with the remaining orange slices and the dates.

Serve warm or at room temperature.

Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Note: Orange flower water is widely used in North African and Middle Eastern cooking. It has a perfumed, subtle flavor. You can find it at Middle Eastern groceries. If not, the dessert will still be good.

Nutritional information per serving: 314 calories; 2.5 g fat (1.3 g saturated), 67.5 carbo, 7.2 g protein.

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in Cooking Class Calendar to Ken Abramczyk, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

Vegetarian Cooking - Lenore Yalysove Baum, author of "Lenore's Natural Cuisine, Your Essential Guide to Wholesome Vegetarian Cooking," conducts vegetarian cooking classes at Lenore's Natural Cuisine, 22899 Inkster, Farmington Hills. Baum has scheduled a session on tofu for 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, and pressure cooking, 6-9 p.m. Monday, April 17. Baum also teaches a beginning cooking series each week from 6-9 p.m. on Wednesdays in May. Call (248) 478-4455.

Wines of Livermore - The Ritz Carlton in Dearborn will host a wine-maker dinner featuring the wines of Livermore Valley in central California on Wednesday, April 12. A reception begins at 6:30 p.m. featuring hors d'oeuvres and wines. A three-course dinner begins at 7 p.m. The cost is \$89 per person inclusive of tax

and gratuity. Call (313) 441-2120.

Live Longer - The Tree House, 22906 Mooney, in Farmington, has Wednesday classes at 7-9 p.m. about how to live longer and get well through nutrition and **Schoolcraft College:** Outdoor Grilling and Entertaining, 5-10 p.m. Mondays, April 17 and 24; and Buffet and Hors D'oeuvres - Hands On!, 5:30-9:30 p.m., April 20 and 21. For information about Schoolcraft's courses, call (734) 462-4448.

Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn Heights Center: High Tea the British Way, 7-9 p.m. Monday, April 10, and 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 15; New Orleans Brunch, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday, April 14, and Cool Stuff for Sizzling Days, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, May 20. For more information about these HFCC continuing learning courses, call (877) 855-5252 or visit HFCC at www.hfcc.net

Kitchen Glamor features Signature Recipes of Michigan Five-Star Chefs at Kitchen Glamor, Orchard Mall, northeast corner of Maple and Orchard Lake

roads in West Bloomfield. All celebrity chef sessions on Sundays begin at 12:30 p.m. On Wednesday, April 12, chef Giuliano Hazan will demonstrate Italian recipes of porcini mushroom soup with chick peas, fennel gratineed with parmesan cheese, veal braised with peppers and tomatoes, and chocolate amaretto custard. On Thursday, April 13, Hazan will prepare risotto with shrimp and asparagus, chicken breast fillets with red, green and yellow peppers, zucchini sautéed with mint and Sicilian orange tart. Hazan's sessions begin at 6:30 p.m.

On Monday, May 1, Tim McGrath will demonstrate baked fillet of Lake Superior whitefish on a bed of julienned leeks, carrots and celery en papillote with chardonnay-tarragon sauce, spicy sautéed catfish fillets with onion gravy and cheese grits, grilled lake trout with caramelized red onion sauce and black barley risotto, and profiteroles with praline mousse and caramel chocolate sauce. On Tuesday, May 2, McGrath will prepare grilled vegetables with balsamic-herbes de

Provence garlic basting; oven-roasted tomato fennel soup with pesto cream; grilled bourbon-molasses marinated rib eye steaks with smoked corn and andouille sauce; grilled jumbo shrimps with citrus ginger sauce and vegetable griddle cakes and strawberry-amaretto tiramisu. Sessions start at 6:30 p.m. Call (800) 641-1252.

Appetizers - Mary Spencer will instruct a session on how to prepare a wild mushroom enchilada, curried pates and Thai spring rolls. Sessions at Kitchen Glamor stores are 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 2, at the Novi Town Center; and Wednesday, May 3, at the Redford store, 26770 Grand River. Call (800) 641-1252.

Rich Brioche Desserts - Dolly Matoaio will teach the techniques of creating light French brioche, including pecan sticky buns, a brioche chocolate bread pudding and an almond-brown sugar coffee cake. Sessions at Kitchen Glamor stores are 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, at the Novi Town Center; Wednesday, May 10, at the Redford store, 26770 Grand River. Call (800) 641-1252.

Consumers can call state for food inspection reports

People who want read food safety inspection reports or want to report food safety concerns can use a new toll-free number.

Michigan's 22,000 retail food establishments and food processing facilities were sent blue-and-white decals bearing the toll-free number, (800) 292-3939, with their February license renewal applications.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture set up the telephone number so consumers have better access to food safety information, said Keith Creagh, MDA's deputy director. "This new toll-free number and decal should help alert consumers to the fact that this information is readily available and accessible to Michigan shoppers."

Food inspection reports have been available to the public for some time, but the toll-free number is new. People calling will be routed through an auto-

mated branching system to MDA's Food and Dairy Division, which is responsible for inspecting all licensed retail food establishments statewide from supermarkets to convenience stores to food processing operations.

Calls received after hours and on weekends go to an answering machine and are recorded the next business day. Single inspection reports are mailed to individuals, free of charge, within five working days, or faxed upon request.

All complaints received on the toll-free line are forwarded to the regional office with jurisdiction over the particular retail food establishment.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture is the official state agency charged with serving, promoting and protecting the food, agriculture and agricultural economic interests.

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Health & Fitness

The Observer

INSIDE
PC Mike's Internet Column
D7

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Sunday, April 9, 2000

Renee Skoglund, 734 953-2128, (rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net)

on the web: <http://observer-eccentric.com>

MEDICAL BRIEFS

Cardio Theater

Enjoy working out but find walking the treadmill a real grind? Well, say good-bye to those boring workouts.

Livonia-Body Rocks Fitness & Racquet announces the addition of Cardio Theater to their fitness facility at 36600 Plymouth Road. Members can use a variety of cardiovascular equipment, such as treadmills, stationary bikes and stair-climbers, while being entertained by six big screen televisions and music sources.

Using headphones, members plug into a remote control attached to each cardio piece, push a button and tune into the entertainment selection of their choice. Options include television, radio, audiotape or CD selections.

For more information, contact Karen Mattson at (734) 591-1212.

Parkinson's expert

"Aspects of Parkinson's Disease" will be addressed by Dr. Lawrence Elmer, a movement disorder specialist from the Medical College of Ohio, at a lecture at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 15, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road.

Dr. Elmer, director of the Movement Disorders Center in Toledo, will speak about the five stages of Parkinson's disease and its non-motor complications, including dementia and depression.

The event is sponsored by the Westside Parkinson Support Groups. There is no charge, but reservations are necessary. Call (734) 421-4208 or (734) 261-1784.

Successful prostate screening

The 5th annual Prostate Screening Day at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia on March 4 drew over 600 men for the free exam and blood test to detect prostate cancer. This event, one of the highest attended health screenings in the area, was sponsored by the Radiation Oncology and Community Outreach departments.

Of the over 600 participants, about 12 percent were referred for further follow-up testing with a physician. "This screening is an excellent, convenient way for men to maintain their prostate health," said Marianne Simanek, R.N., director of Community Outreach.

Over 50 physicians and staff at St. Mary Hospital volunteer their time and services to the screening day. "This is one of the most efficient and well-attended community prostate screenings in the area," said John Harb, M.D., urologist at St. Mary. Harb oversees St. Mary Hospital's prostate brachytherapy program, an outpatient surgical procedure for prostate cancer.

For more information on prostate health, contact St. Mary Hospital Community Outreach, 734 655-8940, www.stmaryhospital.org or www.PROSEEDSERVICE.com. For a physician on staff at St. Mary, call 1-888-464-WELL.

We want your health news

There are several ways you can reach the Observer Health & Fitness staff. The Sunday section provides numerous venues for you to offer newsworthy information including Medical Datebook (upcoming calendar events); Medical Newsmakers (appointments/new hires in the medical field); and Medical Briefs (medical advances, short news items from hospitals, physicians, companies).

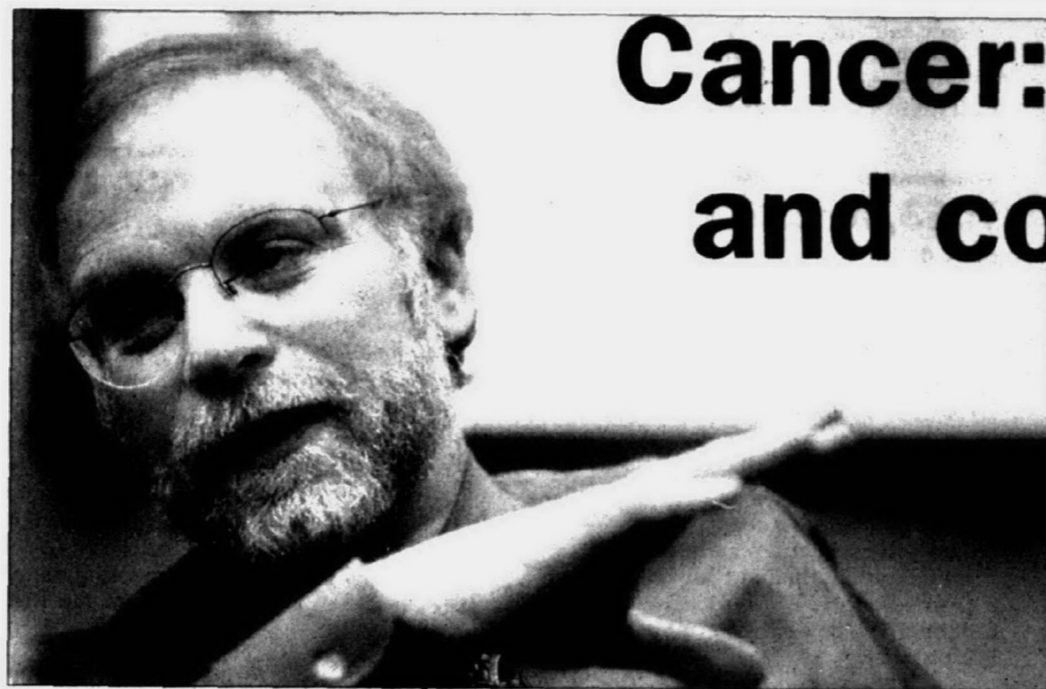
We also welcome newsworthy ideas for health and fitness related stories. To submit an item to our newspaper you can call, write, fax or e-mail us.

CALL US:
(734) 953-2111

WRITE US:
Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
(Specify Datebook, Newsmakers or Briefs)
Attn: Renee Skoglund
36251 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150

FAX US:
(734) 591-7279

E-MAIL US:
rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net



Cancer: Care, cure and compassion

Breast cancer survivors share stories of hope

Healer: Dr. Max Wicha, director of the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center, believes within 10 years breast cancer treatments will be customized for particular cancers.

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER
rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net

A small, smartly dressed woman in her sixties walks briskly across the lobby of the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center in Ann Arbor then pauses in front of the revolving doors.

"Well, I'm done for another four weeks," she says before exiting. "And you know, I feel great. I don't even feel sick."

In a way, this woman, who was wearing a wig and most likely undergoing chemotherapy personifies the center's mission to treat the body, mind and soul of every cancer patient seeking treatment. At the center, healing comes through many avenues.

"The real hope is already happening in the clinic," said Dr. Max Wicha, director of the center and a distinguished professor in oncology.

But hope, truly viable hope, must translate into living life to the fullest, refocusing goals, and making cancer just a part of your life, not all of it. Four of Dr. Wicha's breast cancer patients share their stories:

Alice Campbell, 62

Campbell was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 1983. There was no history of the disease in her family. Following a mastectomy of her left breast, she underwent one year of chemotherapy. Everything was fine until 1997.

"I was diagnosed with the same breast cancer, which had gone to the bone. I was unaware of it until I went to reach for a lamp and I felt this pain. I had broken my collar bone."

Campbell went on tamoxifen for a year and a half until she developed a blood clot in her leg. She now takes arimidex, which also suppresses estrogen, and receives pamidronate, a bone strengthener, intravenously. "The combination of arimidex and pamidronate has allowed me to be really active," she says.

Campbell continues to work as an administrative manager at the Family Independence Agency office in Jackson, Mich., where she's worked for 32 years. She also gardens, volunteers and tutors in math a young woman who experienced a head injury.

She did not have breast reconstruction. "I didn't want to spend any more time with hospitals. I just wanted to go on living." Neither did she join a support group. "I have to be living and active."

Campbell's support comes from the center's staff, her 86-year-old mother ("my cheerleader") and her six brothers and sisters. Campbell provides hope for women with metastasized breast cancer. "I think one of the reasons I coped so well is that I had an outside focus, goals to achieve."

Karen Hamer, 50

Breast cancer is in Hamer's family. Her grandmother, mother and sister had it. However, they all had different breast cancers and don't share the common breast cancer gene. The environment may have played a role, says Hamer. Her family lived in Long Island, N.Y., where they sprayed heavily with DDT during the summer.

Hamer, who now lives in Holland, Ohio, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1985. She detected it herself just weeks after her mammogram came back negative. "I felt it in the shower. When I laid down on the bed I definitely felt it," she says.

She did not return to her gynecologist, whom she felt patronized her.

"First you are so scared, and you don't believe it. I think you are in denial a long, long time. I think I still am."

—Jane Zhang

Instead, she went to her family doctor. "He said I had the cancer for five years."

In the mid-80s, breast cancer patients often woke up with a mastectomy if their biopsies came back positive. Hamer sought other options. A friend told her about U-M Hospital. Within weeks, Hamer had a lumpectomy and began radiation treatments and seven months of chemotherapy. After a recurrence in 1993, she had a bi-lateral mastectomy (both breasts) with reconstruction.

"By coming here I gained eight years, and by then the reconstruction process was more sophisticated."

Hamer's cancer experience has receded into the shadows. "I don't always think about it because it has been so long. But every time I drive up ... when my 50th birthday came — a lot of people are so depressed — but I was so thankful to be alive. Nothing to be depressed about."

Margaret Smith, 70

Smith was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1986, the year she retired as an elementary school teacher. The cancer was discovered during a routine exam. Smith had never had a mammogram.

"The doctor called and said you have an abnormality and you should see a surgeon."

Smith, who lives in Battle Creek, Mich., immediately took her X-rays to a local surgeon. "He said, 'Mrs. Smith, there's nothing wrong with you.' He had the wrong X-rays."

A good friend suggested Smith come to U-M Hospital. "I called on a Thursday, and they saw me the following Monday and scheduled a biopsy." Smith had a lumpecto-

my and radiation. She took tamoxifen for a number of years, until a spot showed up on her rib. She was put on megestrol, and after other spots formed, she received gemcitabine. She has undergone several different chemotherapy and radiation therapies. "I have a lot of cancer in the spine," she says.

Although she uses a wheelchair, Smith's appearance defies her medical history. Her complexion is clear and bright, and she is eager to talk. She praises her radiation doctor, Dr. Allen Lichter, whom she refers to as "amazing." When her radiation implants were due to come out late at night, "he was right there," she says.

And she has more praise for the cancer center. "I can't say enough about Dr. Wicha's nurses."

Jane Zhang, 42

Zhang, of Ann Arbor, an aerospace engineer with Ford Motor Co., was on assignment in Japan when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in September 1998. "I found it myself because of an abnormal feeling in the night. The breast felt more swollen."

She had a needle aspiration and a mammogram, but the doctor would not confirm his findings. "I kept asking him. He said it's possible. In Japan, they think it's better for the patient not to know."

Zhang, originally from China, returned to the United States and contacted the Breast Cancer Clinic at U-M Hospital. The clinic scheduled more tests. "I pushed them for surgery," she said. Zhang had her breast removed followed by six months of chemotherapy.

Her cancer experience is still new. "First you are so scared, and you don't believe it. I think you are in denial a long, long time. I think I still am."

Cancer has dramatically affected Zhang's approach to life. "Since then I have forced myself to slow down and prioritize. I have to do that." She now works part-time at Ford and no longer has a nanny to watch over her children, ages 5 and 10.

"The other time I reserve for myself I should have done this many years ago. I appreciate I was diagnosed with this cancer, but I survived. That woke me up. Work is not all of your life."



Concern: Dr. Max Wicha listens to patient Alice Campbell of Jackson, who is in remission following a second bout with breast cancer.

An exciting time of discovery

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER
rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net

In terms of breast cancer research, it is a very exciting time at the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center, said Dr. Max Wicha, director. "Now we understand for the first time what cancer is. It is a disease of the genes, we are certain."

In other words, researchers have met the enemy and it is theirs. Almost. The goal of U-M researchers is to develop a technology that will enable them to analyze all 100,000 genes in each cell. "Our vision is to have a day when we can customize treatments and design treatments that target particular defects in a patient's cancer," said Wicha.

Muhammad Al-Hajj is a post doctoral research fellow involved in breast cancer research. He meets weekly with Wicha and other research team members. Currently, the team is involved in a grant competition for the state's tobacco settlement dollars. The question is, should they apply?

"When it works out, it's awesome," said Al-Hajj about the team's antibody research.

Scientists already have developed

an antibody for the HER-2 protein associated with more aggressive breast cancers. The antibody helps shrink cancer cells, which makes chemotherapy work better. But while there are many successes, said Wicha, "it's still not enough."

Top ten

The U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center, established in 1986, is one of just 37 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive centers in the nation. It was ranked among the top 10 best cancer centers in U.S. News & World Report's tenth annual survey. Last year, the center scheduled 88,000 outpatient visits.

The five top cancers diagnosed and treated at U-M are melanoma, breast, prostate, non-Hodgkins lymphoma and lung. Patients visited 10 multidisciplinary clinics that provided the services of a surgeon, medical oncologist, radiation oncologist, nurses and support staff at minimum. They also had the opportunity to consult with nutritionists and social workers.

"A patient can come and see all the specialists in one setting," said Wicha.

The multidisciplinary clinics target the following: blood and marrow

transplantation, bone metastasis, breast care, gastrointestinal cancers, head and neck cancers, lung cancer, lymphoma/leukemia, melanoma, sarcoma and urologic cancers.

In addition, the center offers a number of specialized clinics, including breast imaging breast wellness, cancer genetics, cutaneous surgery and oncology, gynecologic cancers, hematology, medical oncology, neurologic cancers, orthopedic oncology, pediatric hematology/oncology, radiation oncology, surgical oncology, and thoracic cancers.

It is a formidable offering the center's 266 physicians and scientists have striven to make user-friendly. Judging from the center's main lobby, they've succeeded. The lobby, with its wood paneling, soft colors, art displays and central information desk, looks like it belongs in an upscale hotel.

Alice Campbell of Jackson, Mich., has been a patient at the center since before it opened. She chose U-M because "it's tops in the field of information, techniques and procedures and it has access to any new discoveries."

However, when you're dealing with cancer, the caregivers are as important as the treatments. "The staff



Exciting times: Dr. Wicha and Muhammad Al-Hajj, a post-doctoral research fellow, discuss the latest outcome of an ongoing research project on breast cancer cells.

was very supportive, very accommodating," said Campbell. "If a problem comes up, they're a telephone call away."

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Items for Medical Datebook are welcome from all hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the Observer-area medical community.

Cost: \$95 (paid at first class). Call (248) 473-0624 to register.

TUE, APRIL 11 & 18

SHIATSU Learn the traditional Japanese method of balancing body energy. Done on the floor over the clothing, this energizing treatment promotes health and well-being.

TUE, APRIL 11

HORMONE REPLACEMENT The Henry Ford Medical Center-Fairlane will sponsor a lecture on "Hormone Replacement Therapy and Natural Hormones" 7 p.m. at the medical center, 19401 Hubbard Drive at Evergreen, Dearborn. Call (313) 982-8384.

WED, APRIL 12

STROKE SCREENING Life Line Screening will conduct stroke and vascular disease tests - carotid artery, abdominal aortic aneurysm and ankle brachial index - at the Marquette House, 3600 Campus Drive, Westland.

FRI, APRIL 14

STRESS MANAGEMENT Madonna University in Livonia will host a stress management lecture featuring John M. Cotter, Ph.D., a staff psychologist in Botsford Hospital's Department of Neurology and certified hypnotherapist.

SAT, APRIL 15

FOOD FOR HOLISTIC HEALTH The Tree House in Farmington, 22906 Mooney Street, presents a "Health Starts with Food" class 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TUES, APRIL 18

BONE DENSITY Alterra-Clare Bridge of Livonia, 32500 Seven Mile, will feature a discussion on "Osteoporosis and Bone Density," 6-7:30 p.m. in the community center.

LYME DISEASE The Lyme Disease Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 3 Towne Square, Wayne. Call Connie, (734) 362-3502 for more information.

THUR, APRIL 20

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC Providence Mission Health Medical Center-Livonia will host an immunization event from 4-7 p.m. at 37595 Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Cost is \$5 per child and includes all vaccines your child needs except chicken pox.

MANIC DEPRESSIVE The Manic Depressive and Depressive Association of Metro Detroit will hold a "dual diagnosis" meeting 7-9:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month. Call Gary at (313) 532-4217 or Mary Ann at (734) 284-5563.

SCLERODERMA MEETING The Livonia Scleroderma Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. in the first-floor classroom at St. Mary Hospital, 36575 West Five Mile Road. Call Barbara Case, (734) 464-3644. For information

on the Scleroderma Foundation-Michigan Chapter, call (248) 349-2899.

WED, APRIL 26

ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION Free community outreach program on "erectile dysfunction" (impotence) presented by Dr. John Frederick Harb 7 p.m., St. Mary Hospital, Marion Professional Bldg., 14555 Levan Road, Livonia. Call (734) 462-5858.

TUE, MAY 2-16

BIOKINESIOLOGY Learn to use muscle testing techniques to determine which vitamins, herbs, and foods are best for you. Cost is \$115. Class runs Tuesday, May 2-16, from 6-9 p.m. The Healing Arts Clinic is located at 340 N. Main Street No. 205 in Plymouth. Call (734) 207-0557 to register.

MON, MAY 8

THYROID DISORDERS The Michigan Thyroid Disorder Support Group will meet at 6:30 in the Plymouth Library, 223 S. Main Street. For more information, call Tracy Green at (734) 453-7945. Web site http://community.mlive.com/cc/thyroid

TUES, MAY 9

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES Heartland Home Health Care & Hospice will present "Advance Directives: When and how soon should they be in place," 6-7:30 p.m. in the community center of Alterra-Clare Bridge of Livonia, 32500 Seven Mile. Call Nanette Cooper or Denise Mannion for reservations.

TUES, MAY 16

LYME DISEASE The Lyme Disease Support Group will sponsor a "Lyme Disease Education Night" at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, Wayne. Call Connie at (734) 326-3502 for more information.

THUR, MAY 18

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC Providence Mission Health Medical Center-Livonia will host an immunization event from 4-7 p.m. at 37595 Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Cost is \$5 per child and includes all vaccines your child needs except chicken pox.

TUE, MAY 23

RESTLESS LEG SYNDROME Do you or someone you know suffer from restless leg syndrome? There is support available and a wealth of new information. A Restless Leg Support Group meets every other month at OptimEyes in Westland (across from Westland Shopping Center) on Central City Parkway. A registered nurse will be the guest speaker. Meet at 2 p.m. in the OptimEyes community meeting room. For information call Jan Prentice at (734) 453-4847.

SAT, JUNE 10

CARDIAC LIFE SUPPORT Prerequisite for initial training: proof of current Health Care Provider BLS card. Retraining: proof of current Health Care Provider BLS card and current ACLS certification. Class is offered Saturday and Sunday, June 10 and 11, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital/Michigan Heart & Vascular Institute (734) 712-2948.

MON, JUNE 12

THYROID DISORDERS The Michigan Thyroid Disorder Support Group will meet at 6:30 in the Plymouth Library, 223 S. Main Street. For more information, call Tracy Green at (734) 453-7945. Web site http://community.mlive.com/cc/thyroid

TUE, JUNE 13

TOUCH FOR HEALTH

Learn to use muscle testing techniques, neurolymphatic massage, acupressure to strengthen weaknesses, relieve pain, and improve posture. Bring a "Touch for Health" book, available at book stores. Class runs Tuesday, June 13-July 25, from 6-9 p.m. Cost is \$225. The Healing Arts Clinic is located at 340 N. Main Street No. 205 in Plymouth. Call (734) 207-0557 to register.

CAREGIVING STRESS Alterra-Clare Bridge of Livonia, 32500 Seven Mile, will present a discussion on "Stress Management: Emotions of Caregiving," 6-7:30 p.m. in the community center. Call Nanette Cooper or Denise Mannion for reservations (248) 428-7055.

THUR, JUNE 15

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC Providence Mission Health Medical Center-Livonia will host an immunization event from 4-7 p.m. at 37595 Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Cost is \$5 per child and includes all vaccines your child needs except chicken pox.

THUR, JULY 20

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC Providence Mission Health Medical Center-Livonia will host an immunization event from 4-7 p.m. at 37595 Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Cost is \$5 per child and includes all vaccines your child needs except chicken pox.

MON, SEPT. 11

THYROID DISORDERS The Michigan Thyroid Disorder Support Group will meet at 6:30 in the Plymouth Library, 223 S. Main Street. For more information, call Tracy Green at (734) 453-7945. Web site http://community.mlive.com/cc/thyroid

ONGOING

OVEREATERS Overeater Anonymous will meet every Sunday 7-8:30 p.m. April-June in the St. Mary Hospital Pavilion, Conference Room A, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Another group meets every Thursday evening 7:30-9 p.m. in Unity Church, 28660 Five Mile. Call Kathleen at (734) 427-8612.

AA & ALANON Alcoholics Anonymous & Alanon meet Wednesdays and Sundays from 8:30-9:30 p.m. at Garden City Hospital North Entrance (5254 Inkster Road) at Garden City. Contact (248) 541-6565 or (734) 776-3415. Everyone's welcome. Alanon meeting Sunday only.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS Marquette House, a residential assisted living facility in Westland, will hold blood pressure screenings every fourth Tuesday. Screenings are open to the public from 11 a.m. to noon at the Marquette House, 36000 Campus Drive (across from John Glenn High School). Call (734) 326-6537.

WEIGHT LOSS CLUB The Merry Bowl Trimmers Club, a weight loss support group, meets at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Livonia Senior Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road. The program is open to both men and women. The cost is \$4 a month. Call (734) 425-5675.

THROUGH MAY 2

FOOD FOR HOLISTIC HEALTH The Tree House in Farmington, 22906 Mooney Street, offers a seven-week class 7-9 p.m. every Wednesday. Learn the five rites of Tibetan exercise and why Kach LaLane is still strong at age 85.

Tobacco

Consequences of smoking outlined

SURVEY

The following are the results of a behavior risk study from EPIC-MRA on behalf of a coalition of prominent hospitals:

Until smoking impacts your health, wealth, looks or unless your family has influence over you - smoking will remain a habit.

Higher education and age seem the only other influences to stop smoking and even though smoking may be down overall, young people continue to smoke at almost the same levels as their parents.

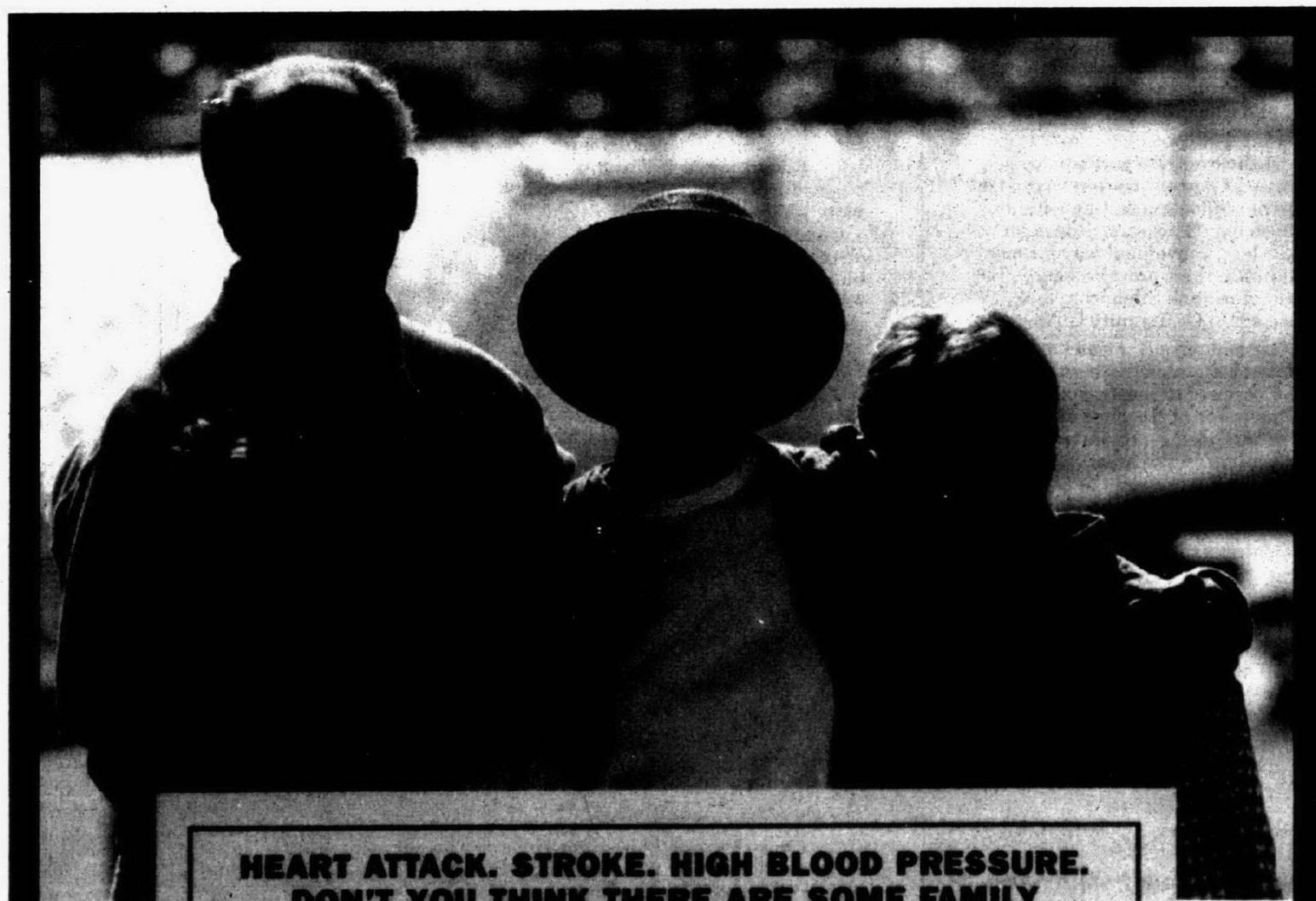
Other results that were

revealed included there are 1,525,860 smokers in Michigan, representing 21% of adults. Some 884,999 smoke at work and they take an average three trips daily outside their workplace to smoke.

Each trip averages 12 minutes, for a total of 36 minutes per day Michigan employees spend 138,059,844 hours smoking at work each year.

"Tobacco & Its Consequences - Its Prevalence and Impact on Health and Work Results" is the result of an EPIC-MRA statewide survey of 1,800 Michigan adults; random stratified sample survey; margin of error plus/minus 2 percentage points.

Read the Community Life section every Thursday



HEART ATTACK. STROKE. HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE. DON'T YOU THINK THERE ARE SOME FAMILY TRADITIONS YOU SHOULD DO WITHOUT?

Families share a lot more than a last name. However, the things they have in common aren't always that obvious. Like their blood pressure. High blood pressure has been strongly linked to heredity, so it tends to run in families. There are no symptoms, so it can easily go unnoticed. And, left untreated, high blood pressure can lead to a heart attack, stroke, or kidney failure. But, the good news is that it's easily checked and readily treated. So maybe it's time to start a new family tradition for an appointment to get your blood pressure checked today.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN Health Centers Feel Better

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Are You Depressed?

Answer the following questions based on the last 2 weeks or more.

- YES NO
1. I feel sad, unhappy, self critical
2. I feel tired and have little energy
3. I have trouble sleeping or eating (either too much or too little)
4. I don't enjoy activities that I used to
5. I feel uneasy, restless, irritable or guilty
6. I have trouble concentrating, remembering things or making decisions

If you answered "yes" to 3 or more statements, you may be suffering from depression, a serious condition affecting millions of Americans. The Institute for Health Studies is currently looking for individuals experiencing the above symptoms to participate in a research study of investigational medication for depression. If you are selected, all research related care and study medication are provided at no cost. Get answers and information about depression.

INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH STUDIES (517) 349-5505 1 (800) 682-6663 Robert J. Bielecki, M.D.

Will time tell how low-tech stocks will go?

PC
MIKE



MIKE WENDLAND

Good-bye new economy. Hello old economy. The bubble has indeed burst.

Individual investors by the millions are cashing in and taking their dwindling high-tech fortunes out of the tech-heavy Nasdaq and shoveling it into the old economy blue chip stocks on the Dow.

The recent antitrust guilty verdict against Microsoft is being blamed for the current bloodbath, but really, it's just the latest of a series of warnings, misfortunes and dubiously financed high-tech disasters that have plagued a host of technology stocks for more than two weeks now.

What all the analysts are missing, I believe, is the ominous story of failure that hangs over the head of hundreds of new dot-

com firms. Dozens of these heavily hyped firms have burned through hundreds of millions of dollars in financing and venture capital and are now on the verge of going belly up.

Watch what happens the rest of this quarter and next.

There's a rout coming, a huge collapse of the entire dot-com industry.

Very few of them, maybe a handful, are making money. The vast majority are smoke and mirrors. It's time to face reality for many. They have yet to turn a profit and show absolutely no sign that they will be able to do so in the foreseeable future. Even with the huge sell-off on the Nasdaq in recent days, most of the tech companies are still ridiculously overvalued.

The reason is two-fold: Greed and ignorance.

New individual investors have flocked to the market and greedily flooded the Nasdaq with their self-managed 401K savings and \$9 Datek and Ameritrade "buys," pretending to be big-time investors in a lust to get rich

quick. And many did. For awhile.

But their ignorance in buying stock symbols and trendy tech stocks that have no earnings history has caught up with them. Now, as their bubble has burst, they're panicking. Expect a slight bounce back in the Nasdaq. That's the pattern. And there are some good buys out there that the big institutional firms will snap up.

But the free ride is just about over, replaced by a free fall.

Net execs dump stocks

If anybody had been looking, maybe this week's crash of the tech market could have been foreseen in the way a lot of top tech execs have been handling their stock holdings in recent days.

A number of key Internet execs unloaded massive amounts of stock, perhaps a clear indication that things weren't as rosy as their public relations flacks were telling the rest of us.

Usually, insider sales of stock by key tech execs collectively average between \$1 and \$3 bil-

lion a month, according to the First Call/Thompson Financial company, which tracks insider sales. Last month, those sales totaled \$12 billion, with the huge surge attributed to technology execs unloading their shares.

There's a great Web site you can use to watch insider stock sales. It's called the 10K Wizard (<http://www.10kwizard.com>) and it makes all official corporate filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission available online. Click on the INSIDER TRADING button to snoop around. And if you really want to have fun, type in the company name or stock symbol or the chief exec's name and look at the DEF 14 (for definitive proxy) filings to see the salaries paid to the heads of some of these overvalued dot-com companies.

No confidence

Attorney General Janet Reno held a cyber crime summit meeting this past week with top execs from Silicon Valley tech firms. But she didn't get the reception the government hoped.

Instead of enthusiastic sup-

port, Reno's attempt to get tech firms to cooperate with the Justice Department by providing greater access to their networks was met with barely disguised skepticism.

Tech companies simply don't trust the government enough to let them snoop around their systems. And there's a lot of doubt about the expertise of government cyber cops.

Most of the companies indicated they prefer investigating cyber attacks themselves, or contracting out with highly specialized and discreet private firms that really know what they're doing.

The biggest reason for the

skepticism and distrust? The massive denial-of-service attack on the nation's biggest Web portal sites last February is still unsolved, despite the FBI's bluster and promise to catch those responsible.

Mike Wendland reports about computers and the Internet for NBC television stations coast-to-coast. His "Net News Daily" Internet reports are on WWJ, NewsRadio 950 Monday-Friday at 6:26 p.m., and his "PC Talk" call-in radio show is heard every weekend on TalkRadio 1270, WXYT. You can reach Mike through his Web site at www.pcmike.com

BUSINESS CALENDAR

Items from the Observerland area for the Business Calendar can be sent to: Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150 attention: Business Calendar.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

BUSINESS IN CHINA

Oakland University's Professional Development and Education Outreach, School of Education and Human Services (SEHS) will present "Opening Doors in the 21st Century, Creating Business Opportunities in China after WTO." The seminar will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 14 in Oakland Univer-

sity's Meadow Brook Ballroom. Co-sponsors include: The Detroit Regional Chamber, Pontiac Export Assistance Center - U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, and Leonard Woodcock Legacy. The seminar is an introductory course for individuals and organizations interested in developing or expanding markets in China. Jerome D. Hill, J.D., Ph.D. and Ledong Li will share their expertise on expanding interests and overcoming the challenges of doing business in China. Cost is \$295 and includes a Chinese luncheon and handout material. The registration deadline is Wednesday, April 5. Enrollment

is limited. Contact the Professional Development office at (248) 370-3033 for a brochure or to register for the seminar. Fax registration with VISA or MasterCard payment is accepted at (248) 370-3137.

SECRETARIES WEEK

The Tri-County Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals will present a business seminar titled "Assistants and Executives Working in Partnership" 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Atheneum Hotel in Detroit. Seminar/luncheon tickets are \$35 for IAAP members and \$40 for non-members. For more information, call (313) 235-9232 or fax (313) 235-0188.

FRI, MAY 12

FIESTA HISPANA BALL

The Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce hosts its 11th Anniversary Fiesta Hispana Ball at the Ritz Carlton in Dearborn. The VIP reception begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Bo Andersson, executive in charge of worldwide purchasing for General Motors Corp., is event chairman. The ball provides an opportunity to network with business representatives and meet corporate sponsors. For tickets, contact MHCC at (248) 208-9915.

BUSINESS MARKETPLACE

Items for Business Marketplace are welcome from all companies and residents active in the Observer-area business community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to: Business Marketplace, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150.

large, diversified market and show you how to win the many contracts available to small businesses. Learn how technological advances have streamlined the dynamics of doing business with

the government. Topics include: government registrations, regulations, electronic commerce, electronic funds transfer, available markets and resources, and the services and training programs available at Schoolcraft

College's Business Development Center.

The cost is \$25 per person. To register, call the Business Development Center at (734) 462-4438.

CORRECTION NOTICE

In our April 9 insert, we advertised 2 CDs as available Tuesday, April 11. The release dates for both *Outta My Way* by the Flies and the *American Psycho* Soundtrack have been delayed. Both titles are expected to be available soon. We will be offering rainchecks for these titles. We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.



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THUR, APRIL 20

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

"How to Become a Government Contractor," a seminar sponsored by Schoolcraft College, will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20. The half-day seminar will afford you greater insight into this

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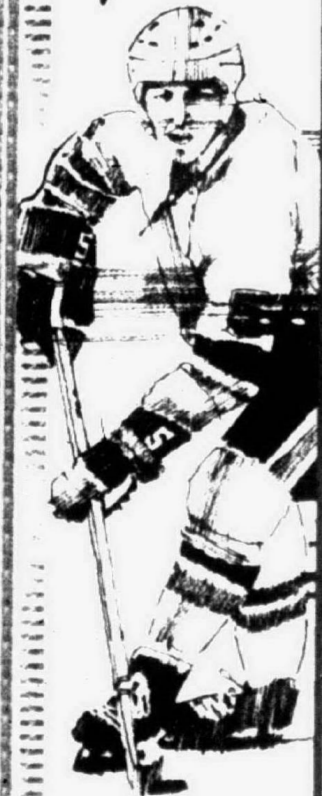
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Meijer collaborates to provide medical equipment discounts

A Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan program called BlueSafe, which offers discounts on injury prevention equipment, has been expanded to offer savings on 19 health and safety items at all 63 Michigan Meijer locations.

Meijer's participation means that Blues members and the public can redeem special coupons at all Michigan Meijer stores for savings from \$1 to \$20 on certain health and safety products.

"This arrangement allows us to expand the availability of discounts on a number of safety

products to Blues members and the public," said Dale Robertson, Blues vice president of West Michigan. "This is a great idea for a partnership between Meijer and the Blues and we're hoping that the coupons will be an added incentive for the citizens throughout Michigan to purchase items that can prevent serious injuries."

"This project has the potential to impact lives in a very positive way," said John Zimmerman, director of consumer affairs for Meijer Stores. "Blue Cross and Meijer Stores have teamed up to help prevent injuries to our cus-

tomers and to people in the community. We think that's pretty special."

Blues members and the public can use the Meijer coupons for discounts on the following items:

- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Bicycle/in-line skating helmets and padding
- Child car seats and boosters
- Baby gates and portable bed rails
- Fire extinguishers and escape ladders
- First aid kits
- Roadside emergency kits
- Treadmills and exercise

bikes
Damman Hardware is the only other participant in the BlueSafe program to offer redeemable coupons. Blues members and the public can use the coupons at all 17 southeast Michigan Damman stores for discounts on smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and fire escape ladders.

The BlueSafe program has an arrangement with Wright & Filippis, Dunham's Sports and MC Sports to provide savings to Blues members when they present their Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan or Blue Care

Network membership cards at the checkout

Wright & Filippis' participation provides Blues members with 20-percent discounts on all home health aids at its 23 stores located throughout Michigan.

Some discounted home health items include:

- bathroom railings, grab bars, safety seats and scales
- maternity and breastfeeding products
- blood pressure kits
- diabetes supplies
- first aid kits, heating pads, hot/cold packs
- athletic braces and support

pillows
■ thermoscan instant thermometers

Blues members also can present their membership cards and save 20 percent on the following safety equipment and products at Dunham's Sports and MC Sports stores in Michigan: bicycle/in-line skating helmets and pads; athletic braces and supports; life jackets and vests; trigger locks for firearms (only at Dunham's).

The booklet of coupons may be obtained by calling the toll-free BlueSafe hotline, 877-BLUE-SAFE (258-3723).

Be aware of facial injuries caused during sports-related activities

Spring brings May flowers. But it can also bring major facial injuries for kids and adults playing a myriad of sports without proper protection. For oral and maxillofacial surgeons — national experts at dealing with facial trauma — Spring is the time to remember sports should include injury prevention as well as fun.

That's why the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) — and its 6,000 OMS members nationwide — are sponsoring "April Is National Facial Protection Month."

"Each year, 250,000 Americans will suffer needless facial trauma from sports injuries," says Dr. Bill Nelson, DDS, of Green Bay, Wisconsin. Dr. Nelson, who serves on the medical staff for the Green Bay Packers, recalls a high school basketball player who was elbowed in the mouth during a game.

The player lost his upper front teeth and required dental implants and crowns. "A mouth guard would have prevented that type of injury," stressed Dr. Nelson. The young athlete would also have saved time lost from school.

Dr. Nelson added, "A great number of dental and facial injuries occur with kids in contact sports. Yet, it's rare to see these injuries in football or hockey, where the use of mouth guards is required. There is an increase in volleyball, soccer, and basketball injuries. Mouth guards are not required for these sports. It's been shown that wearing protective gear decreases the severity and frequency of injuries in contact sports."

Take precautions

The National Youth Sports Safety Foundation estimates that more than three million teeth will be knocked out in youth sporting activities this year. Nearly 60,000 people, more than half of them children, injure their faces annually while playing baseball.

In addition, doctors treat roughly 4,000 soccer players each year for facial injuries. It's not only the athletes incurring injuries but spectators as well. There are over 19,000 accidents each year to fans in the bleachers.

A look at sporting activities on wheels reveals over 500,000 people involved in bicycle accidents, with one fifth of them injuring their faces. In-line skating acci-

dents exceed 25,000 annually, and skateboarding accidents are nearly double that number.

Another source of facial injuries is automobile accidents. Annually, more than 96,000 people require treatment of oral injuries or maxillofacial fractures from car accidents.

Avoiding injury is the best route to a healthy lifestyle. OMSes advocate wearing helmets and mouth guards during various sports and using seatbelts in cars and trucks.

The AAOMS encourages adults and children to wear protective equipment while engaged

in activities such as bicycle and motorcycle riding, skateboarding, rollerblading, soccer, football, skiing, baseball, ice hockey, wrestling, boxing, lacrosse, basketball, and field hockey, among others.

For example, basketball players typically don't wear mouth guards. Yet,

■ approximately 34% of all injuries to basketball players involve teeth and/or the oral cavity.

■ In soccer, only 7% of players regularly wear mouth guards.

The good news is the public is adhering to some safety precau-

tions. Dr. Dexter Barber, DDS, of Philadelphia says, "Today, there aren't as many head injuries from bicycling due to more people wearing helmets." However, with the increased popularity of skateboarding and in-line skating, Dr. Barber sees an increase in nose injuries, soft tissue injuries, abrasions, and loss of teeth.

Cost savings

Injury prevention not only saves people from harm but also from needless costs. Rehabilitation expenses for one lost tooth exceed 20 times the cost of a professional grade mouth guard.

Sports injuries to youth below age 14, for 29 different sports, cost the American public nearly 49 million dollars annually.

Oral and maxillofacial surgeons want to get the word out about facial protection. Domestic abuse, severe sunburn, and numerous on-the-job accidents are further sources of facial trauma.

"April Is National Facial Protection Month" is the AAOMS's inaugural observance in Health Observances & Recognition Days 2000 Calendar. The calendar is published by the Society for Healthcare Strategy and Market Development of the American

Hospital Association. OMSes are facial trauma experts and leaders in hospital ER trauma care. In addition to holding dental degrees, OMSes complete four or more years of postdoctoral in-hospital surgical residency training, which includes intensive training in cosmetic surgery and reconstruction for injuries to the mouth, face, and jaw.

For more information about facial protection, about oral and maxillofacial surgery, and to receive free literature on facial injuries and sports safety, contact the AAOMS at (847) 678-6200. You may also visit their web site at www.aaoms.org

Let's Talk
SKIN SENSE
with Dr. Audrey Bruell
PEELING SKIN



Glycolic acid is one of a number of alpha hydroxy acids available in both over-the-counter and prescription strengths for mild skin peels. With a topical application, the acid improves the skin's appearance by accelerating the natural process of shedding dead skin cells. Used properly, the acids work gently. Derived from sugar cane, glycolic acid can clear up acne-prone skin, soften fine lines around the eyes and mouth, smooth dry skin, and fade dark spots caused by the sun. Over-the-counter products usually contain less than 10% alpha hydroxy acid, while beauty technicians may use products up to 40% in strength. Dermatologists use solutions of up to 70% for in-office peels, which produce the fastest results.

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For accommodations of persons with special needs at one of our information meetings, please call toll-free 1-888-333-3207 to get additional information or to schedule a personal appointment.

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ROAD TO EL DORADO (PG) 1:00, 2:50, 4:50, 7:00, 9:00
SKULLS (R) 12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20
ERIN BROCKOVICH (R) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
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