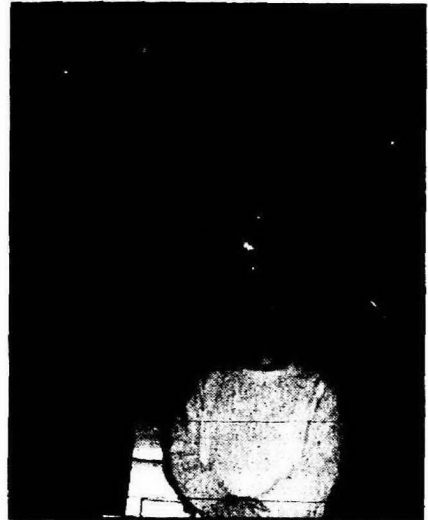


IN THE PAPER
TODAY

HOMETOWN LIFE



Star gazers: Plymouth astronomy club members peer at the heavens. /B8

AT HOME

Great gardens: Take a walk through these beautiful gardens in communities of western Wayne County and Farmington, starting on June 24. /D1

ENTERTAINMENT

Dance: The Peter Sparling Dance Company ventures into a new arena at the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. /E1

Community theater: Vengeful ghost haunts audiences at Trinity House Theatre. /E1

REAL ESTATE

Doin' something right: Some folks are top sales representatives. How do they think and how do they work? /F1

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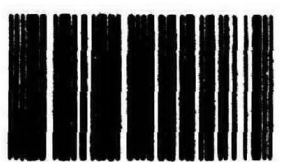
Apartments/G3	HomeTown
At Home/D	Life/B1
Automotive/J3	Jobs/G6
Classified/F,G,H,J	Obituaries/A12
Classified	Opinions/A14-15
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Crossword/F7	Service Guide/H8
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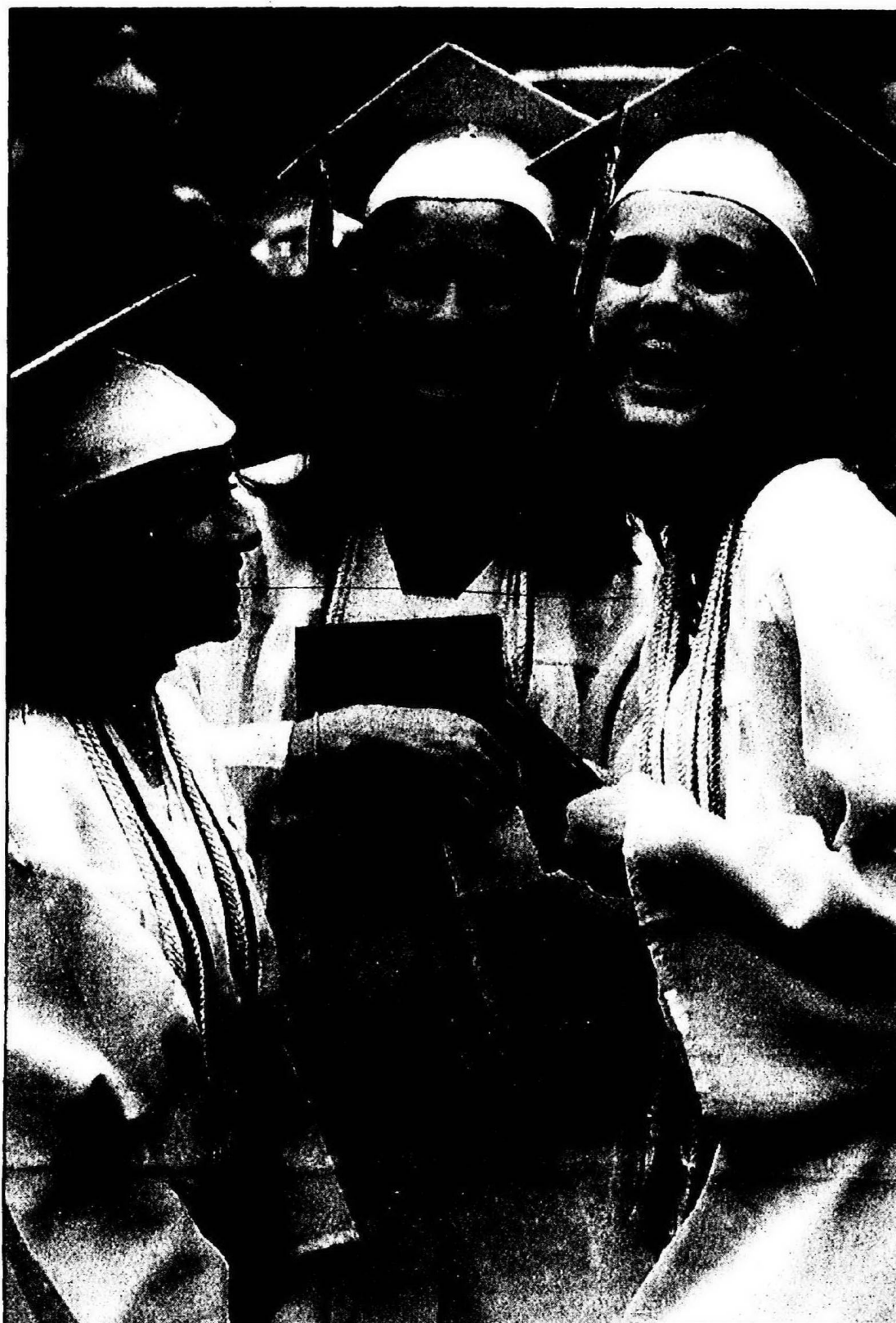
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Into the future



No more teachers: Nicole Gilman (left), Amy Dupuis and Kim Yount celebrate their graduation from Plymouth Canton High School Sunday after commencement at Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor. More than 500 seniors were graduated from Canton this year, and you can find their names and more photos on page A6.



No stopping: Patricia Cauchi didn't let crutches keep her away from one of the biggest moments of her life — her high school graduation. Here, she lines up with the rest of the class of 2000 as they enter Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor Sunday for commencement. Sarah Dean (below left), Andrea Garibaldi, Leah Inman and Katie Dysarczyk ham it up for a photo for the parents after commencement.



Winner: Plymouth Canton Community Schools school board incumbent Judy Mardigian celebrates as the final results are displayed in Monday's school board election.

Voters pick incumbents



■ There weren't very many, but the voters who did turn out chose to return Liz Givens and Judy Mardigian to the school board.

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER
tbruscato@oe.hometown.com

It was a close race until the very end, however the two incumbents prevailed in winning re-election to the Plymouth-Canton school board in Monday's election. Trustees Judy Mardigian (1,532 votes) and Liz Givens (1,529 votes) will each serve four more years on the board of trustees.

Finishing a close third was challenger Carl Battishill (1,447), followed by James Donahue (549) and Kathleen Payne (364).

"I think it came down to working really hard, and having a lot of people who believed in me help me with a grassroots campaign," said Mardigian, the top vote getter. "I was told by many people that they wanted someone who would represent the community, and I think they saw that in the end."

Givens said she didn't feel there were any big issues in this year's election, with voters wanting to keep the status quo.

Please see **ELECTION, A4**

Commissioners approve manager search process

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER
tbruscato@oe.hometown.com

Plymouth city commissioners have decided to use the blueprint from the previous city manager search to find a replacement for David Rich, who unexpectedly announced his resignation 10 days ago.

In a special meeting last Friday, six of the seven commissioners revised the plan to their liking and voted to implement it. Commissioner Sean Fitzgerald wasn't present at the session.

Phase I calls for Rich to develop a list of outstanding city projects and their estimated completion dates by tomorrow, June 16. The city



Dave Rich

commission is expecting status reports on those projects at every city commission meeting.

Phase II is slated for Monday, June 19, through Sept. 3. It calls for Assistant City Manager Paul Sincock to

Please see **SEARCH, A2**

Residents grumble but pay the price as gas costs soar

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER
hneedham@oe.hometown.com

Suck it up. That appears to be the overwhelming sentiment among frustrated motorists shelling out hard earned cash to fill their gas tanks at Canton and Plymouth-area gas stations.

Some are paying as much as \$60 to fill larger vehicles like trucks and sport-utility vehicles. Most said they have begun making fewer unnecessary trips and pay closer attention to pump prices.

"I think it's obscene," said Betty Deas of Canton while filling up a mid-sized sedan Tuesday at the Total gas station on Ford and Canton Center. "I'm not going out as much. I'm sticking closer to home."

Prices at Total Tuesday ranged from \$2.09 to \$2.23 per gallon.

Please see **PRICES, A5**

Still time for YMCA run

The early deadline has passed, but there's still time to get in on the fun of the Plymouth Community Family YMCA's 21st-annual Run.

The run takes place Sunday with the first event, the Kid Jog for ages 5-8, at 7:30 a.m. The Kid Trot (3-4), the one-mile run/walk, the 5K run/walk, the 10K run and the Diaper Dash all follow.

Late fees, including the day of the race, are \$12 for the kid races, \$20 for the one-mile, 5K and 10K run, and \$30 to do the "MDG Triple" (all three adult races).

Check-in and late registration can be done at The Gathering beginning at 6:30 a.m. up to 15 minutes prior to each race.

PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

Kid Jog and Kid Trot participants get ribbons, and awards go to the top three finishers in the other races.

Start locations are Union and Ann Arbor Trail for the mile run; Ann Arbor Trail and Main for the 5K; and Ann Arbor Trail and Hamilton for the 10K. For more information, call 453-2904.

Discovery Shop coming

The American Cancer Society will open a Discovery Shop in downtown Plymouth, hopefully by the end of the summer.

What ACS officials are looking for now are volunteers and donations. The Discovery Shop is run by volunteers, and counts extensively on donations. ACS is currently seeking donations of new or gently used clothing, household items, antiques and collectibles, furniture and jewelry. ACS reminds potential donors that donations are tax deductible.

The Discovery Shop will be located at 975 W. Ann Arbor Trail.

To donate or volunteer, call (248) 483-4312.

Residents ask board for details on development

By TRACEY BIRKENHAUER STAFF WRITER

About 50 Plymouth Township residents politely converged on township hall Tuesday night, insisting the board of trustees hear their concerns about the proposed Plymouth Lakes Corporate Park.

Members of surrounding neighborhoods wanted to hear more about the 60-acre planned unit development. If approved, the multi-phase park would be located at the southeast corner of Haggerty and Five Mile roads, right near their homes.

"We have no adequate information on the development," said Larry Cooper, a Lake Pointe homeowner speaking on behalf of the crowd. "We've had no opportunity to express our concerns."

Homeowners are worried about traffic, noise and safety issues.

Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy replied

that the development wasn't on the agenda and the board doesn't have much information to share about the project since it hasn't heard the developers' presentation yet.

Developers applied for a planned unit development option on March 24 and were supposed to present plans to the board on Tuesday. Developers were unable to attend the meeting, Keen McCarthy said. She didn't offer a specific reason why they were absent.

She said developers will offer a presentation at the June 27 meeting. She promised residents the board won't make a decision until residents meet with Community Development Director Shirley Barney to voice their concerns and get their questions answered.

No meeting date has been set.

Township officials said residents within a five-mile radius will be notified by mail at least a week before the meeting.

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Search from page A1

perform any regular administrative functions assigned by the city manager. Rich will work primarily on the project tasks and the transition plan.

Phase III is scheduled to begin Sept. 4, the first full day after Rich's planned departure. Simcock will assume the position of acting city manager, just as he did in 1998 during the exodus of Steve Walters.

Phase IV is the first day on the job for the new city manager, which is planned for around Oct. 1.

Mayor Dave McDonald said national and statewide job ads are expected to be placed by June 16, with resumes being accepted through Aug. 17. After whittling down the candidates, the interview process is expected to begin Sept. 20, with a new city manager hopefully in place by early October.

In the last search, city commissioners interviewed eight hopefuls before selecting Rich, who was city manager in Grand Ledge.

"I believe it's important that everyone take part in the process," said McDonald. "We need to come to a consensus on the next person we'll be working very closely with."

"I think this is a very aggressive plan," added McDonald. "It's very similar to the last search, which took four months to complete. Hopefully, there will be no hiccups along the way."

When the city began its search to replace Walters in late 1998, commissioners received 44

resumes. Commissioner David Byers said one aspect of the search he considers important is public input.

"I think we need to sit down as a commission and get input from the citizens of Plymouth," said Byers. "We should know what attributes they want in a city manager. We also need to discuss what kind of offer we want to make."

"While the timetable we've set is very aggressive, I think the process is long and it will take time to find a new city manager," Byers said.

"We can't afford not to be aggressive," added Commissioner Dan Dwyer. "We can't operate with an acting city manager."

Rich announced at the June 5 city commission meeting that he is leaving his post no later than Sept. 3 to become a professor of public administration at an unnamed Ohio university. His departure comes approximately 18 months after being hired.

Mark Nottley, director of municipal consulting services for the Michigan Municipal League, said despite Rich's short tenure, he doesn't expect Plymouth to have a tough time finding qualified candidates for the job.

"There are enough good people out there, and Plymouth is a good city and good job opportunity," said Nottley. "It will be important for commissioners to identify the type of person they want in the very beginning to make the process go smoothly."

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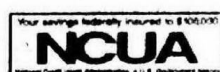
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Winning combination: Incumbents Judy Mardigian (left) and Liz Givens share their victory after the election Monday night at the school board office. Mardigian's son Charlie Nahra, 12, is at left rear.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURBCHMANN

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Election from page A1

"I think people are happy with the way they see things going in the district, and they see this board working together ... and they want to leave it," said Givens. "I think even the teachers and administrators are happy with the way things are going."

The Plymouth-Canton Education Association earlier endorsed Givens and Battishill, leaving out Mardigian because of her part in introducing a mandate which is forcing teachers and administrators to make high school curriculum changes in exchange for putting the third high school near the present two schools.

"Of course I'm disappointed, but we put on a good race," said Battishill. "Both of the incumbents are very good and respectable, and I have nothing but confidence in them."

A total of 2,906 people voted in Monday's election, which is approximately 3.5 percent of the district's nearly 75,000 registered voters. It was a fairly typical apathetic number, but less than the 3,500 people who participated in last year's board election.

Givens won nine of the 18 precincts, with Mardigian capturing five precincts and Battishill four. However, Mardigian was the big winner in absentee votes, receiving 484 to Battishill's 396 and Givens' 342.

"I think lower class sizes, early intervention and making our high schools feel smaller without changing them were some of the big issues," said Mardigian. "I've been working on lowering class

size since 1994, as well as working on our state funding issue. Clearly, people are now starting to understand the issue of our low state funding."

Those were some of the issues voters spoke about at the polls as their main concerns in deciding who to vote for in Monday's election.

"I am very concerned with class size issues, and I want to see good, strong programs continue at the high school," said Sue Ingrao of Plymouth Township, wearing a Mardigian support button. "I voted for the incumbents because of their performance in the past, how they discussed issues and worked with the other school board members. I didn't always agree with them ... but they stand by their issues and they don't cave in."

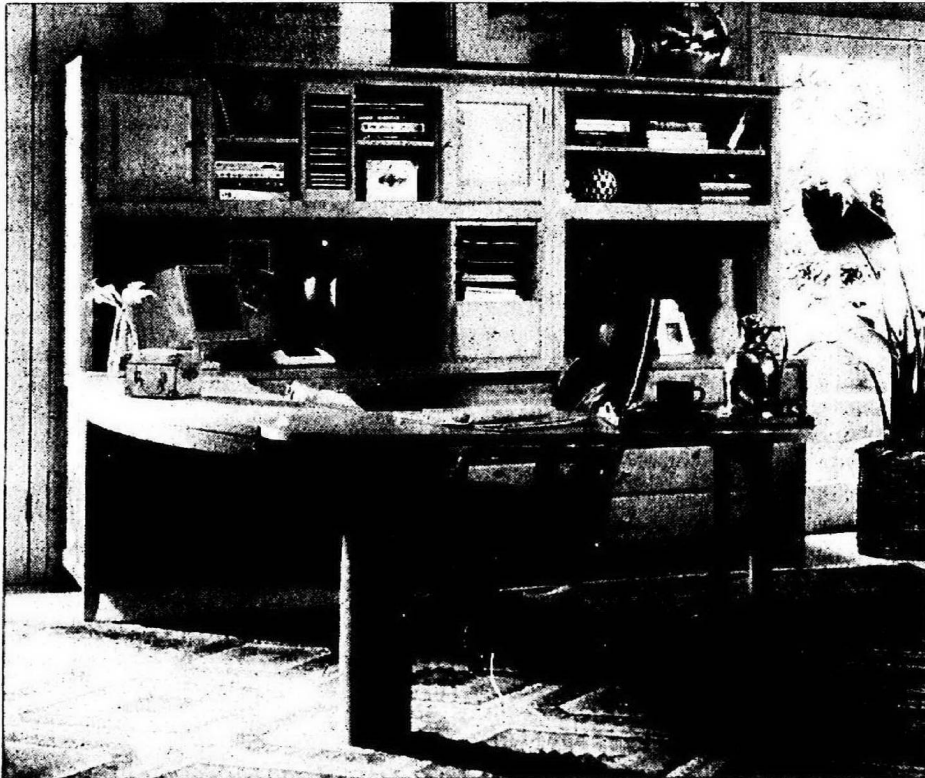
"Class size is important to me ... we don't always do this well," said Sue Ingrao of Plymouth Township. "I also want to make sure we spend our money well. I want board members who aren't always interested in technology, but what is going on with the kids."

"I'm disappointed in the MEAP. I think we spend too much time teaching too much of the tests," said Dan Donaldson of Canton Township outside his Miller Elementary voting precinct.

"And, concerning the new high school, nobody seems to know exactly what it's going to be or where it's going to go. By the time they figure it out, it's going to cost twice as much."

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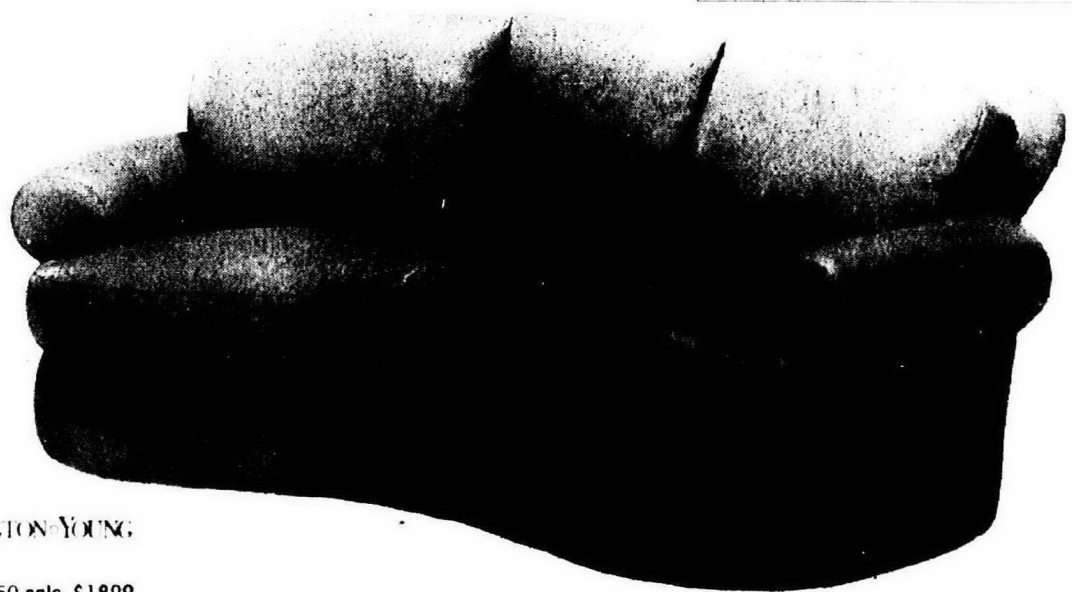


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Prices from page A1

Elaine Cawood of Canton said she's been having a tough time believing some of the rumors about why prices are so high. She was filling up a full-size pick-up, which cost her about \$60.

"They're trying to say the gas spill in Jackson had something to do with it but it doesn't," Cawood said. "Prices were high before that."

She said she feels especially sorry for teenagers just trying to keep their tanks full for driving to and from work.

"It's hard for them to try to fill their gas tanks."

One Canton gas station owner, who asked not to be named, said his company, ExxonMobil, has begun receiving gasoline shipments from Niles in Southwest Michigan, near the Indiana border. Prior to the June 7 gas spill near Jackson, they received gasoline from Woodhaven.

"We've been getting smaller quantities," he said. "The company's trying to get everybody to not run out of gas."

A press release from ExxonMobil stated that delivery quantities would be 40-60 percent of normal load size as a result of the gasoline spill. The increased driving distance combined with the cleanup efforts from the spill have both helped keep gas prices high.

"I'd like to see prices come down," he said.

At the Speedway Station at Sheldon and Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township, one customer said she thought \$2.09 per gallon gas was a bargain. Prices ranged from \$2.09 to \$2.23 per gallon Tuesday.

"I'm just trying to figure out why prices are so high," said Julie Peruzzi of Plymouth Township after putting two gallons of gas for \$5 in her Mercury Cougar. "Fortunately, I don't have to drive very much."

Inside, a cashier, who asked not to be named, said she bears the brunt of customers' displeasure.

"It stinks and I get yelled at all the time," she said.

Mike Lazorka of Plymouth Township said he's glad he traded in his Ford Expedition before the gas price hike. Now he drives a slightly smaller Ford Explorer. He was pumping at the Clark station at 950 S. Main in Plymouth, where prices Tuesday ranged from \$2.07 to \$2.27 per gallon.

"If I had an Expedition right now I'd go broke," he said. When he bought his Explorer a year ago, he said he paid about \$18 to fill it up. Now it costs about \$31.

A manager at Blackwell Ford in Plymouth Township said so far people aren't trading in their hulking sport-utilities for smaller sets of wheels. At least not yet.

"We really haven't seen too much of that," said Tim DeHertv, service manager. "But if the prices keep going up, anything

could happen. "Most of the people who have (large sport-utilities) have the money so they don't care (about gas prices)."

Lake frustrated customers at gas pumps, the Plymouth-Canton Community School District is feeling the pinch as well.

Mary Bartell, Plymouth-Canton's transportation director, said the district uses about 2,000 gallons of gas each week. On May 8, the district paid 92 cents per gallon and \$1,847 to fill its reservoir. By June 7, those numbers jumped to \$1.32 and \$3,315 - a jump of 56 percent, said Bartell.

Spread over an entire school year, the district would pay "\$10,000 to \$12,000" more for gas if prices stay at current levels, he added. While it's a significant cost, Bartell said the majority of district vehicles run on diesel fuel.

"The cost of diesel has stayed pretty steady."

During the same one-month period, diesel prices rose by 4 cents per gallon, Bartell said adding that all of the district buses run on diesel.

"We're trying to use diesel vehicles as much as possible."

Staff writer Scott Daniel contributed to this report.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSHMAN

Sky high: The price of tea in China has nothing to do with the high gas prices at the Clark Station on South Main Street in Plymouth. Gas prices have soared to record highs in recent weeks.



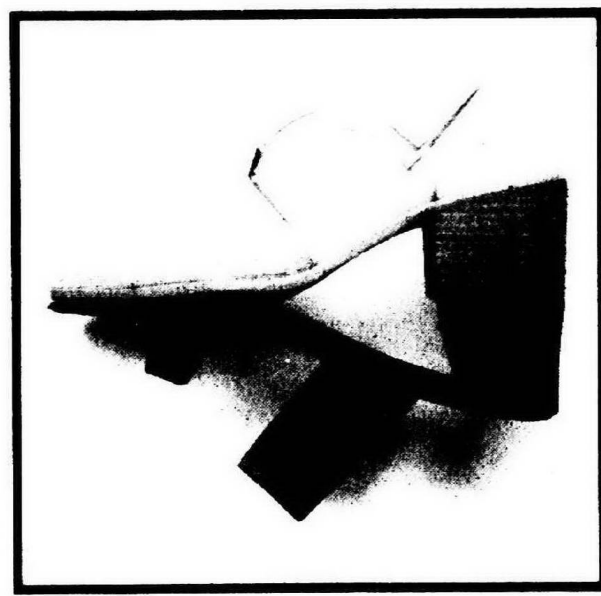
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Puja Satish Amin
Kelli Andersen
Buffy A. Armbruster
Erin Stephanie Aubrecht
Justin Nicholas Augustine
Danny Aulidge
Justin George Ayoub
Theresa Marie Babcock
Pawel Bagadzinski
Elizabeth Anne Bahrour
Manpreet Bains
Lisa Michelle Baker
Jory Dee Bales, Jr.
Rebecca Lynn Baloga
Michael Gerald Baluha
Douglas Ryan Barduca
Laura Sherita Barker
Nathaniel D. Batts
Robert Bruce Baxter
Kenneth Patrick Bazman
Thomas D. Bean
Jill Marie Begley
Jeremy Richard Benfante
Joe Micheal Benis
Michelle Lynn Bernard
Jodie Lynn Berry
Brian Douglas Bett
Kelly Leanne Bible
Tiffany Marie Bigelow



The high sign: Ramon Villanueva gives the thumbs up as he and the class of 2000 file into Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor for commencement Sunday.

Christopher James Foss
Joel Fotovich
Joseph Gilbert Fournier
Michael Franssen
Andrew Shannon Freels
Jonathan D. Frenc
Kristin Amber Friedley
Megan Elise Friedley
Brett P. Fullerton
Randi Lynn Gagnon
Ryan William Gairdner
Rachael Ann Gallagher
Christopher Michael Gallico



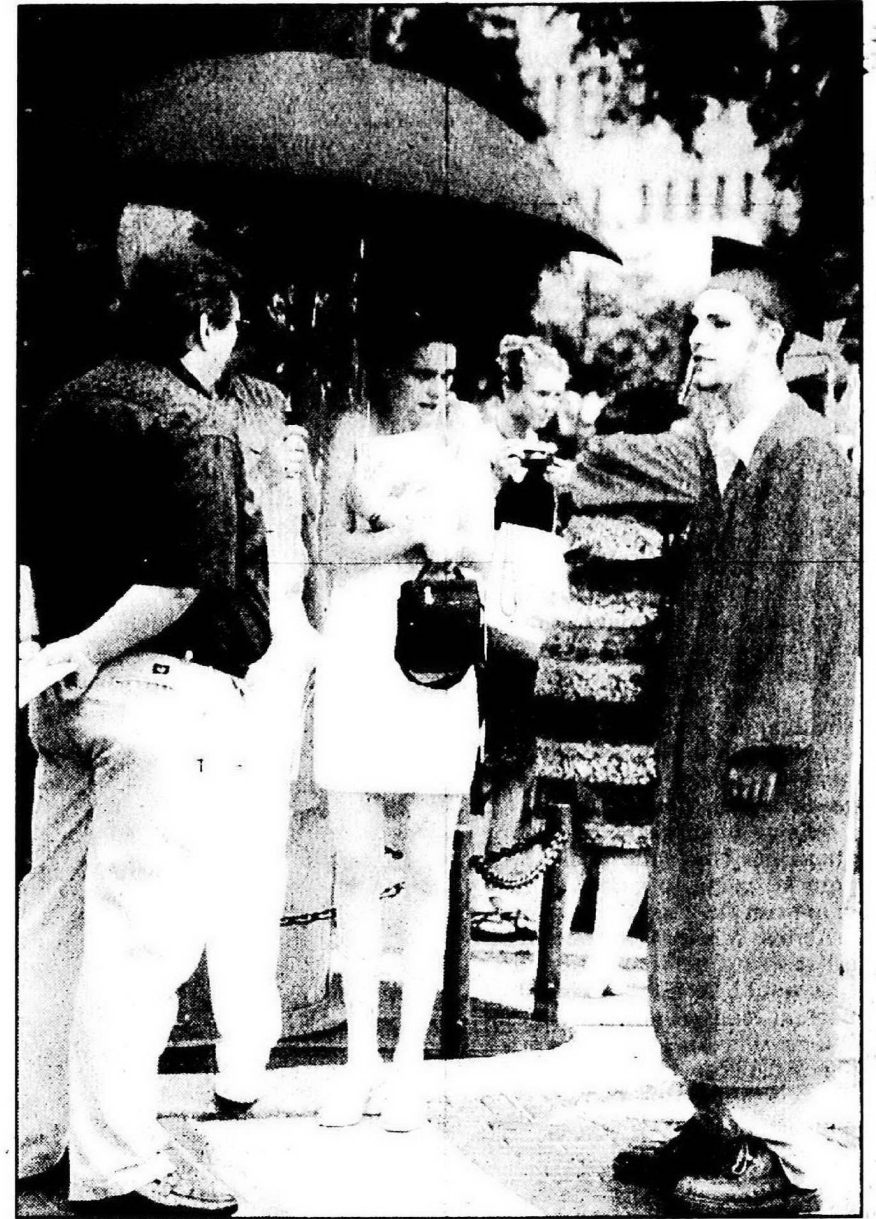
Diamond grads: Members of the Plymouth Canton baseball team link hands as they enter Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor Sunday for commencement.

Ryan T. Gamble
Carrie Lee Garcia
Michael John Garcia
Andrea Lyn Garibaldi
Keith Allan Gasinski
Erin Lynn Gawkowski
Kathleen Marie Gazsi
Shaun S. Genter
Angela M. Germain
Julie Beth Gerzich
Dawn Marie Giddings
Keith A. Giesler
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Sara Denise Glasgow
Krystle Elaine Gooldy
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Kristin Lee Grau
Christopher Green
Sean Paul Green
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Matthew S. Gross
Vanessa Anne Guastella
Molly Michele Gulen
Yunping Guo
Megan Elizabeth Haas
Cindy A. Haddad
Kara Louise Hafemeister
John Hallisy
Matthew Christopher Hamilton
Ahmad Hammad
Amber Joan Hancock
Bikram K. Hanzara
Steven Edward Haradon
Alisha Joy Harper
Kristal Nichole Harris
Nicole Beth Hartlund
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John Andrew Harvey
Amy Joy Hawk
Timothy Joseph Haunert
Lindsay Kristen Hayes
Jennifer Lynn Haynes
Kristina Faith Hedrick
Jennifer Lynn Heeren
Kristin Ann Heeren
Daniel Matson Heid
Lindsay Heimerl
Benjamin Heller
Sara D. Hensel
Asa E. Hensley IV
Conner James Hill
Carlee Hines
Jeffrey S. Hoganson
Douglas R. Hood
Joshua Daniel Hoover
Darius Andrew Horton
Marcus Reginald Horton
David Allen Hotycki
Nathan Ryan Howe
Patrice Blair Howe
Jeffrey Robert Howlett
Stephen A. Hrycyk
Angela Marie Huettman
Raymond Lee Huggins
Megan Kathleen Hulett
Angela Grace Hundle
Sean Patrick Hussey
Stephen Huston
Richard C. A. Ikeh
Leah Nicole Inman
Aimee Jean Jachym
Daniel J. Jaeger
Timothy Eric Jeffries
Kimberly Sue Jezowski
Jonathan A. Johnson
Jonathan M. Johnson
Dustin Charles Jones

Scott W. Jones
Michael J. Jopps
Rachel Dion Juntala
James R. Kachhal
Nayna D. Kalathia
Michael Clayton Kalis
Rinku A. Kapadia
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Bryan William Kaufman
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Manpreet Kaur
Bryan James Kay
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Laura Ellen Keith
Erin Suzanne Kenzie
Kay E. Kerstens
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Michael Robert Kisil
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Eric D. Kondratowicz
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Jennifer Kaye Lindquist
Katherine Anna Lindsay
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Jeana Rae Little
Matthew Robert Little
Timothy Richard Long
May Naudia Lou
Justin Lusk
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Michael Joseph Major
Jeremy Francis Majszak
Krista Anne Manser
Ryan A. Mathiak
Eric Daniel Mayer
William Edward McCarville

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN



All wet: The Lamb family - Rod, Gail, Erin and graduate Ryan - attempts to stay dry following Plymouth Canton's commencement at Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor Sunday. Rain fell during the ceremonies and let up just as the graduates were released to their parents.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Stephanie Elizabeth Pavlo
Scott Gregory Pawlowski
Kristin E. Pell
Marianne Kathleen Pellar
Shanna Lynn Pelton
Laura Ann Peploski
Caroline Elizabeth Perpich
Kimberly Marie Perry
Brandon M. Pett
Calie Elizabeth
Webster Phillips
Jeremy R. Philo
Nicholas George Pierson
David M. Pinta
Melissa Kay Piper
Clifford E. Plass
Christopher James Pocock
John Lee Pocock
Steven Thomas Poirier
Beth Ann Popa
Stacy Nicole Porman
Lia Courtney Portener
Meghan F. Porubsky
Nicholas Ryan Potochick
Meghan Lyndsay Powers
Kyle Price
Amy Provenzano
James Timothy Provost
Eric James Purcell
Jennifer Erin Quay
Justin Thomas Quay
Natalia L. Raddatz
Bradley Christopher Rambo
Jason William Rambo
Dawn Marie Ranoni
James Patrick Reddy
Andrea Renee Redilla
Melissa Lynn Reed
Aaron Matthew Reeder
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Alison Anne Reynolds
Steven C. Richards
Kevin Ian Riley
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Jonathan M. Robison
Martin Cristian
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Justin David Romer
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Joanna Grace Rounke
Sarah Jan Rucinski
Ashley Elizabeth Ryan
Robert M. Rykalsky
Rami J. Saba
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Michelle Ariel Sanders
Richard Patrick Sanders
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Karl Schwartz
Katherine Schwartz
Phillip M. Searls
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Preeethy Sivakumar
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January Cathrina Fortes

Gas prices making area officials nervous

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

Frustrated about the price of petrol these days? You're not alone. The rapid rise in gasoline prices is making government officials across Wayne County nervous, too.

While some tax exemptions keep government fleets from paying quite as much for unleaded gas as do average consumers, they are still affected by the increases.

On Tuesday, one called the price run-up "frightening."

Brian Wilson, assistant superintendent for public services for the city of Livonia, said if the city had purchased fuel the day before, "our price would have increased 88 percent since last month."

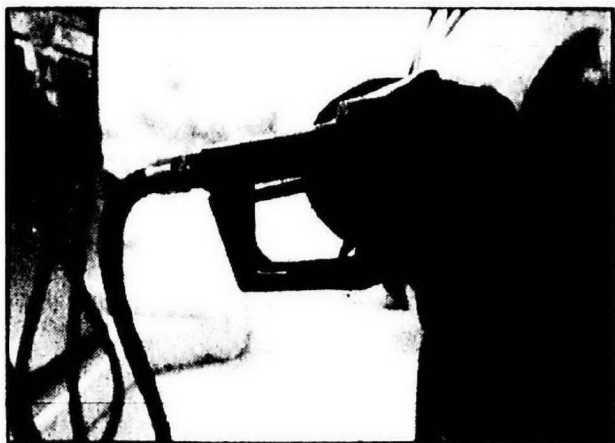
"It's frightening, really," he said of the seemingly unending run-up, which AAA Michigan said Monday broke two records - one for the largest weekly jump (27.1 cents) since 1973, when AAA began tracking prices, and the other for highest statewide gas average: \$2.011 for self-serve unleaded.

None of the public officials contacted by the Observer anticipate any immediate cutbacks in services, but they were concerned about the financial impact.

Livonia has \$120,000 budgeted for fuel for public services such as maintenance of facilities, streets and traffic signs; grass-cutting at golf courses and parks and forestry service, as well as for the water and sewer department, said Wilson.

The city purchases fuel

At the pump: Gas prices soared up to \$2.19 a gallon at some stations in western Wayne County by mid-week.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

through the Tri-County Public Purchasing Cooperative, which includes Southfield, West Bloomfield, Novi, Troy and Sterling Heights, he said. It has to fill its two 10,000-gallon underground tanks every three weeks, but has had no problem with deliveries and doesn't foresee any.

But "if we have sustained (higher) prices" for unleaded

See related story page A10

fuel, said Wilson, "we may have to look into moving some money and scramble around a bit."

Leo Snage, director of public services for Redford Township, said, "We're hoping and praying that the prices go back down."

"But if they don't go back down, we may have to deal with the finance department for a budget adjustment," he said.

Garden City Fire Chief Mike Todd said the current price increase won't affect emergency services. The city has a contract with a private vendor.

However, he said, Garden City started looking at "alternative

ways of fueling (equipment), such as natural gas, propane" long before the present situation.

"The federal government mandates that a certain amount of a city's fleet be alternative fuel vehicles," he explained. Todd acknowledged continued price increases could push the city to review the budget.

Cameron "Kim" Priebe, Wayne County public services director, said road work plans aren't being changed.

"If necessary, we'll have to eat into our fund balance" to get it done, he said. "All the work we do is relatively seasonal, so we want to continue and get it done. And there's plenty of work to be done."

All those contacted said their respective departments are telling staffers to cut back on fuel usage wherever possible.

"We're telling people not to let engines idle," said Redford's Snage. "If you're not using it, turn it off."

Engler: We'll not seek emission waiver

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

There's a way Gov. John Engler could ease the gas-price run-up, but he's not going to, a spokesman said Tuesday.

Not so much because the fuel that could be sold would increase pollution in the short run, but because it would significantly hurt economic development in the long run, said John Truscott, Engler's communications director.

Engler could petition the federal Environmental Protection Agency for a waiver permitting Michigan service stations to sell higher-emissions unleaded gas, the spokesman said.

But the EPA will use the resulting higher emissions data when it considers approving new projects such as the proposed General Motors plant for Lansing and the rebuilding of the Ford Rouge facility, Truscott said.

"We can request a waiver. However, it would be held against the state," he said.

"If our emissions are too high (in total), we can't expand."

The EPA "looks at all the emissions in the air and (considers) how much emissions a plant is likely to produce. And if it we're over the limit, we don't get new plants," Truscott said.

"Ironically," he said, Ford plans to make the huge Rouge plant "environmentally friendly."

But they could be restricted" by the EPA.

Among fuel-oil distributors talking to Engler is Sam Simon, owner of Atlas Oil Co. of Taylor, southeast Michigan's largest distributor of petroleum products.

Simon, whose customers include the City of Garden City, the Taylor school district and the Meijer and Costco discount stores, said he told Engler the problem is a shortage of the specific fuel mandated by the EPA to control ozone emissions.

He said the gas required during the June 1 to Sept. 15 summer ozone season carries a Reid Vapor Pressure rating of 7.8 pounds, but that "The refineries didn't do a good enough job" of producing it.

However, there's plenty of gas rated at 9.4 pounds - which would produce more fumes, he said, but not as much as the 13-pound RVP-rated gas sold the rest of the year. It also would be a lot cheaper.

Since the refineries can't come back and produce more 7.8 gas, said Simon, they are putting their dealers on allocation, limiting monthly quantities.

To keep from running out of gas and having no business, said Simon, dealers are raising prices to reduce demand.

When the pipeline near Jackson burst, things got worse.

"This (situation) is going to stay for a little bit," Simon said.

Truscott said the EPA slowed the pipeline repair by mandating the state check each of the stoppage valves like the one that failed.

"These have never failed before," Truscott said, "so it's not like it has a history of failure."

State Sen. George Z. Hart, D-Deerborn, has joined fellow Democratic Sens. Burton Leland and Ray Murphy, both Detroit; Dianne Byrum, Onondaga, and Don Koivisto, Ironwood, on a partisan task force to investigate the price increases.

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State colleges highly rated, but voters worry about cost

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

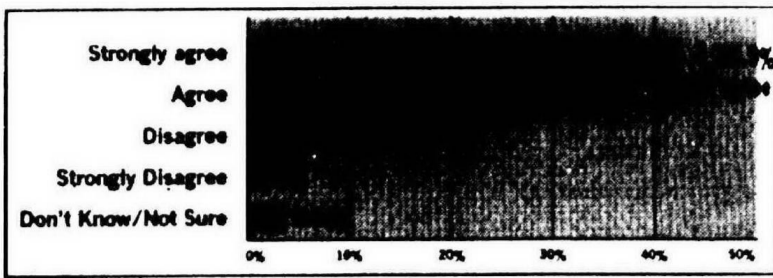
Michigan residents are happy with their state universities but concerned about increasing tuition costs. They would like the state to increase its support in relation to tuition.

These are the findings of a survey conducted by Rossman Martin & Associates for the Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan. The poll of 600 Michigan voters was conducted April 24 to May 1 of this year.

"We're pleased to see that our universities are viewed positively by the public, more than 90 percent saying so for value and quality of education," said Dr. Glenn R. Stevens, executive director of the Presidents Council, during a wide-ranging conversation with Observer editors Friday. "And it's also important for the other things universities are doing that there is an awareness and appreciation that universities do research and that has an impact on quality of life issues."

The survey finds that 92.1 percent of voters rate Michigan's 15 public universities as good or better, 44.5 percent rating them very good. University research was rated as important by 25.3 percent.

The survey also found that 30.7 percent of those polled



Costly: Most surveyed feel Michigan colleges are getting too expensive.

believe the state's storied sports programs are probably the best known feature of state schools nationwide, but medicine and academic research also rated highly. The state's negative image as a place of drinking and party schools was only cited by 3.1 percent.

But residents are clearly concerned about rising costs, with 85.3 percent saying they agree or strongly agree that Michigan public universities are too expensive. The majority of those polled, 76.5 percent, believe students should pay some of their education costs, but 85.4 percent say the state should increase funding to state universities.

The Presidents Council says that, nationally, states pay for about two-thirds of public college funding, while in Michigan, the state pays only about a half.

While emphasizing that state funding has improved in recent

years and that relations are good between the universities, Gov. John Engler and the Legislature, Stevens said the organization wants to promote consistency in state funding.

"We are challenged by the uncertainty about what the state would provide," Stevens said. "We need to increase state support and have continued restraint on tuition."

Stevens outlined three challenges faced by the state university system, which is the sixth largest public university system in the nation with about 260,000 students. First is tuition restraint. Second is attracting "the best possible faculty to compete in the national marketplace." Third is working with the private sector in economic development of the state.

Stevens said he is happy with the relationship the universities have built with the state's Eco-

nomics Development Corporation. He said partnerships with industry have helped them with research and development while drawing their support for the universities and attracting federal research money.

He said research is important but it is also important not to burden students with the cost of the research.

"The question is how do you do these things objectively and independently. This is also an important issue for corpora-

tions," Stevens said.

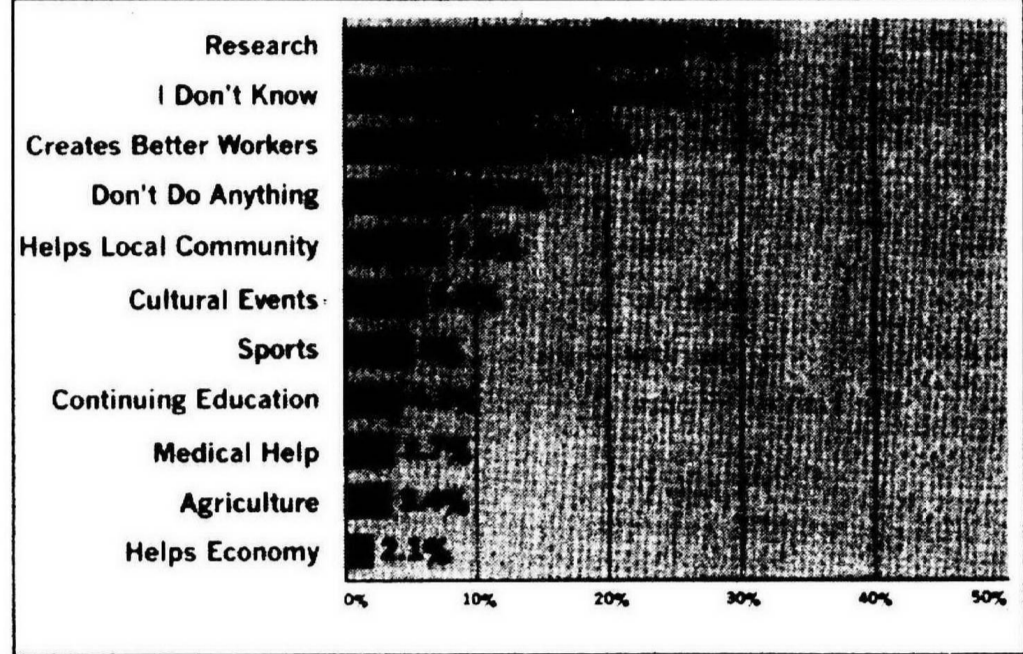
Ed Bagale, vice chancellor for government relations for the University of Michigan-Dearborn, said it was important to provide continuing education in a number of disciplines, including engineering and education, strong majors at his school.

"In our school of engineering, when we graduate a student what they learned at the beginning of their studies becomes obsolete by the time they graduate, so there is a need for ongo-

ing education."

Stevens and Bagale said the question of who should profit from patents developed at a university is important but that few universities, outside of Michigan and Michigan State, will be involved in the kind of research that will result in large profits.

Stevens said the universities are still trying to determine how the MEAP Merit Awards will fit into funding and how they will count toward a student's financial package.



Details:
Anyone who could name three state universities was also asked what else the institutions did that benefited the people of Michigan. Research was the number one answer.

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Survival: Company shows local owners that businesses that work together, stay together

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER
hneedham@oe.homecomm.net

Surviving in a brutal desert environment — with incessant heat, dangerous predators, sandstorms and a perilous lack of water — is not much different from surviving in the dog-eat-dog business world.

That's the thinking behind survival simulations — where employees figure out what to do if they are stranded in a desert, the Arctic, tropical rain forests or burning forests. The way they answer the teamwork questions supposedly reveals their level of aggression — or passivity as employees.

Human Synergistics International, 39819 Plymouth Road in Plymouth Township, designs and markets the simulations for corporations and organizations. They've been in business 30

'If you go out and crash on a desert island, you not only have to use your basic survival skills, but you have to use your people skills.'

Gerry Clarke
—Human Synergistics president

years and have offices in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

The goal is to encourage employees to be neither aggressive nor passive, according to Gerry Clarke, president of Human Synergistics.

"We teach people through the

use of the simulation to work together to change the (corporate) culture," Clarke said.

Cooperation and teamwork is the key. The wrong way was shown on the television program "The Simpsons."

In that episode, nuclear plant owner Montgomery Burns ordered his employees to do a teamwork exercise on a snow-covered mountain. His employees had to pair up and set out to find a remote cabin. The last team to arrive would be fired, Burns decreed.

Since not all companies can afford to send their employees on location to the Arctic or the Sahara, the virtual simulations are a good alternative, Clarke said.

Another good example of how not to work well as a team can be seen on the CBS television show "Survivor." The show's premise is a competition in which 16 people are "stranded" on an island. Each week one person is eliminated; the last survivor wins \$1 million. The show airs 8 p.m. Wednesdays.

"The 'Survival' show is the antithesis of everything we do," Clarke said.

Companies that are good candidates for survival simulation exercises are those plagued by high turnover, low morale and union/management conflict. Human Synergistics has worked with large corporations such as IBM, Citibank and the Big Three automakers. They have also worked with regional organizations such as the Michigan State Police and the Michigan Department of Transportation.

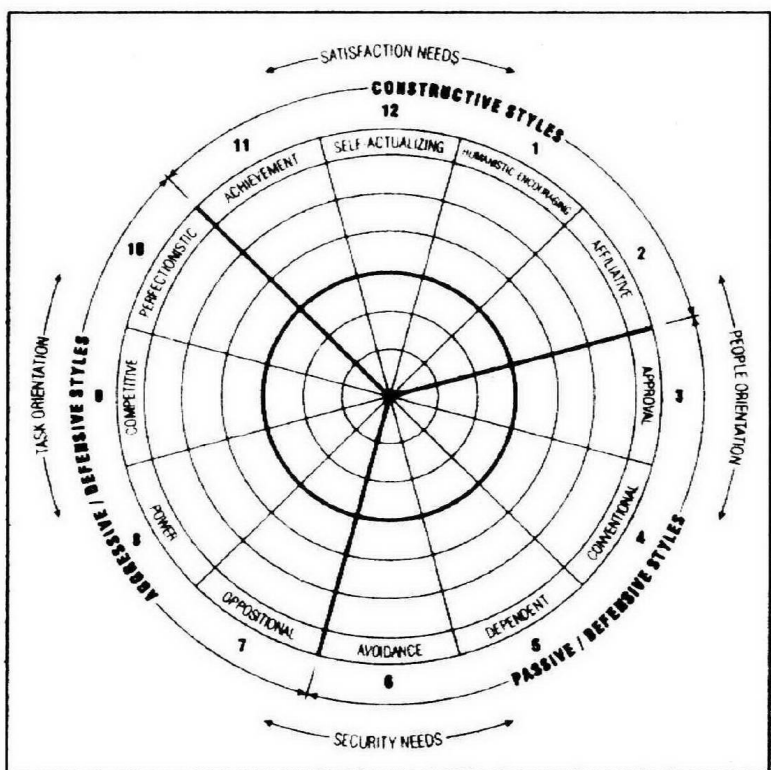
"These simulations are good for companies that are not as profitable as they would like to be," Clarke said. Large, bureaucratic organizations are ideal.

Companies from Plymouth that have used the simulation include Johnson Controls, Office Depot, Spartan Stores, Plastipak Packaging, Unisys Corp. and SME.

In Canton, those companies include Target and Community



Virtual reality: Since most companies can't afford to send employees to the real thing, Human Synergistics uses simulations such as a brush fire (left) and a rough sea (below) to create virtual conditions.



Figuring it out: Employees are ranked on a "circumplex" wheel to assess aggressiveness, passivity and constructive cooperation.

Simulating success

Who: Human Synergistics International

Where: 39819 Plymouth Road, Plymouth Township

What they do: Designs and markets simulations used by organizations to help answer teamwork questions

Information: (734) 459-1030

Testimonials: Businesses from Plymouth, Canton, Livonia, Farmington Hills and Redford have all used the company.



Work Opportunity.

Other local companies that have used simulation programs include:

- Compuware, Source One Mortgage, Rehmann Robson & Co., Gale Research, Bosch Braking Systems and Michigan National Corp., Farmington Hills
- Valassis Communications, Phillips Service Industries, Livonia

nia Public Schools, Madonna University, Ameritech and Ford Motor Co., Livonia

■ North Oakland Vocational, Redford

The simulations work by asking individual employees to rank a list of survival items according to importance — these items may include compasses, potable water, matches, flashlights and blankets, among other things. Next, they team up with other employees and try to reach consensus.

The employees and teams are then ranked on a three-color "Circumplex" wheel, where red areas signify aggression, green areas signify passivity and blue areas signify constructive cooperation. The best team workers score in the blue area.

"If you go out and crash on a desert island, you not only have to use your basic survival skills, but you have to use your people skills," Clarke said.

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Airport 'very near' to turning over financial records

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

A Wayne County airports official said the county's executive branch was "very near to completing discussions" with the county commission's attorney about turning over Detroit Metropolitan Airport records on the APCOA parking lot operations when "this subcommittee thing popped up."

Michael Conway, airports pub-

lic information officer, spoke in response to a Detroit daily newspaper's story Wednesday that the commission's ways and means committee had voted Tuesday to subpoena County Executive Edward H. McNamara to provide the records.

The story said McNamara's staff and airport officials have refused to provide the information to the commission, which is looking into airport operations, as is a state Senate committee.

But Conway said the county

"executive branch was in discussion with" commission counsel Ben Washburn, "negotiating a manner in which to deliver these documents that doesn't damage the county's position in pending lawsuits."

The county is suing APCOA to recover about \$1 million in alleged overcharges for leased vehicles used to take passengers to parking lots, based on a 1998 parking audit by commission Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy.

Commissioner Lyn Bankes, R-Livonia, a member of the ways and means committee, disputed that any subpoena came out of the committee meeting.

"We were in closed session a couple of hours and there was no strong consensus as to" whether to subpoena McNamara, she said.

"I don't think there was a majority to subpoena, but" Ricardo Solomon, chair of both ways and means and the county commission, "was going ahead as if

there were."

Furthermore, she said, the power-outage Tuesday in downtown Detroit made it unlikely any formal notification to McNamara would be ready by today (Thursday), when the story said Solomon would deliver it.

And, she said, "Some people (on the committee) are tired of appearing to be feuding with" McNamara.

June West, McNamara's spokeswoman, noted the motion was not passed by the entire

commission, which meets this morning. West thought it was "very unlikely" the full commission would take such an action.

In explaining the negotiations with Washburn, Conway said, "It's a long-standing county policy to very carefully manage documents that could turn out to be discovery in pending lawsuits, so that they couldn't be disseminated to other parties to the litigation and therefore damage the county's case."

"We were in the process of doing this and very near to completing the discussions" when the subpoena vote was taken "and there was nobody there from the county executive branch" to explain the situation, Conway said.

He also took exception to claims that many high-ranking county airports department employees lack previous experience in airport operations.

Conway cited Hassen Makled, assistant division director of operations, whom he said has been with airport 26 years, working his way through different duties and responsibilities to get to his present position.

Conway said Barbara Hogan, appointed as Conway's deputy last year and who handles his division's budget, has more than a high school diploma: "She has some college. She studied marketing and communications at Madonna" in Livonia.

Conway said his staff tallied up the years of experience of the 18 Metro Airport managers and got 193 total years.

Besides, he said, "Anybody older than 40 is not going to have aviation management degrees" because the degrees are relatively new.

Conway himself had outside public relations experience before coming to the airports department and now serves as a vice-chair of a committee with the Airports Council International, a lobbying group for North American airports.

"You don't get to that position by being a nitwit," he said.

Van pool avoids gas crunch

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

Car- or van-pooling and telecommunicating are getting new looks these days as ways of saving money and fuel.

"It's hard to get people to pay attention" to such transportation alternatives "when (gasoline is) 99 cents a gallon, but now it's getting into people's pocket-books," said Paul Tait, executive director of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

"Given the inadequate funding for mass transit that we have, this (gas price spiraling) should be a wake-up call for us," he said.

At 20 miles per gallon per vehicle, traveling 8,000 miles per year to and from work, a person pooling or telecommunicating can save an estimated \$1,200 per year at today's \$2-a-gallon prices, Tait said.

By telecommunicating — using computers, faxes and telephones to work from home — a person can perhaps avoid driving a couple days a week, he said.

SEMCOG already has its (313) 963-RIDE program in place. It matches — free of charge — riders with drivers of automobiles (door-to-door transportation) or vans, which pick up and drop off people at collection points.

Anita Blasius, SEMCOG outreach program manager, said the agency has 2,500 poolers in its seven-county database. The main restriction is that riders work within the region.

While carpools involve personal vehicle use and sharing of either fuel costs or driving duties, the vans, which hold seven to 15 people, are leased by SEMCOG and require a monthly commitment by passengers, who pay a fee.

"If you carpool, you automatically cut the cost of commuting by 50 percent," said Blasius, who did it for three years.

For more information, call Blasius at (313) 961-4266, ext. 235. A Web site at www.semco.org rideshare has an online application.

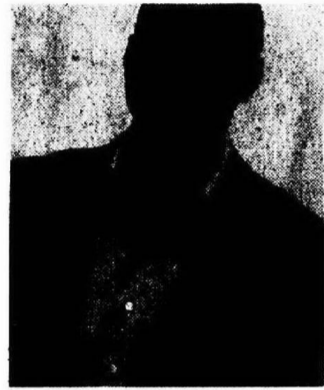
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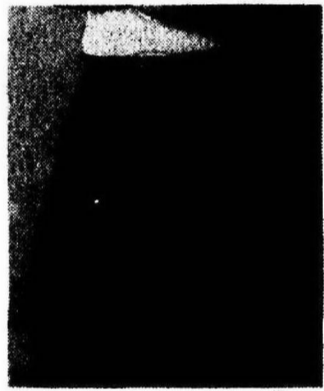


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Sewer overflows topic of regional meeting June 21

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

Sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) - a hot topic, considering the recent \$3.25-million judgment against Dearborn Heights for flooded basements resulting from one - will be examined at this month's Rouge Remedial Action Plan Advisory Council (RRAC) meeting.

The meeting will be 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, at the Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, about a half-block south of Goddard Road.

Scheduled to participate are state Rep. Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, Tom Rohrer, chief of water quality enforcement for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and possibly state Sen. Shirley Johnson, R-Royal Oak. The program will

consist of presentations followed by questions and answers.

Sanitary sewer overflows recently garnered more public attention when federal Judge John Feikens proposed that MDEQ permit SSOs into the Rouge River during extreme weather conditions - a move which would ease sanctions against communities in which SSOs occur.

Feikens is overseeing cleanup of the Rouge.

Sanitary sewer overflows are discharges of raw or inadequately treated sewage from municipal sanitary sewer systems, which are designed to carry domestic sewage, but not storm water. SSOs are different from combined sewer overflows (CSOs), which are from sewer systems designed to carry both domestic and stormwater loads.

When an SSO occurs, raw sewage may be released into basements, city streets, properties, rivers and streams. They are illegal and often threaten the environment and public health.

The MDEQ aims to identify the separate sanitary sewer overflow discharges in the state and take appropriate regulatory actions to eliminate them.

Royal Oak's Johnson has introduced legislation that would increase notification requirements for SSO reporting by local governments.

Her Senate Bill 1201 is opposed by RRAC, which said the bill "seems to add more burdensome and costly state mandates for communities who already have to comply with numerous and expensive federal Clean Water Act requirements."

College offers workshop for English teachers

Madonna University in Livonia is offering an English workshop in June. "Approaches to Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*," a workshop for teachers, will be held on Friday, June 23, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, June 24, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students will read, discuss and

write about Morrison's first novel, *The Bluest Eye*. The book will be placed in its socio-historical context and in the canon of African-American literature. Ways to teach the book will be explored. Spring/summer registration is in progress. Call (734) 432-5339.

Wetlands effort wins national honor

(PRNewswire) - The U.S. Department of Transportation recently announced that Wayne County's Crosswinds Marsh Wetland Interpretive Preserve was honored with a Merit Award as part of the Design for Transportation National Awards 2000.

The awards, distributed every five years, recognize those facilities that have made an outstanding contribution to the nation's transportation systems and the people they serve. This is the third national award won by Crosswinds Marsh.

"We are deeply honored to receive this national recognition," said Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara.

One of the largest built wetlands in the country, the 950-acre preserve was designed and constructed to compensate for unavoidable wetlands impacts resulting from expansion of the Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport.

"In a process that took over a year, drains were redirected, enormous basins were excavat-

COUNTY NEWS

ed, and thousands of tons of dirt were moved to create 367 acres of wetland," said Airport Director Lester Robinson. "The wetland was designed to provide a variety of ecological functions, including wildlife and fish habitat, storm water management, and water quality improvement."

Crosswinds Marsh also serves as the focus of a variety of interpretive, educational and passive recreational activities with hiking trails, boardwalks, canoe trails and equestrian trails. Fishing platforms, wetland gardens and a screen house are provided to allow visitors to experience the wetland environment while protecting the ecological integrity of the Marsh.

SmithGroup JJJ, a nationally recognized landscape architect, urban planning, civil engineering and environmental services firm, led a multidisciplinary team of environmental special-

ists throughout the design and implementation of the project.

Wayne County's Detroit Metro Airport manages the maintenance of Crosswinds Marsh and the Wayne County Division of Parks manages public access.

Crosswinds Marsh is located in the southwest corner of Wayne County, off Haggerty Road west of I-275 in Sumpter Township. Visitors are encouraged to experience a unique wetland habitat that is home to over 172 species of plants, 25 species of birds, 11 species of fish and 28 species of mammals, as well as a pair of bald eagles which have been observed building a nest in the marsh.

In addition to the merit award presented by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Crosswinds Marsh also received the President's Award of Excellence from the American Society of Landscape Architects and an Environmental Achievement Award from Airports Council International-North America in 1999.

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Wine debate bubbles over in Senate

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Legislation intended to keep alcohol out of the hands of minors, who might otherwise be able to order such beverages over the Internet, is sparking controversy because it will also keep some brands of alcohol out of the hands of adults.

"Not all the population, you know, is under 21 years old, there's a few of us who are over 21, and we do have a right or two and don't particularly like to have that taken away," said Sen. George McManus, R-Traverse City.

McManus, along with Sens. Arthur Miller, D-Warren, and John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, argued that the bill will block adults too from being able to order fine wines from small, out-of-state wineries.

They also contend it will have an affect on the sales of Michigan's 24 small wineries.

"Well, wine is not CDs or books, rather, it's a substance with which we need to be very careful," Sen. Bill Schuette, R-Midland, argued. "The problem with the status quo is that language was drafted 20 years ago before the freshness and newness of the Internet, and by maintaining the status quo, we have a potential problem and, frankly, a real problem, bypassing the three-tier system, and we have flooded the gates with wines from out of state that, frankly, could hurt Michigan wines."

House Bill 4752, sponsored by Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Nowi, would block Internet sales of alcohol to minors. It requires sellers to label packages of alcohol and requires shippers, such as Federal Express and United Parcel Service, to check the identification and age of

Pro: Kids shouldn't be able to buy wine over the Internet; the state needs the sales tax revenue.

the recipient.

But the bill also funnels such shipments through Michigan's existing distribution system for alcohol, known as the "three-tier" system.

And that's the problem. Wine consumers say many small, out-of-state wineries can't afford to get licensed in Michigan. And wholesalers aren't likely to be interested in carrying small amounts of product from those vintners.

If out-of-state wineries can't ship here, they point out, Michigan wineries won't be able to ship to other states either, because such arrangements are set up on a reciprocal basis.

Already passed in the House, the bill was amended by Schuette in committee to allow for the "personal importation" of up to a case of wine at a time. But that would require the person to transport the wine himself and would not extend to Internet sales for adults.

Cassis said the Schuette amendment was an improvement, although she doubted it would make all fans of fine wines in the state happy.

"The health, safety and welfare of our children must be the overriding consideration as the Internet continues to rapidly change our way of life," she said. "The anonymity of the Web leaves open the possibility of abuse regarding alcohol sales. We can protect our children by creating stop-gaps in the delivery process."

Con: Adults, small wineries are unfairly restrained by bill; precedent could lead to blocking sales of other items.

Some senators were not convinced.

"We're cutting people out of the state of Michigan out of being able to participate in this case, for one commodity only, but certainly others will follow in the commerce system that we're going to have in the 21st Century," Schwarz said. "When you go home this summer and bump into your constituents who wanted to buy that case of wine or wanted to buy a bottle of wine, and you said this year they could do it, but starting next year when this bill takes effect they cannot do it, I hope you respond and tell them that you wanted to make sure that you protected the three-tier system," Miller said.

"I regret that we did not today give Michigan consumers the right to purchase a bottle of wine, and I hope that everyone here makes it to that wine celebration in northwest Michigan this weekend because it's going to be your last opportunity to buy a bottle or a case of wine from a Michigan winery without going to Meijer next year."

Opponents of the bill argue it is an attempt by beer and wine wholesalers to maintain their control over the state's distribution system.

Opponents also argue wholesalers fear a loss of business if out-of-state wineries are allowed to bypass the three-tier system.

The bill is expected to return to the House June 20 to face a vote on concurrence with the Senate-added amendments.

Feds give snow removal agency \$4.8 million for high-tech project

The partners in the Southeastern Michigan Snow and Ice Management (SEMSIM) project, a first-of-its-kind partnership of the four largest road agencies in southeast Michigan, learned recently the Federal Highway Administration has approved the final \$4.8 million in federal aid needed to complete the project over the next several years.

The SEMSIM partners are the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), the Wayne County Department of Public Services, the city of Detroit Department of Public Works and the Road Commission of Macomb County.

The partnership was formed to improve winter road maintenance in southeast Michigan by uniting the four agencies in the introduction of state-of-the-art automated vehicle location (AVL) and global positioning system (GPS) technology to the agencies' fleets.

These technologies will improve the efficiency of winter

REGIONAL

road maintenance in the region and allow the partner agencies to best respond to adverse winter weather.

The Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) is also a partner in SEMSIM and provides the modern radio system that will transfer data between vehicles and base stations.

The Federal Highway Administration, on April 28, approved spending \$4.8 million in federal Congestion and Air Quality Mitigation (CMAQ) money for the SEMSIM project. This approval followed the Feb. 25 approval of the spending by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) Executive Committee. This money, coupled with \$5.3 million in previously designated federal funds plus \$2.5 million in local match provided by the partners, pro-

vides the \$12.6 million budget for the project.

Phase 1 of SEMSIM, which involves 10 vehicles from each of the four road agencies and focuses on the area around Dequindre Road and Eight Mile (where the four road agency jurisdictions meet) was implemented this past winter.

Full implementation will include all of the four agencies' 500 winter maintenance vehicles.

"We appreciate the action taken by the FHWA and SEMCOG Executive Committee," said RCOC Managing Director Brent Bair. "Clearly, both recognize the regional value and importance of this project and the long-term benefits SEMSIM will have for motorists across southeast Michigan."

Bair added that SEMSIM is the first multi-jurisdictional effort of its kind in the nation and is being monitored by road agencies nationwide.

CLARIFICATIONS

Schoolcraft story

The story in last Thursday's (June 8) newspaper on Ameritech Corp. matching employee contributions to Schoolcraft College Foundation endowments contained an error.

The college's Business and Industry Training Center addition to Waterman center will cost \$20 million, not \$32.4 million.

U of M Funding

A story published in this newspaper regarding a move by state lawmakers to slash funding for the University of Michigan by 10 percent unless it gave up plans to offer a course entitled "How to be Gay" incorrectly listed the vote of State Rep. Judith Scranton, R-Brighton.

Scranton voted "no" on the amendment, in opposition to the cut in funding.

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Plymouth Observer

OPINION

A14(P)

794 SOUTH MAIN, PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 48170

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2000

Getting it right

Decision on Mann was a good one

The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees took what could have been a very large political hairball last week and turned it into "much ado about nothing."

Who says these people can't work together?

We speak, of course, of the hastily called special meeting to consider the question of whether township police Officer Steve Mann, who is running for township supervisor, should have to take a 60-day leave of absence before the Aug. 8 primary. Such a leave, provided for in Public Act 169 of 1976, would be unpaid and would have cost Mann roughly \$8,000 in salary.

Apparently, though this would be rare in our experience, the public act was brought to the attention of board members by township attorney Tim Cronin without any prompting. Generally speaking, township attorneys are brilliant at providing opinions when asked, but don't usually go out on a limb - not to mention spend township money - all on their own.

Cronin, after telling the Observer he doesn't comment to reporters, said he simply wanted the board to know its options. And one of those options would have been telling Mann, essentially, to take a hike until his campaign against incumbent supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy had run its course.

The discussion had been posted as though it would take place in closed session, another one of the "options" suggested by Cronin. While it seemed obvious at the beginning of

the meeting at least one of the board members would have been happier talking about it in private, the consensus from the start was the meeting should be open. An eventual vote on the subject came up 7-0, which warmed the cockles of our open meetings-loving heart.

The board even let Mann, who watched the lively discussion from his front-row seat, come to the podium to give his opinions. Naturally, he thought the whole 60-day leave thing was silly from the beginning, since it's never been done before in the township. He justifiably thinks the whole thing was a political ploy, though everyone denies it.

While most of the talk centered around Cronin's presentation, in the end trustees did what was fair. The debate about what constitutes an "employee" aside, Keen McCarthy wasn't going to be forced to leave her job for 60 days, why should Mann?

To her credit, Keen McCarthy tried to stay out of the discussion, asking the board's permission to abstain, rightly pointing out she had the most to gain or lose from the debate. But Clerk Marilyn Massengill - for reasons only she could explain (she didn't, by the way) - voted no, forcing the supervisor to vote. Keen McCarthy voted "no" on both the idea of going into closed session and on exercising the 60-day leave option against her opponent, Mann.

Of course, her opponents will point out she simply took the political high road to make herself look good, to which we say, so what? It's sort of refreshing to see a politician avoid the gutter, no matter the reason.

Flawed wine bill restrains trade

"No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State. No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another ..."

-U.S. Constitution

Ever notice that when lawmakers conspire to take away one of your constitutional rights they always have some really noble cause in mind?

So it is with House Bill 4752. It's intended to crack down on the sale of alcohol over the Internet to youngsters. A noble cause indeed.

Unfortunately, it will also have the effect of making it difficult, if not impossible, for Michigan consumers to get access to more than a thousand small wineries across the country.

These aren't foreign wines. They aren't being imported from exotic locales. They're U.S. wines.

Not your issue? You don't drink fine wines from out of state, so you don't care?

OK. But when lawmakers find some noble cause for restricting access to a product you do use from out of state - electronics, lumber, clothing, movies, software, computers, furniture, etc. - perhaps you will realize it started here.

HB 4752, sponsored by Rep. Nancy Cassis, R- Novi, and approved last week by the state Senate, not only blocks sales to minors but

funnels purchases of out-of-state wines through the state's current "three-tier" system of wholesalers and retailers. In doing so, it gives preference to the largest producers, the ones which make enough product to keep wholesalers interested in stocking supplies.

The bill was amended by Sen. Bill Schuette, R-Midland, last week to allow for personal importation of those wines for personal use, but in order to do that, consumers will have to travel out of state to make the purchases.

It's supposed to be an improvement, but it's not. Imagine if you had to fly to various states to buy each product you wanted - electronics, lumber, clothing - in order to ship it or carry it home.

Simply put, the effect of the bill, however noble the cause of restricting sales to minors, is an attempt by wholesalers to retain their monopoly in Michigan over the distribution of alcoholic beverages here.

And the state is happy to do it in order to ensure the collection of taxes on those sales.

The bill goes back before the House June 20 for a concurrence vote.

We would urge the proponents of this bill to reconsider whether they really want to violate the Constitution by enacting a restraint of trade.

And we would urge others in the House of Representatives to withdraw their support for this flawed legislation.

CLARIFICATION

An editorial urging donors to check out charities and their spending records before turning over their money incorrectly referred to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan as spending most of its income soliciting donations. Actu-

ally, a 1998 income tax form shows the organization spent about 75 percent of its income on program services, which means granting wishes. We regret any inconvenience caused by the error.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

What are you planning for your summer vacation?



"Relax and go up north."
Peggy Blaisdell
Plymouth Township



"I'm going on a Scandinavian cruise."
Joyce Stephens
Westland



"We're going to have a family reunion in Trenton."
Maureen Schneider
Plymouth



"Travel to see relatives."
Lee Herberger
Plymouth Township

Geof Brooks



LETTERS

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, that's why we offer this space for your opinions. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity we ask that you provide a contact telephone number and if mailing or faxing a letter, please sign it. Letters can be mailed to: Brad Kadrich, Plymouth Editor, 794 South Main, Plymouth, MI 48170, faxed to Brad at (734) 459-4224 or emailed to bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net

Thanks for support

Since my announcement on March 6, I have been a candidate for re-election to the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education. As I write this letter I do not know the outcome of the school board election. Whether I win or lose, however, I owe thanks to many people.

A special thanks goes to the dozens of individuals who took time out of their busy schedules to assist in my campaign. I am proud of the efforts we made to communicate with the voters. We had a positive message that I know was heard by many. That would not have been possible without your help.

To the voters themselves, a thank you for voting. Whether or not you voted for me, the fact that you voted is important. You are a small minority of registered voters, which makes your trip to the polls even more appreciated.

To other candidates, thank you for running campaigns that refrained from personal attacks and negative messages. Hopefully, the example you set will be a lesson for others in our community.

Thanks also to my co-workers who helped pick up the slack at the office while I focused on the campaign. Your understanding of why this is important meant a lot to me.

Finally, thanks to my family for their support and patience. You are the ones who made this possible for me to do.

Whatever the final decision of the voters may be, I will look back on this election with memories made warm by all the people who were a part of it.

Judy L. Mardigan
Plymouth Township

Political ploy

This letter is to express my outrage at the remarks by Plymouth Mayor McDonald last week concerning the Memorial Day Parade.

Mr. McDonald was quoted as attributing a so-called increase in patriotism to the partisan political candidacy of members of his political party.

I deeply resent this statement, both as a veteran and as a citizen of Plymouth.

The citizens of Plymouth have always shown great support for the veterans of our community. This year's Memorial Day Parade

was no exception. The event is, and always has been, an event designed to show respect for, and to pay tribute to those who have served in the military to preserve our freedom.

This event, in Plymouth at least, has never been political, and has never been partisan. I am appalled by Mr. McDonald's blatant references to such partisanship to further his political goals. I do not think that the majority of members of his political party would agree with his politically using the Memorial Day Parade in such a way.

I do not speak for any other veterans except myself. But I do not think that many of them would subscribe to such political misuse of the day set aside to honor those who sacrificed themselves for us.

I would like to read a written apology from Mr. McDonald addressed to the community and to the veterans we honored last week.

Dennis F. Shrewsbury
Plymouth

Yack 'blackmailed'

I was very disappointed to read that Canton Supervisor Tom Yack had capitulated to the legal blackmail of National Heritage Academies in their bid to force Canton to allow them to build a charter school there. National Heritage has been rejected soundly and emotionally in their first two attempts to build a charter school in northwest Canton. National Heritage then had the arrogance to sue Canton in court to force Canton to allow them to build in defiance of our strong objections.

There is something very ominous about a company that will go to such lengths to achieve its goal.

Charter schools belong in districts where the public education system is failing. This is not the case in Canton therefore I suspect they have another agenda, an agenda they are not willing to divulge and one that could come back to haunt all of us in Canton.

Janusz M. Szyszko
Canton

Plymouth Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Sure work's important, but a little R&R is just as vital

When you read this, I will be on my way home from vacation. There are some people who resist going on vacation. In this hurry-up, get-it done-yesterday, fast-fast-fast world, vacations are seen as subversive.



HUGH GALLAGHER

Some people think they are so indispensable to their company that if they go on vacation, the whole house of cards will collapse. They are certain that if they slip away for just a day, they'll return to find the company has gone under and they'll be to blame.

I felt that way at one time and gave up several weeks of vacation. Then I noticed when I did take a vacation, the company got along without me just fine (well, for a little while, anyway).

There are others who feel that if they take a vacation, someone else will take their job. Of course, this does happen. Disc jockeys are especially susceptible to losing out when their sub is found more attractive to teenage girls. But, for most of us, this isn't even a remote possibility. Is it?

You need a vacation. You need time away, time to regroup. Most of the time there are a dozen voices in your ear all the time demanding, and probably deserving, your attention. There is no time to listen to that singular voice, your own. There is no time for quiet reflection, no time for self-evaluation, no time to get a handle on where you are.

Vacations take a variety of forms, but the essential thing is to be away from what you regularly do, to forget for awhile your work obligations and deal with your other obligations to yourself and your family.

This vacation is a cultural journey to Canada for some theater. It's a working vacation of sorts as I will be covering Ontario's two world-class theater festivals, Stratford and Shaw, for these papers, but it's still time away.

It's also time in two small towns that have capitalized on their settings. We can learn a lot about developing a downtown, creating restorative park settings and drawing on our cultural heritage from Stratford and Niagara-on-the-

Lake. These towns seem almost pristine in comparison to American towns of similar size and location. Similarly, a bike ride along the Niagara River to the Falls is another reminder of how much more sensitively Canada has treated this magnificent natural wonder than the anything-goes, for-a-profit American approach on the other side.

Vacations give you a chance to think about these things and wonder how we ever got so far off the track.

Later this summer, we'll be taking a different kind of trip, up to the Upper Peninsula. This annual trek "Up North" is a Michigan ritual that is peculiar and unique to this state. New York City residents go Up State, but Up State includes several big cities mingled with more natural areas. In Michigan, there has long been this divide north and south of the Pentwater line. South is cities, factories, working farms - work. North is fishing, hunting, boating, swimming, hiking, biking, relaxing - fun.

For years Up North was the Sleeping Bear and the clear waters of Glen Lake and Lake Leland. But recently developers have started to move in - condo subdivisions, gaudy casinos, towns that vaguely resemble the towns people are trying to escape. Traverse City is a never-ending traffic jam. Yes, it's still a beautiful area and it will take at least another 20 years before developers totally destroy it, but it's not what it used to be.

The UP is rawer, less amenable to development. It has too many flies in early summer. You can't swim in Lake Superior. The winters are too long, too cold and too snowy. But it is strikingly beautiful, with miles and miles of trails through rich forests and miles and miles of sandy beach and rocky shores on a lake that takes the breath away. There are also fine, twisty rivers and dozens of water falls. It'll take developers at least 100 years to destroy it. I figure I'll be gone by then.

As you see by the way this column has been rambling, I'm already in vacation mode. A co-worker always asks anyone about to go on vacation if they're already "winding down." And, yes, I'm winding down and ready to recharge a sputtering battery.

Hugh Gallagher is managing editor of The Observer Newspapers. He can be reached at (734)953-2149 or by e-mail at hgallagher@oc.homecomm.net (but only after his vacation.

Shifting social landscape results in political shifts, too

"You no longer have to be a Republican to be pro-business. You no longer have to be a Democrat to be pro-worker," state Attorney General Jennifer Granholm said recently on Mackinac Island.



MIKE MALOTT

It was part of a speech given in a fund-raising reception for herself and Secretary of State Candice Miller during the Detroit Regional Chamber's Leadership Policy Conference.

The gist of the talk was that the interests of the two political parties are coming together. Workers don't do well when business is bad. Businesses don't do well when it's hard to find employees.

It's a bit of an oversimplification. Chamber President Richard Blouse would argue that his organization has been supporting Democratic candidates all along, but Granholm's comments served to point out some of the trends that have emerged in the conference.

Changes in the social landscape are also changing politics. And the driving factor is often technology.

Among the biggest changes is Michigan's low unemployment rate. That's produced a worker shortage.

Michigan is already an estimated 20,000 workers short in engineering and other high-tech fields. Attracting employees has become such a major issue that government officials at the state and county level have begun recruitment efforts to bring new employees to the state.

Finding and attracting new employees, in fact, was the subject of the session on the island. Obviously that leads to better pay and benefits for employees.

Another issue affected by this change is the environment. A subject that used to pit businesses against activists has seen new interest from both sides.

As Bill Rustem of Public Sector Consultants pointed out, it's a quality of life issue. Employees won't come to this state if they find it to be a polluted, dirty place to live. And that may count for the renewed level of interest on the part of businesses for addressing the environment and urban sprawl.

Those social changes also create a whole new set of issues, although the resulting divisions occur, not necessarily between the political par-

ties, but sometimes in places rather unexpected.

A case in point may be the issue of taxation on the Internet. Republicans at the state level want to begin applying sales taxes to items purchased across the Internet.

They maintain the law has been on the books for years to tax out-of-state sales. Residents saw the first attempt to collect on tax forms this past April.

But the feds want to put a moratorium on new taxes on the Internet. In fact, they just extended their old three-year moratorium to a new five-year moratorium. The reason, according to U.S. Rep. Sander Levin, D-Southfield, is that state and local governments collect such a wide variety of sales taxes, and some at different rates, that collecting it would be difficult at best.

In the session on Mackinac regarding e-commerce, he urged states to use the time to consolidate and coordinate the way they collect sales tax.

Another new issue is where to get all those high-tech workers so much in demand. That, of course, is the issue that has U.S. Sen. Spence Abraham embroiled in controversy with his challenger, U.S. Rep. Debbie Stabenow.

He's proposed granting more visas to foreign workers who have high-tech skills. His critics argue that steals jobs away from Michigan workers.

But Abraham maintains that if we tried to train that many workers from among our own population it would put the state behind in technological development.

It turns out there are several "digital divides," not just one, a contention supported by the work of Katherine Willis, president of Cyberstate.org.

There is the divide between haves and have-nots, of course. But there is also a huge division between young and old. Interestingly, there are regional variations in access to computers and technology. Detroit and the Thumb lag behind the rest of the state.

How and what, if anything, the state should be doing about these discrepancies are issues that have Republicans and Democrats alike scratching their heads and searching for solutions.

And it's no longer easy to predict where they may land.

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (248) 634-8219 or by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Campus is misguided

When the new high school question was on the ballot, I was among those voting yes. I voted for the new high school for two reasons: Plymouth-Canton schools need more capacity for high school students, and the new school would not be on the site of the current campus.

I was extremely disappointed in the legal wrangling over the "lost" votes and the district's unwillingness to have a revote on the issue. However, I believed it was within their right to stand by this position.

The last twist in this sad spectacle goes beyond comprehension for me: The board has simply decided to change what we voted on after the fact. I believe this is legally and morally wrong. I cast my yes vote based on the school board's presentation of facts, and they have disregarded their own words and changed the facts to suit their whim. I voted for a third high school in a separate (and specifically named) location, not a continued expansion of the educational park!

I would never have voted for the plan knowing the school would be built on the current campus site, or even knowing that the third school would share services and staff with the current two. All the current research I have seen points not only to small class size, but equally important, small school size, as critical for students' development. I voted for the new school specifically because it was separate, and offered me some hope that my children would not be forced to attend the massive campus that now makes up Plymouth-Canton's only public high school choice.

I do not understand how the school board can ignore the overwhelming evidence that smaller schools are healthier for our students, both intellectually and emotionally. A recent summary of school size research (Raywid, 1999), discussing the overall findings about the superiority of small schools, stated:

"All of these things we have confirmed with a clarity and at a level of confidence rare in the annals of education research." As one researcher summed it up, "a large body of research in the affective and social realms overwhelmingly affirms the superiority of small schools" (Cotton, 1996b).

Another researcher noted that size exerts a "unique influence" on students' academic accomplishment, with a strong negative relationship linking the two: the larger the school, the lower the students' achievement levels (Howley, 1994).

A thoughtful summary of some of the recent research in this area can be found at <http://www.southborough.org/highschoolstudy/e>

education.htm

I am saddened and, frankly, disgusted by most of the school board members' complete disregard for the will of the voters. I also believe they are misguided in their choice of direction, and I believe the children of our community will suffer for it. Our community needs a school, not a "campus." And we need a school board that respects the vote of the community, rather than deciding it simply knows best.

Lynne Ellen Kaiser
Canton

Reaching out from recovery

To everyone this wonderful "Observer" paper reaches:

My name is Erika Beth Ungersma Fenn. My roots are Dutch and Irish. I am a wife, even though my husband of 36-1/2 years died three years ago. I go on to being the daughter of a very Irish woman, non-deceased. And then I go on to being the mom of three very bright, beautiful children married to wonderful spouses.

To make my story short, I reach out to everyone in recovery in Livonia and every where the Observer reaches. I am Erika, an alcoholic.

I always wanted help. But I had to learn how to ask. I was the proud wife of a pharmacy professor. I was (and still trying to be) the proud mom of three wonderful children.

I ask you in my heart to not dismiss people with substance abuse as failures. We are your judges, lawyers, doctors and just people. I welcome your comments to my home (734) 464-7536. Perhaps we can help the youth of today. I know that I am trying very hard, and I welcome your input.

Erika Fenn
Livonia

Where's fee for mass transit?

I would like to make a comment about mass transit. "Activist argues need for mass transit" was an article written by staff writer Richard Pearl and published in The Observer.

Does anyone remember during the mid-1970s when license plate fees for the average motorist increased from about \$12 to close to \$40 a year?

The extra money was to pay for a mass transit system. Did we get one? I don't think we did. I wonder why not.

Harold J. McDonald
Garden City

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State's fastest growing county gets daily paper

Michigan's fastest growing county will have its first daily newspaper - and the nation's first new daily since 1997 - when *The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* hits newsstands Sept. 6.

The new daily, published by HomeTown Newspapers, will merge the *Livingston County Press* and *Brighton Argus*, two of the oldest and most respected twice-weekly newspapers in the state.

The *County Press*, based in Howell, is 155 years old. Ten miles to the southeast is Brighton, where the *Argus* is 120 years old. Both papers currently are published twice weekly - on Wednesdays and Sundays. They will be combined into a single newspaper that will be published in the afternoon Monday through Friday. A weekend edition will be delivered Sunday mornings.

The *Livingston County Daily Press & Argus* will maintain both editorial staffs as well as their offices. The company anticipates the creation of several new positions. Phil Jerome will retain his position as executive editor.

The dynamic growth of Livingston County has created the need for a daily newspaper, according to Rich Perlberg, vice president and general manager of HomeTown Newspapers. "This is an exciting announcement for both the company and the people of Livingston County," he said. "This newspaper will play an important role in unifying the county."

With approximately 150,000 residents, Livingston is the largest county in the state without a daily newspaper. Located west of Oakland and

■ With approximately 150,000 residents, Livingston is the largest county in the state without a daily newspaper. Located west of Oakland and north of Washtenaw counties, the county is expected to grow by another 70,000 people in the next 20 years.

north of Washtenaw counties, the county is expected to grow by another 70,000 people in the next 20 years, according to population projections by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

The county currently has the highest median household income (\$58,349) in the state. During a formal announcement to employees on June 8, company officials promised that the new daily would be guided by traditional HomeTown values.

"Our objective has always been to be the sole unsubstitutable source of information to people in this county," said Perlberg. "We will continue to provide the essential tools for living the good life in Livingston County. Those are the values that have brought us this far and they will drive us in the future."

The *County Press* was named the best weekly newspaper in the United States last year by the National Newspaper Association. The *Argus* has been named the best community weekly newspaper in the state

by the Michigan Press Association for the past two years.

The new paper is expected to debut with a paid circulation of more than 20,000. That would make its circulation larger than the combined circulation of all other newspapers in Livingston County. It would also make it one of the 20 largest of the state's 50 daily newspapers.

Press & Argus readers will continue to find the extensive local coverage they've come to expect in their HomeTown weekly newspapers. In addition, the new daily will carry state, national and world news as well as a complete sports line-up, nationally recognized syndicated columnists, stock reports and all the other features commonly associated with daily newspapers.

HomeTown Newspapers is a subsidiary of the Livonia-based HomeTown Communications Network, which publishes 70 weekly and twice-weekly newspapers in Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky, including all *Observer & Eccentric* editions.

This will be the corporation's first daily newspaper. HomeTown Communications also publishes phone directories, specialty publications and the *Insider Business Journal* of Livingston, West Oakland and Washtenaw counties.

Last month, the corporation announced the formation of HomeTownDigital.com, which will develop Internet solutions for local merchants and manage all Web activity for HomeTown Communications Network (www.hometownnews-papers.net).

State environment agency launches Web site

The Department of Environmental Quality is launching its environmental education Internet Web site, which provides science-based information for all levels of interest, Director Russell Harding said.

The DEQ has offices throughout the state including one on Seven Mile in Livonia.

The Web site at www.deq.state.mi.us/enved was devel-

oped by the DEQ's Office of Communications and Education with assistance from throughout the agency. It has information suited for casual and sophisticated users. The site features separate sections for students, educators and the general public. It also includes a Kids' Corner, which links to games and activities that will appeal to younger viewers.

Topics are listed under four main subject areas in each section: air, land, waste and water. In addition, the site offers sections on special events and dates, access to environmental publications, links to other environmental sites and initiatives, and ways that people can care for the environment.

The department's Web site is www.deq.state.mi.us

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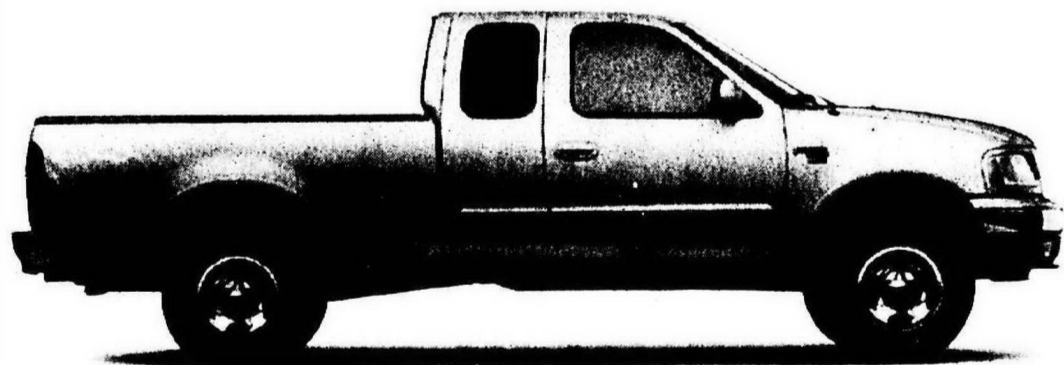
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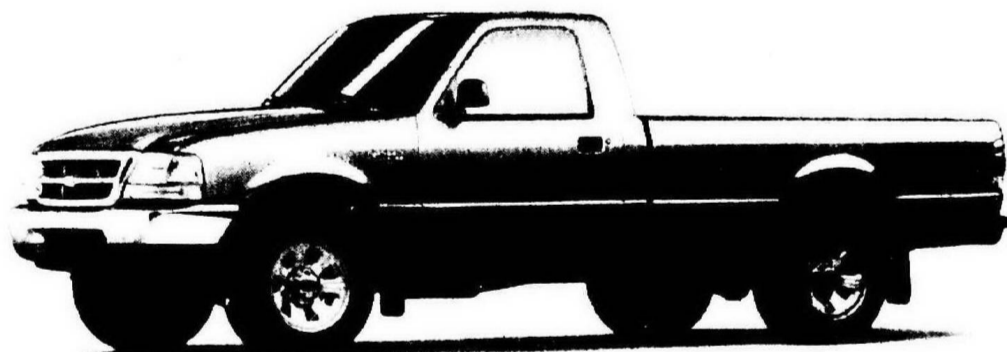
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JACK GLADDEN

Honor kids on dad's day

Mother's Day gets most of the attention. And this year a million moms (well, maybe 750,000) decided to celebrate by marching on Washington to demand more gun control laws. They were doing it "for the children."

When police departments use underage "decoys" to try to purchase tobacco products from party stores and service stations, they're doing it "for the children."

And when schools enact and enforce "zero tolerance" policies, they are, of course, doing it "for the children."

Yet there is no day set aside to honor children in the same way that Mother's Day honors mothers or Father's Day honors fathers. And with all of these groups intent on protecting children from themselves, the question arises: What are we doing to the children in the process?

As fathers, let's turn things around and use this Father's Day to honor some of the children who have become victims of mindless policies allegedly designed to "protect" them. Let's remember (and perhaps apologize to):

■ The 17-year-old Eagle Scout honors student and leader of a Christian youth group in Savannah, Ga., who was given a long-term suspension and transferred to an "alternative school" after school officials searched his locked car and found a broken ax in the trunk and a Boy Scout pocket knife and cell phone in the glove compartment. He had used the ax the previous night in a demonstration at a Scout meeting. The knife and cell phone were gifts from his father. But possession of the items violated the school's code of conduct and he was ousted.

■ The North Carolina high school student who was suspended for a full year and transferred to an "alternative school" after police, conducting a random search for drugs on school property, found a hunting rifle in its case inside his locked car. He had gone hunting before school that day and in his rush to get to school on time had left the rifle in the car. No charges were filed, no police action taken, the superintendent admitted the student had no ulterior motive. But rules are rules and he was out.

■ Also in that same North Carolina district, the fifth-grader who brought a decorative pocket knife to school for show-and-tell. He never got that far. After telling a friend that he had the knife, the friend told a teacher and, as the principal explained, "we followed proper procedure by calling the police." Since, according to the principal, "the knife was not considered to be a weapon, and it was not a firearm situation, he was suspended for three days."

■ The 9-year-old New Jersey student who said he was going to "shoot" a female classmate with a paper wad propelled from a rubber band. The girl told her parents about it that night, they called school officials, the officials called police and after midnight two uniformed police officers showed up at the kid's home, roused him out of bed and questioned him. The cops decided it wasn't a police matter. When the boy's parents met with school officials the next day, the officials said their son could return to class - but only after he had been "evaluated" by an outside psychologist.

■ "The Sayreville Four," four New Jersey kindergartners who were suspended for three days after pointing their fingers at each other and saying "Bang! Bang!" during a game of cops and robbers on the school playground. "We have to be extra careful in today's world," the principal explained. "It may be just a game or something said in jest, but it can be taken differently by other children."

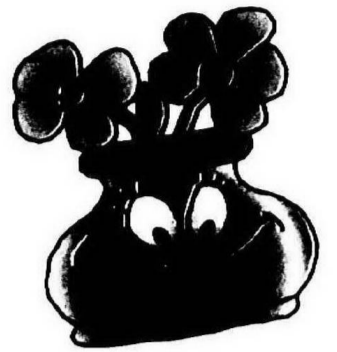
■ The Seattle sixth-grader who was expelled when a squirt gun fell out of his backpack in the school lunchroom. Three weeks later the expulsion was reduced to a suspension and he was allowed back in school - after his parents hired a lawyer.

■ Last, but not least, the 5-year-old kindergartner in Pittsburgh who was suspended for one day after the school principal had a "serious problem" with the child's Halloween costume. The costume, which the kid's mother had bought, was a firefighter's outfit: a yellow plastic jacket, a red helmet and - the problem - a five-inch plastic firefighter's ax!

Jack Gladden is a copy editor for the Observer. He lives in Canton. You can e-mail him at jgladden@oe.homecomm.net.



'Dem bones, dem bones, dem ...'



CRAZY BONES



BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
STAFF WRITER
kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

Kids who play with Crazy Bones aren't aware of the "guerrilla marketing approach" the company credits to its growing success, they only know they like playing with, trading and collecting the plastic figures because - they're cool.

"Crazy Bones are a really cool thing at school," said Alex Turchan, 9, of Livonia who has been trading and playing with Crazy Bones for the past year.

Based on ancient Greco-Roman games known as *tabas* and *astragal*, children 2,000 years ago painted faces on clean, dried sheep knuckle bones and would throw them on the ground similar to the clear, metallic and brightly colored plastic figures of today. Each Crazy Bone is a unique character played to classic games like marbles, tidily winks, jacks and bowling.

How to

Playing the game "traditionally" calls for each player to take turns throwing Crazy Bones in the air at the same time. Your score depends on how your Crazy Bones land. Standing up five points; on their side two points; face up one point, and face down zero points.

Maybe that's what makes the game itself so popular - the simplicity of play. But when it comes to collecting and trading the plastic figures it's the names, faces and attitudes of the characters that really draw Crazy Bones fans.

"My favorites are Jaws, James Bone and Melon Head," said Alex, who attends Adams Elementary School in Livonia.

The third grader said Crazy Bones are now banned from being brought or played at his school because kids were having them stolen away.

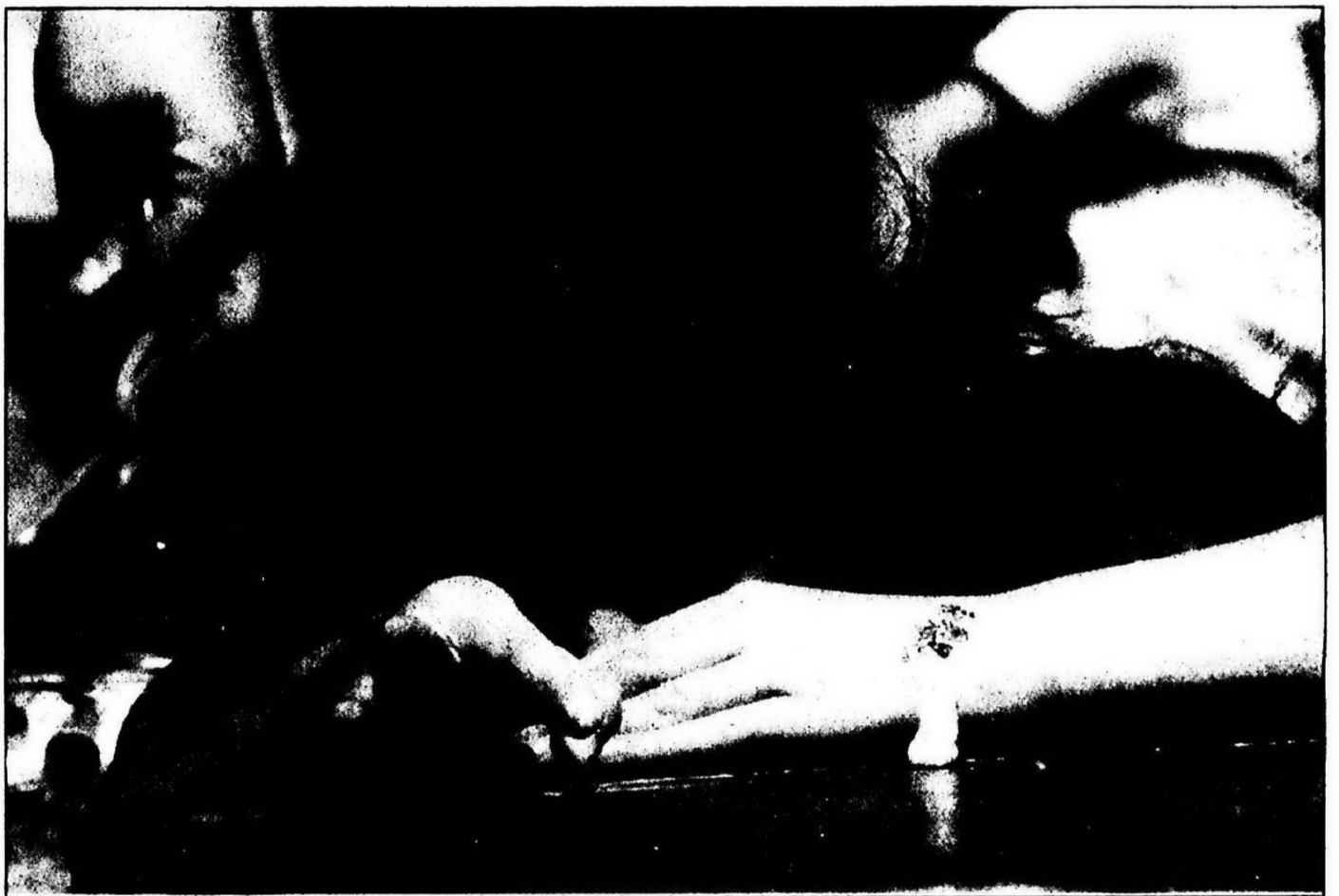
That hasn't slowed the playing of the game any at home, according to Maria Turchan, mother of Alex, 9, Jacob, 7, and Tyler, 4.

"Now that the weather is nicer they're a little more busy with soccer and baseball but they love playing and collecting," said Maria. "I think they're cute - all the faces and funny names. I never let them get into the Pokemon thing. All they could do was look at those. They can play games with Crazy Bones."

Currently there are eight character series (Series I/GoGo's, Series II/Things, Aliens, Buddies, Sports Bones, Glowies, Toy Story 2), the newest being Drag-onball Z based on good and bad guys from FUNimation's "Dragon Ball Z," an animated television show on the Cartoon Network. Among the character series there are approximately 280 Crazy Bones personalities and countless games that can be played with the one-inch figurines, including Crazy Score, On the Line, Airbone,



Treasure: Jacob Liepshutz, 7, of West Bloomfield looks for a bone to trade.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Concentration: Kirsten Wood, 9, of Livonia shoots a Crazy Bone playing battle at the Gags & Gifts Crazy Bones Extravaganza in Livonia. Below, Alex Turchan (from left), Jonathon Holmes, Nicholas Najduk, Jacob Turchan, Richard Holmes (behind right) and - throwing a crazy bone - Tyler Turchan, all from Livonia, play bomber box.

Bowling, Battle, Bomber, Bone Roll and Baseball.

Eight-year-old Richard Holmes of Livonia says bowling is his favorite game to play with some of the more than 80 characters he has in his collection.

"I like playing the game Keeps, too," said Richard. "If you win, you get to keep the other person's Crazy Bone. Sometimes it's easy."

Humble beginnings

Illustrations discovered in a city called Resna helped revive the ancient game of *tabas*. Drawings painted on marble showed children playing with the bone-like gamepieces dating back more than 2,000 years.

Realistically though, the Crazy Bones company knew kids in the 21st century wouldn't go for a game marketed on the fact that it was once played with the knuckle bones of animals, and with a less than plentiful advertising budget, marketing gurus initiated a region-by-region, grassroots marketing approach.

According to Dolly Hiller, Toy Craze public relations spokesperson, product samples were handed out and demonstrations performed in shopping centers, on street corners, at scouting meetings and YMCAs with the "pass it on" philosophy.

Toy maker Jose Maria Bella created the injection-molded plastic figures after a museum visit several years ago. Magic Box International introduced Crazy Bones in Europe in 1996 under the name GoGo's. Sales in the first 2 1/2 years reached \$300 million.

On U.S. soil, David Gantner, a 30-year-old businessman and his brother, Peter, purchased the rights to sell Crazy Bones from Magic Box International in 1997. Gantner started the exhaustive "guerrilla marketing" approach that has generated significant enthusiasm throughout the country.

Toy Craze President Bill Flaherty said the "labor intensive" approach to product distribution is paying off.

"The key is getting them into the hands of kids," said Flaherty, a Washington, D.C., native who in



December 1997 became president of the Ohio-based toy company that licenses and distributes Crazy Bones.

"The game doesn't really come across on television. You have to hold them and play with them and then you're hooked. That's why the different strategies we have initiated to get the product on the market have been successful."

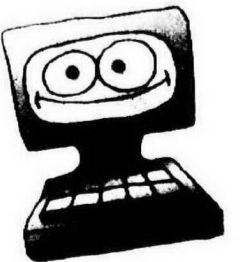
Jacob Turchan, 7, and his friend Jonathon Holmes, 6, both say getting a new Crazy Bone either by winning, trading or buying is the best thing about the toys.

Both first graders have favorites - Jacob's being Fly Boy and Jonathon's E.T. - but it's Nitro they're in hot pursuit of.

"I haven't been able to get him yet," said Jacob, "but he's the one I really want."

On the horizon

Flaherty said the company is looking forward to offering monster-sized Crazy Bones this fall in



Please see CRAZY BONES, B2

ANNIVERSARY

Pinard

Ronald and Rachel (Mecteau) Pinard celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in May. The couple wed on May 15, 1950 in Quebec, Canada and they have lived in Michigan since 1971. The Pinards have seven children, Diane, Jacques, Johanne, Mario, Marielle, Carol and David, who all live in Michigan. The couple also has 13 grandchildren.

Ronald retired in 1989 from A.M. General as a sheet metal supervisor and now spends his time in his wood shop, gardening and fish-



ing. His wife Rachel is a homemaker and also enjoys playing cards and bingo.

After renewing their vows for their anniversary, the Pinards enjoyed a family dinner and party at the Doherty Hotel in Clare.

Burnham-Bakowski

Pat Burnham and the late Kenneth W. Burnham Sr. of Minden, Louisiana announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Lisa Lynn, to Adam John Bakowski of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Minden High School in Louisiana and a 1997 graduate of the University of Arizona in Tucson, where she earned a degree in psychology. She is currently employed as a veterinary receptionist and assistant at VCA Woodland Animal Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Her fiancé, son of Robert and Irene Bakowski of Canton, is a 1994 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and 1998 graduate of Michigan State University where he earned a degree in zoology. He is currently employed as an animal care supervisor at the Lab Animal Medicine Unit of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.



A June wedding is planned in Nassau, Bahamas. A reception will be held in Shreveport, Louisiana in June and in Dearborn in July to honor the couple.

Dick-Berres

Pam and John Janson of Walled Lake and Chris Dick of Milford announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Teresa Lynn to Scott Berres of White Lake.

The bride-to-be earned a business management degree from Oakland Community College.

Her fiancé, son of Donna DeGennaro of Sterling Heights and Ray and Pat Berres of Berkley, graduated from North Farmington High School. He is currently working as a facilities and machine technician at Cardell/Molex.

A June wedding is planned at St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Walled Lake.



Robertson-Valik

Wally and Lauri Robertson of Chelsea announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Lynn, to Ryan Karl Valik of Hartland.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 Plymouth-Salem High School graduate and a 1997 graduate of Michigan State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in medical technology. She works for Parke-Davis in Ann Arbor.

Her fiancé, son of Tommi Latoff of Frederic, Mich., and Tony Valik of Corunna, is a 1993 graduate of Hartland High School and a 1997 graduate of Michigan State University, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in crop and soil science.



He works for ConAgra in East Lansing. A June wedding is planned in Ann Arbor.

NEW ARRIVALS

■ **Bill and Teri Evans** of Centerline, formerly of Westland announce the birth of their daughter **Rachel Nicole** born Dec. 27 at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills. She joins twin brothers Joshua and Zachary, 4. Grandparents are John and Diane Mack of Plymouth Township and Bill and Sandy Evans of Brighton, formerly of Redford.

■ **Derek and Michel Brewer** of Garden City announce the birth of their daughter **Marissa Leigh** born April 29 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Darrell and Lynn Wolfrum of Brighton and Chuck and Pam Clinton of Westland.

■ **Mr. and Mrs. Andre' Spears** of Westland announce the birth of their daughter **Ciare Cherish** born April 6 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Siblings are Ronal, 6; Trevan, 4; and Julius, 2. Grandparents are Guy-mil and Somalia Sanders of Detroit and the Hall family.

■ **Stephanie and Jason Riling** of Garden City announce the birth of their son **Drake Andrew** born April 7 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Cindy Jacka, John Riling, Vickie Schmidt, and John Fultz.

■ **Steven and Rhonda Ferguson** of Redford announce the birth of **Nathanael Jacob** born April 8 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Paul and Sharon Shaw of Dearborn and George and Bonnie Ferguson of Ypsilanti.

■ **Todd Nabozny and Michelle Noll** of Garden City announce the birth of their son **Trevor Jay Nabozny** born April 10 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Katherine Nabozny of Garden City and Patrick and Joanne Noll of Garden City.

■ **Laina Burgan and Mark Sanderson** of Westland announce the birth of their son **Anthony James Allen Burgan** born April 17 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Toni Burgan of Westland and Robin Ashford of Westland. Great-grandmother is Marjorie Painter of Westland.

■ **Elliott Thorn and Lanise Farmer Thorn** of Wayne announce the birth of their daughter **Kaleeya Chantay Joelle Thorn** born April 17 at Garden City Hospital in Garden City. Grandparents are Darnell and Corrine of Detroit.

Please see NEW ARRIVALS, B7

Berger-Belcher

Stuart and Sheila Berger of Villanova, Penn., announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle to Matthew Steven Belcher of Los Angeles, formerly of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is an elementary teacher in Los Angeles, Calif. She received her bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State College and her master's degree in education from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

Her fiancé, son of Jeanne Belcher of Milford and Walter Belcher of Waterford, is a graduate of Clarenceville High School. He received his bachelor's degree from Albion College and attended Thomas Cooley Law School and Georgetown Law School in Washington D.C. He is a mem-



ber of the Michigan Bar Association and is employed as an attorney for KPMG in Los Angeles, specializing in tax law. A June wedding is planned in Villanova.

ONLINE ANNOUNCEMENT FORMS

Engagement and wedding forms for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers can be downloaded from our Web site at www.observer-eccentric.com

Click on the HomeTown Life category and look for the highlighted link for announcement forms. Simply download the form, fill it out and mail it back with a color/black and white photograph to Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150. Announcements appear every Thursday in the HomeTown Life section — as space permits. Call (734) 953-2131 for a form.

CRAFTS CALENDAR

CRAFT FAYRE/ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Crafters are needed for the Saturday, June 24 "Craft Fayre and Ice Cream Social" at the Wayne Tower Senior Citizens Apartment Building. The event will run from noon to 3 p.m. at 35200 Sims, Wayne. For information or to participate as a crafter call Constance or leave a message at (734) 721-9254 — Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All donations from the ice cream social will be donated to

the Jacobetti Disabled Veterans Home in Marquette, MI.

CHELSEA SUMMER FEST
Applications are currently being sought for arts and crafts vendors at the Chelsea Summer Fest, July 28 and 29. Booth hours are Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you are interested in obtaining a booth, contact Penny (734) 433-0354 or send a SASE, P.O. Box 580, Chelsea, MI 48118.



2000 Ann Arbor Antiques Market

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Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds
(Exit #175 off of I-94, then south 3 miles)

SUNDAY

June 18th, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.



FUTURE SHOWS:

- July 16, 7am-4pm (Sun.)
- August 20, 7am-4pm (Sun.)
- Sept. 16 & 17, 7am-4pm (Sat & Sun)
- October 15, 7am-4pm (Sun.)
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Ages 4 to 6 and 7 to 14

Ages 11 to 14

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July 10-14
July 17-21

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FUND-RAISING & BENEFITS

Listings for the Funds & Benefits should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue.

NEW COOKBOOK ON SALE The Counsellor's Youth Chorale of Plymouth, CYC, is pleased to announce the sale of their new cookbook "Sing for your Supper."

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL Garden City Presbyterian Church (1841 Middlebelt Road) will host a Strawberry Festival from 5-9 p.m. Friday, June 16 on the church grounds.

HEALTHCARE CLASSIC Lutheraan Adoption Service (Michigan's largest adoption program serving over 600 families per year) and the Park Jarrett Agency Aid Association for Lutherans are sponsoring the WAALK & ROLLATHON 2000 on 9 a.m. Saturday, June 24 at Hines Park in Westland.

DAR AUCTION The Daughters of the American Revolution (Sarah Ann Cochran Plymouth-Northville Chapter) will host an auction/fund-raiser at their June 19 meeting.

CHICKEN BARBECUE DINNER Newburgh United Methodist Church will be selling chicken dinners on June 29 to help fund their building project.

church by calling (734) 422-0149 on Wednesday, June 21 and Thursday, June 22 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

GOLF CLASSIC The fifth annual St. Mary Hospital Golf Classic will be held Friday, June 23 at Bay Pointe Golf Club, West Bloomfield to benefit breast cancer.

WAALK & ROLLATHON Lutheraan Adoption Service (Michigan's largest adoption program serving over 600 families per year) and the Park Jarrett Agency Aid Association for Lutherans are sponsoring the WAALK & ROLLATHON 2000 on 9 a.m. Saturday, June 24 at Hines Park in Westland.

JULY FLEA MARKET Vendors are needed for Good Shepherd Reformed Church flea market to be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 8 at Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland.

RELIGION CALENDAR

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN The Northville Christian Assembly, 41355 Six Mile Road in Northville, presents Family Outings, a three-act play about relationships, 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 14 and Friday, June 16.

TUBBS FAMILY CONCERT The Jim Tubbs Family will perform in concert at 6 p.m. Sunday, June 18 at Plymouth Church of the Nazarene (45801 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth).

FATHER'S DAY SERVICE Unity of Livonia (28660 Five Mile Road) will hold identical service at 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday, June 18 honoring fathers.

UUFC SUNDAY SERVICE The Sunday June 18 service of Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington will include guest speaker Sean Kosofsky.

ST. JOHN'S VBS St. John's Lutheran Church of Redford (13542 Mercedes) is accepting registrations for Vacation Bible School June 19-23.

Vacation Bible School for Mt. Vernon Baptist Church will be held June 19-23 (8828 Wormer, Redford). The theme is Good News - Ocean Odyssey for children ages 3-12.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Trinity Presbyterian Church (10101 W. Ann Arbor Road) of Plymouth invites children to come to Vacation Bible School June 19-23 from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Join us at the SonZone Discovery Center, the Vacation Bible School at Berean Baptist Church (38303 Eight Mile Road). Son Zone is a very special place - a fantastic inventor's museum designed just for kids.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile Road in Redford, will hold Vacation Bible School 9 a.m. to noon June 19-23.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL The Westland Church of the Nazarene, 38600 Palmer Road in Westland, will hold Vacation Bible School 6:30-8 p.m. June 19-23.

MT. VERNON VBS Vacation Bible School for Mt. Vernon Baptist Church will be held June 19-23 (8828 Wormer, Redford). The theme is Good News - Ocean Odyssey for children ages 3-12.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Vacation Bible School at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church (14175 Farmington Road) of Livonia will take place from 9:30-11:30 a.m. June 19-23.

WORLD HEALING SERVICE On Mon. June 19th a World Healing Service will take place at 7 p.m. facilitated by Barbara Wade, licensed Unity Teacher at Unity of Livonia (28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads).

YAU BARBECUE On Saturday, June 24 the Young Adults of Unity will be having a barbecue at Bell Creek Park Picnic Area B at 4 p.m.

ST. RICHARD ANNIVERSARY St. Richard Parish of Westland will celebrate their 40th anniversary. The even will start with a parish picnic on the parish grounds on Sunday, June 25 from 1-5 p.m.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL St. James Presbyterian Church will host a Strawberry Festival after the Sunday, June 25 service at 10 a.m.

SPIRITBOUND APPEARING The vocal group Spiritbound

will appear at 11 a.m. June 25 at Calvary Baptist Church (43065 Joy road between lilley and Main) in Canton.

VBS OUTBACK EXPEDITION St. Paul's Lutheran Church (201 Elm, Northville) will host Vacation Bible School "Outback Expedition" from 9 a.m. to noon June 26-30 for preschoolers through fifth grade.

JULY VBS Explore, experiment, examine! Plymouth First united Methodist church will host Vacation Bible School July 17-21 for grades preschool through sixth.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other.

ST. MATTHEW VBS St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School (5885 Venoy Road) of Westland will host Vacation Bible School June 26-30 from 7-9 p.m. at Holy Word Studios.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Vacation Bible School at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road in Livonia, will take place 9:30 a.m. to noon June 26-29.

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- 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.

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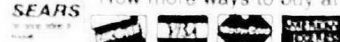
regular retail prices on top mount refrigerators 21 cu. ft. or larger. Side-by-side refrigerators 23 cu. ft. or larger. Sale ends Sunday



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Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.
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10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 a.m. Traditional

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M.A.S.S.: Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat 9:00 a.m.

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
16360 Hubbard Road
Livonia, Michigan 48154
421-8451
Wednesday 9:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist
Wed (Sept-May) 6:00 P.M. Dinner & Classes



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Sunday Morning Worship 10 a.m.

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9415 Merriman • Livonia
Sunday Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 261-1360
May thru October • Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church & School
14750 Kinkoch • Redford Twp.
313-532-8655
Worship: Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

CHRISTADELPHIANS

CHRISTADELPHIANS
Sunday Memorial Service 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School 11:30 A.M.
Bible Class - Wednesdays 7:30 P.M.

Risen Christ Lutheran
46250 Ann Arbor Road
Plymouth • 453-5252
Worship Service 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.

St. Michael Lutheran Church & School
9401 Hannan Rd. Wayne (corner of Glenwood & Hannan)
734-728-1950
Sunday Morning Worship Services
Traditional Services 8 & 11 am

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School
5885 Venoy
1 Blk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland
425-0260
Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DAILY
332-2265
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago
Livonia 48150 • 421-5406
Rev. Donald Linker, Pastor

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church
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Livonia • 427-2290
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2 Blocks N. of Main • 2 Blocks E. of Mill
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Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

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Orchard Grove Community Church
Sunday 10:10 A.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Chris Cramer, Pastor

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
4800 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 483-1325
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.

UNITED METHODIST

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30500 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
Chuck Sorenson, Pastor
10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes

Clarenceville United Methodist
20800 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
424-1444
Rev. Jean Love
Worship Services 10:15 A.M. 6:00 P.M.

"Building Healthy Families..."

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship
4:30 p.m. - "Connections" - Contemporary Worship
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Sunday School
10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
"Re-visiting the Window"
Melanie Lee Carey, preaching

June 18 Joshua 5

God's Blessings Remembered
Rev. Diana Goudie, preaching



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Astronomy club attracts star gazers

By KRISTA HOPSON
STAFF WRITER

Looking up at the sky on a dark, clear night some people may only see little dots of twinkling light. Others, however, see so much more and have many questions about the stars, planets, space travel, extraterrestrials and even the origin of the universe.

To answer some of those questions, Mike Best of Plymouth started an astronomy discussion group in February at the Plymouth District Library.

The Plymouth astronomy group meets 7-8 p.m. on the third Monday of every month. Twenty of the group's members, from throughout southeastern Michigan, are scheduled to meet at the library until the end of this year.

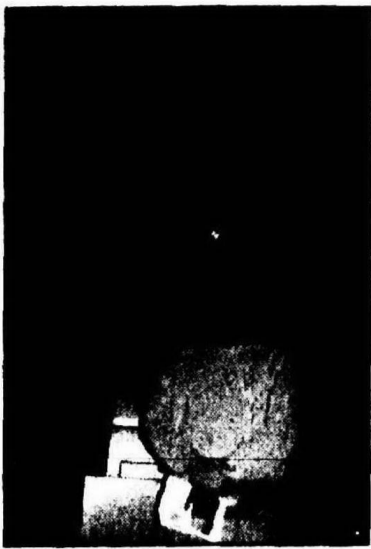
Best, who has been studying astronomy for 54 years, wanted a place where people who liked planets, stars and the universe could have a discussion. He also hoped to create a group that parents and their children could come to together.

"I always say that ages six to 106 are welcome," said Best, 66, a former newspaper reporter who retired after 40 years in the field. "I wanted to make (the group) a family thing."

Astronomy is popular among all of the age groups because there is so much exposure to space travel on television, Best said. "Curiosity eventually gets to people. People flock in with so many questions."

Exploration

Best's own curiosity about science fiction is what led him into



Best

studying astronomy at a very young age. He found that despite the little green people in science fiction stories, the astronomy part always seemed to be accurate.

"I started to ask, 'could the stars possibly be that big?' and 'could the universe possibly have a beginning?'" Best said.

The Plymouth resident, who has been lecturing on astronomy for over 25 years and is director of the Southfield Planetarium, tries to continue to answer all of those questions for the discussion group while also feeding their interest in the subject matter.

Daisy Aimar, a discussion group member who resides in Westland, became interested in astronomy after gazing into a friend's telescope several years ago.

"When I looked in it, my God, there was Saturn and I could see

the rings moving," Aimar said. "I told myself that before I die I have to see it again."

At the time, however, Aimar never had the opportunity to further pursue her curiosity in the world of astronomy. It wasn't until Aimar, 58, who is now retired, saw a brochure at the library about the discussion group that she decided she finally had some time to learn more about astronomy.

"(Best) is full of really good information," Aimar said. "He's an expert in his field."

Best feeds the group a lot of information in a short amount of time, Aimar said. Every meeting, Best selects a particular subject and begins with a short lecture on it. He also answers questions and peaks the group's curiosity by showing videos or presenting some of his 600 astronomy slides.

Best currently has no plans to increase the astronomy group's meeting days or times. He does hope to have a session this fall where the group can go outside and just look up at the stars.

Anyone who has ever had a question about the universe and did not want to take a college course on the subject is invited to join in on the group's discussions, Best said.

"(Astronomy) is a lonesome hobby and now people have a place to go and chit-chat," Best said.

The next meeting of the Plymouth astronomy group is Monday, June 19 and the topic will be meteors. To find out more about the discussion group, or for facts about astronomy, visit Mike Best's Web site at <http://members.aol.com/mbest12345/>

Mike Best's background is about as vast as the space he studies in the sky.

The Plymouth resident's love of the stars began as a teen when he started following the mysteries of the Unidentified Flying Objects phenomenon in 1947.

He later turned that curiosity into a career by spending more than a decade as a field investigator ("Man in Black") for the Dr. J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies. He has been affiliated with both the International and Michigan divisions of the Mutual UFO Network. In the 1950s he flew in a U.S. Navy air-sea rescue squadron in the Pacific. It was here he founded his first astronomy club, the Kwajalein Island Astronautical Association.

Back in the states Best founded the Astronomy Club of Livonia in 1976 and in 1985, the Astronomical Society of Michigan. The Astronomical Society of Michigan has evolved into an educational organization consisting of some 270 members from across the state. Best currently serves as president.

He keeps busy as director of the Vollbrecht Planetarium in Adler School of Southfield. He is a member of the Astronomical League, Astronomical Society of the Pacific, Great Lakes Planetarium Association, National Space Society, Planetary Society, and the SETI Institute.

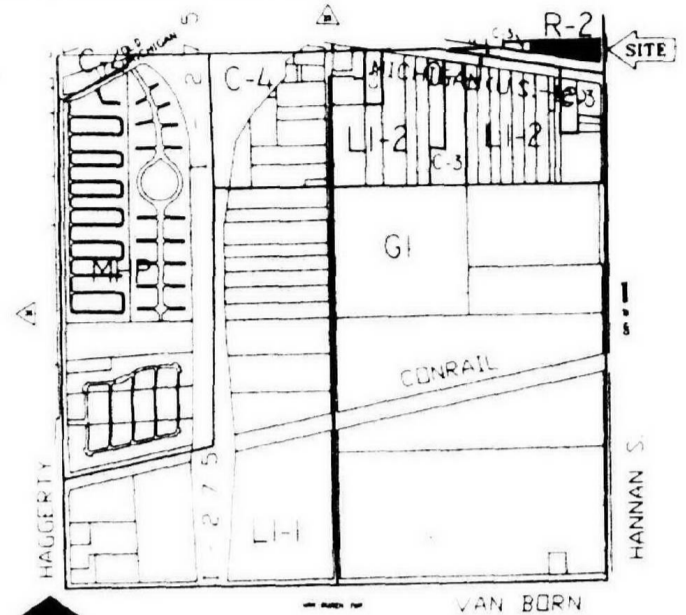
Read Health & Fitness Sundays

PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, July 10, 2000 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance.

SIMPSON/JONA REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NOS. 141 99 0003 000, 141 99 0004 000, AND 141 99 0005 001 FROM R-2, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, TO C-3, REGIONAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT. Property is located on the northwest corner of Michigan Avenue and Hannan Road.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, July 6, 2000 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

Publish June 15 and July 2, 2000

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Salem cheerleaders plan June events

The Plymouth Salem High School Cheerleading team will be holding a fund-raising Cheer-a-thon from 3-8 p.m. Tuesday June 20 in the Salem gymnasium. All proceeds raised will help pay for UCA Cheerleading camp. This year the team will be attending camp in Bloomington, Indiana at Indiana University in Aug. Call 981-0062.

The team will also host a UCA Championship Stunt Clinic June 24 at the Salem gymnasium. All Detroit area schools are invited to attend.

The clinic will provide instruction at all levels (beginner to elite by UCA experts), new innovative stunts, transitional stunts, stunts as seen on ESPN and ESPN2. To register call the UCA office (888) CHEERUCA or (734) 459-3393.

EPC to convene at Ward church

The 20th General Assembly of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) convenes June 22-24 to address matters of common concern to the church community.

Hosted by Ward Presbyterian Church, 700 pastors, commissioners and guests from all across the U.S. will gather. This annual General Assembly kicks off a year of celebration for the EPC now entering its 20th year of ministry.

Guest speakers and keynoters includes: David Chadwick, the pastor of Forest Hill EPC in Charlotte, NC; Michael Glodo, assistant professor of Old Testament at Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando, FL; Richard Swenson, national and international speaker on themes of stress, overload, complexity and societal change; and Florence Littauer, a well-known motivational/inspirational speaker and author of over 30 books.

The schedule of activities is extensive: a presentation, workshop and luncheon all sponsored by Women's Ministries; an evening of special music featuring the renown King's Brass; morning and evening worship services; exhibitors; and a dinner to recognize newly ordained ministers. Lunches are available by advance reservations.

Child care for children, nursery through preschool will be provided for conference attendees.

General Assembly activities are open to all EPC church members. Evening worship services June 21, 22 and 23, at 7:30 p.m. The GA will meet at the new site of Ward Presbyterian Church (40000 Six Mile Road) in Northville.

For information call (877) 852-8801.

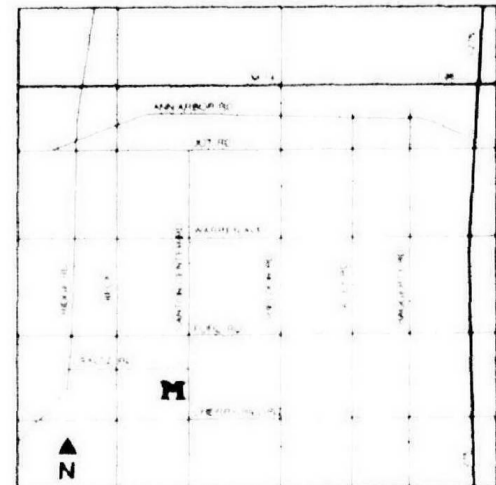


WE'RE MOVING.

The new U-M Canton Health Center opens June 27th. Our U of M Plymouth/Canton Health Center staff and services are picking up and moving to a new larger location at 1051 North Canton Center Road. Our new site will continue to offer Internal Medicine, Adult Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, lab services and general radiology. We will be adding Cardiology, mammography screenings and ultrasounds to serve you better. So, for all your health care needs, consider us a smart move.

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Semis next for Shamrocks

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER
pbeaudry@oe.homecomm.net

After winning Saturday's Division I regional, Redford Catholic Central baseball coach John Salter laughed and shook his head when asked if he thought his defending state champs could repeat this year.

After beating third-ranked Novi, 12-1, in a quarterfinal at Carleton Airport Tuesday and earning a trip to the semifinals for the third-straight year, Salter is beginning to laugh a little less and believe a lot more.

The Shamrocks didn't just beat the Wildcats (30-5), they shut them down, using a well-tested combination of pitching, hitting and defense.

"Pitching and defense gave us the chances we needed," said Salter after his team improved to 23-11 and earned a date in Friday's 5:30 p.m. semifinal against Hartland. "And we hit the ball pretty well too."

The Shamrocks did everything the Wildcats didn't do.

Charlie Haeger, who's pitched more in the last week than he had all season, shut down Novi on a one-hitter. Meanwhile, the Shamrocks banged out 11 hits against five different pitchers.

CC made two meaningless errors and caught virtually everything hit their way. Novi stumbled to four errors and made at least that many defensive mistakes, allowing balls to drop for hits.

There was one other thing that swung the Shamrocks' way — momentum. While CC had Novi on the ropes early, thanks to a 3-0 lead helped by three



On a tear: CC's Mike Wadowski, from Plymouth, has been a key component in CC's drive to repeat as state champs. Against Novi Tuesday in the state quarterfinals, Wadowski hit his third home run in as many games, this one a three-run blast.

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

errors, Brian Williams delivered the knockout punch with a defensive gem that turned the tide.

CC held the lead going into the third inning, but Haeger served up a lead-off homer to Jon Cervi — the only hit Haeger would allow in six innings — and then hit Brendan Hadley with a pitch. Designated hitter Aaron Rowe — who was a 48th-round pick of the Milwaukee Brewers in last week's amateur draft — then hit a rocket to straightaway center field.

Williams went back to the fence, put a hand up on the fence to brace himself, leaped and turned what would have been the tying run into just another out.

"If that had gone out it would have been 3-3 and anything could have happened," said Williams. "I went back, felt the fence and got it. I was kind of

surprised."

So was Novi. "That was the turning point of the game," agreed Novi coach Phil Marrone. "At that point, we'd started to rally a little bit. But that was the breaking point."

If there was any doubt, it was erased in the top of the fourth. Phil Marrone led off with a single, Williams then grounded to third, but was safe when second baseman Matt Gorman dropped the high throw and Ryan Rogowski singled to chase starter Brendan Watson (4-3). Josh Sabol came in and gave up an RBI single to John Hill, a sacrifice fly RBI to Haeger and got Dave Tovey to fly out.

Rowe, who earned the win against Pinckney on Saturday and is the ace of Novi's staff, came into pitch against Mike Wadowski. Rowe's first pitch was a ball. The second was a three-run homer — Wadowski's third home run in as many games — that gave CC an 8-1 lead.

"That helped us a lot and Brian came up big all day as well," said Haeger, who was counted on at the beginning of the year to be the ace of the

staff, but shoulder problems kept him off the mound, for the most part, until Saturday's regional against Southgate.

Brian's catch was crucial. I didn't think (Rowe) hit it well, but it carried far. Then Mike slammed his homer."

In his six innings, Haeger gave up one hit — Cervi's homer — while walking one, hitting one batter and fanning four. Kevin Entsminger pitched the last inning, recording one strike out.

CC took a 2-0 lead in the second inning, after loading the bases in the first. Marrone singled, then scored on a Williams single and a Novi error that put Williams at second. Rogowski doubled to score Williams. It was 3-0 in the third as Wadowski was hit by a pitch and scored on a double by Adam Kline.

The Shamrocks added two more in the sixth as Wadowski's single scored courtesy runner Anthony Coratti and Entsminger scored on a ground out by Kline. CC grabbed two more in the seventh as Andy Smith, Sean Mahoney and Hill all walked, with Smith scoring on a wild pitch and Mahoney scoring on a sacrifice fly by Entsminger.

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Michigan United, one of Southeast Michigan's top developmental soccer programs is having tryouts on June 19th and 20th for the following age groups:

- U-10 boys premiere coached by Dave Radcliff
- U-12 boys select coached by Steve Schimscher

Tryouts will be held at Stevenson Middle School in Westland from 6-8 p.m. For more information on U-10 please call 734-981-9234. For U-12 please call 734-416-8696 or 734-459-5410.

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Salem from page C1

Salem coach Dale Rumberger. "You'd have to go back to early in the season to find a game like that."

All the scoring came in the second inning, and it wasn't without controversy. After retiring the first Knights batter on a groundout, Gordon hit Mike Farber with a pitch and walked Ryan Doyle. Gordon struck out Doug Falkenburg, but a double-steal during his at-bat advanced the runners to second and third.

Joe Leibold, a sophomore catcher and the No. 9 hitter in Kimball's lineup, then laced a two-out, 3-2 pitch to center field that scored both runs.

The controversy came when Doyle came in to score. Although the play was going to second base, the Knights' senior third baseman barreled over Salem catcher Ian Winter, leaving him writhing in pain near the plate. Winter had to be helped to the dugout and during the next inning was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

Although it was apparently unwarranted contact and Doyle made no attempt to slide, no action was taken by the umpire. Doyle remained in the game.

"It was a hard baseball game," said Rumberger. "These kids competed well."

The Rocks narrowed the gap by a run in their half of the second, and it was Gordon — their brightest star in this game — that started it. With one out, Gordon blasted a Drews' pitch over the left-fielder's head for a double. Chris MacKinder went in to run for Gordon.

Ian Kolb, Salem's next batter, followed with an infield single to Doyle at third; when Doyle's throw to first was high, MacKinder scored, making it 2-1.

After that, however, the Rocks could do little against Drews' breaking balls. "He was ahead on the count a lot," said Rumberger. "(The umpire) was giving him the inside corner. It was just unfortunate."

After Steve Stiles' one-out single in the fourth, Drews retired 12-straight batters, allowing just one baserunner on a passed ball on a strikeout. That threat was eliminated on an attempted sacrifice bunt that was turned into a double play.

Salem's last, and best, scoring chance came in the bottom of the seventh. With one out, Gordon and Kolb singled, with MacKinder (running for Gordon) reaching third on Kolb's grounder off the bat at first. Gordon and Kolb led the Rocks with two hits apiece.

But the game ended when Mike Thackberry hit a hard one-hopper to Kimball shortstop Kevin McKnight, who touched second and fired to first for a double-play.

"If you're playing a high-school game and you force him to make a play like that, and he does, well, you can't complain," said Rumberger. "Give Royal Oak credit. They're a good ball club. They work hard too."

For Salem — winners in 15 of its last 20 games after a 5-9 start — the season ended one run short.

Top golfers to vie at qualifier

BY MONICA PUGNO STAFF WRITER

A lot of changes are expected for this year's National Public Links Qualifying Tournament, scheduled for Thursday and Friday at the Salem Hills Golf Club.

In past years, more than 200 amateur golfers competed in the tournament. This year, there are 109 entries.

Pete Owens, a representative of the United States Golf Association who is in charge of the two-day tournament, said one of the reasons for the lower turnout is because the U.S.G.A. no longer pays for those who win

GOLF TOURNAMENT

the tournament to fly to the national championships in Portland.

"Last year, we had 220 entries," Owens said. "The U.S.G.A. changed the rules this year. It used to be the only U.S.G.A. tournament where we would pay for the winners to play at the national championship. They stopped doing that this year."

Owens said another reason less people signed up for the tournament is because the U.S.G.A. lowered the handicap requirement.

"It used to be wide open," he said. "They used to let people who had a 20 handicap play. They lowered it to 8.4 this year."

The tournament still draws some of the best amateurs from around the world. The top four finishers will qualify for the national championships in Portland. The winner of the event in Portland qualifies for the Masters.

The tournament begins at 6:30 a.m. Thursday. The top 51 golfers will play again on Friday from 7 a.m. to noon.

The cost to enter the tournament is \$30. For more information, call the Salem Hills Golf Club at 248-437-2152.

Canton softball from page C1

Stewart walked the next two batters to load the bases with two outs. She fanned Marissa Lawrence to end Mercy's threat.

"(Stewart) is a hell of an athlete," Canton coach Jim Arnold said. "She's come a long way from a year ago. Last year, believe it or not, she was our No. 3 pitcher. She worked hard to be our No. 1 pitcher this year."

Stewart's luck changed in the third. Dana Falvo led off with a bunt single, and Erin Carson hit a fly ball to center field that was dropped. The two players performed a delayed double steal to put runners on second and third with one out.

"The double steal was critical in the game," Jack Falvo said. "It put two runners in scoring position with one out."

"We knew coming in it was going to be a close game. We told the girls to be prepared for a 0-0 or 1-0 game. We wanted to be aggressive. We wanted to score in the beginning, so we could play our game."

Brankiewicz tripled to right field to drive in two runs. Duda singled to right field to score Brankiewicz, and Naverre Naami doubled to center field to drive in Duda, giving the Marlins a 4-0 cushion.

Fediuk and catcher Carson kept Canton off the scoreboard. Carson picked off two Chiefs at first base and threw out another runner trying to steal second.

"We're very disappointed," Arnold said. "We didn't hit the ball well. We let one bad inning get to us."

"But we played with an extreme amount of class. I'm proud of our players. It's sad for the seniors. This is the best athletic team since I've been in Can-

ton (10 years)." The Chiefs finished the season 23-12. Mercy, meanwhile, improved to 32-10 and advanced to the state quarterfinals Tuesday against Fraser in Clintondale.

"At this level, we're only going to face quality teams," Falvo said. "I think the team that comes to play is going to win Tuesday."

Getting to the final

Mercy reached the regional final by easily defeating Detroit Mumford in five innings, 17-0. Senior Erin Howard struck out eight and allowed one hit.

Canton's road to the final was tougher. The Chiefs beat Warren Mott, 4-0. Stewart fanned 12 and

allowed three hits.

Canton scored two runs in the second and one run in the fifth and sixth innings.

Stewart led off the second with a single, moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Christina Kiesel and advanced to third on a base hit by Brianna McNicholas. Jenna Perino singled to drive in both runners.

In the fifth, Megan Coultas singled and scored on Paula McKernan's line-drive down the first base line. Perino scored in the sixth on a hit up the middle by Stacey Griffin.

"We played real well," Arnold said. "We could have done a better job hitting, but we did well enough to win."

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Locations and dates of nearby camps are:

•June 19-23 — 9:30 a.m.-noon at Livonia's Bicentennial Park, 1:30 p.m. at Novi's Community Sports Park.

•July 10-14 — 9:30 a.m.-noon at Canton's Heritage Park, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Southfield's Catalpa Park, 1:30 p.m. at South Lyon Middle School.

Travel camps

•July 17-21 — 9:30 a.m.-noon at Plymouth's Ford Sheldon Plant, 1:30 p.m. at Farmington's Little Caesars Park.

•July 24-28 — 9:30 a.m.-noon at Plymouth's Ford Sheldon Plant, 9:30 a.m.-noon at Walled Lake's Commerce Elementary.

•July 31-Aug. 4 — 1:30 p.m. at Livonia's Bicentennial Park.

•Aug. 7-11 — 9:30 a.m.-noon at Dearborn's Crowley Park.

•Aug. 14-18 — 9:30 a.m.-noon at Saline's Miller Field.

•Aug. 21-25 — 9:30 a.m.-noon at Brighton's Maltby Field.

Plymouth Soccer Club

Tryouts for the Plymouth Soccer Club's various select and premier teams will be on-going throughout this month. Teams compete in the Western Suburban Soccer League and in the Michigan State Premier Soccer Program (Little Caesars).

Players are asked to arrive 15-30 minutes early on the first day to sign in. Please bring water, an inflated soccer ball with your name clearly marked and light and dark T-shirts.

Boys premier and select

•Under-9 select: 6 p.m. June 16, 2 p.m. June 18 at West Middle School, call Tom Walsh at 420-3671 or Dean Krutty at 454-9415.

•Under-10 select: 5 p.m. June 15 at Tanger School, call Jeff Langdon at 981-9859.

•Under-10 select: 6 p.m. June 16, 6 p.m. June 18 at Tanger School, call Paul Neissen at 416-0682.

•Under-11 select: 6 p.m. June 19 and 6 p.m. June 21 at Heritage A (Ford Plant), call Mark McGraw at 420-3206.

•Under-12 premier: 6 p.m. June 15 and 6 p.m. June 16 at Hines West, call Rich Kulczyk at 397-2071.

•Under-12 select: 6 p.m. June 20 and 6 p.m. June 22 at East Middle School, call George Vella at 453-7379.

•Under-13 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 16 and 3:5 p.m. June 17 at Hines Park soccer fields, call Pete Griffin at 459-3324.

•Under-14 premier: 6 p.m. June 20 and 6 p.m. June 22 at Heritage B (Ford Plant), call Mark McGraw at 420-3206.

•Under-14 select: 6 p.m. June 22, 10 a.m. June 24 at East Middle School, call Randy Leslie at 459-1071.

•Under-15 premier: 6 p.m. June 20 and 6 p.m. June 22 at Hines East, call John Debiec at 459-1094.

•Under-16 premier: 6 p.m. June 19 and 6 p.m. June 21 at Hines West, call Bill Everal at 207-1659.

•Under-18 premier: 6 p.m. June 20 and 6 p.m. June 27 at Hines East, call Glenn Kaatz at 454-0712.

Girls select and premier

•Under-10 select: 6 p.m. June 20 and 6 p.m. June 22 at Tanger School, call Mike David at 207-1962.

•Under-11 select: 6 p.m. June 22 and 6 p.m. June 23 at Canton HS, call Coach Zurowski at 722-8343 or Peggy Bohrer at 454-9613.

•Under-12 select: 6 p.m. June 20 and 6 p.m. June 21 at Canton HS, call Coach Zurowski at 722-8343 or Peggy Bohrer at 454-9613.

•Under-13 premier: 6 p.m. June 20 and 6 p.m. June 22 at West Middle School, call John Maloney at 453-2055.

•Under-14 premier: 6 p.m. June 20 and 6 p.m. June 21 at East Middle School, call Scott Bouthroft at 433-0967.

•Under-15 premier: 6 p.m. June 14, 6 p.m. June 21 and 6 p.m. June 26 at Hines East, call Tom Esper at 420-2236.

•Under-18 premier: 6 p.m. June 16, 4 p.m. June 24 at Hines East, call Don Schik at 459-8826.

Canton Soccer Club

The Canton Soccer Club, with Detroit Rockers' keeper Bryan "Goose" Finnerty serving as head coach and director of coaching/player development, will host a series of summer tryouts for various teams.

Boys tryouts

•Under-9: 6 p.m. June 17 and 6 p.m. June 18 at Canton HS, call (734) 455-9946 for information.

•Under-10 A and B: 6 p.m. June 19 and June 16 at Canton HS, call (734) 981-6041.

•Under-11 A and B: 6 p.m. June 19 and June 16 at Canton HS, call (734) 451-7211 or (734) 453-0897.

•Under-12 premier, under-12 select: 6:30 p.m. June 15 and June 16 at Canton HS, Call (734) 878-9031.

•Under-13 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 15 and June 16 at Canton HS, Call (734) 455-9946.

•Under-13 select: 6:30 p.m. June 15 and June 16 at Canton HS, Call (734) 981-2773.

•Under-14 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 19 and June 20 at Canton HS, Call (734) 207-1662.

•Under-14 select: 6:30 p.m. June 22 and June 23 at Canton HS, Call (734) 454-9072.

•Under-15 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 19

and June 20 at Madonna University, Call (734) 397-8953.

•Under-15 select: 6:30 p.m. June 21 and June 22 at Canton HS, Call 459-7849.

•Under-16 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 19 and June 20 at Canton HS, Call (734) 416-4246.

•Under-16 select: 6:30 p.m. June 21 and June 22 at Canton HS, Call (734) 844-1104.

•Under-17 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 20 and June 21 at Canton HS, Call (734) 459-0927.

•Under-18 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 15 and June 16 at Canton HS, Call

(734) 459-0611.

Girls tryouts

•Under-9: 6:30 p.m. June 20 and June 21 at Canton HS, Call (734) 455-9946.

•Under-10 A: 6:30 p.m. June 19 and June 20 at Flodin Park, Call (734) 454-9072.

•Under-11 A: 6:30 p.m. June 21 and June 22 at Flodin Park, Call (734) 397-3947.

•Under-12 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 15 and June 16 at Flodin Park, Call (734) 455-9946.

•Under-13 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 19 and June 20 at Flodin Park, Call (734) 416-9428.

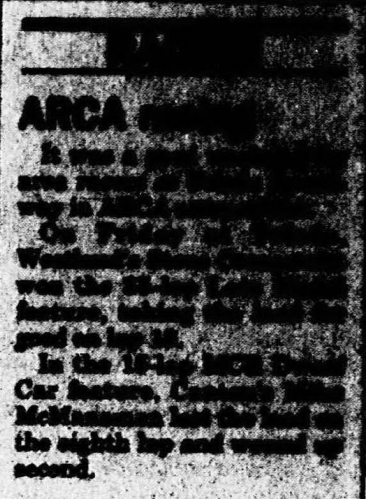
•Under-14 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 19, June 20 and June 21 at Flodin Park, Call (734) 454-7092 or (734) 459-7252.

•Under-15 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 21 and June 22 at Flodin Park, Call (734) 451-5331.

•Under-16 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 20 and June 21 at Flodin Park, Call (734) 453-6555.

•Under-17 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 20 and June 21 at Flodin Park, Call (734) 455-3662.

•Under-19 premier: 6:30 p.m. June 15 and June 16 at Flodin Park, Call (734) 981-1672.



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CC bounces Southgate, Garden City

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER
pbeaudry@oe.homecomm.net

Mike Wadowski sat down in the dugout, wiped the sweat off his shaved head, stopped putting his equipment in his bag, sighed, then tried to sum up the kind of day he and his Redford Catholic Central baseball team had on Saturday.

The condensed version was a pretty good one.

The Shamrocks, defending champions in Division I, rallied past seventh-ranked Southgate Anderson in the opener, 3-2, then disposed of Garden City in the regional final, 14-4. The Cougars advanced to the final with a 8-6 win.

"To tell you the truth, we had the same mindset for both games," said Wadowski. "We were confident because we knew what we had to do. I just tried to smooth out my swing and shorten up my stroke."

Just smoothing out his swing and shortening up his stroke paid off for Wadowski. The junior was 2-for-3 against Southgate, with a homer in the second inning to tie the score and a single in the sixth inning for that tied the score. Against Garden City, Wadowski was 3-for-4 with four RBI, a two-run homer, two runs scored and pitched 2 1/3 innings of one-hit relief ball.

"Wadowski had a great day,"

REGIONAL

said CC coach John Salter. "His homer in the first game allowed us to tie and his homer in the second gave us a comfortable margin. And he came in a closed to give us another arm with playoff experience."

It was a tough way for the Cougars (23-5) to end their outstanding season.

"We hadn't won a district in 16 years and had never been to a regional final," said a disappointed coach Steve Herman. "You learn by inches. Last year, we went to the district final; this year, we went to the regional final. You have to take things step-by-step."

After Wadowski's RBI single scored Dave Tovey in the second inning of the championship game, CC went to town in the third inning, sending 12 batters to the plate in an eight-run, five hit frame. Starting pitcher Robbie Hudson (6-4), who got the win in relief of Justin Ockerman in the first game, took the loss in the second game — giving up five runs on five hits, with three walks and two strikeouts. Ryan Krol came on in relief and didn't fair much better, giving up six runs on four hits and three walks in 1 2/3 innings.

"We gave them too many opportunities to score and they

took advantage of them," said Herman. "I thought when we pulled to within five runs, we could have had a chance. Then when they got it back to eight runs, it took the wind out of our sails."

The Cougars did fight back in the fourth with four runs, keyed by a two-run homer by designated hitter Brent Pelz — his second dinger of the day — to chase Shamrocks' starter Kevin Entsminger. But CC came right back in the bottom of the inning, manufacturing three more runs on just two hits and an error.

"The biggest thing was that we made sure we swung at strikes," Salter said. "I thought if we were disciplined at the plate, we would have a good chance."

In all, the Shamrocks banged out 12 hits. John Hill was 2-for-3 with a pair of doubles and three RBI, Brian Williams was 3-for-5 with an RBI and a run scored, Ryan Rogowski was 2-for-4 with two runs scored, Dave Tovey was 0-1, but walked three times, was hit by a pitch and scored three runs, Adam Kline was 2-for-3

with an RBI and two runs scored and Matt Loidas and Charlie Haeger had an RBI.

Pelz paced Garden City by adding a single to his homer, while Jeff Fletemier, Mike Sparks, and Matt Gordon all singled, while Gordon added an RBI.

"I've never had two homers in a day before. I just wanted to end the season on a good note," said Pelz. "I wish we could have done it with a win."

CC 3, Southgate 2: Pitching kept Southgate off stride, even though the Titans took a 2-1 lead in the top of the sixth inning.

Southgate took a 2-1 lead in the top of the sixth. CC came back strong in the bottom of the inning as Haeger led off with a walk, stole second, went to third on a ground out by Kline and scored when Wadowski singled.

Wadowski went to second on a wild pitch by Ross Winiemko (11-1) and was lifted for pinch runner Mike Greis. Tovey singled to left scoring Greis with the winning run.

After Southgate scored the game's first run, Wadowski evened it by taking a 1-0 pitch over the fence.

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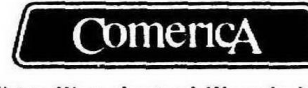


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F★

FRIDAY



Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia, 36071 Plymouth Road, presents Billy Ray Bauer 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 per person, dinner/show package \$24.50 per person, call (734) 261-0555.

SATURDAY



The Swedish Club presents its annual Midsummer Festival at the club, 22398 Ruth Street at Freedom Road in Farmington Hills. The event begins 9:30 a.m. with a pancake breakfast. Maypole raising at noon followed by Scandia (pictured) and Arpi Chorus performances, folk dancing and children's games. Baked goods and Swedish imports offered for sale. Dinner served 1:30 p.m. Call (248) 646-4073 for information.

SUNDAY

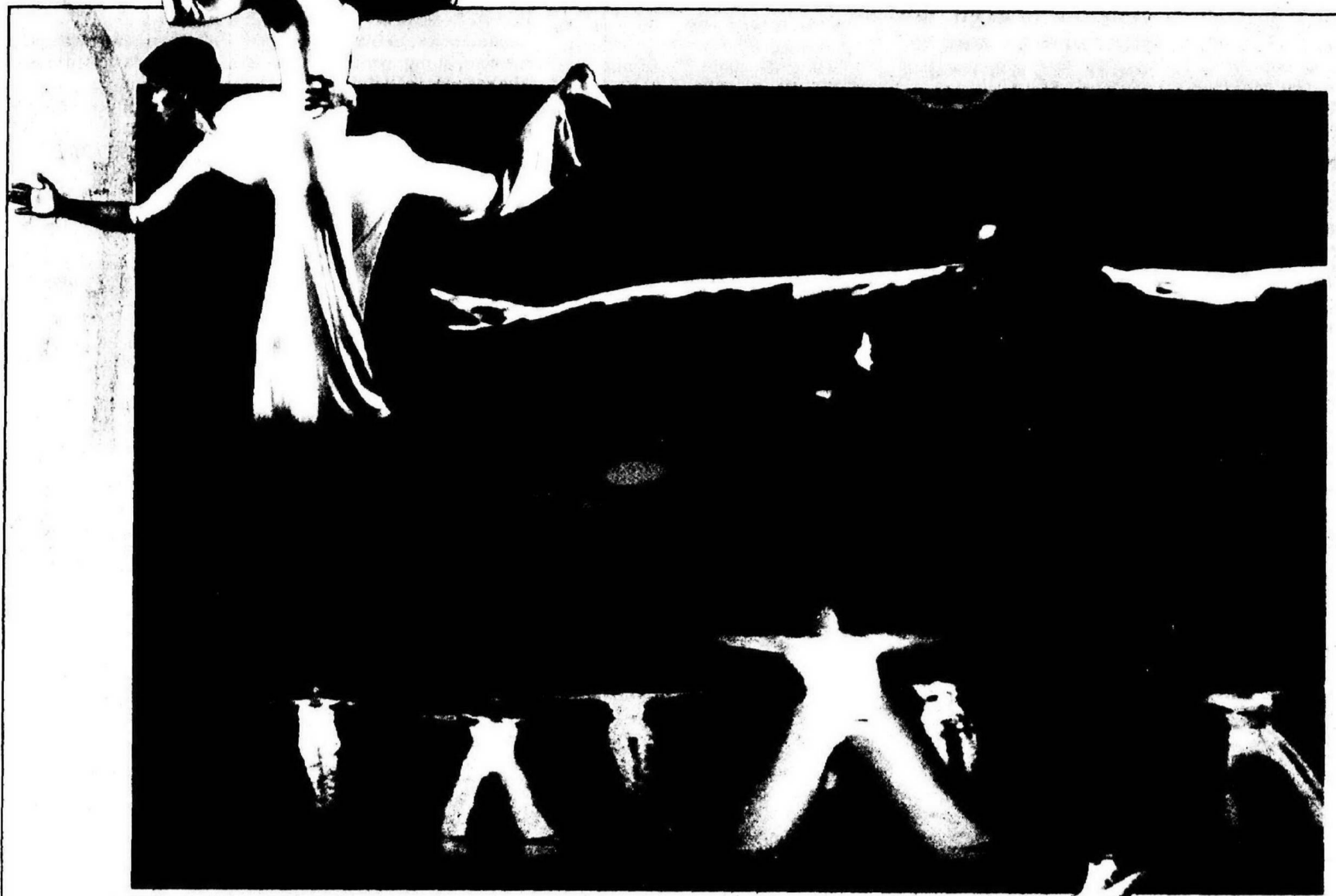


Over 120 artists, including Katherine Wickersham, will gather 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Northville for "Art in the Sun." The juried fine art show also offers live entertainment. For more information, call (248) 349-7640.

HOT TICKET



More than 600 vehicles from 1933 to 1973 will be showcased at Greenfield Village in Dearborn 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, June 17-18 during Motor Muster. Parades and other special events are scheduled throughout the weekend. Call (313) 271-1620 for more information.



New media: The Peter Sparling Dance Company presents a trio of dances including the multi-media performance spectacle "The Ariel Web."

VIRTUAL DANCERS



Sparling Company ventures into new arena

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

Through all the years of dancing with Martha Graham's company, Peter Sparling partnered with dozens of lithe and lovely females. Technology changes that when Sparling steps onto the stage of the Power Center Friday, June 30.

In an adventure in new media, Sparling whirls across the boards in a duet with cameraman Jonathan Tyman. *The Ariel Web* is one of a trio of dances the Peter Sparling Dance Company will perform during the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, which opens Friday, June 16.

A collaboration with Sparling's colleagues at the University of Michigan, the performance spectacle layers poetry, music and dance in a celebration and exploration of arts and technology. Sparling, Richard Tillinghast, Jim Cogswell, Andrew Mead and Fred Bookstein, assisted by the technical wizardry of Tom Bray, first produced the work in March at Rackham Auditorium.

"You've got to see it to believe it," said Sparling who danced with Martha Graham from 1973 to 1980 before founding his own company in New York in the early 80s. "It pushes the boundaries. Each time we do it, the meanings shift between the text, visual and movement. It's like a series of overlaid metaphors that take on meaning as they align themselves."

Sparling, who spent his teen years in Plymouth, choreographed the work on two separate stages. As Sparling takes the angular movements across the Power Center stage, his company will dance at the Media Union across campus. The virtual dancers' video projected sequences will appear all together on the Power Center stage.

"It's going to be fun to do and tricky," said Tim Smola, a Canton resident and one of the company members dancing in the remote location. "There will be 20-foot video monitors allowing

Adventures in New Media

What: The Peter Sparling Dance Company presents a trio of modern dances during the Ann Arbor Summer Festival.

When: 8 p.m. Friday, June 30. An informal performance preview begins at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby.

Where: Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor.

Tickets: \$26-\$20, \$14; call (734) 764-2538.

See Ann Arbor Summer Festival schedule inside.

all of us to appear simultaneously on stage. A van will be waiting to speed us to the Power Center to complete the dance."

World premiere

The second work on the program, *Possible Dances*, returns to reality with a vignette of recollections written by Sparling. Set to a score by New York composer Paul Epstein who uses electronic music and Sparling's recorded voice to create a soundscape, the six poems run the gamut of emotions from mourning the loss of a friend to the wonder of being alive. In the choreographer's own words, it "explores relationship of movement imagery with text imagery, how words signal images in our mind and how movement imagery can create words."

"It's very surreal," said Smola. "It

Please see **DANCERS**, E2

COMMUNITY THEATER

Vengeful ghost haunts audiences at Trinity House Theatre

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

P.W. Henry warns theatergoers to step sprightly to their cars after seeing *The Woman in Black*. The ghost in the Parlour Theatre production could be lurking in the graveyard behind Trinity House Theatre in Livonia.

"She's not a friendly ghost," said Henry, a Westland resident who plays one of the two roles in this British story. "The graveyard out back adds to the eeriness and mystery and they'll probably want to do a double take."

A play within a play, *The Woman in Black* is a thriller about a man (Henry) haunted by

a vengeful ghost. Fearing he's going mad, the character turns to an actor for help. Arthur Kipps believes if he can just get his story told, the curse will be reversed.

"He wants to exorcise this vision," said Henry. "We put on this play where I'm doing the part of five or six characters, most with British accents and one with a Scottish accent. It's a challenge to remember which character is next and which

tone I'm using."



British thriller: P.W. Henry (left) and Brian Catton try to rid themselves of a vengeful ghost in "The Woman in Black."

"Our theater group usually does comedy but we were fascinated with it," said Ed Meade, who founded Parlour

Theatre Productions with his wife Jeannine. The couple lived for many years in Livonia, Plymouth and Farmington Hills before moving to Northville. "We saw it in London three times. It's a good story. It's not entirely gothic. It takes place in post-Victorian times with horses and buggies running alongside automobiles in the streets. The sound effects create the mood. As the story evolves it becomes an integral part."

"Her movements really are quite terrifying especially when they're seen through all the fog coming up from the ground," said Brian Catton who plays

Mystery ghost
Jeannine will reveal little about the ghost she plays. Dressed in a floor-length black cape, her actions tell the story.

"I have no lines so it's pretty easy," said Jeannine.

But as everyone knows, actions speak louder than words.

"Her movements really are quite terrifying especially when they're seen through all the fog coming up from the ground," said Brian Catton who plays

Please see **GHOST**, E2

Ghost from page E1

The Actor. Catton's experience in the film *Vampire's Kiss* was good training for *The Woman in Black*. So were the years he spent off Broadway in plays such as *Fool for Love*, *Out of the Fry*, *Pan and Song for Singapore*. "It's like we're out in the moors."

Traveling troupe

The Woman in Black is one of six shows that Parlour rotates at dinner theaters, retirement centers, and bus tours which stop at hotels in resorts such as Frankenmuth.

"We're really on the road a lot," said Meade, who taught voice and theater at public and parochial schools in Dearborn Heights and Dearborn until retiring nine years ago. "We pack up all of the scenery, costumes and props. It's a little bit of work but it's fun."

"We take theater to people who

'We take theater to people who might not otherwise be able to see it. It's a traveling troupe. That's why Ed called it Parlour Theatre. We bring it to your parlor.'

Jeannine Meade
Actress

might not otherwise be able to see it," added Jeannine. "It's a traveling troupe. That's why Ed called it Parlour Theatre. We bring it to your parlor."

If you miss *The Woman in Black* at Trinity House Theatre, they'll play it again Sunday, July 23, at The Ark in Ann Arbor, call (734) 763-TKTS.

Dancers from page E1

takes you to another place. The composer did a neat job. That's what makes the dance really exciting. They're very human, just real people. We're asked to be real people in real life not fairies. It's about human experience. The only exception is in the piece about bees on a country road where I dance as the windshield wipers."

Whitley Setrakian concludes

the program with choreography inspired by the real life drama of Polish sculptor Magdalena Abakanowicz. Setrakian created the compelling work after seeing Abakanowicz's installation at the University of Michigan Museum of Art where she is public relations director. *This Flock* was originally performed as part of a program Setrakian coordinated to bring new insight to Abakanowicz's installation at the

Ann Arbor museum in March 1999. Set to a score by English composer Geoff Smith, the work recalls a scarring memory in the sculptor's childhood. During World War II, Nazi's burst into the Abakanowicz home on the outskirts of Warsaw. Their guns blazing they shot off the arm of her mother. Setrakian, who's teaching dance this summer at Michigan State University, never forgot the story after viewing the

installation. She revived the work earlier this year on the East Lansing campus of Michigan State.

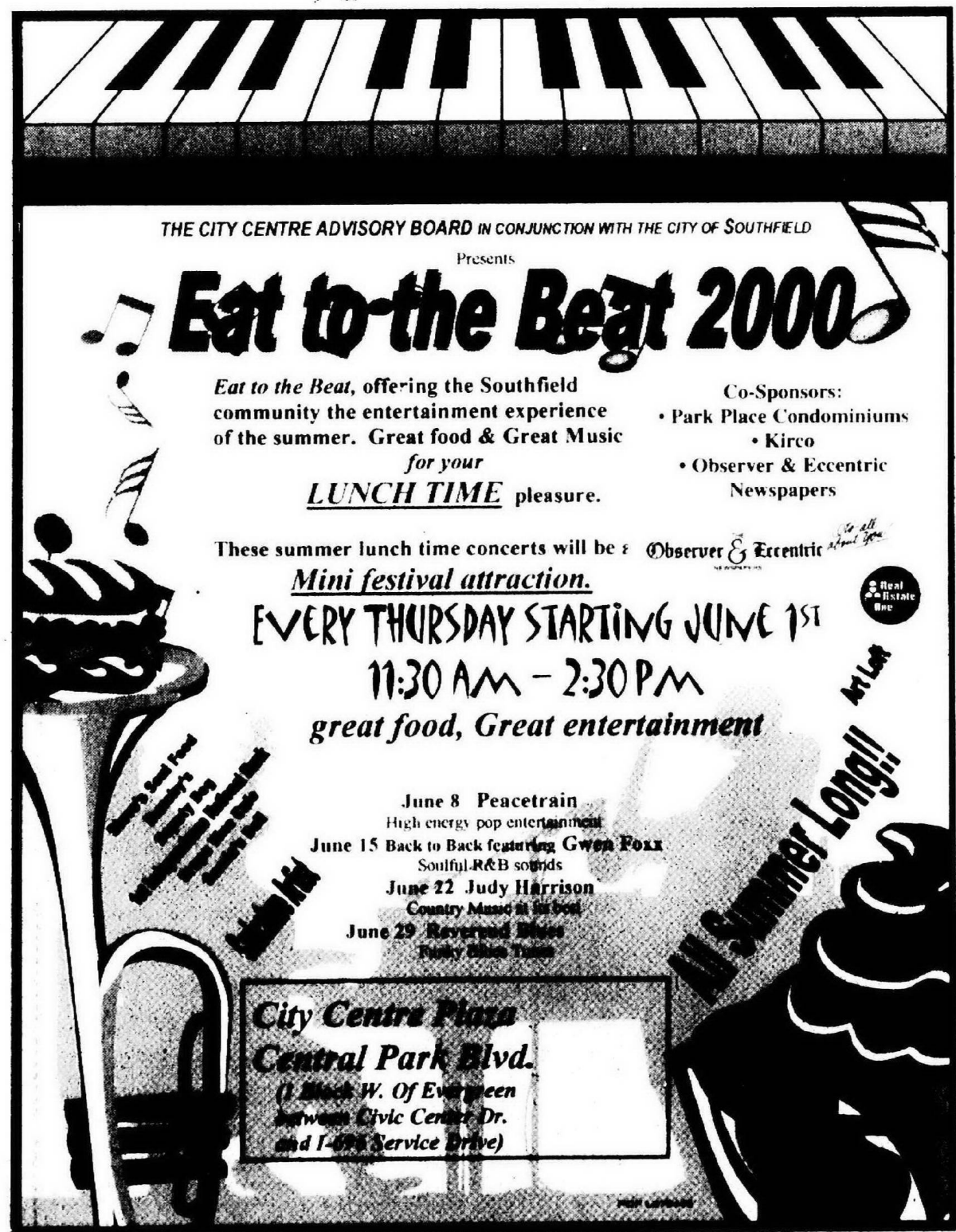
"I loved her piece very much," said Setrakian, a dance instructor at the Milligan School of Ballet in Dearborn Heights. "It was very compelling. It has enormous power with 30 some standing figures without heads. It speaks to individuality and conformity."

ANN ARBOR SUMMER FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

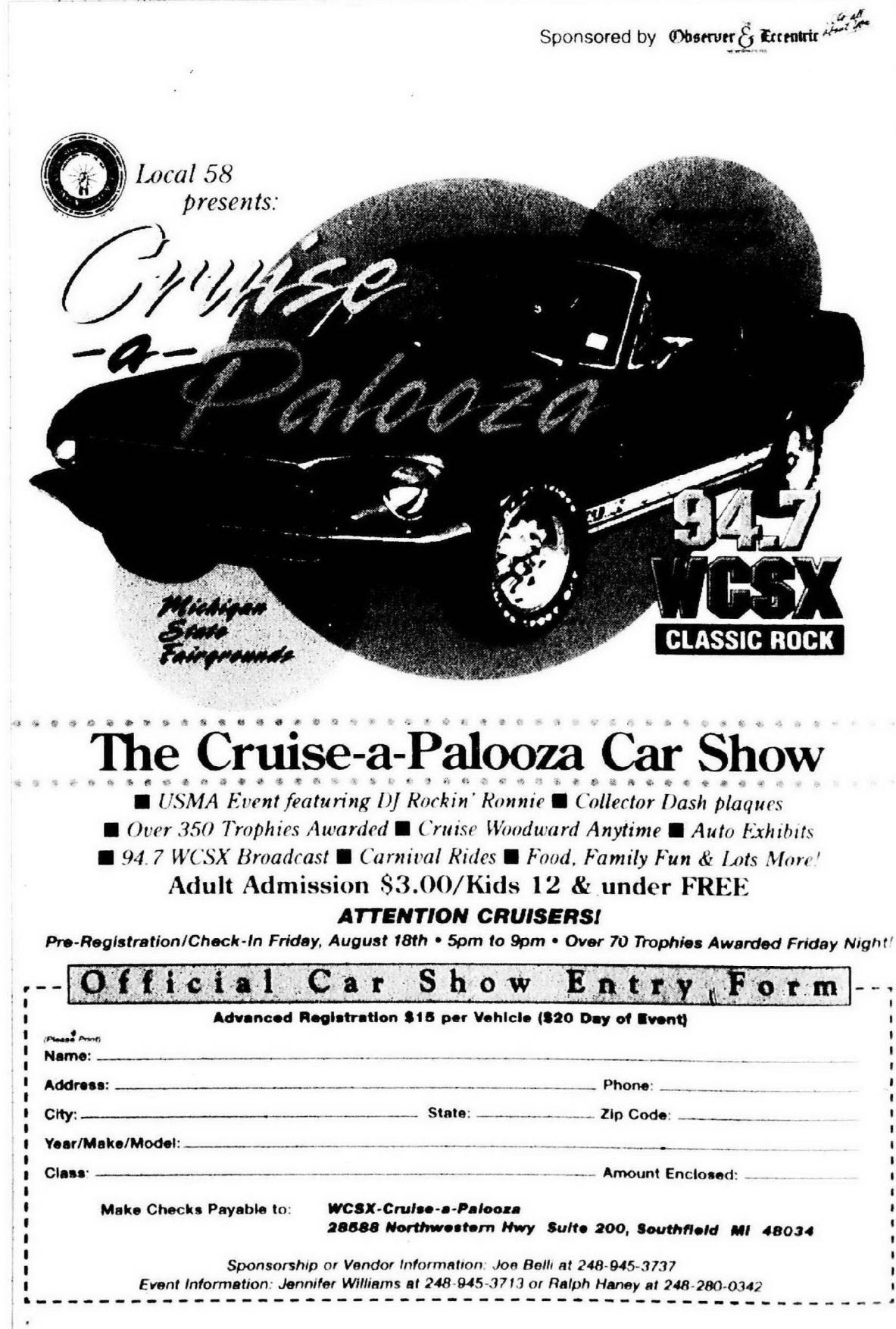
- Saturday, June 24 - 8 p.m. Jazz Tap Ensemble
- Sunday, June 25 - 8 p.m. Trinity Academy Irish Dancers
- Tuesday, June 27 - 8 p.m. Kate Clinton in *Y2K8 comedy*
- Wednesday, June 28 - 8 p.m. The Reduced Shakespeare Company in *The Complete Millennium Musical*
- Thursday, June 29 - 8 p.m. Rockapella
- Friday, June 30 - 8 p.m. Peter Sparling Dance Company
- Saturday, July 1 - 8 p.m. The Ahn Trio
- Tuesday, July 4 - 8 p.m. The Capitol Steps
- Wednesday, July 5 - 8 p.m. Jose Feliciano in Concert
- Thursday, July 6 - 8 p.m. Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir and The Paris Children's Choir
- Friday, July 7 - 8 p.m. Peter Schickel Meets P.D.Q. Bach with The Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra
- Saturday, July 8 - 8 p.m. Anthony Zerbe & Roscoe Lee Browne in *Behind the Broken Words*
- Top of the Park**
- Friday, June 16 - 7-8:30 p.m. Folkin' in A-Squared - Ann Arbor-based folk artists Chris Buhalis, Lisa Hunter, Kevin Meisel, Jim Roll, Jo Serrapere and Rollie Tussing III; 8:45 p.m. Cadillac Cowboys - country, rock
- Saturday, June 17 - 7-8:30 p.m. RFD Boys - Ann Arbor Bluegrass Favorites; 9-11 p.m. The Ambassadors - Classic 1940s big-band/swing
- Sunday, June 18 - 7-7:45 p.m. Binn Na Mara - Traditional Irish jigs, reels, and polkas; 7:45 - 9:45 p.m. Al Hill & The Love Butlers; 10 p.m. movie: *Toy Story 2*
- Monday, June 19 - 7-7:45 p.m. Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts Jazz Combos; 8-10 p.m. Bird of Paradise Orchestra; 10 p.m. movie: *Little Shop of Horrors*
- Tuesday, June 20 - 7-7:45 p.m. Brain Mute; 8-10 p.m. Corndaddy; 10 p.m. movie: *Beetlejuice*
- Wednesday, June 21 - 7-7:45 p.m. Saline Fiddlers' Philharmonic; 8-10 p.m. The Raisin Pickers; 10 p.m. movie: *The Marx Brothers in A Night at the Opera*
- Thursday, June 22, Elvis Night! - 7-7:45 p.m. Musical Moments A Cappella Quartet; 8-10 p.m. Starlight Drifters; 10 p.m. movie: *Jailhouse Rock*
- Friday, June 23 - 7-8:30 p.m. "Tap" of the Park - Tap Dance Extravaganza; 8:45-11 p.m. Los Gatos
- Saturday, June 24 - 7-8:30 p.m. Rollie Tussing III- Delta Blues Slide Guitar; 9-11 p.m. Madcat & Kane
- Sunday, June 25 - 7-7:45 p.m. The Trinkets with Whit Hill, K.C. Groves, and Sue Gillis; 8-9:30 North- Acoustic Folk Rock; 10 p.m. movie: *Superman*
- Monday, June 26 - 7-30-10 p.m. Geno Delafosse & French Rockin' Boogie- Louisiana Zydeco; 10 p.m. movie: *The Nutty Professor*
- Tuesday, June 27 - 7-9:30 p.m. Mid Life Crisis Blues Band - Rockin' blues, and debut CD release party; 10 p.m. movie: *Selena*
- Wednesday, June 28 - 7-9:30 p.m. Witch Doctors; 10 p.m. movie: *A League of Their Own*
- Thursday, June 29 - 7-7:45 p.m. Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts Jazz Combos; 8-9:45 p.m. Brian Lillie and the Squirrel Mountain Orchestra; 10 p.m. movie: *The Bride of Frankenstein*
- Friday, June 30 - 7-8:30 p.m. Coup de Grass - Straight Ahead Bluegrass; 9-11 p.m. Wild Sheep Riders (aka Steve Newhouse & The Nuke-A-Billies)
- Saturday, July 1 - 7-8:30 p.m. Repercussions - percussion ensemble; 8:45-11 p.m. The Couriers - big-band
- Sunday, July 2 - 7-7:45 p.m. Old #7 - Folk from America and British Isles; 8-9:45 p.m. Cave Catt Sammy; 10 p.m. movie: *Stuart Little*
- Monday, July 3 - 7-7:45 p.m. Ann Arbor School for the Performance Arts Jazz Combos; 8-9:45 p.m. Charged Particles; 10 p.m. movie: *The Addams Family*
- Tuesday, July 4 - 7-30-9:45 p.m. The Red Elvices; 10 p.m. movie *Little Mermaid*
- Wednesday, July 5 - 7-9:45 p.m. Jim Cummings Band; 10 p.m. movie: *October Sky*
- Thursday, July 6 Teen Night - 7-9:45 p.m. Showcase of Teen Bands from Ann Arbor; 10 p.m. movie: *3-D! It Came From Outer Space*
- Friday, July 7 - 7-7:45 p.m. The Original Brothers and Sisters of Love; 8-9:45 p.m. Cigar Store Indians; 10 p.m. movie: *Happy Gilmore*
- Saturday, July 8 - 7-8:30 p.m. Blue Dahlia; 8:45-11 p.m. Nite Flight - calypso, reggae
- Sunday, July 9 - 7-9:30 p.m. George Bedard & the Kingpins - Rock-A-Billy Hepeats; 10 p.m. movie: *Galaxy Quest*



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THE CITY CENTRE ADVISORY BOARD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CITY OF SOUTHFIELD
Presents
Eat to the Beat 2000
Eat to the Beat, offering the Southfield community the entertainment experience of the summer. Great food & Great Music for your LUNCH TIME pleasure.
Co-Sponsors: Park Place Condominiums, Kirco, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
These summer lunch time concerts will be a Mini festival attraction. EVERY THURSDAY STARTING JUNE 15 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM great food, Great entertainment
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June 15 Back to Back featuring Gwen Foxx Soulful R&B sounds
June 22 Judy Harrison Country Music in the Soul
June 29 Reverend Blue Funky Blues Tunes
City Centre Plaza Central Park Blvd. (1 block W. Of Evergreen between Civic Center Dr. and I-496 Service Drive)



Local 58 presents:
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Michigan State Fairgrounds
94.7 WCSX CLASSIC ROCK
Sponsored by Observer & Eccentric
The Cruise-a-Palooza Car Show
USMA Event featuring DJ Rockin' Ronnie Collector Dash plaques
Over 350 Trophies Awarded Cruise Woodward Anytime Auto Exhibits
94.7 WCSX Broadcast Carnival Rides Food, Family Fun & Lots More!
Adult Admission \$3.00/Kids 12 & under FREE
ATTENTION CRUISERS!
Pre-Registration/Check-In Friday, August 18th • 5pm to 9pm • Over 70 Trophies Awarded Friday Night!
Official Car Show Entry Form
Advanced Registration \$15 per Vehicle (\$20 Day of Event)
Name: _____ Phone: _____
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Year/Make/Model: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____
Class: _____
Make Checks Payable to: WCSX-Cruise-a-Palooza 28588 Northwestern Hwy Suite 200, Southfield MI 48034
Sponsorship or Vendor Information: Jon Bell at 248-945-3737
Event Information: Jennifer Williams at 248-945-3713 or Ralph Haney at 248-280-0342

SPECIAL EVENTS

Enjoy 'Art in the Sun'

Over 120 artists from Michigan and nearby states will be participating in Art in the Sun, Saturday-Sunday, June 17-18, in downtown Northville.

Now in its 12th year, this fair has become a Father's Day tradition. During the weekend, the streets of Northville will be closed to traffic but open to a brilliant display of fine art.

Stores and restaurants will be open, and there will be entertainment in the vintage bandshell.

Sponsored by the Northville Chamber of Commerce, the juried fine art show will feature a number of local artists, including Becky Buxton of Farmington Hills; Tom LeGault of Plymouth; Russell Cobane of Clarkston; Debra Metler and Kathy Boltz of West Bloomfield; Susanne Lawrence of Waterford; Gail Hiller of Beverly Hills, and Susan Fowler of Bloomfield Hills.

Fair hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 17-18. Here's the entertainment schedule:

Saturday-Sunday - 12:30-2 p.m. Straw Hat Band; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Russell Dannelon (Main & Center); 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Roy Scoutz (Center & Dunlap).

For more information, contact the Northville Chamber of Commerce (248) 349-7640 or

www.northville.org

Canton Liberty Fest Fine Arts and Fine Craft Show

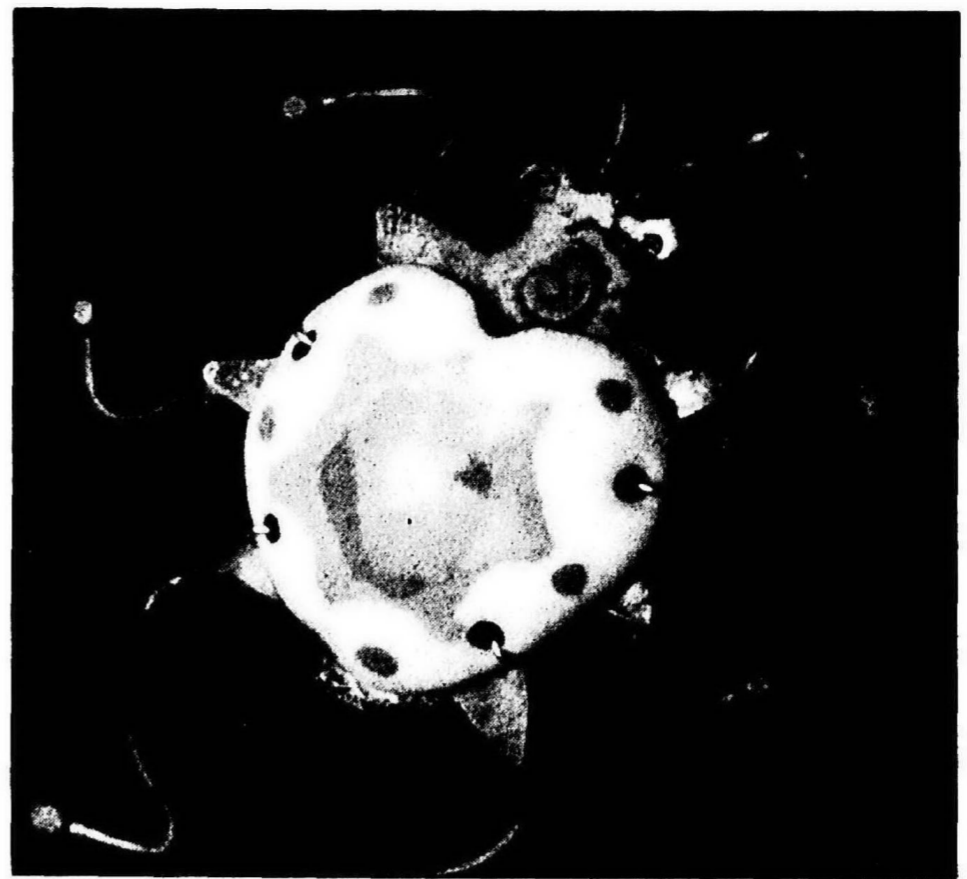
Local artists will showcase their works 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, June 24 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 25 during Canton Liberty Fest Fine Arts and Fine Craft Show at Heritage Park, Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill in Canton.

This juried show features over 100 artists in a variety of categories including painting, prints, ceramics and jewelry. Call (734) 453-3710 for information.

Ann Arbor Art Fair

The Ann Arbor Art Fair - Wednesday, July 19 through Saturday, July 22. The Ann Arbor Art Fairs combine the talents of the artists with a host of merchant displays lining the streets, food galore, art demonstrations, an array of music, street performances, children's activity centers, and much more!

Fair hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday. For information, please call the Ann Arbor Area Convention and Visitors Bureau at 800-888-9487 or visit their website at www.annarbor.org.



Featured artist: Marjorie Rawson Johnson of Chelsea will be showing her work at Art in the Sun in downtown Northville.

Chamber Music Festival features William Bolcom

The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival continues this week with a program that features the music of Bach, Chopin and Brahms and works by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer-in-residence, William Bolcom.



William Bolcom

Concerts are being presented at Kirk in the Hills, St. Hugo's, and Detroit Country Day in Oakland County, Kerrytown Concert House in Ann

Arbor, and the Detroit Institute of Arts. For information, call (248) 362-6171.

Concert Schedule

8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, June 15-16 - Bolcom's Sonata No. 2 for violin and piano, Bach's Sonata No. 2 for solo violin in A minor, Bolcom's Donald Hall Songs, Brahms' Trio in C minor for violin, cello and piano, St. Hugo's Chapel, Opdyke Road and Hickory Grove.

8 p.m. Friday, June 16 - Mozart's Sonata in B-flat Major for violin and piano, Webern's 5 Movements for String Quartet, Stravinsky's 3 Pieces for String Quartet, Brahms' Trio in C Major for violin, cello and piano.

Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor.

8 p.m. Saturday, June 17 - Conversation with William Bolcom, performance by the Gotham String Quartet, Schumann's Variations for 2 pianos, 2 cellos and horn, Webern's 5 Movements for String Quartet, Stravinsky's 3 pieces for String Quartet, Detroit Country Day School, 13 Mile and Lahser Road.

11:30 a.m. Sunday, June 18 - Brunch with Bach, Detroit Institute of Arts.

3 & 4:30 p.m. Sunday, June 18 - Plag's Aesop's Fables, Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf, Detroit Zoo.

8 p.m. Tuesday & Wednesday, June 20 & 21 - Persichetti's Serenade No. 6 for viola, cello and trombone, Schubert's song cycle for voice and piano from "Winterreise," Dvorak's Trio in F minor for violin, cello and piano, Temple Beth El at Telegraph and 14 Mile Road.

8 p.m. Thursday, June 22 - Barber's Dover Beach for baritone and string quartet, Cop-

land's Sextet for clarinet, piano and strings, Schubert's Trio in B-flat Major for violin, cello and piano Kirk in the Hills Refectory.

8 p.m. Friday, June 23 - Mozart's Piano Trio in B-flat Major for violin, piano and cello, Saint-Saens' Sonata No. 1 in D minor for violin and piano, Schumann's Quintet in E-flat Major

for piano and strings Kirk in the Hills Refectory.

7 p.m. Sunday, June 24 - Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 in F Major, Poulenc's Le bal masque for baritone and chamber ensemble, Gershwin's An American in Paris, Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf for narrator and orchestra, Temple Beth El Sanctuary.

Success, part inspiration, luck

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

Why did RCA recording artist Dave Matthews, along with his business manager, tour manager, and a band associate, recently launch an independent label? The idea was fueled by Matthews' desire to get more exposure for some of his favorite artists.

The first signing by the new label, according to Our (ATO) Records, was Welsh-raised singer David Gray, and an enhanced CD version of Gray's most recent album, *White Ladder*, released in March.

"David Gray is such a perfect

example of someone who is so phenomenal and beautiful - but someone who has been more or less overlooked in the U.S.," Matthews told Billboard magazine.

The consolidation of major labels also is enough of a concern to Matthews to make "indies" necessary. "There are a lot of interesting artists who won't get a chance to get heard because of the often-blindness of an industry that ignores something that's maybe not in fashion or doesn't seem viable."

Many of the performers who have appeared over the years on Detroit Public TV's BACKSTAGE PASS have also found it difficult to obtain the exposure that they have earned. Mergers by media companies tend to work to the advantage of established artists or those fortunate, but few emerging artists that have a look, sound, or style that adapts well to the broadest audience and marketing strategies.

BACKSTAGE PASS was conceived as a showcase for perfor-

mance and visual artists whose work is worthy of a broader audience. That's why there's a place for a distinctive folk-rock talent like David Gray, who performs in the studio on an edition that airs 7:30 p.m. Sunday, June 18.

There's also room for performers who are highlighting two of the season's most noteworthy arts events, the Ann Arbor Summer Festival and the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival. To put you in the mood to string and dance, the June 18 program previews the festivals and offers performance by the Artemis Quartet and The Peter Sparring Dance Company.

Few of us have the clout that Dave Matthews has to advance the music or art that we consider deserving of more popular appeal.

But when we do decide to stray from a music collection that's growing tired, or any art form we enjoyed but discovered only because it was readily available, we're having much more impact than we even imagined.

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