

Westland Observer



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Putting You In Touch With Your World™

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THE WEEK AHEAD

CLOSINGS

Court: The 18th Judicial District Court in Westland will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Thursday, Jan. 1. The court will be open for business at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 2. The court will close at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 30. There will be no work program Sunday, Dec. 28, Saturday, Jan. 3, and Sunday, Jan. 4.

Library: The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Thursday, Jan. 1.

City offices: City offices will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Thursday, Jan. 1.

Trash: Trash collection will be delayed one day, with Thursday's collection Friday and Friday's collection on Saturday.

MONDAY

Fun stuff: Children ages 4 to 10 are invited to make a collective craft project to keep in the Children's Services area of the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, 6123 Central City Parkway. The program will be at 2 p.m. Monday in the Children's Activity Room. No registration is required.

ONGOING

On stage: The Marquis Theatre presents "Aladdin" 2:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at the theater, 135 E. Main St., Northville. Ticket price is \$6.50. For information, call (248) 349-8110.

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Library usage on the upswing



Westland's public library has surpassed the busy Livonia Public Library in materials circulated. The library in Westland doubled its circulation from November 1996 to November 1997.

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland has taken the top spot in circulation among the 56-member library network, a lending organization of libraries connected by online capabilities. The Library Network provides patrons with the ability to borrow books from any of the member

libraries, and have them delivered to the Westland library.

"Figures for October and November show we have the highest circulation of any of the consortium libraries," said Sandra Wilson, library director. "It's hard to believe that we started with no library, and now we're at the top in circulation. It's really an accomplishment."

According to November figures, the Westland library posted a circulation 40,797. That tops the perennial leader, the Livonia Public Library, which showed a circulation of 39,049. The figure also tops a busy Plymouth District Library, which is not part of The Library Network, but reported circulation of 39,693.

Wilson's next goal is to surpass the Canton Public Library, which is also not an online member of the consortium, but reported a circulation of 57,610.

Wilson also noted the Westland library doubled its circulation from November 1996 to November 1997.

Part of that is due to patrons from other Library Network communities who have privileges at the Westland library.

"I drive to Westland because it has a better library," said Wendy Roberts, 26, of Wayne. "My daughter, who is 4, likes to play the CD-ROM games while I look at the talking books, of which there is a bigger selection here."

Improving daily

Wilson, a librarian for 27 years, is proud of the makeup of the library as it continues to improve services.

"We currently have 55,000 volumes,"

Please see LIBRARY, A2

Let it snow



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

What a sight: Brittaney Gardner, 9, watches with her family as the second truck load of snow is dumped on her front lawn. With her are her brother, Mike, 7, her mom, Lisa Haselhuhn, and her dad, Carl Haselhuhn.

Dream of white yule a reality

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

At least one Westland family didn't care if it snowed for Christmas.

The Gardner family on Caribou Street had plenty as two pickups loaded with snow delivered.

Brittaney Gardner, 9, was the winner of the city's Guaranteed White Christmas contest with the top prize

snow, or ice shavings, from the Westland Sports Arena.

When the trucks rolled up with the snow, "you would have thought she'd just won a million dollars," said Lisa Gardner of her daughter. "She feels on top of the world."

The Gardners spent about three hours with neighborhood children playing in the snow, building a snow

fort in front of the house.

To win the contest, children were invited to draw a picture of what their house looked like in the winter.

"I drew a picture of our house with snow on it," said Brittaney. "I used cottonballs and glitter. I had it all in my head and drew it."

Brittaney also won a doll and a Little Mermaid game for her winning entry.

Event to honor King

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The City of Westland will hold its first-ever citywide observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday on Monday, Jan. 19.

The event will commence with a noon march, beginning in the parking lot of Westland City Hall. The procession will head northbound along Central City Parkway to the Westland library.

The library portion of the event is expected to begin about 12:30 p.m., and will be hosted by John Franklin, president of the Southeast Homeowners Association.

"I'm really enthused about this program," said Franklin. "It's a good one for our first time, and we hope to improve upon it each year."

The program will include musical selections from the Glenn Singers of John Glenn High School, as well as skits performed by students from Adams Middle School.

'I'm really enthused about this program. It's a good one for our first time, and we hope to improve upon it each year.'

John Franklin

New York City native Gary Gibbs, who has performed throughout the world, will do dramatic recitations of Dr. King's speeches.

The St. James Methodist Church choir of Westland will perform, as will the Gratitude Steel Band.

Franklin says there are other performances being lined up as the final program takes shape.

"It's been a long time coming."

Please see KING, A3

Drinking and driving no way to welcome 1998

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

The message is clear - if you drink, don't drive. Police officials have stepped up enforcement of drunken driving laws in their efforts to help insure a safe-driving holiday season.

However, that could be a tough task. According to a study conducted by EPIC/MRI of Lansing, nearly 250,000 Michigan drivers will get behind the wheel while legally impaired during the holiday season. The survey also suggests that nearly 11,000 drivers under the legal drinking age of 21 will get behind the wheel during the holidays after consuming some alcohol.

"We have zero tolerance, particularly around the Christmas and New Year's holidays," said Gary Goss, Farmington's director of Public Safety. "If you're on the road drunk and get caught, you're coming with us. We'll try to help if you call us, but if you get behind the wheel ..."

The message is the same from John Santomauro, director of Public Safety for Canton Township.

"We have zero tolerance if you are caught drinking," said Santomauro. "You will be arrested and ticketed for drunk driving. We believe it's a very serious offense and treat it that way. We feel the public has been educated and the tone has been set."

While law enforcement officials are stern, most are quick to point out it's for the public's well-being, even those who drink.

"This is the worst time of year to have a tragedy," said Goss. "The message is to drink responsibly. Turn the keys over to somebody else."

Spreading the word

"We have had great success in spreading the word about drinking and driving," said Michele Compton, chapter administrator for Mothers Against Drunk Driving in Oakland County. "People are starting to get the idea, but there is still a segment of the population that isn't getting it ... and it's very staggering and horrifying."

"Last year there were 555 alcohol-related traffic deaths in Michigan," said Carol Nalepka, who runs the Wayne County office of MADD. "The figures are getting lower, but they're still too high. A lot of the problems stem from repeat offenders, and they refuse to stop doing it."

In Wayne County, there were 68 alcohol-related deaths last year, while Oakland County recorded 29 fatalities involving drunk drivers.

Compton reveals "the age group 25-35 is the biggest percentage of daily drinking and driving cases. We're trying to reach young kids before they reach the problem age. That's where the hope is."

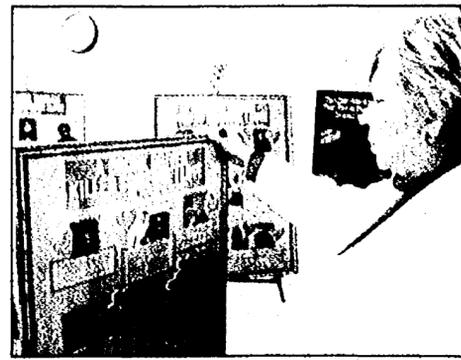
Unfortunately, children are many times the victims of drunken drivers.

"I find it frustrating, and I get annoyed, that drinking has to be a part of holiday parties," said Midge Klenke of Farmington Hills.

Klenke's frustrations come not only because she is a non-drinker, but the fact that she lost her 13-year-old son, David, as the result of a drunk driver.

David, and his younger brother, Stephen, were riding bicycles home from school in September 1995 when he was struck by a hit-and-run drunk driver at 10 Mile and Middlebelt.

"It's been very difficult, especially since we drive



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Remembering: Carol Nalepka of Westland, a MADD staffer, views one of the posters showing local individuals who have died at the hands of a drunken driver.

through that intersection on a daily basis," said Klenke. "And, I worry about the long-range effect on Stephen, who was left there with his brother's body."

Christopher Smith Jr. eventually pleaded no contest to the charges against him, and was sentenced as a habitual criminal to six-30 years in prison.

"I think the police are doing a good job, but I'm not sure of the justice system," said Klenke, who is disap-

Please see DRINKING, A2

Project Liferide strives to get revelers home safely

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Mothers Against Drunk Driving is hoping its annual Project Liferide will help produce a third consecutive year of no drunken driving fatalities in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties New Year's Eve.

For the 13th year, MADD is the main force behind Project Liferide, which provides cab rides for anyone too impaired to drive after ringing in the new year.

Hosts of private parties will be able to call the lifeline for guests who have had

too much to drink. Restaurant, lodging and bar establishments in the tri-county area will be able to arrange a free ride home for their customers who may be too intoxicated to safely drive.

This year, MADD has a toll-free number for Liferide, 1-888-398-6233 (MADD). Operators will be taking calls for free cab rides from 9 p.m. New Year's Eve to 5 a.m. New Year's Day. Last year, there were 549 requests for rides, with 1,144 people transported. Sponsors picked up the tab, which was about \$7,000.

The number of calls is almost double

what it was 10 years ago. As a result, MADD is encouraging drinkers to plan for rides home, or have a designated driver.

"We would rather have people plan ahead to get rides home if they know they'll be drinking," said Michele Compton, chapter administrator for MADD in Oakland County. "However, if they haven't, we certainly would encourage them to call us instead of getting behind the wheel."

"I can't imagine not being able to find someone to drive if you've been drinking," said Carol Nalepka of Westland,

who runs the Wayne County chapter of MADD. "However, Project Liferide gives you a viable alternative, so there is no reason to be on the road after drinking."

Tom Peterson, the owner of Northwest Transport in Livonia, has been with Project Liferide since day one.

"I work New Year's Eve myself to make certain everything is safe," said Peterson. "Our job is to make sure everyone gets home. Without the rides, people will have a tendency to try and drive their own cars when drinking."

ABC Cab in Livonia, which also cov-

ers Farmington Hills, has been part of Project Liferide for 10 years.

"I think the program is great," said Val Duarard, office manager. "We get about 35 MADD calls during that evening."

Both cab operators say they don't have many problems with those who have had too much to drink.

"We're kind of used to drunks and how to handle them," said Duarard. "However, we've had no problems during all these years."

Drinking from page A1

pointed in the sentence. "We've got to have stiff sentences for first time drunk driving offenders before they kill somebody. It should be a stiff penalty so it hurts, so they understand."

The criminal justice system appears to know it has been commanded by the public to be tough on drunken drivers.

Public pressure

"There has been a lot of public attention to drunk driving, so the courts are giving it more serious attention," said Judge Richard Hammer of 21st District Court in Garden City. "The courts have to take a firm stand, be tough minded."

"I believe we are getting tougher with the criminal sector," said Hammer. "We aren't accepting excuses anymore."

Traci Colangelo of Redford Township doesn't have to think long to remind her not to drink and drive.

"I drink socially, but I won't drive if I've had too much," said Colangelo. "My sister's fiancée was killed by a drunk driver almost three years ago. I feel strongly about drunk drivers on the road because of her loss."

"My husband and I own a business, and we take our employees out for the holidays. However, we set limits on drinking so we and the restaurant don't become responsible ... and so they get home safely."

Some of the responsibility of

curbing drunken driving has to come from both homeowners who give parties, and business establishments which serve alcohol.

Hosts of holiday parties need to be aware of what their guests are consuming.

"If you are hosting a party, you need to be fully aware of what guests are drinking," said Nancy Cain, public relations manager for AAA Michigan. "Calling a cab for guests who are too impaired, or finding guests a place for the night, is the responsibility of the party host."

Cain suggests you become a friend more than just a host.

"Never force alcoholic drinks on anyone," said Cain.

Party hosts can also help by planning a proper menu.

"Serve protein-rich, starchy foods (like potatoes and sausages) which will help retard alcohol absorption," suggested Cain.

Those who are drinking aren't free from responsibility.

"Anyone who plans on drinking should make arrangements beforehand," said Cain. "That could be calling a cab, finding a place to sleep, or having a designated driver."

Of course, not every party needs alcohol to be fun and successful. In fact, for 19 years AAA Michigan has put out its "Great Pretenders Party Guide", which this year has 21 non-alcoholic drink recipes that can be served at parties. The guide is

free to anyone who stops at any AAA Michigan office.

Sharing responsibility

Ken Hall has been the general manager at Tremors in Livonia for more than seven years, and knows that drinking establishments need to shoulder some of the responsibility.

"We hold meetings with the servers and go over alcohol management," said Hall. "We're finding more people are aware of drunk driving, they are thinking about it. We are seeing more groups with designated drivers."

Hall said he does whatever it takes to make sure someone who has too much to drink gets home safely.

"First, we try to get the person a ride or cab," said Hall. "If they don't have any money, we have at times picked up the tab. My advantage here is that we have a hotel (Holiday Inn). Our last resort is to offer a room at a discount rate for them to sleep it off. Sometimes, we've even given comp (free) rooms if the person doesn't have the money to pay for it."

Nationwide, last year, there was an average of one alcohol-related fatality every 31 minutes.

And, just in case you think it can't happen to you, here's a sobering thought. Nearly three in every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Visiting the library: Mary Painter sits at the computer at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland.

Library from page A1

and we hope to soon increase that to 120,000," said Wilson. "We have 300 magazines, and more than 7,000 audiovisual releases ... including videos, music cassettes and CDs, talking books and CD-ROMs."

The latter deals with computers, a showcase at the library.

"We are currently cataloging nearly 500 CD-ROMs, which we'll be putting on the shelves soon for circulation," said Wilson. "However, sometimes it's still easier to find information in a book, than trying to search the Internet."

"Technology has taken over the library, and the nature of reference questions has changed," Wilson said. "A lot is technology related versus finding books."

Currently there are four children's computer stations and six adult computer stations at the Westland library dedicated to CD-ROM use. There are also eight computer stations that can be used to hook up to the Internet.

"Usually people go to the books first, but then if they need additional information they can look it up on CD-ROM and the Inter-

net," said Jim Wilson. Sandra's husband, who is also a technology consultant at the library. "Computers are a viable part of the library, however book circulation still outdoes anything because people still like to sit and read a book as compared to having sit at a computer station."

Jim Wilson also points to new computer stations that deal specifically with medical topics.

"There are a lot of people who come in here that have health-related questions," said Jim Wilson. "It's not infrequent the librarians will get questions about hip replacement, diabetes and others."

Finding answers

One computer set up specifically to answer medical questions has several CD-ROM discs which can, among other things, help with questions about family doctors, retrieve information on drugs, and a medical encyclopedia.

"Kids ask medical questions about animals or illnesses that playmates have," Jim Wilson said. "Middle-aged people mainly ask questions about diagnosis of their children's disease or something related to their parents. Older people are more frequently looking up information concerning their own health."

"If somebody comes in here with a question, they have four sources," said Jim Wilson. "They can look in books, the Internet, CD-ROM and our new Health-O-Vision."

Health-O-Vision is a new computer which is hooked up to the University of Michigan and

answers a number of medical questions, concerning such topics as smoking, cancer and safety in wearing bicycle helmets. It's only one of 40 state-funded computers which are part of the Michigan Interactive Health Kiosk Project.

Sandra Wilson said it cost about \$114,000 to equip the library with computers, computer equipment and software. Soon, when the new CD-ROMs are made available, you will be able to test drive them and decide if it's something you'd like to purchase or just use for a few days.

Of course, the Internet just isn't for medical-related material. And, the terminals are used almost constantly during library operations.

"I like to use the computers and get on the chat areas," said Josh Nardone, 13, who was on break from Stevenson Middle School. "It's interesting to meet people all around the world."

"Much of the time, before noon, you'll find a lot of seniors on the Internet ... looking up stocks," said Jim Wilson.

A 72-year-old retired Westland man said he uses the library's Internet computers two or three times a week to look at the stock market.

"I can find the information, almost as it happens," he said. "Then I can decide if I should buy or get out. I can come to the library and read the financial newspapers and magazines, look up more information on the Internet, and maybe make a buck or two."

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SPOTLIGHT ON Orthodontics

by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.

HEAD STARTS

Taking the orthodontist's advice to begin treatment at the appropriate time often avails young patients of easier and quicker treatment than would otherwise be possible if they were to delay. It is a good idea, therefore, to have children undergo an orthodontic assessment as part of their comprehensive dental examinations. Orthodontists prefer to see children with severe malocclusions (bad bites) or just a few primary teeth. Young patients with lesser problems, including congenitally missing teeth,



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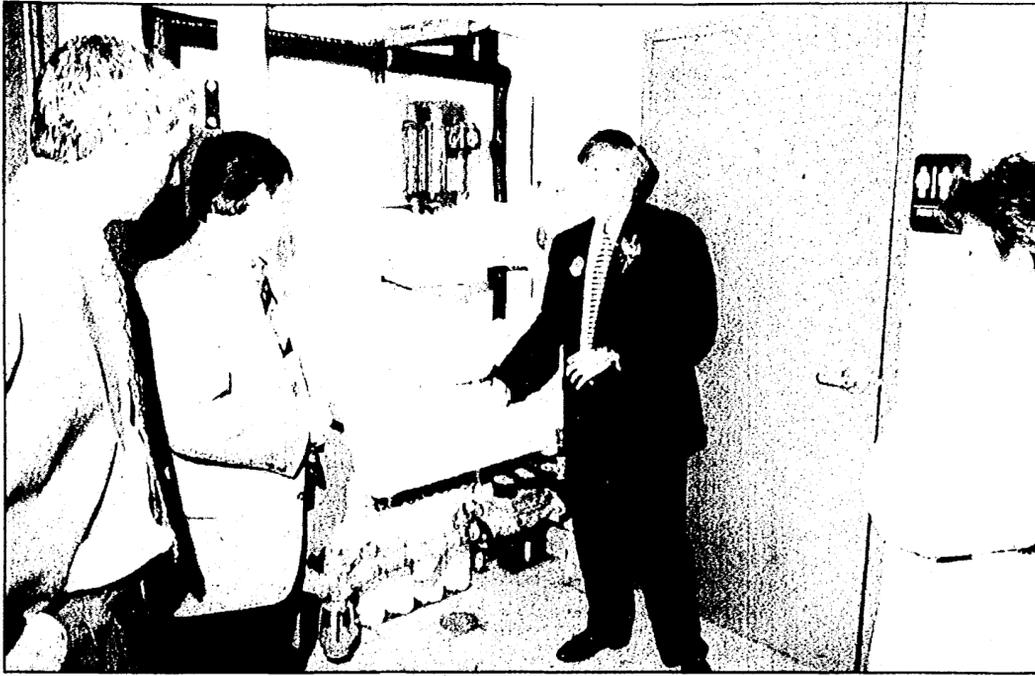
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Paying attention: Explaining the geothermal operation to McDonald's staffers is Dennis Manning of Detroit Edison. Listening are (from left) Mark Miller, Johnny Adkins and Debbie Gordon.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Parole denial pleases mother

BY LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER

Shirley Hill got an early Christmas present recently, courtesy of the state parole board.

The Westland woman received a letter notifying her that parole had been denied to Charles Roots, one of two men serving prison sentences for the 1980 murder of her son, Gregory Hill.

"He's a vicious, dangerous man and they know it," said Hill, who spoke before the parole board opposing the release of Roots.

Hill had also submitted petitions signed by nearly 6,800 people supporting no parole for Roots, who pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and armed robbery in exchange for testifying against an accomplice.

"I asked the parole board if us coming and presenting the signatures had an influence," said Hill. "The board said it definitely made a difference. They said they get a lot of petitions from groups but to get that many from concerned citizens definitely impacted their decision."

Roots, who will turn 48 next year, received a sentence of 20-50 years in prison. The parole board action means Roots will be eligible for parole again in February 2000.

"I'm happy for the family. I know it was a great concern for them," said police Chief David Kocsis, who testified at the parole board hearing. "For the next 24 months, they'll have peace of mind."

Based on state sentencing guidelines, Roots is required to serve a minimum 20 plus two years but good time credits can reduce that. He would be scheduled for release in 2003 unless a decision is made to extend his sentence.

"At some point, he'll get out and they'll have to relive it," said Kocsis.

Roots and Larry Grinage, who was convicted of first-degree murder in Gregory Hill's death, had met in prison. They indicated to police that to avoid being convicted for future crimes, they

planned to kill their robbery victim.

On the night of Nov. 11, 1980, Gregory Hill was working at the Clark gas station located at Cherry Hill and Middlebelt. The East High School junior had cooperated with Roots and Grinage, but the youth was shot execution-style in the gas station office.

Officially, Roots and Grinage were involved in three additional robbery-related homicides. Unofficially, police indicate the pair were likely to have been responsible for additional murders.

Among the reasons for denying Roots' parole were the lack of reasonable assurance that he wouldn't "become a menace to society," that he had committed a crime against a defenseless victim, and that he has an established pattern of assaultive behavior and a reckless disregard for life.

Regarding Roots' criminal history, the parole board found that his behavior was progressively more dangerous and shows the potential for more assaultive crimes.

The findings also show Roots has been involved in criminal activities since his incarceration, has a history of parole and probation failure and longstanding abuse of multiple substances.

"They had nothing positive to say. One of the parole board members went to Marquette Prison to interview him and from that evaluation they make a decision," said Hill, who plans to fight Roots' parole in 2000. "He hasn't changed his behavior in 20 years. How is it going to change in two years?"

The number of people who remember her son's murder and supported her efforts before the parole board has gratified and surprised Hill.

"It's amazing. People all say 'I remember when that happened.' I got notes from people I didn't know who went to school with Greg or had heard about it," she said. "I was thinking people would say 'It's been 17 years get over it,' but that wasn't any one's reaction."

Eatery designed to save energy

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

BUSINESS

When the new McDonald's restaurant at Ford and Hix roads opens Tuesday, and you're waiting in the drive-through lanes for your order, you probably won't notice anything different about this fast food eatery.

In fact, even if you go inside, you won't notice anything different about this diner, unless you look up.

The only way you'll find out this McDonald's is special is by reading the signs hanging from the ceiling, which tell you this restaurant is a bit special.

McDonald's and Detroit Edison have joined forces to construct an "energy friendly" McDonald's which is the first-of-its-kind in Michigan, and one of only four throughout the country.

"Consumers won't see a whole lot except for placards which describe how the building is run," said Dave Daniels, McDonald's director of operations for southeast Michigan. "We've partnered with the community and Wayne-Westland School District to do different presentations and field trips with students. And, there will be an opportunity to make people aware of geothermal technology and other efficiencies that are available."

In layman's terms, there are 32 wells, 5 inches in diameter and 196 feet deep which are constructed 8 feet below the parking lot

surface and run into the building.

"We're taking well water and running it through a heat pump, but instead of dumping the residual into a stream or pond, this system is continuous and we never get rid of any of the fluid," said Manning.

"We're preheating or precooling the air, and we're using the earth's 50-degree constant temperature to do that," said Manning. "In winter, we're saving costs of preheating. And in the summer, we're going to take the 90-degree heat of the kitchen area and dump it throughout that same 50-degree earth temp, and we're going to come up with pre-cooled air to use in the system."

Manning said there are a number of other energy-efficient steps being taken in this special McDonald's.

"We improved the lighting to make it state-of-the-art ... there are sensors that will dim the inside perimeter lights in the dining room and PlayPlace when the sunlight is bright," added Manning. "We went to a higher-efficient gas water heater, higher insulation values, and all the windows are triple glazed. We're going to see a significant savings in heat loss just because of those windows."

The testing doesn't stop with just the data

from new efficiencies.

"We're comparing this building with the very same structure built at Five Mile and Haggerty in Northville, which opened a year ago," said Daniels. "It faces the same way, is the same size, and will be a perfect match for Detroit Edison. They'll be able to monitor the efficiency devices they've installed and compare costs at a traditional McDonald's."

The study is expected to take about a year to come up with conclusive data.

"We'll be able to take the data and see which energy efficiencies are the most cost-effective," added Manning. "Then, we'll be able to have more information to make constructive decisions in the future."

Detroit Edison is paying for the additional costs of adding energy-efficient devices in the new McDonald's. However, the giant utility company isn't talking about the costs involved.

"We're always looking for new technology because it's a win-win situation," said Daniels. "If we can reduce our costs, the consumer will also be a winner."

McDonald's is already saving money, as it's signed a 10-year power supply contract with Detroit Edison for its 63 franchisees in southeastern Michigan.

Under the agreement, Detroit Edison will provide power to more than 200 McDonald's restaurants, in exchange for an immediate reduction in the price it pays for electricity.

Helping hands



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Giving: For the third year in a row, North Bros. Ford employees in Westland fill pickup trucks with food for the Salvation Army. Two years ago, the food drive of employees, customers and vendors netted two pickup loads of food. This year, North Bros. collected 12 pickup loads of food for the Wayne-Westland community.

King from page A1

Franklin said. "Mayor Robert Thomas is doing something past administrations failed to do. He is innovative, and this is just one of many programs he's initiated."

"One of the purposes of the event is to demonstrate the diversity in Westland by bringing together people of many cultures, ages, races and religions in a spirit of common purpose and understanding," said Thomas in a prepared release. "We are very pleased to take part in this historic event."

Committee members representing a cross-section of Westland were selected to develop the program ... including representatives from the city administration, homeowners' associations, business leaders, Wayne Westland schools, and members of the

community at large.

"Dr. King stood for the inclusion and equality of everyone, and we hope to include everyone in this celebration," said Ronaele Bowman, director of the Westland Youth Assistance Program. "I think it will be a great celebration, especially in light of the fact that not many communities in western Wayne County observe Dr. King's birthday."

Bill Anderson, who served on the board of trustees and the council as its only African-American from 1956 to 1976, puts it more bluntly.

"We've been negligent in not doing something sooner," said Anderson. "I'm not pointing fingers, but the community as a whole dropped the ball on this. A lot of people know about and



Mayor Robert Thomas appreciate the efforts of Dr. King, and what he went through. We hope to present a program worthy of his efforts."

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Arrested man flees hospital

A 47-year-old Livonia man arrested for possession of stolen property Tuesday later fled from St. Mary Hospital, where he had been taken after complaining of chest pains.

The man had been released to appear in court on a charge of receiving and concealing stolen property, according to a Livonia Police Department report. He ran out of the hospital when approached for medical tests.

Hospital personnel contacted police.

He had been arrested shortly after 1:30 p.m. near his home on Inkster Road, police said. Livonia officers had heard a report of a shoplifting in Westland in which the thief drove off in a Mercury Capri, police said. Their check of the car's license plate number showed it was registered to a Livonia man.

Officers stopped the suspect

after he turned onto Inkster from westbound Schoolcraft Road, police said. Their search of his car, a Capri, turned up more than \$500 worth of new merchandise, much of it still packaged, including 22 light-switch plates, almost \$180 worth of batteries, seven pairs of leather gloves, three bras and six stained-glass window decorations, the report said. The man had no receipts.

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH ALLEN KOMER

Mr. Komer, 79, of Westland died Dec. 19. Funeral services were in St. Richard Catholic Church with arrangements by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

He is survived by his wife, Loretta; daughter, Patricia Marshall of Orlando, Fla.; granddaughters, Kimberly Jo Marshall, Holly Raimondi and Laurie Lynn Horvat; grandsons, Desmond Gregory Jo Horvat, Brandon William Joseph Iwaniec and Bradley Joseph Iwaniec.

Interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

GRACIA V. YANKASKY

Mrs. Yankasky, 64, of Westland died recently in her home. Funeral services were in Uht Funeral Home with the Rev. Jerome K. Smith officiating.

She was a homemaker and member of the Wayne-Westland AMVETS Post No. 171.

Mrs. Yankasky is survived by sons, Donald of Garden City and Douglas; daughters, Deanne Jo Janis and Denise Sizemore; sisters, Marilyn McKinney and Deanna Joseph; brother, Carl Randall Anderson; grandchildren, Colin, Kyle, Brianna, Kayla and Lindsey.

JOHN ROBERT LEE ANUSAVAGE

Mr. Anusavage, 17, of Westland died Dec. 18 in a car accident.

A junior at John Glenn High School in Westland, Mr. Anusavage is survived by sisters, Stacy L. Anusavage of Belleville and Kori Burke of Van Buren Township; parents, Janet Anusavage of Canton and Robert Anusavage of Westland; stepmother, Sharon Phillips of Westland; and grand-

parents, Leo Anusavage of Westland and Eileen Anusavage of Canton. Interment was in Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Westland.

JOAN C. CALDWELL

Funeral services for Joan C. Caldwell, 56, of Westland, were held recently at St. Bernardine of Siena. Mrs. Caldwell died Dec. 22 at Harper Hospital in Detroit. Arrangements were made by the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home in Westland.

Survivors include husband, V. Roger; daughters, Karen J. Feezor and Cindy C. Sexton; one brother, three sisters and four grandchildren.

CHARLOTTE M. RAFALSKI

Charlotte M. Rafalski, 67, formerly of Westland, died Dec. 23 at her home in Lewiston. Born in Detroit on Feb. 11, 1930, she lived in Westland before moving to Lewiston upon retirement 10 years ago. She was a teacher's assistant and worked in many elementary schools in the Wayne-Westland area from 1970 to 1987.

She is survived by Joseph, her husband of 48 years; children, James of Northville, Cynthia McClure of Wayne, and Brian of Lewiston; grandson, Patrick; sister, Lillian Jean Hammond. She was preceded in death by her mother, Ellen Szabo. A memorial Mass was celebrated on Saturday, Dec. 27, at St. Francis Church in Lewiston.

Memorial contributions may be made to Outreach Hospice through the Nelson Funeral Home, 135 N. Center, Gaylord, Mich. 49735.

Brawl leads to assault charge, hospitalization for four youths

BY MATT JACHMAN
STAFF WRITER

A brawl on Orangelawn early Saturday, Dec. 20, sent four young men to the hospital and led to an assault charge against one of them, a 20-year-old Livonian.

The fight, between rival groups of Churchill High School students and their allies, reportedly stemmed from one student's assault on another at Churchill and an incident between the two at a Livonia restaurant, according to a Livonia Police Department report.

Combatants used baseball bats and knives during the brawl, and a man who lives on Orangelawn came out of his house holding an ax but dropped it when someone punched him in the face, the police report said.

The suspect, on crutches, was arraigned on a felony assault charge over last weekend by 16th District Court Judge Robert Brzezinski. Arraignment details could not be confirmed.

The suspect, who was treated for a shattered kneecap and other injuries at St. Mary Hospital, was in the police department's lockup last Monday.

■ The charge results from the stabbing, during the fight, of two Livonia brothers. One of them, 16, suffered a knife wound to the lower-left area of his back and a cut to the forehead. The other, 24, suffered a stab wound to one hand that caused tendon damage, police said.

Charges against other people involved in the fight are possible, said Lt. Jim Howton, police spokesman.

The charge results from the stabbing, during the fight, of two Livonia brothers. One of them, 16, suffered a knife wound to the lower-left area of his back and a cut to the forehead. The other, 24, suffered a stab wound to one hand that caused tendon damage, police said. They were both

treated at St. Mary Hospital.

The victims were among several carloads of young men who arrived on Orangelawn, looking for a fight, shortly after midnight Saturday, the police report said. Their rivals were waiting outside, witnesses told police.

Officers were called to respond to a report of 25 to 30 people fighting with bats.

The first one on the scene drew his pistol when three people ran at him, one with a knife and the others with bats. He ordered them to stop and drop the weapons, and they complied after the second order, he wrote in his report.

Police recovered a bloody butcher knife with a 10-inch blade, an ax and baseball bats. A fourth person involved in the fight was treated at St. Mary for a shattered elbow and scheduled for surgery, police said.

In the original altercation, one Churchill student allegedly knocked another down without apparent provocation, police said. On Friday, Dec. 19, that victim reported the same student assaulted him at a Papa Romano's restaurant on Newburgh Road.

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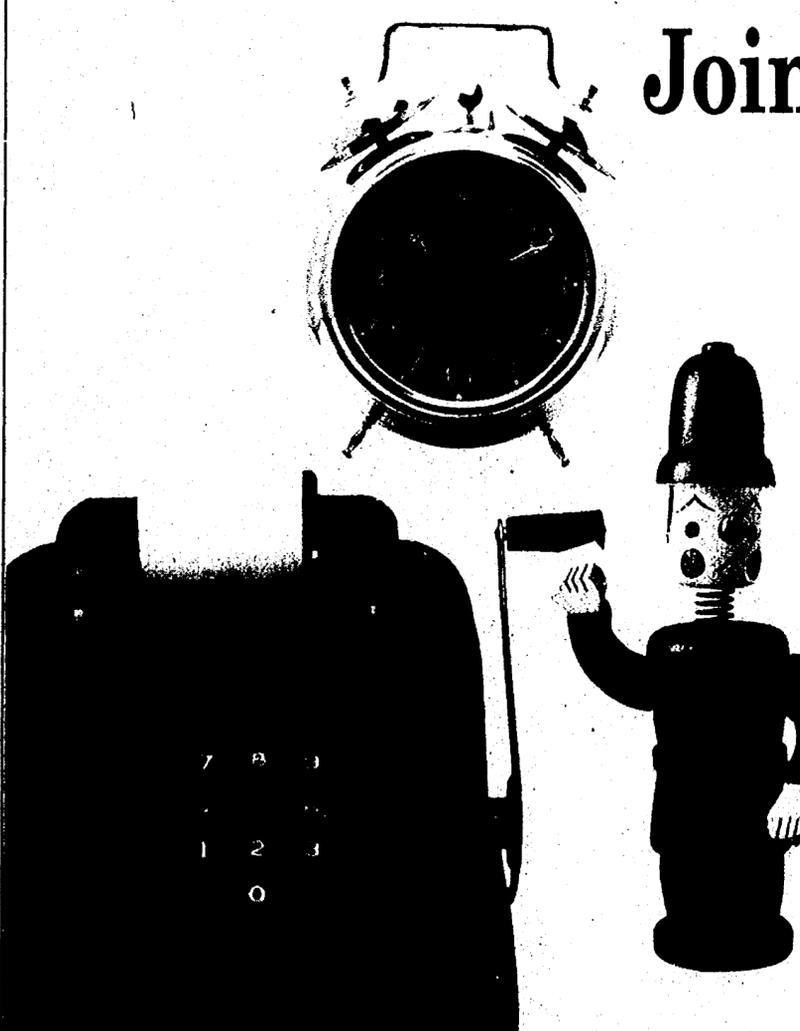
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A HomeTown Communications Network™ publication

Valassis repeats as one of best places to work in America

Valassis Communications, Inc., headquartered in Livonia, has been named one of the 100 Best Companies to Work for in America by Fortune Magazine.

This was the second time in less than seven years that Valassis has made the list. The results will be published in the Jan. 12 issue of Fortune Magazine which will be on the newsstands later this week.

Companies were evaluated using multiple criteria, such as employees' trust in management, pride in work and company, and camaraderie. Workplace practices were also evaluated, and an extensive survey was randomly administered to employees to obtain their confidential opinions.

Valassis employees are proud of the ranking. Barney Bourgeois, senior insert publishing specialist said, "I'm proud to be a Valassis employee. I've always known that this is a great place to work; now all of America does, too."

"Our workplace environment of respect and caring makes this a place that we want to come to every day. And on top of that, we're saving Americans billions of dollars every year by providing them with our products — coupons," said Bourgeois.

"Employee pride and morale is

at an all-time high," said David A. Brandon, chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Valassis Communications.

"This terrific accomplishment was a total team effort and demonstrates that a corporation's success is not best achieved at the expense of employees. Rather an atmosphere of respect, empowerment and positive energy produces the best customer service, product quality and the excellent financial results that increase shareholder value," said Brandon, who has been president of Valassis since 1989.

The last study conducted by Levering and Moskowitz in the early '90s resulted in a book "The 100 Best Companies to Work for in America." That study was conducted in a similar fashion and ranked Valassis Communications high in the areas of opportunities, job security and openness/fairness — areas in which Valassis remains strong.

Valassis Communications, Inc. has grown from a company with a single printing press to one of the nation's largest producers of free-standing inserts. It is the leading company in the sales promotion industry, offering a broad array of consumer promotion techniques.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JACOBEL

Selected: CEO David Brandon (center) surrounded by employees at the company's Livonia headquarters, said being named one of the top 100 best places to work in America was a "total team effort" that will "serve to inspire our organization to continue to achieve great results in 1998."

The company prepares and prints billions of inserts each year at its printing/production facilities in Livonia and Plymouth, Michigan; Wichita, Kansas; and Durham, North Carolina. In addition, eight regional sales offices are strategically placed across the country.

In a speech earlier this before the Canton Economic Club, Brandon said the financial performance of the Livonia-based company goes hand-in-hand with his belief in building a

workplace culture that draws — and holds onto — top talent in the field.

Who you hire, how you hire them and how you treat them once they're on the job are keys to success in any business, Brandon said.

"We really believe in this thing called culture, the environment we create for our employees to do business," said Brandon, 45, Valassis president and CEO since 1989 and a Plymouth Township resident.

On the economic side of the ledger the now publicly held company has a net worth of \$1.3 billion, triple from 1979, when Brandon left Procter and Gamble to return to Michigan, where he graduated from the University of Michigan in 1974.

Valassis was trading at a 52-week high of 33 1/8 on the New York Stock Exchange at mid-month December.

Brandon's half-hour talk was filled with anecdotes and personalized business bromides includ-

ing two favorites illustrating his management style: "Change is good" and "If it ain't broke, break it."

Brandon is a strong believer in employee participation at all levels. "Let employees participate in your success to get the idea across that they can take ownership in what you're doing," he said. "A company of owners will behave differently."

S'craft hosts aid night for college bound

Schoolcraft College personnel will help students explore the mysteries of financial aid on Wednesday, Jan. 21 during its Regional Financial Aid Night.

The program is designed for college-bound high school students and their parents and will be helpful to students who are transferring from a community college to a university.

Program topics include the types of financial aid available, eligibility, how to complete an application and how to conduct scholarship searches. There will be a question-and-answer period following the formal presentations.

The program will begin at 7 p.m. in the Waterman Center. Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads just west of I-275.

Rivers to meet with residents

U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-13th District, invites residents of that Congressional district to join her for a cup of coffee and conversation in Northville, Inkster and Wayne.

Rivers will be at Rebecca's on Center (formerly Murphy's), 134 N. Center St., in Northville 8:30-10 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 6, for coffee with her constituents.

On Jan. 15, Rivers will be at the Early Bird II, 27412 Michigan Ave., in Inkster from 8:30 to 10 a.m. On Jan. 16, she will visit Rex's Family Restaurant, 35111 Michigan Ave. in Wayne during those same hours.

For information, call Rivers' district offices in Ann Arbor at (313) 741-4210 or Wayne (313) 722-1411.

UM-D sells land

The University of Michigan-Dearborn has sold eight acres of its land at Mercury and Hubbard Drives for \$1.8 million. UM-D Chancellor James C. Renick said the proceeds will go into an endowment to support student scholarships.

Buyer Tri-Mount, a real estate development firm, will build condominium housing on the site. UM-D said UM-D acquired the property in 1974 in a swap with Ford Land Development Co.

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HEALTHIER APPETITE



KEELY WYGONIK

The best weight-loss is gradual

The thought of stepping on a scale right now is as scary as waking up realizing you're late for an important meeting, or not being able to find your purse, wallet or keys.

"I hate the word diet," said Juliane Steenkamer a clinical dietitian at Garden City Hospital. "Michigan has one of the highest obesity rates in the country, and it's a long winter. People tend not to exercise."

Steenkamer works a lot with cardiac patients who have no choice but to cut the fat from their diets. On monthly grocery tours at Kroger's in Garden City, she shows them how to help reverse the progression of heart disease by changing their choices.

"Watching fat is the most important part of your diet," she says. During the holiday season, which begins with Thanksgiving, some of us count Halloween, and ends New Year's Day, the average person gains five to 10 pounds.

Burn to lose

"You have to burn, or cut 3,500 calories to eliminate one pound of weight," said Steenkamer. "Eating an additional 500 calories a day adds up. Remember those five cubes of cheese you ate at the last party? That was about 500 calories, add six Ritz crackers for another 125 calories."

Nuts are also high in fat. Ten peanuts equals about 45 calories, and forget about cashews - six cashews also equals 45 calories, but can any of us eat just six?

There's no time like the present to make changes in your diet and lifestyle. Why wait until Jan. 1 to begin. Little changes do add up.

"If you love nuts, only have nuts in the shell at home. You'll eat them slower, and it's more of a challenge to get them out of the shell," said Steenkamer.

Dilute juice and wine with club soda, munch on assorted veggies, and dip them in fat-free salad dressing. Use I Can't Believe It's Not Butter spray on vegetables and to make garlic bread instead of butter or margarine.

For flavorful sweet potatoes, skip the butter, and mash them with a half can of drained, crushed pineapple.

"If you're going to a friend's house, bring a low-fat dish," suggests Steenkamer. "Forget the all or nothing mind set, gradually introduce new low-fat dishes. Pick up your exercise. If you beef up your physical exercise you can splurge a little bit."

Incorporate more lean cuts of beef, poultry and fish in your diet. Don't eat the dark meat, or the skin of chicken, or turkey.

Start changing your focus to fruits, vegetables and grains - "they'll fill you up, without filling you out," said Steenkamer. "Meat shouldn't displace foods that are more healthy for you. Most of us eat more than a normal serving size of meat, which is 2 to 3 ounces cooked, about the size of a deck of cards. When we eat this much meat, we're not as likely to eat as many nutrient-dense vegetables, fruits and grains."

Read labels

Make a resolution to start reading labels when you grocery shop. "One half cup is the standard serving size of ice cream, but how many of us eat only half a cup," said Steenkamer. Cut your intake of saturated fats - those that are solid at room temperature. Unsaturated fats are liquid at room temperature and better for you.

When reading labels, compare fat content per serving size. Try different fat-free products until you find ones you like.

Fat-free cheese doesn't melt. "Sprinkle it on top of tacos or sandwiches," said Steenkamer. "Skip fat-free cream cheese, use jam or jelly"

Please see **HEALTHIER, B2**

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Taste next week:

■ Focus on Wine



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HOFFMEYER

Too big: Sandra Dalka-Prysky shows how much weight she lost by putting on a pair of her "fat" pants at the Beverly Hills Raquet Club where she regularly works out.

GET FIT FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Looking back: When this photo was taken of Sandra Dalka-Prysky in 1995, she was at the half-way point.



Editor's Note:

With her sunny personality, and can-do attitude, Sandra Dalka-Prysky is the type of person who lights up a room when she walks in. We met three years ago when she called to talk about her weight-loss plan and the possibility of doing some freelance writing for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Concerned about her health as she approached her 50th birthday, Prysky wrote to "Family Circle" magazine, and asked for help. Besides being overweight, she was a smoker. Sandra quit the cigarettes right away, but losing weight was harder. She stuck with it, and reached her weight-loss goal this year. In fact, she exceeded it and lost more than 175 pounds instead of the 150 she set out to do. Sandra's a joy to work with and an inspiration. - Keely Wygonik

BY SANDRA DALKA-PRYSKY
SPECIAL WRITER

Forget making the usual New Year's resolutions to lose weight. It's time to get ready for the new millennium and there's no better time than now to get started.

I used a "Slow but Sure" philosophy to lose more than 175 pounds. It took me 3-1/2 years, and with the same diligence, and a lot of effort, you too can succeed in being healthier and more fit when the calendars turn over to 2000.

"Slow but Sure" is not only my creed, it's the title of a book on my weight-loss due to be released by Doubleday in January, 1999. You don't have to wait until then to learn some of my secrets for success. I'll share them with you now.

When I tipped the scales at 325 pounds in January, 1994, it was because of my high-fat diet and lack of exercise. This unhealthy lifestyle changed when "Family Circle" magazine

agreed to follow my weight-loss progress and arranged for nutritional help from Muriel G. Wagner, a registered dietitian and nutrition therapist who practices in Southfield. She's also a regular contributor to "Taste."

Muriel put me on a 1,800 calorie a day high carbohydrate food plan. In addition to 8-10 ounces of protein, 10 starches, and two dairy and fat servings, the plan called for three fruits and four daily servings of vegetables. Immediately, I began to lose weight.

With an offer of the use of the facilities and a trainer at Beverly Hills Racquet and Health Club, I began a regular, four-times-a-week exercise program. This program has been expanded to seven days a week with aerobic workouts (walking, biking, water aerobics and step classes) intermixed with free weights and toning exercises.

As important as exercise has

Please see **FIT, B2**

Celebrate New Year's simply with good food and friends

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

You know other people who copped out, and didn't make plans for New Year's Eve.

"I'll invite them over and make a simple New Year's Eve dinner," you say to yourself. Do it!

Molly O'Neill, food columnist for The New York Times Magazine, is one of the most "with it" cookbook authors. She delivers the best whimsical guide to preparing and orchestrating a dinner party, keeping a host sane in the effort.

In "The Pleasure of Your Company: How to Give a Dinner Party Without Losing Your Mind," (Viking, 1997, \$26.95,) the chapter "Nan Does New Year's Eve" is now relevant. From the chapter, we've organized a "grazing" menu. Nothing formal. Don't even set the dining room table. Sit around a coffee table or by a cozy fire. Drink champagne or an inexpensive California bubbly such as Domaine Chandon Brut \$17.

Your starter is Herb-Marinated Chicken Wings Stuffed with Scallion Goat Cheese followed by Spicy Shrimp, Bacon and Date Skewers; then Middle Eastern Lamb-Stuffed Wontons.

HERB-MARINATED CHICKEN WINGS STUFFED WITH SCALLION GOAT CHEESE

- 6 ounces goat cheese, softened
- 2 scallions, finely chopped
- 24 chicken wings
- 3 large cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 cup olive oil

Stir together the goat cheese and scallions. Separate chicken wings at the joint and save tips for another purpose, like stock. Loosen skin over the top of remaining portions, making a pocket between the skin and meat. Fill each pocket with about 1 teaspoon of the goat cheese mixture, do not overfill.

Combine garlic, rosemary, salt, pepper and oil in a large bowl. Add chicken wings and turn to coat well. Refrigerate for several hours.

Preheat broiler. Place chicken wings on broiler pan with a drip tray and broil until the skin is browned and chicken is cooked through, about 8 minutes. Serves

12 as an hors d'oeuvre.

Note: Chicken wings can be stuffed and marinated a day before. They must be wrapped well and stored in the refrigerator and are best if broiled shortly before guests arrive. They can be served sizzling hot or at room temperature.

SPICY SHRIMP, BACON AND DATE SKEWERS

Skewers can be assembled the day before, wrapped and refrigerated. Broil them just before serving.

- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne
- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 36 large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 18 pitted dates, halved crosswise
- 18 strips bacon, halved crosswise

Place cumin and cayenne in a small heavy skillet over low heat and stir constantly for 2 minutes. Place in a large bowl and whisk in lemon juice and olive oil. Add shrimp and toss to coat well. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours.

Place 1 piece of date in the curve of 1 piece of shrimp, wrap a piece of bacon



around the shrimp, and secure all together with a toothpick. Repeat with remaining ingredients.

Preheat the broiler. Place skewers on a broiler pan with a drip tray and broil until shrimp are just cooked through, about 1 1/2 minutes per side. Serve hot or at room temperature. Serves 12 as an hors d'oeuvre.

Please see **CELEBRATE, B2**

Tasty dishes will help you lose 'Slow but Sure'

See related story on Taste front.
Recipes compliments of Sandra Dalka-Przyby

PARMESAN CHICKEN

- 1/2 cup Italian seasoned bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, grated

- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/3 teaspoon salt
- 4 skinned, boneless chicken breasts (3 ounces each)
- 1/2 cup buttermilk
- Vegetable cooking spray

Combine first four ingredients in a large plastic zip-lock bag. Dip chicken in buttermilk and place in bag, one at a time. Shake bag to coat.

Coat baking pan with cooking spray. Place chicken in pan. Bake covered at 350°F for 25 minutes. Remove cover and bake an additional 20 minutes. Serves 4.

Each serving is 210 calories with approximately 6 grams of fat.

VEGETABLE RICE

- 1/3 cup green onions, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup green pepper, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup red pepper, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup frozen chopped broccoli, thawed and drained
- 1 cup frozen corn, thawed and drained

- 1 cup tomatoes, chopped in small pieces
- 2 cups cooked white rice
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped
- 1 1/2 teaspoons minced garlic
- Salt and pepper taste

In a large non-stick skillet coated with vegetable cooking spray, cook onions and peppers over medium heat until tender but crisp. Add remaining ingredients, cover, reduce heat and simmer 15 minutes. Makes six (1 cup) servings.
Each serving is 125 calories with approximately 1 gram of fat

Fit from page B1

been to my success, it's what I put in my mouth that made all the difference.
Nutritious foods are the only way to achieve healthy weight loss. Smaller portions of the "right" foods in the answer. This means eating small and medium-sized fruits, not the gigantic apples, etc. that draw our attention in the produce section of the grocery store.

It means choosing half a cup of pasta or three-quarters of a cup of cereal (both equal one starch). It means using one tablespoon of regular, or two tablespoons of reduced calorie/fat dressings on salads.
The only way to assure that you are eating correct portion sizes is to measure and weigh everything. That's what I did and that's the reason I lost

weight.
Another reason I was successful is because I didn't expect overnight results. I started my weight-loss journey knowing that it would be a long haul. I was willing to take whatever time was needed - there was no rush - to get the job done. In the process, I learned how important variety is to success.
Eating the same foods every-

day can be boring. Not only that, but boring often leads to failure.
There is a wealth of healthy foods and an abundance of nutritious and tasty recipes that make staying on a good food plan easier.
In early 1996, I was stuck on a plateau and my weight loss stalled. "Family Circle" brought in Richard Simmons, the

nation's diet guru, to take me to the finish line. He reduced my daily calories to 1,300 and insisted that I drink eight glasses of water a day.
These efforts worked. I lost the remaining weight and not only reached but exceeded my goal. Originally, I planned to lose 150 pounds.
"You have to love yourself if

you're going to succeed" was Richard's ongoing advice. "And you have to believe that you're going to succeed."
Armed with these beliefs, you, too, can succeed. Just remember to go slow for surely this is the best way to accomplish any goal. Set your weight-loss goal for the new millennium. That gives you time to do it right!

Celebrate from page B1

MIDDLE EASTERN LAMB-STUFFED WONTONS

- 3/4 pound ground lamb
- 2 1/2 teaspoons ground coriander
- 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt
- 3/4 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 3 tablespoons golden raisins
- 3 tablespoons coarsely

- chopped pistachios
- 36 wonton skins (3x3 1/4 inches), available in most supermarkets or in an Oriental grocery
- vegetable oil for deep frying
- Mix together lamb, coriander, cinnamon, salt, pepper, raisins and pistachios until well combined. Brush edges of one of the wonton skins with water. Place 1 1/2 teaspoons of the filling in the

center. Bring the 4 corners of the skin together over the filling and press edges together to seal tight. Repeat with remaining skins and filling.
Working in batches, deep-fry wontons until nicely browned. Make sure the oil is not too hot or skins will brown before filling is cooked through. Drain on paper towels and serve immediately. Serves 12.

Healthier from page B1

instead." You can substitute two egg whites for one whole egg in recipes and cut the fat. Substitute one half cup applesauce for one half cup butter in recipes.
Make your own salad dressing with balsamic vinegar, extra virgin-olive oil, a pinch of sugar and mustard.
Use 3 parts (3 tablespoons) vinegar to 1 part (1 tablespoon)

olive oil. Add sugar, mustard and other herbs to taste.
Gradually increase the amount of fiber in your diet. Sprinkle a high fiber cereal - one with more than four grams of fiber per serving, on the cereal you currently eat. For instance, mix a high fiber bran or wheat cereal with corn flakes.
Just because you're full, doesn't mean you've gotten the nutri-

ents you need to be your very best.
"Working in cardiac rehab has opened my eyes to how people have contributed to chronic disease," said Steenkamer. "The time to start is now. If you're well nourished, you'll feel better about yourself."
Keely Wygonik is editor of Taste section for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

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Begin the new year with healthier fare

Here are some healthful recipes for the new year.
APRICOT OATMEAL COOKIES
1/2 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
1/3 cup margarine, softened
1/2 cup non-cholesterol egg substitute
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1 cup quick-cooking oats
1 cup crisp rice cereal
3/4 cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 cup seedless raisins
1/4 cup diced dried apricots
1/3 cup confectioners' sugar
2 to 3 teaspoons orange juice
In a bowl, with mixer at high speed, beat brown sugar and margarine until creamy. On medium speed, beat in egg product and vanilla until blended. In small bowl, mix oats, rice cereal, flour, cinnamon, and baking soda; stir into creamed mixture. Stir in raisins and apricots.
Drop dough by rounded tablespoons onto greased baking sheet. Bake at 350°F. for 8 to 10 minutes or until cookies are lightly browned. Cool completely on wire racks. In small bowl, combine confectioners' sugar and orange juice;

drizzle over cookie tops. Makes 2 dozen cookies.
CREAMY CARROT POTATO SOUP
2 cups sliced peeled carrots
1/2 cup chopped onion
1/3 cup chopped celery
1 clove garlic, minced
2 tablespoons margarine
2 cups diced peeled potato
1 3/4 cups water
1/2 cup lower salt, chicken broth
1 cup skim milk
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme leaves
1/4 teaspoon coarse ground black pepper
Yogurt, for garnish
Chives, for garnish

In large skillet, saute carrot, onion, celery and garlic in margarine until tender. In medium saucepan, heat potato, water, and chicken broth to a boil; reduce heat. Cover; simmer 10 minutes or until tender.
In electric blender, puree the carrot and potato mixtures. Return to saucepan; add milk and seasonings. Cook over low heat until heated through. Serve warm topped with a swirl of yogurt and a sprinkling of chives if desired. Makes 5 servings
Nutrition Information per serving (without garnishes): 144 calories, 5 g total fat, 1 g saturated fat, 1 mg cholesterol, 179 mg sodium, 3 g dietary fiber.
Recipes from the National Center for Nutrition and Dietetics of the American Dietetic Association.



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Tuna helps keep New Year's resolution

(NAPS) - When you wake up on New Year's Day, odds are you'll participate in two age-old traditions. First, you'll be one of the 426 million people worldwide tuning in to the Tournament of Roses Parade to watch the University of Michigan marching band. Second, you'll probably promise to eat healthier and shed a few pounds.
According to a national survey by Weight Watchers International, over two-thirds of Americans would like to lose weight. When the big ball drops in Times Square, people all over the world make dietary promises they'll never keep.
Everyone knows that a New Year's resolution for getting and staying fit starts with healthy eating. One of the most convenient, versatile and healthy

foods is tuna. Whether in a salad, on a sandwich or straight from the can, tuna provides half of your required daily serving of protein.
AULD LANG SYNE LINGUINE (Makes 4-6 servings)
2 tablespoons olive oil
4 cloves garlic, minced
2 cups sliced mushrooms
1/2 cup chopped onion
1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper
2-1/2 cups chopped plum tomatoes
1 can (14-1/4 ounces) chicken broth plus water to equal 2 cups
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper
1 package (9 ounces)

uncooked fresh linguine
1 can (12 ounces) white tuna, drained and chunked
1/3 cup chopped fresh cilantro
In 12-inch skillet, heat olive oil over medium-high heat; saute garlic, mushrooms, onion and red pepper until golden brown. Add tomatoes, chicken broth mixture, salt and black pepper; bring to a boil.
Separate uncooked linguine into strands; place in skillet and spoon sauce over. Reduce heat to simmer; cook covered, 4 more minutes or until cooked through. Toss gently; add tuna and cilantro and toss again. Prep time: 12 minutes.
Nutrition Analysis Per Serving: Calories, 210 gm; Protein 20 gm; Fat, 6 gm; Carbohydrate 19 gm; Cholesterol, 25 mg.

Scrumptious saute ready in minutes

AP - Need to prepare a scrumptious meal in less than 15 minutes? Shrimp, Pear and Sugar Pea Sauté is a savory mixture of pears, shallots, shrimp and sugar peas, sautéed in olive oil and dry white wine. The recipe is from Janet Hazen, author of "Pears: A Country Garden Cookbook."
SHRIMP, PEAR AND SUGAR PEA SAUTE
2 shallots, thinly sliced
2 teaspoons olive oil

1 pound medium shrimp, shelled and tails removed
1/3rd pound sugar peas, trimmed
2 pears, cut into 1-inch wedges
3 tablespoons dry white wine
1 tablespoon unsalted butter
2 1/2 to 3 tablespoons fresh orange juice
Salt and pepper, to taste
In large sauté pan, cook the shallots in the olive oil over moderate heat for 3 minutes. Add the

shrimp, sugar peas, pears and wine and cook 4 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the shrimp are almost done. Add the butter and orange juice and cook 1 minute. Season with salt and pepper. Serve immediately. Makes 4 servings.
Nutrition facts per serving: 241 calories, 24.9 grams protein, 7.5 grams fat, 19.3 grams carbohydrates, 3.3 grams dietary fiber, 180 mg cholesterol, 245 mg sodium.
Recipe from: California Pear Advisory Board

Festive salad sure to please Michigan fans

Everyone at Ardo's thought a unique, Michigan inspired Rose Bowl Salad would go a long way to win over party guests and cheer the team to victory. The recipe was created by Chef Jeff Crank, owner of Ardo's Grill & Chill, 27900 Hoover in Warren.

Ardo's is open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Thursday; and 11 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday. Sundays are reserved for parties and banquets. For more information, call (810) 582-0080.

Ardo's is designated to the memory of Jeff Crank's late friend and mentor, John "Ardo" Arduino, who passed away from leukemia.

"All of our recipes were developed by Ardo and me in our mother's kitchens," said Crank who plans to designate a portion of restaurant sales in Ardo's name to support bone marrow transplants for leukemia patients.

Crank's Catering operates nine kitchens and cafeterias in Southeast Michigan including Little Crankers in the Insignia Group Building in Bingham Farms. In 1992 he created the

Second Chance Foundation. "We wanted to give others suffering from catastrophic diseases, drug or job related problems a 'second chance' on life," said Crank.

Last year Crank's Catering was the largest contributor to the Forgotten Harvest food bank. Crank's Catering can be reached by calling (810) 977-5858.

MICHIGAN ROSE BOWL SALAD

- 1 bunch white Kale -
- 1 head lettuce
- 2 heads red leaf lettuce
- 1 cucumber (sliced thin)
- 2 cups red cabbage (blanched until color turns blue)
- 1 cup Feta cheese
- 1/2 pound smoked bacon (chopped fine)
- 6 large tomatoes
- 2 yellow bell peppers
- Dressing**
- 3 cups olive oil
- 1 cup tarragon vinegar
- 1/2 cup Balsamic vinegar
- 1/2 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons basil
- 4 tablespoons granulated garlic

- 3 tablespoons salt
- 1 tablespoon black pepper
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon oregano
- 3 cups sun dried cherries

Take oval platter and arrange white kale around outside of platter. In bowl toss chopped red leaf lettuce with chopped head lettuce. Set lettuce mixture into center of platter. Top with Feta cheese, sliced cucumber, blanched red cabbage and cooked chopped bacon.

Take individual tomatoes, one at a time, and cut skin off in one long piece using a knife to cut around entire tomato. Take tomato skin and roll into rosebud shape. Set tomato roses just inside white kale to surround base of salad. Top mixture with yellow bell pepper sliced into a giant "M" for Michigan.

Cherry Vinaigrette Dressing:

In a separate bowl, combine olive oil, vinegars, basil, garlic, salt & pepper, sugar and oregano. Pour over top of salad mixture and top with sun-dried cherries.



Go Blue: This salad, created by Chef Jeff Crank, owner of Ardo's Grill & Chill, is a savory blend of greens and vegetables topped with a cherry vinaigrette dressing.

Steamy cup of tea chases January chills away

In the chill of January, nothing beats a cup of hot tea. And, while our tea traditions are steeped in black tea, health researchers suggest you make your next "cuppa tea" green tea. A substance found in green tea appears to inhibit cancers of the skin, stomach, colon, liver, pancreas, lung and breast.

Green tea is a staple of Asian diets, and some scientists believe it could be a reason why the Japanese have half the incidence of lung cancer as Americans, even though they smoke nearly twice as much. In addition to its cancer preventative powers, green tea is also being tested as a cancer therapy, because it seems to prolong the survival of some cancer patients.

While green tea was once hard to find outside Asian markets, many major American tea companies have responded to growing demand by producing their own varieties, making them available in grocery stores across the country.

Supporting this growing interest in tea's health benefits has been the revival of the tradition-

al "teatime" ritual in many parts of the country. Taking tea provides a way to relax and renew the spirit and body. Modern tea-goers can maintain tradition and get the full health benefits of the ritual by preparing finger foods to accompany their beverage that are nutritious as well as tasty and attractive.

Tea time treats can be scrumptious, but should never be heavy. Thin slices of angel's food cake, low-fat spice cake or poppy seed cake can satisfy a sweet tooth without spoiling dinner.

Fresh fruit is always a welcome addition to this afternoon repast when appetites are small.

The sandwiches often found at traditional teas are not the thick two-handed meals you'd find at the local deli but thin, crust-less triangles that can be held easily in one hand and eaten in one or two delicate bites. Try roasted turkey, curried chicken salad, or minced shrimp with dill vinaigrette, as well as the traditional cucumber, watercress and jam sandwiches.

Use flavorful whole grain breads for added fiber and nutri-

ents. The best tea time snacks are small, visually elegant fare that bring delicious flavor to the table. Mini pita pockets can be broiled lightly to puff them up, and filled with chopped pear and a tiny bit of crumpled blue cheese. Ginger snaps spread with orange marmalade are a spicy-sweet treat that complements the subtle flavors of tea.

Those with more traditional tastes can bake a low-fat zucchini or oatmeal carrot cake bread, spreading small squares of it with a thin layer of light cream cheese.

OATMEAL CARROT CAKE BREAD

- 1 cup oats
- 1 2 cup skim milk
- 2 1 2 cups flour
- 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1 2 cups shredded carrots (3 medium)
- 1/2 cup raisins

- 1 (8 ounce) can crushed pineapple in juice
- 4 egg whites
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Heat the oven to 350°F. Lightly spray the bottom only of a 9 by 5-inch loaf pan with nonstick cooking spray. Combine oats with milk; mix well and set aside. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and salt; mix well. Stir in carrots and raisins.

Combine reserved oat mixture, pineapple (including juice), egg whites, vegetable oil and vanilla; mix well. Add to dry ingredients; mix just until dry ingredients are moistened. Pour into prepared pan. Bake 60-75 minutes or until wooden pick inserted into center comes out clean and crust is golden brown. Cool 10 minutes and remove from pan. Cool completely.

Each of the 12 slices contains 246 calories and 5 grams of fat

Recipe and information from the American Institute for Cancer Research.



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Time for tea: Oatmeal Carrot Cake Bread is a delicious tea time treat.

Toast the New Year with tasty alcohol-free sips

Take the alcohol out of your New Year's celebration. In a "Salute to Sports" here are some drink recipes featured in "The Great Pretenders party Guide," published by AAA of Michigan.

BROWSER BOILER

- Microwave-safe coffee mug
- 6 1 2 ounces apple cider
- 3 heaping teaspoons unsweetened whipped cream
- 8 white miniature marshmallows
- 3 ounces Faygo Rock n Rye or

Cherry Coke

In coffee mug, microwave apple cider on high for 2 minutes. Remove mug from microwave. Scoop whipped cream on top of cider, then sprinkle marshmallows on top of whipped cream. Do not stir. Pour Rock-n-Rye or Cherry Coke over the top and watch it start to boil. Serve immediately. One serving

Recipe created by Allan Goci of Rochester Hills

MOCHA MEGABYTE

- 1 teaspoon instant coffee

granules

- 1 Tablespoon hot water
- 1 Tablespoon cold water
- 2 Tablespoons whipping cream, unwhipped
- 2 ice cubes
- 3 Tablespoons chocolate instant pudding powder
- 3/4 cup nonfat chocolate frozen yogurt (Haagen Dazs preferred)
- Sweetened whipped cream for garnish

Pour instant coffee granules into blender. Add hot water. Blend a few seconds until coffee is dissolved. Add cold water, whipping

cream and ice cubes, and blend until ice is crushed. Add chocolate instant pudding powder and blend until powder is dissolved. Add chocolate frozen yogurt, blend until smooth. Pour into stemmed glass. Garnish with dollop of sweetened whipped cream. Yield 1 serving.

Recipe by Dawn Frischer of Ann Arbor, first place winner, Birm-

ingham Regional Contest

SANTA'S CYBER SIPPER

- 1 2 cup cranberry/raspberry juice
- 8 frozen strawberries
- 1 2 frozen banana
- 1 2 cup low fat vanilla yogurt
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 2 cup 7 Lp

Process the first five ingredients in a blender until smooth. Add 7-Up. Turn on and off just enough to mix. Serve in a tall glass. Garnish with a strawberry. One serving.

Recipe compliments of Gloria Emde of Benton Harbor, second place, Grand Rapids Regional Contest

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PHOTO FOR SAKS BY PATRICK DEMARCHELIER

Holiday mornings: Saks Fifth Avenue, Troy and Dearborn, offers these luxurious robes by Daniel Hanson, navy lambswool/angora robe belted with a tassel and lined in silk, \$950; ivory multi-stripe long sleeve silk pajamas, \$495; ivory robe lambswool/angora, \$850.

Loungewear looks lovely

What's more relaxing than lounging around the house in your sleep-wear? I know a couple of teachers who change into their pajamas before dinner some days — they say it helps them unwind after a stressful day at school.

You can also find some great buys on sleep-wear now, due to post-holiday clearance sales. And, as Cheryl Hall Lindsay, of Saks Fifth Avenue points out, "Pajamas aren't just for sleeping anymore."

SHOPPING CENTERED



DONNA MULCAHY

Some people run errands in their pj's and some even entertain guests in them, she said. "Sleep-wear is encompassing a larger area now — a better term for it is lounge-wear," she said, adding that it includes everything from casual to glamorous fashions.

On the casual end of the scale, cotton-knit separates — including drawstring pajama bottoms and pajama-style tops — are the most popular for men and women, according to Lindsay. They come in a wide variety of solid colors and designs, look like casual pants and tops, and are made by numerous vendors, including Natori, Donna Karan, and Saks Fifth Avenue's Private Label, to name a few.

"They're something you could wear 24 hours. You wouldn't want to wear them to work, but you could run errands in them all day and then wear them to bed at night," Lindsay said.

Velour is the next step up from cotton knit, because it's a dressier fabric, she said. It's so dressy that a hostess could wear a pair of velour pajama bottoms to a winter party at her house for a stylish-yet-comfortable look, Lindsay said.

Silk lounge-wear, which is at the higher end of the scale, is more for private entertaining, she said, because of the way it flows around the body.

At the very high end of the scale are things like: a \$495 pair of ivory-colored, long-sleeve silk pajamas; an \$850 embroidered, lambswool and angora robe; and a \$950 silk-lined, angora robe. All three are made by Daniel Hanson and are carried exclusively by Saks.

I don't know about you, but I feel guilty spending \$30 on a pair of pajamas (after all, nobody's going to see me in them but my family). I couldn't imagine spending \$850 on a robe — that's almost what I paid for my first car!

Who would buy such an expensive item? I wondered. Hugh Hefner? So I asked Lindsay, "Who are these expensive robes and pajamas aimed at?"

"I think they're for someone who takes their lounge time very seriously," she said. She said she could see people giving them as gifts for special anniversaries and other occasions. She also said that having a luxurious robe or pair of pajamas to slip into can be comforting to business travelers when the day is done and they're back in their hotel.

With the proper care, a well-made robe can last 10 years or more. "And when you think of all the enjoyment you're going to get out of it," it helps justify the cost, she said.

Speaking of proper care (here's a question of hot debate in some households) how often should pajamas be cleaned? After each use or at longer intervals?

"It's really a matter of personal preference," Lindsay said. If you don't get any food stains on them, you could wear cotton knit pajamas three or four times in a row before washing them, she said.

Unique catalog sells gifts to grow the mind



■ If you want to expand your mental horizons in the New Year, check out the merchandise from MindWare. The company offers enriching activities and gifts for thinkers that are sure to provide some fun, too.

BY CAROLYN BARNETT-GOLDSTEIN
SPECIAL WRITER

Composer Ludwig van Beethoven's manuscripts are often messy affairs. However, handwritten in ink between 1783 and 1826, prior to advanced technological delete keys, they provide an opportunity to see how this great creative mind worked on problems to find the precise notes he needed to express his individuality. We are able to see him breaking the known boundaries of music at the time, revolutionizing music.

Yet, when these notes are played together, this seeming chaos is found to have created an order sounding so inevitable, it is universally felt to be natural to the human experience to this day.

Now, going into the 21st century, these same problem-solving tools and skills for creative thinking are being recognized as imperative to education and business as we enter the auspicious future realm. What constitutes creative thinking, and how and where to acquire and develop these skills can be found in the new MindWare catalog.

Packed with several varieties of hands-on-puzzles, riddles, games, and mystery products to appeal to ages seven through adulthood, MindWare is marketed to parents, children, educators, businesses and professionals.

With this unusual "hands-on" emphasis on creative thinking, it should not be a surprise to discover the unorthodox MindWare creator and CEO Jeanne Voight, is a former opera singer with a degree in music.

While she admits to being a "corporate dropout," this year's recipient of the Minnesota Small Business Person of the Year Award said, "I wanted to get into an environment where I could combine more creativity along with the business side. Love business. Business for me is like a game, like a puzzle for me."

The three-year-old company is already profitable. Voight said, "The business is growing. We are clearly filling a need. Peo-

ple want this."

MindWare is developing more of its own products to add to the successful Handful of Riddles, a deck of cards with word riddles dealing with the environment. Voight is most proud of the Bella Mystery Deck, starring MindWare's own 13 year-old Bella in 52 non-violent mysteries.

The catalog features an accompanying paragraph for each item, designating the specific intellectual and creative skills it addresses. There are word puzzles, games, and designs to "encourage expertise in problem solving."

Pattern and design puzzles and kits invite exploration in design and color composition and alternative solutions. Visual illusions for visual problem-solving promote focus and concentration. Math problems, including geometry, are posed in interdisciplinary contexts, even sports like football, basketball, and baseball.

"Escher's Kaleidocycles" provide two-dimensional pieces with the graphic artist's masterful designs of perspective and symmetry and color and form that can be formed into 3D shapes.

A range of age-appropriate materials cultivate components of critical thinking, nourishing observational acumen, supplying logic problems where students find winning strategies and apply deductive logic, and conjure other tactics within given parameters. Forethought, visualization, and cause and effect are also developed, accompanying analytic assessment.

Most products are multi-level in content and purpose and are sufficiently versatile to permit a user's inventive solutions. Made out of substantive materials to last, instruction booklets and suggested solutions are provided.

However, knowing how to deal with failure and success, acquiring patience, tenacity, and objectivity are integral skills in these fields of learning. There are materials for individual activity, games with contemporary themes, such as courtroom scenarios and science and weather, for friends and coworkers to relax and social-

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Puzzles, Books & Games To Educate & Entertain!

Putting it all together: The MindWare catalog provides parents and teachers with a source for mind challenging gifts and toys. The book has merchandise for all ages.

ize, and, importantly, games and problems that create opportunities for parents to teach and play with their children. (And yes, there is a parental guide, "Teach Your Child How To Think," by Dr. Edward deBono.)

Especially in demand are the Einstein posters. "That's the kind of thing people would think of us for," she said.

MindWare affords opportunities to invest in one's mind to acquire capabilities actually needed to adapt now as well as in the future. For a copy call 800-999-0398.

Editor's note: Barnett-Goldstein is a Southfield-based freelance writer who fervently believes children should be exposed to more than video games and computer programs. She endorses this catalog!

Designer prefers royal creations

BY JUDITH HARRIS SOLOMON
SPECIAL WRITER

Cynthia Bach likes to give jewels the royal treatment.

The Los Angeles-based jewelry designer, whose line is sold exclusively at Neiman Marcus stores nationwide, began creating heraldic jewelry in 1989 when a customer commissioned her to design a crown brooch for his wife to commemorate their



Cynthia Bach

50th wedding anniversary.

This inspired Bach to research crowns throughout history. "The crown is the ultimate jeweler's art," says Bach, whose heraldic designs include crown, cross, orb and scepter-shaped brooches, rings, bracelets, earrings and charms.

"In art history," Bach says, "there are 400 different crosses. It's a beautiful, classic shape that will never go out of style." Bach creates 18 different styles of crosses ranging from a show stopper piece that is three-inches high and two-



and-a-half inches wide, to a petite Botony Cross that is encrusted with diamonds.

She is particularly proud of her scepter pin that is pictured in the December issue of Town and Country magazine.

"It's my museum piece," she says. Made out of 17 different pieces, the five-and-one-half-inch-high pin features a pear-shaped, rubelite tourmaline stone with an intense hot pink color and a diamond entourage.

While making a personal appearance earlier this month at Neiman Marcus in Troy, Bach said that charm bracelets are back in style. "People are buying charms like crazy. Husbands like them because they can buy one at a time."

Bach created a wonderful royal-themed charm bracelet in 1995 for a princess of Brunei.

Each link of the bracelet is a different design, and there are cross, heart, crown, orb and scepter charms.

Aaron Spelling recently purchased an identical one to give to his wife, Candy, for Chanukah this year. "But, don't tell anyone," Bach cautions. "It's a secret."

In fact, Bach's jewelry is very popular

with Hollywood royalty.

"Arnold Schwarzenegger bought a big, medieval cross for Maria Schriver with citrines, sapphires and pearls. Of course, Arnold is going to buy the biggest," she says. "And the stars love baby jewelry. It's the hottest thing in L.A. Meg Ryan and Nastassja Kinski have my baby rosary necklaces."

Besides heraldic-themed pieces, other popular Bach designs include skinny stacking rings available in platinum, yellow or rose gold. Some have carved motifs; others have colored stones.

The rings appeared on the Oprah Winfrey show on Dec. 11. Afterwards, "our phone and the Neiman Marcus phone rang off the wall," says Jim Matthews, Bach's husband who is also a master jeweler.

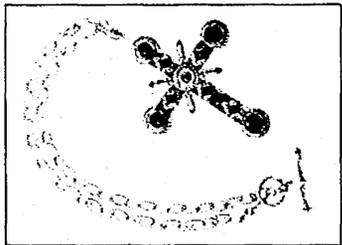
Bach's jewelry is crafted almost entirely out of 18 karat gold (with a sprinkling of platinum and rose gold pieces), pearls, semi-precious and precious stones.

Everything is produced by hand — much of it under the microscope — and she personally selects all of the stones. Her exquisite workmanship employs five metalsmithing techniques: brocade work, gadrooning (grooves), hand-engraving, granulation (beading) and satin-finishing.

Each piece is intricately detailed. "Even the backs are pretty," Bach says. "I believe the back should be just as beau-

tiful as the front."

The Neiman Marcus store in Troy has a permanent collection of Bach's designs.



Best-selling designs: Above, a medieval cross. Below, crownset rings.



Holiday help: Customer Service Numbers

Parents and grandparents may find these phone numbers handy when the gifts Santa Claus left are missing pieces or hard to assemble:

Fisher Price: 1-800-432-5437

Hasbro: 1-800-752-9755

Kenner: 1-800-327-8264

Lego: 1-800-422-5346

Lionel Trains: 1-810-949-4100

Little Tykes: 1-800-321-0183

Mattel: 1-800-524-8697

Playskool: 1-800-752-9755

Ohio Art: 1-419-636-3141

Tyco: 1-800-423-5340



Oh thank heaven for 7-Eleven stores

7-Eleven stores can save the holidays if you've forgotten any essentials. Millions of Americans rely on 7-Eleven to be open holidays for those easy-to-forget essentials like film, batteries, milk, and bread.

But in recent years, the convenience-store chain has realized that in addition to servicing last-minute errand-runners, there are plenty of shoppers looking for an easy place to get unique holiday gifts and avoid the crowded malls.

This year, 7-Eleven has an expanded line of holiday items, which range from hostess gifts to wrapping paper, to holiday party platters and even Hickory Farms gift sets.

"Since 1962, when the stores first began to operate round-the-clock, about 95 percent of the 5,400 U.S. stores have stayed open on Dec. 25," said Wendy Barth, the company's vice president of sales and marketing. "It's also the company's busiest sales day of the year."

And while the company expects to sell a lot of staples like milk and bread, there are plenty of frantic holiday shoppers searching for that perfect gift for hostesses and friends.

Here are a few gift items at 7-Eleven that are sure to be a big hit with kids as well as adults:

■ "Santa Switchboard" phone card, which allows children to phone Santa and leave their wish list. Parents can then use the phone card to call and hear the child's requests. There's also 10 minutes of long-distance talk time on the card.

■ Festively-decorated 15- and 30-minute holiday pre-paid phone cards are perfect gifts for college students, military personnel, relatives and friends far from home.

■ Pagers continue to be hot this year, and 7-Eleven has the Motorola Pronto numeric pager for a suggested retail price of \$39.95, which includes activation val-

ued at \$20. The pagers come in colors of teal, blue and black.

■ Back by popular demand are 7-Eleven's hand-painted porcelain holiday tree ornaments — free with any 8-gallon gasoline purchase. Customers can collect all five and even purchase three additional ornaments for a suggested retail price of \$4.99 each.

■ Perfect for men (and women) — new cigar gift packs, which include ash trays, cigar cutters and lighters. There's also a black leather cigar carrying case and humidifier for storing cigars.

■ 7-Eleven expects to sell 35,000 of its 1997 limited edition toy trucks — one is a 1928 Chevrolet truck, and the other a 7-Eleven/Citgo truck and carrier with working lights and motorized sounds that includes a removable NASCAR racer inside the carrier. Both are made of die-cast metal. Some stores began taking orders for the trucks in November. Each truck is numbered for collectibility.

■ You won't see the Coca-Cola bean-toys plush bear, seal and penguin anywhere but 7-Eleven. The popular animated advertising characters come with a small plastic bottle of Coke in one hand. Beanie collectors will want these items because of their high quality, uniqueness and limited availability.

■ Hickory Farms gift sets. One includes a beef stick, crackers, two cheeses, herbs and spice cheese spread

and hot mustard. The other has four varieties of meats and sausages.

Where's the party?

For parties and get-togethers, 7-Eleven stores will offer three varieties of holiday platters: spicy chicken wings, assortment of meats and cheeses and a vegetable medley with dip. The platters can be pre-ordered and picked up the following day.

■ 7-Eleven's wide array of premium wines and champagnes make great hostess gifts, and the stores also carry festive holiday gift bags made especially to fit a wine or champagne bottle.

■ If sweets are preferred, there's a selection of Whitman and Russell Stover chocolates in boxed gift sets just waiting to be gobbled up.

■ Plenty of stocking stuffers like Barbie clothes and accessories, a Micro Machines collectible mini 7-Eleven store, Hot Wheels cars, Nintendo hologram wrist watches (only available at 7-Eleven stores), colorful holiday beanbag soft plush toys, festive socks for men and women, red and green glitter nail polish and an assortment of holiday earrings and matching pendants.

■ Lottery tickets and crisp bills from the automated teller machines make great stocking stuffers, too.

■ 7-Eleven even has an assortment of wrapping paper (sorry, you have to wrap it yourself), gift bags, bows and tissue.



Saved by 7-Eleven: Presidential chef Matthew Antonovich, who has cooked for five of the last six commanders-in-chief, faced a promotional challenge from 7-Eleven recently, and created holiday recipes from items at the 24-hour convenience store. Here's his recipe for **Savory Stuffed Apples:** 4 apples, 1 pound pork sausage, 8 oz. sharp, cheddar cheese grated, 3 teaspoons bread crumbs. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cut apples in half and core. Remove 1/2 apple pulp, chop and knead into the sausage. Stuff each apple half with the sausage mixture. Sprinkle each apple with 1 oz. of cheese. Top with bread crumbs. Bake 1 hour until apples are soft and sausage is cooked through.

Where can I find?

What we found:

- Clean shower was spotted at Target in Westland or Oakridge Market on Crooks in Royal Oak.
- Xia-Xiang perfume can be found in the Beauty Boutique Catalog 6836 Engle, P. O. Box 94520 Cleveland, OH 44101 (440) 826-3008.
- The card game *Flinch* at The Barn, 8 Mile and Beck.
- Readers offered the talking *Cookie Monster* and *Oscar* for Linda.
- The *Shirley Temple* is at *Village Hidden Treasures*, in downtown Farmington, Grand River/Farmington roads. (248) 477-3388.
- *Tatiana* by Diane Von Furstenberg is on the Home Shopping Network (800) 284-1300, The America Store on T.V. (800) 284-3400, and QVC (800) 345-1515.
- We found the *Arthur Godfrey* album for Sue, the *Lone Ranger* board game for Linda, the *Apple II C* monitor with hard drive and *Word and Excel* programs for Richard, *Sea Chanty* albums for Cindy and her dad.
- The rust spot remover *Magica Cleaner* is on QVC (800) 345-1515.
- *Clairol Color lite ash blonde* for Kathy, call *Clairol* (800) 252-4765.
- *Pfaltzgraff Christmas Heirloom* dishes, try (800) 666-4899 customer service of *Pfaltzgraff*.

We're still looking for:

- A race track game from the 50 or 60's called *Tric Trax* for John.
- A picture of all the *Santa Bears*.

- The correct address for E.J. Danish modern chair cushions.
- *Debbie* is looking for a *Mary Mag* power doll house from the early-mid 60's on magnetic stilts in its entirety.
- *Fuzzy Wuzzy* soaps.
- *Lori* is still looking for a card game from the 70's *Mille Bourne*.
- *Denim bib overall* for men 36 length for *Kathy* in *Garden City*.
- *Revlon Lactol* conditioning lotion for nails, cuticles, grey gone detergent.
- *Linda* of *Troy* is looking for a *Barbie Bride* doll with dark brown hair.
- *Dishes* from *A&P* bought in 1979 called "*Diane*."
- A video transfer box that transfers old 8mm film onto video movies, to rent or buy for *Douglas* of *Farmington Hills*.
- *Word-of-mouth spaghetti sauce* for *Rose*.
- *Jill Sanders* cologne for men for *Darryl*.
- The game *Hotels* for *Barb*.

- A recording by *Bing Crosby* and *David Bowie* of *Little Drummer Boy* for *Steven*.
- The *Royal Doulton Coronet* pattern in *White* for *Fay*.
- The *Sesame Street* by *Vetex* cartridge in *green* for *Kim*. She has the *yellow* and *blue*.
- *Jean* is desperately trying to come across a *Cary Grant* recording of *Red Roses* for a *Blue Lady* from many years ago.
- Two more callers said they want to locate a "*Drowsy Doll*" with pull string, too.

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by Herbert M. Gardner, D.D.S. & Martha P. Zinderman, R.N., D.D.S.

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ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Class traces 'Herstory of Art'

Deborah Lubera-Kawsky challenges men and women alike to look through any art history textbook for images created by or for women.

Although women's contributions to the arts have been significant throughout history, explains Lubera-Kawsky, that has not been reflected in the teaching of art history. The majority of photographs found in the textbooks are representations of women.

Lubera-Kawsky, a Plymouth resident who graduated with a doctorate in art history from Princeton University, is about to change that. She will teach a new class, "The Herstory of Art: Women and the Visual Arts," beginning Wednesday, Jan. 7 at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 South Cranbrook Road, Birmingham. For more information, or to register, call (248) 644-0866.

"How many women artists can you name?" asked Lubera-Kawsky. "In the art history textbooks you do see more images of women, than created by women. In Renaissance times, women were more to be seen than heard. Women were considered more objects than subjects. Elaborate dresses in the portraits represented importance of the family not the woman."

According to Lubera-Kawsky, the lack of images by or for women is an oversight often explained by the lesser social and economic status of women, by the perishable nature of the arts frequently practiced by women such as textiles and ceramics, and by the categorization of these arts as "minor arts."

Slides shown during the classes will document the history of women in art while examining a range of topics from portraits of women in Italian Renaissance art to contemporary art as political statement. She will also cover the achievements of women in the arts from the prehistoric era to the present time, highlighting women as subjects, patrons and artists. For the final session, Lubera-Kawsky plans to bring in a contemporary woman artist for her perspective on the state of women artists today. The class will also take a trip to the Detroit Institute of Art to view works.

"Up until our own century, there were so many rules placed on women in society," Lubera-Kawsky. "It's inspiring to see how many obstacles they overcame."

Investigating the topic has been illuminating for Lubera-Kawsky.

"I wanted to do the class because I wanted to know about this myself. I ended up doing a lot of research on not only artists but historical background and placing the works in historical context. You need to know the history of how and why things were represented."

Some of the earliest self-portraits were created in the Middle Ages by women artists who were transcribing manuscripts.

"In the Middle Ages you either got married or joined the convent, and if women wanted to be artists, the monastery was the main center of learning where they could be trained and receive education."

Up until the Middle Ages, there is not much documentation of women creating art except for textiles.

"During the Renaissance and Middle Ages, we first started knowing the names of artists, but women weren't major figures in influencing the art of

Please see EXPRESSIONS, D2

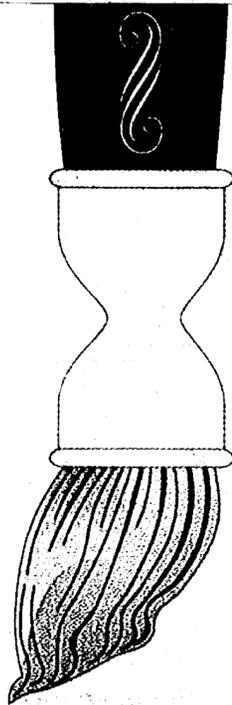


Women in art: Mary Cassatt created this pastel on paper titled "Women Admiring a Child" in 1897.

Artists draw on future

Creative leaders resolved, wishful, determined

BY FRANK PROVENZANO • STAFF WRITER



TAMMIE GRAVES/STAFF ARTIST

The annual rite of making New Year's Resolutions is upon us.

Raise a glass to the impeccable timing of the eternal calendar makers, those Dionysian comics who've combined year-end festive cheer with a dash of guilt.



After binging on food, sweets, family and football for the last week — and the biggest celebration ahead — we'll soon enter the push and pull post-holiday season. Also known as the rest of our lives.

Get a notepad to consider a few resolutions of your own. It's a good way to jump-start those slumbering brain cells.

Follow along as members of the local arts community cogitate on their prospective course for 1998.

Some have made resolutions, and of course, some have assembled a wish list. But then, this is the arts, a world where having a dream is not idle reflection, but a prerequisite.

Building the arts community

"My resolution for the DIA is to build a stronger financial base for the museum and to expand the opportunities for people to experience art."

— Maurice D. Parrish, interim director Detroit Institute of Arts

"To continue building on the popularity of opera among a young audience; to pay off the Detroit Opera House mortgage well in advance; and, to remain healthy so that I can meet the challenges that lie ahead."

— David DiChiera, general director Michigan Opera Theatre

"I'm resolved to get the message out that Meadow Brook is here and the artistic standard is rising; to increase the audience by 4,000; and, to make a lot of noise."

— Geoffrey Sherman, artistic director Meadow Brook Theatre, Rochester Hills

"We're resolved to find a generous soul who'll donate the funds (\$2 million) to complete Phase III and Phase IV of the BBAA's building project."

— Janet Torno, executive director Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association

"Our hope for 1998 is that the arts will find a place in every home in our community and every person is reached by the PCAC and its programs."

— Jennifer Tobin, executive director Plymouth Community Arts Council

"To bring more activities to make this the center of arts in the area; to introduce new programs in theater, dance and ethnic classes; to get more exposure so people know we're here."

— Helen Gale, programmer Southfield Centre of the Arts

"To continue to increase the interest in the arts by spreading the word through information (via a newsletter and cable), good publicity and leadership."

— Bob Sheridan, chair Livonia Arts Commission

"To help foster a feeling in the community that celebrates the spirit that's central to the arts."

— Maury Okun, executive director Detroit Chamber Winds, based in Troy

"To create full houses. Of course, the \$64,000 question is how to do it. On a personal level, I'm resolved to begin playing piano again."

— Bob Bennett, president Livonia Symphony Orchestra

Proverbial search

"To find a visionary with deep pockets who can help us double the size of the museum."

— Gregory Whittkopp, director Cranbrook Art Museum

"To expand the funding base and explore more partnerships; and, to take time to enjoy the arts as we're administering them."

— Betty Ruedeselli, executive director Paint Creek Center for the Arts, Rochester

"To encourage the acceptance of the public sculptures (around Livonia); to enhance any of our existing city (arts) facilities."

— Lee Alankas, vice chair Livonia Arts Commission

"To reach into the schools more meaningfully; increase the size of our audience and develop a broader base of support."

— Russell Reed, music director Plymouth Symphony Orchestra

"To show the kind of art that is open and expressive and will invite viewers to get in touch with their own feelings and to come away with new ideas."

— Alan Cary, Director Cary Gallery, Rochester

"To educate our customers about Native American art and artists; to encourage people to seek out art by visiting a museum or gallery."

— Annette Horn, owner Native West, an art gallery in Plymouth

"To continue to bring extraordinary cultural events to our community enriching the human soul and spirit through music."

— Ginka Gerova-Ortega of Bloomfield Hills artistic director, Musica Viva International Concerts

Smell the roses

"To be more organized and to work more efficiently. I always say I want to work harder, but then I always say 'Don't work so hard and smell the roses.'"

— Laurie Eisenhower, director Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, Rochester Hills

"Eat more healthy food; attend more movies at the DIA with my new husband; stop nagging my 29-year-old brother to clean his apartment."

— Laurie Landers Goldman of Birmingham violinist, Detroit Symphony Orchestra

"To focus more on my own work; to work less on boards and community activities. I'd like to complete 20 new works next year."

— Sergio DeGiusti, sculptor Redford resident

"To find ways to revive spirituality in my work, and to get back to the basic relationships of why an audience is moved."

— Geoffrey Sherman, artistic director Meadow Brook Theatre

"To be instrumental in creating an awareness of the value of art in our society and in each individual's life."

— Janet Torno, executive director Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association

"To promote what the late Walter Buhl Ford II said, 'Art in all its forms and manifestations of expression is the soul of living.'"

— Alan Cary, director Cary Gallery, Rochester

Lift your resolution

And lastly, Ginka Gerova-Ortega, artistic director of Musica Viva, perhaps best articulated the spirit of those who seek artistic expression as a way to understand themselves and appreciate the vast differences among the people of the world.

"Live your dream and god-given talent to the fullest," said the renowned Spanish-born flutist. "Radiate love. Believe in the miracle of goodness."

Take a moment. Raise a glass. Lift your resolution.

And believe.

EXHIBITION

Painter highlights city, village life

Littorio Del Signore

What: An exhibition of approximately 30 oil paintings by the artist born in Italy and now living in Montreal.
Where: Park West Gallery, 29469 North western Highway, (between 12 and 13 Mile Roads) in Park West Plaza, Southfield. To R.S.V.P. for receptions with artist or for more information, call (800) 521-9654.
When: Friday-Sunday, Jan. 16-18, with receptions to meet the artist 7-9 p.m. Friday, and 2-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Regular gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, until 9 p.m. Thursday-Friday, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Littorio Del Signore has been painting since he was 6 years old. "I have the need inside to express myself in painting," said Del Signore, who was visiting his cousin John Del Signore and wife Lina at their restaurant Fonte d'Amore on Dec. 18 to check last minute details for his one-man exhibition Jan. 16-18 at Park West Gallery in Southfield. "I paint what I think in my heart and my mind; it's very romantic."

Created in post-Impressionist style, the 30 oil paintings distinguish the 59-year-old Montreal resident as an artist of the people as Del Signore portrays men, women and children engaged in everyday activities. Each city, village and market scene is bathed in golden morning light or sunset rose.

Lina translated for Littorio Del Signore who speaks Italian and French but little English as they met with Park West Gallery president

Please see PAINTER, D2



Impressionistic light: Littorio Del Signore, an artist of the people, creates everyday scenes such as this painting titled "The Break."

Expressions from page D1

the day," said Lubera-Kawsky. "During the Renaissance, women were primarily portrait artists then started moving into history painting. Male artists resented the move."

In the Baroque era, Artemisia Gentileschi (1593-1653) was probably the most significant woman artist and one of the first to move into the male dominated area of history painting. Her oil on canvas "Judith and Maidservant with the Head of Holofernes" (c. 1625) is one of the paintings the class will visit



Self portrait: The age of enlightenment did not filter down to women like Elisabeth Vigee-Lebrun, the official portrait painter to Marie Antoinette.

erated her people from an advancing army by seducing and then beheading the general of the army.

"Artemisia's own experiences affected what she represented in her art," said Lubera-Kawsky. "She was raped by one of her instructors so she often represented women being wronged."

In the 18th century, the Age of Enlightenment did not filter down to women like Elisabeth Vigee-Lebrun (1755-1842), the official portrait painter of Marie Antoinette before the French Revolution. However, women artists did play a role in influencing politics. Even though some of them almost lost their heads doing it.

"At the time, artists were political propagandists," said Lubera-Kawsky. "During the revolution Marie Antoinette was criticized for saying 'let them eat cake' in reference to her subjects so Vigee-Lebrun painted Marie Antoinette with her children to try to change her image. After the family was executed, Vigee-Lebrun fled the country fearing for her life."

In the late 19th century, Mary Cassatt (1844-1926), was one of the most influential female artists. She painted primarily women and children.

"We know a lot about her art, but she was important in promoting the French Impressionists," said Lubera-Kawsky. "At the time, French Impressionism was very revolutionary and people didn't like it."

Women artists, such as Cassatt, could not take a life drawing class with nude female models until the 19th century, nor

with male nudes until the 20th century.

"It wasn't considered proper," said Lubera-Kawsky. "Now it seems silly for us to think a woman couldn't go to a life drawing class to study from a male nude."

One of the most important women artists in the last half of the 20th century is Judy Chicago (b. 1934) who relays feminist issues in her work. The class will also cover African American artists such as Faith Ringold.

"I wanted to do the class because I wanted to know about this myself," said Lubera-Kawsky. "I ended up doing a lot of research on not only artists but historical background and placing the works in historical context. You need to know the history of how and why things were represented."

A mother of an 18-month-old and 4-year-old, Lubera-Kawsky would like to offer an art history class for children at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association in the future. Unlike the art history classes Lubera-Kawsky taught at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, the BBAA offers her the freedom to design courses.

"I was so impressed by the depth of the appreciation of the arts at the BBAA, and I like being involved with the community," said Lubera-Kawsky. "I like to bring art to life, to discuss the function of art, how it was used to save your soul during the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Those paintings of objects were part of daily life."

Linda Ann Chomin is an arts reporter for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.



History painting: Artemisia Gentileschi painted the oil on canvas "Judith and Maidservant with the Head of Holofernes" in 1625. The maidservant is thought to be a self portrait of the artist.

PHOTO COURTESY DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

at the Detroit Institute of Arts. The painting shows Judith (of the Old Testament). Judith lib-

Painter from page D1

Albert Scaglione. Born in Italy, Del Signore studied with Panfilo Del Beato and J.P. Serralongue in Anney, France, at Ecole des Beaux-Arts where he earned a diploma with honors.

Mesmerized by its cosmopolitan charm, Del Signore moved to Montreal 15 years ago. Much of his work is documented in the book titled "Del Signore."

For the city scenes, Del Signore sketches on location, then uses his imagination. When the subject matter is architecture such as his paintings of Laurel Manor and Madonna University, Del Signore works from photographs to maintain accuracy. But even these paintings of buildings incorporate people going about their daily lives.

"Thirty years ago when I finished school in France, everything was abstract," said Del Signore. "I wanted to do some-

thing different. I wanted to do the figure."

An admirer of Sargent and Cassatt, Del Signore strives for brush work that's fast and spontaneous. The painting must be complete in his mind before he picks up a brush. Then he paints very fast. When his daughter Sonia, also an artist, married, Del Signore painted 250 miniature works to give each of the guests at the wedding.

In preparation for the Park West show, Del Signore started painting one year ago. With every painting sold, Littorio says that the purchaser is taking away a part of him.

"All of my paintings are my children," he said.

Classical influence

This is Del Signore's first show at Park West Gallery, and his premier exhibition in America although he has work in private,

public and corporate collections in Europe and America such as the Pinacothèque and City Hall of Chieta, Italy, the City Hall of Lasalle, Quebec, in Canada, Gallery of the Museum of Montreal, Kaspar Gallery of Toronto, and the private collection of singer Celine Dion.

"I feel the work is excellent, powerful. It comes out of a background of Italian artists, the Renaissance and painters like Tintoretto," said Scaglione. "It's hundreds of years of Italian painting coming to a contemporary culmination."

Scaglione met Del Signore a year ago after receiving a phone call from Frank Stella to come to Fonte d' Amore to see the work of the Italian artist. Since that time, Scaglione began selling Del Signore's paintings in the gallery. Delighted with the quality and content of a group of paintings he received this fall, Scaglione asked Del Signore to do a show in January.

"He's been painting 40 years so you're looking at a level of high craft and beautiful Impressionist brush work," said Scaglione. "If you look at the light it just glows. Littorio does (sell) very well in Montreal. It's the sign of a popular artist when you ask if he has any paintings, he'll say a few then you know he sells."

"This is one of the first opportunities as an Italian American to find someone that so well fits the classical painting of Italy today," said Scaglione. "and because his market has been Montreal, his prices are such that I feel the show will be a sell out."

Scaglione estimates paintings will, on average, range from under \$1,000 to \$4,000.

Together again

John and Littorio Del Signore took different roads after growing up in Italy. They met again at a relative's wedding in New York after being apart 40 years.

"We lost communication, but now we're together," said John, who's brother is a sculptor in Italy. "Littorio's original, and he's a very hard worker, what he does he puts in his heart and soul. We're cousins and it makes me feel proud."

Lina remembers Littorio at age 14 painting the skirt of one of her friends back in Italy. When asked what she likes about his painting, Lina replied, "there isn't anything I don't like. It's not just what he sees, but his creativity. He's very honest. Each painting, I saw has a reality. I see the reality of something he's done from his heart. I see love."

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AUDITIONS / CALL FOR ENTRIES

NAT'L ANTHEM AT AUTO SHOW
Open auditions for children ages six to 10 to sing the national anthem in a small choir at auto show, 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28 at Highland Park Baptist Church (door F-Music Room) at 12 Mile and Lahser, Southfield. Different regions and ethnic representations needed. Performance scheduled 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 9 at Cobo Hall. (248) 349-4466.

FARMINGTON COMMUNITY CHORUS
Auditions for spring session 7:30 p.m. January 6 & 13. Chorus performs two major shows each year, a holiday concert and a spring concert. Must be an area resident, at least 18 years old. Farmington Hills Activity Center, 11 Mile Road, east of Middlebelt. Farmington Hills: (248) 471-4516.

NAT'L JURIED EXHIBIT & ART & APPLES AT PCCA
Paint Creek Center for the Arts seeks entries for national juried all media exhibition, March 27-April 24, 1998. Deadline for slide entries: Jan. 15, 1998. PCCA seeks applications from artists in fine arts or fine crafts at the juried Art & Apples Festival, Sept. 12-13, 1998. Slides must be received by March 6, 1998. Entry fee: \$20. For prospectus and application form write or contact PCCA, 407 Pine Street, Rochester, MI 48307; (248) 651-4110.

17TH ANNUAL MICHIGAN FINE ARTS COMPETITION
Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association seeks entries for its statewide all media competition, March 6-27. For information and a prospectus, call (248) 644-0866.

MICHIGAN DRAWING BIENNIAL '98
Hand deliver entries to Room 106 Ford Hall, Eastern Michigan University by 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10. Opening reception Tuesday, Feb. 3, exhibit thru Feb. 20. For information, contact Eastern Michigan Art Department.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13 & 20. Fifty voice choir includes both students and experienced singers of all ages. St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile Road (west of Inkster Road), Livonia: (248) 349-8175 or (313) 462-4435.

VERY SPECIAL ARTS MICHIGAN
Call for Art by people with disabilities for a juried exhibition. Deadline: Jan. 15. Contact VSAMI office, 21700 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI 48075; (248) 423-1080.

MUSIC COMPETITION
The Bohemians Club, a.k.a. The Musicians Club of Greater Detroit, will hold its first annual Solo Concerto Competition for orchestral instruments. Prize money will be awarded. Contestants, between ages of 16-22, must submit performance tape by March 1, 1998. Send to: Herbert Couf, c/o The Bohemians, 37685 Russett Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48331.

DOCUMENTS USA
Slides, videotape (no longer than 15 minutes) for a three-month spring 1998 exhibit. Every submission will be presented. Artists of any medium, age free to participate. The Museum of Contemporary Art, 23 W. Lawrence St., Ste. 101, Pontiac, MI 48342.

PARK PLAYERS
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8 & 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11, open audition for Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado." All roles open for casting. Prepare 16 bars of a song to demonstrate vocal range. An accompanist will be provided. Scheduled performances March 21/23, 28/30 and April 3/4, 1998. North Rosedale Park Community House, 18445 Scarsdale, Detroit: (313) 459-2332.

HARBOR BELLS
English secular hand bell choir has openings for ringers 18 years or older. Must read music. Rehearsals once a week, Sept.-June. (248) 681-6453.

BREVARD MUSIC CENTER AUDITIONS
Regional auditions 4-7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11. University of Michigan, Room #2043. Brevard Music Center is a summer music festival in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. The program runs June 24-Aug. 9, 1998 for advanced instrumentalists ages 14-35, and for opera students who have completed at least one year of college study. Auditions will serve both admission and scholarship purposes. To schedule an audition and for more information, call Lynn Johnson, (704) 884-2975.

BENEFITS

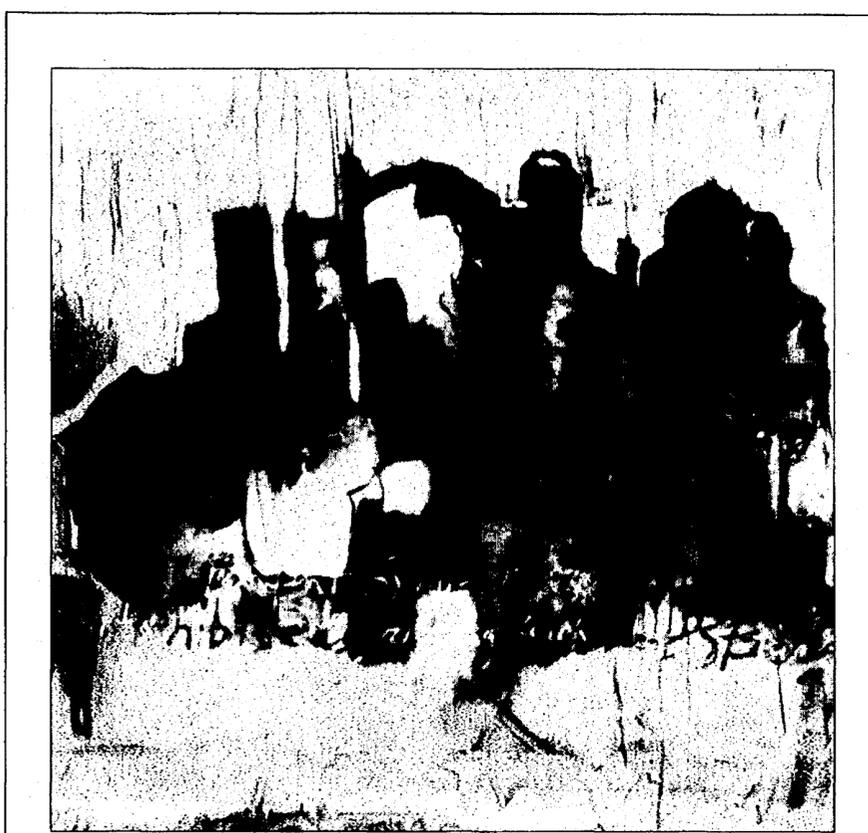
MS THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD
A calendar of 12 images selected from the 87-piece international exhibit, and holiday cards and note cards. Write/contact The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 733 Third Avenue, New York, NY, 10017; (800) FIGHT MS

CHORALE

CHRISTMAS CAROLS
4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4, the Polish Chorale in a concert of Polish Christmas songs. St. Barbara, 13534 Colson, Dearborn: (313) 863-6209.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

BBAA WINTER CLASSES
Registration for Jan. 5 March 28 classes, new offerings include Women and



Hibiscus Rising: One of the new works by painter Nancy Wolfe on exhibit through Jan. 15 at the Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor; (313) 994-8004.

Visual Arts, Color Theory and Application, Experimental Basketry with Paper, Introduction to Printmaking, Steel Sculpture Workshop, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 Cranbrook Road, Birmingham: (248) 644-0866.

PARTICIPATE IN PERFORMING AND FINE ARTS
Jingle BEL, Inc. of Rochester Hills offers members of Rochester and neighboring communities a program to expand skills to build self-confidence through participation in the arts. Winter classes: 7:15-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13-April 1, "Live Wires," the basics of vocal, drama and choreographic techniques; 4:15-5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14-April 1, "Broadway Brigade," instruction in music and theater; 3:15-4:15 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14-April 1 "Short Circuit," a children's class covering basics of drama, singing and movement with emphasis on developing listening skills; (248) 375-9027.

SOUTHFIELD CENTRE FOR THE ARTS
Winter classes: 7:10 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13, "Landscape in Pastel," \$120/10 weeks; 7:10 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, "Ceramics," \$50/8 weeks; 7:9 p.m. Wednesday, "Painting & Drawing," \$75/6 weeks; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, "Experimental Watercolor Workshop," \$40/1 meeting; 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12, "Introduction to Watercolor," \$75/6 weeks; 1-4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12, "Advanced Watercolor," \$75/6 weeks; 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, "Chain Making Workshop," \$35/1 meeting; 7:8-30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, "Basic Bead Stringing," \$10/1 meeting; 7:9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13, "Vintage Beaded Knitted Bags," \$15/1 meeting. Southfield Centre for the Arts: 24350 Southfield Road.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
Through March 5 - 10 a.m. 12:15 p.m., "Survey of World Art," Holley Room; Thursdays, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12 & 19, 4-6 p.m., "Drawing for Adults," Studio and Galleries; 10 a.m.-noon Saturdays Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, "Altering Spaces: Installation Art," Holley Room; 10 a.m.-noon Saturdays Feb. 21, 28 March 7, "From the African Loom to the African American Quilt," Fees vary. Classes and workshops require preregistration. To register call (313) 833-4249.

PCCA WINTER CLASSES
Registration open for classes from 4 years old and up. Classes run, Jan. 19-March 4, 407 Pine Street, Rochester. To register, (248) 651-4110.

ANN ARBOR ART CENTER
Winter classes begin the week of Jan. 12, including garden vessel workshop, painting landscapes, figurative painting, 117 W. Liberty, downtown Ann Arbor; (313) 994-8004.

WINTER CLASSES WITH KAREN HALPERN
January and February classes with noted Bloomfield Hills artist. Class offerings include a range of media. Locations include Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, West Bloomfield, Ferndale and Potosky. Schedules and information, call (248) 851-8215.

CLASSICAL

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, "Between the Holidays Spectacular," conducted by Felix Resnick, guest artist pianist David Syme. Program includes Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64, Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor, Op. 30.

Temple Beth El, 14 Mile at Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills: (248) 645-BBSO.

DANCE

SWAN LAKE ON ICE
7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12, and 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13, the St. Petersburg State Ice Ballet performs the elaborately costumed production, Macob Community College, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Twp.: (810) 286-2141.

EXHIBITS (ON-GOING)

SWANN GALLERY
Through Dec. 28 - 6 p.m., "The Christmas Show," featuring works by Diana Garmann, David Mandiberg, Virinder Chaudhry, 1250 Library Street, Detroit: (313) 965-4826.

C POP GALLERY
Through Dec. 30 - "Nocturnal Planet: Paintings, Prints and Drawings by Glenn Barr, 515 S. Lafayette, Ste. D, Royal Oak: (248) 398-9999.

SOUTHFIELD CENTRE FOR THE ARTS
Through Dec. 30 - Iraqi-born artist Ali Makki, 24350 Southfield Road, Southfield: (248) 424-9022.

JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN MUSEUM/GALLERY
Through Dec. 31 - "Threads," an exhibit and sale of quilts, fabric art, textiles and tapestries. Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield, (248) 661-7641.

KNOLLWOOD GALLERY
Through Dec. 31 - "Food Art of David McCall Johnston," 6447 Inkster Road at Maple, Bloomfield Hills: (248) 626-9844.

OAKLAND COUNTY GALLERIA
Through Dec. 31 - "50th anniversary exhibit of the Michigan Weaver's Guild," 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Second Floor, Executive Office Building, Pontiac: (248) 858-0415.

ZEITGEIST GALLERY/PERFORMANCE VENUE
Through Dec. 31 - "The Hi & Goodbye Show," paintings by Jacques Karamanoukian and sculptural wood cuts and prints by Karl Schneider, 2661 Michigan Avenue, Detroit: (313) 965-9192.

CLIQUE GALLERY
Through Jan. 3 - 7 p.m., "8 Years, 3 Floors," Elaine Redmond's mannequin series, 200 W. Fifth Avenue, Royal Oak: (248) 545-2200.

DONNA JACOBS GALLERY
Late Hellenistic jewelry from 2nd to 1st century B.C. 574 N. Old Woodward, Birmingham: (248) 540-1600.

ELIZABETH STONE GALLERY
Through Jan. 3 - "Feliz Navidad, Celebrate the Holidays," children's book illustrations by Elisa Kleven, 536 N. Old Woodward Avenue, Birmingham: (248) 647-7040.

GALLERIE BLUE
Through Jan. 4 - "Art and Artifact," a student exhibit under the direction of fiber artist/sculptor Susan Aaron-Taylor, 568 N. Woodward Avenue, Birmingham: (248) 594-0472.

CREATIVE RESOURCE
Through Jan. 5 - "Richard Jerzy: New Paintings," 162 N. Woodward Avenue, Birmingham.

NETWORK GALLERY
Through Jan. 10 - "New Work" by Susan Goethel Campbell, and "Enclosures," an exhibit of picture frames, 7 N. Saginaw Street, Pontiac: (248) 334-3911.

SUSANNE HILBERRY GALLERY
Through Jan. 10 - "Rackstraw Downes, Ellen Phelan, Malcolm Morley: Recent Paintings and Works on Paper," 555 S. Woodward, Birmingham: (248) 642-8250.

SYBARIS GALLERY
Through Jan. 10 - "Sculpture" by Susan Martin, 202 E. Third Street, Royal Oak: (248) 544-3388.

ANN ARBOR ART CENTER
Through Jan. 15 - New Works by painter Nancy Wolfe, 117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor: (313) 994-8004.

HABATAT GALLERIES
Through Jan. 15 - New glass work by Pavel Hlava, 7 N. Saginaw Street, Pontiac: (810) 333-2060.

POSNER GALLERY
Through Jan. 16 - Group exhibit of new works by Marianne Hall, Annie VanGelderer, George Snyder and Paul Jacobson, 523 N. Old Woodward Avenue, Birmingham: (248) 647-2552.

REVOLUTION
Through Jan. 17 - Sculpture by James Shrosbree, including wall mounted and free-standing sculpture; and "On Paper II," prints and drawings of Frank Auerbach, Dara Walker and Sue Williams, 23257 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale: (248) 541-3444.

SHAWGUIDO GALLERY
Through Jan. 17 - "Six Views: New work by Susan Beiner, John Gargano, Adelaide Paul, Betsy Rosenmiller, Bonnie Seeman, Deborah Sigel," 7 N. Saginaw Street, Pontiac: (248) 333-1070.

SWARDS INTO PLOWSHARES
Through Jan. 17 - "Transforming Visions," an international exhibit based on the theme of the "need for peace," 93 E. Adams Avenue, Detroit: (313) 963-7575.

MEADOW BROOK ART GALLERY
Through Jan. 25 - Stephen Magsic: Urban Landscape Paintings, Meadow Brook Hall, Oakland University, Rochester Hills: (248) 370-3005.

THE HALSTED GALLERY
Through Jan. 31 - "Monique's Kindergarten," a series of photographs by Michael Keina, 560 N. Old Woodward Avenue, Birmingham: (248) 644-8284.

ROBERT KIDD GALLERY
Through Jan. 31 - "National Holiday Show," an invitational featuring 45 artists, Thru Jan. 31 107 Townsend Street, Birmingham: (248) 642-3909.

UZELAC GALLERY
Through Jan. 31 - Group show of Center for Creative Studies students and gallery artists, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac: (248) 332-5257.

SENIORS ART
Through March 16 - "Visions of Dimension," works by metro area senior citizens, Hannan House Gallery, 4750 Woodward Avenue, Detroit: (313) 833-1300.

EXHIBIT (OPENINGS)

MILLERS ART CENTER GALLERY
2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, "The Painted Narrative," an exhibit of paintings exploring storytelling and imagery by Alice Alliman and Tony Kroes, 279 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale: (248) 414-7070.

A.C.T. GALLERY
Jan. 9 - 6 p.m., "Ashes to Ashes," featuring Jeanne Biern, Anne Fracassa, Preston Prout and Jack Summers. Through Feb. 13 A.C.T. is an artists cooperative. Hours: Friday-Sat. noon-5 p.m. 29 E. Grand River, across from e

north side of the Woodward Avenue Hudson's building; (313) 371-6522.

ANN ARBOR ART CENTER
Jan. 9 - 6 p.m., "New works from Susanne and John Stephenson," two nationally recognized ceramists. Their latest works explores manifestations of nature through their abstracted, tactile sculpture. Through Feb. 8, 117 W. Liberty, downtown Ann Arbor: (313) 994-8004, ext. 122.

JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN MUSEUM/GALLERY
Jan. 11 - 2 p.m., "The Birth of Israel," color photographs taken half a century ago of Israelis struggling to survive while creating a Jewish state. Through Jan. 29, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield: (248) 661-7641.

ALFRED BERKOWITZ GALLERY
Jan. 15 - "Diversity: Focus on Islam," works of Islamic art, Middle Eastern crafts and traditional calligraphy. Through Feb. 21, The University of Michigan Dearborn, Third Floor of the Mardigian Library, 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn: (313) 593-5058.

JACOB/COMMUNITY ARTS GALLERY
Jan. 16 - "Laughter Ten years After," an international touring exhibit of contemporary art by women artists. Through Feb. 21, Community Arts Auditorium, 5400 Gullen Mall, Wayne State University: (313) 577-2423.

HOLIDAY ART GIFTS

GALLERY BIRMINGHAM
Through Dec. 29 - Holiday exhibit, featuring Manel Anoro, John Asaro, Sohoh Hohn and Rick Laney, 390 E. Maple, Birmingham: (248) 540-8505.

CHRISTIE'S GALLERY
Through Dec. 30 - "Art Wear & Gifts," featuring jewelry, handbags, ceramic ornaments, 34649 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE
Through Dec. 31 - Annual gift shop includes all media. Proceeds benefit the arts center, 47 Williams Street, Pontiac: (248) 333-7849.

MILLERS ARTISTS SUPPLIES
Through Dec. 31 - "Holiday Gift Bazaar," featuring works by local artists, 279 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale: (248) 414-7070.

MOORE'S GALLERY
Through Dec. 31 - "African Gift Items," including baskets, batiks, dolls, masks and jewelry, 304 Hamilton Row, Birmingham: (248) 64-SHONA.

PARK WEST
Through Dec. 31 - "Annual Holiday Show," featuring Linda Le Knief, 29469 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield: (248) 354-2343.

PEWABIC POTTERY
Through Dec. 31 - Annual holiday show, "Earthly Treasures," 10125 E. Jefferson, Detroit: (313) 822-0954.

SILK PHOTOGRAPHY
Through Jan. 31 - "Annual Holiday Photo Sale," 14261 Nadine, Oak Park: (248) 544-1203.

INDIAN MUSIC & DANCE

TWO LEGENDS
2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, internationally acclaimed artists flutist Ginka Gerova-Ortega and classical-modern Indian dancer Puspita Das present an Indian legend using the rhythms, gestures and poses of Indian dance and the ragas of a ratur. The concert is accompanied by a narrator and explanations by the performers. Lecture Hall, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue, Detroit: (313) 833-4249.

LECTURE

DIA EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Sunday, Dec. 28 - noon: "Great Cities of the Ancient World: The Pyramids and the Cities of the Pharaohs," a video presented in the Lecture Hall, 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.: "Kalakshetra - Devotion to Dance," a video presented shown in the Holley Room; 2 p.m.: "Jadu," a concert and dance performance featuring flutist Ginka Gerova Ortega and classical modern Indian dancer Puspita Das. Lecture Hall Monday, Dec. 29 - 11 a.m. & 2 p.m., "Family Theater: Ancient Echoes - Tales from Egypt," DIA Theatre, 2 p.m., "Cinderella," a puppet show, Lecture Hall Wednesday, Dec. 31 2 p.m., "A New Year's Gift Garland," dance tunes and ballads to the sounds of shawms, crumorns, recorders, lutes and drums, Italian Gallery W220 Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue, (313) 833-7899.

HISTORY OF THE BLUES
7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, jazz historian and music man E. Howard Nelson presents a lecture on "The History of the Blues," presented in conjunction with Meadow Brook Theatre's production, "Thunder Knocking on the Door: A Bluesella Tale of Rhythm and the Blues" 500 Olde Town, Rochester: (248) 370-3321.

ART OF CHINA
Six week survey of Chinese Art begins 7:30-9:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12. Professor Michael Farrell will trace the development of Chinese art from Neolithic origins through the 19th century with attention to the sculpture, scroll painting and decorative arts. Fee \$80 six week course, \$15 per lecture. Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road: (248) 424-9022.

MEETING

FARMINGTON ARTISTS CLUB
7 p.m. second Wednesday every month, September-May. Wednesday, Jan. 7. Unwin. Admission free. Lower level of the Farmington Hills Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile Road, between Farmington and Orchard Lake Roads: (248) 646-3707.

MUSEUMS

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN ART MUSEUM
Through Jan. 4 - "Glances and Gazes of the Social Fantastic: Early 20th-Century French Photography; through Jan. 4 - "Fifteen Visions: Books by Contemporary Regional Artists, 525 S. State Street, Ann Arbor: (313) 764-0395.

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
Through Dec. 28 - "Sacred Arts of Haitian Vodou," more than 500 objects, 315 East Warren at Brush, Detroit: (313) 494-5800.

CRANBROOK ART MUSEUM
Through Jan. 4 - "Photography and Site," an exhibit of nine contemporary photographers; "Fragments Toward a City: Architecture and Photography," 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills: (248) 645-3323.

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Through Jan. 4 - "Seasons Lab," a featured attraction at the Experiment Gallery, 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills: (248) 645-3324.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
Through Jan. 4 - "Changing Spaces, Part I," "Splendors of Ancient Egypt," through Jan. 16-Feb. 22 - "Changing Spaces, Part II," Suggested admission: \$ 4 adults; \$1 students/children; Founders Society members free: (313) 833-7900, 5200 Woodward Avenue, Detroit.

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
Through Feb. 1 - "The Mars Show," a planetarium presentation of the red planet narrated by Star Trek's Patrick Stewart, 1109 Geddes Avenue, Ann Arbor: (313) 764-0478.

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATIONS

CHASE THE BLUES NIGHT
9:30-11:30 p.m., Dec. 31, featuring Little Sonny and the Detroit Rhythm Band, First Baptist Church, next to Jacobson's, downtown Birmingham, between Willis and Bates streets. Admission: \$7 adults; \$5 children: (248) 644-0550.

DSO'S NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA
9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 featuring music of Strauss, Bernstein and Weeber. The Keith Saxton Sextet will perform for dancing onstage after the concert. Party hats, noisemakers provided. Tickets: \$25-\$85, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit: (313) 962-3610.

JAZZ REVISITED
8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31, "Jazz Revisited," featuring James Dupogny's Jazz Band in a celebration of swinging jazz. Hosted by Michigan Radio's Hazen Schumacher. Other featured performers include vocalist Banu Gibson and Franz Jackson. Tickets: \$25; (248) 645-6666. Sponsored by WUOM, WVGR, WFUM, Power Center, University of Michigan campus, Ann Arbor. For information, (313) 764-9210.

READING

BALDWIN LIBRARY
Noon Wednesday, Jan. 7, "Books at lunch," a reading series meeting the first Wednesday of the month. Works to be discussed include "Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time" by Dava Sobel and Kate Atkinson's "Behind the Scenes at the Museum." No registration required, 300 West Merrill, downtown Birmingham: (248) 647-1700, ext. 2.

OPEN MIC AT CARIBOU
Third Wednesday of each month. Caribou Coffee, Walton & Livernois: (248) 544-4657.

SINGING

A CAPELLA
4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11, internationally renowned Canada's Star Scape Singers. Each singer has a three octave range. Material ranges from traditional classics to unique arrangements of contemporary classics. Tickets: \$12 & \$20 Shrine Chapel, St. Mary's College, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake: (248) 683-0521.

STORYTELLING

CRANBROOK ART MUSEUM
11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, "Betwixt the Holidays, Storytelling with LaRon Williams," Admission: \$4 adults, \$2, students, children and seniors, 1221 N. Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills: (248) 645-3323.

VOLUNTEERS

CRANBROOK TOURS
Tour guides for public tour programs of Cranbrook campus. Individuals will be trained to give extensive tours of entire National Historic Landmark campus, including Saarnien House and Garden, Cranbrook House. Call (248) 645-3314.

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

General Cinemas
Bargain matinee daily plus \$3.25 (Thu-Lite) show daily

Canton 6
Ford Rd., 1 1/4 west of I-275*
(313) 981-1900
Advanced same-day tickets available
*Denotes V.P. restrictions

GIFT BOOKS NOW ON SALE

THE RAINMAKER (PG13)
SUN-TUE 12:20 (4:00 @ \$3.25) 7:00, 9:30; WED. 12:20, (4:00 @ \$3.50) 7:00
TITANIC (PG13)
SUN-TUE 12:00 (4:00 @ \$3.50) 8:00, WED. 11:00, 3:00, 7:30
SCREAM 2 (R)
SUN-WED 12:00, 1:50, 2:20, (4:30, 5:10 @ \$3.50) 7:10; SUN-TUE ONLY 8:00, 9:50
TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
SUN-WED 12:05, 2:30 (5:00 @ \$3.50) 7:30; SUN-TUE ONLY 10:00
FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG13)
SUN-TUE 2:00, 2:15 (4:40 @ \$3.50) 7:15, 9:45; WED. 12:00, 2:15 (4:40 @ \$3.50) 7:15

NorthTown Center 8
North Rd. South of I-96
(810) 344-0077
Advance same-day tickets available

GIFT BOOKS NOW ON SALE

TITANIC (PG13)
SUN-TUE 12:00, 1:00 (4:00, 5:00 @ \$3.50) 8:00, 9:15; WED. 12:00, 1:00 (4:00 @ \$3.50) 6:10
HOME ALONE III (PG)
SUN-WED 12:00, 2:30 (5:00 @ \$3.50) 7:30; SUN-TUE ONLY 10:00
THE JACKAL (R)
SUN-WED 1:30 (4:10 @ \$3.50) 6:50, SUN-TUE ONLY 9:30
FOR RICHER OR POORER (R)
SUN-WED 12:00, 2:30 (5:15 @ \$3.50) 7:30; SUN-TUE 10:00
ANASTASIA (G)
SUN-WED 12:15, 2:45 (5:15 @ \$3.50) 7:35; SUN-TUE ONLY 9:50
MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)
SUN-WED 1:45 (5:30 @ \$3.50) SUN-TUE ONLY 9:20
FLUBBER (PG)
SUN-WED 12:15, 2:30 (4:45 @ \$3.50) 7:00; SUN-TUE ONLY 9:30

Kesego Twin Cinema
Orchard Lake Rd.
at Cass Lake Rd.
682-1900
Sat. & Sun. only All Seats \$1.50 before 6 pm, \$2.50 after

THE LITTLE MERMAID (G)
SUN 1:00, 3:00, 5:00
THURS. 1:00, 3:00, 5:00
AIR FORCE ONE (R)
SUN 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
MON-TUE 7:15, 9:45; WED. 7:15
THUR. 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
THE RAINMAKER (PG13)
SUN-TUE 6:50, 9:30; WED. 6:50, THUR. 6:50, 9:30

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14
2150 N. Oquety Rd.
Between University & Walton Blvd
810-373-2660
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. THRU THURSDAY

JACKIE BROWN (R)
12:00, 1:00, 3:20, 6:15, 6:40, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30
MR. MAGOO (PG)
11:10, 1:10, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
AMERICAN WEREWOLF (R)
12:00, 2:30 (4:40, 7:40, 10:10)
POSTMAN (R)
11:20, 3:00, 7:00, 10:30
TITANIC (PG13)
12:00, 4:00, 8:00
TITANIC (PG13)
11:00, 2:45, 6:30, 10:15
TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
10:40, 1:10, 3:50, 6:50, 7:50, 9:30, 10:25
HOUSE HUNT (PG)
11:50, 2:10, 4:30, 7:05, 9:10
AMSTAD (R)
11:30, 2:50, 6:20, 9:20
SCREAM (R)
10:50, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 9:00, 10:00
FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG13)
11:40, 2:30, 5:10
FLUBBER (PG)
10:50, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00
ANASTASIA (G)
10:45, 12:40

Showcase Dearborn 1-8
Michigan & Telegraph
313-661-3449
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. THRU THURSDAY

AMERICAN WEREWOLF (R)
12:30, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20
AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13)
10:30, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00
POSTMAN (R)
11:30, 3:00, 7:00, 10:30
MR. MAGOO (PG)
10:45, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:30
TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 7:15, 9:30
SCREAM (R)
11:00, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG13)
9:10
AMSTAD (R)

12:00, 3:15, 6:30, 9:35
FLUBBER (PG)
12:10, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00

Showcase Pontiac 1-5
Telegraph Sq. Lake Rd. W. Side of
Telegraph
810-332-0241
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. THRU THURSDAY

MR. MAGOO (PG)
11:10, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:20
JACKIE BROWN (R)
12:00, 3:20, 6:45, 9:50
TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
11:20, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30, 10:00
SCREAM 2 (R)
11:30, 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
FLUBBER (PG)
11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00

Showcase Pontiac 6-12
2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of
Telegraph
810-334-6777
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. THRU THURSDAY

POSTMAN (R)
11:30, 3:10, 7:00, 10:30
AMERICAN WEREWOLF (R)
12:30, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13)
10:30, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00
TITANIC (PG13)
11:00, 2:45, 6:30, 10:15
TITANIC (PG13)
4:00, 8:00
HOUSE HUNT (PG)
12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:15, 9:25
AMSTAD (R)
12:00, 3:15, 6:20, 9:30
FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG13)
10:45, 1:30

Qoo Vails
Warren & Wayne Rds
313-425-7700
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
LATE SHOWS FRIDAY & SATURDAY THRU THURSDAY

JACKIE BROWN (R)
12:15, 3:15, 6:40, 9:45
MR. MAGOO (PG)
11:00, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10
AMERICAN WEREWOLF (R)
11:45, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30
HOUSE HUNT (PG)
11:10, 1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 7:35, 9:40
TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 7:15, 9:20, 9:50
FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG13)
11:15, 1:15, 4:20
ANASTASIA (G)
10:30 AM

Showcase Westland 1-8
6830 Wayne Rd.
One blk. S. of Warren Rd.
313-729-1060
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. THRU THURSDAY

GOOD WILL HUNTING (R)
10:30, 1:15, 3:50, 6:50, 9:25
POSTMAN (R)
11:30, 3:00, 7:00, 10:30
AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13)
10:30, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00
TITANIC (PG13)
11:00, 12:00, 2:45, 4:00, 6:30, 8:00, 10:15
AMSTAD (R)
12:00, 3:15, 6:30, 9:40
SCREAM (R)
10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 9:30, 10:00
FLUBBER (PG)
10:45, 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20

Star Theatres
The World's Best Theatres
Bargain Matinees Daily \$4.00 All Shows
Starting before 6:00 pm
Now accepting Visa & MasterCard
*NP Denotes No Pass Engagement

Star John 8
at I-75
32289 John R. Road
(810) 583-2070
CALL FOR SATURDAY SHOWTIMES
No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
SUN-TUE 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45, 4:15, 5:30, 7:00, 8:15, 9:45, 11:00; WED. 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45, 4:15, 5:30
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP TITANIC (PG13)
SUN-TUE 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00; WED. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP HOUSEHUNT (PG)
SUN-TUE 10:50, 1:00, 3:15, 5:45, 8:30, 10:45; WED. 10:50, 1:00, 3:15
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP AMSTAD (R)
SUN-TUE 11:15, 12:30, 2:30, 3:45, 6:15, 7:15, 9:30, 10:30; WED. 11:15, 12:30, 2:30, 3:45
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG13)
SUN-TUE 12:45, 3:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:15; WED. 12:45, 3:30
NO V.P. TICKETS
FLUBBER (PG)

Star John 8
at I-75
32289 John R. Road
(810) 583-2070
CALL FOR SATURDAY SHOWTIMES
No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
SUN-TUE 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45, 4:15, 5:30, 7:00, 8:15, 9:45, 11:00; WED. 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45, 4:15, 5:30
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP TITANIC (PG13)
SUN-TUE 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00; WED. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP HOUSEHUNT (PG)
SUN-TUE 10:50, 1:00, 3:15, 5:45, 8:30, 10:45; WED. 10:50, 1:00, 3:15
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP AMSTAD (R)
SUN-TUE 11:15, 12:30, 2:30, 3:45, 6:15, 7:15, 9:30, 10:30; WED. 11:15, 12:30, 2:30, 3:45
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG13)
SUN-TUE 12:45, 3:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:15; WED. 12:45, 3:30
NO V.P. TICKETS
FLUBBER (PG)

SUN-TUE 11:30, 1:45, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00; WED. 11:30, 1:45, 4:30
ANASTASIA (G)
SUN-WED. 11:45, 2:15, 5:00

Star Rochester Hills
200 Barclay Circle
853-2260
SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY
No one under age 6 admitted for PG 13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP THE POSTMAN (R)
1:15, 5:00, 8:45
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP TITANIC (PG13)
11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:00, 10:15, NO V.P. TICKETS
NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
11:00, 12:00, 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:15, 9:50, 10:55
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP AMSTAD (R)
11:45, 12:45, 3:15, 4:15, 6:45, 7:30, 9:40, 10:40
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP SCREAM 2 (R)
11:15, 2:00, 4:45, 7:45, 10:30
NO V.P. TICKETS
JACKIE BROWN (R)
12:30, 3:00, 6:15, 9:15
NO V.P. TICKETS

Star Southfield
12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern off I-696
248-333-STAR
No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP TITANIC (PG13)
4:00, 8:00
NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
10:00, 10:45, 11:30, 12:15, 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 3:15, 4:15, 4:45, 5:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:45, 8:40, 9:20, 9:50, 10:30
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP HOUSEHUNT (PG)
10:00, 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP SCREAM 2 (R)
10:30, 11:45, 12:15, 2:15, 2:45, 3:45, 5:15, 6:15, 6:45, 8:25, 9:00, 9:35
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP AMSTAD (PG)
10:00, 11:45, 1:15, 3:30, 4:30, 6:45, 8:00, 10:00-NO V.P. TICKETS
NP FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG13)
10:40, 1:30, 3:50, 5:40, 7:30, 8:30, 10:20
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP HOME ALONE 3 (PG)
11:10, 12:00, 1:35, 2:40, 4:15, 5:00, 7:10, 9:30
NO V.P. TICKETS
ALLEN 4: RESURRECTION (R)
11:10, 2:10, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 10:30
NO V.P. TICKETS
FLUBBER (PG)
11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50
THE RAINMAKER (PG13)
11:20, 2:20, 6:10, 9:10
THE JACKAL (R)
7:40, AND 10:25
ANASTASIA (G)
10:15, 12:30, 3:00, 5:15

Star Winchester
1136 S. Rochester Rd.
Winchester Mall
(810) 656-1160
No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP HOUSEHUNT (PG)
12:15, 2:20, 4:45, 7:00, 9:10
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13)
11:00, 12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00, 6:20, 7:20, 8:45, 9:40
NO V.P. TICKETS
NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
11:15, 1:15, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30
ANASTASIA (G)
11:30, 1:40, 3:50, 6:00, 8:10, 10:20
LA CONFIDENTIAL (R)
11:10, 2:00, 5:00, 7:50
RAINMAKER (PG13)
12:45, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55
THE JACKAL (R)
11:45, 6:40
MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL (R)
3:00, 9:20
ALLEN RESURRECTION (R)
10:10 PM ONLY

Star Winchester
1136 S. Rochester Rd.
Winchester Mall
(810) 656-1160
No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP TITANIC (PG13)
11:00, 2:50, 6:40, 10:30
NP AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13)
11:00, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
NP JACKIE BROWN (R)
2:10, 4:50, 8:15, 11:00
NP THE POSTMAN (R)
1:00, 4:40, 8:45
NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
11:45, 2:45, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
NP HOUSEHUNT (PG)
11:00, 12:5, 5:05, 6:55, 9:10
AMSTAD (R)
11:00, 2:00, 6:55, 10:00
SCREAM 2 (R)
11:00, 3:15, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30
HOME ALONE 3 (PG)
11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:30
FLUBBER (PG)
11:00, 12:50, 4:55, 7:25
10:55 PM ONLY

United Artists Theatres
Bargain Matinees Daily for all shows starting before 6:00 PM
Same day advance tickets available
NY - No V.P. tickets accepted

United Artists Fairlane
Fairlane Town Center
V.I.P. Parking Available
313-593-4790
ALL TIMES FOR SUN-THURS.
BARGAIN MATINEES DAILY FOR ALL SHOWS STARTING BEFORE 6 PM.
SAME DAY ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE

JACKIE BROWN (R) NY
12:45, 4:30, 8:15 & 1:45, 5:30, 9:15
TITANIC (PG13) NY
11:30, 3:30, 7:30, 12:00, 4:00, 8:00
HOUSEHUNT (PG) NY
12:30, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:10
HOME ALONE 3 (PG) NY
12:30, 2:35, 4:55, 7:10, 9:20
ALLEN RESURRECTION (R)
12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
THE RAINMAKER (PG13)
7:05, 9:50
ANASTASIA (G)

12:40, 2:55, 5:05,
THE WINGS OF THE DOVE (R) NY
1:30, 4:15, 6:55, 9:40
EYE'S BAYOU (R)
12:50, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

United Artists Oakland
inside Oakland Mall
810-583-7041
ALL TIMES SUN-THURS

AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13) NY
12:00, 3:00, 6:30, 9:30 & 1:00, 4:00, 8:00
MR. MAGOO (PG) NY
12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:00, 9:15
SCREAM 2 (R) NY
12:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10 & 1:15, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45

United Artists 12 Oaks
inside Twelve Oaks Mall
810-583-7041
ALL TIMES SUN-THURS

TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13) NY
11:45, 2:15, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20
HOUSEHUNT (PG) NY
12:30, 2:40, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30
MR. MAGOO (PG) NY
12:15, 2:25, 4:30, 6:40, 9:15
SCREAM 2 (R) NY
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:30
AMSTAD (R) NY
1:00, 4:15, 8:00

United Artists West River
West River
2 Block West of Middlebelt
810-788-6572
ALL TIMES SUN-THURS

TITANIC (PG13) NY
12:00, 4:00, 8:00
TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13) NY
11:50, 2:20, 4:55, 7:25, 10:05
JACKIE BROWN (R) NY
12:05, 3:30, 7:00, 10:05
AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS (R) NY
12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35
THE POSTMAN (PG13) NY
12:15, 4:10, 8:15
HOUSEHUNT (PG) NY
12:20, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:25
FOR RICHER OR POORER (PG13) NY
8:15, 10:30
FLUBBER (PG)
12:30, 2:45, 4:55, 7:15, 9:30
HOME ALONE 3 (PG) NY
11:45, 1:30, 4:00, 6:10
SCREAM 2 (R) NY
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15

Birmingham Theatre
211 S. Woodward
Downtown Birmingham
644-FILM
NP Denotes No Pass Engagements
PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE! CALL (248) 644-FILM AND HAVE YOUR VISA, MASTERCARD OR AMERICAN EXPRESS READY. A 75% SURCHARGE PER TRANSACTION WILL APPLY TO ALL TELEPHONE SALES

THE HOLIDAY RUSH!!!
\$10, \$20 AND \$50 GIFT BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE!

NP TITANIC (PG13)
11:00, 2:50, 6:40, 10:30
NP AS GOOD AS IT GETS (PG13)
11:00, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
NP JACKIE BROWN (R)
2:10, 4:50, 8:15, 11:00
NP THE POSTMAN (R)
1:00, 4:40, 8:45
NP TOMORROW NEVER DIES (PG13)
11:45, 2:45, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
NP HOUSEHUNT (PG)
11:00, 12:5, 5:05, 6:55, 9:10
AMSTAD (R)
11:00, 2:00, 6:55, 10:00
SCREAM 2 (R)
11:00, 3:15, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30
HOME ALONE 3 (PG)
11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:30
FLUBBER (PG)
11:00, 12:50, 4:55, 7:25
10:55 PM ONLY

MR THEATRES
\$1.00 Ford Tel \$1.50
313-561-7200
\$1.00 till 6 pm
After 6 pm \$1.50
Ample Parking - Telford Center
Free Refill on Drinks & Popcorn

Please Call Theatre for Showtimes

AIR FORCE ONE (R)
IN & OUT (PG13)
FAIRY TALE (PG)

No Children under 6 after 6 pm for R & PG13 Rated Films Strongly Recommended

99¢ Livonia Mall
Livonia Mall, Middlebelt at 7 Mile
810-476-8800
ALL SEATS 99¢ ALL SHOWS
FREE Refill on Drinks & Popcorn
HOLIDAY MATINEES

THE LITTLE MERMAID (G)
1:20, 3:20, 5:30
IN AND OUT (PG13)
7:30, 9:30
MAN WHO KNEW TOO LITTLE

ART BEAT

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

Send items for consideration in Art Beat - Oakland County to Frank Provenzano, arts reporter, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc. 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, or fax (248) 644-1314.

HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES AT CRANBROOK
Cranbrook Art Museum invites families to participate in a variety of hands-on activities based on the current presentation of architecture and photography in their current exhibit, "Evidence: Photography and Site."

Young visitors, ages 3-10, will also be able to construct an artistic holiday gift.
1221 N. Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills; (248) 645-3323.

CLICK ON DSO
The Detroit Symphony Orchestra home page is now on the World Wide Web. The address is: www.detroitssymphony.com
The site was developed and hosted by EDS' Interactive Architects business.
The new site will feature the latest DSO concert information, broadcast schedules and ticket information, DSO and Orchestra Hall history and information on DSO educational programs.
In early 1998, visitors to the Web site will be able to purchase tickets, CDs and other DSO merchandise.

NEW PLAYWRIGHT-IN-RESIDENCE AT MEADOW BROOK
Karim Alrawi has been named Meadow Brook Theatre's first playwright-in-residence and literary manager. He will oversee the theatre's development of new works, and assist in outreach programs to local schools.
Born and raised in Alexandria, Egypt, Alrawi has had his plays produced in his homeland, England, Canada and the US. His best-known plays include "Migrations," "Fire in the



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GO NO FURTHER

DWF, 40s, professional, blonde, attractive, slender, intelligent, refined, affectionate, humorous, JF, 54, blonde/green, 5'5", seeks classy gent, who is sweet, intelligent, honest, polite, for a real relationship. #7819

I'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES

Attractive, slender, intelligent, refined, affectionate, humorous, JF, 54, blonde/green, 5'5", seeks classy gent, who is sweet, intelligent, honest, polite, for a real relationship. #7819

NEW TO THIS, ARE YOU?

Humorous SWFF, 32, 5'7", physically fit, enjoys golfing, cooking, going up North, boating, amusement parks. Seeking humorous, trustworthy, sensitive, Catholic, SWPM, 29-38, 5'10", physically fit, NS, for friendship first. Plymouth/Nov area. #7780

A GOOD WOMAN

Intelligent, attractive DWFF, 38, blonde/green, full-figured, has kids and great sense of humor. Seeking stable, fun, tall, courageous, intelligent man for friendship, maybe more. #7846

SOMEONE SPECIAL

SWF, 70, feels younger, seeking WM, 65-70 who is sexy, passionate, loving and honest, who loves to laugh and have fun. I am a lady with many interests, so give me a call. #7849

OLD-FASHIONED

Divorced mother of one, 30, very shy, blonde/brown, blue eyes, 5'7", 110lbs, enjoys dancing, older mts, all winter activities. Seeking caring, true romantic, sensitive, old-fashioned guy. #7853

LADY LOOKING FOR LOVE

Fun, honest SWF, 33, loves animals, looking for marriage-minded SWM, 35, Plymouth area. #7864

ROMANTIC PARTNER WANTED

SWF, 47, 5'8", blonde/hazel, home owner, no dependents, believes in God, enjoys stock cars, movies, travel, and more. Seeking SWM, animal lover, with passion for life, for romantic, monogamous LTR, possible marriage. #7824

PRETTY, BRUNETTE

DJF, 40s, NS, single mom, enjoys movies, music, dancing, dining out. Seeking romantic, caring, honest SWM, 40-49, NS, for friendship, possible LTR. #7902

ARE YOU THE ONE?

Attractive, fun SWF, 35, 5'5", blonde, blue, medium-build, seeks friendship, romance, and someone to share the winter and sharing special lights, and hot chocolate by the fire. #7813

LOG CABIN DREAMING

SUV owner, enjoys 5'10", NS, no dependents, 39-50, wants nature, outdoors, up north, in a one-owner relationship. Spontaneous, college-educated, has town-country style and old-fashioned values. Serious about settling down. #8300

LET'S LIVE

Attractive, SWF, 5'10", 29, fit, outgoing, enjoys traveling, sports, music, dining out and laughing, seeking SWM, 30-42, tall, fit, employed, and very responsible, but not married to his job, and a good sense of humor. #8312

PRETTY, SLENDER, SENSUAL

Sophisticated, smart, secure, "sweetheart". Seeks best friend/lover for life, good-looking, in-shape, refined, cultured, romantic, 50s, "nice guy". Lets enjoy adventure and world travel and life's finer things. #8317

NOT DESPERATE

DWF, 45-57, 130lbs, NS, no kids, seeks the same in male. Many interests. I'm caring, giving, spontaneous, hospitably romantic, down-to-earth, employed. Would like to meet special friend, or more. Royal Oak. #8361

SEEKING TOOL-TIME AD

SWF, 33, 5'5", NS, enjoys the outdoors, concerts, biking, fishing, seeks SWM, 28-37, who would someday like to build a dream house in the mountains. #8362

COULD CONNECT...

with tall, HW proportionate, secure, ethical, non-look-alike guy with hair. Pretty, dark-haired SWFF, 40s, 5'4", 115lbs, with varied interests, great legs and good heart, would like to talk to you. #8209

MUST HAVE A NICE SMILE

Outspoken, fun-loving SWF, 27, 5'5", tall, single, NS, ND, enjoys classical music, movies, sports, bowling. Seeking tall, well-groomed SM, 28-35, NS, ND, for friendship, possible relationship. No kids please. #8222

WHO KNOWS?

Verbal, intelligent, family-oriented DWFF, 41, hoping to meet someone 33-48 who's similar. #8223

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Attractive, affectionate, athletic, adventurous, warm, romantic DWFF, 55, 5'0, blonde/blue, medium built, educated, seeks gentleman, 5'8"-6'4", 42-52 who's honest, NS, who likes the arts, outdoors, travel, for possible LTR. #8224

FROM THE HEART

Affectionate, warm, sensitive SWFF, 46, enjoys movies, plays, music, dining out, and seeking SWM, 56-65, great sense of humor with similar interests, for friendship first, possible LTR. #7754

SEEKING ROMANCE

I'm attractive, slender, tall and a young looking 51, plus intelligent, refined, humorous and a smoker. Seeking gent who's 50-65, intelligent, tall, classy confident, and selectively marriage-minded. #7758

GEMINI GIRL

DF, 43, 5'6", slender, medium length blonde hair. Looking for tall, outdoorsy type of guy who's happy, caring, communicative. Incompatibility secure who likes kids, for friendship and possible romance. #7781

BLUE EYES, FULL LIPS

SF, 57, enjoys "Northern Exposure". Travel, current events, entertaining, attractive, good cook. Seeking mate 40-60, with big ego. Self-respecting and kind-hearted only apply. #7812

101 WAYS

SWF, Mom, Big Beautiful Woman seeks NS man, 40-65, who'd like to share bit of everything. #7813

LUCKY YOU

Petite SWF, NS, outgoing senior, needs a sweet, sincere SWM, 66-71, to join me for golf, bowling, cards. Must enjoy people and have family values. #7951

LET'S MEET FOR COFFEE

Young 62 year old W/F, Farmington Hills area, seeks companionship/friendship of a man of same age group. Loves animals, long walks/drives, dining out, movies and shows. Would like to meet for coffee, conversation. #7965

UNCHAINED MELODY

Slim, attractive DWFF, 50, NS, seeks S/DWPM, 45-55, 5'8"-5'10", HW proportionate, for C&W dancing, rollerblading and companionship. West Side area. #8121

HAVE HERPES?

SWF, 38, smart, attractive, fun-loving, great sense of humor, enjoys sports, travel and more. Seeking a humorous, honest, marriage-minded, NS man with herpes, to build a relationship. #8130

HAPPINESS IS A...

SWF, 27, down-to-earth, with a good sense of humor. Seeking friendship, possible LTR, with the right man. #7995

CASINO ROYALE

DWF, 39, full-figured, shy, hard worker, smoker, enjoys bingo, Vegas, travel, and quiet times. Seeking employed male, 30s-40s, who is honest and caring. Nationality unimportant. #7999

SWEET, SENSITIVE...

Intelligent, attractive full-figured woman, 22, seeks tall, financially secure, attractive, non-smoking, fun-loving man. Race unimportant. #8000

MISSING SOMEONE SPECIAL

Versatile, open and very honest DWFF, 41, with kids, seeks attractive confident, secure SWM, 30-50, NS, to enjoy life with. #8003

SPARKLING, SPUNKY, STYLISH

Sensual, gorgeous, fit, 40, 5'7", 130lbs, MA, degreed, into biking, reading, enjoying, jogging, golfing, etc. Seeking SWF, 35-42, 5'5"-5'8", degreed, fit, outgoing guy. #7968

LOOKING FOR LOVE NOT GAMES

Attractive, SWF, young 49, 5'4", brown/blue, NS, financially/romantically secure, enjoys movies, dining, sports, travel, and romance. Seeking attractive, honest, caring, compassionate SWM, 45-55, financially secure, for friendship, leading to LTR. #8083

THE SEEKING

Are you? DWFF, young 49, 5'4", varied interests. Seeking older soulmate, social drinker only, who'll treat a lady like a lady, for special relationship. Loves warm Southern beaches, and fishing for fun. #8023

BE DISAPPOINTED IF...

you're looking for a creative, sensitive, very attractive, multi-degreed SWF, 49, with a twinkle in her eye and rollerblades on her feet. Seeking intelligent man, 45-60. Physical fitness important. #7821

SPECIAL LADY

Sensuous, attractive DWFF, 55, 135lbs, SWM, 35-55, 115lbs, is athletic, fun, 45+, to share fun, romance and adventure, in rewarding LTR. Serious only reply. #8033

SOULMATE, WHERE ARE YOU?

SWF, mid-40s, dark hair/eyes, seeks outgoing, fun-loving SWM, mid-30s-mid-40s. My interests: bowling, bingo, auto races, spectator sports, partying, trips, walking, funny movies. #8034

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN

Non-smoking, DWFF, 36, NS, attractive, health-conscious, dependent free, W/M, 30-40, 5'9", for casual dating, possible LTR. #8040

54 AND PRETTY

Two lives can be joined together in friendship. Pretty SWF, short blonde/blue, sometimes shy, but always honest, enjoys fine dining and casinos. #8042

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Attractive, SWF, 25, 4'10", 145lbs, blonde/blue, enjoys movies, quiet evenings, skating, long walks, hockey and football. Seeking SWM, 25-35, who is looking for a LTR. #8044

NORDIC SKI ENTHUSIAST

Attractive, M, petite SWF, 40 plus, seeks ski partner, for weekend trips, North, Lower, Up. If you know difference between "two styles" and "classics", can ski 20K plus (both styles). Call me. #8046

FUN-LOVING, PRETTY, CULTURED

Blonde lady, fun and adventurous, respects life and people, appreciate kindness and honesty. Seeking emotionally available, secure, tall gentleman, 45-60, for travel, adventure, and companionship. #8050

FAST, CHEAP, OUT OF CONTROL

That's not me! Humorous, honest, intelligent DWFF, mid-40s, NS, seeks fun, romantic, financially secure gentleman, 40-49, with similar qualities. The only games I'll play are monopoly and pinnacole. #8091

PRINCESS NEEDS PRINCE

Playful, fun SWF, 27, 5'2, medium build, blonde/brown, enjoys outdoors, sports, camping, dancing, and much more. Seeking SWM, 24-35, with similar interests, to make me laugh for friendship, and maybe more. #8051

I HAVE ELAN

Eccentric, attractive, active, classy, slender SWF, 57, brunette/hazel, NS, enjoys tennis, golf, dancing, boating, most music, gardening, spectator sports. Seeking tall, special, loyal, active, flexible, fun gentleman, 50+. #8086

FUSSY BUT FUN

Petite SWFF, 45, enjoys reading, movies, sports, concerts, and late living, seeks "normal" PM, 43-52, average height/weight. #8273

LOOKING FOR THE SAME!

Let me introduce myself. I'm a 49, NS, DWFF, with red hair, I only have one natural high and that's life! I have strong morals and values. Let's talk soon. #7953

OUR TURN NOW

why not? DWFF, late 40s, seeks degreed, NS, for life's finer moments, let's journey through life together, enjoys dinners, plays, stimulating conversation, travel and art shows. Now that the kids are raised, it's our turn to enjoy life. #8090

SENSITIVE CARING GENTLE

DWM, 49, 5'5", 180lbs, I'm serious about LTR, are you? Walks, bicycling, golf, reading, music are a few of my interests. If you're 40-50, and don't play mind games, give me a call. #8541

VERY ATTRACTIVE

SWM, 28, 5'11", 175lbs, brown/blue, very outgoing, professionally employed. Seeking attractive SWFF, 18-35, HW proportionate. Must be outgoing and enjoy sports. #8548

ONE-OF-A-KIND

SBM, 34, 5'10", slim, dark, handsome, financially secure, attentive, caring, fun-loving, passionate, family-oriented, sincere, romantic. Seeking attractive, independent, energetic, honest, secure NS/SF, HW proportionate, for LTR. Race open. #8225

DON'T LOOK BACK

Handsome, fit, sensitive, spiritual, romantic, fun DWM, 45, 5'8", 165lbs, enjoys bikes, blades, dinner, movies, dancing, candlelight, cozy times. Seeking down-to-earth SF, 35-42, 5'5"-5'8", slim, knows where happiness starts. #8520

HONEST AND SINCERE

Considered attractive SM, 5'11", 192lbs, smoker, social drinker, manager, enjoys sports, dining out, movies, being out with friends. Seeking attractive, honest, sincere SF, who enjoys having fun. No games. #8521

DOWN-TO-EARTH

Handsome, athletic, 30s, NS, ND, business, body builder, runner, seeks attractive, intelligent, open-minded, athletic SF, HW proportionate, for possible relationship. #8604

BROADEN MY HORIZON

SWM, 35, 6', 200lbs, sometimes a church-goer, gym member, seeks SF, for fun times, and sharing life's twists and turns. #8606

ANYTHING ONCE, TWICE...

if it's outdoors. Athletic SWM, 32, 5'8", 175lbs, body builder physique, brown/blue, grey/blue, enjoys spending time with family/friends. Seeking petite SWFF, 25-40, slim, for open, honest relationship. Kids ok. #8606

LOOKING FOR THE ONE

Attractive, humorous, honest, educated, never married, Catholic WM, 44, 5'10", 165lbs, blonde/blue, NS, appreciates your company, would like to meet someone who's sincere. LTR. No games. #8456

RELATE

THEME: TALL A DATE! Slim, sensitive, tall, spiritual SM, 44, 5'9", 155lbs, seeks relationship-oriented SWFF, soulmate, 33-43, who enjoys boating, beach walks, volleyball, tennis, and dancing. Coffee houses, ethnic dining. #8457

SEEKING COMPANION

DWM, 40, 190lbs, European, home-owner, enjoys outdoor life, soccer, movies and traveling. seeks attractive, loving, considerate, sharing woman 30-45 who's welcome. #8459

WHY BE ALONE?

Good-looking, thoughtful, caring, affectionate, honest WM, 50, 5'7", 180lbs, enjoys dining out, movies, travel, warm vacations, holding hands, soccer, movies. Seeking petite/medium-sized, warm, caring woman 35-50, for LTR/monogamous relationship. #8462

SPIRITUALLY MINDED

Intelligent, philosophical SWM, 39, 5'10", 170lbs, enjoys nature, quiet meditation, long walks. Seeking very secure, non-materialistic SF, for companionship, possibly more. #8463

SINGLE IN DETROIT

Honest, down-to-earth, SWM, mid-30s, college graduate, financially independent, looking for possible relationship like moves, concerts, special times together. #8464

ARE YOU FOR ME?

Handsome SWPM, 6'4", 225lbs, NS, emotionally/physically fit. Seeking meaningful relationship with SF, under 40, who's slim and attractive, with similar values/attributes. If it sounds appealing to you, please call me. #8569

HUNTING PARTNER

SWM, 35, 6'4", HW/proportionate, blonde/blue, enjoys hunting, camping, canoeing, biking, rollerblading, darts, movies. Seeking WF, under 40, with similar interests for possible LTR. Kids ok. #8570

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

Nice-looking DWM, 40, 5'9", 165lbs, passionate, romantic, very financially secure. Seeking smart, serious smoker, who enjoys ocean sunsets, casinos, spirited conversation, replaces hot tubs. #8575

ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT?

SWM, late forties, 5'11", 180lbs, former Elvis impersonator, loves dancing, walking, sports and romance, seeks good woman, 30-45, for serious relationship. #8544

MY FIRST AD

DWM, 40, ND, NS, likes working out, rollerblading, taking walks, movies, quiet evenings around the house, with my dogs, seeks female, 35+, height/weight unimportant, but must have good personality, and similar interests. #8546

CUTE CONSERVATIVE MALE

SPM, 37, physician, seeks the best attractive SWFF for special relationship. #8480

CALL MY DAD

Warm, kind, sensitive, down-to-earth DWPM, 38, 5'9", brown/hazel, stylish, all parent of two, social drinker, enjoys movies, cooking, dinners, Cedar Point, camping, socializing. Seeking DWFF with kids, for companionship, monogamous relationship. #8482

THE ULTIMATE MAN

Extremely attractive, romantic, honest, passionate, sexy SWM, 24, 6'4", great kisser, seeks slender, attractive, active SWFF. Age unimportant. If you're stepping swept off your feet, give me a call. #8483

WOULDN'T IT BE NICE?

Tall, handsome SWM, 42, 5'8", no dependents, enjoys movies, music, dining out, travel, rollerblading, etc. Seeking attractive, intelligent, fun-loving woman, 30-40, who's similar to me. #8211

PROFESSIONALLY EMPLOYED PRETTY WOMAN

Handsome SWM, 33, 6'1", 195lbs, brown/hazel, higher education degree, enjoys the DJ, 50s, reading, writing poetry, chess, watching the Red Wings, cross-country skiing. Seeking attractive SWFF, 25-36, call. #8266

SEXY 52

Healthy, attractive DWM, 52, financially independent, seeks SWFF, 40-52, who's similar to me, for LTR, possible marriage. Enjoys dancing, golf, dining out, movies and reading at home. #8265

SEEKING PRETTY WOMAN

SWM, 37, NS, successful, professional, good career, healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, blonde/blue, 24, 6'4", 190lbs, seeks good times and fun. No games. Race unimportant. #8267

HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU!

Attractive, outgoing SWM, 45, even career, tall, with a variety of interests, travel, entertainment and books. Seeking woman, 30-40, for friendship. #8268

INTERNATIONAL

SWM, 31, 6', 185lbs, boyish good looks, creative, professional, enjoys social activities, black and white photography, music. Seeking tall, impressive, blonde/blue, 24-30, who's Hispanic, female, 49-55, 4-4. #8269

THE PERFECT RELATIONSHIP

Wouldn't it be nice? Friendship, trust, communication, romance, passion, adventure, fun, handsome, athletic, caring, outgoing, 30s, 24, 6'4", 190lbs, seeks someone who's confident, secure, caring, and who's similar to me. #8270

PREFERS BLACK FEMALE

Handsome, athletic, 30s, NS, ND, seeks romantic, caring, outgoing, 24-30, who's similar to me. Seeking tall, impressive, blonde/blue, 24-30, who's Hispanic, female, 49-55, 4-4. #8271

CHILD OF UNIVERSE

Personality, SWM, 42, NS, ND, seeks romantic, caring, outgoing, 24-30, who's similar to me. #8272

A GOOD CATCH

SWM, 38, 5'10", 185lbs, 49, 5'10", 185lbs, seeks good times and fun. All responses answer. #8273

RED WINGS RULE!

The Starline Club's "Bum" Handsome, outgoing, athletic, 30s, 24, 6'4", 190lbs, seeks someone who's confident, secure, caring, and who's similar to me. #8274

LOOKING FOR COMPANION

Handsome, athletic, 30s, NS, ND, seeks romantic, caring, outgoing, 24-30, who's similar to me. #8275

QUIET GENTLE SINCERE

Handsome, athletic, 30s, NS, ND, seeks romantic, caring, outgoing, 24-30, who's similar to me. #8276

WAITING FOR YOU

Handsome, athletic, 30s, NS, ND, seeks romantic, caring, outgoing, 24-30, who's similar to me. #8277

FIRST-TIME AD

Handsome, athletic, 30s, NS, ND, seeks romantic, caring, outgoing, 24-30, who's similar to me. #8278

HAPPINESS COUNTS

Handsome, athletic, 30s, NS, ND, seeks romantic, caring, outgoing, 24-30, who's similar to me. #8279

OLD-FASHIONED, QUALITY

Handsome, athletic, 30s, NS, ND, seeks romantic, caring, outgoing, 24-30, who's similar to me. #8280

NORMAL GUY

Handsome, athletic, 30s, NS, ND, seeks romantic, caring, outgoing, 24-30, who's similar to me. #8281

TRAVEL

Livonia couple stake out their paradise in Hawaii

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

George and Sharon McConnell have staked out their place in paradise.

The McConnells of Livonia had their honeymoon in Hawaii, their fifth anniversary in Hawaii and, a year ago November, their 10th anniversary in Hawaii. And they plan to go again. And before she was married, Sharon, who works at United Parcel, had already been to the 50th state twice.

"It's a tropical paradise, but in this country," said George, who works at General Motors Hamtramck plant. "You feel safe. In Cancun or the Caribbean, you're still traveling outside your country. There you don't need a passport."

The McConnells had done Oahu and Kauai on past trips. This time they went to Maui and the Big Island of Hawaii, where

an active volcano has been spewing a steady flow of lava.

Hawaii is a place where you can relax on a white or black sand beach as you watch 8-foot waves carry surfers into shore or it's a place you can participate in a variety of activities.

The McConnells did a bit of both.

"Neither of us had been snorkeling before," said Sharon.

So she bought a throwaway, underwater camera for a snorkeling adventure off Hawaii Island. The snorkelers gathered in the bay at Captain Cook's monument.

"The water was crystal clear and the colors there were the colors of the rainbow," said George.

The snorkeling was an all-day adventure with a barbecue lunch in between snorkeling.

"It was all ages, they didn't push anyone, but they encouraged everyone," George said.

And Sharon's underwater pictures came out surprisingly good.

The McConnell's took helicopter rides over both islands. On the day they explored Hawaii there was a heavy fog and the active volcanoes were erupting and spewing steam making it impossible to fly to the peaks.

"Lava covered the roads in places. And we were close to where it flows into the ocean," Sharon said, showing pictures of billows of steam along a winding beach.

As seasoned Hawaiian travelers, the McConnells have some tips for those who want to go.

On Maui, they had stayed in the Kaonpali area but after being checked into a hotel they didn't like, they were moved to the Wailea area, which they proclaimed superior in every way.

"Stay away from Waikiki (on Oahu), it's just another big city. Go to the Big Island of Hawaii if you want to get away from people," George said.

"Take half of what you think you'll need. We packed too much," said Sharon.

"Go to Pearl Harbor at least once, make it a side trip. Go to Maui and Kauai," George said.

Other prime Hawaiian activities include parasailing, scuba diving and submarine rides to view tropical fish, beautiful golf courses and bicycling.

Seafood is the top cuisine of the island, but every hotel plays host to a luau where a pig roast takes center stage in a show that includes hula dancers and native Hawaiian music. The McConnells said they went their first time but have steered clear since. The island restaurants range from McDonalds to Planet



In paradise: George and Sharon McConnell took their Observer along on their trip to Hawaii.



Jungle vista: This lush vegetation is a hallmark of Hawaii's beautiful islands.

Hollywood to expensive seafood and Oriental restaurants.

The McConnells admit that Hawaii can be expensive.

"It's expensive, but not as out of reach as some people think. We usually ate just one major meal a day and grabbed snacks the rest of the time, because we were always on the move," said Sharon.

"You can go there pretty cheap because there is a wide range of hotels," said George.

The McConnells said their vacation was somewhere in the middle at around \$3,500.

And they definitely plan to go again.



Undersea theater: Sharon McConnell captured this underwater parade off Hawaii Island with a throwaway waterproof camera.

GREAT ESCAPES

Great Escapes features various travel news items. Send news leads to Hugh Gallagher, assistant managing editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

As winter brings on rain, fog, snow and ice, AAA urges motorists to use caution when driving in wet and hazardous conditions.

"Winter can be a dangerous driving season for motorists," said Ron Kennedy, a AAA Northern California spokesman. In California last year, 224 people were killed and 14,050 were injured in weather-related crashes, according to the CHP.

To help motorists avoid wet weather collisions, AAA recommends the following:

WET WEATHER SAFETY TIPS:

Slow down. Your car needs

three times the distance to stop on slick roads. Maintain six to eight seconds between you and the vehicle in front of you.

Cloudy weather reduces visibility, so use extra caution when passing vehicles.

Be deliberate in maneuvering your vehicle - most skidding is caused by sudden stops and turns.

If your vehicle skids, don't panic. Ease off the accelerator and steer into the direction of the skid.

Do not speed up when navigating through standing water. Doing so may cause the tires to lose contact with the road, causing the vehicle to hydroplane. If this happens, avoid braking hard or turning sharply. Hold the steering wheel steady, and lightly apply the brakes. After the wheels gain contact with the road, slow down until you have full control of the car. After making it through standing water,

lightly pump the brakes to restore normal braking capacity.

Be prepared. Have tire treads, brakes and wipers checked.

If you are having car trouble, turn on your hazard lights and pull off the road as far to the right as possible. Ignite flares or signal for help. Stay in your car unless it is in danger of being hit by other vehicles.

The AAA affiliate for Northern California, Nevada and Utah serves nearly 4 million members with an array of automotive, travel, and insurance services.

WEATHER CONDITIONS ON WEB

New this winter on Travel Michigan's web site at www.michigan.org, are road conditions reports, provided by the

Michigan State Police, updated daily.

"During the winter months, when Michigan's weather conditions can change from clear and dry to clouds and significant

snowfall in a matter of hours, drivers are encouraged to check out weather and road conditions before traveling," said Richard Czuba, director of Travel Michigan. "It is our goal that every-

one traveling Michigan highways and secondary roads this holiday season, arrive at their destinations safely. We encourage using this service," he added.

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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Trojan wrestlers 3rd

Livonia Clarenceville finished third Dec. 20 in its own Round Robin wrestling tournament.

Ypsilanti finished first at 5-0 followed by Napoleon (4-1), Clarenceville (2-2-1), Livonia Churchill (2-3), Lutheran Westland (1-3-1) and Redford Union (0-5).

The host Trojans defeated Churchill (43-30) and RU (63-12); tied Lutheran Westland (39-39); and lost to Ypsi (44-21) and Napoleon (49-24).

Five Clarenceville wrestlers finished 4-1 on the day — senior Craig Rose, 160 pounds; junior Walter Ragland, who was 3-0 at 189 and 1-1 at 215; sophomore Dan Tondreau, 103; sophomore Matt Wehl, 140; and senior Eric Tondreau, 130.

Rose suffered his first defeat of the year against Churchill's Brian Panczyzyn, 4-2. Rose is now 11-1 on the year.

Junior Adam Marcum (171) finished 3-2.

Figure skating entrants

The Westland brother-sister combination of Danielle and Steve Hartsell are among 14 Championship Pair entrants for the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, Jan. 4-11 at the CoreStates Center in Philadelphia, Pa.

The Championship Pair Short Program begins at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, followed by the Pair Free Skate at 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 9.

The Hartsells represent the Bloomfield Hills Skating Club.

Collegiate note

Bowling Green State University freshman forward **Yalonda Holt** (Wayne Memorial) scored a career-high seven points in an 84-72 women's basketball loss Dec. 13 at West Virginia.

The Lady Falcons are 5-3 overall.

New Year's Eve Run

The 28th annual Belle Isle New Year's Eve Family Run/Walk, presented by Detroit Edison and Blue Cross/Blue Shield Blue Care Network of Michigan, will be Wednesday at Belle Isle.

The four-mile inline skate kicks off a series of races at 3:30 p.m. followed by the children's and open one-mile run/walk at 4 p.m.; and the four-mile run and racewalk/fitness.

All children 12-and-under in the one-mile will receive trophies. The first 500 runners will receive a special award and all finishers will receive commemorative awards.

The cost is \$15 (children 12-and-under) \$20 (adult) race day (includes long-sleeve shirt, awards, food and beverages).

For race information, call (313) 886-5560 (between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.)

For \$10 per person, a post-race New Year's Eve Party (until 1 a.m.) will immediately follow for adults 21 and older at the Belle Isle Casino (includes, food, DJ, beer, wine, pop, door prizes and champagne toast at midnight).

For party information, call Dennis Hanley at (248) 545-3792.

Racquetball League

A men's winter racquetball league will begin Jan. 14 at Body Rocks-Racquetball in Livonia. Players will be divided into divisions based upon ability level. Registration is under way and the cost is \$100 per person. Canton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring the league. Players can register at the Canton parks and rec office located at 46000 Summit Parkway.

Bike Trekkers

Serious bikers can get on the right track Sunday mornings by joining members of Bike Trekkers for a ride through West Bloomfield. Bike Trekkers meets at 8 a.m. each Sunday morning at the West Bloomfield Recreation Center and ride 10-15 miles on various routes through the subdivisions of West Bloomfield.

Routes include both paved and dirt roads as well as the West Bloomfield Trail Network. Bike treks may also take riders outside West Bloomfield.

The program is free and there are no residency requirements. Cyclists must be at least 16 years of age, have a bike with sturdy tires that can endure gravel roads, and must wear a helmet.

For more information call Doug McEwen at (248) 738-2500 or leave a message at (248)788-3940. The Parks and Recreation Center is located at 4640 Walnut Lake Road, west of Orchard Lake Road.

Top 10 stories

1997 provided some lasting memories

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

What were some of the memorable sports moments for yours truly in 1997?

There are several personal favorites, so I decided to make a list of my top ten as far as the Livonia-Westland coverage area was concerned and included some honorable mentions for good measure.

It wasn't easy deciding what was No. 1, but after going over 12 months of highlights, I don't think you can argue or quibble with my choice.

1. Stevenson girls soccer: The Spartans had an amazing run to the state Class A girls championship game last June, going 21-0-2 overall with 22 shutouts, capped by a 1-0 victory in the finals over Brighton, the No. 7-ranked team nationally in USA Today. Nicole Tobin's goal proved to be the game-winner. Coach Jim Kimble's team avenged its only ties on the year by whipping Livonia Churchill in the regional final, 6-0, and Plymouth Canton, 3-0 in the regional final and 1-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association championship game. The Spartans, who won their fourth state title, also bombed Northville in the district final, 4-0, the only team to score on them all year. The scary thing about this team is that all but three players return.

2. Lorenzo Guess era closes: One of Observerland's all-time greats, Wayne Memorial's Guess, had his glorious high school career come to an end in the state Class A boys basketball semifinals at the Breslin Center in East Lansing. Grand Rapids Ottawa Hills, a surprise champion led by 7-footer Jeff Rabey, ousted the Zebras, 57-46. Guess, a 6-foot-3 guard, along with his twin brother LaVelle, led Wayne to a 24-2 record. In four varsity seasons, Guess scored 1,748 points and led Wayne to an 83-16 record, including three regional titles. He is now a member of the Michigan State University football and basketball teams.

3. Paul Terek's state record: The Livonia Franklin senior scaled new heights by setting a state record for all classes in the pole vault with a leap of 16 feet, 6 inches. Terek, now a decathlete at MSU, was a multi-talented performer. He played football where he made first-team All-Observer, basketball and ran track. During his senior year, Terek went 22.7 in the 200-meter dash, over 22 feet in the long jump and in only his third 400 race all year, he won the WLAA title with a time of 51.4. My greatest memory is him holding up the final results of the Observerland Relays in a darkened corner of Redford Union's Kraft Field. Just an amazing night.

4. Ryan Anderson finally signs: In one of the great soap operas of the season, the 6-foot-10 lefty with a 90 MPH-plus fastball from Westland and Dearborn Divine Child came to terms with the Seattle Mariners in late August after going in the first round of the June Major League Draft (19th over-



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Game-winner: Nicole Tobin's goal enabled Livonia Stevenson to win the state Class A girls soccer championship against Brighton, 1-0, capping a 21-0-2 season. Tobin is now starring at Siena Heights.

all). Represented by the Hendricks brothers in Texas, Anderson signed for a hefty bonus (\$2.175 million), believed to be the largest given to the 19th pick overall. The Detroit Tigers, who had the top pick overall, passed on the Livonia Franklin transfer, taking Rice University's Matt Anderson instead. Eighteen other teams passed as well, concerned about some of Anderson's off-the-field antics. On draft day, Anderson proclaimed the Tigers had made a huge mistake and that he would come back and haunt his counterpart Matt Anderson and his hometown team some day. Then, in his first press conference with the Seattle media, the confident Anderson said "I'll be the best ever." As far as his high school

career was concerned, Anderson, who once fanned 21 straight batters in a game, was humbled in his final day as a prep, walking in the game-winning run in the state tourney against Allen Park. But I'm happy to report, Anderson is in shape and topping out at 99 MPH down in instructional league in Arizona.

5. Schoolcraft men's soccer 3rd: The Ocelots, who had a history of failure in the National Junior College Athletic Association Tournament, wound up third in the Division II finals in Mercer, N.J. Coach Van Dimitriou's team, made up primarily of Observer-

Please see TOP 10 STORIES, E2



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Wayne's world: Lorenzo Guess (right) led the Zebras to an 83-16 record in four years, along with two Final Four berths and three regional championships. He is now playing basketball and football at Michigan State.

BOYS BASKETBALL

DePorres holds CC, pivotman in check

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Detroit St. Martin DePorres made it two for two against Catholic League Central Division boys basketball opponents, beating Detroit Catholic Central in the first round of the River Rouge Holiday Tournament Friday night.

The Eagles, members of the AA Division, led most of the way and settled for a 67-63 victory over the Shamrocks.

DePorres, which beat another Central Division team, Redford Bishop Borgess, in the season opener, took a 3-0 overall record into the championship game Saturday night against River Rouge. The Shamrocks were to play Ecorse, Rouge's first-round opponent, in the consolation game.

The loss was the first of the year against two victories for the Shamrocks.

CC's 6-foot-11 senior center Chris Young, bound for Michigan, was held scoreless in the first half and finished with 10 points.

Senior guard Joe Jonna helped the Shamrocks keep it close, scoring most of his team-high 17 points in the first half.

Junior guard Nick Moore had 10 of his 12 points in the first half, but DePorres coach Derrick Owens was even happier with the defense applied to Moore than on Young.

Junior guard Marc Sturdivant guarded Moore and junior center Aloysius Anagnone was responsible for guarding Young with help coming from both sides as well.

"Our first key was Nick Moore," Owens said. "Everything goes through him. You kill the head, the body dies. We're still doing too much lunging for me, though. We can't be playing that 'Olay' defense."

Junior guard Jason Owens, the coach's son, and Anagnone led DePorres with 15 points each. Sturdivant contributed 12.

Anagnone had some impressive dunks off passes in the paint from his teammates.

"He's going to be a force to be reckoned with," Owens said.

The Shamrocks were out-rebounded by the Eagles. Justin Ockerman, a 6-10 freshman center expected to help Young on the boards, didn't play after picking up two quick fouls in the first half.

The Shamrocks' smaller players aren't athletic enough to rebound with DePorres, but coach Rick Coratti believes more hustle could have given them a much better chance.

The Eagles missed 20 of 35 free throw attempts, including several front ends of one-and-one attempts, but all that did was help pad the Eagles' rebounding statistics.

"We just got outthusted on the boards, period, all of them," Coratti said. "They are a pretty good rebounding team and we had to keep them from getting second and third shots and we'd have a chance. We had a shot at them, got them to miss at the line, and we don't rebound."

"They did a good job defending our post. Jonna kept us in it and Adam (Tubaro) gave us a spark (with six points off the bench). We want to play hard (Saturday night) and get ready for the (Catholic League) season. I told them going in this tournament would be a good experience no matter what happens."

CC trailed by as many as 18 midway through the third quarter before Young sparked an 8-0 run to cut the deficit to eight. DePorres turned the ball over twice and Young had a tip-in and inside basket to go with a blocked shot during the rally.

Moore and Jonna also had driving baskets.

"I thought that was going to be

Please see SHAMROCKS, E2

WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
 Monday, Dec. 29
 Grosse Ile Tourney, 6 & 8 p.m.
 (Traverse City Central Tourney)
 Canton vs. Grandville, 6 p.m.
 T.C. Central vs. Holland, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 30
 Traverse City Tourney, 6 & 7:30 p.m.
 Wayne vs. Detroit Derby
 at Cobo Arena, 8 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
 Saturday, Jan. 3
 Schoolcraft at St. Clair, 3 p.m.
 Oakland CC at Macomb, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
 Tuesday, Dec. 30
 Saginaw Valley at Madonna, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 3
 Schoolcraft at St. Clair, 1 p.m.

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
 Monday, Dec. 29
 Ply. Whalers vs. Erie Otters
 at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 2
 Whalers at S.S. Marie, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 3
 Ply. Whalers vs. London Knights
 at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.

PREP HOCKEY
 Saturday, Jan. 3
 Churchill at Royal Oak, 8 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
 Friday, Jan. 2
 Romulus Tournament, 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 3
 Portage Northern Tourney, 8 a.m.
 Saline Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
 Saginaw Valley St. Tourney, 9 a.m.
 Walled Lake Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Agatha at Gallagher Quad, 10 a.m.
 W. Bloomfield Inv., TBA.

PREP WRESTLING
 Saturday, Jan. 3
 Salem Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
 Oxford Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
 Lincoln Park Invitational, 10 a.m.
 TBA — time to be announced.

Rocket gymnastics coach stresses individual goals

BY SCOTT DANIEL
 STAFF WRITER

Success can be defined a lot of ways in gymnastics. For individual athletes it may mean adding a new trick on the balance beam or a new floor program. For a team, it can be a league or state title.

Westland John Glenn coach Debbie Hosein has very specific goals in mind for her gymnasts. "We want to get as many of our girls to the state meet as possible," she said. "We don't look at our league (championship), it's really tough."

And that's an understatement. The Western Lakes Activities Association boasted four of class A's top 10 finishers in Hartland, Northville-Nov, Brighton and Salem year ago. Canton was 11th and the Rockets finished 12th.

Hosein has no illusions about competing for a WLAA crown. But she thinks her squad will be more than competitive. "If everything goes well and we can avoid injuries," she commented, "we're looking at a very good season."

The Rockets haven't been able to avoid the injury bug thus far. Junior Jessica Beach is recovering from an ankle sprain. She's expected to contribute all-

PREVIEW

around. "She's real strong-minded," Hosein said. "I have no worries about her."

Freshmen Kristen Costantino and Martina Moro are also out with injuries. Both will return later in the season.

Fortunately, graduation wasn't as tough on the Rockets as those injuries have been. Katie Boogren is John Glenn's only major loss. She was a state qualifier on the balance beam and scored numerous points in other events.

The Rockets appear to have the depth to replace Boogren. Hosein is counting on leadership from a pair of seniors, Stephanie Thompson and Vanessa Marsh.

Thompson is a third-year gymnast and will contribute in all four events. Marsh is in her fourth year with Westland and is strong on the beam and with the uneven bars.

Besides Beach, the Rockets will have several other contributing juniors. Jill Calka will most like compete at the "B" or junior varsity level, Hosein said.

"This will be a building year for her," the coach added. Jaime Hendra also work with the B group. She's strong on the uneven bars.

"She's really improved from two years ago," Hosein said. As for the sophomores, Melissa Holcomb will compete at JV. She's in her second year with the squad.

Mia Mattila falls into the same category in terms of competition. "By next year," Hosein said, "I think Mia will potentially be an all-arounder."

Katie Titensaur is ready to make the jump up to varsity this year. "She's been working so hard," Hosein said, "that I put her up on the A team."

Costantino will play an important role once she returns from a finger injury. The freshman will compete all-around, Hosein said.

Julie Castillo is another freshman that should break the Rockets' lineup. She has competed at the club level and is an experienced gymnast.

Nicole Simonian, also a freshman, could make an impact, too. Hostein said she'll do all four events, beam, bars, vault and floor.

Other freshman on the squad are: Michelle Ramia, Moro, Jodie LaGuire, Ariana Akers and Erin Shane.

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land talent, finished the year at 18-6-1.

6. Madonna WHACs foes: In their first season competing in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, Madonna University came away with fall league championships in men's soccer (coached by Pete Alexander) and women's volleyball (coached by Jerry Abraham).

7. State football titles: Observerland teams Redford Catholic Central (12-1) and Farmington Hills Harrison (13-0) won their respective classes in AA and A. CC bounced back from a 24-20 regular season defeat to Orchard Lake St. Mary's by defeating four formidable playoff foes — Westland John Glenn (28-6), Troy (21-3), Sterling Heights Stevenson (21-17) and Ann Arbor Huron (23-6). It was coach Tom Mach's fifth state championship. For Harrison, the Hawks won their eighth under coach John Herrington, capped by a 21-7 win in the championship at the Pontiac Silverdome over Midland Dow. The Hawks, in a regional game, found themselves down 21-3 against Dearborn Edsel Ford in the second quarter, but scored the next 53 points to win 56-21.

8. Borgess rules hoops: Redford Bishop Borgess won both the boys and girls state Class C titles in 1997. The girls, led by Miss Basketball Award winner Aiysha Smith, finished the year 28-1 overall after drubbing Hancock in the finals at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena, 54-21. The Borgess boys, led by junior Aaron Jessup, also rolled to the title last March by drubbing Three Oaks River Valley, 64-42, to finish the season 20-8.

9. Hartsells Olympic bound? The brother-sister pairs team of Danielle and Steve Hartsell of Westland returned home in October for the Skate America competition at Detroit's Joe Louis Arena. They are preparing for the U.S. Championships next month in Philadelphia with an eye on the Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan (February) or the 2002 Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

10. Carlos Briggs returns home: Former Schoolcraft College All-American Carlos Briggs returned to his Alma Mater to coach the men's basketball team. After 13 straight losing seasons, Briggs, who starred at

Baylor and was a draft pick of the San Antonio Spurs, had the Ocelots off to an amazing 10-2 start led by 6-foot-6 Kevin Melson.

OTHER MILESTONES

- Livonia Stevenson beats rival Churchill to finish the Suburban High School Hockey League season undefeated.
- Stevenson wins fourth straight Western Lakes wrestling title and Observerland Tournament.
- Livonia Ladywood takes sixth straight Catholic League volleyball title and reaches Class A quarterfinals before losing to Temperance Bedford.
- Redford Catholic Central wins Catholic League boys basketball championship with 81-71 victory over Bishop Borgess, but loses to Detroit Derby in the Operation-Friendship and Class A runner-up Detroit Redford in district final.
- Catholic Central hockey team goes 25-1-1 to win the state Class A title capped by a 7-0 victory over Trenton in the championship final at Flint's IMA Arena.
- Livonia Clarenceville wins district and regional volleyball titles before being ousted by Lake Fenton, 16-14, in the fifth and deciding game at Almont. Coach Allisha Love's team finished 28-13-1.
- Catholic Central product Michael Jordan signs with the University of Detroit men's basketball team.
- Livonian Al DeNapoli, a former trainer who worked Jake LaMotta's corner and boxer (55-5-1 record), dies at age 85.
- Doug Kurtis, 45, former Stevenson High standout, finished 28th overall and is the third American finisher in the Boston Marathon. He holds the world record for most sub-2:20 marathons.
- Westland John Glenn's David Jarrett sets a school record in the log jump with a leap of 23 feet, 6 2/3 inches. He finished second in the state meet.
- Farmington Hills Harrison wins the Observerland Boys Track Relays.
- Livonia Franklin junior Lori Jendruski pitches a perfect game, striking out 21 straight batters in a tournament win over Romeo.
- John Glenn, coached by Jess Shough, wins both the WLAA boys and regional track titles.
- Senior Cathy Hermann pitches a shutout to lead Ladywood past Harper Woods Regina in the Catholic League A-B Division softball final, 1-0.
- Livonia Public Schools voters approve Propositions I and II, to renovate the pools and Bentley Center.
- Leo Kinsella retires after 29 years as Clarenceville athletic director. He is replaced by Harold Makinen.
- Garden City resident and DC graduate Greg Ryan, a first base-

man at Eastern Michigan, is named the Mid-American Conference baseball Player of the Year.

- Mark Rutherford (Livonia Churchill) makes the All-Mid-American Conference baseball team after going 9-3 as a pitcher and batting over .400 as a DH. He is a 12th round pick of the Philadelphia Phillies.
- Twin brothers Derek and Bryan Besco, who led Michigan to the regular season divisional baseball title, square off against each other in the National Baseball Congress World Series baseball championship game in Wichita, Kan. Derek gets the game-winning hit to lead his team to victory.
- Steve Polanski, a junior from Livonia Stevenson, reaches the Match Play round of the U.S. Junior Amateur Golf Championship.
- Stevenson football tri-captain Courtney Reed dies in a car accident.
- CC grad and former Rice University tennis All-American Steve Campbell falls to Andre Agassi in the first round of the U.S. Open.
- Livonia Churchill, under first-year coach John Filtraut, breaks a 28-game losing streak with a 26-8 season-opening win over Redford Union.
- Churchill, playing one man short, beats defending WLAA boys soccer champion Plymouth Canton, 1-0.
- Stevenson wins its fourth straight WLAA girls cross country crown and senior Kelly Travis fourpeats as individual champion. The Spartans finished third in Class A.
- Senior Rob Block of Stevenson repeats as WLAA boys cross country champion. He finished 11th in Class A.
- Glenn quarterback, an All-Observer pick as a junior, Justin Berent suffers a torn anterior cruciate ligament in a 27-21 loss to Walled Lake Central.
- Despite Steve Fisher's firing, first-team All-Observer basketball center Chris Young (CC) signs a national letter-of-intent at Michigan.
- Wayne football coach Chuck Howton retires after 13 seasons as coach (60-57 record). His final game is spoiled by rival John Glenn, 34-14.
- Travis Roy, former All-American at Wisconsin and All-Stater at Stevenson, signs with the Detroit Rockers of the National Professional Soccer League.
- Stevenson wins its seventh straight WLAA girls swim title and takes fourth in Class A as the foursome of Marti McKenzie, Katie Clark, Jordyn Godfroid and Julie Kern capture the 200 freestyle relay.
- Floyd Carter named new Wayne football coach.
- Yours truly sloshes through a rain-soaked 26.2-mile New York City Marathon in an agonizing 4 hours, 11 minutes and 37 seconds. The scribe, however, vows to return another day to run another.

M **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

Sunday, December 28, 1997

MICHIGAN vs. OHIO STATE

Tip Off 2:00 pm. at Crisler Arena
 Next Home Game - December 30 vs. Minnesota

SEC General ROW Admission SEAT Seating PRICE \$ 3.00	Women's Basketball Sun. Dec. 28 vs. Ohio State Crisler Arena • 2:00 pm SCOUT DAY Team Poster Giveaway NO REFUNDS, NO EXCHANGES	SEC General ROW Admission SEAT Seating PRICE \$ 3.00 Plymouth
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Deer hunters find success in some of the darndest spots

Deer hunting opportunities are dwindling down. Late archery and the special antlerless-only season are the seasons that remain for hunters still itching to put some venison in the freezer. Although opportunities are declining, the success reports are still rolling in.



BILL PARKER

It's been a month since Thanksgiving, but the excitement of bagging the buck of a lifetime over that holiday still lingers for Marty Collier.

While heading out to his blind on a farm in northern Oakland County on Nov. 25, a pair of does raced out from a nearby wooded lot Collier had just walked through. Hot on their tails was a "huge buck."

The Oxford hunter had just enough time to turn, set his sights and squeeze off a shot. Unfortunately, the buck continued on and ran out of sight. After two solid days of searching for the bruiser Collier had all but given up.

"I wasn't even planning to hunt on Thanksgiving Day but a couple of my friends (Bill Dunn and Brian Duerden) talked me into going out," explained Collier.

The trio ended up in the area in which Collier had shot the buck and decided to look around one last time.

"Bill came up to me and said, 'By the way, it's an 11-pointer.' I thought he was kidding and told him not to mess around like that."

Dunn then led Collier to his biggest buck to date. The 11-point rack had a green score of 150 4/8 and the buck dressed out at a whopping 170 pounds.

"What a way to be blessed, and on Thanksgiving morning," added Collier.

But the story doesn't quite end there. During the early archery season Collier arrowed a 7-point buck. "After I got that one I thought to myself, seven come 11," he added with a grin.

•Another area hunter had an equally exciting hunt early in the firearms season.

Chuck Ward moved from

Ferndale to Oxford a little over two years ago. One of the benefits of living in a rural area is that now Ward can walk out his back door and start hunting, which is exactly what he did on Nov. 16, the day before his 45th birthday. An active participant in Cowboy Shoots, Ward was hunting with his .44 magnum six-shot revolver — a Ruger Super Blackhawk.

Ward awoke a little late that morning and didn't leave his house until 7:30 a.m. Since it was so late, and since he didn't think he'd stay out in the woods very long, Ward trudged through some four inches of snow with nothing on his feet but a pair of street shoes. He arrived at his blind and didn't have to wait long for the action to heat up as a 9-point buck soon wandered by.

"He was coming my way with his head down," explained Ward. "He stopped right in my shooting lane and raised his head, but he was looking the other way so I took the shot."

By 8:05 a.m. Ward was back in his house waking his wife to help him drag his first buck in over 20 years of hunting."

•Farmington Hills hunter Tom Byrde had a fantastic fall. On opening weekend of the archery hunting season Byrde arrowed a trophy 8-point buck while hunting from a tree stand on private land near Baldwin. On opening day of gun season Byrde shot a 6-point buck that had four tines on one side and two on the other.

•Jamie Battersby broke a 10-year drought this fall and he did it in a big way. The Westland hunter shot his first deer ever when he tagged a button buck on state land in Pinckney during the early archery hunting season.

He followed that up by dropping a spike with his shotgun while hunting near Oseoda during the firearms season.

Anglers and hunters are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI, 48009. Fax information to (810) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (810) 901-2573.

10: These sports movies rate a Bo Derek

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER

I always get a kick out of reading movie reviews.

Many critics, it seems, are more intent on impressing readers with their vocabularies, knowledge of film making and brilliant insights rather than telling a bit about the movie and its stars.

Critics' final ratings often seem to be skewed, too.

Movies with certain actors and actresses always get a higher rating. When's the last time a Susan Sarandon film got one star?

Sports movies, on the other hand, always seem to start out with a strike against them. So what if *Rudy* got bad reviews, I loved it.

I'll bet many other of you sports fans feel the same way. To paraphrase a famous line from *Network*, we're mad as heck and we're not going to take it any more.

With that in mind, I began thinking about sports movies.

There have been more of them made in the past few years than before. That's good, I believe, because there are many good stories about athletes and sports in general that have yet to be told.

But it also brings up another question. What are the best sports movies of all time?

Raging Bull is at the top of many lists. Everyone has their opinion, though.

That being the case, I've come up with a list of my 10 favorites. See if you agree with my picks:

Field of Dreams

It's a little sappy in parts, I'll grant you. But it's a great story.

For many baseball fans, nostalgia makes the game what it is. This movie revolves, at least on the surface, around one of the game's most nostalgic figures, "Sholess" Joe Jackson.

Along with seven of his Chicago White Sox teammates, Jackson was kicked out of baseball for throwing the 1919 World

Shamrocks from page E1

when they broke," Young said.

DePorres got the lead back to 11 but Jonna cut the deficit to 49-41 after three quarters following an off-balanced left-handed layup and free throw to finish a three-point play.

CC got as close as five points three times in the fourth quarter — once after a basket by Tubaro, again with 1:13 remaining following two free throws by Moore and with 29 seconds left after a three-point shot by Rob Sparks. DePorres managed to hold on despite making only three of its last six free throws.

Young accepted much of the blame for the loss.

Series. Iowa farmer Ray Kinsella (Kevin Costner) builds a field on his farmland for these players and others to once again compete.

Burt Lancaster gives a wonderful performance as Doc Graham. James Earl Jones and Amy Madigan are the film's other stars.

Hoosiers

Gene Hackman plays a high school basketball coach in rural Indiana. With is fiery and disciplinarian style, he guides his small town squad into the state finals.

The movie is based on a true story. It's underdog appeal is simple, but no less gut-wrenching and upbeat. It's David versus Goliath.

Hackman makes you believe he's an old hand at coaching. Dennis Hopper also gives a strong performance as an alcoholic father of one of the players.

Slap Shot

It's rank. It's raunchy. It's downright fun.

Made in 1977, it's the story of a minor league hockey team stuck in a losing streak. Paul Newman is the coach, player and leader of the squad.

The Hanson brothers, of course, have made a living off of their appearance in the movie. Spouting their "old-time hockey" credo, the trio help revive the team.

Not for the faint of heart.

The Natural

As you can see, my list has a bias towards baseball. But, hey, it's my list.

Anyway, *The Natural* is a touching story. Robert Redford plays Roy Hobbs, a player of unbelievable talent whose youth is stolen by a psychotic older woman.

After being out of baseball for more than a decade, Hobbs returns in his late 30s for one final shot as a pro. Despite the reluctance of a manager played by Wilfred Brimley, he earns a

spot on the New York Knights and leads the team to glory.

The movie gives a somewhat romantic portrayal of baseball in the old days, but it's well worth renting if you haven't seen it.

Rocky

Forget the sequels, which were pieces of trash. The original remains a classic.

Sly Stallone plays Rocky Balboa, a club fighter that gets a one-in-a-million shot at glory. Before the viewers eyes, Rocky is transformed from a down-and-out bum to a courageous warrior.

Burgess Meredith plays his crusty old trainer. Carl Weathers is the heavyweight champ that gets more than he bargained for.

Bull Durham

Costner and Tim Robbins star in a comedy about minor league baseball.

Costner is Crash Davis, a hard-hitting, hard-drinking veteran catcher. Robbins is a rookie pitcher with a million-dollar arm, but two-cent head.

The movie has numerous hilarious moments. None are better than Costner explaining to Robbins how to give a press interview.

"If a reporter asks how the team is going to do, here's what you tell 'em. 'We're gonna take it one game at a time. I just want to help the team and give 110 percent.' Priceless.

Major League

In hopes of moving the Cleveland Indians to Florida, the owner puts together a team of has-beens, rebrands and never-weres to kill attendance.

The Tribe spoil those plays by making the playoffs and putting fans in the seats. Tom Beringer, Corbin Bernsen and Charlie Sheen star.

It's not Oscar material, but it's funny and you do pull for the players.

Jim Thorpe -All-American

Now here's one you probably haven't heard of.

Made in 1951, the movie stars Burt Lancaster as Jim Thorpe, a great multi-sport athlete from around the turn of the century.

The story runs the gambit of emotions. It shows Thorpe's rise to Olympic fame and his fall to side show attraction.

By today's standards, the movie is primitive. But it doesn't diminish the strength of the story.

Brian's Song

This one goes in the tear-jerker hall of fame.

It's the true story of Chicago Bear Brian Piccolo and his battle with cancer. The movie chronicles his friendship with running great Gale Sayers and how that bond is tested by illness.

James Caan and Billy Dee Williams star in what was a made for TV movie.

North Dallas Forty

Nick Nolte plays a burned-out NFL wide receiver battling his failing body and team management. Mac Davis plays his quarterback friend.

The film is good for plenty of laughs and also provides a look at the personal costs of playing professional football. Oakland Raiders' great John Muszjak co-stars.

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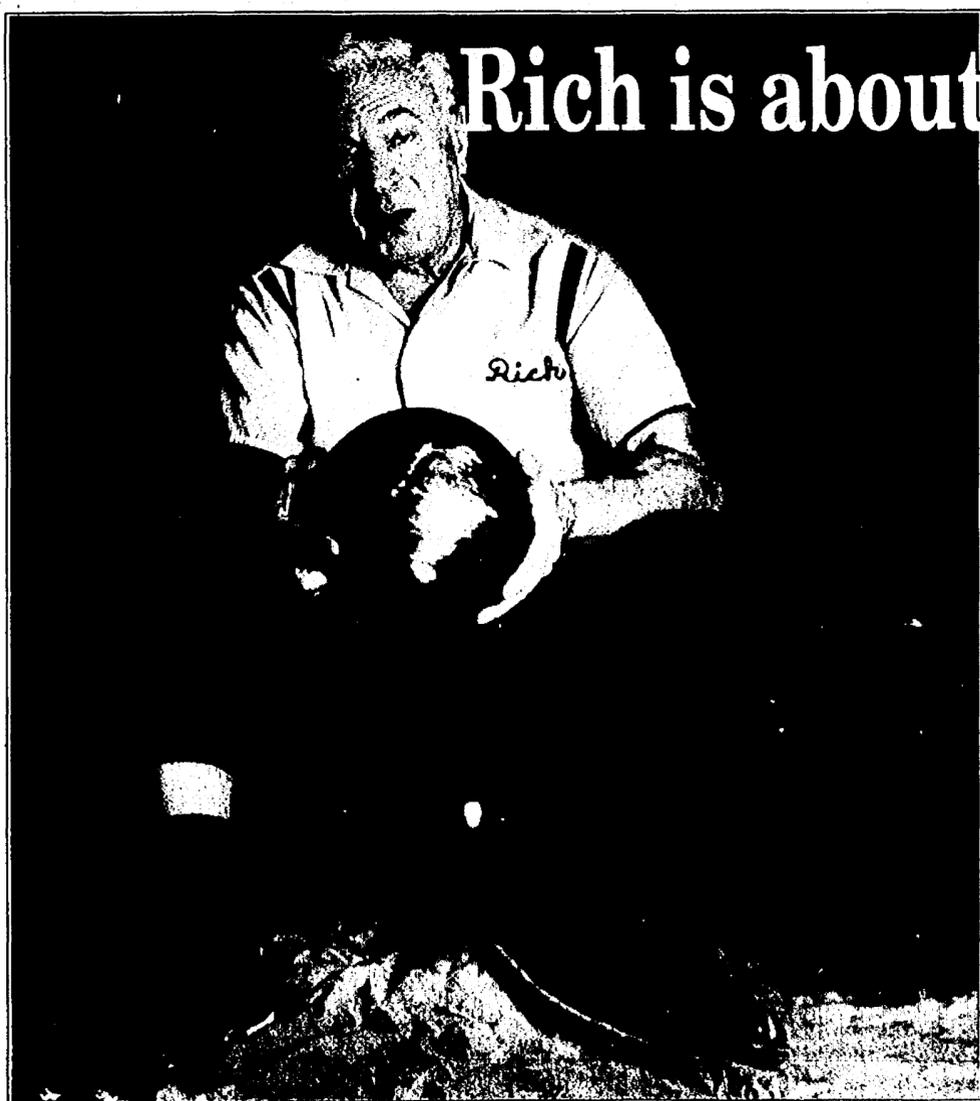
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Rich is about to join the 3-2-1-SOLD! club.

Rich was up in the attic the other day and saw his old bowling gear. He'd like to sell it along with his wife's Vaughn Monroe record collection and a couple of other things, but doesn't want to spend a lot on an ad. Who does?

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RECREATION

Backyard bird feeders important because winter cold takes its toll

Cold weather is tough on most small game but song and other non-game birds that use backyard feeders are particularly vulnerable.

"Some of the most important things to consider for birds during January and February are water and the quality of food," said Sunni Lawless, a wildlife biologist for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources' non-game program. "Obviously birds are very small and, comparably, can't store a lot of body fat. Foods that are very high in a fat content or protein are very essential."

That would include bird seed, of course. While there are dozens of seed brands on the market, Lawless recommends sticking to the basics for cold weather feeding.

"A economical choice for seed that will feed a wide variety of birds is just plain old black oil sunflower seeds," she said.

Lawless noted that woodpeckers and popular backyard birds, species that ordinarily do not use a traditional feeder, are sometimes overlooked when temperatures dip.

"If the temperature is below

freezing and woodpeckers are out there trying to find a meal underneath the bark of a tree and trying to forage on something that's pretty well frozen, that's a hard job for them," the biologist said.

The solution: suet feeders. There inexpensive feeders are basically plastic-encased wire baskets that holds a "suet cake," Lawless said.

"Suet is just fat, so it's a very high energy source for birds," she noted. "Some are called berry treats and will be chocked full of berries that the birds like to find this time of year. And some have insects imbedded in the suet... they are just a good energy source for some birds such as different types of woodpeckers."

Birds should also be provided with plenty of free-flowing water. Snow, Lawless explained, is not a substitute for liquid.

"Someone might think, 'Well they can eat snow,'" she said. "But if they take that snow in they have to warm it, and then ingest it into the body, and they burn a lot of energy doing that. So open water is very important."

"If we get some really harsh

weather just over a night or two, birds can freeze to death," she added. "They basically starve to death. It doesn't take very long for some of our smaller song birds if they can't find the food and water they need."

Back yard feeders attract birds year round but are especially important in winter when natural food sources dwindle. Feeders will attract a crowd and should be checked frequently.

"That's really important, especially this time of year," Lawless said. "Sometimes if they're not really pressed for energy, birds will kind of nip-pick around and chase some other (birds) off. But this time of year several will be occupying the same feeder. And they will eat pretty much all day long."

There are almost as many types of bird feeders available as there are birds. Lawless's only suggestion is to use a model designed to keep squirrels out.

"If you have squirrels, especially in a residential area, they're going to be eating all your bird seed," she said.

New changes in store for 1998

I wish all of my readers a very Happy New Year with good health and great bowling for all.

In 1998 we can look forward to an upswing in the sport of bowling.

There are forces at work to enhance the public image of the sport, to continue efforts to reach the next Olympic games as a medal sport and to attract new bowlers.

The Single Delivery system and Strike Ten Entertainment have combined to deliver millions of dollars in promotional work from major companies.

The new AMF venture with Michael Jordan will begin to have an impact this year and bowlers like you and I will benefit for years to come.

A look back at 1997 showed continued strong efforts on the part of local associations to work together and bring about bigger and better events and tournaments.

Through ABC/WIBC, there were more benefits for choosing to sanction. Some of these perks included trade discounts, a yearly copy of "Bowling Magazine," a regularly published newsletter for GDBA and a better awards program.

I had one prediction come true — that there would be a sanctioned 900 series. Sure enough, Jeremy Sonnenfeld of the University of Nebraska came through.

I now predict there will be at least three 900s bowled in 1998 and that one will come from this area.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers will select a "Bowler of the Year" and the first selection will be announced early in the new year for the 1997 recipient.

A committee of bowling experts has already been put together for this purpose and the winner will be chosen from write-ins to the Ten Pin Alley bowling column.

Candidates must reside in one of the O & E cities to be eligible. More information will come out in coming weeks including selection criteria and how to enter someone you know. If you know

someone you believe worthy of this award, let's hear from you.

The major event of the year will be the ABC Annual Tournament in Reno, Nev. It will take place at the new National Bowling Stadium (you saw this place if you watched the movie Kingpin) and the annual meeting will also be held for delegates from every local association.

The 1998 tournament opens Feb. 14 and runs through June 27. It is expected to draw nearly 20,000 teams and 100,000 individuals including the one and only Joe Norris, a former Detroit and holder of the all-time ABC total pinfall record.

Reno, Nev., will be the host site for the 1998 Mixed Tournament, slated for the fall. The WIBC team event will be held in Davenport, Iowa while the doubles and singles will be contested in Rock Island, Ill.

Look for bigger and better things from our local stars who venture out on the Pro Bowlers tour. Men such as Harry Sullins, John Mazza, Gene Stus and young Vernon Peterson should have an impact while the ladies, led by Aleta Sill, Marianne DiRupo, Lisa Bishop and others will make a good showing on the LPBT.

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DATES/DEADLINES

BASS

Bass season ends statewide on Dec. 31.

DEER

The second archery season runs through Jan. 1 statewide. A special late antlerless only firearms season runs through Jan. 4 on private land only in Zone III.

GOOSE

The special late Canada goose season runs Jan. 2-Feb. 1 in southern Michigan. The boundaries for the late hunt have been changed this year and are now the same as those for the South Zone of the regular waterfowl season. The entire south zone is open during the late hunt with the exception of the five GMU's.

SQUIRREL

Fox and gray squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

RABBIT

Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

CLASSES

FLY TYING

The Challenge Chapter of Trout Unlimited and Birmingham Continuing Education will offer a 10-week fly tying class beginning at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at Birmingham Seaholm High School. Registration begins Jan. 5. Call (248) 203-3800 for more information.

ARCHERY

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

JUNIOR ARCHERS

A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

OUTDOOR CLUBS

SOLAR

The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation, a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

FISHING CLUBS

CLINTON VALLEY BASS ANGLERS

Clinton Valley Bass Anglers is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. The next meeting is slated for 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 11. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more

OUTDOOR CALENDAR

information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Citizen's Center in the Livonia Civic Center. Call Jim Kudej at (313) 591-0843 for more information.

FISHING BUDDYS

Fishing Buddys Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Dearborn Civic Center. Call (313) 676-2863 for more information.

SHOOTING RANGES

BALD MOUNTAIN

Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are noon to sunset on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. to sunset on Wednesdays. On Saturdays and Sundays the rifle and pistol range is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the sporting clays course is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd. (three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

PONTIAC LAKE

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (810) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 22 are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (810) 693-6767 for more information.

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MEDICAL BRIEFS

VFW, Red Cross drive

VFW Post Bova Engineers of Westland will be the host site of an American Red Cross Blood Drive from 2-7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6. The Westland post is located at 6440 Hix Road, north of Ford Road. For more information, call (313) 728-3231. Appointments are not necessary.

Behavioral health line

Oakwood Healthcare System has made behavioral health treatment just a phone call away. The Central Intake Center is available 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week and staffed by experienced mental health professionals who can immediately arrange treatment services into any of Oakwood's Behavioral Health sites.

Oakwood's behavioral health team treats a multitude of problems that include: depression; anxiety; chemical dependency; marriage and grief counseling; children; adolescent and family counseling including attention deficit disorders; crisis intervention and a specialized program tailored to the Arabic speaking community. To utilize the behavioral health team or for more information, call 800-427-7677.

Breastfeeding beyond

Pathways to Parenting: "Breastfeeding beyond the first six weeks," will be a program sponsored by Botsford General Hospital lactation consultant Elaine Webber. This new monthly support group, which meets the first Wednesday of each month, gives new moms an opportunity to network with peers, share concerns and obtain information, free of charge. The site will be the Holy Cross Episcopal Church (46200 10 Mile Road, just west of Taft) from 12:30-2 p.m. For more information, call (248) 477-6100.

Snow named director

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital - Ann Arbor has named Louise Snow, BSN, as its new administrative director of Oncology. Her duties include oversight of the outpatient services provided through McAuley Cancer Care Center, located on St. Joe's East Huron River Drive campus. Before her promotion, Snow served as administrator of the Oncology Research Program at St. Joe's, a position she held since 1994.

Hearing screenings

Join MedMax of Westland for a day full of complimentary hearing screenings, Friday, Jan. 2 at 35600 Central City Parkway (across from Westland Mall). Call (313) 458-7100 to register.

Childbirth education

This six week course provides information on pregnancy, labor and delivery, newborn care and postpartum care. Weekend classes and a two session refresher class are also available Jan. 5 and 15. Register early in your pregnancy by calling Garden City Hospital, 458-3242.

Prenatal exercise

The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer a six-week Pre-postnatal Exercise class that meets for 90 minutes one day a week and is designed to promote fitness and a healthy lifestyle prior to and following delivery. Class dates are Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28 and Feb. 4 and 11 in the Pavilion Conference Room A from 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Cost is \$35 per person. The class includes warm-ups, stretching, low-impact aerobics, cool-down and relaxation techniques. Registration is required by calling MWC at (313) 655-1100 or toll free 800-494-1615. St. Mary Hospital is located at Five Mile and Levan in Livonia.

Items for Medical Briefs are welcome from all hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the Observer-area medical community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to:

Medical Briefs
c/o The Observer Newspapers
38251 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150
Or faxed to (313) 591-7279



POINTING A FINGER

IMPROPER PROCEDURES CAN CAUSE DAMAGE AND NAIL LOSS

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
STAFF WRITER

If you treat yourself to a weekly or monthly manicure, more thought should go into who's maintaining the condition of your nails than what color polish to choose.

The popularity of nail enhancements such as tips, silk wraps, gel and acrylics has grown increasingly in the last five years while simultaneously creating a dangerous epidemic in the industry that has many licensed nail technicians and manicurists fearing for their clients well being.

The wrongful application of an acrylic monomer called MMA or methyl methacrylate with nail powder, has been found to cause health hazards to people wearing fingernails prepared with the product. The Food and Drug Administration has taken legal actions against its marketers and distributors. Liquid acrylic monomer is the catalyst which hardens

MMA in the preparation of temporary crowns.

"Before a permanent crown is made we hone down the tooth and put on a temporary, that you can walk out of the office with, made of methyl methacrylate," said the Livonia dentist. "It's a very strong acrylic."

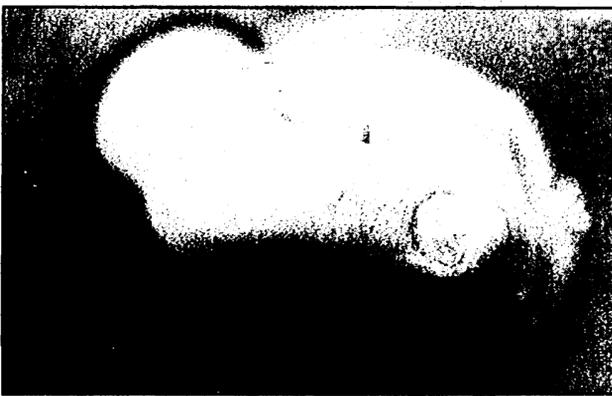
Lock and Westland nail technician Kasey Bojanowski say discount salons use liquid methyl methacrylate monomer because of its bargain price - approximately \$15 per gallon compared to ethyl methacrylate that can cost in excess of \$200 per gallon - the latter of which is much safer for cosmetic nail preparations.

Nail technicians often confuse MMA with the use of MMA polymers or don't know the difference between the two, according to the Nail Manufacturers Council, an organization that publishes educational updates for nail technicians to keep them informed about current industry trends.

"In the fully polymerized and solid form, this substance is considered safe. Fully polymerized MMA will not cause adverse skin reactions or other problems associated with the 'liquid monomer.' In the poly methyl methacrylate form it is chemically identical to Plexiglass™ or Lucite™ and is considered safe for use on natural nails," stated the NMC.

Paul Bryson, co-director of research and development at OPI Products in North Hollywood, said methyl methacrylate monomer is a harmful solvent in its solitary state. However, combined in a chemical process with monomer, after monomer, after monomer the solvent becomes polymerized into ethyl methacrylate and is no longer volatile but "a harmless solid."

OPI Products manufacture cosmetic nail care products such as nail polish used in salons and sold at beauty supply stores throughout the



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Damaging effects: The use of methyl methacrylate can cause skin reactions, eye irritations and cracks in the nail bed as pictured above. Injuries suffered by the nail wearer were done more than three years ago and the plate continues to show signs of damage.

the nail powder into an artificial nail.

Common hazards

Fingernail products fabricated with methyl methacrylate monomer are reportedly causing incidents of skin reactions, permanent nail bed damage, nail loss and respiratory/nasal membrane damage from long-term exposure.

One of the most common hazards is the strong bond the substance has to the original nail that doesn't permit a clean break of the nail tip when the finger is jammed or caught. Instead, a complete and painful tear of the acrylic tip along with the natural nail can occur resulting in an injury that can be both dangerous and permanent.

"We've seen customers come to us with their own finger nail missing or barely attached, holes in the nail plate and splits across the entire nail," said Laurie Lock, owner of Nails & More in Westland. "It's really horrible for the client. Not only is it very painful but MMA is causing permanent damage."

Lock, speaking from experience, said she had a complete set of acrylic nails applied at a salon she refers to as "discount" only to come away with dents on the nail surface from the "dental acrylic," damage to her cuticles and at least one nail that in three years hasn't returned to its normal growth pattern.

A local dentist confirmed her industry's use of

country.

Bryson went on to say MMA monomers can penetrate the skin and permeate the air causing skin and eye irritations. Polymerized MMA does not have the ability "to go through anything" and therefore is not a dangerous irritant like MMA, said the California researcher.

The two Westland technicians note since their September grand opening, they have had to adjust their prices as a result of the discount salons.

"We've had no choice," said Lock, "and we're providing a safer service that isn't causing a health risk."

Acrylic and other specialty nail preparations, as a rule, require a person to have their nails "filled" every two weeks as the acrylic tip grows forward or "lifts" requiring another application of powder and the liquid acrylic combination.

Nails being treated with MMA may go up to four weeks without a fill because of its strong bond that may lead to a stunt in the growth of the nail. Other potential problems can include fungus or infection forming under the tight adherence of the product that may not be detected because the nail isn't able to lift naturally.

Lock says removal of nails prepared with MMA is a time consuming and sometimes uncomfortable procedure of soaking and filing. The product must be soaked off in 100 percent acetone nail polish remover that results in a "gummy" byproduct unlike nails treated without MMA. "It's not hard to



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Nail business: Laurie Lock, owner of Nails and More in Westland puts the finishing touches on the nails of a regular customer. Lock says she's seen an increase in new clients wishing to have acrylic nails, treated with MMA, removed as a result of its strong bond.

Finding a nail professional

Nail technicians, licensed by the state of Michigan, must renew their accreditation annually and are required to have up to 300 hours of training prior to certification. Some important rules of thumb, say technicians, you should look out for when searching for a reputable nail professional include:

- Make an effort to have your nails done by the same person on a regular basis.
- If there's something wrong with your nail, say an infection or fungus, your manicurist should keep a file on you and monitor the condition from visit to visit," said Laurie Lock, Westland nail technician. "That person is going to know your nail health better than someone different each time."
- Look for a sanitizing product where nail implements such as tweezers, metal files and clippers are kept. The liquid is typically blue or green in nature and implements soak in the sterile solution.
- Make sure the technician is using a new file on every client.
- Ask to see the original bottle of the liquid acrylic the tech is using to guarantee the product does not contain MMA.
- Despite the lack of MMA as a listed ingredient, you may be able to detect the chemical by its distinct odor. Compared to the smell from other acrylic liquids, MMA is very strong-smelling and extended exposure can cause headaches and dizziness.
- If your manicurist is wearing a surgical mask, ask why. It may be possible he or she is using MMA and don't want to inhale the strong, acidic odor of an MMA product. However, other reasons may include the person not wanting to inhale nail dusts and filings or having a cold and trying not to spread germs considering the close proximity in which you come to one another.
- Make sure the manicurist or technician is openly displaying his or her license. If not, ask if he or she is licensed through the state.

know when MMA was used. It can take two hours sometimes just to get the tips off," said Bojanowski, "then a lot of filing is required to get down to a thin layer of acrylic."

Randy Houston of Dream Nails said the Garden City salon has seen a significant increase in the number of clients coming in to have their acrylic nails removed as a result of the use of MMA.

"The porcelain these discount salons are using doesn't allow the nail to breathe properly and the acrylic isn't lifting naturally like it should," said Houston.

"Then people don't want to spend the money to have their nails filled and if there's a problem under the nail, like fungus or mold, things can only get worse the longer they let it go."

Houston said permanent damage on the nail bed such as peeling, discoloration and deep plate grooves are the side effects from fungus growing under the MMA acrylic. "It's very bad. After soaking and filing the nails can become sensitive to hot and cold."

Although the FDA hasn't proposed regulations against the use of MMA as an ingredient in nail products, they did issue a statement in September 1996 stating:

"We continue to believe that liquid methyl methacrylate, when used in cosmetic fingernail preparations, is a poisonous and deleterious sub-

Please see NAILS, E6

Healthy nails are at your fingertips

Nails can represent an art form, a fashion statement, a method of personal expression and a mirror of inner health. Dermatologists can improve the appearance of the nail, recommend cosmetics that can maintain nail health, treat nail disease, and diagnose other conditions of medical importance, based on the appearance of the nails.

Short or long, decorated or plain, your dermatologist can help you keep healthy nails for life.

The lifespan of the nail begins before birth. Properly formed, smooth nails in newborns reassure that all is well. Teen-agers value nails for their fashion versatility. Men and women recognize that healthy nails present a positive image beginning with the first handshake.

Society has come to enjoy nails as an art form and a fashion statement. Stores and salons nationwide offer various press-on nails, nail sculpture, tips and jewels. Millions apply nail polish, nail sunscreens, and the latest strengtheners and quick dries.

Fingernails can also signal potential health problems. For example, patients suffering circulation problems may experience a bluish/purple nail bed. Psoriasis sufferers may have tiny holes in the nail plate, and fungal infections may show in a misshapen nail plate with debris. In addition, broken blood vessels beneath nails may signal lupus, and a discolored nail plate may indicate liver or kidney disease.

Chemotherapy may lead to horizontal grooves in nail plate.

See your dermatologist if any of these problems exist.

Of particular interest to the elderly, new antifungal drugs such as itraconazole, fluconazole and terbinafine are being used in the treatment of onychomycosis, a fungal infection which affects the finger and toenails. Onychomycosis accounts for 50 percent of all nail diseases, and causes the nails to become thickened, hard to cut and often painful. The disorder is made worse by moisture, warmth, trauma, communal bathing and other activities that lead to exposure to fungi.

Some tips for maintaining healthy nails for a lifetime:

- Do not remove the cuticle.
- Eat plenty of protein and biotin.

Moisturize the nails and cuticles daily

Protect the nails from harsh detergents and solvents.

See your dermatologist quickly if any problem develop.

Give your nails a rest for one to three months per year from any cosmetic adornments.

Never bite or peel a hangnail. According to the experts they heal faster and there's less of a threat of infection if they are trimmed with clippers or taken care of by your manicurist or dermatologist.

Nail strengtheners can make nails more durable if the bed is naturally brittle or soft, if acrylics or tips aren't of interest to you.

Computers as gifts, don't be overwhelmed



MIKE WENDLAND

A lot of folks got new computer systems for Christmas and are just now venturing out into Cyberspace, wondering what the rules are and where they can find the coolest sites.

It's a confusing time for the Net newbie

because there are so many options and new procedures.

Let's start with how you are identified on the Net.

As soon as you are "wired" or provided an online account, you should have received your e-mail address. It consists of the user name you sign on with followed by the symbol @, as in "at," followed by the name of the place that gives you Net access. That's called the "domain" or the computer that "hosts" your account.

For example, my e-mail address is: mike@pcmike.com. If you break it down, mike is my user name. What distinguishes my mike from the hundreds of thousands of other mike's out there is where I belong. That's the domain part. My domain is pcmike.com and I am the only mike at pcmike.com.

Computer jargon

What does the "com" part at the end of my address mean? I know someone out there is asking that. It means commercial organization. It tells those in the know that my domain is involved in making money (at least I sure hope it is).

Similarly, "edu" means educational institution, "gov" means some sort of government agency, "uk" is from Great Britain and "org" is a non-profit organization. You can easily spot e-mail that someone sent you from one of the commercial online services because it will have a domain of aol.com or compuserve.com.

To read your Internet e-mail, you need a program. There are

stand-alone software packages you can get like Eudora (www.eudora.com) or Pegasus (www.pegasus.usa.com) but the two most popular World Wide Web browsers -- Netscape and Internet Explorer -- come bundled with perfectly adequate e-mail applications.

I wrote a column on November 23rd about the proper "Netiquette" involved in sending e-mail that you can access through my Webpage (www.pcmike.com). When you get to the site, click on "BBS" in the upper navigation bar and you'll see a list of all my columns and special reports. Look for the one called "E-Mail Netiquette."

But assuming you've sent a few e-mails and are working your way through cyberspace, it's time to learn the neighborhood.

Bookmarking saves time

To ease your surfing frustrations, let me offer up PC Mike's Favorite Bookmarks.

Bookmarks, as you've no doubt learned, are electronic placeholders, saved Internet addresses on your browser. If you use Netscape's browser, they're called bookmarks. Bill Gates doesn't want his product to be anything remotely like Netscape's so Microsoft's Internet Explorer calls them "Favorites."

But "Favorites" are the same thing as "Bookmarks," a collection of your favorite Web sites.

The first thing you'll want is a bookmark for finding stuff. Search engines, people finders, newsgroup search engines and the like.

The Search and Research Master List (http://www.wimer.net/search.html) is a great place to start. It links to several of the most popular search engines, a bunch of telephone directories and even an acronym or abbreviation finder.

Private-Eye.Net (www.private-eye.net/databases.htm) offers an assortment of links to sites that

'It's a confusing time for the Net newbie because there are so many options and new procedures.'

Mike Wendland
—columnist, PC Talk

help you locate e-mail and mailing addresses. I particularly like the reverse phone number lookup that lets you enter a phone number to see the person or business that it's listed under.

The search engine I find myself using the most these days is called HotBot (www.hotbot.com). It searches everything on the Net -- newsgroups, the Web, e-mail addresses, business listings and even domain names, if you want to find out who runs a particular Internet site. I like it because it's very fast and lets you search by phrases, individual words, exact names and several other variations.

I'm also finding myself frequently using an auxiliary site that specializes in news stories and articles. It's called NewsBot (www.newsbot.com) and it's searchable by news categories like entertainment, business, sports and technology.

Purdue University has a great site all Net newbies should check out called the Virtual Reference Desk (http://thorplus.lib.purdue.edu/reference/index.html). It has complete online dictionaries and thesauri (that's the plural of thesaurus), government directories and maps.

Cyber directions

For the easiest to use online maps, check out Mapquest (www.mapquest.com). You can get maps and driving directions for anyplace in the country from this site.

The U.S. Government has a comprehensive site that links to every single government agency that is online. It's called FedWorld (www.fedworld.gov) and it is loaded with information,

databases, reports and abstracts.

Almost all Michigan governmental agencies can be found online, too, under the Michigan State Government site (http://www.migov.state.mi.us/)

The Drudge Report (www.drudgereport.com) is a collection of links to online news sources and columns. It's not a flashy site but it's probably the most comprehensive news and information resource you'll find.

If you've ever gone to address a letter or card but found yourself frustrated by not knowing the zip code, then you'll need to bookmark the National Address Server (http://www.cedar.buffalo.edu/adsrv.html). Just type in the address and this site returns the proper zip code.

Something for free

The Net is loaded with places to get free software. The site I use the most is right here in Southeastern Michigan. It's called the Oak Software Repository (http://www.acs.oakland.edu/oak.html) and it's maintained by Oakland University's Office of Computer and Information Services. Another great source for shareware and freeware that should be on your bookmark list is Download.Com (http://www.download.com/)

I could go on. But half the fun of the Net is finding your own favorites. These should give you more than enough to discover just how useful the World Wide Web has become.

Have fun.

Mike Wendland covers the Internet for NBC-TV Newschannel stations across the country and can be seen locally on WDIV-TV4, Detroit. His "PC Talk" radio show airs Saturday afternoons on WXYT-Radio AM1270 and he is the author of a series of Internet books (call 888-222-1866). You can reach him through his Web site at http://www.pcmike.com

Nails from page E5

stance. Generally speaking, the agency is prepared to consider regulatory action against fingernail products formulated with liquid methyl methacrylate monomer as one of its ingredients."

OPI Research and Development Director Sunil Sirdesai said the most serious health risk women face is MMA's ability to bond like nothing else. "When a woman jams her finger she should expect the acrylic to pop off with no harm to her natural nail," said Sirdesai. "MMA has super excellent bond and won't allow the nail to break free without taking a person's own nail with it."

Nail technicians say their best advice is to be "beauty wise." You may be pampering yourself but in haste, unknowingly hurt-

'We've seen customers come to us with their own finger nail missing or barely attached, holes in the nail plate and splits across the entire nail.'

Laurie Lock
—owner, Nails & More

ing yourself at the same time. Don't trade safety to save a few dollars and don't be afraid to ask questions... the answers are at your fingertips.

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Blood donations critical during holidays when supplies are low

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During the winter holidays of 1995 and 1996 the community blood supply was at a dangerously low level and an emergency appeal for blood donations was issued to the public. The American Red Cross, Southeastern

Michigan Blood Services Region is working hard to prevent this from happening during the 1997 holidays.

In doing so, Red Cross is appealing to businesses, community organizations, places of worship, social groups and others, with a group of 30 or more donors, to sponsor a blood drive

during the critical period -- now through Jan. 4.

Your blood drive sponsorship will help hundreds of hospital patients who need lifesaving blood for their survival. For more information call (313) 494-2790.

The Red Cross understands that the holidays are a very busy time; they are also a dangerous

time for the community blood supply. If you are unable to sponsor a blood drive, please make and keep a blood donation appointment at a Red Cross Donor Center or blood mobile site.

To donate blood, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

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ART MUSEUMS
The Detroit Institute of Arts.....http://www.dia.org

ASSOCIATIONS
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Society of Automotive Engineers-Detroit.....http://www.sae-detroit.org
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BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
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BOOKS
Apostolate Communications.....http://www.apostolate.com

BUSINESS NEWS
Insider Business Journal.....http://www.insiderbiz.com

CERAMIC TILE
Stewart Specialty Tiles.....http://www.specialtytiles.com

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
Livonia Chamber of Commerce.....http://www.livonia.org
Birmingham/Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce.....http://www.bbcc.com

CHILDREN'S SERVICES
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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.....http://observer-eccentric.com

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COMMUNITIES
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Rocheater Community Schools Foundation.....http://rochester-hills.com/rcsf
The Webmaster School.....http://rochester-hills.com/wbs
Western Wayne County Internet User Group.....http://oelonline.com/wwcug

ELECTRICAL SUPPLY
Caniff Electric Supply.....http://www.caniff.com
Progress Electric.....http://www.pe-co.com

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ABL Electronic Service, Inc.....http://www.ablerv.com

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