



IN THE PAPER TODAY

COMMUNITY LIFE

Helping hands: The Western Wayne Skill Center in Westland, affiliated with the Livonia schools, is recognizing the individual efforts of students who are reaching out to the community through a schoolwide program. /B1

AT HOME

Design inspiration: Area interior designers are among those who created rooms for IdeaHouse, a display of two different types of living spaces for different residents. /D6

ENTERTAINMENT

Theater: "Forgiveness" unites the cultures of China, Japan and Korea in a contemporary work featuring elements of theater, dance and music. /E1

Popular music: Paradime can hold its own among the best hip-hop artists. The Livonia rapper was nominated for two Detroit Music Awards. /E1

REAL ESTATE

It matters: Go with your feelings when you hire someone to sell your home. /F1

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Anderson announces House bid



A veteran Westland City Council member who just started his ninth year in office has become the first candidate to announce officially that he is a candidate for the 18th District state House race.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
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Third-term Westland City Councilman Glenn Anderson on Wednesday announced his Democratic bid for the 18th District state House seat, vowing to toughen workplace safety standards, cut taxes when possible and seek equity in school funding.

"I plan on running a hard race," he said. "We're going to get there."

Anderson, 46, confirmed his rumored candidacy amid 50 to 70 supporters who gathered at the Hellenic Cultural Center on Joy Road.

He became the first contender for the 18th District seat occupied by state Rep. Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, who can't seek re-election due to term limits.

Anderson, a quality control employee for Ford Motor Co.'s assembly plant in Wayne, "It's one that I'm proud to take and hopefully do a great job for the city."

Anderson unveiled several key issues he hopes to address if elected:

■ He vowed to help local governments stave off state interference in local affairs.

■ He pledged to protect state-shared revenues from some Lansing legislators who try to siphon money from local communities.

■ He promised to combat state

efforts to tamper with a gas tax formula that helps provide money for local roads.

■ He said he will fight for equitable funding among public school districts.

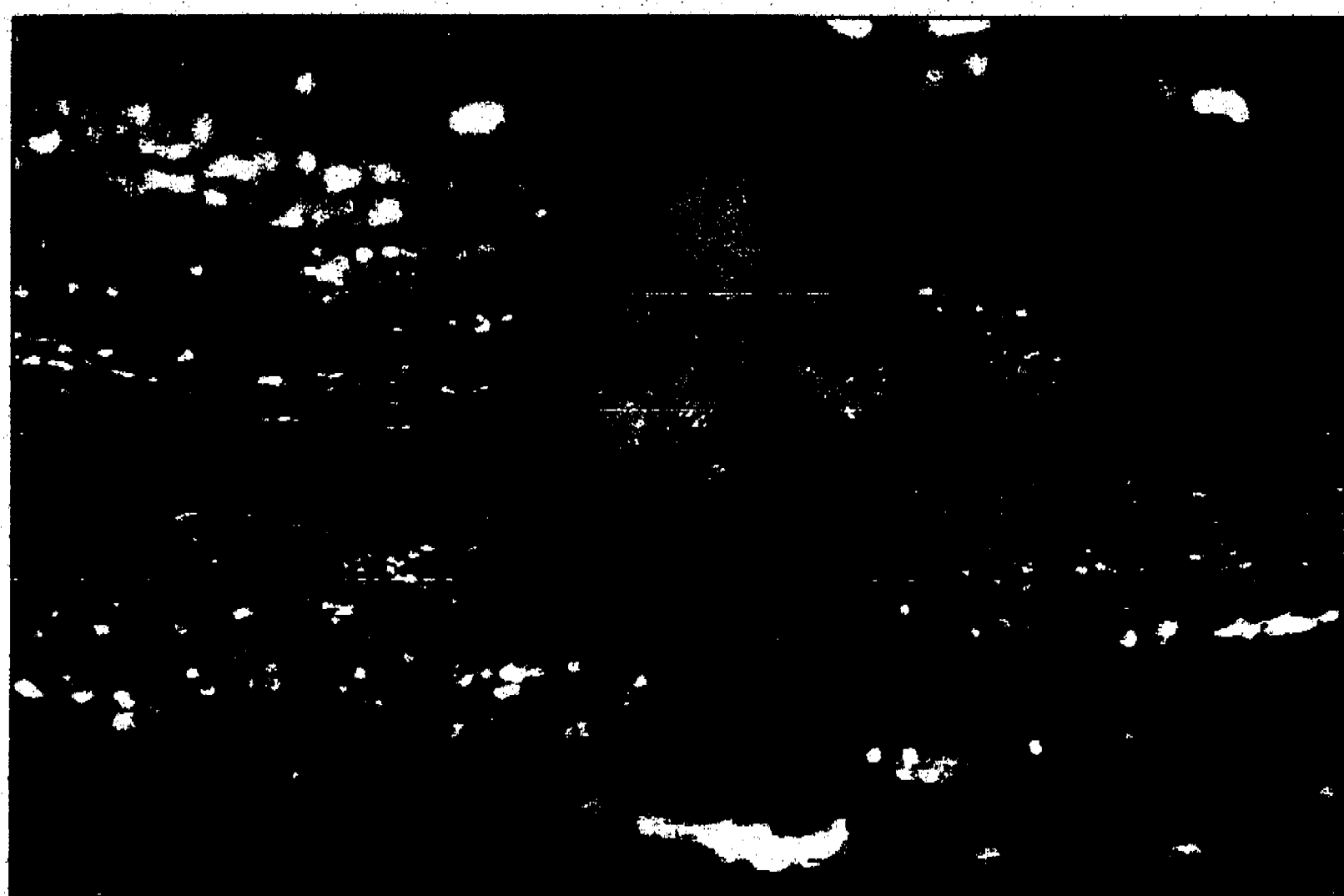
■ He vowed to support tax cuts when possible, but not when essential services are threatened. "I believe in returning money back to the taxpayers," he said.

■ He stressed the need to strengthen and enforce worker safety standards.

"The enforcement has really dropped in the last eight years," Anderson said during a post-announcement interview

Please see HOUSE, A4

Afloat



Learning to swim: Clarissa Ehle, 5, of Redford enjoys her swimming lesson at the Wayne-Westland YMCA Monday afternoon. She was taking part in family swimming instruction. For more on the swimming, please see page A3 of today's Observer.

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

New city clerk is tapped

BY DARRELL CLEM
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In a show of solidarity, Westland City Council members Monday gave sweeping support to Joann Seaberg as the new city clerk.

The 7-0 vote followed a bitter clash that erupted when a council majority fired former Clerk Patricia Gibbons on Jan. 18.

Although some council members favored an outside search before hiring a new clerk, they didn't try to derail Seaberg's appointment.

"I think it would be very detrimental for her to come into that position knowing that she had split support from this council," Councilman Glenn Anderson said.

Seaberg, an 18-month deputy clerk and 13-year city employee, started her \$64,085-a-year job without an interim tag that some council members had discussed.

"I do appreciate the support and assistance that council is giving me,"

Please see CLERK, A4

Westland audit will include senior center's books

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Mayor Robert Thomas predicted that no financial discrepancies will be found when auditors this year scrutinize the budget of Westland's senior citizen resources director, who is retiring April 14 in the wake of a gambling scandal.

"I think that when the audit comes in again, it will show there was no impropriety there," Thomas said Monday.

His statement came after two residents — upset that senior Director

Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek gambled at a Detroit casino during work hours — called for scrutiny of her department's funds.

During a Westland City Council meeting Monday, resident Judi Cornfoot called for a "complete audit" of funds at the senior Friendship Center.

The city's auditing firm will examine senior center books this summer when it reviews spending for all departments, Thomas said.

But senior Judith Marentette raised questions about a senior department building fund that Thomas conceded

receives community donations but has no city oversight.

"It's not taxpayer dollars," he said.

Even so, Thomas said he felt confident that all donations are used to improve the center.

"I think someone should be checking some things over there," Marentette said. "I hope the city will follow through on this situation."

Thomas indicated that he may make some changes in the way the department is run, but he defended Kozorosky-Wiacek and said her ability to raise community donations has

made Westland senior programs among the state's best.

Kozorosky-Wiacek admitted three weeks ago that she and two of her employees went to MotorCity Casino in a city van.

She conceded they made "several" trips but said they spent their own money. She said she played 50-cent slot machines.

Some residents and city leaders have asked Kozorosky-Wiacek's critics to place her 23-year city career in perspective.

Please see AUDIT, A4

Election's off, so what's future of incinerator?

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Westland city leaders Monday canceled a May 9 election for a garbage-disposal tax and vowed to try to pull out of a 37-year incinerator agreement.

Voters will not be asked to renew a 1-mill garbage-disposal tax that expires in June 2001 — a move that will return \$60 a year to the owner of a \$120,000 home.

"It isn't a lot of money for most people, but it is a lot of money for people on fixed incomes," Mayor Robert Thomas said.

His remarks came Monday, on the same night the Westland City Council voted 7-0 to cancel the May 9 special election.

Thomas also has directed City Attorney Angelo Plakas to try to find a way for the city to pull out of an incinerator contract that remains in place through 2037.

"I don't think that we'll find a way out," Thomas said. "It's a long shot, but it's worth looking at."

Westland pays \$4 million a year to

dispose of garbage and to pay off its share of debt owed on a Dearborn Heights-based incinerator, Public Services Director Richard Dittmar said.

City officials have become increasingly angry that Westland is paying incinerator costs of \$57 a ton while some Downriver communities are shelling out \$16 a ton to send garbage to landfills.

Moreover, Councilman Richard LeBlanc said Westland is paying five times the incinerator costs that have been offered to some communities.

LeBlanc said Westland could try to withdraw from the incinerator agreement by forming a coalition with four other cities locked into long-term contracts — Garden City, Wayne, Inkster and Dearborn Heights.

Councilman David Cox agreed that "there might be a better deal out there for us, and I think we should look into it."

Residents such as Ron and Cheryl Graunstadt have long voiced opposition to the incinerator. Ron Graunstadt on Monday called the long-term contract

Please see INCINERATOR, A5

For seniors



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Keeping fit: State Reps. Eileen DeHart (left) and Doug Bovin (left center) take a tour with Westland Friendship Center Director Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek (center). Working out in the exercise equipment room are Jim Griffin and Carol Sparks of Westland. DeHart and Bovin are part of the In-Home Task Force, which held a hearing at Thomas F. Taylor Towers Monday. For more, please see page A10.

Westland Observer

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Pieces of history

Pioneer Trek exercises those brain cells

BY DIANE GALE ANDERLASH
SPECIAL WRITER

It's like taking a tour on vacation, only this one can be done during a lunch break in your hometown.

The traveler follows a trail through five communities and learns about local folklore complete with murder, Native American tales and intrigue from historical markers that are miles apart and act like pages of a mystery novel. Vignettes about the area's first settlers seem to come alive on the journey and the history lesson becomes a game.

The Nankin Township Pioneer Trek takes about an hour to complete as the excursion meanders through five communities, Wayne, Westland, Livonia, Garden City and Inkster.

Daryl A. Bailey, vice chairman of the Westland Historical Commission, developed the local trail last year, after being smitten by a similar one at Shiloh Battlefield, a national military park in Tennessee.

"We had all these historical markers that no one notices anymore," Bailey said. "It's a way to have fun and learn some history. The historical commission is all about that. This is a small step toward that goal and it's great."

The local trail begins on Wayne Road at the Westland Historical Museum at the site of the old Fenton Farmhouse. Next door is the Collins House, which is the permanent site of the Westland Historical Commission's

archives.

Brochures are available at the museum and serve as a guide to the 10 locations on the trek. It also asks 10 questions with the answers found on the historical markers. Anyone who completes the 10 questions receives an embroidered patch available at the Westland Historical Museum.

The patch was designed by Bailey's wife, Sherry.

"This gives our community a sense of its history and there's a lot of information about important events," explained Jo Johnson, Westland Historical Commission president. "It gives the community a sense of pride."

Johnson said she was disappointed with the response to the trek, because only 10 people have been documented as completing the trail.

"There hasn't been as many as we'd like to have gone through it," Johnson said. "We're hoping the spring and summer will bring Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and even senior citizens out to it."

Driving south on Wayne Road, the street curves and leads the traveler past a Dairy Queen, Daly's Restaurant and other quaint storefronts reminiscent of a small town up North or down South.

On a rainy spring day, the windshield blurred the view and the everyday sights were replaced by images of horse-drawn carriages and Native American hunting parties. The first stop tells a story about Johnson's

Tavern on westbound Michigan Avenue at Wayne. In fact, the man who bought the tavern was hanged for murdering his wife. It almost makes the traveler want to return to the history books to find out more.

The next stop is the Patchin School on Newburgh, then to the Newburgh Cemetery on Ann Arbor Trail. Back onto Wayne Road, the time traveler is taken to the Holliday Park Apartments where an historical plaque describes the last encounter between Native Americans and pioneers in southeast Michigan.

"It began when a small band of braves led by Chief Tonquish stole some freshly baked loaves of bread and ended with the death of the chief and his son," according to the Nankin Township Pioneer Trek brochure.

The next stop is the historic Nankin Mills on Ann Arbor Trail. In the 1800s, farmers brought their grain there to have it ground into flour. After a few more markers, the driver is led back to the Westland Historical Museum where the journey began.

The brochure ends with the following note: "You have traveled over some of the first roads in the area. Along the way you have read about some of the early pioneers. As you return to your homes, take a minute to think how things have changed over the years. Would our early pioneers be proud of all the changes?"

Fire officials tout advanced life support

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Westland fire officials say 27 people survived what could have been "certain death" after receiving on-the-scene medical help from paramedics during the first three years of the city's advanced life support program.

"I think it has made a tremendous difference," Fire Chief Mark Neal said.

Paramedics treated 20,880 patients and — of those — took 11,244 to hospitals during the three-year period that ended Feb. 5.

The statistics are contained in annual reports from Neal and Battalion Chief Michael Reddy, emergency medical services coordinator.

ator.

A higher percentage of patients would have been taken to hospitals, had it not been for paramedics' expertise, Neal said.

"We have been able to apply emergency room procedures in the field," he said.

Westland firefighters receive a higher level of training than they did when the city only had a basic life support program.

Fire officials and city leaders embarked on advanced life support services in February 1997, becoming what Neal has touted as the first western Wayne County community to offer the program.

Westland has 61 licensed paramedics.

The latest annual report for the year ending Feb. 5 notes that

paramedics saved eight people from "certain death," bringing the three-year total to 27.

Fire officials say those who would have died suffered from heart attacks, severe diabetic seizures, drug overdoses, a choking incident and, in one case, an accidental hanging.

"In each of these cases, the patient had no vital signs evident, and our paramedics revived them," the latest report from Neal and Reddy said.

"There are scores of (other) patients whose lives were also saved by the quick intervention of our paramedics, who provided intravenous fluids and medications which prevented them from deteriorating and losing vital signs," the report concluded.

Former Fire Chief Michael

Reddy — father of the battalion chief — has been credited with bringing advanced life support services to Westland. He had touted the program for years before the city initiated it.

Annual reports indicate that most residents who benefit from the advanced life support program are Westland residents.

During the third year, 70 percent of patients who were helped by paramedics actually lived in Westland.

That compares to 72 percent during the first year and 71 percent during the second year.

Neal said the paramedic program will continue to be improved as the city moves to provide new services such as better blood clot-busting drugs that could help stroke victims.

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Tuesday, March 28, 2000, the Westland Police Dept. will conduct Public Auctions of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00 AM at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
1994	DODGE	8003 DR	GOLD	1B3BV11D0EC2945230
1990	FORD	AEROSTAR/VAN	SILVER	1FMDA31K5L2829086
1979	LINCOLN	TOWNCAR/DR	BROWN	9Y3253630000
1998	CHEVY	CAPRICE/DR	YELLOW	1G1BLA874N130396

The second auction will begin promptly at 11:00 AM at Westland Car Care, 5975 Hix Road, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
1998	CHEVY	CUSTOM/PICKUP	RED	10CC0C14N47F348180
1994	FORD	ESCORT/DR	GREEN	1FAFP1269W7776107
1993	OLDSMOBILE	DELTA 800 DR	BROWN	1G3A9W70507794317
1991	VOLVO	740 GLE/DR	BEIGE	1VW7G0177B150800
1994	PONTIAC	PRIDE/DR	PRIMER	1G8A971L5L2315179
1991	CHEVY	ELCAMPO/PICKUP	BLACK	10CCW0306SD476067
1996	MERCURY	COUGAR/DR	BLACK	1MEBP937G0801323
1995	BUICK	REVLANTA/DR	GRAY	1G4X08929W448092

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after April 23, 2000, unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
1998	BUICK	REVLANTA/DR	GRAY	1G4X08929W448092

Cable show to focus on student topics

Two Wayne-Westland educators will discuss topics such as "mainstreaming" special education students, youth drug use, parental involvement in education and student violence during a program that will air at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, on Westland city government cable station WLND.

Jim Couillard, high school counselor, and Jack Martin, high school psychologist, will be the featured guests on "People Worth Watching," a local program hosted by Deputy Mayor George Gillies and Westland

City Council member Sandra Cicirelli.

"We believe this program will not only highlight these two gentlemen and the significant difference they make in the school district, but will be very informative to our viewing audience," Gillies said.

The program was to be taped today for viewing starting on Tuesday. It is part of an ongoing series that has featured local people — most recently Adams Middle School Principal Celestine Sanders.

WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS SEALED BIDS SALE

Vacant Land — Southern most approximate 7 acre parcel adjacent to Stevenson Middle School (38501 Palmer Road, Westland, Michigan 48185). Subject parcel is landlocked, as public access would most likely need to be negotiated with private landowners in the area. Minimum Bid Price \$20,000 per acre.

Potential serious bidders can be arranged to pick up sample standard purchase offer documents by calling Barbara Evanson, Wayne-Westland Schools, Supervisor of Business/Warehouse at (734) 595-2048.

Bid Deadline is April 4, 2000 at 3:00 P.M. Barbara Evanson must receive all bids at Wayne-Westland Schools, 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan 48185. Bid opening will be at the same location at 10:00 A.M. on April 5, 2000.

The Wayne-Westland School District reserves the right to reject any and all bids received on this particular land offer.

Posting March 19 and 20, 2000



Family affair: Above, Katie Armstrong, holding son Austin, works on strokes with Donna Ehle and Ehle's daughter, Clarissa. Swimming classes at the Wayne-Westland YMCA are popular. At right, Donna and Clarissa Ehle work on swimming.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Swimmers flock to YMCA

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER
jbrown@oe.homecomm.net

"That looks better," swimming instructor Katie Armstrong said in an encouraging tone.

She was in the pool Monday afternoon at the Wayne-Westland YMCA, working with Donna Ehle, who can swim.

"I'm just trying to straighten her out on strokes," Armstrong said. Also in the pool were Armstrong's son, Austin, 13 months, and Ehle's daughter, Clarissa, 5.

Clarissa Ehle takes swimming lessons at the YMCA, on Wayne Road south of Cherry Hill in Westland.

"Actually, this is the second week," her mom said of the family instruction. "We really like it."

Clarissa's been swimming two years already. "She really, really enjoys it so I'm sure we'll be going to the beach," said Donna Ehle, a Redford resident.

For information on swimming instruction at the Wayne-Westland YMCA, call (734) 721-7044. Christy Nolan, local YMCA executive director, said

All the metro Detroit YMCAs have pools, Nolan added, describing swimming as 'a core program.' Enrollment tends to climb in the springtime with concerns about children's water safety. Lessons offer a good social environment as well, he said.

swimming instruction is popular.

A family membership includes free swimming lessons, he said, which has helped to boost membership.

"It's an activity you can do year round." The whole family can join in, Nolan said, and the water's warm.

All the metro Detroit YMCAs have pools, he added, describing swimming as "a core program." Enrollment tends to climb in the springtime with concerns about children's water safety. Lessons offer a good social environment as well, he said.



A natural: Katie Armstrong's son, Austin, 13 months, takes to the water at the Wayne-Westland YMCA pool. Armstrong was busy teaching swimming Monday afternoon at the YMCA.

On the job:
Principal Mike Seltz shows one month's worth of cigarettes and lighters that have been collected.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Bentley students want to be smoke-free

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER
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In Mike Seltz' desk sits 20 or so packs of cigarettes. He won't smoke them.

Rather, the Livonia Alternative Education principal plans to send a burning letter - along with the cigarettes - to tobacco manufacturers.

The packs are evidence for the number of students who, lost educational privileges because of smoking on school property, Seltz said. He'd like to remind tobacco manufacturers of that. Student Shalena Tate's cigarettes won't be part of the shipment.

Tate's quitting. The Redford student is helping galvanize other alternative ed students at the Bentley Center to give up the addictive habit through a new smoking cessation program, "Not on Tobacco."

One month into the program, 16 to 18 of 80 classmates have signed on. They've attended presentations by St. Mary Hospital Wellness staff and other health experts.

They've seen black encrusted lungs of a smoker and passed around a jar of tar, a byproduct of cigarette use. During a "Butt Head" workshop, students

learned the ingredients used in cigarettes.

"Menthols are killers," Seltz said. "Kids are puking up blood. It's like sucking on fiberglass insulation."

Students are in various stages of quitting. Those 18 and over will use nicotine patches.

Tate is down to a half-pack from a whole pack a day.

"I know I need to quit," Tate said.

Her story is all too familiar. She started smoking at age 15, thinking "it was cool."

Though Tate contends smoking never affected her ability to learn, she admits often leaving school to have a cigarette.

"The absences caused me problems," she said.

A disproportionate amount of alternative education students smoke, Seltz estimates, more than half in the program use tobacco.

Experts also warn smoking at an early age is often a gateway to other drug use.

Some start as young as 8 years old, said Loretta Zimes, a facilitator in the student assistance program at Bentley.

The N.O.T. program uses education and research, which appears to be sinking in.

"I watched a movie and just the pictures of what people

would look like when they smoke... the wrinkles, their skin, their teeth," Tate said, "it made me think a lot more."

Simply telling kids not to smoke doesn't work, she said. They need to see and understand the effects.

"Every kid will try to be a kid," she said. "You can't tell a kid not to smoke and then turn around and smoke."

"You have to educate the kids and talk to them."

What motivation doesn't come from the program, Tate finds it in the eyes of girls half her age. She's a nanny for three girls, ages 9, 8 and 6, whose mother died.

Tate doesn't smoke in front of them. She goes outside instead.

Lately, she's caught one of the girls peeking out the window. Tate warns them about the dangers.

"If they smoke, that will really upset me," said Tate, 19, who plans to take a college class and then join the Air Force.

School staff are impressed with Tate's effort to kick the habit, and the efforts of others.

"I think it shows insight and motivation on their part," Zimes said. "I don't think students here get enough credit for their skills and their drive from the district or the community."

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Announcements

Reading has always been popular and audiobooks have given the traveler, jogger and worker the ability to listen to books. The following has been taken from the current issue of Library Administrator's Digest and is a reprint from the June/July issue of Audiobooks: INFORMATION.

Public Library of Westland
The Audio Publishers Association sponsored a research study (conducted by National Family Opinion) on the habits and practices of audiobook listeners to collect information about how and where consumers use audiobooks in their lives. The statistics show a strong growth of not only the audiobook industry but huge increases in audiobook use in U.S. households. How many listeners? Twenty-one percent of 19 million U.S. households have listened to an audiobook in the last year. Where are people listening? Thirty-seven percent at home, 44 percent in the car, 4 percent at school, 8 percent exercising, 4 percent at work, 3 percent other. How many audiobooks were produced in 1998? About 7,000 new audiobooks and spoken word programs were produced last year, according to R.R. Bowker. What do people listen to? Forty-eight percent book-based fiction (30 percent unabridged), 21 percent nonfiction, 15 percent children's, 8 percent religious/inspirational, 6 percent other, 2 percent language. The Public Library of Westland houses one of the largest audiobook collections in the area with 7,305 adult titles and 491 titles for children. They have proven to be quite popular and because compact discs have become popular for personal and automotive sound systems, the Friends of the Library have purchased 3,203 books on CD for patron use. To find out if your favorite book is on cassette or CD, call (734) 326-6123 and ask for the Reference Desk.

Web Sites of the Week

http://www.school.discovery.com/science/faircentral
This area of the Discovery Channel helps students, parents and teachers prepare for science fairs.

http://www.bmorecreative.com/home-o-q-at.html

This Web site offers a searchable database of more than 10,000 quotations. You can search by day of birth, profession, subject, keyword, or browse special themes and collections. Citations are listed for each quotation. (Taken from Library Currents, October 1998).

Programs for Adults

Lower Mower Tuneup Class
7-8:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, Children's Activity Room. Jim Carlson from H & R Power Equipment will take you through the basics of tuneups. Bring your own mower (push style only). No fee. No registration required, but class size is limited.

Women of Distinction: Informal Book Discussions in Celebration of Women's History Month
7:30 p.m. Wednesdays in March, Meeting Room A. March 29, Book of Esther, Hebrew Scriptures, presented by William A. Vine. Presented in conjunction with the Madonna University Library, the program will provide an informal forum for the presentation and discussion of select books on important women and issues. Presenters are members of the Madonna University faculty. No fee. No registration required. Light refreshments will be served.

Adult Reading Club
7 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, Community Meeting Room C. "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. These are informal, open forum discussions on noteworthy books. All are invited to participate. No fee. No registration required.

Children's Activities

Reading Contest
Continues through Friday, March 31, Children's Service Desk. To help observe Reading Month, a contest is under way. If you read three books in a variety of categories, you will receive a Toarmina's Pizza coupon. Your name will also be entered in a drawing to win a \$20 gift certificate from Waldenbooks. Pick up an entry form at the Children's Service Desk. No fee.

Baby Storytime
11-11:20 a.m. Saturday, March 25, Children's Activity Room. A storytime specifically designed for ages 6-18 months with a caregiver. No fee. No registration required.

Sleepytime Storytime: "Blue's Clues"
7 p.m. Monday, March 27, Community Meeting Room A. Are you a fan of the TV show? Can you solve all the mysteries? Join us for this special storytime with games, stories and more. Wear your pajamas and bring your blanket. No fee. No registration required.

Toddler Tales & Preschool Storytime
1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, Children's Activity Room. 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 29, Meeting Room A. Toddler Tales (18-36 months) and Preschool Storytime (ages 3-5) are held 1:30 p.m. every Tuesday and 10:30 a.m. every Wednesday. Stop in for fun fables, tales and stories. Storytimes last about 30 minutes. No fee. No registration required, although class size is limited.

Junior Master Gardener Program
Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Registration begins Monday, March 27, at the Children's Service Desk. Sessions are 7-8 p.m. Mondays, April 10, 17, May 1, 8, 15 and 22. Earn a Junior Master Gardener certificate. Children in grades two-five can register for this program and learn about gardening and nature. In addition to class sessions, students will participate in a practical, hands-on session in the library garden, to be arranged. No fee. Registration required.

After School Special
3-5 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, Children's Activity Room. This drop-in program, held each Wednesday, is for all school-age children. It provides an opportunity to make crafts, play games and unwind after a hard day at school. No fee. No registration required.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library for the Board. If you are interested in helping the Friends provide important programs for the children and adults of Westland, this position may be for you. For information, call Julie Chwalik, Friends liaison, at (734) 326-6123. The board meets the second Tuesday of the month to discuss fund-raising and program planning. All are invited. Stop in and find out how you can help in providing quality programs at the library. The next meeting will be 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 11.

Incinerator from page A1

"ludicrous" and urged city officials to "cut our losses and get out of it."

City officials say Westland still has at least six years of incinerator bond debt amounting to \$5.6 million, but they are growing increasingly opposed to a 37-year agreement to burn garbage.

Earlier, the Thomas administration had said the city could be forced to lay off police officers and firefighters unless voters renewed the 1-mill incinerator tax to dispose of garbage and pay off long-term debt.

But Thomas announced in mid-March that he'd prefer to eliminate the tax.

The mayor suggested the lost revenue could be largely replaced by terminating a special Tax Increment Finance Authority tax district north of Ford Road and using those revenues to pay garbage-disposal costs. TIFA dollars have paid for projects such as the Westland public library.

"It sounds like it might be a very promising alternative," council member Sandra Cicirelli said Monday, although no vote was taken on ending the TIFA district.

LeBlanc voiced opposition to using TIFA dollars only for waste disposal, saying some

money should be used for projects such as improving roads and fire stations.

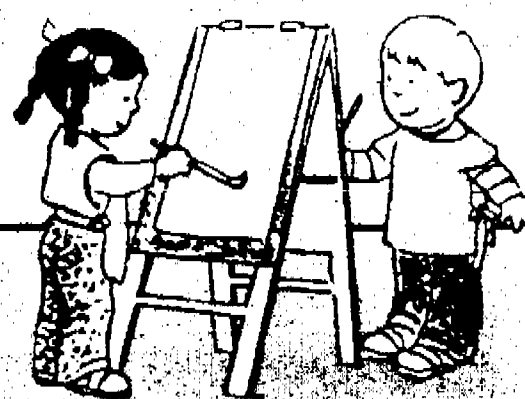
He also indicated that the city shouldn't close off its options for seeking a garbage-disposal tax for less than 1 mill and for only a few years.

Until recent weeks, the mayor had wanted to keep the TIFA district in place to help pay for a multimillion-dollar recreation center, but he abruptly announced a change of policy in mid-March and said he favors giving citizens a tax break.

Some residents still say the city needs to address recreation needs.

WANTED: Classroom Space

We're a nonprofit agency looking for classroom space in western Wayne County for an expanding Head Start program.



Please call Dean Kowalski at 734-727-3133

Read Taste Sunday

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734-641-8888

CANTON
45200 FORD ROAD
734-455-5100

Gyms sport crowded look

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER
loconnor@oe.homedown.net

While their classmates' lower limbs negotiate a felt soccer ball on the gym floor below, a row of Franklin High students dangle their legs in anticipation, if not boredom.

Instead of having two games simultaneously, there's only room for one. Instructor Linda Jimenez blows her whistle and another set of students files onto the court as others exit to sit and wait.

"They're not getting anything but spectator practice at this point," said Fred Price, assistant director of instruction.

The example is but one that school officials use to illustrate the need for new fieldhouses.

Livonia Public Schools are asking voters to approve a \$28 million bond issue April 10, which would build new gyms at the district's secondary schools.

While physical education and athletics stress the "S words" of speed and stamina, students are also learning how to share.

Franklin's lone gym is divided up among those taking required personal fitness classes, elective team sport courses and after-school athletic teams. The court is used from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Fieldhouses proposed in the bond issue would include three basketball courts, a running track and separate areas for weights, gymnastics and wrestling.

Weighty issue

A new weight room sounds good to students who strain to lift dumbbells amid the music of

The free weight room is filled to capacity during the school day.

the Smashing Pumpkins.

More than 30 kids are sequestered in a 50-by-25 foot room, which used to be a storage area. Price dutifully steps off the room's dimensions.

Weight rooms proposed in the bond request would be 50 feet by 50-60 feet.

A large metal fan whirrs in the corner to help with ventilation, which "is terrible," said teacher Steven Freier.

The free weight room is filled to capacity during the school day.

"We have them working in groups of four," Freier said. "It takes longer for them to get their workouts in."

Franklin's fitness room — added in 1990 — is similarly cramped. A drove of students works out on rows of cardiovascular machines in the 30-by-35-foot room.

An impromptu sing-along occurs when Third Eye Blind comes on the radio.

"If you're singing, you're not working hard enough," Instructor Joyce Miltz says to the unsanctioned chorale group.

Gym class evolves

Physical education has evolved from a part-time student pursuit to piquing their lifelong interest during the past 20 years, Miltz said.

Livonia students are required to take a health class and a per-



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Let's get physical: Girls play dodge ball in half of the gym at Emerson Middle School.

sonal fitness course. The latter covers nutrition, aerobic and anaerobic instruction and cardiovascular activities like basketball and soccer in the gyms.

Students also take written exams on what they've learned.

"No longer do we throw the ball out and play," Miltz said. "We need accountability and we need to assess students."

The assessment on middle school facilities is this: They're cramped, too.

In the space of one basketball court, 60 kids congregate separated by a monstrous wall. Some 720 students share the facilities during a seven-hour day.

"This is the total room for physical education," said Thomas Tobe, Emerson Middle School principal.

Principals make do and, in Tobe's case, get creative. He bought portable basketball backboards, which allows one of three roundball teams to practice in the school cafeteria.

Such improvisation extends outside. Running lanes are painted on the school's asphalt parking lot. The make-shift running track abruptly ends at the building's corner without going full-circle.

In addition to an auxiliary gym, Emerson and Holmes middle schools would receive running tracks.

Middle school offers a gamut of sports. Instead of having one select team, schools have up to the three squads in popular sports like basketball and volleyball.

The salad bar approach gives kids, who are still developing physically, a chance to sample various sports, Tobe said.

"They don't get turned off early," Tobe said.

Such an all-inclusive policy brings more to bear on already sparse facilities.

Livonia middle schools share their facilities with another user. Since high school gyms are booked by their athletic teams, Livonia Junior Athletic League teams use middle school gyms after 6 p.m.

"It's kind of like when I was in school," Tobe said. "It's a community facility as much as a school facility, which is what it should be. The more the merrier."

Added Tobe, "We put it (the gym) to bed at 9 o'clock to give it some rest."

OBITUARIES

BONNA M. BARFUS

Bonna Barfus, 53, of Westland died March 13 in Wayne. She was born April 26, 1946.

Mrs. Barfus was a homemaker.

Surviving are her sons, Patrick "Tiger" (Kelly) Zangarini II, John (Charla) and Robert (Robin); daughter, Christina (Steve) Knox; parents, John and Phyllis Clark; brothers, Patrick Clark and Danny Clark; and eight grandchildren.

Mrs. Barfus donated her body to the University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor.

Arrangements were made by UH Funeral Home.

FLORENCE D. RAJDA

Services for Florence Rajda, 71, of Canton were March 17 in Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland, with burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Officiating were the Rev. Jack H. Baker and the Rev. Joseph Gemballa.

Mrs. Rajda was born Sept. 8, 1928, in Canton and died March 13 in Dearborn Heights. She was a homemaker. She was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church.

Surviving are her daughter, Lorraine (Richard) Liddy of Westland; brother, Edward (Beverly) Bishop of Davenport, Fla.; sister, Irene (Joseph) Gemballa of Canton; and grandson, Kevin Liddy.

Memorials may be made in the form of Mass offerings or to DMC West Nursing Center.

GLORIA J. TERRIEN

Services for Gloria Terrien, 55, of Westland were today, March 23, in Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with burial at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Officiating was the Rev. Tom Kirwan.

Mrs. Terrien was born April 24, 1944, in White Earth Township, Minn., and died March 19 in Wayne.

She was a homemaker. She

came to the Westland community in 1992 from Plymouth. She was a member of St. Raphael Catholic Church in Garden City. Mrs. Terrien enjoyed collecting Beanie Babies with her grandchildren, and collecting Native American memorabilia.

Surviving are her husband, Michael; sons, Dave (Barbara) Booth of Livonia and Dale (Leann) Booth of Plymouth; brothers, Kenneth Bellanger of Westland, Peter Bellanger of Livonia and Edward Bellanger of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; sisters, Gladys Shroff of Ft. Wayne, Ind., Florence Parks of Kentucky and Delores Campbell of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; and four grandchildren.

Mrs. Terrien was preceded in death by brothers Earl and Leonard Bellanger.

KIM E. MYERS

Services for former Westland resident Kim Myers, 44, of Dearborn Heights were today, March 23, in Covenant Community Church in Redford Township with burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. H. Dalton Myers (her father-in-law) from Covenant Community Church in Redford Township.

Mrs. Myers was born Nov. 7, 1955, in Detroit and died March 20 in Dearborn. She was a member of Covenant Community Church in Redford Township.

Surviving are her husband, Andrew; stepson, Joshua; father, Garner Jones; brother, Brian Jones; sisters, Cathy Kosakowski, Linda Jones and Cindy Nesbitt.

Mrs. Myers was preceded in death by her mother, Betty Jones.

Memorials may be made to Michigan Lupus Foundation, 26507 Harper, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081. Arrangements were made by Fisher-Goodnuff Funeral Home.

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Huntington Woods Mobile	Huntington Woods	30% Off Incoming Dry Cleaning Orders	
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Jim Friesen Pontiac Buick	Royal Oak	Ambassador Roller Rink	Claughton
10% Off Parts and Service		Buy One Admission - Get One Free (Sat. Only)	
Stop and Go Auto Repair	Ferndale	Buy One Admission - Get One Free (Sat. Only)	
\$60 Brakes, Front or Rear, Inclusive, plus Tax		Buy One Admission - Get One Free (Sat. Only)	
Tom Hallock's Goodyear	Birmingham/Royal Oak	Detroit Zoological Society	Royal Oak
10% Off All Services		10% Off All Membership Packages	
Westland Car Care	Westland	Electric 9800	Westland
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S Beauty & Health Care Professionals		S Financial Services	
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15% Off Any Frames		50% Financial Plan + Inv. Fees	
Alliance Tanning Salon	Claughton	Kozak Consulting Co., Inc.	Westland
10% Off Any Reg. Priced Membership or package		Tax Time	Westland
Berkley Beach Tanning Salon	Berkley	Free Electronic Filing with Paid Return	
3 month bed \$80.3, month hex \$100		S Florists & Gifts	
Better Health Store	Walled Lake	Home	Royal Oak
10% Off On All Supplements		10% Off Purchase (not to be combined w/other offers)	
Checker Drugs 180 S. Wayne Road	Westland	Kevin's Floral Expressions	Ferndale
All Vitamins \$1.00 Off		10% Off - Excluding Wire Orders	
Dr. Daniel V. Tomlinello	Royal Oak	Mary Jane Flowers	Royal Oak
Free Initial Consultation & Exam		10% Off Any Purchase Over \$10.00	
Dr. Lefkowitz	Ferndale	Steve Collins Flowers	Southfield
Free Initial Consultation		Free Delivery in Metro Detroit Area	
Dulac Hair Fashions	Farmington Hills	The Green Bee	Royal Oak
10% Off Reg. Price Cuts & Risk Products		10% Off Purchase over \$10	
Farmall's	Birmingham	S Home Improvement	
\$5 Off Any Hair Service		ABC Plumbing	Claughton
Family Dental Center 734-427-8308	Livonia	\$20 Off Service or \$25 Off S/NR	
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House of Optics	Royal Oak	\$15 Off Service Calls 734-622-1360	
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Medical Center Pediatrics DMC	W. Bloom/Bing Farms	\$15 Off Plumbing Repair/Sewer Drain Service	
Special Offer for New Patients, Call for Details		Bayer Heating & Cooling Inc.	Ferndale
Milena Barber & Stylist	Berkley	10% Off Air Conditioning Special	
\$1 Off Haircuts + \$5 Off Highlights & Colors		Burton & Sons	Garden City
Partners Salon 478-2848	Farmington Hills	\$15.00 Off Service Call 734-427-3070	
10% Off Color Services, 10% Off Massage, Haircut		Burton Plumbing & Heating	Wayne
Ph.D. Psychologist	Westland	10% Off All Materials Service/Store	
50% Off 3 Visits - No Ins. with Disc. - \$65 each		Casemore Electric Inc.	Royal Oak
Post Salon	Southfield	\$25.00 Off Any Electrical Work Over \$200.00	
20% Off All Services		Casemore Carpet Care	Ypsilanti
Shaw's Radiance Sheridan Square	Garden City	10% Reg. Scheduled Services, Carpet, Uph.	
10% Off First Service		Casemore Carpet Care	Westland
Shaw's Radiance Salon	Westland	10% Off All In Stock Merchandise	
20% Off of Hair & Tanning Products		Horizon Plumbing	Plymouth
Spa's Wellness Gym	Claughton	Free Laundry Tub & Faucet with Repair	
10% Off Any Membership		Do Windows 313-287-4688	Redford
The Gallery of Hair	Royal Oak	First Clean Free with Pre-Paid Service	
10% Off All Services		KTP Electric Inc.	Berkley
Vanish Skin Care	Ferndale	One Hour Free Interior Design Consultation	
10% Off Second Treatment		Kyle Windows	Garden City
Westland Community Center 36137 W. Wayne	Westland	\$300 Off 3 or More Windows	
10% Off First Month-Private Pay		New Beginnings LLC 734-613-0786	Livonia
S Dining, Bistros & Bakeries		10% Off Printing Two or More Rooms	
Ally's Bistros	Westland	Summer Plumbing & Sewer	Royal Oak
10% Off Special Order Cakes		\$15 Off Service or \$25 Off	
New York Bagels	Ferndale	United Plumbers	Livonia
\$1 Off Any Food Purchase of \$5 or More		Furnace Cleaning & Inspection \$67.00	
S Dry Cleaning		S Insurance	
Handy & Hearty Around the World	Garden City	On for Comparing Home & Auto Insurance	Westland
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Duggan happy with gun deal but wants control on sales

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oea.homedomain.net

Is it tough enough?

That's what Wayne County's deputy chief executive wanted to know Friday about what he termed the "historic agreement" reached between the nation's largest gun manufacturer and the host of governments suing it and its competitors over gun control.

The question also was why Michael Duggan announced that Wayne County would continue its suit and not be a party to the agreement - pending Wayne County Circuit Judge Jeanne Stempien's decision on a motion by Smith & Wesson and other gun makers to dismiss the county's \$400 million suit.

His move was counter to that of the City of Detroit and Mayor Dennis Archer who, along with a host of other participants in the suit against gun makers, agreed to the settlement worked by the Clinton Administration.

Said Archer press secretary Greg Bowens, "The president (Bill Clinton) and the mayor struck a very good deal with Smith & Wesson to encourage responsible gun ownership and to make guns safer than they are now."

Archer "was the first one to indicate he would like to encourage other companies to follow" S&W by making it and others who join it "the companies of choice for weapons to law enforcement" bodies, Bowens said.

Market forces

"It really is an attempt to use market forces to achieve advances on a consumer product," Bowens added.

But Duggan had a different view.

"My problem is, is it (the agreement) tough enough?" he asked.

"When a gun is used in a crime, we can trace it and find out what dealer it came from," he acknowledged. But "We want a provision that, when a dealer is selling large numbers of guns to kids and criminals, we want the sales to the dealer stopped."

As things now stand, he said, a special commission would have three to five years to make such a decision - a process that is "much too slow and cumbersome," he said.

"How fast government can move on a dealer" who violates the agreement's code of conduct - which triggers such an investigation - "is our only point of contention," Duggan said.

While he gave New Orleans credit for the safety issues in the suit - such as the gun locks which Smith & Wesson agreed to install - Duggan said it was Wayne County that "expressly put in" the code of conduct which Smith & Wesson said it would require its dealers to sign. The code says dealers won't sell to kids or felons.

"We are well-satisfied with the safety-issues" part of the agreement, Duggan said, and he praised the Clinton administration.

'Lot of credit'

"They deserve a lot of credit," he said. "This is an historic agreement." But the point of contention is the enforcement, he said.

"We're just going to make it (the agreement) a lot better," he said.

"We (Wayne County) don't want the money, we want them to make safe guns and we want to keep the dealers and the gun shows from selling to underage buyers or felons or to those buying on behalf of felons."

"If we get that, we'll settle," Duggan said.

While Stempien "could dismiss (the lawsuit) at any time, I think we'll sit down with Smith & Wesson and work something out," he said. "We want them to cut off the dealers faster."

"We want them to act." County Executive Ed McNamara supported Duggan's decision "100 percent."

Saying Duggan "pretty much did this on his own" and crediting him with bringing Detroit into the suit, McNamara called the settlement "a giant step forward."

"But I also think there should be more policing of gun dealers," he said. "Nobody wants that kind of responsibility in part because of the expense and because you may open yourself to some kind of liability."

Nevertheless, he expressed confidence that, "If Smith has gone this far, being the size they are," they'll go further toward policing their dealers.

Asked about enforcement efforts of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, McNamara said the agency is

"trying to do what they can, but they're somewhat limited."

"Our concern with the plan is it's still too liberal with regard to getting guns into kids' hands for use in felonies," he said.


But Bowens, Archer's press

secretary, said the mayor feels "The deal we have struck has gone further than any legislation we could have dreamed of."

And if "one entity (Duggan) feels it can change an entire industry, more power to him."

"The mayor's position is to take responsible steps by gun manufacturers and not bully and posture for something further down the road."

"A bird in hand is worth two in the bush," Bowens said.



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Continuing suit draws mixed views

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@oea.homedomain.net

Two western Wayne County commissioners took differing positions on the county executive branch's decision to continue a \$400 million lawsuit against gun manufacturers.

While board Vice Chair Kay Beard declined comment due at least in part to what she said was a lack of documentation from Deputy Executive Michael Duggan on his decision, Commissioner John J. Sullivan supported the move.

A third commissioner, Kathleen Husk, opposes continuing the suit but favors the gun locks that are part of the settlement.

Sullivan, D-Romulus, said that "Personally, I agree with continuing" the lawsuit against Smith & Wesson and the others because "gun locks aren't going to be used by most of these people."

In reaching a settlement, Smith & Wesson agreed to, within 60 days, sell external gun locks with all of its handguns.

Among other things, the nation's largest gun manufacturer also will, within 12 months, make handguns inoperable by children under age 6 and, within 24 months, have internal locking devices on the guns. It also will add a second "hidden" serial number to thwart criminals who try to erase them.

Sullivan, whose district includes the City of Wayne, part of Westland and all of Canton Township, said if someone "got the gun for safety (purposes), they're not going to want a gun lock on it."

"I don't see much of a safety measure," he said. "For the few that will use it, it will prevent accidental shootings by kids, but I don't think that's enough."

What's needed is to "stop selling guns to felons and minors," Sullivan said, citing videotapes by the sheriff's department showing dealers making such transactions.

"That kind of thing needs to be stopped and there really hasn't been any kind of guarantee" by the agreement that it will, he said.

Beard, D-Westland, said she had seen nothing in writing from Duggan on his decision and so she was "not prepared to say anything."

"I don't shoot from the hip," she said. "I like to know whereof I speak."

Furthermore, she cautioned, "This is an election year and a lot of people say and do a lot of

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Bill clears way for new construction at state fairgrounds

BY MIKE MALOTT
Metro-Town News Service
malotti@homecomm.net

The way has been cleared, legislatively, for renovation and new construction at Michigan's state fairgrounds, on Woodward near Eight Mile in Detroit.

Guns from page A7

things" — an apparent reference to Duggan's announced candidacy for county prosecutor.

"It's an election for all of us as well," she added, "for all county-wide officials except the county exec," Ed McNamara.

Other offices on the county level besides prosecutor to be decided in the November general election will be for clerk, treasurer, register of deeds and sheriff, she noted.

However, Beard was careful to avoid connecting Duggan with the current dispute the commission has with the county's executive branch over paying legal fees in the gun control lawsuit.

"His name is nowhere in that," she said.

McNamara asked the commission to pay \$60,000 in expenses to a Southfield law firm.

The firm specializes in bankruptcy matters and was brought in because one of the gun manufacturers, Davis Indus-

tries of California, is in bankruptcy proceedings.

"We have great concern about that and want a lot more information about that before" making any decisions," said Beard.

County corporate counsel Edward Euell Jr. said the firm was able to keep the county's "entire lawsuit" against Davis "out of bankruptcy," where it likely would receive a less favorable decision, he said.

Husk, R-Redford Township, said she is "definitely against that gun suit" because "there are laws already in place to prosecute."

"It's expensive for the county to sue, so if there are laws already in place, I prefer for us to go that route," she said.

She supports the gun locks because "I don't want guns out on the street."

House Bill 5341, which would turn control of the state fairgrounds over to Michigan's Department of Agriculture and allow administrators there to lease the property for private development.

That would legally clear the way for fairgrounds General Manager John Hertel to complete a deal he has reportedly been negotiating with Joe Nederlander, whose family operates the Fisher and Masonic Temple theaters in Detroit.

There has been talk that the project could include construction of a new 500,000-square-foot exposition hall, according to state Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, and Sen. Bill Bullard, R-Highland. Along with media reports of such a project, an expo hall has been mentioned in meetings, they said.

Bullard and Cassis are concerned about the deal, saying a publicly subsidized new exposition hall there could present unfair competition to the Novi Expo Center, a privately-funded exposition hall which just unveiled plans for a new building itself.

That's not correct, according to DeVuyt. The only plans for new construction at the state fairgrounds are for the construction of a new horse arena. Currently, horse shows are held in the ice arena inside the State Fair Coli-

seum building, he said. Dirt has to be trucked in to cover the floor before the show and carted out afterwards, an enormous job, he explained.

Space for exposition events would be in the Coliseum, which would be renovated under the plan. The building was just given a \$3.2 million renovation last year.

Another building on the fairgrounds would be nearly demolished and replaced, but DeVuyt could not specify which building that would be.

The bill itself does not include any details. The legislation simply transfers responsibility for the fairgrounds from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture and gives officials there the authority to determine which buildings may be demolished in order to make room for improvements.

DeVuyt said the bill allows for any private group to lease the grounds. But he concluded Nederlander is the most likely one to get the lease, because he already has plans in the works.

The bill won approval in the House on a 103-1 vote and in the Senate by 32-4 March 16. The legislation has been sent to Gov. John Engler for a signature.

The goal is to make the state fairgrounds self-supporting. The state fair has needed subsidies from the state to stay in opera-

tion in years past. Last year, the state fair turned a \$22,000 profit for the first time, according to DeVuyt.

To alleviate concerns about subsidizing development that would compete with other expo-

halls, an amendment was added to the bill barring the facilities from being rented for shows at less than market value.

That should alleviate the concern, said Blair Bowman, president of the Novi Expo Center.

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Keeping fit: At right, Jazzercise instructor Robert Cassidy (right) works the seniors in his class. Above, Helen Bates, 81, of Detroit works out.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Jazzercise: Colleen Weister, 71, of Garden City and a member of the Westland Friendship Center for 12 years, works out with other seniors at the center Monday morning. The Jazzercise class meets three times a week.

Staying active good for seniors

Do you make physical activity an integral part of your daily routine? Not nearly enough of us do, says the U.S. Surgeon General's Office. Well over half of all Americans — 60 percent — are not getting the physical activity they need to stay healthy, according to the 1996 Surgeon General's Report on Physical Activity and Health. Another 25 percent of the population is not active at all, according to the Web site of the American Association of Retired Persons (www.aarp.org).

Inactivity increases as we grow older. By age 75, about a third of all men and half of all women engage in no physical activity.

Much of the decline usually associated

with advancing age is actually a result of inactivity. Research continues to document the positive impact staying active has on overall health, especially in warding off illness. As one ages, the benefits continue.

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The bottom line: Try to accumulate 30 minutes of moderate physical activity (brisk walking, raking leaves, playing volleyball, etc.) on most, if not all, days of the week. You can break this up into 10-minute sessions, but be sure they add up to 30 minutes a day.

Of course, more physical activity yields additional health benefits. People who can maintain a regular fitness regimen that is longer and more strenuous are likely to derive greater benefits.

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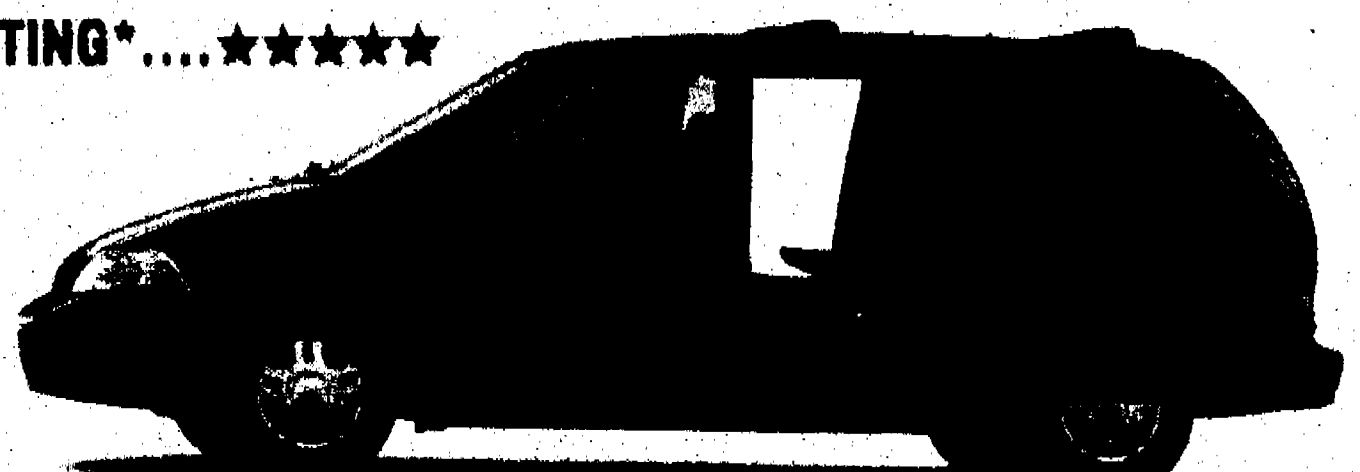
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MONROE

Panel hears seniors' concerns

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
rpearl@ec.econline.net

Iris Cameron recalls the pharmacist who told her, "Hold on to your hat when I tell you the cost"

of the cancer medication prescribed for her. When its price was added to that of the three others she has to take, it made the Westland woman think that "these golden

years are getting kind of rusty." Cameron, a perky native of Ireland who came to this country after World War II as the bride of a Westland serviceman, was among about 50 residents of the

Thomas F. Taylor Towers senior residence center on Marquette in Westland and others who attended a hearing Monday on what Michigan needs to do to help seniors remain in their homes longer.

As it happened, issues relating to medication and also to transportation were added to a list being compiled by the group that conducted Monday's meeting: the House Democratic Party's In-Home Care Task Force, a panel of state representatives.

Co-chaired by Westland Rep. Eileen DeHart and Clinton Township Rep. Paul Gielegem, the task force has been holding hearings around the state in recent weeks. Final sessions will be April 10 in Grand Rapids and April 17 in Flint.

The panel's goal is "not to just have the talk, but to walk the walk," said DeHart, who expressed confidence state legislators will be open to task-force ideas because it's an election year "and senior power is the most awesome power, as far as voting is concerned."

"I think this year (senior issues) will have more momentum than in other years," said DeHart, who is being term-limited from office.

She said Monday's hearing brought out personal stories that "tore at my heart" but are, in fact, "not isolated" instances. "They happen all over the state," she said.

Transportation and medication issues joined such previously raised topics as the need for caregiver tax credits; in-home caregiver pay rates, training and background checks; assistance for in-home-care renovations; expansion of Medicaid waivers and the streamlining and coordinating of the reporting process.

Speakers told the panel Monday about seniors living alone, with no family or friends available to help them, who can't get transportation for treatment, who get unqualified, untrained help from in-home service providers, and who sometimes get conflicting medications from physicians treating them for different problems who don't communicate with each other or with pharmacists.

'What you want'

Pat Wojcik of Westland told of



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Hearing the public: In-Home Care Task Force members State Reps. Tom Kelly (left to right) and Patricia Lockwood, Westland Mayor Robert Thomas, State Reps. Eileen DeHart (co-chairman), Doug Bovin, Paul Gielegem (co-chairman) and Donna Aberlich, legislative assistant to Rep. Gielegem, start the proceedings at the hearing.

in-home care providers "telling you what you want to hear" about their services, then sending people so unqualified that, in her case, her mother "would have been better off in a nursing home."

Wojcik told how the changing personnel provided by one such service kept her at her mother's side every day.

DeHart responded with, "We want to make sure every person is taken care of as if (the caregivers) had 24-hour-a-day oversight."

Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek, outgoing director of the Westland Friendship Center and a 23-year veteran of the city's seniors programs, told panelists funding is needed for emergency situations in which homebound seniors can't get to treatments.

She said some seniors can't find public transportation to hospitals and doctors' offices in Livonia, for example, because Westland's Nankin Connector bus service's consortium with Wayne, Garden City and Inkster doesn't cross into Livonia.

"We cannot afford to send a staff person in our van to sit and wait" sometimes four hours while a senior gets chemotherapy or radiation for cancer or a



Making his case: Thomas Taylor, executive director at Thomas F. Taylor Towers, speaks at the in-home care task force hearing.

blood transfusion for leukemia, Kozorosky-Wiacek said.

Starting such a shuttle service also would cost too much, she

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☐ Looking Good When You're Not Feeling So Good

☐ Easy on the Eyes

☐ Healthy, Happy Feet

SESSION II - 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

☐ Relax with Tai Chi

☐ Looking Good When You're Not Feeling So Good

☐ Why They Make You Crazy

☐ Aromatherapy and Therapeutic Massage

SESSION III - 1:15-2:15 p.m.

☐ Fitting in Fitness

☐ Easy on the Eyes

☐ Aromatherapy and Therapeutic Massage

☐ The Truth about Women and Cardiovascular Disease

WRAP UP - 2:30-3:30 p.m.

☐ Where To From Here (Everyone attends)

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Attentive audience: Senior citizens Lillian Lang (left to right, front), Juanita Balsley and Dorothy Wilson, (behind) Ann Petroni and Mollie Prouty listen to the in-home task force.

Seniors from page A10

said. But perhaps some money could be provided by Westland and the state that would get a transportation company to offer service by appointment, she suggested.

\$10, not \$50

That way, she said, "Instead of it costing (a senior) \$50, it would only cost around \$10."

Rep. Doug Bovin of Gladstone noted some seniors in the Upper Peninsula have to use four buses to cover 60 miles between hospitals.

Kozorosky-Wiacek also spoke against Gov. John Engler's plan to replace MEPPS, the Michigan Emergency Pharmaceutical Program for Seniors.

MEPPS, a voucher program providing free medication, should be expanded with money from the tobacco settlement to "extend how many times a year they (seniors) get" vouchers "rather than start a new program," she said.

At present, the program only allows vouchers three times per year. She'd like to see more

'I think this year (senior issues) will have more momentum than in other years.'

Rep. Eileen DeHart
D-Westland

vouchers and also have the program expanded to include those now left out.

"A lot of people miss it (the income level limit) by \$200-300" per month, she noted. "Some prescriptions are so high, it's exorbitant," she added.

Said DeHart, "If we don't use the tobacco money for health care" as originally decreed and instead use it for MEAP scholarships, as is now the case, "we're going to lose that money."

Another problem is the lack of a pharmaceutical log which would better coordinate the prescription process.

In some cases, speakers told the panel, physicians in different facilities and specialties prescribe medications for the same

patient which cause problems because there's no good pharmaceutical log they can check and the doctors don't discuss the case with each other.

As for caregivers, Gielegem said he favors a "career ladder" and that a bill has been proposed in the state Legislature to teach home care at community colleges.

Other representatives on the task force are Doug Bovin, Gladstone; Ling Brewer, Holt; Deb Cherry, Burton; Pat Lockwood, Fenton; Lynne Martinez, Lansing; and Keith Stallworth, Detroit.

Mayor Robert Thomas welcomed the task force to Westland.

Police units join on enforcement

State and local police will be working together in a traffic enforcement detail Friday and Saturday, March 24-25, along Michigan Avenue.

State Troopers from the Metro South Post in Taylor, as well as

those from the Detroit and Ypsilanti posts, will join officers from departments in Detroit, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Inkster, Wayne, Westland and Canton Township as well as deputies from the Wayne and Washtenaw

county sheriff's departments in the multi-department effort. The traffic detail will focus on violations such as aggressive drivers, speeders, tail gating, drunk drivers and the new seatbelt law.

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BUILDING LASTING RELATIONSHIPS SINCE 1900

Baby dropoff bill aims to provide for safe abandonment

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

A rash of abandonment cases in Michigan, in which newborns have been left on church steps or in Dumpsters, has left Lansing lawmakers looking for a way to address what they believe is a growing "national crisis."

State Sens. Shirley Johnson, R-Royal Oak, and Joanne Emmons, R-Big Rapids, have introduced bills that would give new mothers immunity from prosecution if they at least leave children in the hands of emergency service personnel at hospitals or police and fire departments.

"This is crisis intervention," Johnson said. "We are looking for ways to get to that teen mother, that unmarried mother, those historically who have been the ones to give birth and leave the child behind, in a bathroom

or a wastebasket. That's who we want to reach."

"We want to save her baby," she said. "In many respects, we want to save the mother as well. Imagine her feelings, her emotions, 10 years later as she starts to have a family and has children and begins to relate to them. How will she feel about the baby she abandoned that died? Wouldn't it be better if she knew it was with somebody who would love it, with somebody out there?"

The scope of the problem appears to be increasing, but by how much no one knows.

According to State Rep. Gilda Jacobs, D-Huntington Woods, no one keeps statistics on cases in which newborns are abandoned, either in the state or nationally. The best figure available comes from a 1998 Chicago Tribune article, which estimated that 57 children are abandoned across the country each day.

Growing problem

There certainly has been a rash of abandonments in the area recently. Last November, a baby boy was found outside St. Louis Catholic Church in Warren. In December, a Waterford girl kept her pregnancy secret and gave birth to a premature boy, who later died. Recently, a newborn was found in a Dumpster in Detroit. Over the past weekend, a baby boy was found in a garbage bag outside Grace Salvation Church in Detroit.

Kids Count in Michigan, an advocacy group for children's rights, says its statistics show the number of abandonments is on the rise. According to Jane Zehnder-Merrell, senior research associate for the Michigan League for Human Services, a member of Kids Count, the number of abandonments of all kids, at all ages, in the state has jumped 48 percent over five

years. There were 764 cases in 1993. She said the figure rose to 1,136 in 1998, the latest figures available.

The problem may be even larger. Statistics are kept on so-called "boarder babies," children left behind at the hospital when mothers check out after delivery.

Jacobs, along with Rep. Patricia Lockwood, D-Fenton, has been drafting similar legislation but has yet to introduce it. There are differences in the proposals. Jacobs' proposal would provide "immunity" from prosecution if the child were left with medical personnel at a hospital. Johnson's bill would give an "affirmative defense" in an abandonment prosecution if the child were left with medical personnel, police or fire personnel.

Jacobs' bill would allow the mother to deliver the child up to 72 hours after birth. Johnson's bill would give 30 days.

Jacobs said she will likely

withhold her bill, working with Johnson on her plan. Johnson said she is likely to adopt Jacob's 72-hour limit.

Both versions allow for reunification if the young mother has a change of heart. When dropping off the child, the mother would be given an identification number that would enable her to remain anonymous but allow her to be connected to the baby later if she so desired.

Reunification, however, would be closely monitored.

The bills are scheduled for a

hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee March 29 and are getting support from a variety of interest groups. Johnson said both Michigan Right to Life and Planned Parenthood have signed on to support the plan.

"That may be a first," she said. Sharon Claytor Peters, president of Michigan's Children, an advocacy organization, said that while the group has yet to take a position on the bill, she believes it would be "a step in the right direction."

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Westland Observer OPINION

A14(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2000

School board Consider running for a seat

It's a tall order.

The code of ethics for the National School Boards Association includes the following:

- Attend all regularly scheduled board meetings insofar as possible, and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;

- Recognize that I should endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held board meetings;

- Render all decisions based on the available facts and my independent judgment, and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;

- Encourage the free expression of opinion by all board members, and seek systematic communications between the board and students, staff, and all elements of the community.

Does this sound interesting? Then consider running for the Wayne-Westland Board of Education in the June 12 election. Board President Robin Moore isn't seeking re-election, while colleague Richard Eisiminger, appointed last year, will seek a seat. One other likely candidate, Cynthia Schofield of Wayne, has pulled petitions from district election offices.

Candidates face a filing deadline of 4 p.m. Monday, April 10, at district election offices, 3001 Fourth St. in Wayne Memorial High School's art annex.

The office also has informational packets and nominating petitions, which have to be circulated by candidates and signed by 20 registered voters living in the school district.

District residents who want to vote in the school board election – but who aren't registered – have until May 15 to register at their local city clerk's office, according to elections officials.

Certainly, voting in the June 12 election is important, but perhaps it's time also to consider running for a seat. Consider that more than one of four Americans is involved in formal education of some kind, with expenditures totaling 7.5 percent of the gross domestic product. Furthermore, 81 percent of all Americans over age 25 share the experience of high school graduation, and public schools continue to enroll almost nine out of 10 students.

Those facts come from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement. Closer to home, Wayne-Westland faces such challenges as bond improvement efforts to school structures and working to improve Michigan Educational Assessment Program scores.

If you live in the Livonia district, there'll be a June 12 election for two board seats, one currently held by an incumbent and the other a retiring member.

As in Wayne-Westland, April 10 is the deadline to submit signatures, with Livonia officials asking for 25.

Additional information on the Livonia race is available by calling (734) 523-9100. Of course, we also encourage Livonia district residents to get out and vote.

The deadline's approaching, so consider a run for your local school board.

Census shows we all count

Come on, send it in. What are you waiting for?

Ed McMahon's admonition for Publisher's Clearing House could be the battle cry for the U.S. Census.

You've received them in the mail, now it's time to turn them in.

No, you won't be one of the lucky winners of a \$10,000,000 check. But by returning the Census you will help your community to receive its fair share of government funding, and you'll provide valuable data that will make it easier to plan for the future for every level of government and private business.

Unlike the Publisher's Clearing House come-on for selling magazine subscriptions, the Census isn't voluntary. The federal government is required by the Constitution to make an enumeration every 10 years in order to properly apportion congressional representation. As residents of this country, we are required, by law, to participate in the Census.

The simple enumeration has widespread consequences. Over the last several decades the population has shifted to the West and South. The older industrial states of the East and Midwest have lost population and political clout. Within those states, there has been a movement out of the big cities and near suburbs to exurban areas and smaller cities. These changes have resulted in political shifts that have had major effect on government spending policies.

And though these shifts are being accurately reflected, there is some honest concern that many people in the big cities and older suburbs are not being counted. Some avoid filling out Census forms because they fear how the government will use the forms. Others aren't connected enough in the community and can't

be located by Census takers.

It is important that the word get out that the Census is important to everyone's future, that the information being gathered won't be used against individuals or groups and that every community organization should help in locating individuals who might not be discovered by the Census Bureau.

In addition to the importance of the Census apportioning the Congress and state legislatures, the government realized over the years that the Census was an opportunity to gather information that would help in planning future government programs. This information, gathered on the long form that goes to about one in six households, is also used by private business which also needs these statistics for planning.

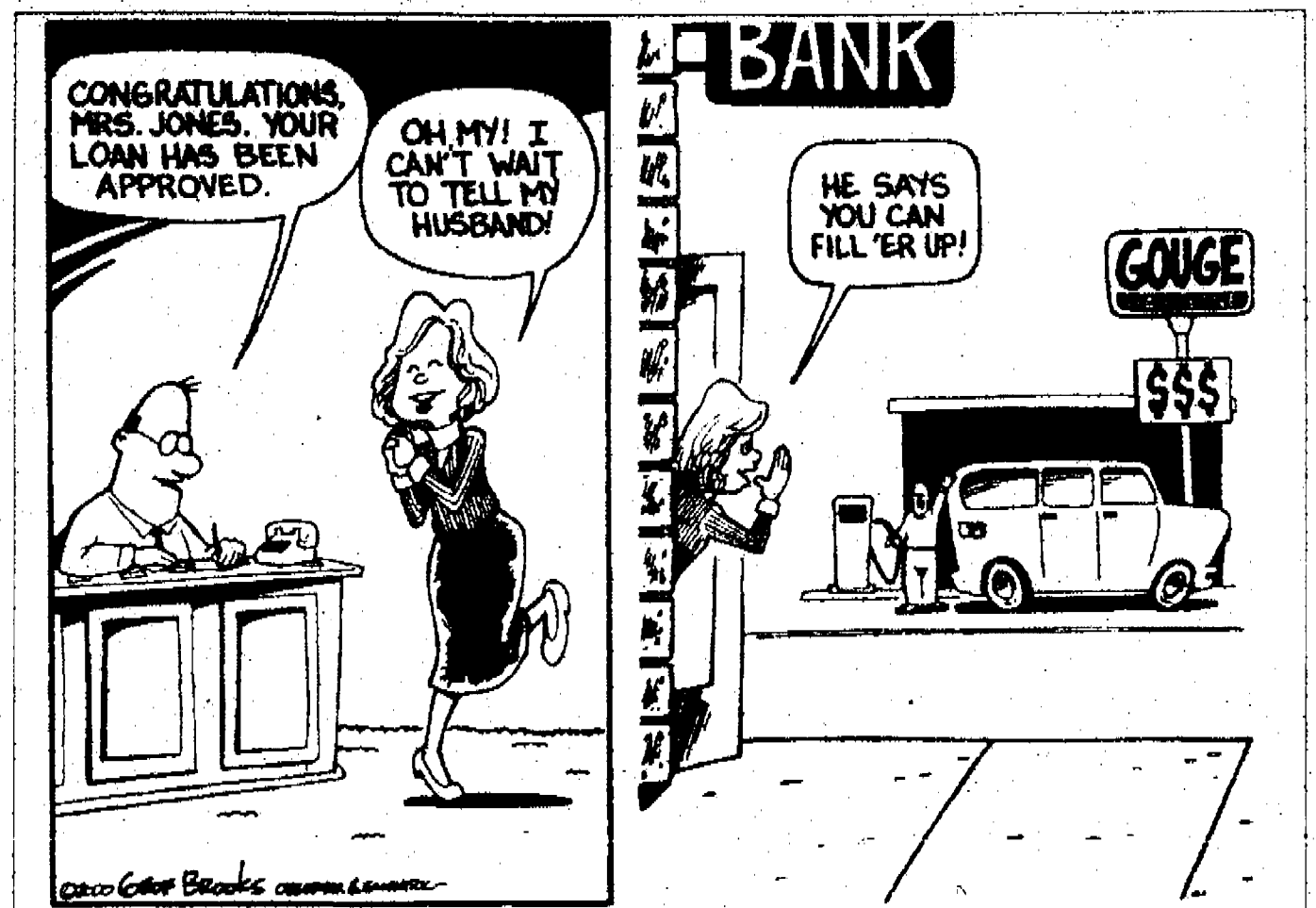
Some have complained that the Census is an invasion of privacy. The Census Bureau has made every effort to assure everyone that all information gathered is confidential and used only to prepare statistical data. A recent report on the misuse of Census information during World War II might cause some to pause, but through the long history of the Census Bureau and certainly in recent history, the vow of confidentiality has been strictly honored. The information is used for statistical data, not to target individuals or groups.

But that information on military service, transportation habits, occupation, income, type of housing, plumbing, utility costs, etc., is invaluable in the aggregate in creating a portrait of the nation for fact-based development.

The government has enlisted churches, schools, businesses and the media to get out the word.

Now it's up to you. For the sake of your future, send it in!

GEORGE BROOKS



LETTERS

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas; that's why we offer this space for your opinions. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you provide a contact telephone number and if mailing or faxing a letter, please sign it. Letters can be mailed to: Julie Brown, Westland editor, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, faxed to her at (734) 591-7279 or e-mailed to jbrown@oe.homecomm.net.

Mayor's pledge

I just finished reading the editorial in the Observer titled "Not all bad – City government has pluses." The editorial pointed out the fact that good things continue to happen in our community even when faced with political controversy. We, as government officials, have to continue to move our city forward and progress. It is our job and responsibility to the great people of this community.

The editorial also stated that they hope the State of the City Address will be a positive one and that the mayor can avoid taking political swipes at his foes. As in the past, I assure the residents of this community that it will be a positive evening and it will focus on what we have accomplished since we adopted the "Vision 2000" theme several years ago. It will also highlight some of the many wonderful people who make this city a great community to be a part of. We will be honoring the Father, Mother, Teacher and High School Senior of the Year for the sixth year in a row. There will also be others recognized for their contributions to our community. We need to assure these honorees that their night of recognition will be a celebration of their contributions to our community. They deserve nothing short of a wonderful evening in their honor.

I pledge my word to all that I will not take any opportunity to make any political swipes at anyone, including my political opponents. There is no place for any negativity on this special evening. I ask for everyone else to do the same. In addition, I want to ask the Observer to do another editorial next week asking everyone else to make that same pledge. We should accent the positive in our community. The Observer should ask all seven council members to join me in my pledge to be civil to one another and to work together for the betterment of this community and its great residents. It is time to put this unrest behind us and to join together and get back to focusing in a positive direction. We can start by working together on the recent proposals that I have made to our city council. I believe that these changes will benefit every resident in our community. These proposals are a reflection of my original pledge to this community over a decade ago, which is to give our residents the best service possible for the least amount of money.

I hope that the council and the residents of this community will join me and many others to continue to make Westland the wonderful community it truly is. I am proud to be a part

of this city, and I know that there are a lot of residents and business owners who feel the same way.

Robert J. Thomas
Westland mayor

Look at August

I am writing in regards to an article that was published in the Westland Observer about Mayor Thomas, the article about repairing Donna Street between Ann Arbor Trail and Joy Road.

Mr. Thomas should come on August Street between Gladys and Merritt streets and see the mess we have with water standing in the street when it rains. The city patched the street with patches of tar, which doesn't do any good. Tell Mr. Thomas I have lived in Westland when it was Nankin Township, which is since 1938.

Delphine Murzin
Westland

Kids First

In November, it appears that Michigan voters will be choosing whether to change Michigan's constitution to allow public funds to be used for private education.

This "voucher proposal" that is being touted by the Kids First Yes movement may sound like a good fix-it on the surface, but it is loaded with potential problems. The financial effects alone are enough to make one shudder. Taxpayers will be forced to pay to educate children in other people's religious beliefs. (Remember the 1972 Parochial fight?)

A Republican Senate Fiscal Agency estimates first year costs of \$50-80 million if the voucher proposal passes. Where will that money come from? It will either be sucked out of the already underfunded public schools or your taxes will be raised. And as our tax dollars are sent to non-public schools, there is no public accountability from these private schools regarding admissions, finances, MEAP, profits or staffing.

Tax dollars for private education won't fix student achievement problems at public schools. Voters are urged to get all the facts before making a decision on the voucher proposal. Put all Kids First by recognizing that passage of this proposal will have major negative repercussions on our public education system.

Paula Bowman, president
League of Women Voters of Livonia

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

What are you most looking forward to about the arrival of spring?

We asked this question at the Westland library.



"We break ground the 28th for the George Dodson Elementary School at the corner of Beck and Cherry Hill" in the Plymouth-Canton district.

George Dodson
Plymouth Township



"Probably the warm weather."

Jonelle King
Westland



"To see the spring flowers, get outdoors and commune with nature."

Edmund Leak
Westland



"The long, sunny, warm days. Nice warm weather and whatnot."

John Sanford
Westland

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Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Gunlock agreement only a start for control crusaders

Several months ago, Mike Duggan, deputy Wayne County executive, was invited to meet with Observer editors. While the conversation covered many topics, it was clear that Duggan was most fired up about the county's lawsuit against gun manufacturers and about what he saw as the lax oversight of gun dealers by the manufacturers.

This was an issue that was also driving Duggan's ambition to run for county prosecutor. He sees the prosecutor's position as a perfect "bully pulpit" for pursuing issues like gun control through the courts.

Last week, Duggan's crusade achieved its first victory in the deal reached by Smith & Wesson with the federal government. Yet, as grateful as Duggan was for this breakthrough, he was unwilling to join others in signing off on the agreement. To Mike Duggan, this was just a first step.

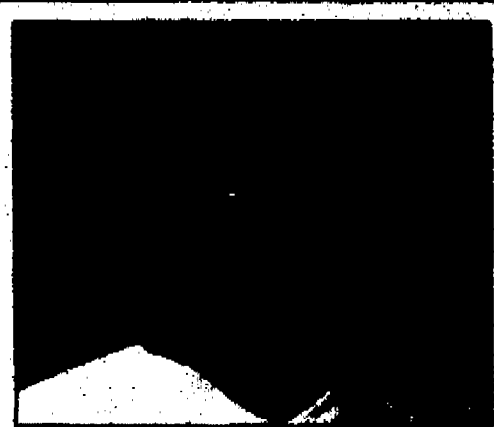
The plucky Irish pol allowed that it

was one of his best St. Paddy's days. He was enthusiastic about what the agreement will do, especially a provision for gunlocks.

But why let Smith & Wesson off the hook when we can still get them to do more through continuing to pursue them in court? For Duggan, the issue remains oversight of gun sales by gun dealers.

Duggan has good reason to be leery and wary of gun manufacturers and their support groups. We've reached an extremely shrill and dangerous period in the national dialogue on guns, in which the Smith & Wesson agreement is but a brief whiff of fresh air and momentary sanity.

It was only a few days before that Wayne LaPierre, vice president of the National Rifle Association, railed on national television that President Clinton was "willing to accept any level of violence" to pursue his political agenda. LaPierre argues that the



HUGH GALLAGHER

gun laws already in effect, the same gun laws that the NRA opposed in the past, were not being aggressively enforced and that's why a 6-year-old boy gunned down a 6-year-old girl.

It was only a few days before this agreement that silent John Engler finally came forward to opine that it was bad parenting that led to the shooting. Very perceptive. After an

initial statement of remorse, Engler had generally retreated from comment on the incident, sending out the word that the president's display of sympathy to Kayla Rolland's mother was just show biz and beneath his dignity. But, most certainly, guns had nothing to do with the little girl's death. Nor did Engler's cutbacks in social services.

It was only a couple weeks before that House Speaker Chuck Perricone responded to a question about pending gun legislation with a coldness unexpected even from him. He anticipated the reaction of liberal Democrats by saying they wanted to make "politics" out of the shooting, even as he made politics out of the shooting — signaling the gun lobby that the Legislature would fight gun legislation, no matter how reasonable.

Of course, the Democrats wasted no time making Perricone a prophet by citing the shooting to push for the

legislation that has lain dormant for months. And though the bills wouldn't have stopped the Mount Morris shooting, the Democrats couldn't be blamed for trying to get a wedge in.

Now we have some tangible progress because of suits filed across the country by counties, cities and states. Detroit has agreed to join in the settlement, while Duggan and Wayne County take their wait and see position.

At the heart of Duggan's concern is preventing the sale of guns to minors and felons, exactly the problem in the Mount Morris shooting, at least as that incident concerned gun access.

We're willing to wait with Mike Duggan and see what happens.

Hugh Gallagher is managing editor of The Observer Newspapers. He can be reached by phone at (734) 953-2149, by fax at (734) 591-7279 or by e-mail at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net.

LETTERS

Recall meeting

Putting aside the arguing back and forth among members of the recall support group and the council, we are going forth in the effort to remove Sharon Scott first from her council seat. We will no longer allow other things to sidetrack the issue at hand, and that is her removal from office.

There will be a meeting Saturday, March 25, beginning at 5 p.m. Originally, we slated the meeting to begin at 7, but want to give ample opportunity to anyone wanting to attend. You can also sign the petitions there, and pick up petitions to gather signatures. The meeting will be chaired by Mr. Roger Caldwell, a respected local union president and member of our group. We will be assigning precinct captains, and discussing issues relevant to the recall.

The meeting will be held at the Oddfellows Temple on Glenwood, just west of Venoy. Enter through the east

door. If you have any questions or would like to preregister, please contact me at 729-2805 or Marian Greenfield at 595-6025, or write Citizen-Power@aol.com. Someone will be sure to get back with you.

It is possible to restore integrity to our city council and city government. It is possible to have honesty among our elected officials. We have a few good people, let's just work together to have more.

Thank you.

Brenda Gracin

Praise for director

When the Westland Commission on Aging Ordinance was written in 1975, we had high hopes for a successful program. We could not have envisioned how successful the Westland Senior Citizen Program would be.

Much of these successes can be

attributed to Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek. She is a true jewel. The exceptional staff and volunteers that Sylvia brought together over the years have helped thousands of Westland residents. Other communities have modeled their programs after Westland achievements.

I believe that Sylvia and her network deserve our thanks for over 23 years of stellar service. Thank you so very much. God bless.

Justine Barns
Westland

Phys ed helps kids learn

I am writing this letter urging Livonia residents to say "yes" to the "Yes to Kids" campaign.

As a physical education teacher for the Livonia Public Schools, I recognize the positive impact physical activity and youth fitness programs have on children at all grade levels.

Participation in quality physical education programs, as well as athletics, has been shown to improve academic performance, reduce learning and attention deficit disorders, enrich self-esteem, reduce stress and anxiety, and provide an alternative to drugs and alcohol abuse. Participation in such programs may also have such long-term health benefits as reducing the occurrence of heart disease, breast cancer and osteoporosis later in life.

On the other hand, lack of physical activity results in more deaths than firearms, infections, toxic agents, sexually transmitted disease, and illicit drug use combined. Today, 22 percent of all children are classified as overweight. Also, 25 percent have elevated cholesterol levels.

Enrollment in the physical education classes at Churchill is continually increasing. Classes are packed, and we are adding new courses all the time to keep interest high. "Proposal C" will enable us to have all students

participating, instead of having to share space with several classes.

In order for Livonia to stay the top physical education program in the state (as designated by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness), we need to have the space to provide the quality instruction that has made us so well known.

On April 10, don't forget the children and "practice your ABCs" by voting "yes" on all three!

Sheryl Archibald
department chair, physical
education
Churchill High School

Keep politics from trashing MEDC

I spent an afternoon last week down at Wayne State University listening to the annual meeting of the board of directors of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Attentive readers will recall that the MEDC was created last year as a public corporation, confected out of the old Michigan Jobs Commission and the Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center to serve as a single responsible point of contact for all economic development activities in Michigan. No longer a department of state government (with all the attendant restrictions), the MEDC is able to function much like a private corporation, but still enjoy state funding and be subject to legislative oversight.

Disregarding all the bureaucratic mumbo-jumbo, the bottom line is that the MEDC is widely recognized as one of the nation's most effective economic development outfits. Consider these successes:

■ Competing with Ohio, MEDC helped pave the way for General Motors to put the new assembly plant for the Cadillac Catera in Lansing. GM will invest \$500 million in Michigan to create 1,511 jobs.

■ When Chrysler "merged" with Daimler-Benz, a big-time issue turned on where to consolidate North American financial operations for Chrysler Financial. Daimler's operations were in Cleveland and New Jersey; Chrysler's in Auburn Hills. MEDC helped guide the consolidation to Auburn Hills, where a \$77 million investment brought with it 1,294 jobs.

■ Webvan Group Inc. is a fascinating new concept in grocery marketing, whereby folks can order their groceries — dinner, even! — on the Web and have the stuff delivered within an hour or so to their door. The Midwest distribution center for Webvan wound up in Livonia (\$47 million investment, 900 jobs) instead of Ohio, thanks to the MEDC.

■ When the Robert Bosch Corp. was casting around for a place to put research and development for the Bosch Braking Systems Corp., MEDC jumped in and helped bring the 475 jobs and a \$37 million investment to Farmington Hills. Not bad for a new little public corporation!

As is the case with most organizations, success has more to do with effective leadership than with organizational structure and bylaws. MEDC has been lucky to be led by Doug Rothwell, president and CEO, who used to run the Michigan Jobs Commission. Rothwell has steered the MEDC through the political thicket and the economic waters with great foresight. His sidekick as board chair is Rick Snyder, a quintessential no-necktie hard-charger who chucked in a career as chief operating officer of Gateway Computer and moved to Ann Arbor a few years ago where he set up Avalon Investments, a venture capital firm.

The meeting I attended last week seemed



PHIL POWER

broadly representative of this record. Snyder and Rothwell deftly moved the 60-odd board members through what looked a lot like a standard corporate agenda, including "1999 Corporate Objectives and Results" and "Strategic and Operating Plan Review."

A representative of Anderson Economic Group presented a Michigan business climate benchmarking study that suggested Grand Rapids and (surprise!) Saginaw had the best overall business climate.

A policy agency and therefore a political creation of the Engler Administration, the MEDC is led by a 17-member executive committee appointed by the governor to eight-year staggered terms. Given the origin of the institution, it's not surprising that the current group is overwhelmingly Republican.

But now that MEDC has established a solid track record and John Engler is part way through his last term as governor, it's time for folks to start thinking about how to assure its survival under the next administration, whether Republican or Democratic.

This is not a trivial matter. The tendency in most new administrations is to trash predecessor creations, whether effective or not, on the spurious grounds of "not invented here." I saw this firsthand in the 1990s, when the newly-elected Engler administration trashed a first-class job training structure I helped organize for the Blanchard administration, only to recreate virtually the identical set-up a couple of years later. The net effect: Wasted time and money.

The MEDC and the Engler administration could do succeeding administrations and countless Michigan citizens a favor by making broadly representative appointments to the MEDC Executive Committee. Better political balance at the top will provide the MEDC a fighting chance to sustain this important Michigan institution when a new administration takes power.

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

Health Care for Women That is State-of-the-Heart

Marian Women's Center

The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Hospital is dedicated to keeping women healthy. Women of all ages can receive health care services, health education and support in a warm, caring environment close to home.

Our highly trained, caring staff offers:

- Mammography
- Breast Health Clinic
- Radiology
- Ultrasound
- Support Groups
- Health Screenings & Classes
- Women's Lectures
- Resource Library
- Bone Density Testing

And, of course, the complete family services that you've come to expect from us such as prenatal classes, lactation consultants, sibling classes and mother-baby support groups.

St. Mary Hospital's Marian Women's Center. Health care for women that's state-of-the-heart.

St. Mary Hospital
 36475 Five Mile Road
 Livonia, MI 48154
www.stmaryhospital.org

Marian Women's Center
 1-800-494-1615

Physician Referral Service 1-888-464-WILL

Democrats to host circuit court judge

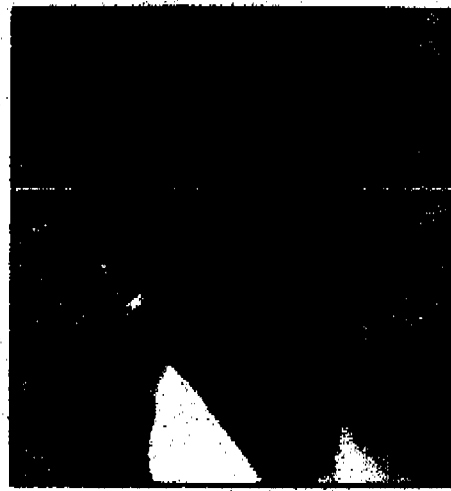
Judge Maggie Drake of the Wayne County Circuit Court will speak to the Westland Democratic Club 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, at 32715 Dorsey, Westland.

Drake recently presided over a case known as the "GHB" or date

rape trial.

Drake is a registered nurse, former Detroit police sergeant and was a trial lawyer before being elected.

For directions or information, call (734) 422-5863.



Judge Maggie Drake

Law Day contest is scheduled

The Westland city attorney's office is holding its fifth annual Law Day Essay Contest. This year's topic is "Should youth access to the Internet and mass media be restricted?"

Entries will be judged on the basis of composition and originality. The contest is open to all

ninth- through 12th-graders at John Glenn High School enrolled in a civics class.

Entries should be typed, double-spaced, and be a minimum of two to a maximum of three standard pages. Entries should include the contestant's name, home address, home phone num-

ber, name of civics teacher and should be submitted to Thomas Buckalew, John Glenn High School, by 3 p.m. Thursday, April 20.

The award will be presented at the Monday, May 1, Westland City Council meeting.

Intersection worries parents

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER
loconnor@oe.hometown.com

Concerned parents are not going to get the left-turn signal they want at Joy and Merriman roads. A Wayne County Commissioner is making sure their worries are not left to linger, either.

Commissioner Lyn Bankes has asked mayors of both Westland and Livonia to increase police patrols where Joy and Merriman meet.

Parents believe the intersection is dangerous for their children who cross it to attend nearby Franklin High School. Crash statistics don't support the need for a left-turn light, county traffic engineers say.

Bankes, who attended a meeting with residents at Franklin High March 1, is looking to find other ways to quell residents' fears.

In letters addressed to Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey and West-

land Mayor Robert Thomas, Bankes asked them to increase patrols from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at the intersection.

The main purpose is not to write tickets but to observe the traffic situation, the commissioner said. Parents believe a police presence might curb aggressive driving.

Franklin PTSA President Michelle Bracey called Bankes' efforts "a move in the right direction."

"At least the matter is not being dropped," Bracey said.

Traffic is worse in the mornings, parents say. Motorists en route to school and work, coupled with vehicles entering and exiting a nearby McDonald's, clog the roadways.

The logjam backs up vehicles waiting to make left-hand turns, which leads motorists to be more willing to run red lights.

A left-hand turn signal is not the solution, a road official said.

In fact, Wayne County Traffic and Safety Department engineers believe such a signal would likely cause more rear-end accidents.

County road officials are considering "no right turn on red" signs and possibly adding another second to the light timing so there are red signals in all four directions.

Crash statistics don't bear out that Merriman-Joy intersection is dangerous, either, traffic engineers add. The intersection averages between 22-26 crashes annually during a six-year span, according to statistics provided by Frederick Pilgrim, assistant engineer of Traffic Operation.

Of those, 46 percent were rear-end crashes compared to 25 percent caused by left turns.

While a left-turn signal protects motorists making them, it cuts into green time for through traffic, Pilgrim said. That leads to other accidents.

Drivers, aides get training for kids with special needs

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.hometown.com

More than 600 drivers and aides who work with special needs children will be gathering at Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium Saturday for what organizers believe is the first-of-its-kind training in the state and possibly the nation.

Wayne County Transportation Supervisors Association and the Wayne County special education staff have joined forces to present a daylong program for personnel in Wayne County who transport disabled students.

"Drivers and the aides are special people serving special needs; we want them on the same page as teachers," said Mike Schuster, Garden City schools director of transportation and president of the supervisors association. "There have been a lot of situations with autistic and medical fragile children, and drivers and aides don't know what happened to set them off."

"A lot of the drivers are parents and a lot have special needs children and they want to know what to do, not just for their kids, but for those they're transporting."

According to Schuster, it was Gary Davis, Wayne-Westland Community Schools' transportation director, who asked about the association to consider the benefit of organizing such a program.

Working with Mary Fayad, a consultant in learning services-special education at Wayne RESA, a seven-member committee took a year to put the program together.

The in-service will look at legal issues, health care needs and what drivers and aides need to know about special needs children - trainable mentally impaired, severely mentally impaired, multiple impaired, medically fragile, physically impaired, emotionally impaired, preschool-age impaired, visually impaired and autistic impaired.

There will be large and small group sessions, featuring lectures, role playing and question and answer periods, presented by 36 special education profes-

sionals from throughout southeastern Michigan. There also will be vendor displays and prizes.

"We want to make this a positive experience," said Schuster. "It's something we know they need, but we want them to volunteer to come, we didn't want them to be forced."

The problem districts face relates to scheduling. Employees are trained in one area of special education transportation, but can end up in a different area if the schedule changes.

"They know the basics, but what we're trying to do is have a folder of consistent information so drivers can be trained in all areas."

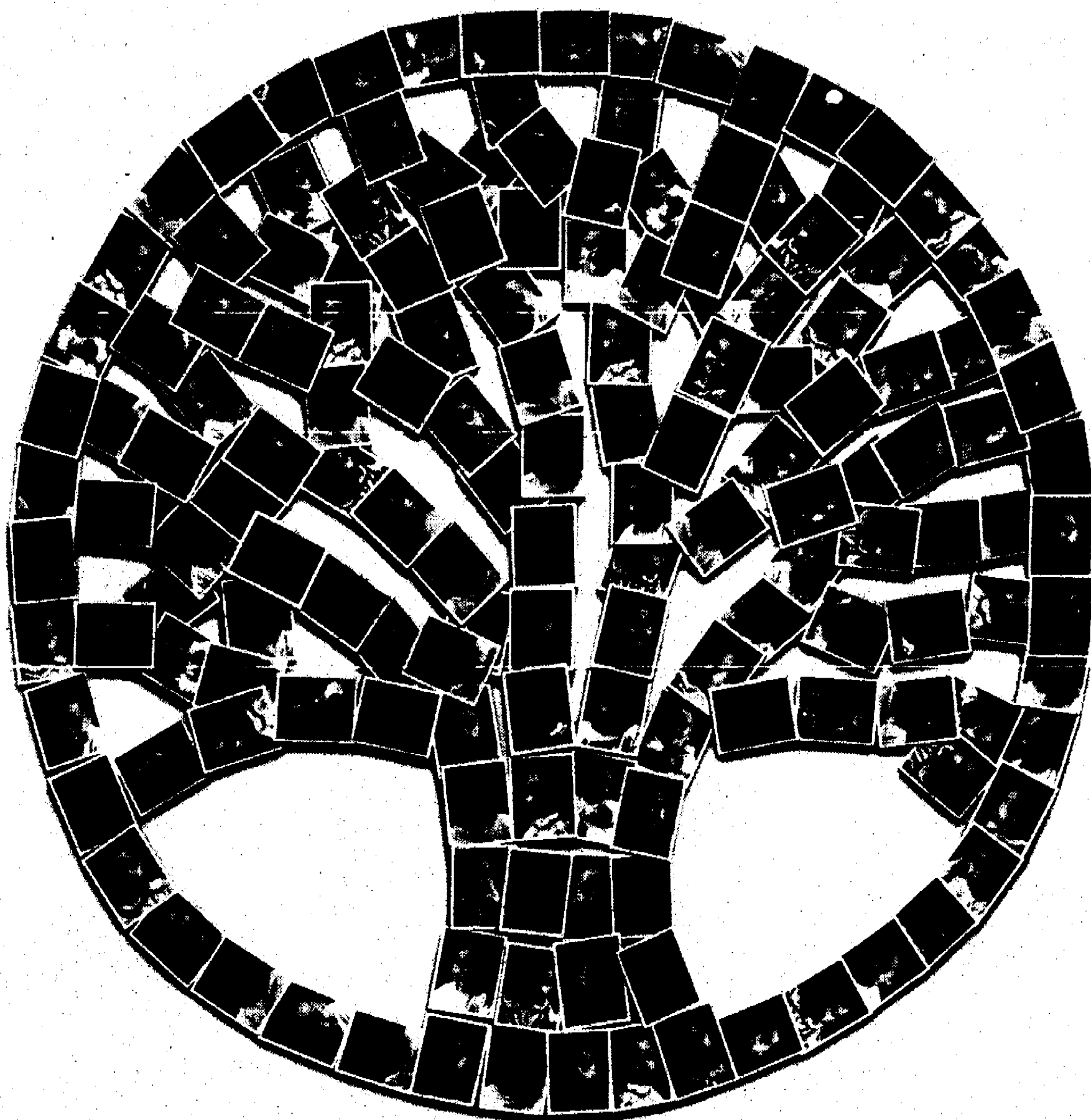
Every district in Wayne County is involved in the in-service and 18 districts are sending managers and drivers. The largest number - 154 - is from the Detroit Public Schools, followed by the Livonia Public Schools with a total of 116. Also school districts sending drivers and aides are Wayne-Westland, 27, Garden City, 16, Redford Union, two, and South Redford, two.

The turnout could have been even bigger, but organizers limited participation to Wayne County school districts. According to Schuster, inquiries were received from school districts in surrounding counties and from around the state.

"In a way, I'm surprised at the response and in a way, I'm not," said Schuster. "When we first got together, we knew it was something that needed to be addressed. We thought it was a really good idea, but we thought there'd be apathy."

The association also is looking to the future, possibly making the in-service something that would become a certification for drivers and aides, possibly part of their training.

"Once we get this off the ground, we want to see how it works and from there tweak it and take it outside Wayne County," said Schuster. "We'd like to take this throughout the state and nation. We feel like we're pioneers in this area."



Reality found at store

How do you choose between paying the rent on time or fixing the hot water heater? Students of the William D. Ford Career/Technical Center will answer such questions when they participate in the Reality Store 10:15 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, at the Center, 36455 Marquette in Westland.

The Reality Store is part of the Women Helping Girls With Choices program, which Business and Professional Women sponsors. The national program, supported by BPW organizations across the country, began in 1994.

The Wayne BPW is sponsoring the Reality Store to help all students learn basic skills in financial planning, goal setting, decision making and career planning, and to motivate students to

stay in school, stay away from drugs and avoid pregnancy.

At the Reality Store, students will be able to select an occupation they would like to have as an adult. They will receive a salary and go into the store to purchase the necessities and luxuries they envision as part of their adult lifestyle.

Goals are to help students see the need for a strong education, to learn the "real" cost of their chosen lifestyle, and to see whether their chosen occupation will provide an income to maintain that lifestyle.

BPW members will volunteer their time at booths, including Family, Government, Bank, Insurance, Savings/Investment, Travel and Entertainment, Clothing, Medical/Dental, Housing, Utilities, Food, Child Care and Transportation.

Every child is a miracle. Some more than others.

Some pregnancies and births require an extra level of care. That's where the people at Oakwood can help. We're experts in assisting with special health risks such as multiple births, diabetes, infertility and mother's age. We take great pride in our neonatal intensive care unit. And even more pride in our people, all trained to give you and your baby the best care possible. Oakwood.

We strive for miracles...one child at a time. 1-800-543-WELL.



Oakwood



BARI BERKOWITZ

Quiz helps you check the status of your marriage

How is your marriage? Have you checked on the status of it lately? Take this quick quiz to find out more.

Do you nurture each other? Are you emotionally intimate? Can you be vulnerable with each other? Can you share your deepest feelings without fear of being attacked? Are you supportive of each other? Do you have common goals? If you have said, "no" to all or most of these, then it may be time for a relationship evaluation.

Almost all married couples run into a few bumps in the road along the winding marital path. But the key to a good marriage is to not let it get so bad that it is beyond repair. In a healthy and satisfying marriage, partners have taken the time to learn good relationship skills. The key word here is "learn."

Most likely when you took your marriage vows, you lacked expertise in the communication skills department. The behavior we bring to our relationships is often a reflection of the atmosphere in which we were raised. If you witnessed a controlling and overbearing mother, you probably have picked up on pieces of that behavior. If your father gave your mother the silent treatment rather

■ 'Make a commitment to spend time applying relationship skills. Try a weekly marriage meeting to work on listening and communicating honestly. Discuss what is positive about the partnership ...'

than working through conflicts, there is a good chance that you would repeat this behavior in your own relationship.

A loving, exciting marriage does not happen by itself. It is constant, but worthwhile daily work. If your union is not all that you had hoped it would be, take some time to think about the following relationship skills that lead to an atmosphere of love and support. A fulfilling marriage begins with you.

Partners should choose to encourage each other. In lasting relationships, spouses feel empathy for one another and are supportive of each other's dreams and goals. Try to understand how things look and feel to your partner.

■ Make a commitment to spend time applying relationship skills. Try a weekly marriage meeting to work on listening and communicating honestly. Discuss what is positive about the partnership rather than focusing completely on the negative.

■ Share opinions rather than focusing on who was right and who was wrong. Avoid name calling, sarcasm and low blows.

■ Take time to understand the family atmosphere in which you were raised. If you need help in dealing with unresolved personal issues, seek counseling.

■ Conflict is an unavoidable and necessary part of marriage. In healthy relationships, partners have worked out an effective and fair process for working through inevitable disagreements and problems. Show mutual respect.

■ Have fun together on a weekly basis. Stressful jobs, children and other responsibilities can sap the energy out of the best of relationships. Remind each other why you fell in love and why this marriage is worth the effort.

Most important, try to maintain a good sense of humor.

Bari Berkowitz, M.A. is a psychotherapist, wife and mother of three. She can be reached at nbajt@mediaone.net for comments or suggestions for this column.

Cultural experience

Students get wrapped up in Samoan studies

■ A classroom of fourth-grade students at Field Elementary School in Canton recently completed a project on Samoa and its people. The lesson culminated with a guest speaker who brought several native heirlooms and artifacts as well as sharing his own personal experiences about the culture.

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@homecomm.net

At Field Elementary School in Canton, fourth-graders felt like they traveled far from home, without ever leaving their classroom.

The four separate fourth grade classes came together on the afternoon of Tuesday, March 7 to learn about a culture that is quite different from their own — the Samoan culture.

Robert Engle, chair of the music department at Northwest College in Seattle, visited the school to teach the eager group about the time he spent living in Hawaii and immersing himself in a different culture.

Having lived in Hawaii for 27 years, he's mastered three Polynesian languages and performs both Polynesian and popular music. A high school friend of Field Elementary fourth grade teacher Pattee Rupert, Engle agreed to share his experiences with the class.

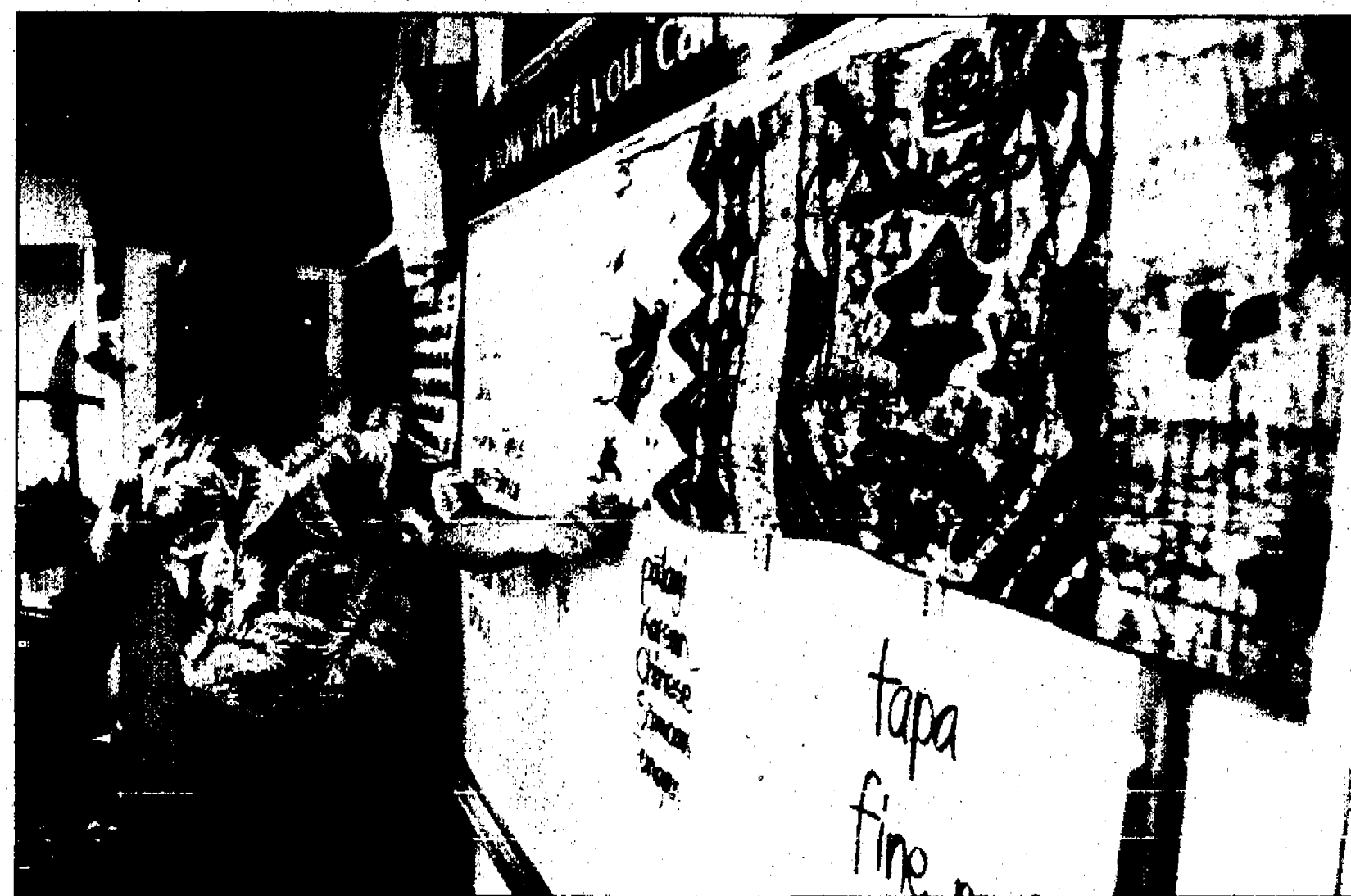
He taught the children a dance, called a sasa, and showed them original items associated with Samoan culture, including a rugby shirt commonly worn by an all-Samoan team in New Zealand.

That wasn't the only traditional item of clothing he brought. Corey Davis was chosen to try on a lavalava. "He wanted to call someone up to try that blue thing on," said Corey. "So he wanted me to. I think it's called a lavalava. I tried it."

"This is one thing I didn't know about. It said in the book, America is spelled differently, with a 'k'. I think it was cool."

Rupert said the presentation matched fourth grade curriculum for social studies, where they are learning about all regions of the United States. She said she can teach her class about how the Midwest was once mostly farmland. She can now show her class that Samoans still live that way.

"This is still kind of pure," she



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMAN

explained. "They love it. They have looked at the native dress."

She incorporated it into other subjects. In math, the students calculated the distance from Canton to Samoa and learned about the different time zones, which they would need to know to call someone in Samoa. For reading class, they read a Samoan legend and created a booklet which illustrated its meaning. The booklet was woven like a mat, or "ie toga," an heirloom-like gift given in Samoa.

"I'm really proud of them," added Rupert.

So was Engle, even though he's used to working with older students.

They seem to be tuned into what we learned," said Engle, who lived in Hawaii from 1972 to 1999. "They could find it on the map."

He explained the differences between two different countries, American and Western Samoa. Western Samoa gained its independence from New Zealand in 1963. Citizens of American

Learning tool: Above, Robert Engle, chair of the music department at Northwest College in Seattle, visits Field Elementary teacher Pattee Rupert's Canton classroom to talk about the Samoan culture.

Right, Engle wraps a traditional Samoan lavalava around student Corey Davis who volunteered to model the garment before his classmate.



Samoa need a visa to enter Western Samoa. Later Engle answered their many questions.

The special visit ended appropriately with a special treat — pineapple and coconut — common to Polynesian cultures. Engle said he hopes the children will take with them "just the general idea that people are different. They have different ways of doing things that are just as important to them."

Students reach community through good deeds

■ HELPING HANDS

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON
STAFF WRITER

Giving can be one of the most rewarding actions in life that benefits not only the receiver, but the donor as well. Western Wayne Skill Center students are finding themselves on the giving end of good deeds thanks to the "Lend a Hand" program initiated at the Westland school in February.

According to WWSC Program Specialist Barbara DeGrazia, students are encouraged to volunteer by reaching out to their community and performing an act that benefits someone in need. The idea was initiated by members of the Leisure Volunteer Committee of which DeGrazia is the chairman.

"We prepare our students for four life roles — family, work, leisure and citizen. This program emphasizes outreach and has been pretty well received by students. We have also encouraged our parents to get involved and find ways for their child to help others."

To date there are more than 40 paper hands adorning a wall that reads "Good Things Happen to Those People Who Care." The acts are recorded and then acknowledged school-wide. DeGrazia said the acts of kindness range from students shoveling neighbors walks and driveways in the winter to laundry folding, running errands, volunteering at the Humane Society, house-sitting and more.

"Our kids have traditionally been on the receiving end of a helping hand ... it's good for them to be on the giving end and for them to recognize how important this is in their growth and maturity as an adult," said DeGrazia.

The Western Wayne Skill Center is a special education center that provides vocational evaluation



Above and beyond: Western Wayne Skill Center students recently held a pop drive and raised \$381. They used the money to purchase items such as soap and diapers to donate to First Step in Plymouth. Some of the students who participated are (pictured above from left) Danielle Broquet, Jonathan Boulton, Ryan Varley and Betsy Palmer.

and special education vocational training at a job-entry level in such areas as clerical support, industrial, food and retail service, child development and custodial. Half and full day programs serve a wide range of handicapped students from the age of 16 to 26.

Three examples of some of the outstanding efforts made by students include:

■ Michele Sheridan raised \$235 for the Livonia Parents of the Visually Impaired at their annual Bowl-a-Thon event. The money will benefit blind children from Western Wayne County

■ Larry Hibbard was recognized for the commitments he's made to his church including visiting shut-ins, delivering meals and maintenance upkeep at the church.

■ Megan Pomaranski is known at the Western Wayne Skill Center as a helper. She routinely offers assistance to her teachers, classmates and the administration. "She's done a lot of good things throughout the school."

Focus

DeGrazia said the most critical emphasis for students is placed on learning and mastering universal life and employability skills and that much of their education comes from working out in the community.

The WWSC program specialist said throughout the year the school promotes other programs that involve charity outside the school including a pop drive organized by Life Skills teacher Paul Barach. The students raised \$381 and purchased toiletries, diapers, food and pajamas for the First Step shelter in Plymouth.

In November families of the skill center who are in need benefit from the generous donations collected by students during a canned-food drive. WWSC families receive full turkey dinners at Thanksgiving thanks to the items the students gather.

"In May the students bring in pet food and all of the items are donated to the Michigan Humane Society," said DeGrazia.

The "Lend a Hand" program will conclude in April with a school assembly at which all of the students, who earned the honor of placing a hand on the wall, will be acknowledged. After five acts of kindness a student receives a star on the wall.

"We hope to do this from year to year," said DeGrazia. "The students have really come to look forward to having their hand put on the wall and in finding ways to help others."

CLASS REUNIONS

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include the date of the reunion and the first and last name of at least one contact person, and a telephone number.

ALL SAINTS

Class of 1950
Is planning a "Millennium Reunion" for November 2000. Unable to locate Margaret Kluk and Mary Frances Perdue. Any information, please call Veronica (248) 437-9735

BENTLEY

Class of 1950
Is looking for alumni.
(248) 932-1722, (248) 548-5359 or (248) 393-1233

BENTLEY HIGH

Class of 1970
30 year reunion, Saturday, Nov. 11.
Please contact Colleen Siembar (734) 455-1395.

BIRMINGHAM HIGH

Class of 1955
A reunion is planned for Oct. 27 at The Northfield Hilton in Troy. Call Pete Kass (248) 335-5472 or e-mail MESLK@aol.com

BIRMINGHAM GROVES

Class of 1965
Aug. 12 at The Community House in Birmingham.
(248) 433-2362 or by e-mail at

JCRich47@aol.com

BIRMINGHAM MANIAN

BROTHER RICE

Class of 1970
A reunion is planned for July 29. (248) 540-3917 or (248) 359-4490

BIRMINGHAM MANIAN

Class of 1970
A reunion is planned for July 1. (510) 523-0906 or by e-mail at HubSpauld@aol.com

BISHOP BORGESS

Class of 1975
A 25th year reunion is planned from 2-6 p.m. Saturday, June 17. Cost is \$5.
Contact Steve Anderson by e-mail at sparky39@prodigy.net visit their Web site at <http://pages.prodigy.net/sparky39/borgess> or write Steve Anderson, 11418 Arnold, Redford, MI 48239.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS LANSE

Class of 1979
March 4 at the Somerset Inn in Troy.
(248) 366-9493, press #2 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

BRIGHTON

Class of 1980
Aug. 26 at the Novi Hilton Hotel in Novi.
(248) 360-7004, press #5 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

CLARKSTON

Class of 1960
A reunion is tentatively planned for August.
(248) 627-4549, (248) 933-1670

or dimiller@flash.net

CLINTONDALE

Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for July. (810) 485-2388

CROFTWOOD

Class of 1970
Is planning a reunion.
(313) 277-1316 or (248) 426-6888

DEARBORN FORDSON

Classes of 1960
January and June classes will gather for a reunion Sept. 9 at Park Place.
Call (313) 565-4322 or (248) 960-3671.

DEARBORN HIGH

Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for Aug. 12 at Henry Ford Museum/Lovett Hall.
Call David Gordon at (313) 278-7061 or e-mail dgordon@mich.com

DETROIT MACKENZIE

Class of 1949-51
July 29 at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland.
(734) 453-7561

DETROIT NORTHEASTERN

Class of 1950
A 50th reunion is planned for Nov. 2000.
Call Ted Potasnik (810) 268-1433 or Barbara Okarski Gibbs (734) 753-9013.

DETROIT PERSHING

Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for Sept. 9. Classmates are still being sought. Lillo Greer (313) 835-9642, Jerry Mulvaine (810) 773-

3962, Sherry (Bailey) Forbush (248) 547-0684 or Joan (Masry) Harrington (734) 595-7508 or at the Web site, www.jmctech.com/~bjustice/index.htm

DETROIT HEDFORD

Class of 1965
A reunion is planned for July 8. (313) 837-3077 OR (734) 427-6047

DETROIT HEDFORD

Class of 1950
A reunion is planned for June 10 at the Livonia Holiday Inn.
Please contact Lynn Ehrle (734) 459-9488.

DETROIT ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Class of 1950 (classes of 1949 and 1951 also invited).
Reunion is scheduled for May 20. Contact Kathleen Cottrell Jenkins at (248) 685-0734 or Barb Smith at (734) 722-1874.

DETROIT SOUTHWESTERN

Class of 1955
The Class of 1955 also invites classes of 1951 through 1959 for a reunion Saturday, Oct. 28 at Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland (7300 Merriman Rd.).
For reunion information call (248) 887-9774 or (810) 227-7167.

DETROIT WESTERN

Class of 1966
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 280-0053 or (517) 546-8874

FARMINGTON

Class of 1950
50th reunion Sept. 15-17, with a dinner at Vladimir's on Sept. 16.

Call Mary for details (248) 474-7823

FERNDALE

Classes of 1929-1958
Oct. 14 at Ferndale High School, 726 Pinecrest, Ferndale.
(248) 589-2609 or (248) 541-2476

FINNEY HIGH

Class of 1970, 71 & 72
A reunion is planned for Saturday, April 1 at The Warren Chateau Hall in Warren.
To attend and mailing list call (313) 837-5880.

FRANKLIN HIGH

Class of 1965
Get ready to party at Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia Sept. 23. Contact patwhitman@aol.com or (734) 522-4487 or (312) 440-1857 Pat Yankovich Whitman.

GARDEN CITY EAST

Classes of 1974 and 1975 are hosting a 25th reunion Saturday, Nov. 25, at the Crown Plaza Hotel - Metro Airport.
Contact Barry Harnos (Class of 1974) (734) 416-5583 or Vicky (DeSanto) Clark at (734) 421-5365 (Class of 1975).

GARDEN CITY WEST

Class of 1975 is in the planning stages of a fall 2000 weekend-reunion. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information please call.
Denise Nossek, (248) 474-5006.

GARDEN CITY EAST

Class of 1980 is hosting a 20 year reunion Saturday, Sept. 23 at Doubletree Guest Suites, Southfield.
Call Reunions Made Easy at (248) 360-7004 or e-mail reunion-smadeeasy@ameritech.net

HAMTRAMCK HIGH

Class of 1950 and 1951
A 50th reunion is slated for May 21 at the Stephenson Haus.
Call Marian (Armstrong) Papin at (810) 751-6831, (810) 293-4075 or (810) 751-1598.

HENRY FORD TRADE

Class of 1950
Is planning a reunion.
(248) 618-9865

HIGHLAND PARK

January-June classes of 1950-51
Are planning a reunion.
Send name, address and telephone number to Fred Kashouty, 21528 Raymond, St. Clair Shores 48082 or call (810) 294-7512 or (313) 881-2023

JOHN GLENN

Class of 1970
Contact Marilyn Ross, (734) 326-8300; Kathy Wedhorn, (248) 637-7686; Larion Thomas, (734) 416-1157; or JGHS, (734) 595-2331.
January Class of 1950
June 4 at the San Marino Club-house.
(313) 345-9104 or (810) 263-8179

LAKE ORION HIGH

Class of 1980
A reunion is planned for Aug. 26. Looking for alumni.
Call Kim (Zikaj) Berkal (800) 423-4018 ext. 8050 or Jill (Bullard) Winship (800) 365-3968 (ext. 2786).

LINCOLN PARK

June Class of 1965
A reunion is planned for August.
(734) 676-9178 or (734) 763-5988

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

Class of 1990
Is planning a reunion.
Send name, address, telephone number and e-mail address to CHC Class of '90 Reunion, 6609 Salem Road, Plymouth 48170 or by e-mail to hallen72@hotmail.com

LIVONIA LADYWOOD

Class of 1980
A reunion is planned for Saturday, July 22.
Call (734) 464-4523 or e-mail murraytr@northville.k12.mi.us

MACKENZIE HIGH

Class of 1960
A 40th year reunion is planned for Saturday Sept. 23 at the Troy Marriott (Mediterranean Room). 200 West Big Beaver in Troy. Event runs from 6:30 to 1 a.m. and includes cocktails, cash bar and a buffet dinner as well as dancing and an address booklet for \$60. Special room rates are available if you check directly with the hotel and mention The Mackenzie High School reunion. Call Sharon (Hobyak) Sturgis at (248) 478-0034 or e-mail MACK-GRAD1960@aol.com or Carol (Rudnick) McCreadie at (734) 420-2443.

MERCY

Class of 1950
Is planning a reunion for June.
(248) 851-7620

NEW

Class of 1990
June 24 at the Holiday Inn West-Livonia.
(248) 366-9493, press #1

OAK PARK HIGH

Class of 1960
A reunion is planned for May 6 at the Somerset Inn, Troy at 7 p.m.

Contact Penny Fishman Brode, (248) 661-0108.

PLYMOUTH CANTON

Class of 1980
Aug. 12 at the Double Tree Guest Suites in Southfield.
(248) 366-9493, press #6 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

PLYMOUTH SALINE

Class of 1990
20 year reunion on Saturday, Sept. 2 at the Holiday Inn, Livonia.

Call Reunions Made Easy at (248) 360-7004 or e-mail reunion-smadeeasy@ameritech.net

PONTIAC

January and June classes of 1940
Sept. 8-9 at the Holiday Inn in Auburn Hills.
(248) 682-3719

PONTIAC HIGH

Class of 1950
50th reunion for February, June and August classes.
Call (248) 625-8830 or (248) 682-4797.

PONTIAC HIGH

Class of 1945
55th reunion Saturday, June 17 at Mitch's II in Waterford.
If you would like information write: Pontiac High Reunion Committee, P.O. Box 431815, Pontiac, MI 48345-1815.

PONTIAC CENTRAL

Class of 1960
Reunion is scheduled for Aug. 19 at the Northfield Hilton in Troy.
Call (248) 391-4347 for information.

ROCHESTER ADAMS

Class of 1980
A reunion is planned for Nov. 25. Contact (313) 768-0656 or e-mail leannaroberts@cs.com

ROMEO HIGH

Class of 1980
20 year reunion, Nov. 25 at Elly's Banquet Hall in Washington, Mich. Call Reunions Made Easy at (248) 360-7004 or e-mail reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

ROMULUS HIGH

Class of 1970
A 30-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 26.
For further information contact Gail (Howie) Curaba (734) 697-1763; Roy and Cathy (Miank) Szyndlar (734) 699-3139 or Jim Wagner at (734) 699-9050.

ROMULUS HIGH

Class of 1990
10 year reunion Saturday, Oct. 14 at the Marriott Hotel, Romulus.
Call Reunions Made Easy at (248) 360-7004 or e-mail reunion-smadeeasy@ameritech.net

ROSEVILLE BRABLEC

Class of 1975
There will be a dinner dance Saturday, Aug. 26 at Ernie's Kings Mill Inn in Clinton Township and a picnic Sunday, Aug. 27 at Stony Creek Metropark (North Dale Picnic Pavilion) in Shelby Township.
Call Mark Garagiola (248) 681-2345.

ROYAL OAK HIGH

Class of 1960
A 50th reunion is planned for Sept. 16 at the MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road in Troy.
Call Dick Beer, (248) 391-1549; Chuck Kirkpatrick, (248) 549-5726; Bev (Sharp) Gibbs, (248) 391-2532; or Helen (Vandall) Dusenborg, (248) 549-5205.

SHRINE HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 1980
Planning a millennium reunion on Aug. 12.
Contact Richard Widgren at (313) 886-5072 or Phil & Carole Schummer (248) 828-8516.

SOUTHFIELD LATHROP

Class of 1980
20 year reunion Friday, Nov. 24 at the Marriott Hotel, Troy.
Call Reunions Made Easy at (248) 360-7004

SOUTHFIELD HIGH

Classes of 1963, 1964, 1965 and 1966
Reunion August 18.
For more information call (734) 692-9970.

SOUTHFIELD

Class of 1990
The class of 1990 will host a reunion Aug. 4-6 at the Westin (Southfield) on Aug. 4; banquet at the Westin on Aug. 5; and picnic on Aug. 6 (TBA).
Call Crystal Towns at (810) 662-5557 or e-mail Cat2504@aol.com

ST. ADAM'S HIGH

Class of 1975
25th year reunion is scheduled for June 24 at Monaghan's Knights of Columbus Hall in Farmington.
Call JoAnne Clements, (248) 437-7193.

Take care of club business with your daughter on your lap!

Members of Michigan clubs and organizations have discovered mihometown.com and how easy it is to create a FREE web site that informs others of their events and own members about their group's activities. Put your home computer to work for you and your group.

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■ **HOME PAGE:** This is sort of a front door for your group and inform people about your group. ■ **NEWSLETTER:** Here's a great way to post new and changing information for your members. Say goodbye to cutting, pasting and mailing your newsletter! ■ **FEEDBACK FORMS:** These let you gather opinions, conduct surveys, or collect useful information from your group. Review the results instantly online or receive it by e-mail. ■ **DISCUSSION:** Your online posting board. Have a lively debate about issues important to your group, discuss just about anything. ■ **CHAT:** A bit different from "Discussion," CHAT allows members of your group to talk "live" with a noted personality in (or out) of your organization. These conversations can be shared with your members at a later time.

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ENGAGEMENTS, ANNIVERSARIES & WEDDINGS

Forthofer-LaVine

Gilbert and Marie Forthofer of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Marie of Milwaukee, Wis., to Lars Eric LaVine, the son of Charles John LaVine and Joan LaVine of Minneapolis, Minn.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School, Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn., and Kellogg Graduate School of Management Northwestern University. She is employed as a marketing manager for Harley-Davidson in Milwaukee, Wis.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Cook County High School, Grand Marais, Minn., and the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y. He is employed as a



developmental Purchasing Manager for Buell Motorcycle Company in East Troy, Wis.

A June wedding is planned at Our Lady of Good Council, Plymouth.

Tranquilla-Sharp

Michael and Susan Tranquilla of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie Tranquilla, to Jeff Sharp of Ohio.

The bride-to-be is a 1999 graduate of Iowa State University and works as a research associate at Ohio State University.

Her fiancé, son of Jim and Sandi Sharp of Iowa, is a 1998 graduate of Iowa State University. He works as an assistant professor at Ohio State University.

A July wedding is planned at New School Church in Northville.



Roberts-Jurkiewicz

Nancy Roberts of Livonia announces the engagement of her daughter, Erica Lynn, to Andre Richard Jurkiewicz of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 Fairlane Christian High School graduate, a 1998 graduate of Madonna University and works as a seventh grade language arts and social studies teacher at Hilbert Junior High School in Redford.

Her fiancé, son of Richard Jurkiewicz of Novi and Marcia Jurkiewicz of Livonia, is a 1994 graduate of Catholic Central High School and a 1999 graduate of Eastern Michigan University. He is currently a graduate student and works at Ingersoll



Cinetic Automation Corporation in Farmington Hills.

A June wedding is planned at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

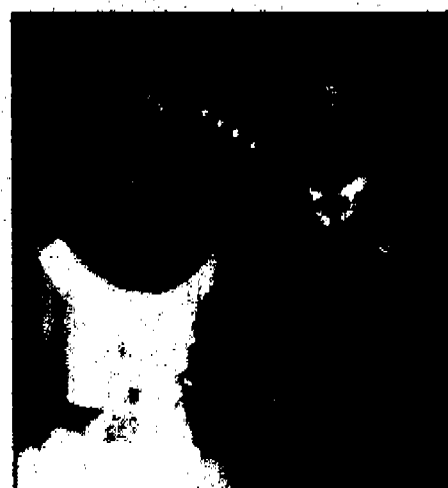
Roberts-Dahlberg

Douglas M. Roberts and Sharon J. Roberts of Illinois announce the marriage of their daughter, Leslie Nicole, to David Michael Dahlberg of San Francisco.

The bride is a graduate of Illinois State University in Illinois and Miss Marty's Beauty School in California. She works as a stylist at Pesto Hair Salon in Berkeley, Calif.

Her husband, son of Mr. and Mrs. David R. Dahlberg of Bel Air, is a graduate of Northwestern University and University of Michigan. He works as a marketing director at Siebel Systems in San Mateo, Calif.

An October 9, 1999 wedding took place at First Congregational Church in Ann Arbor before the Rev. Dorothy L. Lenz. The bride's attendants included matron of honor Lori Crane, maid of honor Kara Montello,



Laci Roberts and Jan Dahlberg.

The groomsmen included best man Jeff Santelices, Kevin Jones, Mark Blankstein and Andrew Lee.

The couple received guests at The Michigan League in Ann Arbor and took a wedding trip to Bali, Indonesia. They have made their home in San Francisco, Calif.

Macuga-Heiden

Terrence and Karen Macuga of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Angela Ann, to Christopher Michael Heiden of Texas.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School and a 1998 graduate of Michigan Technological University. She holds a bachelor of science degree in geological engineering and works at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.

Her fiancé, son of Thomas and Billie Heiden of Warren, is a 1991 graduate of Lutheran High East. He attended Michigan Technological University and is continuing his education at the University of Texas in Houston.



He works at T.I. Designs in Houston.

An April wedding is planned at Westland Free Methodist Church.

Rollenhagen-Walters

Gordon and Bonnie Rollenhagen of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Mindy Deann to David John Walters of Lake Ann.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 Plymouth Salem High School graduate and a 1996 Michigan Technological University graduate. She works at Inland Seas Engineering, Inc. in Traverse City.

Her fiancé, son of John and Gwendolyn Walters of Livonia, is a 1990 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and a 1996 graduate of Michigan Technological University. He works at Pinnacle Molded Plastics in



Traverse City.

A June wedding is planned at Central United Methodist Church in Traverse City.

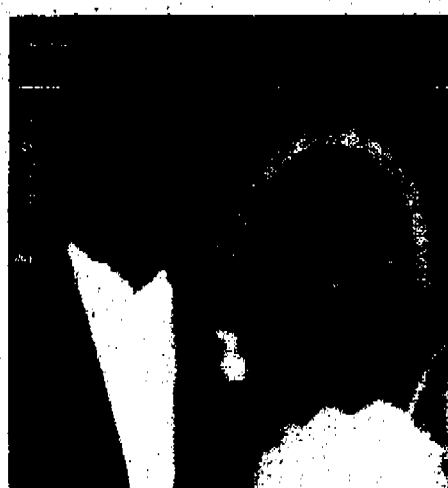
Lavery-Hartemink

Joseph and Audrey Lavery of Livonia announce the marriage of their daughter, Samantha Lynn, to Christopher Allan Hartemink of Massachusetts.

The bride is a 1998 graduate of MIT in chemical engineering. She worked as a process engineer at Procter and Gamble in Ohio and has since moved on to U.S. Filter in Massachusetts.

Her husband, son of John and Doretha Hartemink of Florida, is a graduate of MIT in biomedical engineering. He's working on his doctorate between Harvard Medical School and MIT.

The couple wed on July 24, 1999 at Ward Church before the Rev. David Brown. The bride's attendants included Allison Lavery, maid of honor; Alison Hartemink, Jessica West, Jill Knapp, Yvonne Kim, and Sarah Brudi.



The groomsmen included Alexander Hartemink, best man; Todd Lavery, Paul Lanning, Jeffrey Timmer, David Hartemink and Joseph Lavery Jr.

The couple received guests at Fox Hills in Plymouth and took a wedding trip to Costa Rica. Their home is in Somerville, Mass.

LeBlanc

Richard and Cheryl LeBlanc of Westland are celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary this month.

Married March 29, 1980, the LeBlancs were neighbors as children — having lived around the corner from each other. Their first date was in 1978.

Currently they reside in Westland and have two children, Rick, a full-time student at Madonna University in Livonia and Jeff, a junior at John Glenn High School in Westland.

Richard is employed by Ford Motor Company in Plymouth as a Part Submission Warrant Coordinator for the Quality Office. He also serves as a councilman for the city of Westland and as a Canton Township Police Officer Reserve. Cheryl has been a homemaker during their marriage.



The LeBlancs enjoy family activities, volunteering their time to several organizations and trips to their northern Michigan cabin.

Richard and Cheryl plan to share their anniversary celebration with family members.

Bondy-Wesley

John and Peggy Bondy of Redford and Leslie and Marshall Nick of Novi announce the engagement of Jennifer Lynn Bondy to Kenneth Wesley of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and works for McNabb Carpets.

Her fiancé is a former Marine who attended high school in West Virginia. He works as an electrical engineer.

An August wedding is planned in Las Vegas.



Sarginson-Matthews

Nicole Sarginson of Kirkland, Washington and Sean Matthews, formerly of Westland were married on March 18 at Christ Church in Kirkland.



Arrivals

■ Scott and Susan Paxson of Redford announce the birth of their daughter Jessica Ruth, born Feb. 16 at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Jessica joins brother Jimmie, 3. Grandparents are Al and Judy Paxson of Canton and Jim and Linda Rutherford of Redford.

■ Scott and Paulena Shipman of Westland announce the

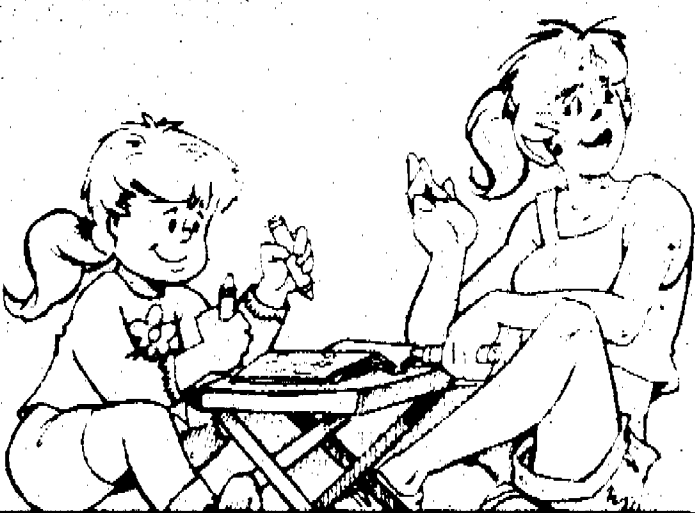
birth of their daughter Alexandria Rose born March 16 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center. Alexandria joins Briana, 8, and Joshua, 6. Grandparents are Mary Ann Shipman of Westland and Walt and Eleanor Sarapinas of Westland.

■ Mark and Shiloh Watson of Canton announce the birth of their son Hunter Marcus born March 11 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center. Grandparents are Carl and Lorrie Colton of Garden City and Brenda Watson of Pikeville, Kentucky.

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Sundays

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CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

RECOGNITION BANQUET
Harris-Kehrer Post 3323 Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary will hold their annual Wayne/Westland Police/Firefighters Recognition Banquet Saturday, April 1. It will take place at the Post Hall, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Tickets are \$10 per person and the event is open to the public. For tickets, call Bessie Bell, (734) 326-6524, or the post hall, (734) 326-3323. Police and firefighters will be honored for going above and beyond the call of duty.

'OLDIES BUT GOODIES'

The Metro Wayne Democratic Club will hold its "Oldies But Goodies" dinner-dance Saturday, April 15, at UAW Local 735 Hall, 48055 Michigan Ave., west of Belleville Road in Canton. Cocktails will be served 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., followed by dancing 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. For tickets/reservations, call Cliff or Marie, (734) 729-8681, or Al's Friendly Market, (734) 721-4710. Price is \$20, \$35 per couple, or \$15 for seniors/retirees.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Westland Jaycees will present an Easter Egg Hunt 1:30 p.m. (ages newborn-6) and 2:30 p.m. (ages 7-12) Sunday, April 16, at Jaycee Park, Hunter and Woodlee in Westland. The Easter Bunny will be available for photos. Participants should meet at the baseball fields. Parking will be available at the ice arena or park. For information, call (734) 480-4984.

GOLF OUTING

The Westland Rotary Charities Golf Outing will be held Thursday, May 19, at Golden Fox, west of Plymouth. Participants will play 18 holes of golf, with registration 8:30-10:30 a.m. and an 11 a.m. shotgun start. There will be a continental breakfast, lunch and beverages at the turn, and a filet mignon dinner/banquet. Registration forms will be mailed in early April. For information, call Kim Shunkwiler, (734) 728-5533, Tom North, (734) 421-1300, John Toye, (734) 729-TOYE, Ken Belanger, (734) 721-1810, or Dick Isham, (734) 729-5401.

AT THE LIBRARY

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY

The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library organization meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Call (734) 326-6123. Meetings last about one hour and are open to the public. The Friends also hold a book sale during regular library hours at the library.

WESTLAND CENTER

WALKERS
Westland Walkers meets the second Wednesday of each month except during the summer. Westland Center, located at Wayne and Warren roads, opens its doors to walkers beginning at 7 a.m. at Arcade 2 in Olga's Kitchen. Mail talking ends at 10 a.m.

REGISTRATION

RECREATION AND FUN
A recreational get-together for teens and adults who are interested in being the second Friday of each month

at the Westland Bailey Center. Call (734) 722-7620.

FIGURE SKATING

Figure skaters interested in USFSA synchronized (precision) skating are needed to build Novi FSC and Westland FSC joint-venture teams. Prior team experience is not necessary. This is an opportunity to build skating and team skills while having fun. For information, call Cheryl Gutowski at (734) 427-0305.

VOLUNTEERS

ASSISTED LIVING

Marquette House assisted living facility, 36000 Campus Drive in Westland, seeks volunteers to spend time with residents to provide an activity or a one-on-one visit. Call Peggy in the activities department, (734) 326-6537.

ANGEL CARE

Angel Care is looking for volunteers to sew, crochet or knit blankets and burial gowns to donate to local hospitals for infants who die. Contact Mary Piontek for patterns and information, (313) 534-6496.

VETERAN'S HAVEN

Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. For information, call (734) 728-0527.

CAMELOT HALL

Camelot Hall Convalescent Center seeks volunteers to spend time with residents, providing an activity or a one-on-one pursuit such as reading to blind people or just talking. The facility is located at 35100 Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia. For information, call Esther or Diana in the Activity Department, (734) 522-1444, Ext. 27.

PET-A-PET

The Pet-A-Pet animal visitation program provides pet therapy with the help of volunteers. Pets should be friendly, well-behaved, and must have current vaccinations. There is a \$5 membership fee. Volunteer opportunities are available at Hope Nursing Care Center, 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month (Margaret Martin, (734) 721-2821) and Marquette House, 10:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month (Lorna Johnson, (734) 425-1681). There are also openings at Garden City Hospital, 3 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (Stacy Suida, (734) 458-4392).

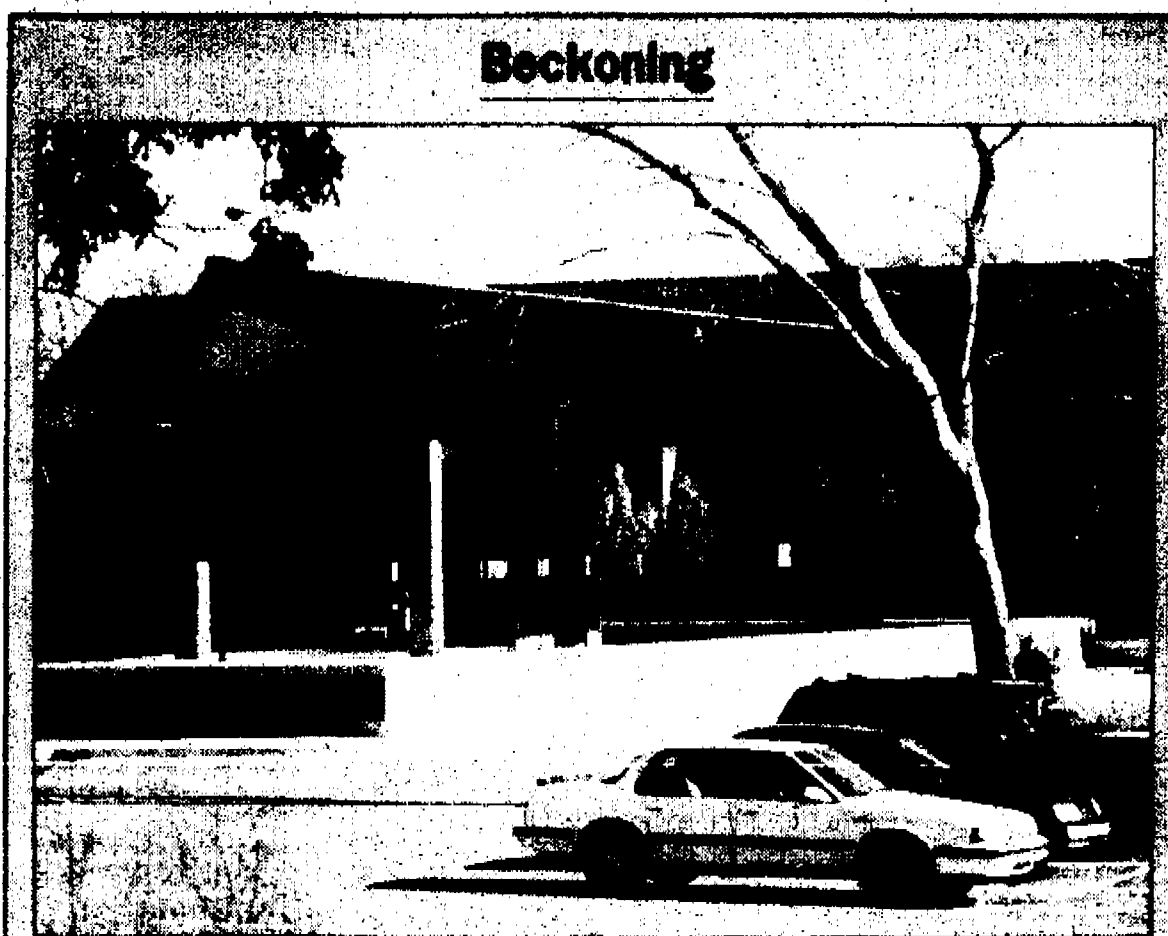
SCHOOLS

SUBURBAN CHILDREN'S

Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery has openings in its 2-year-old toddler-parent class on Friday mornings; 3-year-old class Monday and Wednesday mornings; and 4-year-old class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Classes run from September to May. Parents are required to help out at the school. All classes take place at Newburg United Methodist Church on Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne and Newburgh. For more information, call April at (734) 907-7888.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Wayne-Westland Community School District has ongoing registration for preschool programs at Stetson Early Childhood and Family Development Center, on Marquette between Wayne and Woodward. Included are an early intervention program, Head Start, KidStart Preschool, a pre-primary program and Sparky Preschool. Registration takes place 8 a.m.



Beckoning
Books and more: The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland offers plenty for patrons. Current hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. The library is located at 6123 Central City Parkway, between Warren and Ford in Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

to 4:30 p.m. Call (734) 595-2660.

LIVONIA COOPERATIVE

The Livonia Cooperative Nursery, a preschool for children ages 3-4, is located at 9601 W. Chicago. Parents learn with their children. Enrollment is limited. For information, call Mary at (734) 522-2967.

CHURCH PRESCHOOL

The Westland Free Methodist Preschool has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in morning and afternoon sessions. The younger pupils attend Tuesdays and Thursdays, other pupils on Mondays and Wednesdays. A Friday enrichment class is also available. The preschool is located at 1421 S. Venoy, Westland. Call (734) 728-3559.

GARDEN CITY CO-OP

The Garden City Co-op nursery has openings for preschool classes for ages 18 months through age 4. Tot class meets on Wednesday mornings, and 3- and 4-year-olds meet Mondays and Thursdays. Parental involvement is required. Call Kelli at (734) 513-7708.

ST. MEL PRESCHOOL

St. Mel Preschool, 7506 Inkster Road in Dearborn Heights, has morning and afternoon classes for both 3- and 4-year-olds. To register, call (313) 274-8270.

YWCA READINESS

The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is located at 26279 Michigan in Inkster. Call (313) 561-4110.

GRANTER SCHOOL

The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves children in kindergarten through sixth grade. The school emphasizes basic

education with business and entrepreneurial skills and offers a foreign language class, music and art, a dress code and a computer lab with access to the Internet. Call (734) 722-1465 or (248) 569-7787.

LITTLE PEOPLES

Livonia Little Peoples Co-op Preschool is enrolling in programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. For more information, call (734) 422-1176.

LITTLE LAMBS

Little Lambs Preschool, on Farmington Road south of West Chicago in Livonia, is holding registration. Classes meet Monday-Wednesday-Friday afternoons and Tuesday-Thursday mornings for 3- to 5-year-olds. Little Lambs is a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory preschool. Call (248) 471-2077.

GARFIELD CO-OP

Garfield Cooperative Preschool offers programs for children 18 months to 5 years of age. It is located at Cass Elementary, 34633 Munger, south of Six Mile and west of Farmington Road in Livonia. Call (734) 462-0135.

BUILDING BLOCKS

Building Blocks Preschool in Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia, is offering classes for both 3- and 4-year-olds. A Pre-Kindergarten Readiness class for 5-year-olds and a Parent/Child Toddler class for 2-year-olds are offered. Call (734) 421-7359 for registration information.

MT. HOPE

Mt. Hope Co-op Preschool, 30330 Schoolcraft, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia, is taking applications for the 2000-01 year. Classes meet 9:15-11:15 a.m. Monday and Wednesday for age 4, Tuesday and Thursday for age 3. For information, call Michelle at (734) 762-5255.

FRANKLIN PTSA

The Franklin High School PTSA is seeking members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and the community. Members need not have a student in the school. Price is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy, Livonia, MI 48150.

TUTORIAL PROGRAM

A free tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program, 4:53-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, is for students ages 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Leau Rette Douglas, (734) 722-3660.

ADULT LITERACY

An adult literacy program is being offered free Wednesdays at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center. Volunteers are being sought who are interested in tutoring children and adults 4-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays. For adult literacy enrollment or additional information, call Leau Rette Douglas, (734) 722-3660.

MOM'S MORNING OUT

Children ages newborn to 6 years old and their mothers may attend a Mom's Morning Out 9-11:30 a.m. every Thursday at Newburg United Methodist Church, on Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne and Newburgh, Livonia. Children are grouped together by ages in rooms with two caregivers per room. The program is an optional co-op, with parents working once a month. Call (734) 422-0149.

HISTORIC

WESTLAND MUSEUM

The Westland Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays at 857 N. Wayne Road, between Marquette and Cherry Hill. Call (734) 326-1110.

FRIENDS MEET

Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Westland Meeting House, 37091 Marquette, between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Call President Jim Franklin at (734) 721-0136. Everyone is welcome.

FOR SENIORS

TIGER GAMES

The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center) will sponsor several trips to Detroit Tigers baseball games this season. Dates are June 9 against the St. Louis Cardinals, July 14 against the Houston Astros, Aug. 18 against the Oakland A's and Sept. 1 against the Texas Rangers. All are Friday night games and will be played at Comerica Park. Those interested should sign up at the center's front desk, on Newburgh at Marquette in Westland. For information, call (734) 722-7632.

HEARING CHECKS

Every third Tuesday of each month a representative from Personalized Hearing Care of Westland will check and clean hearing aids free, 2-3 p.m. by appointment only. Call (734) 722-7632 for more information.

SENIOR CHOR

The Friendship Senior Choir, under the direction of Robert Cassidy, meets 9 a.m. Thursdays at the Westland Senior Resources Department Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland. Anyone who enjoys singing may join.

EXERCISE

Musical Chairs is a program from Jazzercise designed for exercisers older than 40. The program provides a low-to-moderate workout. The exercise improves strength, flexibility, balance, posture, coordination and cardiovascular endurance. It incorporates resistance exercises using rubber tubing and light weights with walking and jogging patterns. Wear loose-fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Light weights and an exercise mat are suggested. Robert Cassidy is the certified Jazzercise instructor. Sign up at the front desk at the Westland Friendship Center or call (734) 722-7632.

TRAVEL GROUP

The Travel Group meets 1 p.m. two Fridays a month in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, unless a trip or program is planned. Programs include speakers, films, celebrations of birthdays and weekly door prizes. There is an \$8 membership fee for Westland residents. Call (734) 722-7632.

MONTHLY MEAL/DANCE

The Wayne-Ford Civic League schedules its senior meal for people 50 and older 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month at the league hall, on Wayne Road two blocks south of Ford. Cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. The meal includes beer, beverages, dancing to Big Band music and door prizes. Call (734) 728-5010.

DYER CENTER

The Wayne-Westland School District's Dyer Senior Adult Center offers

activities Monday through Thursday at the center, located on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, Kitchen Band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.; a Hawaiian dance exercise class will be held at 1 p.m. every Wednesday in Hall A of the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh. The instructor is Kammo Oris. Sign up at the front desk or call (734) 722-7632.

CLUBS IN ACTION

'BEERS OF THE WORLD'

The Westland Jaycees will present a "Beers of the World" Beach Party 7 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Wayne-Ford Civic League in Westland. Beach attire is preferred. Price is \$10 for drinkers, \$6 for non-drinkers. Beer, snacks, pop and dancing will be included. For information, call Michael Shea at (81) 529-2770. A portion of proceeds will go to Mission Inn, for children with AIDS.

WESTLAND ROTARY

The Westland Rotary Club meets 12:15 p.m. Thursdays at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy east of Middlebelt in Westland.

SWEET ADELINES

The County Connection Chorus of Sweet Adelines International is looking for women who love to sing. The group sings a cappella music in barbershop style. Rehearsals are 7 p.m. Tuesdays at UAW Local 898 at 8975 Textile, Ypsilanti. For more information, call Paula at (734) 995-4110.

CHADD

CHADD of Northwest Wayne County meets the first Thursday of the month throughout the school year at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. CHADD is a nonprofit, parent-based, volunteer organization whose aim is to better the lives of individuals with attention difficulties. Call (313) 438-3099 for information.

T.O.P.S.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. M128, a support group for sensible weight loss, meets 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland. Call Jackie at (734) 722-7225.

T.O.P.S.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. M153 meets at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays at OptiEyes, Westland Super Vision Center, 35184 Central City Parkway, Westland. Call (734) 427-5200. Leader, Michele, (734) 422-1726; secretary, Karen, (734) 729-6368.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club No. 6694 (formerly Holy Smokesters) teaches public speaking at the club's weekly meetings 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at Denny's Restaurant, 7725 N. Wayne Road next to Westland Shopping Center. For more information, call John Elbe at (734) 326-5419.

BINGO

ST. MEL CHURCH

Bingo games are held 6:45 p.m. Fridays in St. Mel Church's activities building, on Inkster Road north of Warren. Doors open at 4 p.m. Food is available.

The Observer Newspapers welcome Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or by fax to 734-992-7376. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-3104 if you have any questions.

Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional Info.:

Use additional sheet if necessary

FUND-RAISERS & BENEFITS

Listings for the Funds & Benefits should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2131 or e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

SPAGHETTI FUND-RAISER

A spaghetti dinner fund-raiser will be held from 4-8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22 at the Don S. Hubert VFW Hall located at 27345 Schoolcraft Road, just east of Inkster Road in Redford Township. Donations requested are \$5.00 for an adult and \$3.00 for children. This fund-raiser is being held by the Friends of Kelly Mullett. She is 30-year-old mother of three who lives in Redford Township, and is suffering from numerous seizure disorders and other complications. Friends and Neighbors are sponsoring this event to help cover medical expenses and treatments at the Mayo Clinic.

CHURCH FUND-RAISER

Clarenceville United Methodist Church is selling Entertainment passbooks to raise money for the church. The coupon books cost \$40 and are available by calling Jim Robinson at (248) 347-1535 or the church office at (248) 474-3444.

WHALE OF A SALE

The Farmington Area Mothers of Twins will be hosting their annual "Whale of a Sale," from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. 8 Mile Road in Farmington Hills, Saturday March 25. The sale is a service to club members who have many double items that young children need. This sale is also a great place for the public and expectant parents of multiples to find items they need. Cash only please.

PASTIE FUND-RAISER

Pastie United Methodist Church is making and selling cornish pasties as a fund-raiser. Pasties are \$2.50 each and can be ordered by calling into the

church office (734) 422-0149. There will be someone to take your order Tuesday, March 28 and Wednesday, March 29 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call in orders only. Do not leave any orders on the answering machine. Any orders faxed, e-mailed or left on the answering machine will be ignored. Pick up from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 6 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, April 7 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The church is located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Order early - 1000 pasties will be made and there is a maximum order of 25.

VEGAS NIGHTS

St. Agatha Church will be the host site of a "Vegas Nights" event from 7 p.m. to midnight Friday, March 31 and Saturday, April 1. Free admission. Black jack, craps, big wheel, roulette, and 50/50 raffle. Call (313) 531-0371 for information.

MOM TO MOM SALE

The Tri-County Mothers of Mul-

tiples will sponsor a Mom-to-Mom spring/summer clothing, equipment and toy sale from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, April 1 at the William Costick Activities Center (Shannon Hall). Cash only please. No checks. Great selection of gently used clothing, equipment and toys. Wm. Costick Center is located at 28600 Eleven Mile Road in Farmington Hills (located east of Middlebelt - enter at Gate 4). \$1 donation. Public welcome.

RUMMAGE SALE

United of Livonia (28660 Five Mile Road) will hold a rummage sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 1 and April 2 after morning services to benefit the church. Donated items may be brought to the church beginning Sunday, March 19 and through that week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (734) 421-1760.

ST. AGATHA VEGAS NIGHTS

St. Agatha will hold Vegas Nights from 7 p.m. to midnight Friday March 31 and Saturday,

April 1 at 19750 Beech Daly Road in Redford. Free admission. Black Jack, craps, roulette, big wheel, and 50/50 raffle. Food and bar. For more information call (313) 531-0371.

SPRING TO LIFE BENEFIT

The University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center and Ford Motor Company will join forces for the 10th annual Spring to Life brunch and art auction at noon Sunday, April 2 at the Morris Lawrence Building on the campus of Washtenaw Community College. Tickets range from \$90/person to \$250. Proceeds benefit cancer research and patient care programs at U-M. To make a reservation call (734) 615-0665.

INDOOR OPEN

United Cerebral Palsy of Metropolitan Detroit is presenting the first ever INDOOR OPEN to benefit UCP from 12 to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 8. This unique fund-raising event is a nine hole indoor miniature golf

outing, where each hole is located in one of nine participating businesses located in Downtown Royal Oak. Golfers can pick up registration forms for the event at any one of the participating businesses or call UCP at (248) 557-5070 or (800) 827-4843. The cost is \$25 per golfer of \$100 per team. AirTouch Cellular and Papa John's Pizza are the sponsors with UCP. Participating businesses include Woodruff's, Lily's Seafood, The Padded Cell, Casual Comfort, Dobie Jewelers, Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, Billings Feed & Lawn Equipment, The Royal Oak Farmers' Market and Magpie.

MONOPOLY GAME

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (37775 Palmer Road) in Westland will offer life size monopoly from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, April 8 for \$5 per person for one-half hour of play. This is a fund-raiser for a mission trip for the high school youth of Prince of Peace.

Singing couple to share songs, experiences at April concert

Toby and Barb Waldowski have been thrilling audiences in concert with their talent that combines music and powerful lyrics.

The pair will be in concert at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, April 9 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia. Ministry work has been a full-time job for them with an impressive schedule that includes recordings, features in musical publications and over 3,800 concerts since 1976. They have also appeared on the Billy Graham Crusades and heard around the world during the "Hour of Power" telecast with Robert H. Schuller.

Toby is an accomplished songwriter, lyricist, pianist, singer and speaker. Barb's voice has been referred to as "liquid silver" with a three octave range. Their repertoire consists mainly of Toby's compositions making their presentation fresh and unique.

They currently reside in Irvine, Calif., with their son Jesse, 17, and daughter, Olivia,



Talented: Toby and Barb Waldowski are scheduled to perform in April.

14.

If you are interested in attending the performance there is no cost. St. Paul's is located at 27475 Five Mile Road, one block west of Inkster. Call (734) 422-1470 for information.

St. Aidan's presents 'An Evening with Simon Peter'

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

Combine theater, theology and John Dzwonkowski's lively personality and you have a one-man show fit for Jesus himself.

A Livonia resident who has worn many hats both professional and personally, Dzwonkowski will don the garments of apostle Simon Peter during a 90-minute dramatic performance on the historical account of Jesus, April 2-3 at St. Aidan Church.

Dzwonkowski, who wrote the two-act program titled "An Evening With Simon Peter," has been involved with both theology, having studied for nearly a decade with

the Catholic Foreign Mission priesthood in New York, and theater, participating as an actor, director, producer and manager of hundreds of educational songs, plays and skits involving biblical themes.

"This has been very important to me but it's also been a fun hobby that I've gotten a lot of satisfaction from too," said Dzwonkowski, who works in public relations in the home health care field.

"I hope the program serves as both an inspirational and educational tool for churches looking for different ways to supplement their teachings."

Dzwonkowski, 49 and the father of three, calls his dramatic craft his "contribution to making the world a better place."

The full theatrical performance is presented from the perspective of Simon Peter, who speaks at length about his close friend - the Messiah.

Lauded as "thought provoking, intriguing and emotional," "An Evening With Simon Peter" brings Jesus to life through the eyes of the apostle he named "The Rock."

Dzwonkowski says his venture he named Rock & Eagle Seminars stems from playing Simon Peter "The Rock" and sharing the name John, another apostle who wrote one of the gospels and was referred to as an eagle by Jesus.

Presented by the Women of St. Aidan.

Please see ST. AIDAN, B8

Detroit Lutheran Singers to perform in Livonia

The public is encouraged to attend a special concert titled "Celebrating God's Grace" by the Detroit Lutheran Singers, a professional metropolitan Detroit choir, at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 26 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church of Livonia.

Eric Freudigam, director of the

DLS since 1973 will begin the concert with three settings by Bach, Haydn and Langlais of the text "Kyrie Eleison" ("Lord have mercy").

Compositions from a broad range of composers will include Brahms, Morley and Poulenc to Berger, Hairston, Dawson, Paul

Manz and George Beverst.

"Barry Rose's anthem 'Morning Glory, Starlit Sky' will be performed," according to church spokesperson Lois Drake.

There will be an afterglow following the concert in the church lobby for the Detroit Lutheran Singers choir who attracted over

700 audience members to their Christmas concerts in Detroit.

Tickets are \$10 at the door, \$7 seniors and students. Advance tickets are available for \$5 by calling Lois Drake at the church office, (734) 522-6830. Christ Our Savior is located at 14175 Farmington Road.



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Detroit International

BLOOMFEST

April 6-9, 2000

Cobo Convention Center

Thursday, April 6 - Saturday, April 8 10 am - 9 pm
Sunday, April 9 10 am - 6 pm

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734-525-3684

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

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
YOUTH AWANA CLUBS
DR. RICHARD FREEMAN
PASTOR

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Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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Bishop P.A. Brooks, Pastor & Founder
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MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
6:45 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M.

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9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1188 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
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Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room - 445 S. Harvey, Plymouth
Monday-Priday 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Thursday 7-9 p.m.

453-1676

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14325 Road and Dealer, Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191

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11:00 a.m. Traditional
Sunday School for all ages
Wednesday Supper (6:00 p.m.)
& Programs for All Ages
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9:00 P.M. Life Teen Mass

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REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO

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Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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734-427-8220

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Saturday 8:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist
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(West of Canton Center)
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
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Thursday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
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Pastor James Hall
Phone for Examined Info
(734) 422-8630

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313-532-8655

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Bible Class & Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Midweek Lenten Services -
10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
School Grade K thru 8
Phone for Examined Info
WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

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Sunday Memorial Service 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School 11:30 A.M.
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Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Pastor David Martin
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3030 Hansen Rd. Wayne (corner of Greenwood & Hansen)
734-726-1950
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Rev. Dr. Robert J. Scultz Rev. Maria Welbrouwen

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Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
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Gary D. Headcapon, Administrative Pastor
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Jeff Burke, Principal/DCE

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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9:30
Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service
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Chris Crumer, Pastor
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Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN 455-3186

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

Clarenceville United Methodist
20100 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
474-1444
Rev. Jean Love
Worship Services 10:15 A.M. 6:00 P.M.
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
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**March 20
Scripture/John 10:1-10
"I am the Door (Gate)"**
Rev. Diane Goudie, preaching



Movies can teach us lessons if we're paying attention



Les Hardin

SPiritually SPEAKING I'm a huge movie fan! I love the movies! I have ever since I was a kid. Even though I fall into that "Gen-X" age group (and share many of its mindsets!) I can still remember when VHS machines gained their prominence. I still remember "Beta" tapes! I distinctly remember one fall weekend in rural Kentucky, after my cousins got their first VHS machine (the only one in the extended family) spending the afternoon watching "Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan" while my cousins did

more constructive things outdoors in the awesome weather.

I love the movies! I love the drama, the suspense, the humor. And I especially love some of the lessons that movies can teach us, if we're paying attention.

Case in point: "First Knight." Sean Connery, playing King Arthur, stands up at a meeting of Arthur's Round Table Knights and is immediately confronted by his nemesis, Malagant - a former knight who left to pursue his own kingdom. Malagant challenges Arthur's leadership, accusing him of creating laws which put the citizens of Camelot in slavery to Arthur's dream. And the response is classic! Arthur stands to his feet, pounds his fist on the table and declares, "There are laws which enslave men and laws which set

them free." True? Absolutely! And I can demonstrate it from the pages of Scripture.

James declares that the Law of God "gives freedom" and that you will be blessed if you live by it (1:25). Paul demonstrates that the law of righteousness sets us free from the law of sin and death (Rom. 6:15-23). Jesus said that his "yoke" was easy, and that his burden was light (Matt. 11:30).

Too many times in ministry I'm approached with the idea that to do what God is asking, to really put to practice what he's asked us to do in his Word, is simply too controlling, enslaving and an infringement upon my personal freedom. But the longer I live, the more I study and the more I see, both in current events and in my own per-

sonal experiences, the more I realize that God has not given us these rules to enslave us. He's given us these rules to set us free.

Jesus said, "I have come that you might have life, and more of it!" and that Satan is the one who wants to take it from you (John 10:10). And I find it true that if I simply submit myself to God's plan, in the end, it's what's best for me. He who is slave to the compass has the freedom of the seas. And yet, if I said that sailing by the confining measures of the compass was infringing upon my personal freedom, I'd be lost at sea and dead in three days."

Is there any wonder why as a nation we're lost in the sea of immorality and dying a rapid spiritual death when we won't

submit ourselves to the one navigational instrument by which we could have avoided all this mess in the first place?

"There are laws which enslave men and laws which set them free." I submit to you that God's law, as recorded for us by the writers of Scripture, is of the latter. They set us free.

Reality check

I recognize that Hollywood is not the bastion of moral purity that I had hoped it would be. I'm not saying that there are other sources of God's thinking outside the Judeo-Christian Bible. I distinctly believe there are not.

I'm not saying Hollywood is the pinnacle of Christian theology, to replace meditation upon the Scriptures. I don't expect it to be any kind of a factor

towards positive change in this nation. To be quite frank, I would consider most of what originates from Hollywood as pure moral filth. Garbage. However, I do affirm, along with the apostle Paul, that the knowledge of the one true God is evident throughout the universe (Rom. 1:18-21; 32). And if Hollywood gets it about this, don't you think it's worth you and I looking at?

Les Hardin has served as the Minister of Christian Education at Memorial Church of Christ in Livonia (35475 Five Mile Road, Livonia) since August 1997. He grew up in Kentucky and resides with his wife and three children in Livonia. He can be reached via e-mail at memorialchurchofchrist@juno.com

SINGLES MINGLE

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

PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS

The Wayne-Westland #340 Chapter of Parents Without Partners will be hosting their monthly dance March 24 at Burton Manor in Livonia (Schoolcraft Road between Middlebelt & Inkster at I-96 service drive). Admission is \$5 for members; \$7 for non-members. For more information call (734) 285-9227 or (734) 398-5135.

SINGLE ADULT MINISTRIES

Talk It Over meets from 7:30-9:30 p.m. on the second Friday of the month in Knox Hall in Ward Church. Ministries Showcase 7:30 p.m. Single Parenting Ministry meets 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month in the parlor, room C317 and C319, at the church. A free meal is served before the meeting at 6:15 p.m. Speakers or open discussion in a friendly, supportive and encouraging atmosphere. Free child care provided; Light-house Cafe, a coffeehouse setting, is offered 7-10 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month in Knox Hall. The cost is \$5; all events provided by Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

SINGLES WELCOME

Bethany Suburban West is a

Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance to divorced or separated Christians. Call (734) 981-4553 about the divorce recovery workshop. Monthly meetings are held the third Saturday of every month at 8 p.m. at St. Kenneth's Church, Haggerty Road (south of 5 Mile Road).

Tuesday's BSW goes to Thomas's Family Dining on Plymouth Road (east of Stark) at 7 p.m. on the first, third and fourth week of the month. The second Tuesday of the month the group meets at Vic's Family Diner at 7 p.m. for Birthday Night. (Vic's is one-half block north of Ford Road on Middlebelt) For information call (734) 981-4553.

Every Sunday, the singles organization offers breakfast at

10 a.m. at the Redford Inn on the northwest corner of 5 Mile and Beech Daly roads in Redford, followed by mass at 11:15 a.m. at St. Aidan's Catholic Church on Farmington Road in Livonia. Call (734) 729-1974.

Divorce Recovery Workshop (eight consecutive weeks) to begin at noon. For information call Diane at (734) 981-4553.

Singles Dance April 1 at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church Hall located on the corner of West Chicago and Inkster Road. Doors open at 8 p.m. \$8 charge includes refreshments. Proper attire please.

Coffee & Conversation every Tuesday at 7 p.m. Contact Diane at (734) 981-4553 for location.

Pinochle every other Friday, contact Diane for location.

CHRISTIAN SINGLES

Attention singles - Christian Singles Today Interactive Saturday Fellowship is held from 7-11 p.m. at The Church of the Savior (Five Mile Road at Newburgh) in Livonia. Call (248) 478-1410 for information.

YOUNG SINGLES

Attention young singles ages 17-29. Join us at the Christian Singles Music Cafe every Saturday from 7-11 p.m. at The Jesus Center, 20911 Inkster Road in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 478-1410 for information.

WESTSIDE SINGLES DANCE

Every Friday WestSide Singles hosts a dance at Burton Manor in Livonia (Schoolcraft west of Inkster Road) from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Must be over 21, and dressy attire (no jeans). Open to the public. A deejay will be playing Top 40 music and current hits.

Appetizers will be served. Early admission special \$4 before 8:30 p.m. and \$6 after. For information please call (734) 981-0909.

WEDNESDAY SUBURBAN SINGLES

Wednesday Suburban Singles Dance Parties Inc., meet every Wednesday at The Warren Chateau Banquet Center (10 Mile Road one block east of Mound) in Warren from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Open to the public - ages 21 and up. Proper attire is recommended (no jeans). The Single Mingle Dance costs \$5; \$4 before 8:30 p.m. For information call the hotline at (313) 842-0443.

SUNDAY SUBURBAN SINGLES

Sunday Suburban Singles Dance Parties Inc. meets every Sunday at The Warren Chateau Banquet Center in Warren from 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Call (313) 842-0443.

CRAFTS CALENDAR

If you would like to announce an upcoming craft show, bazaar, or arts boutique - items can be sent to: Crafts Calendar, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI, 48150 or e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

ST. JOHN'S ARTS/RAFT SALE

St. John's Episcopal Church in Westland is hosting an arts and crafts sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 25 at the church (555 S. Wayne Road). Vendors are needed. To reserve a table call (734) 729-1605. Hot dogs, chips, pop, etc. will be sold.

DEARBORN EXTRAVAGANZA

Dearborn High School (19501 Outer Drive) hosts an Arts & Crafts Extravaganza - Spring 2000 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 25. Applications and/or information call (313) 561-0402. This event is sponsored by the Band Aid Booster Club and proceeds will support the DHS marching band, flag corps, orchestra and jazz band. Admission is \$1 for person 12 and older. Ample free parking is available and food will be sold.

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TOUCH OF SPRING
The Athletic Booster Club of Clarenceville High School will host "A Touch of Spring - Craft Boutique" from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 25. Over 150 juried crafters will display items. Admission is \$2. No strollers please. Baby-sitting, raffle and snack bar. Clarenceville High School is located at 20155 Middlebelt Road in Livonia.

FESTIVAL OF ARTS
Nativity Episcopal Church presents the "Festival of Arts," show including paintings, sculpture, acrylics, jewelry, watercolors and more. Friday, March 31, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 7-10 p.m.; Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Sunday service including Al Jaquez and Friends (Gospel Vocalists). The gallery is open from noon to 4 p.m. Nativity is located at 21220 W. 14 Mile Road in Bloomfield Township. Call (248) 646-4100 for information.

SPRING SPECTACULAR

Livonia Stevenson High School (33500 W. Six Mile Rd./1 block west of Farmington Rd. 2 miles north of I-96) will be the host site of the "Spring Spectacular

Craft Show" from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sat. April 8. For information call: 248-478-2395 or 248-476-0315.

CREATIVE MEMORIES

Join us from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 8 for a day of cropping, scrapbooking, and fun at the Bailey Center in Westland (36651 Ford Road). Cost is \$20 per person and includes lunch, snacks, beverages and lots of other special goodies. Pre-register by March 28 and receive the

exclusive, 96-page book "How to take great photos with any camera." Limited space is available. Call to reserve a spot, Terry Saenz (734) 981-6577.

GARDEN GALA CRAFT SHOW

Crafters are needed who specialize in yard and garden related crafts for the first "Garden Gala," May 20, at Memorial Elementary School in Garden City. If you are interested in participating call Rhonda, (734) 762-0183.

CHELSEA SUMMER FEST

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

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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

AN EVENING WITH HUNGER

Friday, March 24 at Christ the King Lutheran Church at 9300 Farmington Road featured guest speakers will be David Hacker from the Hunger Action Coalition of Michigan and Bill Winkler from Gleaners Food Bank. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. by sharing a portion of soup and bread. The speakers will begin to inform us about their agencies and their battles against hunger at 7 p.m. Public is welcome. Call Ricky Brogdon at (313) 937-8710.

GOSPEL TRIO

The Chapels Gospel Trio will be in concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 24 at The First United Methodist Church of Plymouth (46201 North Territorial Road west of Sheldon). Free will offerings will be taken. Call (734) 414-6409.

EVENING CLASSES

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Westland (37775 Palmer Road) has several fun classes planned through the month of May on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. They include basket weaving, March 27 and April 3; gardening, April 10 and 17; cake decorating, May 1, 8, and 15; and Saturday May 20 ebody making at 10 a.m.

REDEMPTED TREASURES

Redeemed Treasures Thrift Shop (sponsored by the Detroit Teen Challenge) is open most Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. year round. Located at 20740 Grand River (1.5 miles east of Telegraph). While browsing have your car washed and detailed for a donation. Call (313) 531-0111 Monday through Friday or Saturday at (313) 535-1359.

SUMMER CAMP

Registration has begun at Christ Our Savior in Livonia for summer camp and fall classes. We offer Christian programs for children ages 18 months to kindergarten during the school year and up through age eight during the summer. For information please call Wendy at (734) 513-8413.

MESSIAH IN THE PASSOVER

"Messiah in the Passover," is a presentation from a table set with traditional items of the Passover Seder. The historic and symbolic significance of each item is explained. "Messiah in the Passover," emphasizes the

connections between the Old and New Testaments, the Jewish roots of the Last Supper and the origins of Christian Communion. You will understand why "Christ our Passover" took the "cup after bread" and the "unleavened bread" and said, "this is my body... this cup is the New Covenant in my blood." Program begins at 6 p.m. Sunday, March 26 at Clarenceville United Methodist Church (20300 Middlebelt Road) Livonia.

LENTEN SERVICES

Lenten services will be held at Good Hope Lutheran Church (28680 Cherry Hill - Garden City) each Wednesday before Holy Week at 7 p.m. preceded by a soup supper at 6 p.m. Other worship services include 7 p.m. Thursday, April 20; 7 p.m. Friday, April 21; vigil of Easter worship at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 22 and Easter Sunday worship at 8:20 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday, April 23.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

St. John's Lutheran Church of Redford will hold mid-week worship services on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. during Lent. Wednesday dates are March 29, April 5 and 12. Services will be held in the Chapel. Thursday services will be preceded by light supper at 6 p.m. worship at 7 p.m. Dates are March 23 and 30; April 6 and 13. All services will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion. St. John's Lutheran is located at 13542 Mercedes, one block east of Inkster Road. Call (313) 538-2660.

LENTEN SERVICES

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday night at 7 p.m. at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church (23310 Joy Road in Redford, five blocks east of Telegraph). Phone (313) 534-2121. A video tape of one of Bishop Fulton J. Sheen's retreats will be shown in the Church hall following the Stations each week of Lent. All are invited to attend.

LENTEN DINNERS

St. Agatha Church (19750 Beech Daly) of Redford will offer Lenten dinners on Ash Wednesday and every Friday during Lent, 3-8 p.m. Dine in and carry out. Senior discount from 3-5 p.m. Children's menu available. Call (313) 531-0371.

LENTEN SERVICES

St. James Presbyterian (25350 W. Six Mile Road) in Redford Township will hold Lenten services every Wednesday evening through April 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Maundy Thursday services, including communion, are at 7:30 p.m. April 20. For more information call (313) 534-7730.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (39020 Five Mile Road in Livonia) will offer Lenten service at 6:45 p.m. every Wednesday through April 12: Palm Sunday service is April 16 at 8:30 and 11 a.m.; a prayer vigil service will be held during Holy Week at 7:30 p.m. April 18; April 19, healing service at 7:30 p.m.; April 20 is Maundy Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; Good Friday Interfaith service at noon April 21.

LENTEN MEAL

St. Genevieve Parish of Livonia will offer a Lenten meal March 24, 31 and April 7 and 14 from 5-7 p.m. Menu includes baked fish, potato and all you can eat soup and salad. Macaroni and cheese as a children's meal. Cost is \$6 for adults; \$3.50 for children ages 6-12 and 5-and under eat free.

SPIRITUAL ELDERING WORKSHOP

The Holy Trinity Lutheran Church workshop is meant for members of the church who want to use their life experience to nurture, heal or impact a younger generation and this world. The workshop will be held 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays, March 28 and April 4, 11 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia. The registration fee for the series is \$30. Call (734) 464-0211.

DIVORCE & BEYOND

The Friends Group of St. Thomas Church in Ann Arbor is conducting a Divorce and Beyond Workshop on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. beginning March 22nd. Call Virginia Mikola at (734) 994-9194 or Gerald Black at (734) 741-1874 for information and registration. Cost is \$20, which includes "Divorce and Beyond," a book by James Greteman, CSC and Leon Haverkamp, MSW.

ECUMENICAL LENTEN GATHERINGS

"Opening Our Hearts to Christ - Jubilee 2000" will begin with noon services on the Wednesdays of Lent followed by a luncheon of bread and soup. All services will be held at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 710 Church St. in Plymouth. Worship leaders/lunch providers are as follows: March 29, First Baptist (First Baptist); April 5, Saint Kenneth (First United Methodist); and April 12, Salva-

tion Army (Salvation Army).

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

March 29 and April 5, 12 at 7 p.m. at Timothy Lutheran Church of Livonia (8820 Wayne Road). Weekly prayer and discussion about the five-session "God is Here," video series from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

GOSPELFEST 2000

The New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist will be the host site of "Gospelfest 2000" in its 10 year. It is a one day musical and spiritual workshop whose mission is to bring healing and unity to our communities through the joyful celebration of the gospel of Jesus

Christ. The event begins with registration at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 25. A mass choir rehearsal begins at noon and continues until 4:30 p.m. The evening celebration begins at 6 p.m. Admission is free. For information call (313) 868-7240.

DINNER W/THE FILLMORES

On Sunday, March 26 at 4:30 p.m. Unity of Livonia (28660 Five Mile Road) will be hosting a dinner featuring healthy and delicious original recipes, many of which are vegetarian, from Unity Inn in Missouri. Dinner will be served on a love offering basis. After dinner there will be a discussion of the original writ-

ings of the Fillmores, the founders of the Unity Church. Call (734) 421-1760.

JUBILEE JOURNEY

Come to the Jubilee Journey "A Carnival of Saints" from 3-5 p.m. March 26 at St. Maurice Parish Hall, 32765 Lyndon, Livonia. Celebrate your faith, enjoy the fun and check out the food. Call 421-5240 for information.

SPIRITUAL RETREAT

A Spiritual Weekend Retreat titled, "A New Century - A New Beginning," will be held March 31-April 2 at St. John's Center in Plymouth. Call Jeff (313) 381-0731 or Arlene (810) 776-2621.

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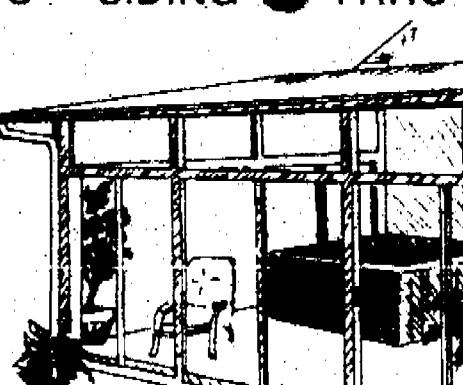
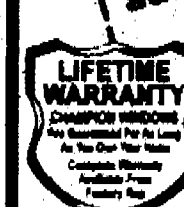
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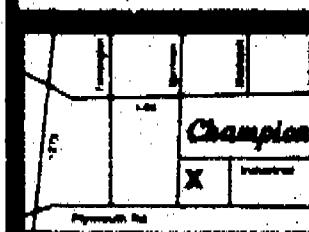
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St. Aidan

from page B5

"Simon Peter" will take the stage at 6:30 p.m. with one 15-minute intermission. The performance includes music, theatrical fighting, Dzwonkowski in full costume and acts featuring "Yeshua, The Healer and Worker of Miracles," "Judas and the arrest at Gethsemane," "The Crucifixion," and "The Morning of the Resurrection."

A religious educator who studied with the Maryknoll Fathers of New York and ministered in Bolivia and El Salvador, Dzwonkowski has gone to great lengths to change the program when new research in the area of biblical archeology, Jewish and Christian biblical history and scriptural theology is dis-

covered.

The program climaxes with a "rather realistic, yet painless" crucifixion of a member of the audience.

"I do this with the help of several audience members to illustrate to people how it was done," said Dzwonkowski. "The performance closes with the resurrection. I hope people go away having laughed, felt inspired, maybe shed a tear or two and say they learned something they never knew before."

St. Aidan Church is located at 17500 Farmington Road in Livonia. Tickets are \$3 per person and \$5 per family. For more information call (734) 425-5950.

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OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Curl elected captain

Livonia Stevenson High product Eric Curl was recently named co-captain for the Bowling Green State University football team for the 2000 season.

Curl, a 6-foot-2, 285-pound senior offensive guard, may move to center this season for the Falcons, who are coming off a 5-6 campaign, including a three-game winning streak to end the '99 season.

Curl, an Education major, also excels in the classroom. He posted a 4.0 grade-point average last semester and was named to the All-Mid-American Conference Academic grid team.

Mitchell signs letter

Schoolcraft College guard Gilbert "Quentin" Mitchell, who averaged 13.3 points per game for the 24-7 Ocelots, signed a national letter of intent Tuesday night to play basketball for Western Illinois University of the Mid-Continent Conference.

The 6-foot-4 Mitchell, a Detroit Cody High product, shot 50 percent from the floor, including a team-best 40.8 percent from three-point range.

He made second-team All-Eastern Conference in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

Western Illinois finished 8-22 last season with a 3-13 conference record. Coach Jim Kerwin is 111-114 in eight seasons with the Leathernecks.

Shining hockey Knights

On the heels of a tournament win in Chicago, the Livonia Bantam A Knights captured the Little Caesars Tier II Bantam Division Sunday at Inkster Ice Arena with wins over the Novi Ice Cats (1-0) and Toya, Ohio (5-1).

Captain K.J. Kettler, a defenseman, scored the game's only goal against the Ice Cats. Patrick Griffin, the MVP, was in the nets for both wins.

Rounding out the Knights: Joe Kozlowski, John Fritsch, Greg Georvassilia, Bryson Crawford, Mike Kemsley, Kyle Harbour, Clint Switek, Ken Haas, Kyle Strong, Chris Lindstrom, James Leonard, Jason Maples, Steve Scheich and Billie Duncan.

The coaching staff includes Fred Haas, Don Longeway and Pat Lindstrom. The financial manager is Cathy Griffin.

The Livonia Knights went 3-0-1 in four games en route to the St. Patrick's Day Tournament championship at Summit Arena in Lansing.

The Knights took the title with a 3-0 win over Abners of Sault Ste. Marie.

Todd Gamache had the game-winning goal in a 2-1 overtime victory over the Lansing Thunder. The Knights also defeated Big Rapids (11-0), the Western Michigan Coyotes (4-3) and tied the Michigan Capitals (3-3).

Cory Brecht led the Knights in scoring with eight goals, while Drew MacEachern and Bobby Zarembo provided strong goaltending.

Other members of the Knights include: Nick Abbonizio, Ryan Bird, Justin Brown, Brandon Kanowski, Brian Linstrom, Brandt Miller, Bryon Neimeczak, Ryan O'Dowd, Sean Pennington, Marcus Voran and Ryan Wrathell.

The coaching staff includes Don Brown, Brian Huslander, Rob Gamache, Joe Lesinski and Scott Pennington. The team manager is Andy MacEachern.

Glenn golf scramble

A four-person golf scramble, benefiting the Westland John Glenn High School baseball and football programs, will be Sunday, May 7 at Fellows Creek in Canton Township.

Check-in starts at 7 a.m. with tee-off at 8 a.m. (shotgun start).

The cost is \$65 per player or \$260 per team. Included in the cost is a 18 holes of golf (with cart), barbecue lunch, door prizes, long drive contest, closest to the pin (for both men and women).

All entries must be in by Friday, April 28. Checks should be made payable to John Glenn High School and mailed to: John Glenn High School, Attention: Football, 36105 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185.

For more information, call Chuck Gordon at (734) 595-2485 or (734) 326-2203.

To submit items for the Livonia Sports Scene, write to: Brad Emons, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150; or send via fax to (734) 591-7379.

Girls track teams ready for start

Lutheran Westland looks strong in Metro

PREVIEW

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemonsoe@home.com.net

Hope springs eternal, especially for the Lutheran High Westland girls track team.

And third-year coach Dave Brown should put another potent team in the track again with hopes of duplicating the 1999 campaign, which included a seventh consecutive Metro Conference championship, a Class C regional crown and Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association team title.

"That was the highlight of last season," said Brown of the MITCA title. "We won that meet because we had two or three kids in each event."

Under the restructuring done this season by the MHSAA from classes to divisions, the Lady Warriors fall down to Division IV. That gives Brown reason for optimism.

"We lose four of our top seven point-getters," said Brown, who has a 34-member squad. "We took a hit with some of our losses and maybe we're not as deep, so it's kind of a goal for us to see if we can do the same things we did last year."

"I'm looking forward to a good year." The Warriors lost some key performers to graduation including high jumper Bekah Hoffmeier, who placed eighth in the state meet (5 feet, 1 inch); relay runner and 300 hurdler Hana Hughes (49.5); and state shot put qualifier Anna Schwecke.

Brown also lost Krissy Rose, who went 1:03.9 in the 400, to the school's soccer team.

But the cupboard is not completely bare.

Senior Jen Dash was a state qualifier in the discus (106-11), while sophomore Tess Kuehne was a stalwart as a ninth-grader in the 800 (2:31.1) and 1,600 (5:36.0) runs.

Other top returnees in the field events include senior Carly Higgins in the shot put and discus; junior Kelly Clark, a state qualifier and school record holder in the pole vault (7-6); senior Amanda Sales, who cleared 4-10 in the high jump and went 14-9 in the long jump; sophomore high jumper Karen Abramczyk; and Anna Rolf, a state qualifier in the long jump (15-1).

Senior Chelsea Romero is the top returning sprinter, while sophomore Erin Jung returns in the middle distance events.

The distance group is led by senior Jessica Montgomery, junior Mary Ebendick and sophomore Aimee Anthony.

The Lady Warriors open their season

in a tri-meet Tuesday, April 4, against host Birmingham Marian and Riverview Gabriel Richard.

Livonia Clarenceville

With only seven girls on her squad, Livonia Clarenceville coach Kelly Murphy doesn't have any illusions about challenging for the Metro Conference title this season.

Instead, Murphy is concentrating on pushing her girls to focus on their individual performances.

That might be a wise strategy considering the Trojans won only one meet last season when they had a similar number of girls.

Murphy's top returnees are seniors Gabie Bennett (hurdles and long jump) and Leah Shapardanis (high jump and distance runner).

Last season, Bennett was Clarenceville's top performer at the regional meet, placing fourth in the long jump and seventh in the 300 hurdles.

Senior Erika Yim will be team's top middle distance runner.

Murphy is expecting newcomers Miya Lyubimovia, a junior shot put thrower, and Amy Nester, the team's only freshman, to help give the squad a boost.

"We're not looking to do well as a team, but individually my girls have a good chance to do some things," said Murphy, a Clarenceville grad who is entering her second year as head coach.

"I think Bennett and Shapardanis have a good opportunity to do well at the league meet and at the regionals. Both of them should qualify for the state meet."

Despite the low turnout, Murphy says her team is ready to go.

"We're real excited about this year," she said. "We've worked hard and we have a lot more confidence than we did last year."

Livonia Ladywood

With only five seniors and three juniors returning from last season, Lee Shaw is in for a challenging first year as head coach at Livonia Ladywood.

"We have a very, very young team," he said.

A native of England, Shaw is taking over a squad that finished third in the Catholic League last season.

Also the coach of the school's cross-country team, Shaw replaces former coach Rod Sorenson.

While losing some important members from last year, including Suzanne Peplinski (hurdles) and Erin Hayden (long jump, high jump), the team does have some key returnees.

Most notable among these is senior sprinter Brianna Watson, who is the



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

Taking flight: Seven-time defending Metro Conference champion Lutheran Westland returns long jumper Anna Rolf.

fastest runner in school history. Last season, Watson set a school record in the 100-meters with a time of 12.4 (third in Observerland).

She is already being heavily recruited by colleges such as Eastern Michigan and Georgia Tech.

Shaw's other top sprinters are seniors Kelly Carey, Kelly Predmesky and Laura Yales, who was a Catholic League finalist in the 100.

The team's other major returnee is sophomore high jumper Alexis Noel.

Last season Noel jumped a personal best of 5-4, which was second among Observerland competitors. As a member of the Newburgh Track Club, Noel jumped 5-2, taking second at the Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association indoor championships last week in Ann Arbor.

Ladywood's top returning field competitor will be sophomore shot put thrower Megan Guardiola, who finished sixth in the event at the Catholic League meet last season.

"Megan will improve a lot this season," Shaw said.

Shaw says he is "expecting some big things" from his distance runners, including senior Patty Simon, the team's top mile last season.

Newcomers Anna Plagany (freshman) and Stacey Schroeder (sophomore), who both ran for Shaw on the cross-country team this fall, will also contribute.

Shaw is also anticipating a strong year from senior middle distance runner Stephanie Cunningham, who starred for Farmington Hills Mercy as a freshman, but hasn't competed since.

"The bulk of our points are going to

come from the seniors and Alexis Noel," Shaw said.

Expecting to keep about 55 girls, Shaw is still trying to determine who will compete where. In fact, he plans to let the girls try as many events as they want. In one such experiment, he plans to let Watson compete at least once in the long jump.

Shaw believes a blend of hard work and a fun atmosphere will result in a good league showing.

"I am hoping we can push to the front of the league," Shaw said. "Everybody has a shot right now. It all depends on the work you put in. There is a difference between training and just racing."

Livonia Churchill

Charger coach Kelly Graham is expecting this season to be a promising one for her veteran-filled team.

"Looking at what we have on paper, we are going to be very solid," Graham said. "That is the first time I can say that in a few years."

Graham is particularly excited about her throwers, distance runners, and especially her hurdlers, including senior Jane Peterman and junior Mandy Hein.

"We have so much talent with our hurdlers, it is going to be exciting to watch and see what happens," Graham said.

Peterman, a captain, is also a standout in the pole vault. Last year she posted a 9-0 in the event, fifth-best among Observerland scores.

Discus thrower Jenny Hefner, a

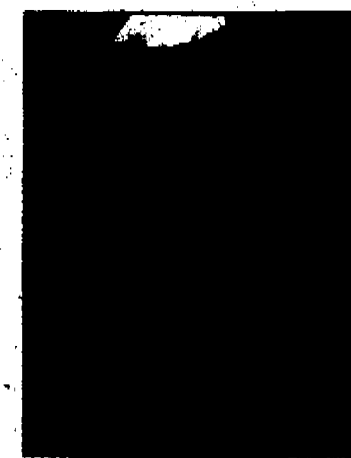
Please see **GIRLS TRACK PREVIEW, C5**



Andrea Parker
Livonia Stevenson



Heather Vandette
Livonia Stevenson



LaTasha Chandler
Westland John Glenn

Gentilia new Clarenceville skipper

BY EDWIN KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

Livonia Clarenceville recently hired Steve Gentilia to take over its baseball program.

Gentilia, 35, comes to Clarenceville after a five-year stint with Garden City High School's baseball program. He served four years as an assistant with the varsity, before taking over the reins of the junior varsity team last season.

"This is a great opportunity for me," Gentilia said of the Clarenceville job. "For the first time I'm going to be able to do my own thing, and start a program from scratch."

He replaces former coach Rich Roy,

PREP BASEBALL

whose contract was not renewed by athletic director Charles Sorenstino after last season.

With Roy at the helm for three seasons, the Trojans were a 30-40, including a Class C district tournament title last season at Birch Run before losing to Blissfield in the regional semifinals.

Sorenstino believes Gentilia has the right stuff to get the ship turned around.

"Steve is young, enthusiastic, and does a good job working with kids," he

said. "He will give us a fresh attitude with our kids. I believe we're back on track to building a program."

Gentilia will be helped dramatically by the fact that Sorenstino is going put together a junior varsity team this year, which should pay dividends in years to come.

"The biggest thing we're trying to do is get the numbers up so we can build a decent program," said Gentilia, who is a 1986 graduate of Garden City.

Gentilia has set several goals for this season, including winning both the Metro Conference and the district. However, his main objective is to get some of his players into college pro-

grams.

He believes his brand of coaching will help.

"I'm instilling a real disciplined program," he said. "I bring a good work ethic, and I really stress the fundamentals."

For Gentilia, the "fundamentals" mean an emphasis on defensive play, because "that's what wins championships."

The Trojans have already been practicing for a week, and Gentilia believes pitching will be the team's strong suit.

Clarenceville opens its season Monday, April 17 at home against Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook.

Girls track preview from page C1

senior, may be the Charger's top all-around returnee. With a throw of 119-5 last season (third in Observerland), Hefner placed second at the regional, qualifying her for the state tournament.

Junior Kari Cezat will be tough in the pole vault. A WLAA champion, she posted a 9-6 last season (second in Observerland), and finished second at the regional.

Senior Alison Fillion and sophomore Susan Duncan will be Churchill's top distance runners. Fillion's 11:56.3 in the 3,200 was third best among Observerland times. Duncan is a first-team All-Observer performer in cross country.

The Chargers, however, will miss the graduated Ashley Fillion, who ranked among the area's best in the 800 (2:03.7), 1,600 (5:26.0) and 3,200 (11:56.3).

Churchill is deep in the distance events led by a strong freshman crop led by Sarah Anagnostou, Sarah Westrick and Amy Settles, along with seniors Stephanie Skwiers and Diana Lepakas. Junior Colleen Hayden and sophomore Lyndsay Cecil should also contribute.

The middle distance group includes freshman Michelle Phillips, freshman Rachel Wody-



Trail Blazer: Alexi Noel has already gone 5-2 indoors for Livonia Ladywood.

ka, sophomore Darcy Kavanaugh and junior Katie Paulson.

Graham is a little concerned about the lack of experience among her sprinters. Her top returnee is sophomore Stephanie Dean.

All in all, Graham thinks the Chargers can surprise some people.

"I think we will be one of the silent creepers in the league," Graham said. "We will definitely be able to compete, and might be

one of the best three teams. It will come down to how well our sprinters can do."

Livonia Franklin

The Patriots are under new management this season as Kevin Psik, the former Redford Union coach, takes over for Rich Lamb.

Psik spent five years with the Panthers before moving over to Joy Road.

"I love it, I'm having a great time so far," said Psik, who has 44 girls out. "We're a little behind schedule because I'm just getting to know athletes. I can't predict right now how we will do."

The most notable loss to graduation was pole vaulter Shiloh Wint, who cleared 9-1 as a senior.

The top returnees include junior Lisa Balko, who hurled the shot put 33-2 a year ago; junior Rita Malec, who clipped off a 1:01.0 in the 400; and sophomore pole vaulter Andrea McMillan, who cleared 9-0.

Other returnees include senior Denise Walsh (pole vault/sprints); junior Annette Schneider (hurdles); senior Lyndsay Sopko (sprints/middle distance); senior Diana Potter (distance); sophomore Gabrielle Nixon (middle distance); senior Daniela Gapp (discus); sophomore Jenny Harp (discus/shot put); junior Jamie Harp (shot put/discus); sophomore Erika Wolski (pole vault/sprints); sophomore Melissa Frank (hurdles); sophomore Christine Witte (distance); and senior Michelle Ledesma (distance).

Freshmen Amanda Bowmer, Erica Johnson, Monica Nakonezny and Katie Wint should also help in the distance events. Wint also pole vaults.

Livonia Stevenson

Livonia Stevenson coach Paul Holmberg is expecting somewhat of a letdown from last season when his squad won a regional championship and finished second to Plymouth Salem in the

Western Lakes Athletic Association.

Holmberg lost three of his top four scorers from that team, including hurdler Christie Tello, discus and shot put thrower Emily Yambasky, and distance runner Katie Sherron.

"We are not as good as we were last year," Holmberg said. "We lost three important scorers. That is a big loss. We are going to need some kids to step up and fill those shoes."

Holmberg, who has coached Stevenson's girls since 1970, is heartened by some of his leading returnees, most notably senior Andrea Parker.

Last season Parker posted top Observerland times in the 800 (2:27.1), 1,600 (5:15.5), and 3,200 (11:48.8), qualifying for the state meet in each, as well as the 1,600 and 3,200 relays. Her performance in the 1,600 and 3,200 earned her regional championships.

"Andrea is the king-pin of the team," Holmberg said. "Last year, we won the regional because of her performance."

Stevenson will also be helped by the return of standout sophomore Heather Vandette, who earned All-Observerland honors in the 3,200 (11:55.7). Vandette also had a strong regional, placing second in the 3,200 and third in the 1,600 (5:34.8).

"Along with Parker, Heather will give us a good one-two punch," Holmberg said. "I am hoping she can start up where she left off last year."

Other important returnees include senior hurdler Cassie Ehlen (a state qualifying 48.2 in the 300 hurdles); junior high jumper Andrea Polasky; senior shot put and discus thrower Julie Yambasky, and senior long jumper Leyna Kasparek.

Holmberg is also excited by the fact that 120 girls came out for tryouts this year.

"That is pretty typical for us," he said. "We have had a successful program over the years. Kids like to be part of something like that."

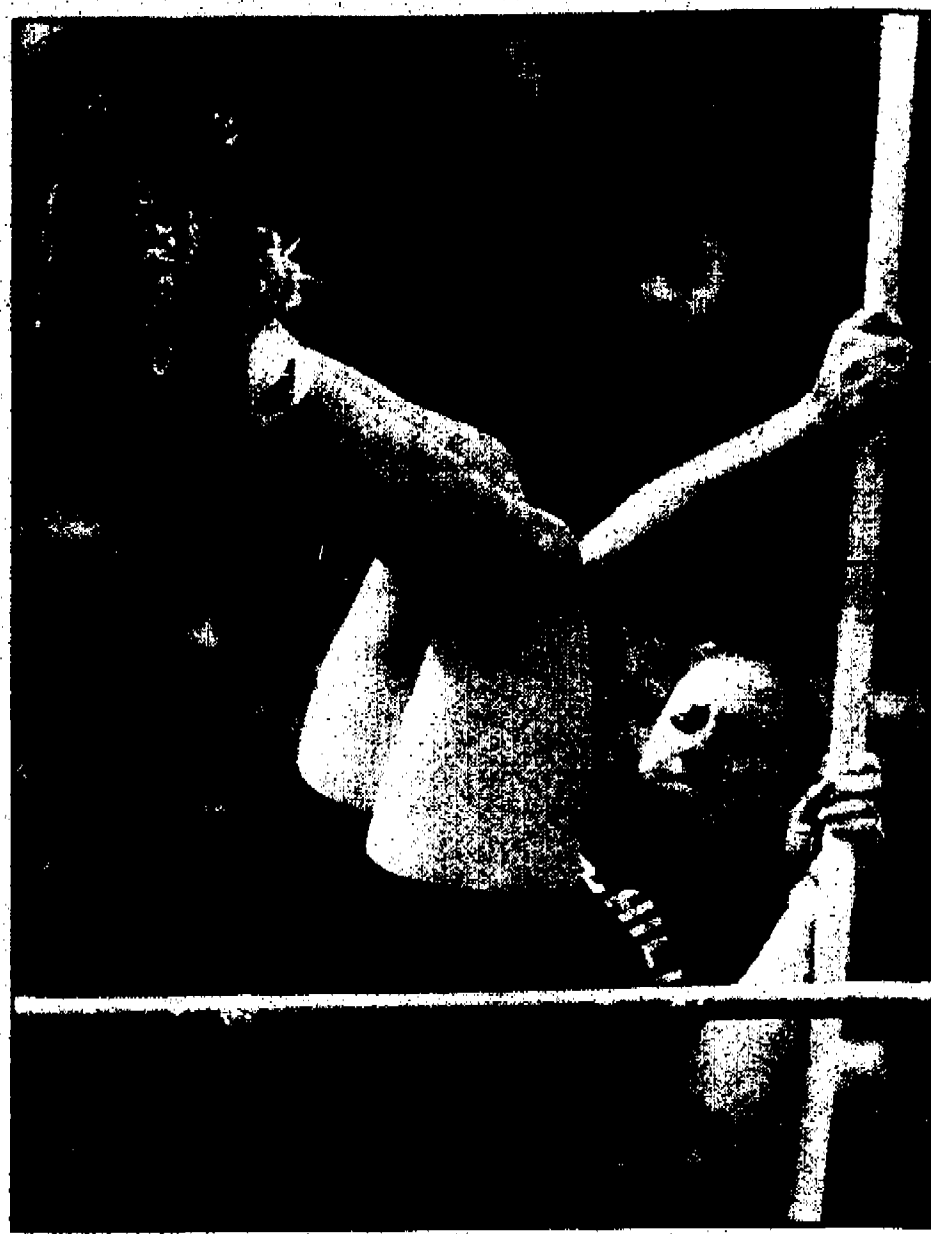
Holmberg is still sifting through the group to find enough talent that will help the team compete despite the losses from last year.

"With all the girls trying out, there should be a few good newcomers," Holmberg said. "We will be all right."

Westland John Glenn

The Rockets are rebuilding after losing their top two point producers including Western Lakes and Class A regional 400 champion Nicolette Jarrett (now at Middle Tennessee State).

Jarrett went an Observerland best 58.3 in the 400 and 18-1 3/4 in the long jump. She also ranked fifth in the area in the 200 (28.4) and helped Glenn to first-team All-Observer honors



Up and over: Livonia Churchill's Kari Cezat ranked second among Observerland pole vaulters at 9-6.

by running a leg on both the 400 relay (50.2) and 800 relay (1:45.3).

High jumper LaToya Chandler did not return for her senior season and will be missed in the high jump (5-8), long jump (16-9), 100 dash (12.8) and 200 dash (26.8).

The lone returning senior is Amber Morris, a sprint and middle distance runner.

"With only one senior, we're looking for leadership from our junior class," Glenn coach John Kitchen said. "We have a group of hard workers and good kids who will work to improve."

The top returnee is junior LaTasha Chandler, a first-team All-Area performer in the 100 hurdles (15.3), who was also a leg on Glenn's first-team 400 and 800 relay teams. Chandler was WLAA and regional champion in the 100 hurdles and was a state semifinalist.

Another key component on Glenn's sprint relays is back, junior Felecia Barnett, who went 12.9 in the 100 and cleared 5 feet in the high jump. Junior Nicole Simonian, a talented gymnast who made the state meet, returns in the pole vault where she holds the school record at 8-6.

Other top returning juniors include Sharron Ryan (distance), Nicole Blan (middle distance), Lakisha Locust (hurdles/sprints), Karen Dashairya (middle distance), Laura Mikedis (3,200), Diane Morton and Jocelyn Mikedis (pole vault/hurdles).

Kitchen also expects help from a pair of freshman sprinters, She-nelle Brown and Elizabeth Easter (who is also a long jumper).

"Right now we're searching for people in the shot put and discus," said Kitchen, who has a 30-member squad.

Wayne Memorial

Things are looking up in Zebra-ville according to 22nd-year coach Bob Lynn, who has increased turnout for 2000 with upwards of 40 candidates.

"The last few years have been tough around here," Lynn said. "But things are looking up. We expect to have a much better team. The field events are something we're really working on and we have some ninth-grade girls who are coming along really well."

The top holdovers include seniors Rachel Patillo and Keisha Collins, both in the sprints; sophomore Jessica Boarders, distance; senior Heather Carpenter, distance; and freshman Twana White, 400.

"We've won the Mega Blue in cross country the last two years and I think we're solid there," Lynn said. "I feel in two years that White will really be a factor in the 400. She has good speed and is really a worker."

"And that year Patillo spent in Texas really helped her. She's very dedicated and wants to improve every day at practice."

Kurt Kuban also contributed to this preview.

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Traverse City wins Walled Lake Central volleyball year

Traverse City won the Walled Lake Central volleyball year with a 15-1 record. The team was led by senior setter Kelli White, who was named MVP. The team also won the state championship.

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ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE PLAYOFFS

Red-hot Plymouth starts quest toward coveted Memorial Cup

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS WRITER
cjrisk@oe.hometel.net

Well, maybe this can be classified as a payback of sorts.

After all, last season everyone connected to the Ontario Hockey League figured the Plymouth Whalers — the regular-season champions and one of the Canadian Hockey League's premier teams — would be a favorite to win the Memorial Cup.

Then along came the London Knights in the second round of the OHL playoffs and, in an agonizing seven-game series that included three overtime games, the Whalers were eliminated.

This season, no one expected the Whalers to be much of a contender for anything outside of a playoff berth. Four players from last season's team — David Legwand, Harold Druken, Paul Mara and Jason Ward — graduated and are currently playing in the NHL. Several others had also moved on.

So what happened? How did the Whalers achieve the impossible by repeating as winners of the Hamilton Spectator Trophy, presented to the OHL's regular-season champion?

"We didn't expect it," said Whalers coach/general manager Peter DeBoer. "It's been real surprising. Coming into the season, we were just hoping to make the playoffs."

The Whalers' season goals started to be reshaped in December. Early in the month they were struggling to remain at the break-even plateau. But that changed, as the younger Whalers adapted to the game, the team started making strides — small ones at first, then bigger and bigger, culminating in a 17-game win streak that was stopped last Friday by Guelph.

Plymouth was in third place in the OHL's West Division and struggling to maintain that position in December. By mid-February, they were first in the division and climbing.

"We made very few changes," said DeBoer, when asked if the team made some sort of blockbuster move. "We just have such a young team, there was room for improvement."

Improvement is one thing. But developing the kind of consistency that leads to a 33-5-1 record since Dec. 1 (which the Whalers are) is usually something reserved for a veteran squad.

DeBoer credits the players who did return for providing the necessary leadership. "We have four key guys who turned down a chance to play in the pros," said DeBoer, referring to team captain Randy Fitzgerald, Shaun Fisher, Eric Gooldy and goalie Rob Zepp.

Much was also expected from others who played smaller roles on last season's star-studded team. Fisher, a defenseman, was one.

"Last year," DeBoer explained, "we had a group of superstar players, then things dropped off a bit. This year we're more balanced."

"I think (Fisher) got overshadowed last year by those guys. Now he's kind of stepped into his own."

"A lot of guys had to step up, and they did."

PREVIEW

Fisher was obscured by Mara and Nikos Taelios, two of the OHL's best defensemen, last season. He isn't anymore; Fisher has 17 goals and 49 assists (66 points) in 59 games, with a plus-38 rating. He has become one of the most productive defensemen in the OHL.

But others have filled the void created by the loss of so many stars. Justin Williams leads the Whalers in scoring with 37 goals and 46 assists (83 points); next best is Damian Surma with 34 goals and 44 assists (78 points).

The rookies who have made the biggest impact are Stephen Weiss, the Whalers' first-round pick in '99, with 24 goals and 41 assists (65 points); Tomas Kurka, who has 36 goals and 28 assists (64 points); and Steven Morris, with 13 goals and 18 assists (31 points).

The Whalers don't score as many goals as last season, but the defense, led by Fisher and goalie Zepp, has helped overcome that.

For the second-straight year Plymouth will lead the OHL in goals surrendered (167, with one game left); Zepp, through last weekend, was 36-11-3 in goal with a .903 save percentage and a 2.38 goals-against average, with three shutouts.

"We don't score as many goals as last year, so we've had to rely on our defense," said DeBoer.

It's all very nice, sure. DeBoer admits it, but he knows there's another step to take, especially after last year's disappointment.

"We're hoping the playoffs are more productive," said DeBoer. "One thing we've learned is that the regular season doesn't mean very much. Last year taught us that."

It also taught DeBoer not to focus too heavily on what the opponent does.

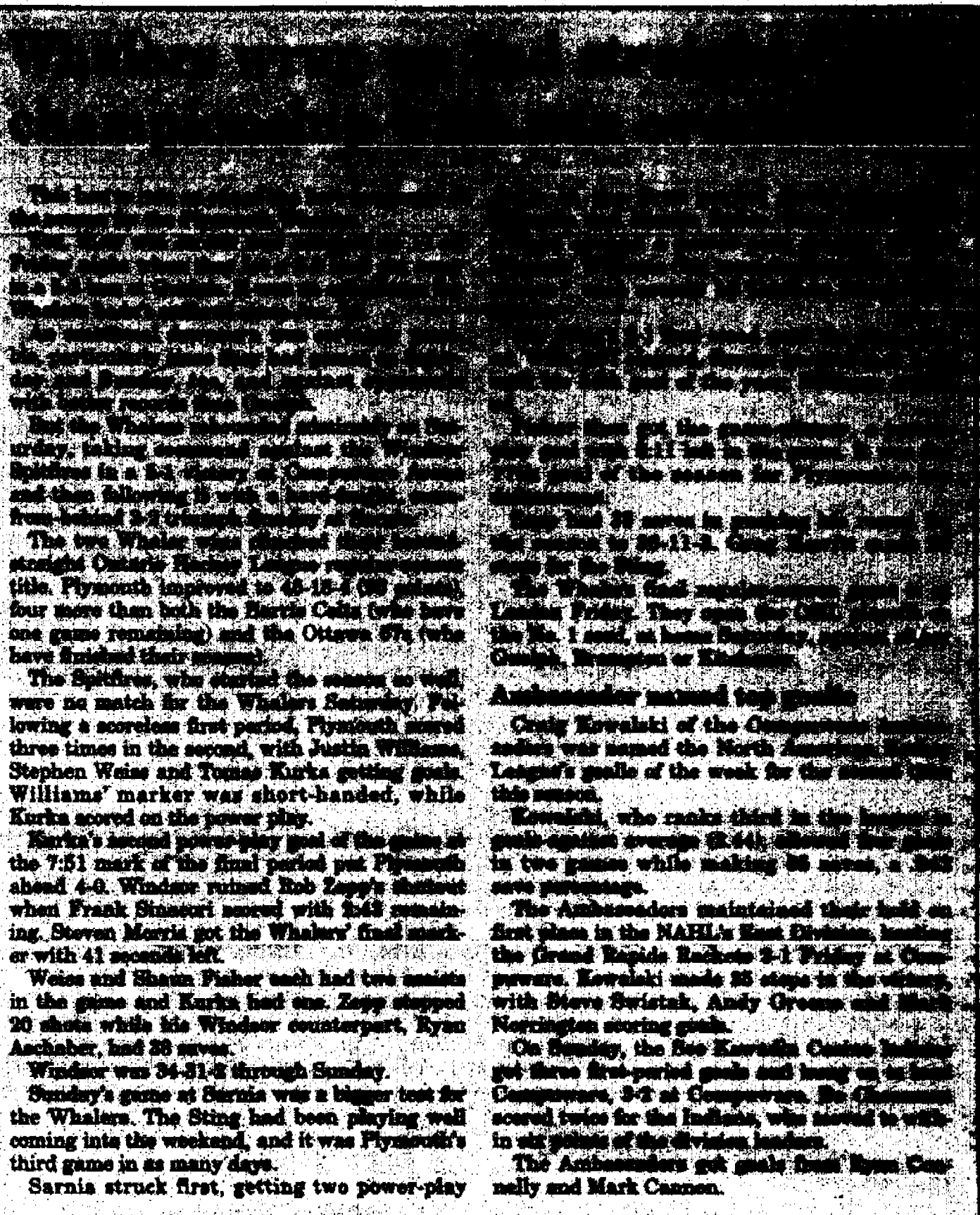
Anyway, going into Friday's final regular-season games, the Whalers could be facing Kitchener, Brampton or Guelph on Saturday.

"They're all tough teams," said DeBoer. "Any of the three will be a difficult opponent. In the first round, we're going to concentrate on what we're going to do and just stick to the formula that got us here."

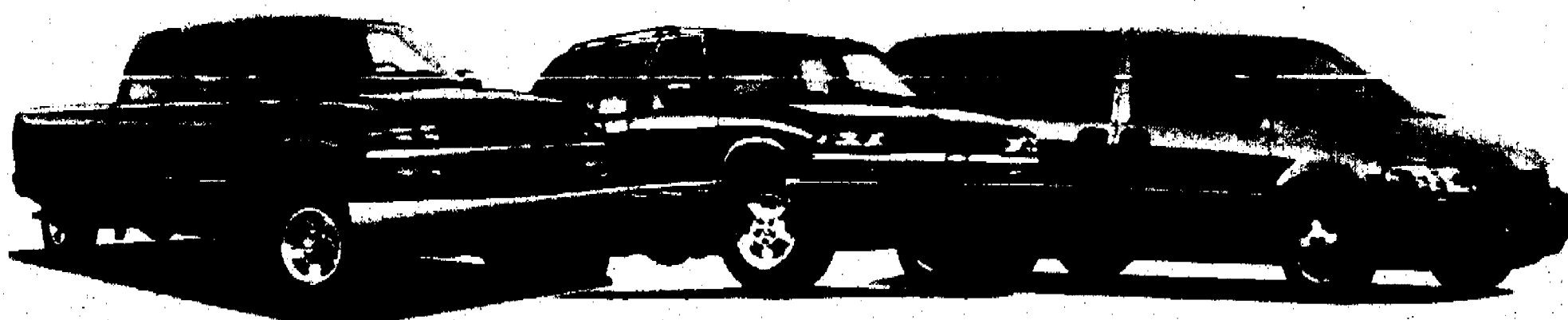
"It's really impossible to prepare for three teams anyway."

That 17-game win streak showed DeBoer that, if the Whalers "play our game and not do anything differently, we'll do all right."

That's the plan, at any rate. But if any team has gone well beyond the plan set for it at the beginning of the season, it's the Whalers.



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OUTDOOR CALENDAR

SEASON/DATES

ROBBI
Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

CLASSES/CLINICS

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Faint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tyers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

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information, call (313) 825-2110.

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

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ACTIVITIES

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS

Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. membership meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at Knights of Columbus, St. Pius X, 6177 Chicago Road, in Warren. The public is welcome. More information can be obtained by calling Ed Wilczek at (810) 757-7365 or club President Ray Banbury at (810) 598-0310. The Detroit Area Steelheaders will also hold a Sportsman's Game Dinner March 18 at Bishop William F. Murphy Knights of Columbus Hall in Warren. The dinner is open to the public and doors open at 5 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person.

BASS TOURNAMENT

The 2000 Top Bass Tournament will be held at various sites throughout the summer months. The schedule is as follows: Saginaw Bay, May 27; Lake St. Helen, June 3; Wixom Lake, June 24; Sanford Lake, July 8; Wixom Lake, July 22; Lobdell Lake, Aug. 5; Lake St. Helen, Aug. 19; and Wixom Lake, Aug. 26-27. Guaranteed payoffs will

be awarded with amounts determined by the number of entries. For more information, call (734) 729-1762 or (734) 422-5813.

CLINTON VALLEY BASS

Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Middle School, located on Middlebelt Road between Seven and Eight Mile roads. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843 for information.

FISHING BUDDIES

Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. Meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and non-boaters). Call

(248) 666-0556 for more information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS

The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Road, Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

SOLAR

The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

HERITAGE PARK HIKE

Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a 2-3 hour hike at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills on Sunday. Call Don Dahlin at (248) 644-2746 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. Hours for archery and clay target shooting are noon to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Rifle range hours are 3 p.m. to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays;

10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenfield Road, which is three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills off M-24. Call (248) 814-9193 for more information.

PONTIAC LAKE

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Road. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are noon-5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Road. Call (248) 693-6767 for more information.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS

Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178; Hudson Mills, 1-800-477-3191.

2000 PERMITS

The 2000 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permits are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

OAKLAND CO. PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

PERMITS

The 2000 Oakland County parks motor vehicle permits are on sale at all county park offices and many parks and recreation and township offices. Cost is \$20 through April 30 and \$25 thereafter. Call (248) 858-0906 or TTY (248) 858-1684.

STATE PARKS

STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS

Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area, and Island Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and additional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2187. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7067.

WAYNE CO. PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

Wayne County Parks offers nature interpretive programs throughout the year. Advanced registration is requested. Call (734) 261-1990 to register and for more information.

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Top-ranked St. Mary's rolls by Chelsea, 74-49

BY CHRIS MAYER
STAFF WRITER
cmayer@oe.humecomm.net

The quarterfinal round didn't spell the end of the line for Orchard Lake St. Mary's this season.

The undefeated Eaglets are headed to the boys basketball state semifinals for the first time since 1994 following Tuesday's 74-49 Class B quarterfinal win over Chelsea at Eastern Michigan University. Jonte Jones scored 18 of his game-high 26 points in the second half as OLSM wore down the upstart Bulldogs and rolled to its 26th consecutive victory.

The next stop for top-ranked St. Mary's (26-0) is the Breslin Center on the campus of Michigan State University. The Eaglets are scheduled to face Niles (19-6) at approximately 7:50 p.m. in the second of two Class B semifinal games to be played Friday evening in East Lansing. Flint Beecher (19-6) and Haslett (24-2) will tip off at 6 p.m. in the first semifinal.

"We got over the (quarterfinal) hump this year and now we have to stay focused," said Jones, a senior guard with a flair for making clutch baskets in key games. "It's important we continue to take one game at a time and do the things that have allowed us to get here."

One thing the Eaglets had to do Tuesday was subdue a scrappy Chelsea team in the second half with one of their senior leaders, forward Jermaine Gonzales, on the bench with four fouls.

Gonzales picked up his fourth foul and exited the contest with 4:21 left in the third quarter and St. Mary's holding a tenuous 36-30 lead. Jones, however, scored 15 points during a game-clinching 24-9 run that made the score 60-39 when Gonzales returned with 5:06 remaining.

"You don't get this far with just five guys," OLSM head coach George Porritt said. "We feel confident to go to our bench and tonight we had to. (Senior forward) Dan Clothier came in off the bench tonight and he's a heck of a player."

"I've watched a lot of tape on St. Mary's - I hadn't seen them in person - and I talked to a lot of people," Chelsea head coach Robin Raymond said. "Everyone said was that when it's time to turn it up, they have the ability to turn it up, and they turned it up when they had to tonight."

Chelsea (18-8) managed to stay close in part to its ability to protect the ball and the scoring of 6-5 junior Tony Scheffler (20 points) and senior guard

BOYS BASKETBALL

Sean Davis (15 points). But the Bulldogs faltered over the final 11 minutes, committing 11 of their 20 turnovers.

"We kept the heat on the whole time and you hope fatigue will set in," Porritt said. "That was the key in the fourth quarter. We kept pressure on them and it's hard to bring the ball down the floor and have to shoot it also."

OLSM senior guard Maurice Searight scored 20 points and his dribble penetration helped break down the Bulldogs' defense. Junior center Charles Davis had a double-double with 14 points and 12 rebounds and Gonzales finished with seven points.

The Eaglets, who enjoyed leads of 18-12 after one quarter and 34-26 at halftime, also posted a 36-18 rebounding edge.

"We wanted to force St. Mary's to take the outside shot and stop dribble penetration, but that's easier said than done," Raymond said. "St. Mary's is so quick and we haven't seen quickness like that. We had a tough time keeping the ball on the perimeter, and I think if we could have kept the ball on the perimeter we'd have had better chances."

St. Mary's, which lost to River Rouge in the Class B quarterfinals last season, will advance to Saturday night's championship game with a win over Niles.

OLSM's last trip to the state semifinals resulted in a 56-53 Class C win over Iron Mountain in 1994, but the Eaglets dropped an 85-83 overtime decision to Grandville Calvin Christian in the title game.

Searight finishes third in Mr. Hoops

Maurice Searight of Orchard Lake St. Mary's placed third in the voting for the 20th annual Hal Schram Mr. Basketball Award. The 6-foot-2 senior guard collected 199 points. (Voting was conducted by members of the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan and points were awarded on a 5-3-1 basis.)

Lansing Waverly's Marcus Taylor, who signed with Michigan State, earned 162 of the 238 first-place votes and easily won the award with 932 points. Eugene Seale of Saginaw was second with 227 points.

Ludwig-Karas grabs Plymouth Open B title

Ludwig-Karas Real Estate captured the Plymouth Parks and Recreation Open B League playoffs in men's basketball with a 64-50 victory Monday over Sesi Lincoln-Mercury at Central Middle School.

Sesi's Brian Paupore, a former Plymouth Canton High standout, had 21 points in losing cause.

Brian Wolcott, the Plymouth

Canton Community Schools Athletic Coordinator, Canton football coach Tim Baechler and Ray Mandle, each scored 14 for the winners, who advance to this weekend's Michigan Recreation & Parks Association over-40 state playoffs in Mount Pleasant.

Chris DeBear and Steve Robb each contributed 10 points for Ludwig-Karas, which also captured the regular season champi-

onship in Plymouth with a 12-2 record.

Other members of the Ludwig-Karas squad include Marty Peck, Rob Willette, Tom Willette, Doug Kirkpatrick and Steve Karas.

Burt takes reins

Livonia's Clarenceville school is director Charlie Sorentino. Sorentino didn't have to look very far to find a new coach for the girls' varsity basketball team.

His search went only as far as the boys' junior varsity bench, from which he plucked assistant Chris Burt.

Sorentino recently handed over the reins of the girls' program to Burt, who will assume head coaching duties for the first time at the prep level.

In addition to working as an assistant with the boys' JV team last season, Burt, 23, has coached at various summer camps over the last few years.

However, Burt's relative inexperience does not worry Sorentino, who feels the young coach has a bright future.

"Chris did a great job with our boys," Sorentino said. "He's patient and has an outstanding knowledge of the game. He knows how to teach the basic game."

Burt has his work cut-out for him. He takes over a program that was just 2-40 over the

season. Sorentino, who coached the team for three years, was looking for a coach who could take the team to the next level.

"I was looking for a coach who could take the team to the next level," Sorentino said. "Chris was the only one who could do it."

One of the biggest challenges facing Burt will be the fact that he doesn't have extensive experience working with girls. Because of this, he plans to hire a female assistant coach to help him with the transition.

"A lot of this will have to be learned as I go," Burt said. "It's hard to predict what the biggest differences will be."

Burt is already busy preparing for next season. Since being hired, he has contacted

several potential assistant coaches and is looking for a coach who can help him with the transition.

"I've got a lot of work to do," Burt said. "I've also got a lot of work to do. I've also got a lot of work to do."

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THE WEEK AHEAD

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Friday, March 24

Ply. Whalers at London, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 25

(OHL Playoffs)

Ply. Whalers vs. opponent to be named

7:30 p.m. at Cobo Arena

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Saturday, March 25

Madonna at Olivet, 2:15 p.m.

Sunday, March 26

Madonna vs. Saginaw Valley St.

at Ladywood H.S., 2:15 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL

Saturday, March 25

Madonna at Concordia, 12:15 noon

Sunday, March 26

Madonna at Siena Hts., 12:15 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER

Friday, March 24

N. Farmington at Milford, 7 p.m.

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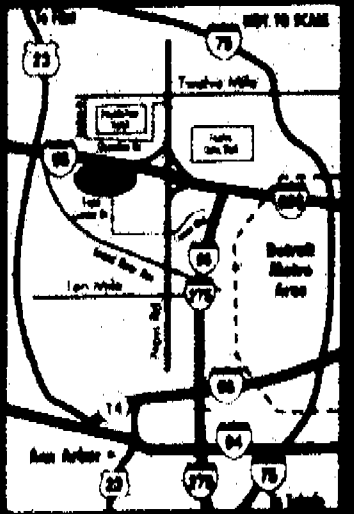
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Met the enemy and he is us

I was in a gas station Sunday, minding my own business, trying to decide between Vernors and Coke, when I saw the following exchange between two very stubborn people.

A nondescript man in his 50s was waiting in line to pay for his newspaper and at the last minute turned to grab a pack of cigarettes.

In the time it took for him to turn his body 90 degrees and grab the pack, a woman in her mid 30s — every bit the stereotypical soccer mom — zoomed to his left and thrust her money at the clerk to pay for gas.

What followed just stunned me.

"EXCUSE ME," boomed the man. "But I was here first."

"I'm just paying for gas," countered the soccer mom. "The sign on the pump said to 'pay first.'"

"I don't care," said the man, his face now turning a noticeable red. "I was here first. You can get in line behind me."

"I'm just paying for gas," said the woman, not backing down an inch and her voice changing from a statement to a command. "That's all I'm doing."

She threw her money down on the counter, walked to the door and said something that has stayed with me much longer than it probably did her. "I hope those cigarettes give you lung cancer."

Let's recap here. Someone cuts in line, is called on it and tells the person who challenges

her "me first" attitude that she wishes cancer upon them.

Is that what we've become? What's worse, is that the kind of example we're setting?

You're in my way and inconveniencing me so not only am I going to treat you as if you don't exist, but going to wish you dead.

There is a person I know down South who is an outstanding softball player. Really good, in fact. So much so that just about every tourney her team enters, she wins the Most Valuable Player award. So good, that she was a hand-drawn selection for a select team of players from around the nation.

A couple of years ago, she started having problems breathing when she used her allergy inhaler. It was determined that the steroids in the inhaler were causing her lungs to shut down.

Someone else on another team found this out and began going out of her way to weaken her. She put together a combination of steroids, an over-the-counter aspirin-type medicine called Ansaad and a third drug that is masked by the other two.

Over the course of that time, the woman, who used to be a nurse, has gone out of her way to get the poison into the player's system — putting some in a drink when no one is looking, having a teammate put the drug under her nails and scratch her sliding into second, walking by with an inhaler and spraying the aerosol around her.

The police have a good idea what is going on but can't catch the woman, who went into hiding shortly after a war-

rant went out for her arrest. Meanwhile, the player refuses to back down. And the woman's friends have kept up the mission of getting drugs into the player's system whenever she appears at a softball field — whether it's to watch or play.

Now, the player spends her days in the hospital on medication to fight the mystery drug, her nights in a futile effort to sleep, her whole day in a labored effort to breathe.

Doctors are having problems treating the poison because they don't know exactly what it is. Softball is becoming a distant memory.

Is this what we've become? I am jealous of your talent, so instead of improving to your level, I'll cripple you. Instead of waiting my turn, I'll barge in front of you and wish you had cancer. I don't care if the light changed to red, I'm going to run it because I'm too busy to stop.

I am reminded of a line from the old comic strip, "Pogo," in which the main character says "We have met the enemy, and he is us."

I am not a Pollyanna. By nature, I am more cynic than saint. OK, a lot more cynic than saint. But watching out for the little things in everyday life, I fear Pogo's more correct than his creator Walt Kelly ever thought.

We are the enemy. What's worse is we don't even care — unless it happens to us.

Paul Beaudry is the Redford/Garden City sports editor and can be reached at (734) 953-2106 or by e-mail at pbeaudry@oe.homecomm.net.



PAUL BEAUDRY

Country Club in Farmington Hills. The tournament is open to all Michigan residents who are 18 years of age or older. The \$200 entry fee and completed application must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 9 at the Michigan PGA Office.

ADRAY GOLF TOURNAMENT
The eighth annual Mike Adray Memorial Golf Tournament will be held Wednesday, May 17, at Mystic Creek Golf Club at Camp Dearborn in Milford.

The tournament will benefit scholarships at Henry Ford Community College and has provided 176 scholarships for students in past years.

The package features lunch, 18 holes of golf, dinner and silent and live auctions for \$195. A dinner/auction only package is available for \$65.

This year's prizes include a sponsorship to participate in the Van Patrick Golf Invitational, a set of Callaway Graphite irons and wedges, major appliances and weekend golf packages.

Registration will begin at 10 a.m., with a shotgun start at noon.

Limited spots in the tourney are available and are on a first-come, first-served basis.

For information on the outing, call HFCC's Office of Development at (313) 845-9880.

For information about contributing prizes for the event, call (313) 845-6493.

FRANKLIN HILLS HOCKEY
The Franklin Hills Hockey League is conducting inquiries as to the possibility of a fall hockey league for ages 12 and under.

All games would be played at the Franklin Hills and the Novi Ice Arena.

The league would adhere to all Michigan Amateur Hockey Association and USA Hockey rules, which means there would be no checking.

Girls interested in such a program should contact Amy Jones at Suburban Hockey (248-478-1800) and indicate their interest by April 15.

FRANKLIN HILLS COACHES
The following coaching positions are available at Livonia Franklin High School: Assistant hockey, assistant wrestling, Pom-Pom and freshman cheerleading.

Interested candidates should send information to: Dan Freeman, Athletic Director, Franklin High School, 31000 Joy Road, Livonia, MI 48150.

MICHIGAN OPEN QUALIFYING
Western Golf and Country Club in Redford is among eight sites around the state chosen to host qualifying for the 85th Detroit Newspapers Michigan Open.

The fields at all sites will be limited to 104 golfers and assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

On May 22, qualifying will be held at Greystone Golf Club in Romeo, Forest Akers Golf Club-West in East Lansing, Gull Lake Country Club in Richland and Meadowbrook

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Jim Gabriel
North Farmington



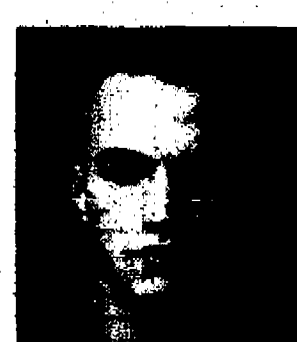
Devin Hopper
Farmington Harrison



Eric Lynn
Plymouth Salem



Brad Buckler
Livonia Stevenson



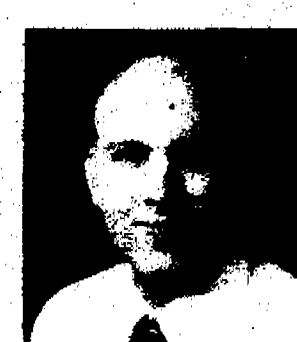
Chris Totten
Garden City



Joe Bublitz
Livonia Stevenson



Brandon DiGla
North Farmington



Brian Mertens
Plymouth Salem



Adam Farber
North Farmington

A fast splash

Observer swimmers rank with state's best

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR
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Some things just don't change: spring weather, the excellence of Detroit PSL basketball teams, and Plymouth Salem's dominance over the Western Lakes Activities Association in boys swimming.

The Rocks won their eighth-straight championship, and they did it with a lot of good young swimmers — which hardly brightens the future for the rest of the WLAA.

But that doesn't mean the rest of the league, or Observerland, is lacking in talent.

Livonia Stevenson's Joe Bublitz placed in the top five in two events at state meet, North Farmington's Brandon DiGla won both the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle at the WLAA finals, and the Raiders' Adam Farber won the 100 breaststroke at the WLAA meet and placed third in the event at state.

That's just some of what the area had to offer. For more, read on.

FIRST TEAM

Devin Hopper, 200 free, Farmington Harrison: Hopper made the all-area team a second time after posting one of Observerland's best times in the 200 free. He was second in the WLAA meet, during which he swam a career best of 54.83 in that event.

Hopper qualified for state in three events: the 200 free, backstroke and 200 free relay. He finished 14th in the backstroke, breaking his own school record with a time of 55.49.

He previously swam for Farmington High before that team merged with Harrison High. He was a team MVP and high-point award winner the last two years.

"Devin has been a tremendous asset to our swim team in the last four years and, as a captain this year, has made a dedicated effort in leading this new consolidated team," coach Ross Bandy said. "He will truly be missed by his teammates."

Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem: Lynn was a major reason the Rocks recaptured the WLAA championship. At the WLAA finals, the sophomore finished second in both the 200 individual medley (2:01.87) and the 100 backstroke (55.33).

At the state finals he placed 16th in both the 200 IM (1:59.67) and 100 back (55.67). He also swam on Salem's 200 medley and 400 freestyle relay teams.

"Eric really stepped up this year," said his coach, Chuck Olson. "He made a big impression on the WLAA as well as the entire state."

With another two years of high school swimming ahead of him, the future looks bright.

Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson: The senior, who had his senior season cut short because of knee surgery, won the WLAA title in the 50 freestyle (22.42). The Spartans' team captain was also a member of the second-place 400 freestyle relay and took second in the individual 100 freestyle (49.8) and 200 medley relay squad.

"Brad is one of the most competitive athletes I have coached," said his dad and coach Doug Buckler of the four-year letter winner. "He always stepped up in big meets and was our leader when it came to firing up our team. He is what all teams need when it comes to big meets. He will be missed and hard to replace."

Chris Totten, diving, Garden City: Totten proved to be the area's top diver and one of the best in the state. The senior qualified for the state meet in his four seasons in Garden City, finishing 15th both this year and 1998.

Totten was also tops in the Michigan Mega Conference too — winning Blue Division titles his first two seasons and White Division titles his last two. At the

1. Devin Hopper, 200 free, Farmington Harrison, 54.83	2. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 55.82
3. Brandon DiGla, 100 free, N. Farmington, 56.19	4. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 56.43
5. Joe Bublitz, 100 fly, Liv. Stevenson, 56.54	6. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 56.54
7. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 56.54	8. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 15th
9. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67	10. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
11. Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	12. Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC, 18th
13. Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	14. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
15. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	16. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67
17. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67	18. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 59.67
19. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 59.67	20. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
21. Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	22. Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC, 59.67
23. Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	24. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
25. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	26. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67
27. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67	28. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 59.67
29. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 59.67	30. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
31. Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	32. Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC, 59.67
33. Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	34. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
35. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	36. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67
37. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67	38. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 59.67
39. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 59.67	40. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
41. Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	42. Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC, 59.67
43. Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	44. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
45. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	46. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67
47. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67	48. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 59.67
49. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 59.67	50. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
51. Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	52. Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC, 59.67
53. Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	54. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
55. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	56. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67
57. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67	58. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 59.67
59. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 59.67	60. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
61. Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	62. Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC, 59.67
63. Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	64. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
65. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	66. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67
67. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67	68. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 59.67
69. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 59.67	70. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
71. Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	72. Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC, 59.67
73. Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	74. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
75. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	76. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67
77. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67	78. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 59.67
79. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 59.67	80. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
81. Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	82. Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC, 59.67
83. Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	84. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
85. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	86. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67
87. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67	88. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 59.67
89. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 59.67	90. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
91. Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	92. Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC, 59.67
93. Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	94. Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67
95. Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem, 59.67	96. Eric Lynn, 200 IM, Ply. Salem, 59.67
97. Brad Buckler, 50 free, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67	98. Adam Farber, 100 breast, N. Farmington, 59.67
99. Chris Totten, diving, Garden City, 59.67	100. Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson, 59.67

Wayne Invitational this year, his score of 474.00 was the highest recorded score in any division of the Mega.

"Everywhere he went, he either set records or broke his own records," Cougars coach Don Sweet said. "It happened at Trenton, Redford Union, Wayne and Taylor Truman in the (Mega White) meet."

Joe Bublitz, 100 fly, Liv. Stevenson: The area's most accomplished swimmer was listed among the top 10 in every individual event with the exception of diving. He finished third in the state meet in the 200 IM (1:52.07) and fifth in the 100 butterfly (52.12).

The junior also captured WLAA titles in the 200 IM, 100 backstroke and 400 freestyle relay, along with a second in the 200 medley relay. He also won the MISCA meet in the 200 IM and helped the Spartans score in the 200 medley relay at the state meet.

The four-time WLAA champ holds school records in the 200 IM and 100 backstroke. His time in the 200 IM qualifies him for All-America status.

"Joe is the best swimmer in the area by far," Buckler said. "He is very coachable and his desire to win is remarkable. He has been a coach's dream to be around. He's a leader and I will always remember Joe as one of the best swimmers I have every coach."

"He will be a state champion next year and I look forward to watching him do it."

Brandon DiGla, 100 free, N. Farmington: DiGla was a double winner in the WLAA meet, finishing first in the 200 and 100 freestyle events. He made state cuts in both and swam his area-best time of 48.19 in the latter. DiGla was a second-team, all-area selection last year.

Brian Mertens, 500 free, Ply. Salem: Illness slowed but couldn't stop Mertens, a junior, from making a major contribution for Salem this season. He scored points in both the 500 free and 200 free at the WLAA finals, placing fourth in the former (5:01.42) and eighth in the latter (1:53.81).

A state qualifier in the 500 free, Mertens ended up 20th in 4:59.12. His best time of the season was 4:57.12.

"Brian has been a real leader in practice, with a great work ethic," said Olson, Salem's coach, adding Mertens carries a 3.3 grade-point average.

Jim Gabriel, backstroke, N. Farmington: Gabriel was a state qualifier in the backstroke and had one of the area's best times at 55.47. He swam that in the WLAA meet, finishing third behind Stevenson's Bublitz and Salem's Lynn — the only area swimmers to go faster than Gabriel, who also had one of the fastest times in the 100 freestyle (49.96).

Adam Farber, breaststroke, N. Farmington: Farber was clearly the top breaststroke in Observerland, winning that event in the WLAA meet and finishing third in the state.

His final swim in the Class A championships was his best; he went 59.40 and set a school record. Farber was the only area swimmer to break one minute in that event. He also won the Oakland County title in the breaststroke.

Farber made a state cut in the butterfly, 100, and ranked third in the area with a 54.15 time. He is a repeat, first team selection in the breaststroke.

SECOND TEAM

Justin Ketterer, 200 free, Liv. Stevenson: The Junior finished fourth in the WLAA in the 200 freestyle (1:50.82) and took a third in the 500 freestyle (5:01.05). He also helped Stevenson win the 400 freestyle relay at the league meet and swam at the state meet in both the 200- and 400 freestyle relays.

"Justin just keeps on improving every year," Buckler said. "He's a very hard worker and a very good leader. I know his senior year will be very good and I look for him to score at the state meet next year."

"I enjoyed coaching Justin a lot and look forward to his swimming next year."

Mike Nemer, 200 IM, Liv. Stevenson: Also a junior, Nemer took fourth in the league meet with a state qualifying time of 2:03.85. He also placed second in the same WLAA meet in the 100 breaststroke (1:02.42) and was a member of the 200 medley relay team which took 10th in the state meet.

"Mike can and does do it all," Buckler said. "He is a very complete swimmer and will score at the state meet next year."

"His work ethic is great and his improvement has been fantastic. We all know he will be fun to watch next year. A true leader."

Aaron Shelton, 50 free, Ply. Salem: Shelton, a junior, was a contributor in a variety of events for the Rocks. At the WLAA meet, he swam the 100 backstroke and placed sixth (58.54) and the 200 IM, finishing seventh (2:06.43). His season's best time in the 50 free was 22.23, fastest in Observerland.

At state meet, Shelton swam in the 200 and 400 free relays, scoring on the 200 free relay.

"Aaron's versatility has made him extremely important to the success of Plymouth Salem the past three years," said Olson. "He's a great teammate with encouragement for everyone."

Greg Brazunas, diving, Redford CC: A team captain, this senior posted a season best total of 260.80 points in a dual meet win over Warren DeLaSalle (six dives). He qualified for the state

meet and placed 18th.

Brazunas holds the CC record for 11 dives. It was the third-straight year he qualified for the state meet.

"Greg has provided inspirational leadership for the whole team and given the team a lift with his diving," said Shamrock coach Jeff Baker.

Brett Meconis, 100 fly, Redford CC: This sophomore accounted for the single point registered by the Shamrocks at the state meet, finishing 12th in the 100 butterfly in 53.56 — his best time of the season. He also swam on CC's 200 medley and 200 free state-qualifying relays.

"Brett swam well all year in his best event," said Baker. "We expect great performances from him in the future."

Mike Johnson, 100 free, Ply. Salem: Johnson was one of Salem's top scorers at the WLAA meet, placing second in the 50 free (22.71) and third in the 100 free (50.00). He also swam on the 200 medley and 200 free relay teams.

A sophomore, Johnson just missed scoring at state meet in the 50, placing 13th in 22.40 — his best time of the season. He also swam on all three Salem relays. His best time in the 100 for the season was 48.77.

"Mike has had another outstanding season and continues as one of the area's best freestylers," said Olson. Johnson also carries a 3.7 GPA.

Ben Dzialo, 500 free, Ply. Salem: Dzialo is part of what appears to be a very promising future for Salem swimming. A freshman, he was the Rocks' only first-place finisher at the WLAA finals, winning the 100 butterfly in 55.13. He also placed second in the 500 free in 4:59.21.

At state meet, Dzialo placed 24th in the 100 fly in 54.85. He also swam on Salem's 200 medley relay team and 400 free relay team at state.

"Ben had an outstanding freshman year," said Olson, noting that Dzialo was Salem's leading point scorer and the third-leading point scorer at the WLAA finals. "He trains as hard as he competes." He also has a 3.8 GPA.

Brad Nilson, 100 back, Ply. Canton: Nilson reached the state meet in the 100 back, qualifying with a varsity record of 55.89. At state, he placed 20th in 56.07.

A sophomore, Nilson was versatile. He placed sixth in both the 200 IM (2:07.45) and the 100 free (51.39) at the WLAA meet.

"Working with Brad has been a pleasure," said Canton coach Ed Weber. "He's a hard worker and a team leader. I've been real proud of how well he's done his sophomore year, but I'm more excited about the season to come."

Chris LaFond, 100 breaststroke, Redford CC: A senior, LaFond had a solid performance at the state finals, placing 20th in 1:02.01. Another of his fondest memories of his senior season is this swim in the 100 breast in a dual meet against Livonia Stevenson. His come-from-behind victory assured CC's 104-82 victory.

"Chris has been an excellent competitor and leader," said Baker.

RELAY EVENTS

FIRST TEAM

200 medley, N. Farmington: Jim Gabriel, Jon Zald, Adam Farber and Chris Clayton won the WLAA championship and had the area's fastest time at 1:38.68, which was a state cut. Gabriel and Farber were members of North's second-team, all-area medley relay last year.

200 freestyle, Ply. Salem: Junior Aaron Shelton, sophomore Mike Johnson, and seniors (and team captains) Mark Witthoff and Dan Jones placed second at the WLAA conference finals in 1:30.08, then went 1:28.75 in finishing 10th at the state finals.

"The freestyle sprinters made a statement of what teamwork is about, and they had a couple of great swims at state meet," said Olson.

400 freestyle, Ply. Salem: Mike Johnson, Mark Witthoff, Ben Dzialo and Eric

200 medley relay:

(clockwise from bottom) North Farmington's Jon Zald, Jim Gabriel, Adam Farber and Chris Clayton.



200 free relay:

(clockwise from bottom) Salem's Dan Jones, Aaron Shelton, Mike Johnson and Mark Witthoff.



400 free relay team:

(clockwise from bottom) Salem's Eric Lynn, Mike Johnson and Mark Witthoff (Ben Dzialo not pictured).



2ND TEAM RELAYS

200 medley relay:

(clockwise from bottom) Stevenson's Brandon Truscott, Mike Nemer, Brad Buckler and Joe Bublitz.



200 free relay team:

(clockwise from bottom) North Farmington's Jon Zald, Brandon DiGla, Chris Clayton and Adam Farber.



400 free relay team:

(clockwise from bottom) Stevenson's Justin Ketterer, Robert Cambridge, Kevin VanTiem and Joe Bublitz.



Justin Ketterer
Livonia Stevenson



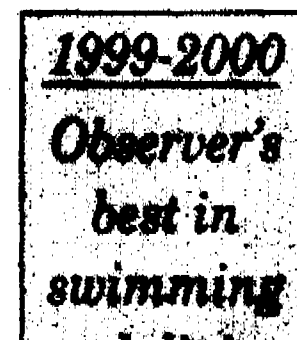
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Livonia Stevenson



Aaron Shelton
Plymouth Salem



Greg Brazunas
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and diving

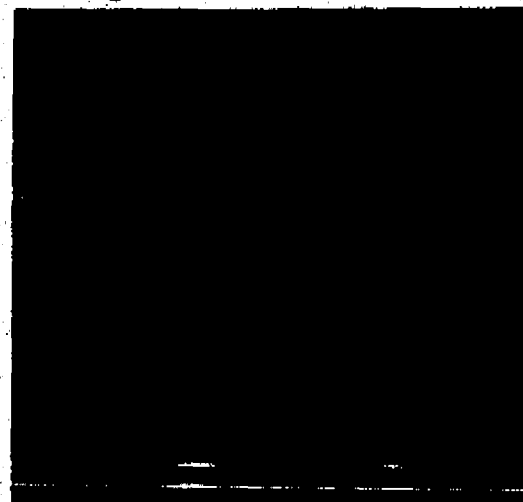
THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Tiffany Russell (left) as daughter, and Kiersten King as Aunt Mae in "Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery" by Shay Youngblood, 8 p.m. at the Sponberg Theatre on Eastern Michigan University's Ypsilanti campus. Tickets \$13, call (734) 487-1221.

SATURDAY



"Dance Collection 2000," a concert of ballet and modern dance works, 3 p.m. in the Plymouth Canton High School Little Theater, 8415 N. Canton Center Road, features Dance Ensemble West's senior company, (pictured), the apprentice, and junior companies. Donation \$9 per person, call (734) 420-4430.

SUNDAY



Tina Turner performs with Lionel Richie, 7:30 p.m. at The Palace, Auburn Hills. Tickets are: \$85.25, \$55.25, \$35.25. Call (248) 645-6666, or (248) 377-0100.

REVEALING THE TRUTH

Forgiveness

DIRECTOR IS DOING HIS PART TO UNCOVER THE ATROCITIES OF WWII

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

When Shi-Zheng was back in China working with opera students when he realized none of them were aware of the massacre of their people by the Japanese during World War II. Disturbed by the revelation, Shi-Zheng concluded the rest of the world was probably just as ignorant about the 20 million Chinese estimated to have died as a result of the eight-year war.

As the new millennium approaches, Shi-Zheng is doing his part to uncover the atrocities, including the exploitation of Korean "comfort women" by Japanese soldiers, by conceiving a multi-disciplinary work which incorporates elements of traditional theater, dance and music. "Forgiveness," a contemporary examination of the conflicts, strives to reconcile the three countries in hopes of a united future.

Directed by Shi-Zheng, the work will be performed as part of the University Musical Society series Friday, March 24, at the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor.

"It's about making peace about the horror of World War II," said Shi-Zheng. "I'm emotionally attached to this piece. There's so much unresolved anger among the people. I want to bring this to the world's attention. The history of Asia is hardly taught. I wanted to inspire people to learn about what happened. Korea was also being colonized by Japan and Korean women were forced to be sex slaves for Japanese soldiers."

Based on a ghost story, "The Punishment of Zi Du," the work follows a warrior who betrays and kills his best friend. Zi Du is then haunted by his ghost.

"It's a ghost revenge story for how history comes back to haunt," said Shi-Zheng. "It means something has not settled in the past. It's about anger and revenge - the endless cycle of killing."

Co-commissioned by the University Musical Society, the Asia Society, Festival d'Automne in Paris, Hebbel Theater, Berlin, the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, and the Flynn Theater for the Performing Arts in Vermont, the project was three years in the making. The cast includes master artists of three of the leading performing art forms in east Asia: Japanese noh theater, which evolved over the 16th and 17th centuries, features a sonorous singing style, small gestures and even silence. Jingju (Chi-

nese opera) is colorful with acrobatics and flamboyant costumes. Korean salpuri dance is based on traditional shaman ritual. The music fuses traditional instrumentation from the three cultures. Composer Eve Beglarian uses Japanese drumming by Kenny Endo and Chinese plucked lute by Wu Man to create a soundscape with contemporary shading.

The final product mirrors Shi-Zheng's desire "to have the liberty to become an artist and to have enough distance to know where I came from." Shi-Zheng, who left China in 1987 to pursue a master's degree at New York University, was 7-years-old when the cultural revolution occurred in China. Shi-Zheng started to study traditional singing and eventually went on to study Chinese traditional opera as an actor.

New vision

"I wanted to create some new theater expression, a new vision with a new staging and new content about 20th century consciousness," Shi-Zheng said. "I'm fascinated with Japanese noh theater, which is 600 years old with masks and very minimal. There's restrained movement, but it describes great emotion."

When "Forgiveness" recently premiered at the Walker Art Center, Shi-Zheng held a question-and-answer period afterward in an effort to assess its impact.

"People wanted to know whether forgiveness is possible," said Shi-Zheng. "From the bottom of my heart, I'm longing for that to start fresh, to pass beyond hate and anger. In history, Korean, Chinese and Japanese cultures have benefited from each other and should continue to share."

University Musical Society programming director Michael Kondziolka expects Shi-Zheng's message to be well received in Ann Arbor.

Kondziolka began working with Shi-Zheng three years ago after learning about the 19-hour "Peony Pavilion" opera the 37-year-old director produced as part of the Lincoln Center Festival last summer. "Forgiveness" makes its New York premiere at the festival in July.

"I was interested in Chen as an artist and the power of the work as an artistic expression, but also as an education," said Kondziolka. "It's frightening how little we know I was intrigued with his vision for this piece - the cultural and artistic issues he wanted to pursue - the interesting and conflicted history and just educating people through theater about these three distinct cultures."

"Forgiveness"

What: A contemporary multi-disciplinary theater work
When: 8 p.m. Friday, March 24
Where: Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor
Tickets: \$36, \$32, \$24, \$16. Call (734) 764-2538



"Forgiveness" unites the cultures of China, Japan and Korea in a contemporary work featuring elements of traditional theater, dance and music from the three countries.

Photo by Jack Vartoogian

POPULAR MUSIC

Ode to Paradime: Remember his name

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@oe.homedomain.net

In the mid-'80s, Freddie Beauregard could be seen break-dancing in the streets of Livonia. These days, the rapper known as Paradime can hold his own among Detroit's best hip-hop artists. With friends like Kid Rock and Joe C supporting him, it doesn't get much better.

"They're the next Kid Rock and Eminem of Detroit," lauded Joe C. "Be on the lookout for Paradime."

When he's not working on material or performing, Paradime can be found at Innisfree Irish Pub and Grill in Garden City. That's where he was on Tuesday, March 14, when he spoke with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers about his views of life and his future in hip hop.

Boom

With D.J. Mark EP always spinning at his side, Paradime's selling out - out of his self-produced full-length CD "Paragraphs" and out of tickets for shows at venues like Detroit's St. Andrews Hall. Like an explosion, the two burst onto the scene in the early '90s and have been collaborating on hip-hop rhymes and rhythms non-stop. It all started with a song called "The Burbs." "Ever since then, boom, it's been on," said Mark EP, a Westland resident.

But Paradime's music - backed by



Through his eyes: Freddie "Paradime" Beauregard of Livonia is up for two Detroit Music Awards and has earned widespread notoriety in the metro area's hot hip hop scene.

the band Plaidapus - isn't something for hip-hop fans alone. "It's really true to life," said Paradime. Early hip-hop influences like Run DMC and House of Pain ring through in the CD, which took more than a year to complete. What started out as a 7-song EP grew into enough "Paragraphs" to write a novel, chronicling the life and thoughts of a man called Paradime. "It's like having a conversation with me on a dif-

ferent day," he said. "I really wanted to give people a real package for their money."

Rob Seale, a singer with the punk-pop band Wrist-Rocket and a fellow "Livonia" resident, wandered into the pub and showed his support for Paradime. Seale said hip-hop music is something kids easily relate to these days. "I just think, especially living in Detroit - not only the city - but in (suburban) schools, hip-hop is everywhere," he said. "From Catholic Central to Livonia Franklin, hip-hop is just at such an influx. It's just not on the street corner. (Paradime writes) about stuff I can relate to and all of the kids can relate to." Seale has known Paradime since they were kids: both attended St. Michaels School in Livonia.

His name is...

The moniker was derived from the Soundgarden song "Searching With My Good Eye Closed," written by Chris Cornell. In college, Beauregard listened closely to the lyrics: "And I'm on my way/ Looking for the paradigm/ So I can pass it off/ Is it on my side." He got hooked on the concept of a paradigm, defined on his CD as "kind of the way you see the world."

"I gave it my own twist," he said. "I needed something different, a name people will remember."

At the pub, employees and customers remember it well. And the bartenders know just what to serve him. In

Paradime's love-for-beer anthem "Ode to Guinness," he sings: "You can find me up at Innisfree/ Like yo Mickey, Guinness me." The song started out as a joke, with Paradime singing in R&B style. But it worked.

"That's just his personality," said Mark EP. "He's a funny guy. That's why it appeals to everybody. But it's not all sugar-coated."

Detroit Music Awards

"Ode to Guinness" was just one of 18 reasons for the success of "Paragraphs." "We're all out of it," said Paradime. The first single, "Broke," is nominated for Hip Hop Song of the Year and Paradime is nominated for Best Hip Hop Artist at this year's Detroit Music Awards, April 14. Paradime will perform at the show, which is being hosted by his friend and mentor, Kid Rock.

"One thing we learned from him was about a live stage show, give something to the crowd," said Paradime.

"No one wants to see a rapper," added Mark EP.

Done deal

Now signed to a production deal with Atlantic subsidiary Top Dog Records, Paradime's the talk of Detroit. Kid Rock is remixing songs like "Same Ol' Same" and "Broke" and helping promote Paradime. Watching Kid Rock, Eminem and the Smooth Machines go

Please see PARADIME, E1

Hot tickets David Copperfield brings his magic to the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Friday-Sunday, March 24-26. Performance times vary. Tickets \$27.50, \$37.50 and \$45, call (248) 433-1515, or (313) 983-6611 for tickets and information.

Imaginative premise misses flight at Meadow Brook

By FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

fprovenzano@oe.homecomm.net

It's painfully clear that the weakness of many plays is the lack of a compelling story. That's hardly the problem with *Chagall's Arabian Nights* at Meadow Brook Theatre.

On the contrary, shortly after it's been made clear the play will deal with the spiritual transformation of Marc Chagall, one of the 20th century's greatest artists, the promise of a noble tale elevates expectations.

What transpires, however, is several simultaneous narratives told amid a tangled web of oral

What: Premiere of "Chagall's Arabian Nights," a love story inspired by the art of Marc Chagall, by Meadow Brook Theatre Playwright-in-Residence Karim Alrawi
When: Matinee and evening shows through Sunday, April 9.
Where: Meadow Brook Theatre on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester Hills
Tickets: \$19.50-35. Call (248) 377-3300.

storytelling.

Although there are special moments of mermaids, genies, talking trees and flying horses, don't expect the high-adventure of a magic carpet ride, the bravado of Sinbad the Sailor or a death-defying knife fight among thieves.

While *Chagall's Arabian Nights* offers an imaginative

premise, it loses its way in the fog and never quite takes flight.

Basically, the surrealistic play is the ambitious story of the famous painter who lost his spiritual connection to the lyrical world of lush color.

Struggling with his identity as a Jew and his loneliness since his wife's death, Chagall finds solace in the company of his for-

mer housekeeper-turned-lover, Virginia.

To inspire him, Virginia reads the famous Arabian tales. What unfolds, however, is far from inspiring.

A rotating stage and a minimal set hardly evoke imaginary flights to 15th-century Arabia. And there are few clues as to how the ancient tales transformed Chagall's vision, reinvigorated his artistry and rekindled his capacity to love.

Only the energy and occasional wit of Robert Morgan (Young Marc, Badr) resuscitates the play from a generally dispassionate performance. (Probably the result of portraying characters that are more like cut-outs than

three-dimensional human beings.)

In the languishing first act, for instance, long passages of exposition are employed to tell of Chagall's insecurities, including his fear of being discounted merely as a painter of angels.

Only the entrance of life-size puppets offers a reprieve. But their muffled voices do little to enhance the illusion, and only draw attention to the production clichés.

The second act is an improvement, only to be undermined by an abrupt, maudlin ending delivered with a neat bow and ribbon.

The play won the 1998 USA Plays Today Playwriting Award

in the category of best script suitable for family presentation.

But beyond the surprise appearance of the puppets and modest special effects, it hardly seems that most children — used to seeing *Star Wars* magic on the screen — would find engaging the unimpressive on-stage wizardry.

Perhaps something was lost when playwright Karim Alrawi adapted his award-winning play to the Meadow Brook stage.

In the end, "Chagall's Arabian Nights" doesn't deliver on the promise of the play's expectations, leaving only the hollow hype of "imaginative" special effects promoted in the pre-opening publicity.

Courage, passion, and love inspire great stories

BACKSTAGE
PASS



ANN
DELISI

There was a time, not so long ago, that great achievements did not necessarily stand the test of time. Without today's glut of media attention that surrounds even minor events, the most noteworthy individuals often had to

rely on the retelling of a great story through the arts.

As a deluge of publicity accompanies the opening of Comerica Park in April, a new film that tells the heroic story of Tiger legend Hank Greenberg is set for a weekend series at the DIA's Detroit Film Theatre.

Baseball film

"The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg" should generate plenty of interest in the Detroit area. Obviously, baseball fans will love this account of one of the greatest sluggers ever to play the game. Local history buffs will appreciate the wealth of archival footage of Detroit in the 1930s and 1940s. The film also showcases a number of well-known local folks, from Tiger broadcaster Ernie Harwell to politicians Carl and Sander Levin. But the most inspiring aspect of the film is Hammerin' Hank's demonstration of dignity

■ **Through the ages, inspiring people have been immortalized by artists, playwrights, composers, and filmmakers.**

and grace in light of the pervasive anti-Semitism of his heyday.

"Hank Greenberg was an articulate, smart and wonderful man who was very upfront about being Jewish. His ability to navigate the waters during the tensions of the time establishes him as a hero, not just for his accomplishments on the field, but in the area of civil rights," says Elliot Wilhelm, curator of the Detroit Film Theatre.

The film makes its local premiere Friday, March 31 through Sunday, April 2, and will be the subject of a featured segment on Detroit Public TV's BACKSTAGE PASS, airing 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 26.

Voices of Light

Through the ages, inspiring people have been immortalized by artists, playwrights, composers, and filmmakers. A new production bridges today's music with a silent film from the 1920s, "The Passion of Joan of Arc." Nearly 70 years after Carl Dreyer released his film, composer Richard Einhorn created an origi-

nal oratorio to the movie called "Voices of Light," which has been hailed as "a great masterpiece of contemporary music."

The film and oratorio with the Rackham Symphony Choir make a Detroit premiere Sunday, April 2, at the State Theatre. BACKSTAGE PASS classical music host Dave Wagner offers a preview in the March 26 program.

Love story

Sometimes, artists themselves become the subjects of other creative works, as in the case of the Meadow Brook Theatre production of "Chagall's Arabian Nights," which runs through April 9. At the root of playwright Karim Alrawi's latest work is a love story. While grieving the death of his wife Bella in the 1940s, artist Marc Chagall fell in love with his housekeeper, Virginia. It was Virginia's retelling of the classic "Arabian Nights" tales that helped inspire Chagall's striking illustrations. The artist's drawings are the origin for one of the most visually-stimulating productions you'll ever see, with Alrawi's use of larger-than-life puppets to portray flying horses, genies and mermaids.

Courage, passion, and love may be recurring themes in the arts, but it is the endless variations in how the great stories are told that keep the arts fresh, and the audiences entertained.



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A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

CENTURY THEATRE: "Always...Patsy Cline" continues to Aug. 27, at the theater, Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800/(248) 645-6666

GEM THEATRE: "Escanaba in da Moonlight," a comedy by Jeff Daniels, through June 25. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesday, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, 33 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

JET: Arthur Miller's "Broken Glass," March 23-26, March 29-April 2 and April 5-9, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and Sunday, 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday and Wednesday, in the Aaron DeRoy Theatre, lower level of the Jewish Community Center, West Bloomfield. \$15-\$25. (248) 788-2900

COLLEGE

EMU THEATRE: "Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 24-25 and Thursday, March 23, in the Sponberg Theatre, Ypsilanti. \$13 Friday-Saturday, \$11 Sunday, \$8 Thursday. (734) 487-1221

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE: "Cactus Flower," dinner theater performance 6:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 24-25 and March 31-April 1; theater performance only 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 7-8 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 2, in the Liberal Arts Theater, Schoolcraft College, Livonia. \$19 dinner theater, \$8 theater only. (734) 462-4596

U-D MERCY THEATRE: "The King Korn Trio," March 30-April 16, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday except for April 2, in the McAuley Theatre on campus. Detroit. \$10. \$8 seniors/students. (313) 993-1130

U-M THEATRE: "S'lichot" by Kim Yaged, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25 and March 30-April 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26 and April 2, at the Trueblood Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$14. (734) 764-0450

WSU HILBERRY: "Our Town," 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 28, and 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 30-31, "Five by Tenn" continues to May 6, at the theater, Detroit. \$11-\$18. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATER

BIRMINGHAM TEMPLE PLAYERS: "The Wayside Motor Inn" 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25 (\$10 members, \$12 non-members), and 7 p.m. Sunday, March 26 (\$5 members, \$7 non-members), at the Birmingham Temple, Farmington Hills. \$10 members, \$12 non-members. (248) 477-1410

FIRST THEATRE GUILD OF BIRMINGHAM: "The Pied Piper of Hamelin," 8 p.m. Friday, March 24 and 31 and Saturday, April 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday-Sunday, March 25-26 and Sunday, April 2, at the theater, Birmingham. \$7. \$5 students/seniors. (248) 644-2087, ext. 151

HEARTLAND THEATRE COMPANY: "Play by Play Marathon" noon to midnight Saturday, April 1 with a 6:30 p.m. reception celebrating the theatrical community during the Seventh Inning Stretch, at the Roeper School, Birmingham, \$5 for one hour, \$20 all-day admission, all tickets sold at door. (248) 988-1094

RIDGE DALE PLAYERS: "Oklahoma!" March 24-26, 30-31 and April 1. Friday-Saturday shows 8 p.m., 3 p.m. Sunday, at the theater in Troy. (248) 988-7049

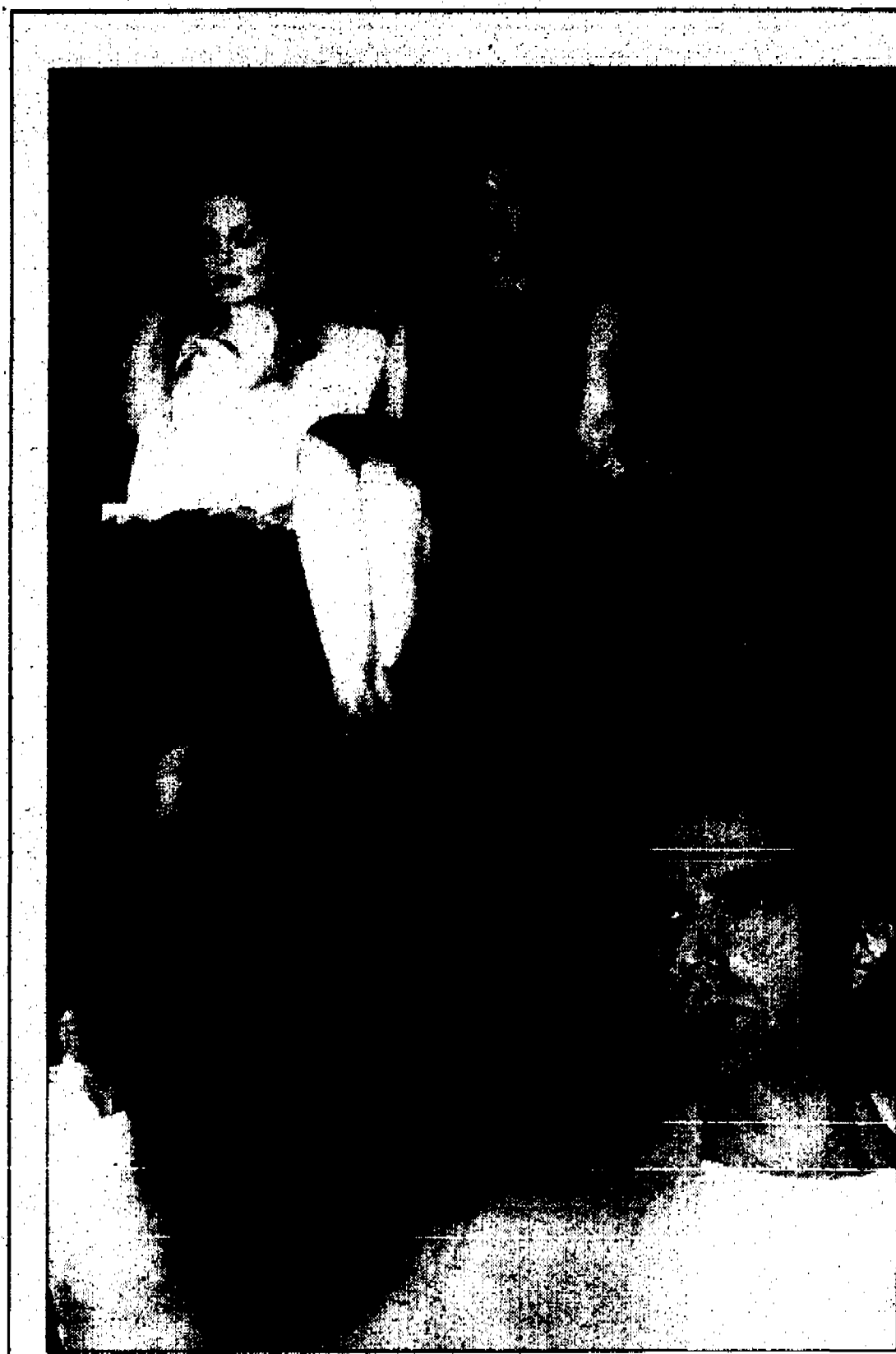
ST. DUNSTON'S THEATRE GUILD OF CRANBROOK: "Foxfire," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25, at the theater, Bloomfield Hills. \$12. \$10 students/seniors. (248) 644-0527

STAGECRAFTERS: "Barefoot in the Park," March 24-April 9, signed performance for deaf Thursday, April 6, at the Belding Theatre, Royal Oak. \$12-\$14. (248) 541-6430 or for TTY assistance (248) 541-6796

VILLAGE PLAYERS: "Sherlock Holmes" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 24-25 and March 31-April 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at the theater, Birmingham. \$12. (248) 644-2075

DINNER THEATER

BAGS THEATRE: "Flanagan's Wake," 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Tickets



Splitting Image: David Copperfield brings his magic to the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Friday-Sunday, March 24-26. Performances are 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday with additional shows 2 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Tickets \$27.50, \$37.50 and \$45 available at Ticketmaster outlets, or call (248) 433-1515 to charge by phone. For more information, call (313) 983-6611.

(25 Thursday and Sunday, and \$30 Friday-Saturday); and "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Pontiac. (248) 645-6666

FOX LAIR DINNER THEATRE: Presents "Murder at the Howard Johnson's," a hilarious comedy runs Saturday nights only. 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner (show follows), at Fox Hills Golf Club, Plymouth. \$29.95. (734) 453-7272

RAMADA HOTEL DINNER THEATRE: "Fools" a comic fable by Neil Simon, on alternate Thursdays, 7 p.m. dinner, show follows, at the theater, Southfield. \$25. (248) 544-0283

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS: "Amahl and the Night Visitors," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 30-April 1, and 2 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at Churchill High School, Livonia. \$7. \$5 students/seniors. (734) 523-8841

MARQUIS THEATRE: "The Pied Piper of Hamelin," 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, through April 28, and 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, April 24-28, at the theater, Northville. \$7.50. (248) 349-8110

PUPPETART: "Purim Shpiel," a rod puppet musical based on the Book of Esther 2 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River, \$7, \$5 children. (313) 961-7777

U-D JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL & ACADEMY: "West Side Story," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Berkley High School Auditorium, Berkley. (313) 862-5400, ext. 280

SPECIAL EVENTS

ANTIQUE PHOTOS/PAPER AMERICANA/POSTCARDS SHOW: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at K of C Hall, Clawson. \$3. (248) 968-5910

BUILDERS HOME & FLOWER SHOW: 2-10 p.m. Thursday-Friday, March 23-24, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, March 25, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Cobb Center, Detroit. \$6.50, \$4.50 seniors, \$4 ages 6-12. (248) 862-1019 or www.builders.org

COLLECTIBLES SHOW: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at the Livonia Holiday Inn. \$3, children free. (734) 484-8493

NEW SHANGHAI CIRQUE: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Clinton Township. \$10. (610) 286-2222

PHOTO SEMINAR: Canton photographer Ted Nelson is one of the presenters at the 37th annual

Photo Seminar Friday-Sunday, March 24-26 at Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn. Advance registration is suggested and will be accepted through Monday, March 20. (248) 474-6509 or (810) 775-3165

FAMILY EVENTS

MARC THOMAS & MAX THE MOOSE: 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. \$5. \$3 children to benefit Parents of Children with Down Syndrome. (248) 827-9135

CLASSICAL

ANN ARBOR FESTIVAL OF SONG: Concert of music by Brahms, Schumann and Wagner, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$5-\$7. (734) 769-2999

BACH RECITAL SERIES: By James Kibbie 4 p.m. Sunday March 26, 3:30 p.m. informal talk, in Blanche Anderson Moore Hall, University of Michigan School of Music, Ann Arbor. (734) 764-0583

BEAUX ARTS TRIO: 4 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Rackham Auditorium, Ann Arbor. \$18-\$34. (734) 764-2538

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Salute to the 2000 Summer Olympics concert, plus a fund-raising dinner to salute the BBDO's 25th anniversary, 7 p.m. Saturday, April 2, Temple Beth El, Bloomfield Hills. \$5 adults, \$30 students for concert and dinner; concert only \$20 adults, \$15 students. (248) 645-2276

BOHEMIAN PHILHARMONIC: Wayne State University's music department will host a performance by the Bohemian Chamber Philharmonic 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28 in the Community Arts Auditorium, Cass and Kirby on the campus, Detroit. \$15. (313) 577-1795

MADONNA UNIVERSITY: Student music recital 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26, in Kresge Hall on campus, Livonia. Free, but donations to music scholarship fund accepted. (734) 432-5709

REDFORD CIVIC SYMPHONY: Presents their annual "Cabaret" concert 8 p.m. Sunday, March 26 at Thurston High School in Redford. Free.

SONGS OF LATE ROMANTIC MASTERS: Soprano Carolyn Bertrand, tenor Rupert DeSatis, clarinetist Keith Owyer and pianist Lois Kearre perform music of Strauss, Wolf, Schumann, Debussy, Faure and Brahms, 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 28 at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$5-\$10. (734) 769-2999

TAKACS QUARTET: 8 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at Seligman Performing Arts Center, Detroit County Day School. \$18-\$65. \$15 students. (248) 645-6666/(248) 737-9980

POPS/ SWING

HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN: 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, at The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$13.50. (734) 763-TKTS

MIGHTY MEATY SWING KINGS: Perform at "The New Big Swing Extravaganza," doors open at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at the Token Lounge, Westland.

JIM PARAVANTES & COMPANY: Frank Sinatra Tribute 7-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday through March, at Dunlevy Z River Place, Detroit. (313) 259-0909

THE SPRING SWING: Concert celebrating Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman and the Andrews Sisters, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Redford Theatre, Detroit. \$10. (313) 531-4407

AUDITIONS/ OPPORTUNITIES

BARBARA ANN KARMANOS CANCER INSTITUTE: Auditions for singers and dancers (men and women ages 18 and up) for annual dinner 6:30-10 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, March 29-30, additional talents like acrobatics and juggling an asset, bring one-tempo song, either Broadway-style or operatic, at First United Methodist Church, Royal Oak. (248) 738-0227

HENRY FORD MUSEUM & GREENFIELD VILLAGE: Auditions for 9 positions for spring shows (May 8-June 15) and 30 positions for summer shows June 17-Aug. 20, 2-7 p.m. Sunday, March 12 and 4-8:30 p.m. Monday, March 13, at the Anderson Center Theater inside Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn. (313) 982-6044

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Is looking for an executive director/general manager to work with the music director and board to provide the vision and plan for the growth of the organization and provide primary leadership in development, fund-raising, marketing and promotion activities. For more on the description/requirements or an application, visit the Web site at www.plymouthsymphony.org

SECOND CITY-DETROIT: Casting call for experienced performers (Equity and non-Equity) by appointment only Monday-Wednesday, March 27-29, at Second City, Detroit. (313) 471-3453 by Friday, March 24 to schedule.

SOLO CONCERTO COMPETITION: The Bohemians Club (also known as The Musicians Club of Greater

Detroit), hosts its competition for orchestral instruments (high school and college students ages 16-22), must submit performance tape by April 1. For application, e-mail CoufLinks@aol.com

THEATRE GUILD OF LIVONIA REDFORD: Open auditions for singers, dancers and specialty acts, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 25, bring 3-5 minutes of prepared material, at the theater, Redford. (313) 531-0554. Performance dates May 5-6.

TONY 'N' TINA'S WEDDING: Auditions for female keyboardist/pianist who also sings, to hire as a substitute/understudy for performances at the Baci Theatre, 4-6 shows a week, Thursday-Sunday, also bass player needed for full-time, (248) 253-8843

JAZZ

GEM JAZZ TRIO: Performs 7-11 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, Detroit. (313) 963-9800

MATT MICHAELS TRIO: With saxophonist Larry Nozero 8-11:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, at Ron's Fireside Inn, Garden City. \$5 cover in Jazz Room, waived with dinner order, \$5 drink minimum. (734) 762-7756

DAVID MURRAY/KAHIL EL/ZABAR: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$10-\$25. (734) 769-2999

ED SARATH & TIMSCAPE WITH KARL BERGER: 8 p.m. Friday, March 24, at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor. \$15. \$10. (734) 769-2999

JANET TENAJ: 9 p.m. Friday, March 24, at Tom's Oyster Bar, Southfield. (248) 356-8881.

LARRY NOZERO: 8-11:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, Ron's Fireside Inn, Garden City. \$5 cover in Jazz Room, waived with dinner order, \$5 drink minimum. (734) 762-7756

WORLD MUSIC

DETROIT SYMPHONY: A New Pops Consortium Production, "A Celtic Celebration," 8 p.m. Thursday, March 23, 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 24-25, and 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Orchestra Hall. \$18-\$47. (313) 576-5111

FORGIVENESS: A contemporary multi-disciplinary theater work blending elements of traditional Chinese, Japanese and Korean theater, dance and music, 8 p.m. Friday, March 24, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. \$36, \$32, \$24, \$16. (734) 764-2538

FOLK/ BLUEGRASS

GREAT BIG SEA: 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, at The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$17.50. (734) 763-TKTS

ROBERT EARL KEEN: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$17.50. (734) 763-TKTS

BRIAN LILLIE & THE SQUIRREL MOUNTAIN ORCHESTRA: 8 p.m. Friday, March 24, at Green Wood Coffee House, Ann Arbor. \$8. (734) 665-8558

BUDDY AND JULIE MILLER: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, at The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$13.50. (734) 763-TKTS

ODETTA: 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, at The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$17.50. (734) 763-TKTS

JACKIE ROUSH: The punk-folk artist performs 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, at the Studio Cafe, Oakland Community College, Farmington Hills. Free. www.JackieRoush.com

RICHARD THOMPSON: 8 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$25. (734) 763-TKTS

CHORAL

ARCHANGELS: A concert of religious music by the a cappella choir from St. Petersburg, Russia, 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 31, at St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church School & Activities Center, Redford Township. Goodwill donation. (313) 937-2120/(248) 855-3247

WARRIORS VOICES: All a cappella performance 7 p.m. Sunday, March 26, Guardian Lutheran Church, Dearborn. \$10. \$7 students/seniors. (313) 317-6566

POETRY/ SPOKEN WORD

THE WRITER'S VOICE: New York City poet and prose writer Edward Field and Argentine author Osvaldo Sabino, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday,

March 29, at the Scarab Club, Detroit. Free. (313) 267-5310, ext. 338

DANCE

ADVANCED CONTRA DANCE: 8 p.m. Friday, March 24, at the Pittsfield Grange, Ann Arbor. \$8. (734) 665-8863

COUNTRY LINE DANCING: Lessons 5-9 p.m. Saturday, March 25, in the Food Court at Wonderland Mall, Livonia. Free. (734) 522-4100

HIT AND RUN: DANCES FOR A NEW CENTURY: Performed 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31 and April 1 by Oakland University's Dance Company at Varner Recital Hall on campus in Rochester. \$10. \$8 seniors, \$5 students. (248) 370-3024

GARTH FAGAN DANCE: Thursday, March 30 to Sunday, April 2 at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, Detroit. Performances 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday. \$30-\$40. (313) 963-2366/(248) 645-6666

MOONDUSTERS DANCE: 8:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Livonia Civic Center. (248) 967-1428/(734) 423-6381

POLISH CENTENNIAL DANCERS: With the Radomskie Polish Folk Dance Ensemble, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26, at Churchill High School, Livonia. \$8. (734) 422-1731

SWAN LAKE: Eric Johnston's Detroit Ballet presents Tchaikovsky's classic tale 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, April 9, William M. Costick Activities Center, 28600 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills. \$8, \$5. (248) 473-9570

COMEDY

ELDORADO COUNTRY CLUB: Kirk Noland with a live phone show 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 24-25; Big Daddy Fitz with Tim Costello & Dee Proffitt, 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1, at the club, Commerce Township. (248) 624-1050

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB: Pete George, also Michael Jr., Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25; Angel Salazar, also Mark England Wednesday-Saturday, March 29-April 1, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sunday (\$5). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S: Kevin Meany, Friday-Saturday, March 24-25, at the club, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE: Mark Britten, also Ryan Ridley, Thursday-Saturday, March 23-25; Blair Shannon, also Jim Hamm, Thursday-Saturday, March 30-April 1, at the club, Royal Oak. (248) 542-9900

SECOND CITY: "Paradigm Lost" 8 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday; additional shows 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday at 10:30 p.m. The 10:30 p.m. shows, and 8 p.m. shows Wednesday-Thursday, and Sunday, are followed by an improv set at no additional cost. \$10, Wednesday-Thursday, and Sunday; \$17.50 Friday, \$19.50 on Saturday. (313) 965-2222. (248) 645-6666 or online at www.ticketmaster.com

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

DETROIT ZOO: Mosaic Youth Theatre performs works about amphibians 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays through March 25 in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery Theater at the zoo, Royal Oak. \$7.50. \$5.50 seniors/students. \$4.50 ages 2-12. (248) 398-0903

DOUGLAS GREAT LAKES MUSEUM: Visit the newest exhibition "Folk Art of the Great Lakes" or "Racing on the Wind: Sailing on the Great Lakes," also a temporary exhibit on the construction and launch of the S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald, at the museum on Belle Isle, Detroit. Regular admission \$2. \$1 seniors/children ages 12-18 during the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. (313) 852-4051

HENRY FORD MUSEUM/GREENFIELD VILLAGE: Family days continue with a celebration of the 1970s Saturday-Sunday, March 25-26, at the museum in Dearborn. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. \$12.50, \$11.50 seniors, \$7.50 kids 5-12, members and children under 5 free. (313) 271-1620

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM: New exhibit, "American Vacations & Leisure," opens and continues

8 days a week

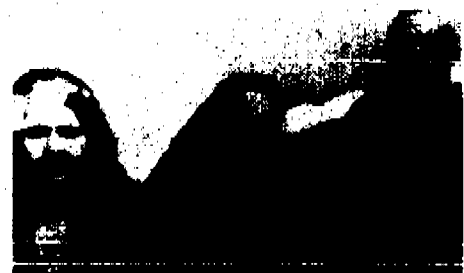
Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Stephanie Casola; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279. Items must include the date, time, venue, admission price and a telephone number.

through August, 7:30 p.m. at the museum, Plymouth. \$3. \$1 students, \$7 family. (734) 455-8940
U-M MUSEUM OF ART: "The Orchid Pavilion Gathering," an exhibit of 60 Chinese works spanning nearly 900 years continues to Sunday, March 26; at the museum, Ann Arbor. Free, but a \$5 donation is suggested. Call (734) 764-0395 or visit the Web site at www.umich.edu/~umma/

LIVE MUSIC

BRYAN ADAMS: 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 3, State Theatre, Detroit. \$29.50-\$39.50. (248) 645-6666
THE ALLIGATORS: 9 p.m. Friday, March 31, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-8609
LORI AMEY: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Borders Books and Music, Birmingham. All ages. Free. (248) 203-0005
MARC ANTHONY: Cancelled.
ASTRAL PROJECT: 9 and 11:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 17-18, Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 662-8310
JOHNNIE BASSETT AND THE BLUES INSURGENTS: 10 p.m. Thursdays. Music Menu, Detroit. (313) 964-6368
BEENIEMAN: With Kirk Davis and Silver Cat. Juggling by Strictly Roots. 9 p.m. Friday, April 7, Majestic Theatre, Detroit. \$20. (313) 833-9700
B SIDE PLAYERS: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Shelter, Detroit. Free. 18 and over.
BIG BARN COMBO: With Gin Joint Jesters. 9 p.m. Friday, March 31, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$7. 18 and over. (313) 833-9700
BLINK-182: With Bad Religion, Fenix TX. 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 9, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$25. (248) 645-6666
BLUE CAT: 7 p.m. Friday, March 24, Fox and Hounds, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800; Thursday, March 30, Oxford Inn, Novi. \$25. (248) 555-8556
BRAINMUTE: Saturday, April 15, Paychecks, Hamtramck; Saturday, April 29, Berkley Front, Berkley; Tuesday, May 2, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. brainmuted@hotmail.com
THE BROTHERS GROOVE: 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 31, at Edison's, Birmingham. Free. (248) 645-2150; Sunday, March 26, Dick O'Dows, Birmingham. (248) 642-1135
JIMMY BUFFETT & THE CORAL REEFER BAND: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$46 pavilion/ \$23.50 lawn. Includes \$1 donation to SFC Foundation. (248) 645-6666
CAPTURE THE FLAG: With Moods for Moderns, Dead Seasons. 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555
CAT POWER: 8 p.m. Friday, April 7, Mill Street Lounge, Clutch Cargo, Pontiac. \$10. (313) 961-MELT
TRACY CHAPMAN: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 9, State Theatre, Detroit. \$27.50-\$35. All ages. (248) 645-6666
CHEF CHRIS BLUES BAND: 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Karl's Cabin, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450
CHIPS: 8 p.m. Saturday, March 25, Nankin Mill Tavern, Westland. (734) 427-0622
CLOUD NINE: With Supereation. 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555
PAULA COLE: With Wood. 8 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Clutch Cargo's, Pontiac. All ages. \$15. (248) 645-6666
B. COOKE AND PRIME NUMBERS: 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555
DEATHGIRL.COM: With Six Clips, The Katies. 8 p.m. Saturday, April 15, The Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$6. (313) 961-MELT
DIRTY THREE: With Shannon Wright, Storm & Stress. 8 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$10. (248) 645-6666
D.O.C.: With Powerface, MOC and Digger. 6 p.m. Sunday, April 2, Shelter, Detroit. \$6. All ages. (248) 645-6666
THE DONNAS: With The Snugglers and The Plus Ones. 7 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Magic Stick,

Detroit. \$8 advance. All ages. (313) 833-9700.
EKOOSTIK HOOKAH: With Zen Tricksters. 9 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$16.50. (248) 645-6666
ETHOS: 8 p.m. Friday, March 24, 7th House, Pontiac. \$7. (313) 961-MELT
THE FASTBACKS: With Helle's Belles. 9 p.m. Friday, March 24, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$8 advance. 18 and older. (313) 977-9700 (power pop)
FEMI KUTI: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$13 advance/ \$15 day of show. (248) 645-6666
FLAVOR UNIT: With host Queen Latifah and guests Channael Live, Rowdy rahz, F.A.T.E. and James Gotti. 10 p.m. Friday, March 24, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. 18 and older. \$6. (313) 961-MELT
FOSSIL CIRCUS: 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31, April 1, Bogey's Bar and Grille, Walled Lake. (248) 669-1441
FU MANCHU: With The Stepkings. 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, 7th House, Pontiac. All ages. \$10. (248) 645-6666
GIVE: With Jill Jack, Scott Fab. 8 p.m. Saturday, April 15, Magic Bag, Ferndale. (248) 544-3030
GOLDIE AND MC RAGE: 9 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Motor, Detroit. \$10 advance. 18 and older. (248) 645-6666
GOV'T MULE: With North,



Mississippi Allstars. 9 p.m. Saturday, April 1, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. \$15. (248) 645-6666
GROOVE COLLECTIVE: 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-8555/ 9 p.m. Friday, April 7, Magic Stick, Detroit. (313) 833-9700
GUSTER: With Luna and Josh Rouse. 8 p.m. Thursday, April 6, Majestic Theatre, Detroit. \$12. (313) 833-9700
HARRINGTON BROTHERS: 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, Fox and Hounds, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800
STEFAN HARRIS: 8:10:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6, Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 662-8310
DAVID HOLLAND: 9:11:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 7-8, Bird of Paradise, Ann Arbor. \$20. (734) 662-8310
HOMEGROWN: 6 p.m. Friday, April 7, The Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$10. (248) 645-6666
HOT WATER MUSIC: With Elliot and Inside Five Minutes. 7 p.m. Saturday, April 1, The Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$8. (248) 645-6666
IMPACT 7: Thursday, March 23, Friday-Saturday, March 31, April 1, Oxford Inn, Novi. \$5. (248) 305-8556
JAZZHEAD: 10 p.m. Sundays. Music Menu, Detroit. (313) 964-6368; 8 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Edison's, Birmingham. (248) 645-2150
MARVIN KAHN AND KEITH VREELAND: 7 p.m. Thursdays in April, Le Metro, Southfield. (248) 353-2757 (jazz duo)
JORMA KAUKONEN: With Michael Falzarano. 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25, The Ark, Ann Arbor. \$15. (248) 645-6666
SEAN KALL AND BOB SOMERS OF THE SAMPLES: 9:30 p.m. Monday, March 27, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$12. (248) 645-6666
KNEE DEEP SHAG: With Electric Boogaloo. 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 31, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555
MICHAEL KNOTT: 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, Trinity House Theatre, Livonia. \$10. \$8 for members. (734) 464-6302
KORN: With Staind, DJ C Minus. Mindless Self Indulgence. 6 p.m. Monday, April 3, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Sold Out.
ALLISON KRAUSS AND UNION STATION: Featuring Jerry Douglas. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 28, Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$19.50/ \$26. (248) 645-6666
DONNA KRAVITZ: 8 p.m. Friday, April 14, Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$35. \$25. (248) 645-6666
STEVE LACY & ROSWELL RUDD QUARTET: 8:30 and 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 31-April 1, Bird of Paradise. 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. \$20 advance

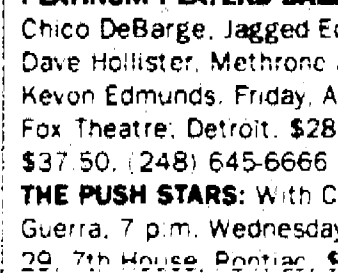
SHEILA LANDIS TRIO: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Lily's Seafood Restaurant and Brewery, Royal Oak. (248) 591-5459
TONY LEVIN & CALIFORNIA GUITAR TRIO: With Richard Leo Johnson. 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$20. (248) 544-3030
BOBBY LEWIS: Wednesday, March 29, Oxford Inn, Novi. (248) 305-5856
LIQUID SOUL: 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$12. (248) 544-3030
LJT BUKEM: Friday, April 7, Motor, Hamtramck. (313) 396-0080 or www.motordetroit.com
LOCAL H: 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, 7th House, Pontiac. \$10. (313) 961-MELT
AJ MCLEAN AS JOHNNY NO NAME: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, State Theatre, Detroit. \$25. (248) 645-6666
DJ MARQUIS: 9 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Science, Detroit. Ladies, no cover. 18 and over. (313) 438-4146
JOHN MCCUTCHEON: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25, First United Methodist Church, Royal Oak. \$12-\$15. \$45 per family. (248) 541-4100 (folk)
MILENCOLIN: With Ten Foot Pole. Vision and Oskar. 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. \$8.50 advance. All ages. (248) 645-6666
MELVINS: 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. \$12. All ages. (248) 645-6666

PAT METHENY TRIO: With Larry Grenadier and Bill Stewart. 8 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Royal Oak Music Theatre. \$37.50. (248) 645-6666
METHOD MAN AND REDMAN: With The Outsidaz. 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 31, State Theatre, Detroit. \$30 advance. All ages. (248) 645-6666
METHODS OF MAYHEM: 8 p.m. Thursday, April 6, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$16.50 advance/ \$18 day of show. www.ticketmaster.com or (248) 645-6666
MODERN TUNEAGE: Battle of the Bands. 7 p.m. Friday, March 24, Wallace Smith Theater, Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge Campus. \$8 at the City of Farmington Hills Department of Special Services, or \$10 at door. (248) 473-9592
IAN MOORE BAND: With The Hot Rod Sinners. 8 p.m. Saturday, April 8, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$10. (248) 544-3030
DJ MUMTAZ: With DJ PuLZ. 9 p.m. Friday, March 24, Science, Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and over. (313) 438-4146
MUSIC MENU JAZZ ORCHESTRA: 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Music Menu, Detroit. (313) 964-6368
MSO'S: 8 p.m. Saturday, March 25, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$6. (248) 544-3030
NEBULA: With Zen Guerrilla. The Go. 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$8 advance. (248) 544-3030

CLUB CIRCUIT

ALVIN'S: 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. 18 and older welcome. (313) 832-2355 or www.alvins.com
ARBOR BREWING COMPANY: 114 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor. Free. 21 and older. (734) 213-1393 or www.arborbrewing.com
THE ARK: 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. (734) 763-8587
ANDIAMO ITALIA WEST: 6676 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300
BEALE STREET BLUES: 8 N. Saginaw Street, Pontiac. (248) 334-7900
BIRD OF PARADISE: 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-8310
BLIND PIG: 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$3 in advance. \$5 at the door. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or www.blindpigmusic.com
BULLFROG BAR AND GRILL: 15414 Telegraph, Redford. (313) 533-4477
CARBON: Joseph Campau just north of Caniff in Hamtramck. (313) 366-9278
CAVERN CLUB: 210 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 332-9900
CLUTCH CARGO'S/MILL STREET: 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Free before 9 p.m. 21 and older Saturdays; 18 and older Wednesdays. (248) 333-2362 or www.961melt.com
COMO ARENA: 301 Civic Center Drive, Detroit. (313) 983-6616
COWLEY'S: 33338 Grand River Avenue, Farmington. (248) 474-5941
THE DECK AND THE FIVE HOLE: 2301 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. (313) 965-9500
DETROIT SCIENCE: 9 p.m.-5 a.m. Thursday-Saturday, 13090 Inkster Road, Redford. Cover \$10 for 21 and over. Cover \$15 for 18-20 year olds. No cover for women on Thursdays. (313) 438-4146 or www.detroitscience.com
EDISON'S: 220 Merrill Street, Birmingham. (248) 645-2150
ELIE'S: 263 Pierce Street, Birmingham. (248) 647-2420
FIFTH AVENUE BILLIARDS: 215 W. Fifth Avenue, Royal Oak. (248) 542-9922
FLYING FISH TAVERN: 17600 W. 13 Mile, Beverly Hills. (248) 647-7747
FORD ROAD BAR AND GRILL: 35505 Ford Road, Westland. (734) 721-8609
FOX THEATRE: 2211 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. (313) 983-6611
FOX AND HOUNDS: 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 644-4800
GOLD DOLLAR: 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or www.golddollar.com
GROOVE ROOM: 1815 N. Main St., Royal Oak. Free before 10 p.m. nightly. 21 and older. (248) 589-3344 or www.thegrooveroom.com
HILL AUDITORIUM: 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. (734) 764-2538
JOE LOUIS ARENA: 600 Civic Center Drive, Detroit. (313) 983-6606
JO'S KEY CLUB: 1 North Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 338-7337
KARL'S CAFE: 9979 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450
LA BOOM TEEN NIGHTCLUB: Dance night for teens ages 15-19. 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday-Saturday. 1172 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake. (248) 926-9960
LOVELY HEARTS CLUB: 211 E. Washington, Ann Arbor. (734) 913-5506
LOWTOWN GRILL: 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth. (734) 451-1213
MAGIC BAG: 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. (248) 544-3030
MAINSTREET BILLIARDS AND THE ALLEY: Main Street, Rochester. (248) 652-8441
MAJESTIC THEATRE, CAFE AND MAGIC STICK: (313) 833-9700
MEMPHYS SMOKE: 100 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. (248) 543-4300
MICHIGAN THEATRE: 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 668-8397
MOTOR LOUNGE: 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. (313) 396-0080 or www.motordetroit.com
MR. B'S FARM: 24555 Novi Road, Novi. (248) 349-7036
MUSIC MENU: 511 Monroe, Detroit. (313) 964-MENU
THE PALACE: 2 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills. (248) 377-0100 or www.palace.net
PHOENIX PLAZA AMPHITHEATRE: 10 N. Water Street, Pontiac
PINE KNOB MUSIC THEATRE: 175 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com>
PURE BAR ROOM: 1500 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 21 and older. Cover charge Friday-Saturday. (313) 471-PURE
ROCHESTER MILLS BEER COMPANY: 400 Water Street, Rochester. (248) 650-5080
THE ROCKIE SPORTS CAFE: 3632 Elizabeth, Wayne. (734) 729-7337
ROYAL OAK MUSIC THEATRE: 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. (248) 546-7610
THE SCARAB THEATRE: 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. (313) 831-1250
ST. ANDREW'S/THE SHELTER: 431 E. Congress, Detroit. (313) 961-MELT or www.961melt.com
7TH HOUSE: 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 335-3540
STATE THEATRE: 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and over. (313) 961-9451 or www.statetheatre.com
24 KARAT CLUB: 28949 Joy, Westland. 21 and older. (734) 513-5030
313 JAC: Upstairs from Jacoby's. 624 Brush, Detroit. (313) 962-7067
TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE: 38840 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia. Discount for members. (734) 464-6302
U.S. 12 BAR AND GRILL/WAYNE BREWERY: 34824 Michigan Ave., West. Wayne. (734) 722-7639
VELVET LOUNGE: 29 S. Saginaw St., Pontiac. (248) 334-7411
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WAGON WHEEL TAVERN: 102 S. Bridge, Lake Orion. (248) 693-6789
WOODRUFF'S SUPPER CLUB: 212 W. Sixth Street, Royal Oak. (248) 586-1519
XMHEDOS CAFE: Sista Otis performs 8:10 p.m. Sundays at the club. 240 West Nine Mile, Ferndale. All ages. Free. (248) 399-3546
ZIM'S IRISH TAVERN: 13501 Apple Road, Oxford. (248) 969-9467

N' FULL EFFECT: Friday, March 24, Oxford Inn, Novi. \$5. 21 and over. (248) 305-5856
NEGATVLAND: 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13, Clutch Cargo, Pontiac. All ages. \$15 advance. All ages. (248) 645-6666
NINE INCH NAILS: With A Perfect Circle, featuring Maynard from Tool. 8 p.m. Friday, April 14, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$29.50-\$45. (248) 645-6666
NO DOUBT: 5 p.m. Saturday, March 25, Clutch Cargo, Pontiac. Sold Out.
OASIS: With Travis. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, State Theatre, Detroit. Sold Out.
OPENING ACT CONCERT FINALS: 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 23, Meadowbrook Music Festival, Rochester Hills. See the hottest local bands. Free admission and parking.
ORIGINAL HITS: 7 p.m. Monday, March 27, Fox and Hounds, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800
ORIGINAL P: Featuring members of Parliament Funkadelic. 8 p.m. Thursday, April 20, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$20. (248) 645-6666
PARADIME: With Cloud 9 and Super Action. 10 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. 19 and over. \$4. (734) 996-8555
MARTY WILSON-PIPER: 9 p.m. Saturday, April 22, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. 18 and older. \$15. (248) 645-6666
PLATINUM PLAYERS BALL: With Chico DeBarge, Jagged Edge, Joe Dave Hollister, Methrone and Kevin Edmunds. Friday, April 14, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$28.50-\$37.50. (248) 645-6666
THE PUSH STARS: With Cole Guerra. 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, 7th House, Pontiac. \$7. All ages. (248) 645-6666
REVEREND HORTON HEAT: With Hank Williams III. 8 p.m. Thursday, June 8, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$15 advance. \$18 day of show. www.ticketmaster.com
STAN RIDGEWAY: 8 p.m. Saturday,



April 14, Magic Bag.
FERDALE: \$12. (248) 544-3030
THE RIPPINGTONS WITH RUSS FREEMAN: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 16, Royal Oak Music Theatre. Royal Oak. \$37.50. (248) 645-6666
ROLLINS BAND: 6 p.m. Friday, March 31, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$12 advance. \$15 day of show. (248) 645-6666
THE ROSEMONTS: With The Nastys. 10 p.m. Friday, March 24, 313 JAC, Detroit. \$5. 18 and over. (313) 962-7067
TOM RUSSELL: Friday, April 7, Unitarian Church, Bloomfield Hills
RUTH'S HAT: With Flashlight, Hoppin' Mad, Caulfield. 5 p.m. Friday, May 5, Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$6. (313) 961-MELT
SANTANA: With Macy Gray. 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 13, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. Tickets \$25.50 lawn and \$59.50 pavilion. A \$5.00 donation per ticket will be given to the Miragro Foundation. (248) 645-6666
JOHN SCOFIELD BAND AND DEREK TRUCKS BAND: 7 p.m. Thursday, April 6, Mill Street Lounge, Clutch Cargo, Pontiac. \$22. (313) 961-MELT
SECTOR 9: 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. 19 and older. \$8 advance. (734) 996-8555 or www.blindpigmusic.com
SENSEFIELD: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13, The Shelter, Detroit. All ages. \$8. (248) 645-6666
SEVENDUST: Thursday, April 6, Harpo's, Detroit. \$18.50. (248) 645-6666
KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD: 7 p.m. Saturday, March 25, Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$17.50 advance. All ages. (248) 645-6666
SLEATER-KINNEY: With Gossip and The Bangs. 8 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 13, The Majestic, Detroit. \$10. (248) 645-6666
SMASHING PUMPKINS: Wednesday, April 19, Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor. 9 p.m. April 22, Michigan State Fairgrounds. (248) 645-6666
SNOOKY STACK: 9 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Nankin Mill Tavern.
WESTMIN: 7:34 427-0622
SMOKIN' JOE KUBEK: Saturday, April 8, Sisko's, Taylor

SNAPCASE: With Grade, Ensign, and Turmoil. 7 p.m. Saturday, April 8, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$10. (248) 645-6666
SNUFF: With Slo-Poke. 7 p.m. Sunday, March 26, Shelter, Detroit. \$6. All ages. (248) 645-6666
SOD: With Skinlab and A Plow. 8 p.m. Thursday, March 25, St. Andrews Hall. All ages. \$13. (248) 645-6666
BRITNEY SPEARS: With LFO. Bosson. 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 9, Pine Knob.



INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP: Sold Out. 7:30 p.m. Monday, July 10, Pine Knob Music Theatre, Independence Township. \$25 lawn/ \$40 pavilion. Eight ticket limit per person. (248) 645-6666
STATIC X: With Pitchshifter and Reveille. 8 p.m. Thursday, April 27, Clutch Cargo, Pontiac. All ages. \$15. (313) 961-MELT
STRING CHEESE INCIDENT: 8 p.m. Saturday, April 15, Majestic Theatre, Detroit. \$17. (313) 833-9700
SUICIDE MACHINES: With Antifag. Puffers, Bump-n-Lugies. 4 p.m. Saturday, April 22, State Theatre, Detroit. \$10. All ages. (248) 645-6666
SUN MESSENGERS: 9:30 p.m. Thursday, March 23, Karl's Cabin, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450
TAPROOT: With Factory 81 and Fringe. 9:30 p.m. Saturday, April 25, Blind Pig, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555
JOHNNIE TAYLOR AND MILLIE JACKSON: With Marvin Sease and Willie Clayton. 8 p.m. Friday, April 21, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$27.50-\$35. (248) 433-1515

THE TEMPTATIONS: With Ashtford and Simpson. 8 p.m. Sunday, April 16, Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$40-\$47.50. (248) 645-6666
THIRD EYE BLIND: With Tonic. 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, State Theatre, Detroit. All ages. Sold Out.
TINA TURNER: With Luce. 8 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 26, Thursday, June 1, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets on sale for June show \$85.25. \$55.25. \$35.25. Eight ticket limit per person. (248) 645-6666
TRAIN: With Str. 8 p.m. Thursday, April 27, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$15 advance. (248) 645-6666
VARIAC: 10 p.m. Saturday, March 25, 313 JAC, Detroit. \$5. 18 and over. (313) 962-7067
VIOLENT FEMMES: 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 21, State Theatre, Detroit. \$22.50 advance. (248) 645-6666
RANDY VOLIN & SONIC BLUES: Friday, March 31, Rochester Mills Beer Company, Rochester. (248) 650-5080
ROBERT WALTER'S 20TH CONGRESS: 9 p.m. Saturday, April 15, Motor Detroit. Ticket price to be announced. 18 and older. (248) 645-6666
WAXWINGS: 8 p.m. Saturday, March 25, Shelter, Detroit. All ages. (248) 645-6666
MARTY WILSON-PIPER OF THE CHURCH: 9 p.m. Saturday, April 22, St. Andrews Hall, Detroit. 18 and older. \$15. on sale March 11. (248) 645-6666
WITCH DOCTORS: 9 p.m. Friday, March 24, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-8609

WRIST-ROCKET AND SLO-POKE: 10 p.m. Saturday, April 1, Jacoby's, Detroit. 18 and older. (313) 962-7067
DJ D WYNN: 9 p.m. Saturday, March 25, Science, Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and over. (313) 438-4146
TRISHA YEARWOOD: With Jessi Ja Andrews. 8 p.m. Thursday, May 25, Meadowbrook Music Festival, Rochester. \$15.50-\$31. (248) 645-6666
ZEKE: With The Hookers, The Belmics. 8 p.m. Thursday, April 6, Magic Stick, Detroit. \$4. 18 and over. (313) 833-9700
2XL: 10 p.m. Friday, Saturday, March 24-25, Bogey's Bar and Grille, Walled Lake. (248) 669-1441
1964 THE TRIBUTE: 8 p.m. Friday, March 24, Magic Bag, Ferndale. (248) 544-3030 (free admission)

'Wonder Boys' revels in life choices, hopes, dreams

BY TED ANTHONY
AP NATIONAL WRITER

Grady Tripp has fallen, and he can't get up. What's worse, he seems to have no idea that anything's wrong.

In Curtis Hanson's wonderfully elegiac "Wonder Boys," based on Michael Chabon's book, Grady (Michael Douglas) is a raffish, graying writer and Pittsburgh university professor whose first novel propelled him to literary heights. But his follow-up — well, that's another story.

It's not that he can't write it. Just the opposite: He can't stop. Page after page, he churns forth prose from his gut, writing and

writing as his real life sinks ever deeper into inertia.

His umpteenth wife has just left. His affair with the university chancellor (Frances McDormand) is at a crossroads. His agent (Robert Downey Jr.) is pushing him to publish — or perish professionally. One of his students, James Leer (Tobey Maguire), is melting down; another, Hannah Green (Katie Holmes), is trying to seduce him.

This is the premise for the three-day odyssey of angst and epiphany chronicled in "Wonder Boys," a memorable, melancholy ride through one lost soul's slow realization that he has outgrown the shine of his potential.

The prime reason for the movie's success is, somewhat surprisingly, Michael Douglas, an actor known more for evoking the testosterone side of male characters than the sensitive, self-aware side. As played by Douglas, Grady Tripp is a pot-smoking, womanizing, somewhat egomaniacal lit-crit snot who's bought into the praise that's been lavished upon him. But in the three days of his life that we see, the flip side is revealed — the place where the drugs and flings and lack of self-discipline have dumped him. It's not pretty.

What reveals it in stark relief is his relationship with James, a promising young writer having difficulty separating fiction from

reality. Grady takes James under his wing. But as Grady decays and his life unravels, he begins to wonder whether he's in any position to help James — indeed, whether he has any wisdom at all to offer a young version of himself.

Maguire is the perfect choice for James. His bemused take on the world, deployed so well in "Pleasantville" and "The Cider House Rules," takes on a different dimension here. The interplay of truth and deception that governs James' life gives Maguire a chance to branch out, to take the good-hearted characters of his previous films and give them a darker side to conquer. He looks to Grady for support, and finds Grady, equally confused, staring right back.

As Grady's agent, Terry Crabtree, Downey rounds out the triumvirate of wonder boys. He, too, was a star in his profession, but

now he is barely hanging onto his job, thanks to Grady's unfinished manuscript. Seeing the three of them try to claw their way through their lives, each as blind as the other two, is quietly heartbreaking and feels absolutely genuine.

McDormand is her usual welcome presence, this time as a woman balancing the rigors of being a university chancellor with the juggling act that infidelity demands. Holmes, star of the hormones-and-learners-permits TV show "Dawson's Creek," shows again that her movie choices are wiser. She was great in "Go" and "Teaching Mrs. Tingle," and she's great here — as Grady's temptation, but also as his critic.

There is no strict "plot" to "Wonder Boys," simply a rolling, undefined feeling of forward movement that may not actually be forward — much like Grady's

life. The pacing is crucial. The textured neighborhoods of Pittsburgh, rendered in gray winter tones, also fit the mood perfectly.

"Wonder Boys" is a movie about tarnished hopes and making choices — not just the right ones, but the act of making choices itself. As Grady's book keeps growing, Hannah renders her opinion: "It reads as if you didn't make any choices at all."

That's what tends to happen in life. Good, caring men like Grady Tripp hurt themselves and the people they love by shutting down and refusing to make choices. To be happy, sometimes we have to make the tough choices.

That's one of the quieter wonders of life, and the exploration of it is the main reason that "Wonder Boys" turns out to be a relevant, moving piece of filmmaking.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Showtime
Andrews Hills 1-14
2150 N. Opdyke Rd.
Between University & Walton Blvd
248-373-2660
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat.
MP DENOTES NO PALS

MP FINAL DESTINATION (R)
MP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
MP NINTH GATE (R)
MP THREE STRIKES (R)
MP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
MP MY DOG SKIP (PG)
REDEER GAMES (R)
CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13)
SHOW DAY (PG)
THE WHOLE NINE YARDS (R)
PITCH BLACK (R)
WONDER BOYS (R)
SCREAM 3 (R)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Showtime
Downtown 1-3
Michigan & Telegraph
313-561-3440
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sun.

MP FINAL DESTINATION (R)
MP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
MP NINTH GATE (R)
MP MY DOG SKIP (PG)
MP THREE STRIKES (R)
MP SHOW DAY (PG)
MP PITCH BLACK (R)
MP SCREAM 3 (R)

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Showtime
Pentagon 1-3
Telegraph Sq. Lake Rd. W. Side of
Telegraph
810-352-8241
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
MP DENOTES NO PALS

MP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
MP MISSION TO MARS (R)
MP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)

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Pentagon 6-12
2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of
Telegraph
810-354-6777
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All Shows until 6 pm
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Late Shows Fri. & Sat.
MP DENOTES NO PALS

MP FINAL DESTINATION (R)
MP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
MP NINTH GATE (R)
MP THREE STRIKES (R)
MP MY DOG SKIP (PG)
THE CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13)
WONDER BOYS (R)

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MP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
MP NINTH GATE (R)
MP THREE STRIKES (R)
MP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
MP FINAL DESTINATION (R)

THE TIGER MOVIE (G) WONDERBOYS (R)

ALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Showtime
Westland 1-4
6800 Wayne Rd.
One blk. S. of Warren Rd.
313-729-1060
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.
MP DENOTES NO PALS

MP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
MP MISSION TO MARS (R)
MP THE NEXT BEST THING (PG-13)
MP AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
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THE CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13)
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MP BOYS DON'T CRY (R)
MP BEYOND THE MAT (R)
MP NINTH GATE (R)
MP ORPHANS (R)
MP MISSION TO MARS (PG)
SWEET AND LOWDOWN (PG-13)
DROWNING MONA (PG-13)
THE NEXT BEST THING (PG-13)
WHAT PLANET ARE YOU FROM? (R)

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Star
John 1-3
at 14 Mile
32289 John R. Road
248-985-2870
No one under 6 admitted for PG-13 & R rated films after 6 pm

MP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
MP MISSION TO MARS (PG)
MP THE WHOLE NINE YARDS (R)
THE NEXT BEST THING (PG-13)
WHAT PLANET ARE YOU FROM? (R)
THE WHOLE NINE YARDS (R)
SHOW DAY (PG)
SCREAM 3 (R)
THE CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13)
THE GREEN MILE (R)

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250 Buckeye Circle
885-2200
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MP BOYS DON'T CRY (R)

MP MISSION TO MARS (PG) MP NINTH GATE (R) THE NEXT BEST THING (PG-13) REDEER GAMES (R) THE WHOLE NINE YARDS (R) CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13) MY DOG SKIP (PG)

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Southfield
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Northwestern, Off I-696
248-353-STAR
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MP FINAL DESTINATION (R)
MP MISSION TO MARS (PG)
MP THE NINTH GATE (R)
THE NEXT BEST THING (PG-13)
MY DOG SKIP (PG)
WHAT PLANET ARE YOU FROM? (R)
DROWNING MONA (PG-13)
THE WHOLE NINE YARDS (R)
REDEER GAMES (R)
WONDER BOYS (R)
PITCH BLACK (R)
AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
BOILER ROOM (R)
SHOW DAY (PG)
THE TIGER MOVIE (G)
SCREAM 3 (R)
CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star
Winchester
1136 S. Rochester Rd., Winchester
Md.
248-456-1160
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WONDER BOYS (R) NV
SWEET AND LOWDOWN (R)
BOYS DON'T CRY (R)
HANGING UP (PG-13)
BOILER ROOM (R)

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United Artists
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2 Blocks West of Middlebrook
248-780-6572

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MISSION TO MARS (PG) NV
MY DOG SKIP (PG) NV
SCREAM 3 (R)
THE NEXT BEST THING (R) NV
THREE STRIKES (R) NV
REDEER GAMES (R) NV
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BEYOND THE MAT (R)
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MY DOG SKIP (PG) NV
THE NEXT BEST THING (PG-13) NV
WONDERBOYS (R)
THE WHOLE NINE YARDS (R)
AMERICAN BEAUTY (R)
CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13)
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WHAT PLANET ARE YOU FROM? (R)
REDEER GAMES (R)
THE TIGER MOVIE (G)
THE END OF THE AFFAIR (R)

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PITCH BLACK (R)
THE NEXT BEST THING (PG-13)
MY DOG SKIP (PG)
REDEER GAMES (R)
CIDER HOUSE RULES (PG-13)
THE WHOLE NINE YARDS (R)
THE TIGER MOVIE (G)
SHOW DAY (PG)
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HOLY SMOKE (R)
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DROWNING MONA (PG-13)
REDEER GAMES (R)

MP ERIN BROCKOVICH (R)
MP FINAL DESTINATION (R)
MP BOYS DON'T CRY (R)



Drama:
Michael Douglas as Grady Tripp and Frances McDormand as Sara Gaskell in a scene from "Wonder Boys."

FRANK CORNO

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open March 24
THREE STOOGES FESTIVAL
Through Saturday, March 25, the Historic Redford Theatre presents Jerome "Curly" Howard, Larry Fine and Moe Howard in this cinematic event. David Calandine will be the guest organist.

HERE ON EARTH
A wealthy prep student and small town girl fall in love for the first time. When the girl finds she's terminally ill, the boy must decide whether to follow his heart or the future his father has chosen for him. Stars Lelee Sobieski, Chris Klein.

WAKING THE DEAD
Fielding Pierce is a congressional candidate who begins to question his sanity after "seeing" the love of his life, presumed dead, emerge 10 years after a terrorist car bombing. Stars Billy Crudup.

Scheduled to open Friday, March 31
HIGH FIDELITY
An adaptation of Nick Hornby's best-seller, the film stars John Cusack as the owner of a second-hand vinyl shop who's forced to confront his arrested adolescence when his longtime girlfriend leaves him.

THE SKULLS
Rob Cohen directs this film about an over-achieving student at an Ivy League college who joins a secret society called The Skulls with hopes to improve his popularity, not knowing the dangerous implications that will follow.



GEORGE KILPATRICK

Secret: Paul Walker and Joshua Jackson star in "The Skulls."

Film is a modern-day fairy tale

BY DAVID GERMAIN
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

With a name like "Erin Brockovich," it better be good.

After delivering big box office with the sweet and pleasantly titled "Notting Hill" and bigger box office with the dumb and cloyingly titled "Runaway Bride" last year, Julia Roberts comes through with a salty, tough-as-glue-on-fingernails turn in her latest stab at a more dramatic role: as an uneducated but fiercely determined environmental crusader.

Cheers to Roberts and director Steven Soderbergh for not trying to hang an ear-catching title above the credits. Clunky as it sounds, "Erin Brockovich" fits the film like the title character's low-cut, skin-tight outfits.

The movie likely will pack in the crowds. Who wouldn't pay to see Hollywood's reigning nice gal talk trash, dress slutty, champion the little guy, and deal out obscene comeuppances left and right to snooty lawyers?

Roberts stars in the real-life story of Brockovich, a single mom with three kids, roaches in the kitchen, a ratty car, sky-high debts and no employable skills.

After an unsuccessful lawsuit against a rich doctor over a car accident, Erin elbows her way into a clerical job with attorney Ed Maury (Albert Finney), who handled her case. Co-workers complain about her call-girl attire, including gaudy makeup and short leather skirts, and Erin is perpetually in dutch with her boss because of her outspokenness.

pollution scandal involving a utility and poisoned water.

She persuades the reluctant Masry, who has his eye on comfortable retirement, to pursue the case. Downright ignorant on scientific matters at first, Erin soon becomes expert on such toxic compounds as hexavalent chromium.

She sneaks onto utility land, grabbing water samples, plucking mutated frogs from ponds and running from security guards. Her earthy, unlawfully demeanor wins over the 600-plus people affected by the tainted water.

"I hate lawyers," Erin tells them. "I just work for them."

Erin shamelessly puts her looks to work when the law firm needs records from the local water authority.

"What makes you think you can just walk in there and find what we need?" Ed asks her.

"They're called boobs, Ed," she replies.

The script is chock-full of choice, ribald exchanges between Erin and the lawyers, her co-workers and Aaron Eckhart as the biker with a heart of gold who moves in next door. He becomes Erin's romantic interest, and surrogate parent to her children when she begins to neglect them because of the case.

Roberts simply has never been better as she glares and swears her way through the movie, an R-rated Frank Capra heroine with pinpoint accuracy in cutting down to size anyone who needs cutting. She could serve as patron saint for everyone who has ever belatedly thought of a great retort and wished they could go back in time to deliver it.

Finney is fine in his usual gruff teddy-bear mode, and there's solid support from Eckhart, and Marg Helgenberger and Cherry Jones as two of the plaintiffs.

Soderbergh wisely keeps the courtroom scenes to a minimum. This is Erin's story, and the movie focuses on her dogged research, her empathy with the victims, the toll the case takes on her family and the esteem she gains as events unfold.

"I walk into a room and everybody shuts up to see if I've got something to say," Erin proudly says. "I've never had that before."

Slack as the movie is, questions of credibility arise. Erin Brockovich is not your typical trailer-trash mom. How could a woman so willful, intelligent, attractive and self-possessed fail so miserably — then abruptly spring full-blown to skewer the pricey legal windbags of a major utility?

The movie tries to give glimpses of Erin's early expectations and how she failed to live up to them. Lamenting the pocket change in her checking account, she wistfully recalls her days as a beauty queen in Wichita and how she dreamed of doing "something important with my life."

It's a half-hearted effort to explain away Erin's dire straits. As played by Roberts, Erin Brockovich had the goods all along, and it's a stretch to think she couldn't have pulled herself up by her bootstraps, even a little bit, beforehand.

At its core, though, "Erin Brockovich" is a fairy tale, with Roberts as a foul-mouthed Sleeping Beauty. Movie-goers will have great fun watching her awake.

On 'The Go': Detroit 5-piece ready for the road, stage

STEPHANIE A. CASOLA

Bobby Harlow bounces up to the table in a hurried fashion and catches me off guard. It's just after 4 p.m. and the Royal Oak restaurant is still quiet, only the monotone sound of CNN hums behind me. Harlow - chestnut-haired singer of the Detroit-based five-piece, The Go - sheepishly admits he woke up around 3 p.m. and rushed to meet me for his first-ever in-person interview. Surely it's the first of many for The Go, a band that has quickly risen high above Detroit's rock underground.

The name suits them well. Harlow and bandmates John Krautner and Dion Fischer (guitars), Marc Fellis (drums) and Steve Noire (bass) made the fast track to the local music scene. Playing their first official gig at the Magic Stick in Detroit - a dream for most local musicians - The Go got off to an envious start. In just more than two years, the band established a reputation for its "must-see" live performances, recorded one demo, signed with Seattle's Sub

■ 'We're all a bunch of space bandits doing our own thing.'

Bobby Harlow
The Go

Pop Records, and released a debut CD. Now on tour with label-mates Nebula and Zen Guerilla, The Go is balancing a national tour and work on a second album. There's no stopping in sight.

Going, going...

In 1999, "Whatcha Doin'" propelled The Go's music past live shows. "The first record was true Detroit rock 'n' roll. That was on purpose," said Harlow. "Suzy Don't Leave" and "Get You Off" is real Detroit rock 'n' roll."

Now working on a follow-up, Harlow said it's become more "like a concept record, without really going for a concept record." For someone with strong jazz influences, there's no telling where the band's music is going. "With the second record I think people will still be able to recognize we're all a bunch of space bandits doing our own thing."

Those are our space bandits, and they're proud of their hometown. "I think we're just really

raw," said Harlow. "It's a part of everything coming from Detroit."

In the water

Be it rock, rap, hip-hop or blues, Detroit music shares a universal quality. It's just not clear what ties everything together. "It's something that got into the water, a sort of style that I'm really proud of," suggests Harlow.

Proud to be part of this rock subculture, The Go is taking the city back in time. References to Iggy Pop and the Stooges and the MC5 abound when The Go is onstage. And that doesn't really bother them. "The (MC) 5 made great music."

"We have good things in our music. That's why we sound the way we sound. We know about R&B. It's in our blood."

Addictive

The Go, with its abrasive, crunching guitars, intentionally muddy vocals and attitude to spare, is ready to get back on the

road. "Playing every night, it's a real addiction," said Harlow. "I come back from the road and start to really miss playing."

"People are responding really well to us in other cities. The first tour we played (shows) to a maximum of 100 people. This time we've been selling out."

Harlow has his own aspirations for the future of The Go. And they're sky-high. "I hope The Go turns everyone on with purist rock 'n' roll, the roots of rock 'n' roll being Chuck Berry."

Is that too much to wish for? Naah.

As our conversation winded down, Harlow headed into the brisk, windy Michigan evening. He rushed off to visit his grandmother, Connie Orders, who owned a flower shop in Birmingham.

I ask you, how rock star is that?

Go out and see The Go when they stop home on tour with Nebula and Zen Guerilla, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 30, Magic Bag, Ferndale. \$8 in advance. Call (248) 544-3030.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about popular music for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2130 or e-mail at scasola@oe.homecomm.net.



Getting the green light: The Go, fronted by Bobby Harlow, are back in town on a Sub Pop showcase tour.

STAY TUNED...

When it comes to debuting in Detroit, Rev can do it up right. The band, featuring former Plain bandmates singer-guitarist Todd Price, bassist Mike Dolunt and ex-Sponge drummer Charlie Grover, opened a fiery set for Lit March 15 at Saint Andrews Hall and left the audience reeling for more. Not knowing quite what to expect, the crowd was met with unbridled energy, tight, smashing rhythms

and melodies that stick long after the chords fade.

According to the Motor City Music Foundation, the 2000 Detroit Music Awards is shaping up to be a star-studded event, with Kid Rock and Twisted Brown Trucker set to host. At 7:30 p.m. April 11, Detroit's State Theatre will open its doors to a limited number of ticketholders and raise money for the Rainbow Connection

and the Motor City Music Foundation.

Performers on the bill include Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise, The Contours, a reunited Rhythm Corps, Paradime, Johnny Rodriguez & The Fiery Latin Jazz Band, Barbara Payton and house band Howling Diablos. Nom-

inees will be honored in 11 categories and Distinguished Achievement Awards will be given to The Contours, The Frost, and the late radio personality Dave Dixon. See detroit-musicawards.com for more information.

— By Stephanie Angelyn Casola



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Barb's pasties – delicious, hearty meal in a crust

Consider yourself excused if you think the name of Barb's Copper Country Kitchen is "Barb's Pasties" because that's what the home-made (and illegal) sign out on Middlebelt Road in Livonia says.

TAKE-OUT GUY



RALPH ECHTINAW

Owner Barb Sell and her brother, Mike Jarvey, have a running disagreement with the city as to whether they can keep the makeshift sign at the curb.

But there's no disagreement in my office about the quality of Barb's pasties. "Ralph, you have to remark about this crust," exclaimed health and business reporter Renee Skoglund. "This is a marvelous crust, a glorious, blond crust." (Renee used to write restaurant reviews.)

Assistant Managing Editor Keely Wygonik thought it was remarkable that the meat in her pastie had no gristle.

Sales Support Supervisor Linda Rigdon said her pastie "was like eating a bowl of hearty vegetable soup in a flaky pastry."

Internet Editor Emory Daniels was impressed that his pastie contained rutabaga. "With car-

Barb's Copper Country Kitchen

Where: 16310 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. In a strip mall on Middlebelt at Terrence between Five and Six Mile roads.
Phone: (734) 427-3717
Open: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday.
Menu: Beef, chicken and vegetarian pasties, vegetable beef soup, chili, lasagna, salads, potato salad and cole slaw.
Average lunch price: \$5
Credit cards accepted: None. Personal checks accepted.

rots and rutabaga it's a legitimate pastie," he said.

Graphic Artist Tammie Graves said her vegetarian pastie was "very flavorful. I definitely would get it again. It's a meal in one." In fact, the next time Tammie ordered, she got five vegetarian pasties to take home for dinner. Her mom and sister were impressed. And the pasties were so big that even Tammie's husband, Al, couldn't eat more than one.

Managing Editor Hugh Gallagher said his tasted fine even without gravy.

Publisher Sue Rosiek could only eat half of hers because it was so big.

The only complaint I've had came from a receptionist, who said, "I know the gravy is out of a can."

Owner Barb Sell admits the gravy is from a can, but everything else is made from scratch.

"Where can you eat a home-made product for that price?" (\$3.40) she said. "And pasties are a lot of work. There's only one way to peel a carrot, a rutabaga, an onion, and that's by hand."

As for the gravy, Barb said she prefers ketchup anyway. "My grandmother would turn over in her grave if she saw gravy on a pastie."

The original Barb's Copper Country Kitchen in Royal Oak has been in operation for 16 years and sells some 400 pasties per day. The Livonia location opened almost 2 1/2 years ago and sells 200 pasties per day.

Barb's brother Mike runs the Livonia store. He keeps chicken and beef pasties ready to go at all times. But if you want a vegetarian pastie, call an hour beforehand so he can thaw one out for you.

There are other things on Barb's menu, and I wish I could



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Perfect pasties: Barb Sell, owner of Barb's Copper Country Kitchen, removes pasties from the oven at her Livonia store.

tell you about them. But no one at my office gets anything but the pasties.

Ralph Echtenaw welcomes your comments and questions about takeout food. Call him at (734)

953-2054. Or send e-mail to rechtenaw@ec.homecomm.net

Prentice to infuse Star Southfield eateries with local flavor

BY ALICE RHEIN
STAFF WRITER
ARHEIN@EC.HOMECOMM.NET

A healthy economy, bad timing and poor planning were to blame for the decision earlier this month by New York-based Ark Restaurant Corp. to bail out of the Star Theatre in Southfield, closing two restaurants and abandoning two still under construction, according to a local restaurateur.

"Ark made some very big mistakes. They are very strong in New York and Las Vegas, but they don't know the Detroit market and didn't do their homework," said Matt Prentice, of Unique Restaurant Corp., who signed a deal with the Star Southfield multiplex to take over and manage the four restaurants.

Prentice's group was approached to operate the restaurants during the project's planning stages, but at the time, told the theater it had no interest.

Prentice, who owns nearly a dozen local restaurants including Morels in Bingham Farms and Northern Lakes Seafood in Bloomfield Hills, agreed to the Star's proposal after Ark failed to meet its obligations as owner and operator of Volcano Grill, Z-Dim, Fat Anthony's and Starlight Brewery.

Through much media wooing, but very little marketing to the public, Volcano Grill opened in December, followed by Z-Dim in early January of this year.

But even early on, there were problems. Staff was difficult to attract, in part because of the low unemployment rate, and also

because few in the service industry were looking to switch jobs during the height of the holiday season.

But Prentice said it was Ark's mistaken philosophy of "what works in New York will work in Detroit" that brought the restaurants to a swift close. "Z-Dim, with its wild screens and dim sum, was very cool, but I knew this would never work. It wasn't Detroit. A friend even said it was too weird for SoHo," he said.

Plus, people in this area don't think of the theater as a restaurant. It's a whole mindset that Prentice doesn't think was taken

into consideration. Ark did not return calls for comment placed to its New York office.

But Prentice said the restaurant group paid dearly, estimating that Ark spent \$14 million on the failed venture.

"It was a pretty big mistake," he said.

Under Prentice's management agreement, the new venture won't cost him anything but a lot of hard work. He says finding employees once all the restaurants are ready to open will be his biggest obstacle.

"I'm going to need 300 people. That's the only thing that wor-

ries me," he said.

Plans are to keep Volcano Grill's southwestern theme, though the menu will be retooled, according to Prentice. But dramatic changes are in the works for Z-Dim, he added.

"That will become Mash, a restaurant focused on mashed potatoes which are very popular with Detroiters," said Prentice.

He is also looking into ditching the bizarre screen art and showing famous comedy clips instead.

"We are going to focus on

entertainment. We will have live entertainment at Volcano Grill and comedy at Mash," he said.

And after construction is complete, the Italian restaurant, Cosmo's Pizza, Pasta & Brew, will have family fun including clowns and kid-friendly food. The brew pub will offer a sports bar atmosphere.

No opening dates have been set, but Prentice hopes to have Volcano Grill up and running within a few weeks, with the rest to follow.

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