

Fore: Tee off on the Observer's first golf special section of 1999, inside this issue. Full listing of area courses. Golf quiz and fascinating articles.



## Colorado carnage alarms kids here

The massacre in Littleton, Colo., hit close to home for local young people and their families. Students at Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem high schools were concerned about such a tragedy occurring at their own school.

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
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The day after the shootings at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., students at Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem high schools had concerns about the same thing happening here.

"You know it could happen anywhere, but I'm trying not to think

about it," said Ian Bugle, 17, of Canton. "It's a scary thing ... it only takes one person. But, we can't let this get to us."

"There were a lot of different emotions in the school," added David Stobbe, 17, of Plymouth Township. "The thought does cross my mind that it could happen here. You look at the kids who dress like the kids who did this, and you wonder."

"We watched CNN and the whole

classroom got quiet," said Derek Arcenal, 17, from Canton. "It really affected all of us. They went to school and never came out."

"I didn't feel that close to the situation until I saw the pictures of the girl who was shot and bleeding," said Tom Halverson, 17, of Plymouth Township. "Then my mood changed while watching it. I'd like to say it couldn't happen here, but it easily could."

Debra Matuniak of Canton said she's talked to her son, Skye, a freshman, about what to do if something like the Colorado incident were to happen.

"I've had conversations with him about what to do. Don't play a hero ...

get under a desk or run if you can," said Matuniak. "It scares me to death, and I worry about it a lot. There's 5,000 kids here, and there were only 1,800 in Colorado."

"I don't think my mom is being over-protective," added Skye, 14. "Students were scared because they know it could happen here. I'm scared because I don't feel like dying any time soon."

Debra Matuniak said maybe it's time students start speaking up.

"Kids shouldn't be afraid if they see something or hear something to tell adults so things like this can be pre-

Please see REACTION, A3

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### SUNDAY

**The play's the thing:** The Whistle Stop Players present a 2 p.m. performance of "The Fabulous Fable Factory" at the Plymouth Community Arts Council Joanne Winkleman Hulce Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon. All seats are \$5. For more information or for tickets, call (734) 416-4278.

### TUESDAY

**School meeting:** The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education meets at 7 p.m. at Pioneer Middle School, 46081 Ann Arbor Road.

**Township meeting:** The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees meets at 7:30 p.m. at the administrative offices at 42350 Ann Arbor Road.

### THURSDAY

**Kiwanis Club:** State Bar of Michigan President J. Thomas Lenga is featured speaker at the noon luncheon of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth. The luncheon will be held at the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main. Cost is \$10 per person. The public is welcome.

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## Fire, fire!

Wait a minute ...  
they're just cooking

BY DUNCAN E. WHITE  
STAFF WRITER  
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So, what kind of careers are out there that allow you to perfect your cooking skills on the job?  
Office worker? Plenty of free time but no kitchen.  
Sales rep? Too hard to cook in the car.  
I've got it: Fireman!

Of course! The occupation perfectly portrayed in Norman Rockwell's paintings earlier this century is still alive and well in the Plymouth area but, instead of playing poker, modern-day firefighters have taken to the kitchen.

**I usually get to bust these guys at the holiday party. They go home and tell their wives all about it. I can't scrub toilets ... yet, that's all they do when they're here.**

Larry Groth  
—Plymouth fire chief

"They're always cooking something out there on the barbecue," said Fire Chief Larry Groth of the Plymouth Community Fire Department. "Some-

just smells so good. You can't help but get hungry."

Firefighters Scott Gross and Dan Atkins seem to be the duo leading the pack when it comes to fire house recipes. They occasionally hunt together and both cook their own kill year-round.

"I've done some cooking but I don't think I'm anything extraordinary," said Gross, a 3 1/2 year veteran with the department. "A lot of the married guys will bring in leftovers but I enjoy cooking. I enjoy working in the kitchen."

"I don't much care for cooking some big elaborate meal up for myself but, if I've got an audience per se, even if it's just one person, I don't mind making something nice."

On most days, firefighters work in pairs, two each at Stations Two and Three and three men on duty at Station One.

Each year, Groth moves personnel around and pairings change. As would be expected in any situation, the newly formed duos take a while to get used to each other and the food issue is one of many adjustments.

Please see COOKS, A2



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSDMANN

Let's eat: It's not just pork and beans in the old firehouse nowadays as firefighters are becoming pretty good cooks.

## I-275 work begins Monday

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER  
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A \$49 million resurfacing project on I-275 between I-696 and Five Mile is expected to begin Monday after a week's postponement on account of rain.

Motorists can expect to see closures of the "loop" exits on Monday, said Robin Pannecouk of the Michigan Department of Transportation.

In about two weeks, if contractors complete crossover and temporary lanes on the northbound side and the weather cooperates, southbound drivers will be crossed over to the northbound lanes just north of Grand River in Farmington Hills, then back to the southbound side south of Five

Please see I-275, A5

## Brace yourself for 1999 roadwork

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
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Plymouth residents will soon see another sign of spring sprouting up in various parts of the city ... orange barricades.

The 1999 street paving program is set to begin sometime next month and run through September. And, just like last year, this year's paving project will have an impact on both residents and business.

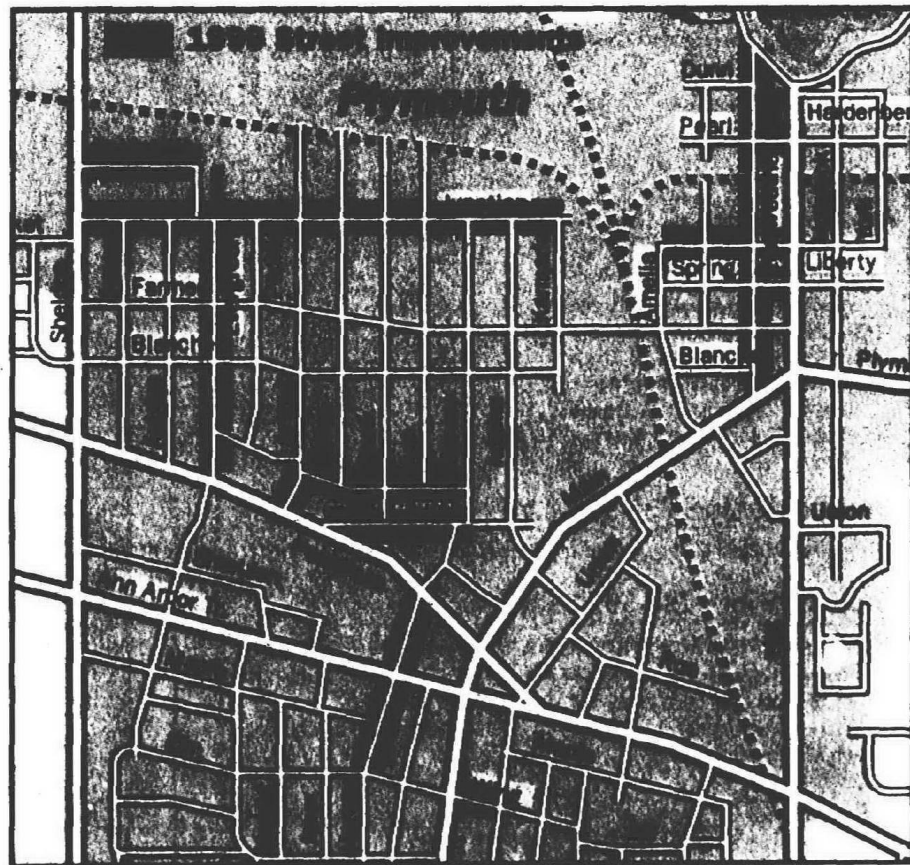
"It will have a fairly dramatic affect," said Assistant City Manager Paul Sincock. "We're doing Starkweather in Old Village which will have an impact on both residential and commercial. And we'll be doing Harvey Street in the downtown from Penniman to Wing. We'll try to make the effect as minimal as possible."

Sincock said that before the project gets under way, there will be informational meetings hosted by Barry Cade, Plymouth's real-life orange barricade character.

"We'll be hosting informational meetings for both residents and the commercial sector to detail the project," added Sincock. "It's really important to us that people come to the informational sessions so we can help everyone deal with the situation. Based on information we get, we'll be establishing a fax and e-mail alert system to keep them updated almost instantaneously."

Sincock said his office will fax or e-mail updated information on a regular basis to those who want it.

"It's a value kind of thing we do, and



it works really well," said Sincock. "It's a lot easier to send out faxes and e-mail than answering a lot of phone calls."

This year's cost for the street paving program is \$2.8 million. Sincock said

approximately \$700,000 is coming out of the water and sewer fund, with the remainder from street paving bonds.

The following recipes are courtesy of firefighter Dan Atkins of the Plymouth Township Fire Department. Atkins, an avid hunter and fisherman, has become a well-known kitchen commodity within the department since joining the department in 1992:

### JAMBALAYA

**Ingredients:**  
1 1/2 lbs. cubed pheasant meat  
1 lb. mule deer sausage (spicy)  
1 lb. cajun crawfish (optional) use the cleaned tail only  
1 cup green pepper  
1 cup onions  
4 cups rice  
1 cup crushed garlic clove  
1 cup water  
3 tsp. salt  
48 oz. diced tomato (cajun style) -- If you can't find cajun style add one tbs. of Cayenne

**Preparation:**  
1. Cook sausage and pheasant then place in wok. Atkins said he usually steams the pheasant in the wok and boils the sausage

then combine the two. Slice sausage to desired thickness.  
2. Add onions and green peppers and cook for about five minutes to soften.  
3. Add rice, salt, garlic and the other ingredients and cook on low heat for 20 minutes.  
\*This will serve four people (or two hungry firefighters). A loaf of bread also goes good with this dish.

### STUFFED PORK CHOPS

**Ingredients:**  
4 pork loin chops cut approx. 1 1/4 inches thick  
1/4 cup diced onion  
1/4 cup diced green pepper  
1/2 cup whole kernel corn  
3/4 cup corn bread stuffing  
1 tbs. butter  
Dash salt and pepper

**Preparation:**  
1. Cut a pocket in each pork chop so it looks like a pita.  
2. Place onion, green pepper, salt, pepper and margarine in a pan and cook until tender but do

not brown.  
3. Spoon 1/4 of the stuffing in to each chop. Use a toothpick to hold it closed.  
4. Bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes and enjoy.

### GRILLED SALMON (A summertime favorite)

**Ingredients:**  
Large Salmon Fillets  
Green Onions  
1/2 to 1 cup of butter or margarine  
Garlic (Atkins said he uses a lot)

**Preparation:**  
1. Place fillets and green onions on aluminum foil.  
2. Add some garlic, butter, salt, pepper and lemon juice to the fish.  
3. Wrap fish in foil and cook on grill for approximately 20 minutes or until done.  
\*This goes good with Jalapeno cheese, onions and zucchini grilled in foil.

Recipe by firefighter Scott Gross:

### Ingredients:

1 full pheasant  
2 tbs. butter  
3 medium red apples (cored and cubed)  
2 medium green apples (cored and cubed)  
3 celery stalks (sliced 1/2-inch thick)  
1/2 medium onion (finely chopped)  
3 green onions (shallots, finely chopped)  
1 cup dry white wine or sparkling grape juice  
1 cup pheasant stock (this is the secret) or chicken broth  
2 tbs. corn starch  
3/4 cup heavy cream  
Spices: fresh basil and parsley; salt, pepper, sugar, garlic, oregano, Rosemary, marjoram, cayenne and cumin.

**Preparation:**  
1. Clean bird and prepare all ingredients.  
2. Mix corn starch with cream.  
3. Add liquids to crock pot.  
4. Add bird and all remaining ingredients.  
5. Adjust flavor and sauce as needed.  
6. Cook in crock pot for five (5) hours on high. Reduce to low when serving.  
\*All measurements are ball-park only

"Not everybody, but a lot of the guys around here are into the wild game. It depends on who you have for a partner," said Gross, who has had five different partners in the time he's been with the department. "The guy I work with now, he brings leftovers in all the time so, lately, I'm cooking for one."

decided that we had to stop doing steaks and do more chicken and lighter foods because we were both starting to pack on the pounds," he said.

Which, consequently, led to another hobby in which the firefighters have time to partake.

"Gross' fortunate partner also enjoys another perk of the job on weekends.

"If I'm scheduled to work on a Saturday or Sunday, I just kind of look at it as, whoever my partner is that day, they get a free breakfast," he said. "It's just kind of a little ritual that I have when I come to the station on weekends ... I'm always making pancakes or eggs or something."

Atkins frequently uses wild meats when cooking, citing health reasons as an incentive.

"Wild meat is a lot leaner and a lot less fattening than regular meat and my wife, she can't even tell the difference if I put it in something," he said.

Yet, there are also drawbacks to having the talent they possess in the kitchen.

"When I hired in I was about 170 (pounds) and I went all the way up to 205," said Atkins. "As of February, I lost 20 pounds though (since moving from Station One to Station Two in January)."

Gross agreed, speaking from experience.

"With one of my old partners, at one point, we finally both

"We've got a little competition going with the weights between some of the guys," said Atkins. "Like today, I worked out after lunch and then again after dinner."

A healthy alternative is frequently offered up by Lt. Jim Valensky, notorious throughout the department for his fireman-sized salads.

To say their big is an understatement, take it from Gross.

"There are no characteristics of a 'Valensky Salad' that make it a 'Valensky Salad,'" he said. "It's more related to the size of the salad that makes it so. He'll make enough salad that he and his partner will sit down to dinner and that will be their main dish. They're huge."

Weight-gaining is only one of the downfalls of their talent, though.

According to Groth, all firefighters could face domestic consequences as well.

"I usually get to bust these guys at the holiday party," he said. "They go home and tell their wives all year that they can't cook, and can't scrub toilets ... yet, that's all they do when they're here!"

Oops. I guess the secret's out.

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### CAMPUS NOTES

**GRANT AWARDED**  
MichCon has awarded a \$250 grant to Marcia Lizzo and Jennifer Hawk of Plymouth Salem High School. The grant will be used to fund the Writing Creative Children's Books with Science Themes project.

**PLEGDED**  
Molly E. Strand pledged Albion College's Beta chapter of Alpha Chi Omega sorority during the 1999 spring semester. She is the daughter of William R. and Virginia D. Strand of Plymouth and a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School.

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# 'Wishes' event draws a crowd

The family of a 7-year-old girl fighting cancer will get a trip to Disney World thanks to the generosity of some 200 Plymouth-Canton area residents and Canton dentist John Robison.

"Rainbows and Wishes," the second annual Make-A-Wish fund-raiser hosted Monday by Robison at Ginopolis' Parthenon Restaurant in Plymouth Township, generated an estimated \$33,000, the dentist said. Robison estimated the dinner-auction will donate about \$20,000 after expenses to the Make-A-Wish organization.

To see what these kids and their families go through

and to know we can offer something that will alleviate that - if only temporarily - that makes it worth it," Robison said.

This year's beneficiary was a Wayne County girl diagnosed with Burkitt's lymphoma, a cancer that affects the abdominal area. She has requested a trip to Disney World in Orlando, Fla., the same wish as last year's beneficiary.

Make-A-Wish doesn't reveal beneficiaries' names. Robison said he relied a lot on patients, clients and other personal contacts to help meet his goal, which has become something of a personal mission. "It helps to have a previously established relationship," he said.

"And these people really came through," the dentist added.

Some \$25,000 in donated items were auctioned Monday. They included:

■ Dinners for two from several area restaurants, including Station 885 in Plymouth and L'Biasteca steak house in Plymouth Township;

■ Cruises donated by Carlson Wagonlit Travel of Plymouth and a vacation at the Garland Golf Resort in Lewiston, Mich., donated by Plymouth Air-Cooled Equipment Co.;

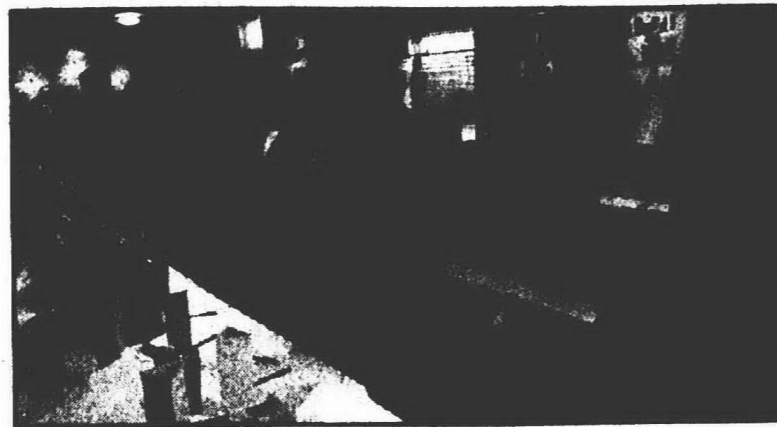
■ Watercolors signed by Plymouth artist Johnnie Crosby.

Robison said planning is already under way for next year's event, and 12 people attending Monday's dinner are joining the effort.

He also credited his wife, Marilyn, for making the event a success.



At the buffet: Patrons line up at for appetizers during an auction for the Make-A-Wish Foundation Monday at Ginopolis' Parthenon restaurant in Plymouth Township.



Ready to bid: Nancie Petrucelli holds up a basket, one of the many items up for bid during Monday's live auction for the Make-A-Wish Foundation at Ginopolis' Parthenon restaurant. She was seeking her mother Nancy's opinion on the item.

STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL BURCHMAN

## COP CALLS

### Gun threat

Plymouth and Canton police say there are no charges pending against a Plymouth Township teen who spoke of having a gun at Starkweather Center in Plymouth.

Plymouth police went to the home of the 18-year-old student after others heard threats to be carried out with a gun. Authorities talked to the student, his mother and searched the home for a gun. No weapon was found and police were satisfied the threats were just talk on the part of the student.

The student, who also attends the high school complex, was

also questioned by Canton Township police, who say they are satisfied the threats weren't serious.

### Pleading guilty to a lesser charge

Plymouth police report a man who was charged with five felony counts for pointing a gun at his mother and attempting to run her over with a car has pleaded guilty to one count of domestic violence, a misdemeanor.

The 29-year-old man was about to have his preliminary exam Monday when the plea bargain arrangement was made.

— Staff Writer Tony Bruscatto

## Reaction from page A1

vented," she said.

Plymouth Salem High School principal Gerald Ostoin held a regular staff meeting, but did note much of the discussion centered on the shootings in Colorado.

"The staff is concerned, and they've had feedback from students about their concerns," said Ostoin. "The town in Colorado has much the same socioeconomic background as we do here in Plymouth and Canton."

Ostoin said there is an internal plan with the teachers and an external plan with Canton police "if you can plan for something like that. Every situation is different."

Canton Public Safety Director John Santomauro said a plan is in place in case of an incident like the one that's been seen all too often at high schools across the country.

"We've had a tactical operations plan the past six years to deal with critical situations and how we would deal with them," said Santomauro. "Earlier this school year we reviewed the plan and had training with some staff people for the school district on what we would do and how we would do it."

Canton High School principal Patricia Patton said there was "a very sobering type of mood" at the school Wednesday.

Patton said she expressed to her staff the need to let students know they care.

"We want students to know that we care about them, no matter how different they might be," said Patton. "They are

important to us, and we can make a difference in their lives just by showing we care."

Patton said she feels comfortable at the high school complex because of the seven security staff members who patrol the area.

"They know the kids and listen to them," added Patton. "They know if something unusual is going on. They let us know and we are able to respond to the situation."

High school teacher John Campbell of Canton has relatives living in Littleton and said when he called to see how everyone was doing "they were stunned, shocked and in disbelief."

Campbell, who has visited Littleton, said he can relate to the Colorado community.

"It's similar to Plymouth and Canton, a nice community," said Campbell. "They have good kids, so you think it couldn't happen there."

Campbell believes the school district should seize the opportunity to make something good out of a terrible situation.

"Business people, the schools and parents should get together to see what can be done to help the schools," added Campbell.

"We can't protect the students 100 percent, but diversity classes and peer mediation are ways we can help to avoid such a terrible incident."

## MILITARY NOTES

### SUPERINTENDENT'S LIST

Cadet Michael Clark, a 12th-grader at Howe Military School, has been named to the superintendent's list for the fourth six-week grading period of the 1998-99 school year. This award is earned by attaining at least a 3.5 B-plus average in a college prep curriculum.

Clark is the son of Walter and Susan Clark of Plymouth. He has been attending Howe Military School since August 1997.

### GRADUATED

Army Spec. Kevin C. McGurk has graduated from the 61-day Ranger training course at the U.S. Army Ranger School, Fort Benning, Columbus,

Ga. The training phases are conducted at Fort Benning, in the mountains of northern Georgia, and in the Florida swamps at Eglin Air Force Base, Valparaiso, Fla. The course is designed to develop confident and capable small unit leaders. McGurk is an infantryman with the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield, Hinesville, Ga. He is the son of Linda M. Murphy of Toledo, Ohio, and Jim McGurk of Plymouth.

The specialist is a 1991 graduate of Amherst Steele High School, Amherst, and a 1996 graduate of the University of Cincinnati, Ohio.



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# Author addresses library friends

BY TUD SCHREIBER  
STAFF WRITER  
tschreiber@oe.homecomm.net

The best fiction, author Jack Driscoll said Thursday, is that which is truly made up.

If that sounds like an oxymoron, rest assured it isn't, Driscoll told an audience of about 200 at the 1999 Author

Luncheon hosted by the Friends of the Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Novi Libraries at Fox Hills Country Club.

The annual luncheon is sponsored by Hometown and Observer Newspapers. Proceeds help pay for various independent efforts undertaken by the friends groups throughout the year,

There is a difference between the personal and the autobiographical ... and believe me, the personal is far more compelling.

Jack Driscoll  
—author

including youth and adult programming, special library collections and other projects.

There is a difference between the personal and the autobiographical ... and believe me, the personal is far more compelling.

Driscoll, who is author-in-residence at the Interlochen Center for the Arts, said too many of today's novelists feel a need to include every last detail. "It may be factual, the way things were," he said. "But no, we really don't want to hear it all."

### New book out

Driscoll peppered his compact presentation with just that kind of sardonic wit. It's the same attitude readers will find in his first novel, "Lucky Man, Lucky Woman," (Pushcart Press) winner of the Pushcart Editor's Book Award and the Barnes & Noble Discover Award.

"It was well done," luncheon guest Dave Olgren said. "I really enjoyed his sense of humor and I think we can all relate back to school days." (Driscoll read an early short story, "Miss Dunn," a

not-so-fond reminiscence of life in the fourth grade.)

Canton resident Maureen Stellwagon said Driscoll was accurate in his less-than-flattering depiction of contemporary "celebrity" authors.

Driscoll, 53, said the novelist John Irving provided some of his most memorable instruction. The author of "The World According to Garp" and "Hotel New Hampshire" taught him that "making it up wasn't only allowed, it was essential."

Driscoll cited J.D. Salinger, Flannery O'Connor and Arnold Toynbee (another professor) as authors who used their own background and experiences but spun most of their work out of whole cloth.

### Mostly fantasy

The author said his own work is about 80 percent fantasy and 20 percent fact-based. "Or maybe even 90-10," he added. He joked about how he has changed some information — like the house his parents lived in when he was born — just because he liked the



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HEUBSCHMANN

He wrote the book: Author Jack Driscoll (at right) spoke to the Friends of the Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Novi libraries at Fox Hills Country Club on Thursday.

sound of a street name from his later life better.

"There's a danger with the autobiographical that you already understand it all, it doesn't provide the opportunity for you to go back and re-examine your characters and their beliefs."

"Even the most autobiographi-

cal story I've ever written ("Miss Dunn") turned out to be only marginally autobiographical," he said.

A Massachusetts native, Driscoll and his wife, Lois, have lived in northern Michigan since the mid-1970s.

He has published several works of poetry and a second novel, "Stardog," is set for release later this year.

**HEALTH SOUTH SPORTS MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION CENTER**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE OF FACILITY CLOSING**

Effective April 31, 1999, Health South Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center, Plymouth, Michigan, a certified rehabilitation agency, will cease operations and voluntarily withdraw from the Medicare program. Questions concerning patient transfers and medical records should be directed to the custodian of patient records, Michael Leither, P.T., at (734) 432-0883.

Publish: April 14, 15, 22, 29 and 30, 1999.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**MEDIAONE TELECOMMUNICATIONS PERMIT APPLICATION**

PLEASE take notice that a public hearing as required by the Plymouth Township Telecommunications Ordinance will be conducted regarding the Telecommunications Permit Application filed by MediaOne Telecommunications of Michigan, Inc. at the special Plymouth Township Board Meeting to be held on May 4, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. at Plymouth Township Hall located at 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

Publish: April 25, 1999

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH**  
**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 6, 1999 for the following:

**ROOF - OLD VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTER**

Specifications and proposal forms may be obtained at the office of the Administrative Services Director, City of Plymouth, 201 S. Main, Plymouth, MI during regular office hours. Bidders are required to attend a walk-through, inspection of the facility on April 28, 1999 at 10:00 a.m.

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

CAROL A. STONE  
Admin. Services Dir.

Publish: April 25, 1999

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Plymouth City Commission will conduct a public hearing on April 28th, 1999, at 7:00 p.m. for all those interested in commenting upon MediaOne's request for a permit to access and use the public rights-of-way by running telephone service through MediaOne's existing cable television network.

The public hearing will take place at the time noted at the Plymouth City Hall. All are invited to attend and comment.

LINDA J. LANGMESSER, CMC/AEE  
City Clerk

Publish: April 25, 1999

**PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for the purchase of One 1999 Ford F-350 4x4 Chassis with Dump Body and One Ford F-250 4x4 Super Duty Pick-up Truck. Specifications and bid forms are available at the front desk of the E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI or by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. Sealed bids are due on or before 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 6th, 1999. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education  
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools  
ELIZABETH M. GIVENS, Secretary

Publish: April 25, 1999

**PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a request for proposal for Legal Services in the Area of Workers Compensation. RFP's are available at the front desk of the E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI or by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746. Sealed RFP's are due on or before 2:00 p.m., Friday, May 28th, 1999. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education  
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools  
ELIZABETH M. GIVENS, Secretary

Publish: April 25 and May 2, 1999

**CANTON TOWNSHIP**  
**CANTON POLICE BICYCLE AUCTION**

Friday, April 30 - 9:00 am  
Behind Canton Police Department  
1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI  
30 + abandoned and recovered bicycles

Publish: April 25 and 29, 1999

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**  
**CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to State Law 267.262, the following vehicle(s) will be sold at Public Sale at Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starweaver Rd., Plymouth, Michigan, on the date and time listed below:

April 28, 1999 10:00 a.m.

VEHICLE(S)	ID NUMBER	CASE NUMBER
1998 FORD AER TEMPO	1FAPP0C8K411009	89-1998
1984 CHEVY ADR CAPRICE	1G1ANS7E1K10009	89-1998

Specimens regarding these vehicles should be directed to Officer M. Olin, City of Plymouth Police Department, at 455-6800.

LINDA J. LANGMESSER, CMC  
City Clerk

Publish: April 25, 1999

## Teen jogger hit by van on N. Territorial

BY DUNCAN E. WHITE  
STAFF WRITER  
dwwhite@oe.homecomm.net

A 16-year-old Plymouth Township girl suffered a broken leg and chipped shoulder bone after being hit by a car while jogging Monday afternoon.

Beth Powers, a student at Plymouth Christian Academy, was jogging with a friend along North Territorial near Westbrook when the accident occurred.

According to Powers, she and her friend were attempting to cross North Territorial to jog in another subdivision. As she turned to check if any cars were coming, while still jogging, she drifted out into the roadway and was struck by a 1994 Ford van, according to

The girl that hit me didn't seem real concerned. I remember she kept saying 'It wasn't my fault! It wasn't my fault!'

Beth Powers  
—jogger hit by van

police reports.

"We were jogging down North Territorial and we were going to cross the street," recalls Powers. "I took a couple of steps out and looked at my friend ... she was making a very weird face, and then I got hit."

Powers said she doesn't remember actually getting hit but recalls more of the aftermath

that followed.

"I just remember laying on the ground and hearing sirens," she said. "And there were all these people around me."

She also recalled hearing the voice of the woman who hit her.

"The girl that hit me didn't seem real concerned," said Powers. "I remember she kept saying 'It wasn't my fault! It wasn't my fault!'"

Powers remained in St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor overnight for observation.

According to Plymouth Township Police Chief Larry Carey, the driver of the Ford van was not cited.

"(Powers) actually entered the roadway and it was basically unavoidable," he said.

### OBITUARIES

**EVA E. AUSTIN**

Services for Eva E. Austin, 91, of Plymouth were April 19 in Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth, with the Rev. David Boley officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth.

She was born April 23, 1907, in Brooklyn, Mich. She died April 18, 1999, in Plymouth. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ernest J. and Georgia Brown. Survivors include her husband, Elmer E. Austin of Plymouth; two daughters, Shirley (Robert) Roe of Plymouth, Lois (Allen Eddy) Thompson of Plymouth; four grandchildren, Debra (Scott) Kureth of Saline, Carol Thompson of Livonia, Lori (Jeffrey) Porter of Wayne, Julie Roe of Plymouth; and one great-grandson, Austin Kureth of Saline.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, 46000 N. Territorial, Plymouth 48170.

**MARIE HESTER FORD**

Services for Marie Hester Ford, 89, of Canton were April 18 in Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth. Burial was in Riverview Cemetery in Marysville, Mich.

She was born Aug. 30, 1909, in Ontario, Canada. She died April 16, 1999, in Livonia. She was a registered nurse.

Survivors include her son, Richard (Linda) A. Ford of Canton; two grandsons, John (Tess) Ford of Texas, Robert Ford of Canton; one granddaughter, Kristine (Jason) Hunt of Canton; and four great-grandchildren, Courtney, Ashley, Andrew and Brenden.

Memorials may be made to American Diabetes Association Michigan Affiliate Inc., 23100 Providence Drive, Suite 400, Southfield 48075-3680.

**THELMA E. EGERS**

Services for Thelma E. Eggers, 86, of Wixom, formerly of Plymouth, were April 20 in Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth Township, with the Rev. Clyde Lawson officiating. Burial

was in Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia.

She was born July 18, 1912, in Douglas Township. She died April 18, 1999, in Wixom. She was a homemaker. She lived in Plymouth from 1984 through 1995. She worked during World War II at the Willow Run Bomber Plant. She had a horse in the racing business.

She was preceded in death by her parents, George and Cora Elsie Luttrell. Survivors include three sisters, Genevieve Lawson of Salem, Ind., Gladys Newman of Mitchell, Ind., Lois Harris of Mitchell, Ind.; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army, P.O. Box 384, Plymouth 48170.

**FANNY E. CHOUINARD**

Services for Fanny E. Chouinard, 88, of Walled Lake were April 15 in St. William Catholic Church, Walled Lake. Burial was in Holy Sepulcher Cemetery.

She died April 12, 1999. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leo Joseph Chouinard.

Survivors include her three sons, Edward (Dorothy) of Lapeer, Joel (Ida) of Pinckney,

Gerald (Sharon) Chouinard of Plymouth, nine grandchildren; and six great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to St. Vincent DePaul.

**DAVID L. MORROW**

Services for David L. Morrow, 63, of Ann Arbor were April 14 in the Church of Christ with the Rev. Gary Vaught officiating. Burial was in United Memorial Gardens near Plymouth.

He was born Aug. 15, 1935, in Zanesville, Ohio. He died April 10, 1999, in Ann Arbor. He was a regional sales manager for Bob Evans Farm for 29 years. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Elmer Curtis and Lulu Etta Morrow. Survivors include his wife, Barbara J. Morrow of Ann Arbor; one son, Randall (Theresa) C. Morrow of Belleville; two daughters, Pamela (Roger) E. Jeffery of Flint, Beverly (Paul) K. Schandevl of Paragould, Ark.; one brother, Charles Morrow of Marietta, Ohio; one sister, Carol Marshall of Zanesville, Ohio; and many grandchildren from the Plymouth and Canton area.

**Mother's Day Brunch**  
Palm's Cafe at the

11:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Call for reservations  
734/728-2800

**CANTON 6**

MOVIE GUIDE

OUT OF TOWN (PG-13)  
11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 7:15, 9:10

CONSPIRACY (PG-13)  
11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 7:15, 9:10

CONSPIRACY (PG)  
1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 7:15, 9:10

10 THOUSAND MANIACS (PG-13)  
11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 7:15, 9:10

THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS (PG)  
11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 7:15, 9:10

ONE FINE DAY (PG)  
11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 7:15, 9:10

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## Commission seeks answers on exec's reorganization plan

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER  
kabr@csm.com

A county commission staff review of County Executive Edward McNamara's reorganization plan raises questions whether powers delegated by McNamara in the plan can be retrieved by the commission.

But Deputy County Executive Mike Duggan said all the plan does is formalize duties that division heads have been doing during the last few years.

The review questions whether commissioner will lose legislative authority under the plan, but Duggan said commissioners will still approve all department heads and deputy department heads.

"Somebody must have misunderstood, but there is nothing specific in there (the review) about that," Duggan said.

On April 6, commissioners passed the plan for the day, which left it open for more discussion, most likely at the next committee of the whole meeting on Tuesday, May 4. The next commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 6.

County commissioners can approve or reject the plan, according to the charter, and must act by June 6, 90 days after McNamara first proposed it. Commissioners cannot amend the plan, so Commission Chairman Ricardo Solomon was expected to discuss the plan with McNamara's office.

If commissioners do not act, the plan automatically takes effect.

### Questions arise

Written by Fiscal Adviser James Smith, Commission Counsel Ben Washburn and Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy, the review raises the question whether a county executive's reorganization plan may modify the powers and duties of the legislative branch — the commission — or more specifically the power to reject the county executive's appointments.

Duggan called that question "reasonable," but added that the review did not have specific cases where the county executive was taking any authority away from the commission.

"Department heads and deputies are approved by the commission, while division heads and deputies are not," Duggan said.

The review states the plan does not specify what the additional appointees and reorganiza-

tion will cost. Duggan said funds have been budgeted for eight new positions, six of which will be with the Department of Community Justice as that department will take over a \$100 million block grant program. Two positions will be added at the airport to oversee the expansion there, Duggan said.

The review states that McNamara has proposed 13 additional department divisions and at least an additional 26 appointees not subject to commission approval.

Reviewers say the budget control functions for airports, environment and public services departments and the division of mental health have been moved to the Department of Management and Budget, but Duggan said that move was made to show that Susan Kopinski, who works at Detroit Metro as a finance director reports to Chief Financial Officer Tom Naughton with the Department of Management and Budget.

### Review recommended

The review also suggests the commission examine the progress of the departments of Information Technology, Community Justice and Jobs and Economic Development.

The responsibility to advise county agencies on employment discrimination has been transferred to the Department of Personnel/Human Relations, the review states. Under the charter, the Division of Human Relations is expressly authorized for that responsibility and duties cannot be modified by a reorganization plan.

The charter also states the Department of Senior Citizens cannot be altered with a reorganization plan. McNamara's plan calls for the Department of Senior Citizens to continue as a division of the Department of Health and Community Services and its director to be appointed at the will of the county executive, rather than for a six-year term sent to the commission for approval, as provided in the charter.

Some of the other formalized changes in departments include:

- The Department of Management and Budget will have 12 divisions;
- The Department of Health and Community Services remain at eight divisions, but two present divisions are merged and a new one is added;
- The Department of Jobs and Economic Development goes from four to six divisions;
- The Department of Community Justice goes from two to six divisions; and
- The Department of Airports goes from six to eight divisions.

## Tax group asks court to refund money

A group of area taxpayers is asking the state Court of Appeals to force the state Department of Treasury to return \$172 million in property tax overpayments over two years.

The group contends that Treasury bulletins used an inflation rate of 2.7 percent instead of 1.7 percent as the amount of allowable increase in property assessments.

"That 1 percent (difference) is further compounded into an automatic overtax in 1999 and every year thereafter," said Bill McMaster, Birmingham publicist and chair of Michigan Taxpayers United.

Among the plaintiffs are Stewart Oldford, Hartland resident

and owner of lumber companies in Hartland and Northville; Dominick Vincentini, Oxford resident and chair of the Oakland County Taxpayers Association; Mary McMaster, Orion resident and secretary of the Oakland taxpayers group; and Rose Bogaert, Dearborn Heights resident and chair of the Wayne County Taxpayers Association.

Attorney is Jeffrey Meek of Livonia.

Here is where the Engler administration erred, according to McMaster.

Proposal A of 1994 limits assessment (tax base) increases to 5 percent or the rate of inflation in the consumer price index, whichever is lower. The Treasury Department sends notices

to county equalization officers.

The CPI, measured year to year during January, is 1.7 percent. But Treasury calculated the rate by adding the monthly increases and dividing by 12, yielding assessment increases of 2.7 percent.

The taxpayers group also charges there is a discrepancy between total state revenue reported by the state Treasury and state revenue reported by the U.S. Department of Commerce. The federal figure is about \$10 billion higher, McMaster said, asking for an independent audit of the state.

The Treasury Department has several weeks to file a reply brief.

## SC golf tourney to benefit foundation

Play a little golf and help college education.

The Schoolcraft College Foundation's 16th Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for Monday, June 7, at Pheasant Run Golf Club in Canton.

The tournament helped the foundation award more than 400 scholarships to Schoolcraft students last year.

Golfers can aim to win the longest-drive or closest-to-the-pin contests. They can drive home in a new car after a hole-in-one or collect an extra \$5,000 for winning the Putt for Dough Contest.

Between events golfers can use the recreational and exercise facilities at the Summit on the Park Conference Center. End the day with a meal prepared by the Summit staff and a live auction.

Golfers will have various golf packages from which to choose. For \$1,000, the President's Club Package offers 18 holes of golf

and a cart for four, sponsorship sign at the tee, preferred golf time, lunch, golf clinic, tournament bag tag, use of Summit facilities, door prizes, contests, full-course dinner, auction participation and recognition in Schoolcraft publications.

Morning golf packages at \$175 and afternoon packages at \$200 will be offered. These include 18 holes of golf and cart, lunch, golf clinic, tournament bag tag, use of Summit, door prizes, contests, full-course dinner and auction participation.

A hole sponsor package for \$300 can be purchased, which provides a scholarship sign at the tee and recognition in Schoolcraft College publications. A dinner only package for \$35 includes door prizes, a full-course dinner and auction participation.

The auction will include:
 

- A weekend getaway for two to one of Michigan's premier golf resorts

Four University of Michigan football tickets for either Sept. 4 or Nov. 20.

Four tickets to the Detroit Lions Thanksgiving Day game.

Four Red Wing hockey tickets to a private suite at Joe Louis Arena.

A framed jersey of Steve Yzerman.

Footballs autographed by Lions Charlie Batch, Barry Sanders and Herman Moore.

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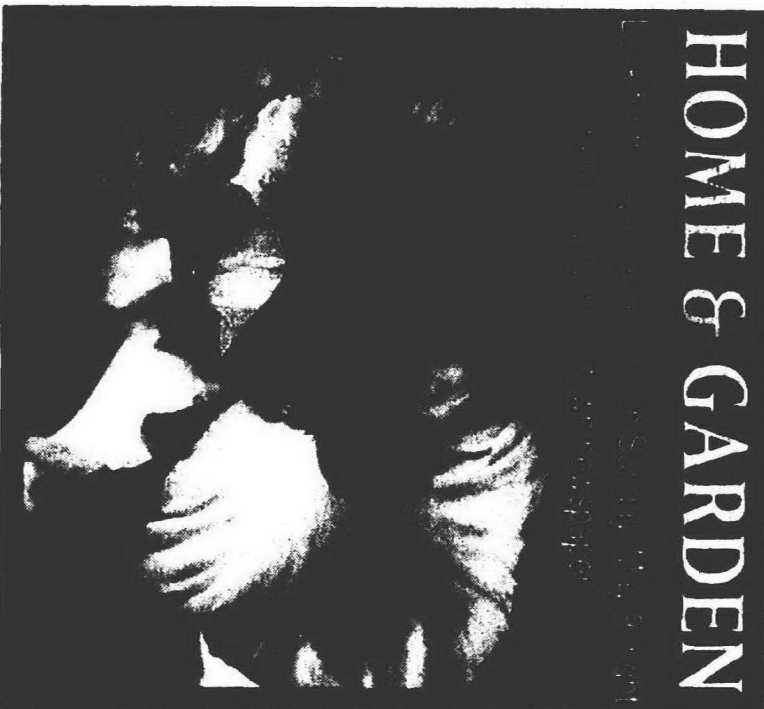
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### LEGAL SENSE

By Mark Slavens, P.C.  
Attorney at Law

#### A PICTURE'S WORTH

No one plans to get into an accident, but drivers can prepare themselves in case one occurs. One very helpful tool in this regard is the disposable camera. Car owner who are farsighted enough to carry one of these inexpensive cameras in their gloveboxes can afford themselves of an indispensable device should they become involved in an accident. They can provide a photographic record of the cars involved in the accident, the accident scene, and anyone with personal injuries. This graphic record of events is a valuable supplement to eyewitness testimony and provides an indisputable account of the accident scene. These photographs can serve as evidence when the plaintiff goes to Court or files a claim.

The camera is a useful tool. At an accident scene, the first shot should be a long shot of the scene so all close ups that follow may be shown to be from the same incident. Get the place, point of impact, damage, people involved, and any contributing factors (such as a patch of ice on the road, documented on film).

**HINT** Never accept any responsibility or liability at the scene of an accident.

**MARK SLAVENS, P.C.**  
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## LIVING TRUSTS ARE NOT WORKING AS PLANNED!

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- Saving taxes with your Living Trust
- Strategies for reducing risk and maximizing returns with your Living Trust assets

Presented by Paul Leduc, Financial Consultant, and Kirk Falvey, Estate Planning Attorney

<b>FARMINGTON HILLS</b> Tuesday, April 27, 1999 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. (afternoon) LONGACRE HOUSE 24705 Farmington Rd. (Between 10 & 11 Mile Rds.)	<b>WATERFORD</b> Wednesday, April 28, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) WATERFORD TWP. PUBLIC LIBRARY 5168 Civic Center Dr.	<b>NORTHVILLE</b> Thursday, April 29, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) NORTHVILLE CITY HALL 215 W. Main St.
<b>LIVONIA</b> Monday, May 3, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) LIVONIA CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY 32777 Five Mile Rd. (E. of Farmington Rd.)	<b>BIRMINGHAM</b> Tuesday, May 4, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) BIRMINGHAM COMMUNITY HOUSE 380 S. Bates St.	<b>CLARKSTON</b> Wednesday, May 12, 1999 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) INDEPENDENCE TWP. LIBRARY 6495 Clarkson Rd.

All seminars free of charge. No reservations necessary. For information, call (248) 594-1020. Paul Leduc is a Registered Representative with Linsco/Private Ledger WSB • 555 S. Old Woodward #777, Birmingham, MI 48009. Securities offered through Linsco/Private Ledger, Member NASD/SIPC.

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# Hello, I'm Mr. Gas Pump

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

For those of you who have heard voices while filling your gas tanks at the Dunkin' Donuts/Amoco Service Station at Ann Arbor Road and I-275 in Plymouth Township, there's no need to worry.

What you're hearing is the "Fueling Talker," the latest marketing device to hit the driving crowd, and motorists aren't too enthused about its presence.

The device, a small speaker attached to the handle of several gas pumps, recites advertisements, trivia questions and assorted messages for drivers to

hear while fueling. "They're a little bit irritating ... they bother me," said Lauren Avery.

Others drivers said they hadn't noticed them or have ignored the ads while filling up, and one motorist went as far as to write an expletive over the speaker. "I haven't really noticed them,"

said Leah Johnson. "It's more like background noise."

According to Jim Ferguson, president of Advanced Information Systems and inventor of the device, his product can be found at more than 100 stations in the metro Detroit area.

"We've had them on the market for about a year now," Ferguson said. "Through responses from people and advertisers, we're adapting the systems and making adjustments to better serve the customer."

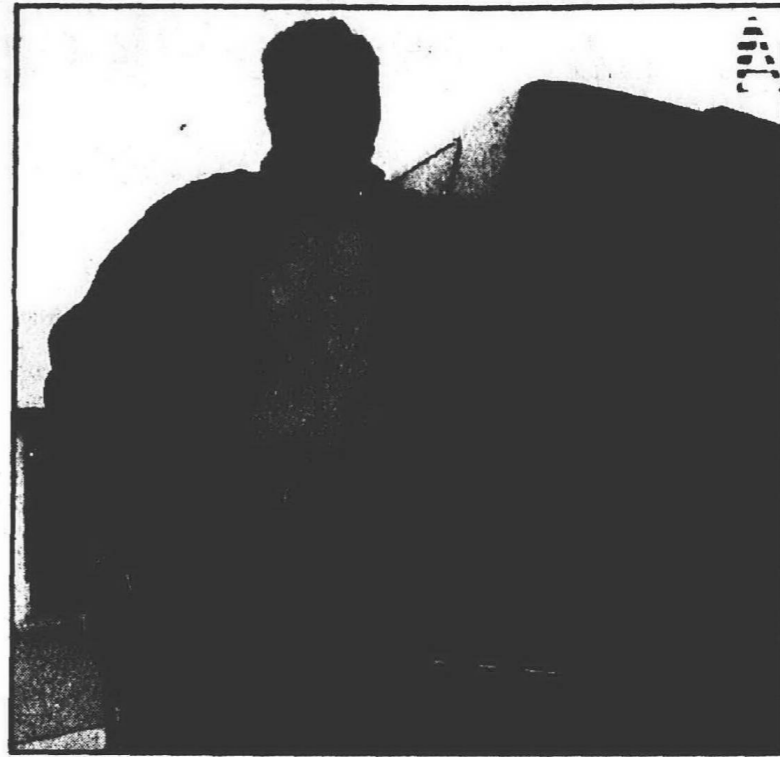
Ferguson said that some of the changes planned for the "Fueling Talker" will allow customers more control over the devices.

"We want to move it to another level," he said. "Right now we have two types of products. What we found was that the volume was either too loud or not loud enough so we're currently switching from our first models to a newer one, with volume switches, that allows the customer to have some control over them."

Ferguson said that the idea came to him in 1994.

"I got one of those new talking Valentine's Day cards that came out a few years ago and I was thinking about it after that," he said. "It just hit me like one of those bolt-of-lightning kind of things."

He said the idea is not neces-



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL BURCKMANN

Have you heard the one where...? Ron Vitale listens to the talking gas pump.

sarily to bombard consumers with more advertising but to replace much of the existing advertising at gas stations.

As for the annoyance expressed by drivers, Ferguson understands their feelings but believes the talking gas pumps will survive.

"You don't want somebody just yacking in your ear," he said.

"We want to make it as pleasing as we can to the customer, and

we've made and are making some changes to do that. We've trademarked it 'The Pump Radio Network' and 'Fun to Fuel.' I think that kind of indicates where we want to go with it."

Still, Dolores Kluba of Livonia, feels it goes too far.

"I don't know why they have to advertise," she said. "I'm already here. I'm buying their gas aren't I? They've already got me."

## Collector's Event

Saturday, May 1st  
10:00 - 2:00  
**CHRIS' HALLMARK**

Coventry Commons • Joy & Morton Taylor Rds. in Canton • 734-207-7776

### Register to Win Collectibles From

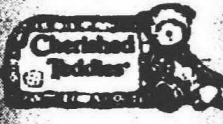
- Friends of the Feather
- Harmony Kingdom
- Cherished Teddies

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Need not be present to win (May win only once)



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# Area hospitals face uncertain financial future

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

Hospitals in southeast Michigan are cautious about praising the financial data in the 1997 Michigan Hospital Report, released earlier this week because figures from the last quarter of 1998 paint a very different picture of operating and total margins than those reflected in the 200-page report.

This report states more hospitals are struggling financially, said Michigan Hospital Association President Spencer Johnson.

"It shows that Michigan hospitals provide valuable benefits to their communities to improve overall health and that the vast majority of the state's hospitals are performing as well as, or better than, expected. It demonstrates that, although costs and payments of Michigan hospitals are in line with regional and national hospital norms, declining operating margins signal financial trouble in the future."

## Low profit, high debt

Profit margins disclosed in the report have dwindled by half or more since the numbers for this year's report (1997 data) were calculated. Local hospitals fault the cuts in Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement and increasing pharmaceutical costs with the dramatic variances from one year to the next.

"Similar to other hospitals, the financial viability of St. Mary's is being impacted by declining Medicaid reimbursements and high pharmaceutical costs," said Julie Sproul, director of Community Relations at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. "We are continuously looking at ways to provide high quality care in the most cost effective way."

Those sentiments were echoed by personnel from Botsford General Hospital, Garden City Hospital, Henry Ford Health System, Oakwood Healthcare System, Providence Hospital, and St. Joseph Mercy Health System.

While the report validates the ongoing financial challenges the health care industry faces, it also includes clinical performance data for Michigan hospitals and four-year trends for each hospital's performance on eight types of cases, and information on community benefits.

Based on their patient populations, the MHR shows hospitals are performing as expected or better in clinical areas such as knee and hip replacements, valve repairs, coronary artery bypass grafts, non-surgical heart cases and C-section and VBAC (vaginal birth after

Caesarean) rates for outcomes in length of stay and mortality rates. Performance examples include:

- St. Joseph-Mercy Hospital-Ann Arbor had the lowest C-section rate and among the highest vaginal birth after C-section rate among all of the hospitals reporting.
- Since 1994, Providence Hospital and Medical Centers reduced the average length of stay for hip and knee replacement patients by two days, according to Dr. Michael Deegan, senior vice president of medical affairs.
- Botsford General Hospital provided transportation for 39,000 individuals at a cost of \$525,000 and health screenings on 120 occasions, serving 7,294 people at a cost of \$142,000.
- \$40 million worth of uncompensated care (payment not received, only a portion of the cost reimbursed or uncollected charges) was provided by Henry Ford Hospital-Detroit, said Steve Velick, CEO Henry Ford Hospital.
- Trend lines show Oakwood has decreased medical cases length of stay from 6.02 in 1994 to 4.96 in 1997.
- St. Mary Hospital provided \$2.8 million in uncompensated care to approximately 40,000 people in 1997, said Sproul.
- Garden City Hospital saw length of stay averages within range or lower than expected on several cases. Terry Carroll, director of Development and Community Relations, said the hospital sees that as a positive since their patient mix consists of a higher elderly population and patients are kept until they are well enough to go home or sent to a skilled nursing center rather than transferred out of the system.

Julie Sproul

-director community relations, St. Mary Hospital

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## Far-reaching benefits

This is the second year MHA has compiled and released community benefit information on programs and services provided by hospitals to their local communities. Of the 123 nonprofit hospitals that participated in the 1997 survey, \$466 million in uncompensated care was provided to citizens across the state of Michigan - not including approximately \$283 million in bad debts owed to hospitals.

Programs and services provided by Botsford, Garden City, Henry Ford, Oakwood, Providence, St. Joe's and St. Mary Hospitals included subsidized inpatient and outpatient services, primary care clinics, community education/outreach, health screenings and subsidized community contributions totaling 8,257,423 visits or encounters during 1997.

"This report verifies some of the strengths that we have and serves as a useful piece of information for people to make informed health care decisions," said Nancy Dumas, public relations coordinator for Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills.

The Michigan Hospital Report is only one of several publications that report hospital data. The public disclosure of financial information and patient outcomes was generated to "improve health and health care delivery in Michigan" as well as providing consumers a foundation for selecting a health care provider based on their physical and emotional needs.

"We hope they look at the data and incorporate it into their decision process. It is a convenient way for people to seek out the quality care they are looking for, however, it is only a snapshot of a select group of factors out of many that should be taken into consideration," said Deegan of Providence Hospital.

Garry C. Faja, president and CEO of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, said the report demonstrates a hospital's commitment to maintaining and improving care.

"We have a clinical team in place that has developed methods to shorten lengths of stay for those specific cases that do not compromise quality of care or patient satisfaction. It fits very well with the goal of the MHA report, which is to help hospitals continuously improve their quality and provide a high level of care to the communities they serve."

The 1999 Michigan Hospital Report is available for review at most public libraries in the state and on the Internet at [www.mha.org/mhr4](http://www.mha.org/mhr4). Published copies are available for \$25 by writing to: 1999 Michigan Hospital Report, 6215 W. St. Joseph Highway, Lansing, MI 48917.

# County HMO makes health care affordable for small business

HealthChoice, Wayne County's program to allow small businesses to provide health care coverage for employees, recently signed up its 10,000th subscriber.

"The record number is proof of how beneficial this program is to employers," said Edward McNamara, Wayne County executive. "HealthChoice has allowed small businesses such as hair salons, gas stations and party stores to finally provide health coverage for their employees. It proves creative, outside-the-box thinking can really make a difference."

HealthChoice, managed by Wayne County, hosted a gathering at the Hunter House in Detroit - the location specifically chosen because the new downtown restaurant recently signed up as the health care program's 1,000th business. Enrolling the business brought in the program's 10,000th customer.

HealthChoice provides comprehensive health care coverage for

businesses employing three or more employees. Premiums are split three ways: 1/3 is paid by the employer, 1/3 is paid the employee and 1/3 paid by HealthChoice. To qualify, companies must also have 90 percent of their business in Wayne County, have a work force where 50 percent or more of the employees average less than \$10 an hour and not have offered health care benefits in the past year.

The program started in 1994 when McNamara was grappling with how to help businesses with skyrocketing health care costs. Now, more than 30 new businesses are signing up for coverage each month. The coverage also acts as an incentive to bring businesses to the county and to keep them there.

"It's a super program," said Judy Franulic, a HealthChoice customer for one year and owner of The Drycleaning Station in Livonia and Northville. She read about HealthChoice in a flyer sent to her home and now has at least five employees - and herself - enrolled.

"I'm thrilled with it. There's real peace of mind having the coverage."

Franulic's business is one of 48 in Livonia signed up for the coverage. The program includes 13 Canton businesses, nine in Garden City, eight in Plymouth, 23 in Redford and 26 in Westland. Detroit has the most businesses covered with 464.

Employees of the businesses must not be eligible for government health benefits and work at least 20 hours a week and expect to work more than five months. Employee premiums can be as little as \$41 a month. Health care services include prescription drugs, emergency services, hospitalization and ambulance service. Supplemental coverage on services such as vision care and dental care are available.

For more information about HealthChoice, call (800) WELLNOW.

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Happy Secretary's Day



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Looking good: Caity Hurley, 6, and her mom, Pat, model sportswear from Bearily Worn during the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Secretary's Day Fashion Show luncheon Wednesday at Plymouth Manor. The chamber presented its seventh annual show with about 135 attendees from throughout the area who saw the latest fashions from Julie's Bridal Imports, Sunny J's Lingerie & Leisure Wear, I Do Two Consignment Bridal Salon and Unique Accessories. There were also door prizes donated from businesses throughout Plymouth for all of the secretaries in attendance.

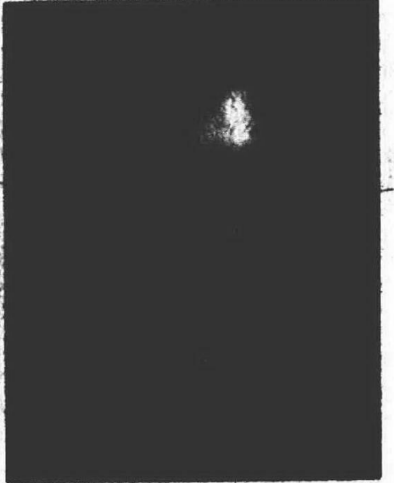
I-275 from page A1

Mile. Southbound traffic will be crossed over for the next three months so that the southbound lanes can be resurfaced. Motorists can expect traffic delays in that construction zone as the freeway's four lanes will be reduced to three. The gridlock is expected to extend to westbound I-96 in Livonia, as the two-lane exit from that freeway onto northbound I-275 will be narrowed to one lane. Congestion is expected in Farmington Hills as one lane of the two-lane ramp from westbound I-696 to southbound I-275 will be closed. Loop ramps from westbound M-5 to southbound I-275 and from westbound I-696 to eastbound M-5, which connect to this ramp, will also be closed.

Temporary crossover exits will be installed and marked for motorists accessing Six Mile, Seven Mile and Eight Mile roads. The loop ramps at those "mile road" interchanges, along I-275 will be closed until at least October, and with weather delays, that period may be extended to November. These ramps include westbound Six Mile to southbound I-275, eastbound Six Mile to northbound I-275, westbound Seven Mile to southbound I-275, northbound I-275 to westbound Seven Mile, and westbound Eight Mile to southbound I-275 to eastbound Eight Mile to northbound I-275. Traffic will be directed to other ramps within the interchange. Motorists are advised to seek alternate routes.

CARRIER OF THE MONTH

STEPHEN KEARNEY Stephen Kearney, 15, delivers the Plymouth Observer in the Trailwood subdivision. He has been delivering the Observer since December 1996. The Plymouth Canton High School ninth-grader's favorite subjects are computer applications and science. His hobbies are bowling, studying the weather and forensics. He was the bowler of the month with a high game of 214 and a high series of 388. He wants to go to the University of Oklahoma and study meteorology. Earning money and getting to know the neighbors are some of the things he likes about his route. Money management and responsibility are some of the skills he has developed.



He is the son of Francis and Theresa Kearney. He has a brother, Patrick, 20, and a sister, Maureen, 18.

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# Put some sunshine into meals with oranges

BY DANA JACOBI  
SPECIAL WRITER

In April, though the markets are still heaped with apples and pears, the appeal of these wintery fruits often diminishes as spring flowers brighten the landscape. Before local strawberries come along, this is the time for sunny, bright Valencia oranges.

In fact, April through the summer is when this fruit is at its peak, since the best of the crop comes in mid-season, and Valencias are harvested from February through October. It is almost as if Nature knows that orange juice, lifted with a dash of vanilla extract, is a great partner for the fresh berries soon to come, and that icy, tangy orange juice is also one of the best hot weather refreshers.

Valencias are the only orange equally good for eating and juicing. To eat a Valencia orange, cut it into wedges. I like to keep a bowl of these "smiles" by my computer as I work. They are thirst-quenching, won't spill, and the fragrance of the cut oranges is almost as enjoyable as the fruit itself.

Florida and California both grow Valencia oranges. In Flori-

da, where 90 percent of the crop is pressed for juice, this one variety of orange accounts for 50 percent of all the fruit grown in the state.

You may be able to tell which state this thin-skinned, round-shaped, virtually seedless orange comes from just by looking at it. California Valencias have a darker, richer color, inside and out. It is entirely natural, since dyeing them is against the law in California.

Some Valencias have a green tinge. Since Valencias are picked only when they are mature, this can mean they are from Florida, where cool nights cause the green color, or the green may be "re-coloration." This occurs when a tree has both blossoms and fruit at the same time, because of the chlorophyll the tree produces to feed the blossoms. Interestingly, re-greened Valencias may be extra ripe and particularly sweet.

As an accompaniment to grilled foods, try this rice cooked with orange juice and aromatic zest.

### ORANGE RICE PILAFF

- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 small onion, finely chopped

1 teaspoon grated orange zest

1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

1 cup long-grain white rice

1 cup orange juice

1 cup fat-free chicken broth

Preheat the oven to 400° F.

In a small Dutch oven or other ovenproof pot with a tight-fitting lid, melt the butter over medium-high heat on top of the stove. Add the onion, and saute until it is translucent, 4-5 minutes.

Stir in the orange zest and ginger, and cook 30 seconds. Stir in the rice until it is shiny. Mix in the orange juice and chicken broth. Bring the liquid to a boil, and cover the pot.

Place the covered pot in the oven. Bake the rice until all the liquid is absorbed and the rice is fluffy, about 15 minutes. Remove from the oven, and let the rice sit, covered, for 10 minutes before serving. Fluff the rice with a fork and serve.

Nutrition information: Each of the six servings contains 156 calories and 2 grams of fat.

Written by cookbook author Dana Jacobi for the American Institute for Cancer Research.



Springtime side dish: Orange Rice Pilaf is a delicious accompaniment to grilled foods.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

# Vegetable casserole hearty

AP — Both vegetarian and nonvegetarian, menus could include this Caribbean Corn and Vegetable Bake. It's a hearty casserole calling for corn, potatoes, onions and tomatoes, flavored with cumin, thyme and ground red pepper. The vegetables are cut into chunks, and the casserole bakes in just over 30 minutes.

### CARIBBEAN CORN AND VEGETABLE BAKE

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 1/2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon salt

3/4 teaspoon sugar

3/4 teaspoon dried thyme, crumbled

1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

1/8 teaspoon ground red pepper

4 ears fresh corn, shucked and halved

1 pound plum tomatoes (about 6), cut in halves

12 ounces small thin-skinned potatoes (about 4), cut in quarters (about 2 1/2 cups)

2 medium onions, cut in thin wedges (about 2 cups)

Preheat oven to 450° F. In a small bowl, mix oil, cumin, salt, sugar, thyme, black pepper and red pepper until blended. Place corn, tomatoes, potatoes and onions in a 15 by 10-inch roasting pan. Pour the oil mixture over the vegetables; toss gently to coat. Cover pan with foil. Bake, stirring once or twice, until vegetables are tender, about 30 minutes.

Makes 4 to 6 servings, about 9 cups. Nutritional facts per serving: 258 cal., 6 g pro., 45 g carbo., 9 g fat, 576 mg sodium.

Recipe from: Southern Super-sweet Corn.

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## Staying active before, after pregnancy improves postpartum weight loss, mood

Women who are physically active before and after the birth of a child not only retain less weight after the birth, but tend to remain socially active and feel better about themselves in the postpartum months, according to a new University of Michigan study.

"We found that women who exercise were much more likely than not to participate in fun activities, such as visiting friends and family, engaging in hobbies or going to the movies," said Carolyn Sampselle, U-M professor of nursing and senior author of the study published in the January/February issue of the Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic, and Neonatal Nursing (JOGNN).

The study, "Physical Activity and Postpartum Well-Being," focuses on 1,003 women who completed a questionnaire at their six-week postpartum examination. Nearly 35 percent of the women exercised an average of three times per week.

Those who were most active retained significantly less weight (8.6 pounds) than their less active counterparts. Also, the more active women had less difficulty adapting to the birth of a child and they were more likely than non-exercisers to socialize and engage in other fun

activities, such as hobbies and entertainment.

Beyond giving advice for abdominal exercises, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives and physicians seldom offer advice on the importance of remaining physically active during the postpartum months, according to Sampselle.

"The most important message we can send to health-care providers is the need to talk with postpartum women about their exercise goals and to support those goals. The message we send now is that all of our attention should go to the baby and don't worry about yourself." I think they are really doing a disservice to women," said Sampselle.

Of the 1,003 women who participated in the study, 34.8 percent engaged in vigorous exercise, while 65.2 percent did not; 54.8 percent reported engaging in less physical activity, while 29.2 percent reported the same level of activity, and 16 percent reported engaging in more physical activities.

Most of the women reported engaging in fun activities; 71.4 percent of the women said they stretched; 47.5 percent pursued hobbies; 47.4 percent socialized; 47 percent participated in sports; and 38.5 percent said

they participated in other forms of entertainment.

Although final conclusions on the effects of exercise on mental well-being will require further research, the study also showed that new mothers who exercised were generally more satisfied with their lives.

They were more satisfied with their partners; roles in caring for the infant; they were more confident in their abilities as a mother; they reported a better experience during labor and delivery; reported an overall better quality relationship with their partner; they were more satisfied with life overall; more satisfied about motherhood in general; and had more support from family and friends.

The questions raised by the study will be the subject of a continuing investigation by SeonAe Yeo, a U-M associate professor of nursing and co-author of the new Sampselle study.

"This was a retrospective study, which means we can't say it's the exercise that is the cause of their positive experience in adapting to the birth of a child. We plan to conduct a clinical study to see if in fact exercise caused this change in the women's state of mind," said Yeo.

## St. Joe's reorganizes in response to industry changes, Balanced Budget Act

Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, accelerating its continuous cost reduction strategies in response to cuts in Medicare reimbursement and other revenue sources, is pursuing a major redesign of overhead departments, examining programs' effectiveness and appropriateness and reducing expenses.

"We certainly are not immune to the pressures other Michigan health care systems are facing," said SJMHS president and CEO Garry C. Faja. "The Medicare cuts resulting from the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, additional revenue shortages proposed by President Clinton and an increase in managed care patient volume are strong incentives for us to streamline our processes and ensure we continue to focus on our mission of providing high-quality care."

Faja said SJMHS "must redesign itself to become exquisite at care delivery, care management and service excellence." The system is looking at a number of ways to improve processes and financial performance, including:

■ Management reorganization to attain a "best practices" ratio of management to staff.

■ Redesign of "back office" functions and processes that do not affect patient care in conjunction with its parent organization, Mercy

Health Services.

■ Active recruitment of nurses to ensure the quality of patient care and reduce employment agency costs and overtime expenses.

■ An overall reduction of full-time equivalents (FTEs) from 4900 FTEs to 4600 FTEs during the next 12 to 18 months. The reductions will be accomplished through process redesign, reduction of employment agency use and overtime, use of voluntary staff reductions, program changes and other efforts, with limited use of involuntary staff reductions.

"The health care industry is undergoing dramatic change, and we must take dramatic action in response to be true to our mission of improving the health of the people we serve," said Faja. "SJMHS is in a better financial position than some other health systems due to our employees' continuing efforts to implement quality initiatives that have improved care, increased efficiencies and reduced expenses."

"We know this transition period will be difficult at times," said Faja. "We are committed to accomplishing our initiatives in a manner consistent with our mission and values and continuing to provide the high level of care our communities have come to expect from us."

### UPCOMING EVENT

The Greater Detroit Chapter of Hadassah will present a Women's Health Education Day at the Westin Southfield. The day titled, "Body, Mind, Heart,

Soul" will start at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, May 23, and includes continental breakfast, workshops, women's health and care exhibits, luncheon and a keynote

address by Department of Health and Human Services' Saralyn Mark, M.D. Open to the public, cost \$30. For reservations call (248) 683-5030.

### MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Items for Medical Datebook are welcome from all hospitals, physicians, companies and residents active in the Observer-area medical community. Items should be sent to: Medical Datebook, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net or faxed to (734) 591-7279.

#### MON, APRIL 26

##### VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

Hospice of Washtenaw has a need for volunteers who are able to stay with our patients during the daytime hours to give family members a needed break. They are especially interested in volunteers who might be willing to occasionally travel outside the Washtenaw area. Training consists of 18 hours, beginning Monday April 26, at the hospice office, 806 Airport Blvd., Ann Arbor. Call Gail Marie to pre-register at (734) 327-3414.

#### TUE, APRIL 27

##### ART OF FENG SHUI

Learn the ancient art of arranging your home to increase harmony and positive energy. \$15 fee and preregistration required. 7 p.m. Botsford's Health Development Network, 39750 Grand River Ave., Call (248) 477-6100.

#### WED, APRIL 28

##### CAREGIVER SUPPORT

St. Mary Hospital will offer a new support group for caregivers 7-8:30 p.m. in the auditorium. The purpose of this group is to provide ongoing support and education for caregivers and older adults. This group will be moderated by health care professionals. Call (734) 655-8940.

#### APRIL 28-29

##### BLOOD DRIVE

Red Cross nurses available 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. to accommodate anyone wishing to donate blood "The Gift of Life." Call Garden City Hospital to make an appointment, 458-4330. Walk-ins welcome.

#### THUR, APRIL 29

##### MENOPAUSE

Dr. Michael Gatt, M.D., OB/GYN, discusses the differences between estrogen and phyto-estrogen hormone replacement therapies for menopausal and postmenopausal women beginning at 7:30 p.m. Healthy Solutions, 150 Mary Alexander Court, Northville. Call (248) 305-5785.

#### MON, MAY 3

##### STEP AEROBICS

A 55-minute workout with emphasis on both cardiovascular fitness and muscle strengthening. Eight-week class (through

June 28) meets twice every week, Mondays and Wednesdays from 5-5:55 p.m. \$70. Preregister by calling Botsford Center for Health Improvement-TRACC, 39750 Grand River Ave., Novi. For information, call (248) 473-5600.

#### TUE, MAY 4

##### ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

Informative as well as supportive, this group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. Botsford Continuing Care Center, 21450 Archwood Circle (off of Folsom, between Grand River and Eight Mile), Farmington Hills. Call (248) 477-7400.

##### DIABETES EDUCATION

Learn to take charge of your diabetes through a program designed for diabetics 18 years of age and older, "Taking Charge of Living With Diabetes." Held at St. Mary Hospital, this series of eight classes provides information on self care and successful management of diabetes. Classes will be held 1-3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 4 through May 27. Registration is required; call (734) 655-8940.

#### WED, MAY 5

##### MENOPAUSE SUPPORT

The Marian Women's Center Menopause Support Group will meet 7-9 p.m. at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia in the West Addition Conference Room B. The Marian Women's Center Menopause Support Group provides in-depth information, education and emotional support to help women lead fuller lives during their midlife years. There is no charge to attend the meeting, but registration is required. Call for more information, (734) 655-1100 or (800) 494-1615.

##### TAI CHI

Eight-week beginning program focusing on breathing techniques, coordination and relaxation of the entire body. \$70 fee. From 7-8 p.m. at Botsford Total Rehabilitation & Athletic Conditioning Center (TRACC), 39750 Grand River Ave., Novi. Call (248) 473-5600.

##### CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

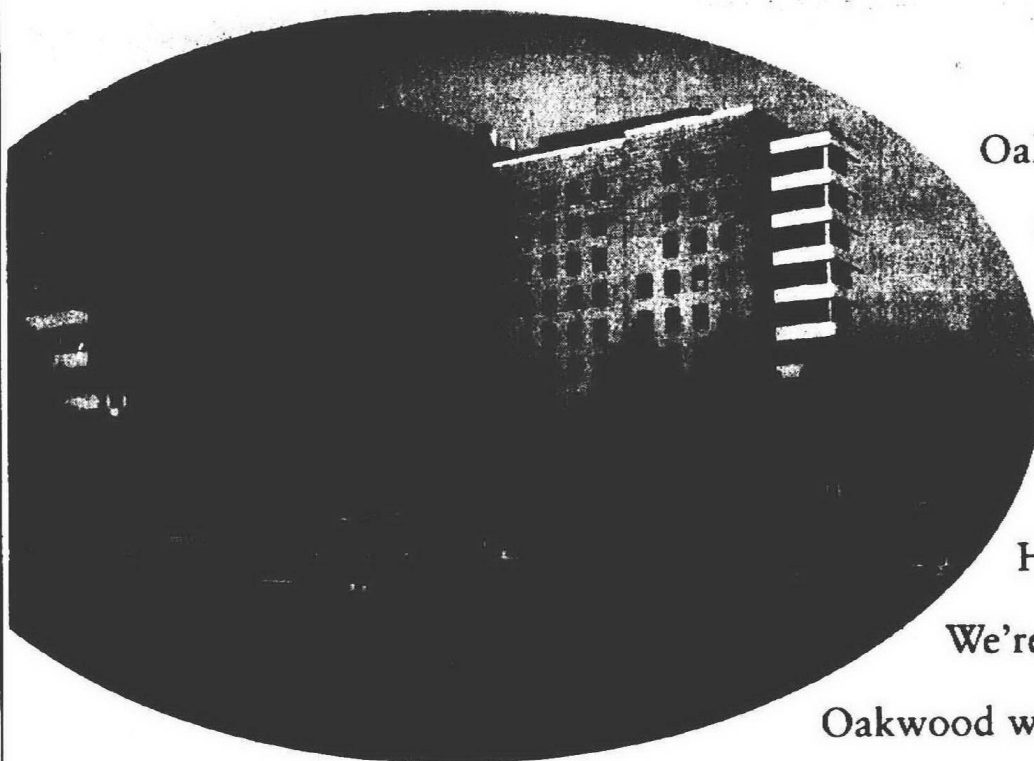
"Focus On Living," a self-help group for cancer patients and their families, meets the first Wednesday of each month at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. The next meeting will from 7-8:30 p.m. in the St. Mary Hospital Auditorium. Registration is not necessary, and there is no charge to attend the meeting. Call (734) 655-8940 or toll-free (800) 494-1650.

#### SAT, MAY 8

##### SIBLING CLASS

St. Mary Hospital will offer a Sibling Class 10 a.m. to noon. Children are invited to attend this class and learn how much fun it can be to be a big brother or big sister. Cost \$10 per family. Call (734) 655-1100.

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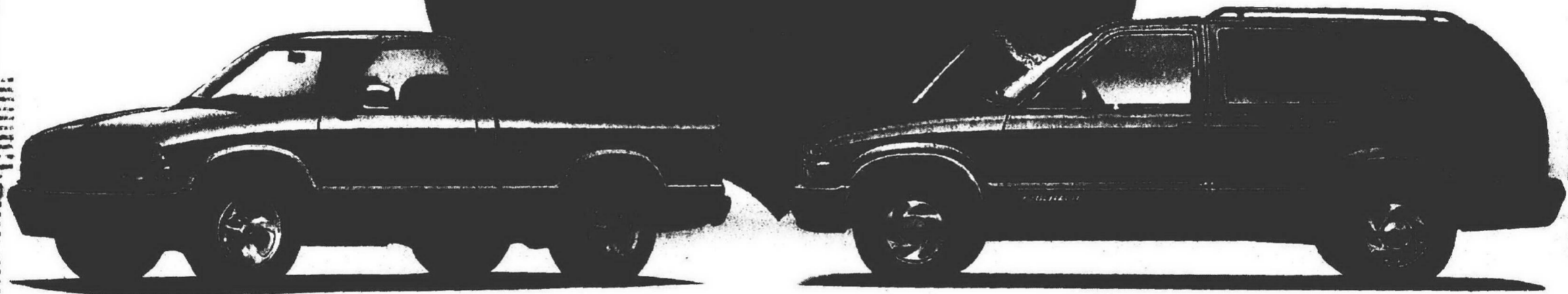
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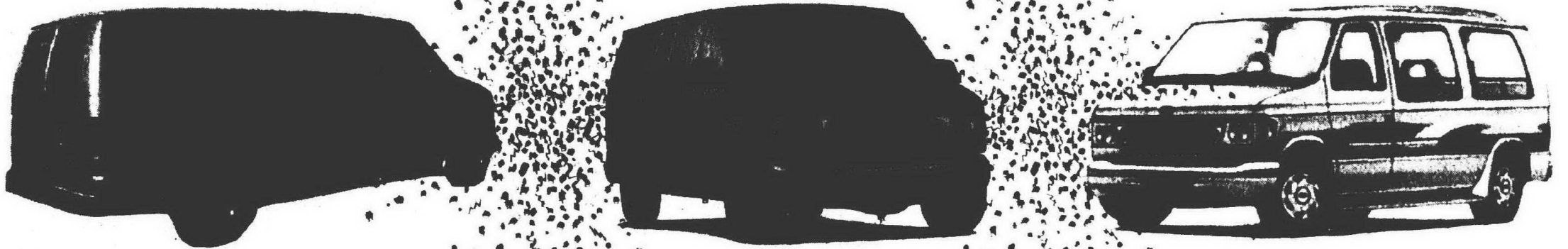
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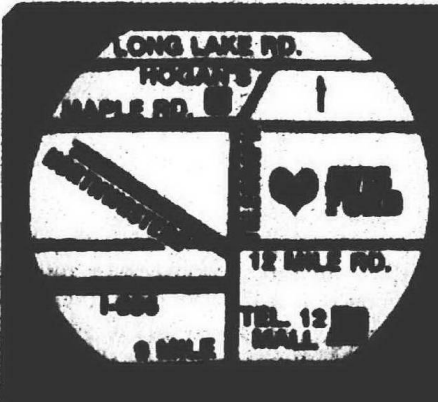
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ARTISTS EXPRESSIONS

LINDA ANN CHOMIN

## SCool Jazz trips on vocal music

Members of SCool Jazz and PRIME, Schoolcraft College's vocal jazz groups, are busy selling pizza kits and collecting bottles and cans to raise money for their European tour this July. They've been invited to perform in the prestigious Montreaux Jazz Festival in Switzerland, and the North Sea Jazz Festival and the World Choral Symposium in The Netherlands.

"It's quite an honor. We're very pleased," said the groups' director Steve SeGraves. "I never envisioned that it would be all three. I started by just applying to Montreaux. I did a lot of work, phone calls and e-mail. I decided we had as good a chance as anyone."

It will cost approximately \$32,000, or \$1,700 each for the 20 musicians including SeGraves, drummer Brian Buckmaster, a bass player, and pianist Eileen Standley of Plymouth, to spend 10 days in Europe. Schoolcraft College is donating \$10,000 for the trip; students will pay \$500 each. That leaves \$14,000 still left to raise



Cool jazz: Steve SeGraves leads SCool Jazz and PRIME in a concert to raise funds for the vocal group's upcoming European tour.

**Michigan Vocal Jazz**  
**Advances Theme**  
 West A concert by SCool Jazz and PRIME featuring "Fly Me to the Moon," "The Look of Love," "When Doves Cry," and "It Might As Well Be Spring."  
 When: 7:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, April 25.  
 Location: Practice campus of Schoolcraft College, 1701 Beaubien, (off Ford Road between Wagon and Varsity, Garden City, Mich. (734) 462-4770.  
 Tickets: \$5 minimum donation, proceeds for group's fund-raising for a July concert tour in Europe. For information, call Steve SeGraves (734) 254-6062.  
**Concert leader**  
 The Schoolcraft College Director of Music, Steve SeGraves, has a degree in Musicology at the University of Michigan. He has been a member of the American Musicological Association since 1974. He is also a member of the Michigan Music Educators Association, the Michigan Music Teachers Association, and the Michigan Music Educators Association.

for lodging, food and airline tickets. In addition to collecting bottles and cans for the deposits and selling do-it-yourself pizza kits, the groups will perform several benefit concerts, the first of which takes place Wednesday, April 28, on the Radcliffe campus of Schoolcraft College. A tribute to Michigan vocal jazz arrangers, the program showcases the work of April Arabian-Tini, Cathy Hadrian, Carl Rinne and SeGraves, among others.

"There's a lot of contrast in the concert from 'You Go to My Head' and 'For Once in

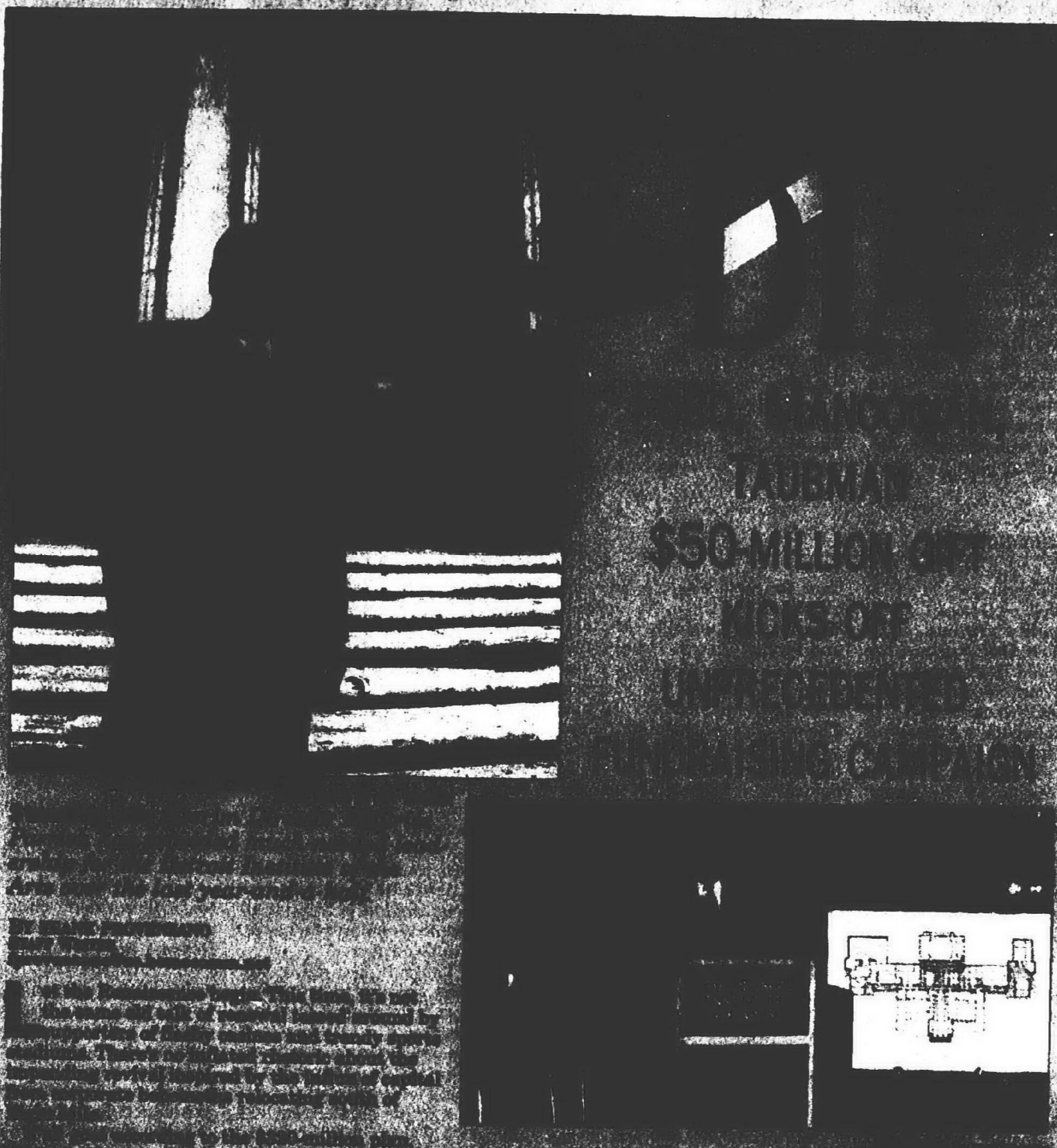
Please see EXPRESSIONS, C2

## Roundtable to discuss arts education

You're invited to "Opening the Book," a roundtable discussion about arts curriculum in our local school districts, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 18, at the Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24360 Southfield Road, Southfield.

Panelists will answer questions from the audience, and address their concerns about arts education and curriculum in the school districts the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers cover. There is no charge to attend.

Call Frank Provenzano, (248) 901-2557; Kately Wygonik (734) 963-2105, or Linda Chomin (734) 963-2145 if you have any questions.



**The Detroit Institute of Arts 10-year, \$320-million**

**Phase One**  
 ■ Goal: To raise \$120-million over five years  
 ■ \$80 million dedicated to building renovations and improvements, including adding 30,000 square feet in gallery space  
 ■ \$40 million to sustain museum's operating budget

**Phase Two**  
 ■ Goal: To raise \$200 million over 10 years  
 ■ Total amount would be dedicated toward building endowment  
 ■ Income from endowment will support museum's programs  
 ■ \$40 million will be earmarked to ensure collection is secure

The Detroit Institute of Arts is pleased to announce the year that this campaign began is defined by a shared culture, not separate goals.

Jim Whitten, Josephine Ford (widow of Walter Buhl Ford II), Richard Manocogian and A. Alfred Taubman made a \$10-million pledge from their massive personal wealth to launch the DIA's 10-year fund-raising campaign with the goal of raising \$320 million.

"These three individuals have given before," said Maurice Parrish, interim director at the DIA. "They challenged each other to establish a new standard in philanthropic giving."

The "giving" is the largest donation ever to a Detroit cultural institution, far exceeding the \$9 million private donation the DIA received in 1970.

It was largely through donations of the Ford family that the DIA was built in 1927. Since then, the Ford family has played a central role in sustaining the museum. More recently Manocogian and Taubman, among the wealthiest people in Michigan, have added their influence to the museum. Manocogian, chair of Masco Corp., served as president of the DIA board. And Taubman, of Bloomfield Hills and founder and chair of the Taubman Co., is president of the Detroit Arts Commission.

"This campaign will send a strong signal," said Manocogian. "We're alive and well and expanding."

The campaign is divided into two phases. Phase One aims to raise \$120 million over five years to fund the museum's operating budget and renovations. Phase Two is expected to take 10 years to raise an additional \$200 million to add to the DIA's current endowment of \$93.2 million.

Please see DIA, C2

**Jump 'n Time:** Livonia Civic Chorus members Patrick Sivyner (left), Mary Jo McKiddie, Dr. Richard Ruel and Dr. Jim Bumford swing into spring with a musical comedy.

## Chorus swings into spring with comedy thriller

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

Mystery, greed, betrayal and love, the Livonia Civic Chorus' spring production has all that and more.

Set in the Sweet Adeline Hotel during Prohibition, the chorus-oriented musical comedy is a mystery about people who disappear one night during an electrical storm. Fifteen years later a real estate agent is showing the hotel to prospective buyers when lightning strikes and brings back the people from 1932.

Co-authored by chorus director Jim Whitten and member Mark Sweetman, "Jump 'N Time" has all the elements of a good mystery—a haunted hotel, missing persons, eccentric foreigners and dangerous mobsters. Pianist Chris Gach and drummer Jim Person accompany the chorus as they sing their way through a range of '30s and '40s

**Jump 'N Time**  
 What: The Livonia Civic Chorus sings and dances their way through two musical theater productions featuring songs from the '30s and '40s.  
 When: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 30 to May 1.  
 Where: Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, (between Seven and Eight Mile Roads), Livonia.  
 Tickets: \$7, \$5 seniors/students, and available at the Livonia Parks & Recreation office at Five Mile and Farmington or at the Clarenceville box office on the evenings of the performances. For more information, call Nancy Fees (248) 620-4807.

tunes from "It Don't Mean a Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing" to "This Joint is Jumpin'." Sweetman narrates the April 30-May 1 productions at Clarenceville High School in Livonia.

"It's a combination ghost story and USO show that you haven't seen the likes of since Abbott and Costello meets Lon Chaney," joked Sweetman who began doing stand-up comedy 19 years ago at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak and still works regularly at Joey's Comedy Castle in Livonia and Mainstreet Comedy Showcase in Ann Arbor.

This is the fourth production Whitten and Sweetman have written together. Sweetman likes writing

Please see CHORUS, C2

MUSIC

## Singers rejoice over major choral works

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

Don Pratt is rejoicing with the 70 other Plymouth Oratorio Society members because conductor Leonard Riccinto chose not one but two major choral works—Franz Schubert's "Mass in G" and Leonard Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms" for them to sing with the Michigan Sinfonietta Orchestra May 8 at First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.

Add to that the fact, Riccinto invited two seventh grade students, Garret Mette and Sara Greenfield, from Central Middle School to sing the boy alto parts in "Chichester Psalms" as Bernstein noted when he wrote the composition, and Pratt's in heaven on earth.

"It's an enjoyable group and gives me an opportunity to sing major choral works with an orchestra," said Pratt, a Canton



**Chichester Psalms:** Garrett Mette and Sara Greenfield are soloists for a Bernstein composition being performed by the Plymouth Oratorio Society.

resident and math teacher at Huron High School in Ann Arbor. "What's special about this concert is we're doing it with children soloists from the community."

Dixie Cocaigine sings in the choral group for the same reason as Pratt. The Plymouth librarian performed in her first Oratorio Society concert seven

years ago under conductor Robert Pratt. Her husband, Charles, also sings with the chorus.

"We do beautiful music," said Cocaigine. "We originally were with the University Choral Union in Ann Arbor so we missed doing the music when they began traveling and couldn't continue to sing with them. A lot of people drive over from Ann Arbor to sing with the Plymouth Oratorio Society, but we have members from all over, not only Plymouth and Canton but Farmington and Westland."

Founded by Plymouth attorney John Stewart and a few other singers, the chorus is now in its 13th season. Only half a dozen original members remain but flexibility is what the group is all about. Members meet in January to begin rehearsing for 16 consecutive Monday evenings. Riccinto thinks that's quite a commitment.

"Why do we only do one concert a year, so people could participate in other groups," said Pratt who also sings with the choir at St. John Neumann Church in Canton.

### Vocal challenge

Now in his fourth season as conductor, Riccinto chose Schubert's and Bernstein's works for the program to test the skills of choral group members while

Please see SINGERS, C2

# Singers from page C1

entertaining the audience. Soprano Karen Chapin of Plymouth, tenors Robert Cassidy, Westland and Melvin Thompson, Detroit, basses Lars Gustafson, Detroit, Henry Naische, Ann Arbor and Robert Nelson, Canton will also sing solos for "Mass in G," the 1818 work by Schubert.

Composed in 1965 by Bernstein, "Chichester Psalms" challenges members to sing in Hebrew. Riccinto asked Mette and Greenfield to sing the boy alto solos for the work because their voices are at similar stages of development. And thought "why not give both children a chance to gain experience with the choral group. Having the children as soloists connects me and the chorus with the community." Other soloists for the Bernstein work are Chapin, Pratt, Gustafson, Cassidy, Gayle Rosey, Ralph Bezell, and Tricia Todd.

"Schubert comes easy to them,

but the Bernstein stretches them. I'm not only a conductor but an educator," said Riccinto, choral director at Eastern Michigan University where he's taught 14 years. Prior to Eastern, he taught choral music in high schools in Battle Creek and Grosse Pointe 13 years. "I look for excellent literature that has to not only entertain but enlighten. I try to challenge them. Bernstein is a challenge."

Riccinto, who works with Patrice Pedersen's husband Gary, a piano professor at Eastern Michigan University, was the connection to Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Pedersen is choral music director at Central Middle School. She started working with Mette and Greenfield in January to prepare them for the May 9 concert. Mette has studied guitar since age 7 and plays everything from jazz to blues to rock.

"Singing is something I want to do because it gets me more

involved and I get to meet people," said the 13-year old Mette. "Before we started rehearsal I was nervous because I never actually sang with a choir before except at school but I thought it went good."

**Like mother, like daughter**

Greenfield came naturally to singing. Her mother, Karen, is a longtime member of the Farmington Community Chorus. The 12-year-old Greenfield follows in her footsteps. She already has sung in Marquis Theatre youth productions of "Cinderella" and "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." She began taking piano lessons at age 6.

"I've been listening to music all my life," said Greenfield. "I just love it."

**For the fun of it**

Other members of the Plymouth Oratorio Society are music lovers as well. CPA Terry Fuller joined the choral group two years ago because he was

new in the area and wanted to meet people.

"Everyone is the same in the sense that they belong to other choirs," said Fuller who also sings with the First United Methodist Church Choir and Measure for Measure, an all-male choir directed for 11 seasons. "We take on some fairly challenging pieces but it's fun."

Robert Nelson, a member since the Plymouth Oratorio Society's beginnings, said his biggest challenge is finding time to rehearse because his position as president for the Livonia-based Airflow Sciences Corp. demands so much time.

"I've always liked the group because they're serious about music and because I love to sing," said Nelson, a Canton resident who's sung with the First United Methodist Church Choir since 1988. "For me, one of the high points of civilization is Beethoven's Ninth."

# DIA from page C1

In the last decade, the DIA has spent \$17 million to repair its roof, and electrical system along with updates and reinstallation to several of its galleries.

Future renovations will minimize new construction and maximize the current space, said Michael Graves, architect of the DIA's master plan.

Within a year, further renovation included in the master plan will be visible.

A promenade will be constructed along the DIA's north-south side. And the 50,000 square feet of new exhibit space will be fit within the current Prentiss and North courts. The actual type of art to be exhibited, however, is still being debated.

"The idea is to have a building where visitors are able to get to exhibits more easily," he said.

"How can we get people to understand that the front door of the DIA is for everybody?"

Last year, after the transfer of the day-to-day operation of the

museum from the city of Detroit to a nonprofit corporation reporting to the Detroit Arts Commission, the effort was undertaken to restructure the DIA. Redefining the organization and mission of the museum, included broadening the composition of the board, and clarifying how to be more relevant to the community, said DIA interim director Parrish.

"It's been an evolutionary process," he said. "Once we determined our long-term goals, we realized the (financial) numbers. Then, we had to look at how we would raise the money. It was apparent that people had to step forward."

The DIA didn't have to look far. Ford, Manooagian and Taubman have provided the ultimate example of practicing what you preach.

"Great museums must reflect their times, that is our challenge and opportunity," said Manooagian.

# Expressions from page C1

My Life" to "When Doves Cry" by the artist formerly known as Prince," said SeGraves. "That's what makes it interesting. That all that can be jazz."

SCool Jazz and PRime will also be selling their CD "From Russia With Jazz" to raise funds. Two years ago the groups, with different members, were the first ever college vocal jazz ensemble invited by the Russian Ministry of Culture to participate in a 12-day tour of the former communist country.

"We're trying to raise \$14,000 in the next three months to make the trip a reality," said SeGraves. "We wanted to showcase the arrangers because there's a lot going on in vocal jazz in the state. There's a lot of outstanding arrangers in Michigan including a couple in my group."

Plunking out the melody on the keys, SeGraves stands at the piano leading the group in an

Arabian-Tini arrangement of "It Might as Well be Spring." Dedication is the key attribute of all of the singers. Even though the semester ends next week, the groups will continue to rehearse several times a week.

Patrick Lokey doesn't mind all the work though. He's looking forward to the tour for a couple of reasons. As far as the music, Lokey can take it or leave it. According to SeGraves that's a common sentiment because "for a lot of people jazz is an acquired taste. A lot of people when they hear the word jazz immediately think of something wild but we do songs patterned after the '40s big bands."

"It's somewhere I've never been," said Lokey, a Northville resident who began singing with SCool Jazz two years ago. "But it's the people that bring me back, not really the music. I just enjoy being in the group."

Initially, Josiah Davis didn't

care for jazz either. Now, he can't wait for the opportunity to sing in the European festivals and locally. Two days after they return home, SCool Jazz and PRime will sing in the Michigan Jazz Festival Sunday, July 18. The groups performed in the last two festivals at the Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills. This year's festival is at Schoolcraft College.

"When I first got into jazz it took a little time," said Davis. "but it will make anyone a more rounded musician."

Julie Hillebrand is in her fourth semester of singing with the group. She is proud of the fact that jazz is all American.

"I joined the group because I wanted to sing," said Hillebrand of Wixom. "The second day of school we're scattin'. It's like pouring a cold bucket of water over you. It's music that's entirely American. It's a tradition we have that no other country has."

More than 200,000 jazz lovers

are expected to attend the 33rd annual Montreaux Jazz Festival July 2-17 in Switzerland. A two-day affair, the North Sea Jazz Festival typically draws 70,000 and in the past has featured such legends as Sarah Vaughan, Count Basie, Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald, Wynton Marsalis, McCoy Tyner, and Miles Davis. So you'd think the Schoolcraft students might be a little worried about performing, no chance.

"I love it. It's so different," said Hillebrand. "I'm not nervous about singing in front of all those people. I couldn't be happier than to be on stage."

Tara Tomcsik is among the half of the group who are music majors at Schoolcraft College. She likes vocal jazz because it requires an extra measure of effort. Tomcsik hopes one day to make it big on Broadway.

"Jazz is pretty challenging so I thought I'd give it a whirl," said Tomcsik. "It's a lot more of a challenge, no easy harmonies."

For information about SCool Jazz's and PRime's benefit concerts or fund-raising efforts, call the groups' manager Betsy Mullaity at (248) 380-3145.

# Chorus from page C1

shows because it allows the chorus to tinker with script practically until the curtain rises. Originally, there was a gangster scene with guns in "Jump 'N Time." After the tragic shootings and bombings this week at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., the script now calls for a group of ruffians minus the guns.

"We'd traditionally done a lot of show music combined with choreography when we decided to add drama and musical theater," said Whitten, a Farmington Hills resident who's conducted several choruses in the metro Detroit area over the last 25 years. "In the last four years we've been doing this, all have been comedies. This one is a spoof on a ghost story."

Since the audition process in February, the 55 chorus members chosen to participate in the production have pulled together to make the production a smash. For the last two months, a crew has been hard at work building the scenery to serve as background for the stylish steps of choreographer Lucy Koviak's dancers.

"We want to get our people

involved in singing and dancing and having a great time," said Whitten. "That comes across to the audience. One person who saw last year's show, 'Blackboard Bungle, said this is accessible musical theater for the average person."

Nancy Fees joined the chorus five years ago and looks forward to the spring productions.

"Jump 'N Time is very energetic. It reminds me of the music my mom and dad used to listen to," said Fees. "They taught me to jitterbug in our living room. It brings back fond memories."

A longtime Farmington resident now living in Davisburg near Clarkston, Fees sang with the Farmington Community Chorus for three years before joining the Livonia group of singers. Husband Larry also sings with the chorus.

"The Livonia Civic Chorus is a wonderful, friendly group," said Fees.

Proceeds from ticket sales from the two productions go towards scholarships for Livonia high school students attending Interlochen's summer music camp.

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All proceeds from ticket sales go towards scholarships for Livonia high school students attending Interlochen's summer music camp.

**the canadian brass**

sat. sunday, may 8, 9

31-761-2538



GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinema

12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00... THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)

12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00

12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00... DOUG'S 1ST MOVIE (G)

Star Showcase

12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00... THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)

United Artists

12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00... THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)

Manhattan Cinema 11

12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00... THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)

Star Showcase

12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00... THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)

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12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00... THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)



CAROL BOBROW

Dangerous man: Chuck Wagner plays the nasty Mr. Hyde to Sharon Brown's Lucy Harris in 'Jekyll & Hyde.'

Jekkie love 'Jekyll & Hyde,' but others will wonder why

'Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical' continues 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays and 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through May 9 at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit.

BY HUGH GALLAGHER STAFF WRITER hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

anthems, the kind of music that Whitney Houston, Celine Dion, Michael Bolton et. al. churn out ad nauseum. This show contains a string of these anthems tied together with some spoken dialogue, recitative and a sadly few songs that venture into other musical territory.

Unfortunately, the Wildhorn-Bricusse score does not deserve such splendid trappings. Wildhorn writes bombastic pop

frozen tableaux. The choreography seems a bit clunky.

Sharon Brown plays the prostitute Lucy who longs for a better life. Brown has a big pop voice and an appealing stage presence that wins sympathy for her character.

Andrea Rivette is Jekyll's upper class fiancée Emma. She fits the part well and has an appealing, if limited, singing voice.

If you like the current pop music scene and enjoy a splashy stage spectacle, you might find yourself joining the Jekkees jeering the critics. On opening night they were giving standing ovations!

Pine Knob series on sale Friday

Series tickets will again be sold on a pick-your-own plan basis. Purchase three shows of your choosing and receive free lawn tickets for three shows of your choice (free shows indicated by bolded dates).

\* Sarah Brightman, June 16. \$27.50 pavilion only. \* Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers and Lucinda Williams, June 18. \$52.50/\$25

Clay Walker, July 15. \$25/\$15 Air Supply, July 15 at Meadow Brook. \$22.50/\$12.50 The Commodores, July 16. \$23.50/\$12.50

Star Showcase

12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00... THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)

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12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00... THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13)

June

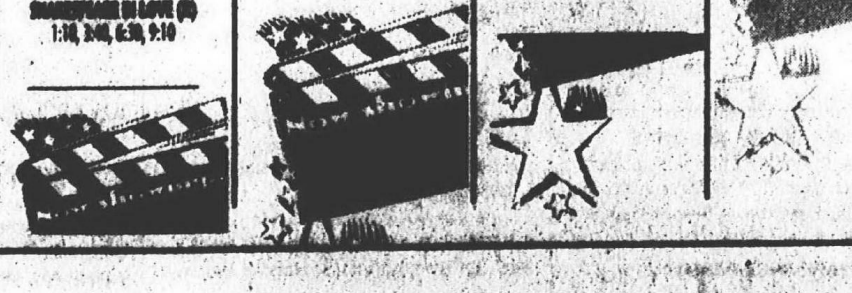
Kansas, June 4. \$23.50/\$12.50 \* Journey and Foreigner, June 5. \$27.50/\$15

July

Gordon Lightfoot, July 1, Meadow Brook. \$34.50/\$12.50 \* J. Geils Band, July 2.

August

Smokey Robinson Aug. 1. \$25/\$15 Blue Oyster Cult, Nazareth and Survivor, Aug. 3. \$22.50/\$12.50



**MGD**  
MUSIC  
PRODUCTIONS

**pine knob**  
music theatre

MGD

**PICK YOUR OWN SERIES**  
**BUY 3 SHOWS, GET 3 FREE**

**Column A**

**Column B**

- 8 **SHERYL CROW** w/ SEMISONIC \*  
\$29.50
- 21 **NATALIE MERCHANT** \*  
\$32.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 22 **LENNY KRAVITZ** \*  
w/ THE BLACK CROWES, EVERLAST & CREE SUMMER  
\$37.50 Pavilion/\$22.50 Lawn
- 28 **THE VOLUNTEER JAM TOUR '99** \*  
Featuring HANK WILLIAMS JR., THE CHARLIE DANIELS  
BAND, THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND & MOLLY HATCHET  
\$28.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 30 **POISON/RATT** w/ GREAT WHITE & L.A. GUNS \*  
\$20 Pavilion/\$12.50 Lawn
- 5 **JOURNEY/FOREIGNER** \*  
\$27.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 6 **SAMMY HAGAR** \*  
\$24.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 10 **HOOTIE & THE BLOWFISH** w/ SHAWN MULLINS \*  
\$28.50 Pavilion/\$12.50 Lawn
- 12 **SANTANA** w/ OZOMATLI \*  
\$33 Pavilion/\$15.50 Lawn
- 15 **ELVIS COSTELLO** w/ STEVE NIEVE \*  
\$35 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 16 **SARAH BRIGHTMAN** \*  
\$27.50 Pavilion Only
- 18 **THE TOM PETTY & THE HEARTBREAKERS** \*  
\$52.50 Pavilion/\$25 Lawn
- 20 **THE NICKELODEON "ALL THAT" TOUR**  
Featuring 98 DEGREES, MONICA & MORE  
\$28.50 Pavilion/\$20 Lawn
- 24 **DWIGHT YOAKAM** w/ DEANA CARTER \*  
\$25 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 25 **OZZFEST '99** Featuring BLACK SABBATH,  
ROB ZOMBIE, DEFTONES, SLAYER, PRIMUS, GODSMACK,  
SYSTEM OF A DOWN & MORE \*  
\$49.50 Pavilion & Lawn
- 26 **ANI DIFRANCO** w/ MACEO PARKER \*  
\$25 Pavilion & Lawn
- 30 **JOHN MELLENCAMP** w/ SON VOLT \*  
\$39.50 Pavilion/\$20 Lawn
- 1 **THE B-52's**  
\$28.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 2 **THE RETURN OF J. GEILS BAND** \*  
Featuring PETER WOLF, SETH JUSTMAN, MAGIC DICK, J. GEILS  
& DANNY KLEIN  
\$37.50 Pavilion/\$20 Lawn
- 7 **PAUL SIMON/BOB DYLAN** \*  
\$75 Pavilion/\$29.50 Lawn
- 8 **JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY** \*  
w/ LEE ROY PARNELL & MONTGOMERY GENTRY  
\$27.50 Pavilion/\$12.50 Lawn
- 9 **BRIAN SETZER ORCHESTRA** \*  
\$29.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 10 **BEACH BOYS/  
CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVISITED**  
\$25 Pavilion/\$15.50 Lawn
- 13 **MOTLEY CRUE/SCORPIONS** \*  
\$35 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 14 **FAITH HILL** \*  
\$29.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 25 **ROGER WATERS**  
\$35 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 27 **WILLIE NELSON PICNIC W/ LYLE LOVETT**  
w/ KEB MO  
\$29.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 30 **CHICAGO/DOOBIE BROTHERS**  
\$35.25 Pavilion/\$18.75 Lawn
- 31 **THE TRAGICALLY HIP**  
\$28.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 5 **STEVE MILLER BAND** w/ GEORGE THOROGOOD  
\$37.50 Pavilion/\$21.50 Lawn
- 7 **VINCE GILL** w/ CHELY WRIGHT \*  
\$29.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 10 **DURAN DURAN**  
\$29.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn
- 13 **BARRY MANILOW**  
\$50 Pavilion/\$10 Lawn
- 20 **BROOKS & DUNN** w/ TRACE ADKINS & DERYL DODD  
\$29.50 Pavilion/\$15.50 Lawn
- 23 **R.E.M.** w/ WILCO \*  
\$35 Pavilion/\$25 Lawn
- 28 **GIPSY KINGS**  
\$32.50 Pavilion/\$17.50 Lawn
- 4-5 **BARENAKED LADIES**  
Pavilion & Lawn TBA
- 8 **BONNIE RAITT/JACKSON BROWNE  
SHAWN COLVIN/BRUCE HORNSBY  
DAVID LINDLEY**  
\$32.50 Pavilion/\$15 Lawn

- 29 **EDDIE MONEY** w/ STEWART FRANCKE \*
- 4 **KANSAS**
- 22 **LOVERBOY**
- 1 **GORDON LIGHTFOOT** \*
- 3 **GET BACK! CAST OF BEATLEMANIA** \*
- 5 **ROCK NEVER STOPS**  
Featuring JOHN ENTWISTLE, URIAH HEPP,  
QUIET RIOT, SLAUGHTER & FIREHOUSE
- 6 **BOZ SCAGGS** \*
- 6 **HEART** Featuring ANN & NANCY WILSON
- 11 **AMERICA/THREE DOG NIGHT**
- 14 **PAT BENATAR**
- 15 **AIR SUPPLY** \*
- 15 **CLAY WALKER**
- 16 **THE COMMODORES**
- 17 **PETER FRAMPTON** w/ ERIC STUART
- 19 **REO SPEEDWAGON**
- 23 **CHEAP TRICK**
- 1 **SMOKEY ROBINSON**
- 3 **BLUE OYSTER CULT/NAZARETH**  
w/ SURVIVOR
- 4 **DAN FOGELBERG** w/ JILL JACK \*
- 12 **KENNY ROGERS** w/ ANNE MURRAY
- 25 **TONY BENNETT**
- 26 **NATALIE COLE**
- 29 **RAY CHARLES**
- 2 **AN EVENING W/ JOHN TESH** \*
- 6 **KC & THE SUNSHINE BAND/WAR**
- 11 **HUEY LEWIS & THE NEWS**

Pavilion tickets are available for purchase on column B events  
Call for information.

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TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE IN PERSON AT THE PALACE BOX OFFICE

Purchase your Pine Knob Series Tickets over the Internet! Visit [www.palacenet.com](http://www.palacenet.com) for easy & convenient ordering.

\* Individual Tickets on Sale \* At The Palace of Auburn Hills  
\* At Meadow Brook Music Festival

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MON - FRI: 9 AM - 7 PM  
SAT & SUN: 10 AM - 4 PM

Programs, dates and prices subject to change.

## Good retail service may await you, too

### SHOP TALK



NICOLE STAFFORD

Service stinks, and everything you buy these days falls apart - I can't tell you the number of times I've heard that complaint or voiced it.

Widespread consumer dissatisfaction doesn't surprise me. We've all waited too long in line to spend our money, purchased appliances

that blow up after a year of use and encountered, if not rude, then downright useless salespeople.

We believe manufacturers and retailers are only interested in making an extra buck, which can involve cutting corners in quality and good service.

My own consumer cynicism dissuades me from not only shopping in general but also making essential retail purchases.

At the moment, for instance, I'm in a need of a couch.

For several months I've been searching, all the while without a cozy place to curl up on when watching a good flick or Thursday night "must-see-TV."

I'm afraid of disappointment, convinced the couch of my dreams will fray at the seams upon delivery.

The day after the couch's warranty expires the frame will plunge to the floor, I think, increasing my purchase anxiety and tendency to procrastinate.

So when the shoulder strap of my leather Coach handbag broke, I was not surprised.

"Oh well, it has to break," I thought to myself. "Planned obsolescence. All companies design their products with a target date for destruction in mind."

Actually, I had been toting around my little black Coach bag almost every day for several years. In the end, I decided it had served me well, far better than any other purse I had owned, and for a longer period of time than most retail products.

In fact, I would say its longevity exceeded my expectations. Not only that, I could still use the purse since it was equipped with a carrying handle.

Not inclined to run out and spend money on a replacement, I continued to carry - by hand - the trusty Coach bag, never even considering I might be able to replace the shoulder strap.

Several weeks later, I found myself - accompanied by Mom - wandering into the Coach leather store at The Somerset Collection in Troy, debating whether to inquire about the availability of a strap replacement.

"It looks like that purse, but bigger," I told Mom, hoping she would spot the model that matched my purse, which was I carrying at the time.

But before either of us had an opportunity to peruse the display shelves, we were distracted by a soothing voice at our backs.

"You need a shoulder strap?" inquired the voice's owner, as if reading my mind. (Actually, the voice's owner, the store's assistant manager, had been observantly and patiently listening to Mom and I discuss my dilemma.)

"Do you have the broken one?" the woman inquired in a matter-of-fact tone, as Mom and I turned our attention from handbag display to attentive store manager.

"No, I don't," I said, shrugging my shoulders.

"Hold on, I'll get you a replacement," she said and then disappeared somewhere in the back of the store. I looked at Mom, confused but pleased.

Moments later, the manager returned carrying a new leather strap, its brass clasps and adjustment buckle shiny as gold.

"Just drop off the broken strap next time you're at the mall," she said.

"Do you always do this?" I inquired. "Coach replaces all its hardware free of charge," she said. "Would you like me to clean your purse?"

Imagine my astonishment. Not only had the usefulness of my Coach bag been restored but its nicked - and dirty, as Mom pointed out - leather exterior was about to be rejuvenated.

Of course, the service did not come without a pitch: Coach sells its own line of leather cleaning and conditioning products.

So what, I thought. My needs as a customer - a non-buying customer, for that matter - had been met, and my expectations had been surpassed yet again.

## The joy of shopping

### Local Girl Scouts literally shopped 'till they dropped

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
SPECIAL EDITOR

Girl Scouts Courtney Smith and Jessica McClain revel for hours in the purchase of a \$12 cassette tape by the band "FIVE," their glowing cheeks evidence of the joy of shopping in its purest, most innocent form.

"It's more fun than shopping with your mom," says 8-year-old Courtney of making the mall circuit with girlfriends and, most importantly, best friend Jessica.

"Yeah," adds Jessica. "And, (Courtney) always shows me things. ... We get to see more things that way. I wouldn't have seen the FIVE CD, if Courtney hadn't found it."

Members of Girl Scout Troop 3296, the Westland adolescents are two of more than 2,000 Girl Scouts turning out April 17 for an all-night shopping, eating, talking and movie-watching extravaganza.

Held annually at Wonderland Mall in Livonia, the event, dubbed "Slumberland at Wonderland," epitomizes the mall-shopping experience.

Pit stops for Burger King french fries and school girl gossip follow spurts of frenzied store browsing. Other moments, travel time between stores, for instance, are reserved for purchase-making plans.

While movies and other activities are available for the hordes of Girl

Scouts roaming and sitting about the mall, they uniformly exclaim the primary reason for coming is: "SHOPPING!"

Surprisingly, impulse purchases are the exception rather than the rule. These young girls, who ranged in age from 7 to 16, are savvy shoppers with discerning tastes and an eye for bargains.

As Jessica puts it, "We like to think things over. ... And we don't like (the musical group) Hanson. They sing too loud and look like girls."

True, Courtney's music purchase at F.Y.E. (For Your Entertainment) is well reasoned and sensible: the cassette was on sale, and Courtney loves

music and adores FIVE. More importantly, FIVE is one of a handful of bands she and her peers currently idolize. And Courtney and friends have, essentially, made the purchase communally.

A quintessential shopping experience for adolescents, deciding with the help and shared enthusiasm of your friends to make a purchase, let's face it, doesn't happen often in adulthood.

Courtney's small, yet triumphant purchase also illustrates how shopping makes people feel empowered, if only momentarily.

And, \$12.19 worth of empowerment is better than none at all.

Courtney's shopping experience might even be likened to the emotional state of a woman who defiantly purchases that \$2,000 designer suit she's been wanting since last season.

The elation is the same, even though the price tags are radically different.

In fact, not much shopping is required before members of Troop 3296 are ready to return to the night's home base, a row of sleeping bags carefully unfolded in front of a closed store, to celebrate and talk about their purchases.

Brooke Killeen, 7, also has made a sought-after music purchase at F.Y.E, a cassette tape by the group "In Sync" for \$10.59, which the girls pass around and admire.

Likewise, 8-year-old Macie Bowman withdraws an In Sync pencil and book from her shopping bag, igniting excitement among the other members of Troop 3296.

After the girls review their purchases, plan their next shopping experience and count the dollar bills left to spend, they're off to Stroh's Ice-cream for another pit stop. Not surprisingly, their choices are the same - half the group orders "big gulp" Mountain Dew sodas, the rest settle on Superman ice cream cones.

Is anybody getting tired? "NO," the girls exclaim in unison. What's next? "SHOPPING!"



Pit stop: Kyrie Bowman and Katy Douly indulge.



Savvy shopper: Jessica McClain from Westland listens to a new album before deciding to make a purchase. She is one of more than 2,000 girl scouts who turned out for a late-night shopping event at Wonderland Mall in Livonia.



Home base: Macie Bowman and Kayla Yuchasz take cat naps before more shopping.

News of special events for shoppers is included in this calendar. Send information to: Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; or fax (248) 644-1314. Deadline: Wednesday 5 p.m. for publication on Sunday.

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 25

**COLLECTOR TOY SHOW**  
The Winross Collectors Club of America sponsors a toy collector's show at the Monaghan K of C Hall in Livonia, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. For information, please call (734) 747-7192.

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 27

**CHANEL BUY**  
Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Collection in Troy, presents "High Summer 1999," a Chanel collection focus day, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Designer Salon.

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

**FOOTWEAR FOR FALL**  
View Ferragamo's women's special order footwear collection for fall at Saks Fifth Avenue, The Somerset Collection in Troy, through May 1, Women's

## ADDED ATTRACTIONS

**Designer Shoe Salon, first floor.**  
**CLARKS ENGLAND SHOES**  
View the shoe collection of Clarks England at Jacobson's in downtown Birmingham, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Women's Shoe Salon. Show also runs 10 a.m.-3 p.m. April 30 at Jacobson's at Laurel Park Place in Livonia.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 29

**WOMEN'S SHOW**  
Fashion, food, fitness, education, business, travel and the home are the subjects of a four-day show (through May 2) for women at the Novi Expo Center in Novi. Discounted admission coupons are available at local Art Van Furniture stores. For further information, call (800) 849-0248.

**WARDROBE SEMINAR**  
Jones New York holds a series of wardrobe seminars at local Hudson's stores through May 1, Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi, 7 p.m. April 29, The Somerset Collection in Troy, 1 p.m. March 30 and Oakland

Mall in Troy, 2 p.m. May 1, Jones New York department.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 1

**DANCE THE MARIACHI**  
Wonderland Mall in Livonia presents "Uno de Mayo," a dine and dance family night with live mariachi music, 6-8 p.m.

**BRIDAL JEWELRY SHOW**  
The Gold Loft, 33191 Grand River in Farmington Hills, holds a trunk show of wedding bands and engagement rings, 12-4:30 p.m. For information, please call (248) 478-0400.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 2

**IN-HOME TRUNK SHOW**  
View the Doncaster summer collection through May 7 at area homes in Plymouth, Canton and Northville. For information about this traveling trunk show, please call, (734) 416-8838.

**BEANIE BABY SHOW**  
Michigan's largest Beanie Baby show with more than 50 vendors returns to the Plymouth Cultural Center at 526 Farmer Street in Plymouth, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission is \$5. Kids, age 4-12, enter for \$2.

## Summer specs



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLTYREY

**Sensational sights: SEE, or Selective Eyewear Elements, in downtown Birmingham showed off its eyewear and the fashion of several local designers on Thursday. Eye glasses with plastic rims were all the rage, as well as color-tinted sunglasses. A few styles represented include, left to right, narrow rectangle frames in silver metal, \$179 with lenses, red-tinted "disco" sunglasses, \$139, colorful laminate-frame glasses, \$159 with lenses, and black "Jackie O" sunglasses, \$159.**

## Designer of decor pieces slated to make appearance at Neiman Marcus on May 1

Richard MacKenzie-Childs, co-founder and co-designer of MacKenzie-Childs decorative home items is slated to appear May 1 at Neiman Marcus at The Somerset Collection in Troy.

Known for bringing color, whimsy and charm into the home environment, MacKenzie-Childs' pieces run the gambit of home accessories and include furniture, picture frames, lamps, table set-

tings and door knobs.

MacKenzie-Childs, the designer and founder, will be on hand noon to 4 p.m. to present his limited edition commemorative pieces and sign purchases of \$1,000 or more.

The show and appearance will be held in Neiman Marcus' Gift Galleries department on floor three. For information, call (248) 643-3300.

## Tel-Twelve offers free gifts to shoppers

If you're shopping for a gift to give Mom for Mother's Day, consider stopping by Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield, especially if you're interested in surprising her with a second gift.

You won't even have to pay for it.

Tel-Twelve Mall is offering shoppers a little something extra this Mother's Day season.

Shoppers who spend \$100 or more at the mall will be eligible for a free gift from the Bath & Body Works, now through May 9.

Shoppers should bring their store receipts from purchases to the mall's Customer Service Center to receive their gift, a trio of two-ounce bath products, which will be available in two different fragrances, forest and ever-popular raspberry.

The gifts are limited one to a customer and will be available until supplies run out.

For additional information, please call (248) 353-1838.

### RETAIL DETAILS

#### SHOP WITH PRECISION AND COUPONS

To encourage the pursuit of precision shopping - finding bargains without searching the racks of numerous stores - Great Lakes Crossing in Auburn Hills has put together the "Precision Shopping Guide."

The guide also contains discount coupons for 20 stores located in the mall, including OFF 5th, Neiman Marcus Last Call, Brooks Brothers factory outlet, Bella Luna, Pfaltzgraff and Jones New

York Company.

The coupons are redeemable through April 30. For information, please call (248) 454-5000.

#### JACOBSON'S JOINS RACE FOR A CURE

More than 200 Jacobson's store associates joined the fight against cancer and participated in the annual Race for the Cure event at the Detroit Zoo on Saturday. The race benefits the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and Jacobson's staff came from several area stores to help out.

## Where can I find?

This feature is dedicated to helping readers locate sources for hard-to-find merchandise. If you've seen any of the items in your retail travels (or basement), please call *Where Can I Find?* at (248) 901-2555. Slowly and clearly leave your name, number and message. And you should see your input in a few weeks. Due to the overwhelming response to this column, we only publish the requested item two or three times. If you have not seen a response or heard from us, we were unable to locate the item. Thank You.

#### WHAT WE FOUND:

Found the video tape of the movie "Fantasia" for Ruth. Ernie had a 1939 Central High School yearbook as well as an old-fashioned Quaker oatmeal can.

Another reader called to say he has a 40-year-old Hires Root Beer soda bottle, but there is no listing in Evanston, Illinois for the Hires Root Beer Company.

A half-inch curling iron brush can be bought at Sally's Beauty Supply on Warren Road in Westland. A full-size apron can be found at Countryside Crafts on Plymouth Road in Livonia.

Eyebrow stencil shapes can be found in the Beauty Boutique catalog, (440) 826-1267.

For Teresa, we found someone who does glass cutting, but not a glass cutter.

We also found a wire player for Gloria, a shorthand book for Greg and Cecil Fielder memorabilia for Jenny.

Teresa can have her pool table recovered at Saffron Billiards & Bar Stools. Call (800) 286-7682. Also, call local fabric stores to purchase vinyl for the cover. Then put a stick on one end of the vinyl and staple the vinyl to the stick and roll the cover over the table instead of sewing the corners, a reader informed us.

#### WE'RE STILL LOOKING FOR:

Young Ashley from Redford is looking for anyone who has backstage passes to the July 31, "In Sync" concert at the Silverdome.

Don is looking for a 1972 Northwest Detroit Henry Ford High School yearbook.

Marilyn wants Maybelline Ultra Brow brush-on color in brown.

Jill is looking for Revlon's Moondrops lipstick in Mocha Pocha #70.

Marilyn is looking for an original 1969-1974 Betty Crocker cookbook, as well as a new and revised edition published in the 1970's.

Joyce is looking for a four-piece set of dishes by Corelle in a pattern called Mirage.

Emile wants parts and accessories for a Honeywell #620 slide projector, either new or used and discarded parts.

Al is looking for two Wilson golf woods, a number three and a number five (originally called the Whale).

Sam is looking for two 1957 De LaSalle High School yearbooks.

Dorothy needs two 1940 Eastern High School yearbooks and one 1941 yearbook from the school.

Joanne is looking for Popweaver or Act II Microwave natural popcorn and the name of a store that sells Colombo yogurt.

Mrs. Murphy is looking for a soft plastic bonnet style hair dryer that sets on a base and stand.

Leo is looking for Miracle Berries and Pop Knots popcorn,

both which are products that were advertised on television.

Betty wants an old-fashioned, wooden tabletop phonograph in working condition.

Diane wants a machine to cut walls, which has a hand-held crank and can be used for rug hooking.

Delores needs a glass stem for a six-cup Pyrex glass percolator.

Mary wants men's Britannia pants and women's Kobbie Cuddler velcro tennis shoes.

Faye wants a 1953 Central High School yearbook.

Yvonne is looking for a black ceramic butter dish with lid.

Dorothy wants the 1985, 1987 and 1992 Plymouth/Canton High School yearbooks for her children, who never received them upon graduation.

Donna is looking for photos or pictures from the 1st Ever Car Show (in August of 1996), held at Six-Mile and Beech Daly roads.

Janet is looking for canned bacon from Hungary.

Carol is looking for three items: a 1959 Commerce High School yearbook; the old "Lion King" dish set (not the new "Simba" one); and a Maude Humphrey plate called "Sarah."

Sherrie is looking for Max Factor Super Lash comb-on mascara in black.

Anne wants a 1953 Dearborn Fordson High School yearbook.

Kristy is looking for Paragon china in "White Cliffs of Dover."

Zelda needs a 1951 Central High School yearbook.

- Compiled by Sandi Jarackas

# YO! Students!

## Need a job this summer?

If you're looking for something to do this summer—mowing lawns, babysitting, — whatever, we'll run your ad totally **FREE** during May 1999.

That's right! No charge! Just call us with your ad, which in five lines or less, should tell our readers:

what kind of job you'd like

what area you live in

describe your experience

Please FAX us your ad, if possible, to 734-953-2232.

Otherwise give us a call at one of the numbers below and **Good Luck!**

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**Observer & Eccentric**  
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# Europe beckons bargain shoppers to couture bazaars

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
STAFF WRITER  
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

"I hate Paris!" Nicole Christ said emphatically with a laugh. "They're so mean."

But Paris is the home of Chanel, Dior, Givenchy, St. Laurent and other name designers. And when the fashion shows are over, the dresses go to resale shops.

That's something Christ knows all about as owner of Nicole's Revival, a designer resale store at 958 N. Newburgh, Westland. Christ and Carolyn Schneider, author of "The Ultimate Consignment and Thrift Store Guide," are leading a European Resale Tour to London and Paris, Sept. 30 to Oct. 7.

Christ, 28, has been leading local resale bus tours of the Detroit-metro area since 1994. Four or five Saturdays a year, a group of about 50 people gather at Nicole's Revival, share a continental breakfast and then take a bus that stops at seven resale shops. The \$35 tour runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Carolyn Schneider liked the

idea so much she suggested they might expand their horizons.

"She said let's go to Europe," Christ said. "We went last March and interviewed stores. The only ones that were rude were the ones in Paris. The Paris stores are real expensive, pricey. ... But they have things that we don't have here. Madame Nicole, who has several stores, has one that's all Chaneles. I'm lucky if I get one Chanel, but this whole store was full of them."

Not every store in London and Paris was acceptable. "We saw 10 stores in London. Five were no's, three maybes and two definites," Christ said. "We've had stores calling but we needed details. We have to be selective on a trip like this. We can't show them hillbilly thrift shops."

And the two cities definitely have their own unique styles. "In London, I noticed a lot of the shops had more, um, mohawks, anarchy, vintage sort of things. In Paris there is more couture, more art. London is more ..." Christ said ending by imitating a Jimmy Page guitar riff.

Christ, who lives in Garden City, is not a big fan of Europe. She first visited London six years ago. Her ex-husband was from England and they honeymooned in France. But nothing stops a shopper in pursuit of a bargain, which has been Christ's life work for the last six years.

"I was going into real estate, I went to school and got my real estate license and studied building and was going to combine them, but then I decided to open this store six years ago," she said.

Her brother had noticed that Crowley's was closing a store and throwing racks of clothing in a dumpster. That was the beginning of Christ's quest for slightly used clothing. A quick check on buying habits told her Westland ranked just behind Grand Rapids and Troy as a retail center.

Each week Christ visits the homes of the wealthy and locally famous to buy their designer suits, dresses and accessories. She also picks up clothes worn by auto show models, stores that go out of business and designers. "We buy outright, no consignments," she said.

And her customers include a broad range of incomes. "We have people who could buy and sell this place a million times over but like the thrill of the hunt," she said.

But not everything in Nicole's Revival is high-end designer wear. She also has clothes originally from the Gap, J. Crew and Eddie Bauer.

But for men, she has only high-end items. She said men want to take the time to shop around and search for items. They have a definite idea of what they want.

That was one of the attractions of Madame Nicole's in Paris. "She owns a men's resale shop that was the best I've seen with Versace, Armani," she said.

**On the go:**  
Nicole Christ shops in the shadow of London's Big Ben.



Celebrities: Carolyn Schneider (left) and Nicole Christ caught the attention of Paris television on their last visit.

Schneider's book, "The Ultimate Consignment & Thrift Store Guide," is a listing of hundreds of stores around the world. She has been in charge of contacting the stores while Christ has created an itinerary working with Four Corner Travel in Birmingham.

The group will be flying a United Airlines 777.

In addition to intensive bargain hunting at resale shops and some flea markets, the trip will include some of the more usual travel opportunities: trips by boat on the Thames and Seine, a Buckingham Palace tour, a Ritz Escoffier cooking demonstration in Paris, a fashion show and free time to explore.

"On Sunday in London we are going to Westminster Abbey to their 3:15 p.m. service. I guess their service is awesome! They have young boys 8-10 singing and it's like angels singing," she said.

The trip is tentatively priced at \$1,165 per person which includes roundtrip air, flight



Royal accommodations: Nicole Christ isn't a fan of Paris, but she said Versailles was impressive.

between London and Paris, accommodations, fashion show, resale shop tour, bus tours for both cities and a discount at Printemps Department Store in

Paris. Other items are optional. For travel information, call Four Corners Travel at 1-800-373-0853 or Nicole's Revival at 1-734-729-1234.

## GREAT ESCAPES

Great Escapes features various travel news items. Send news leads, story ideas or your own travel adventures to Hugh Gallagher, assistant managing editor for features, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36351 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150 or fax to (734)591-7279 or e-mail to hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

### YOUR STORIES

We want to hear from you! Where have you been, what have you been doing? Have you seen the pyramids of Egypt or the Parthenon in Greece? Have you taken a cruise or snowshoed in the frozen north? We want to know, to share your stories and pictures with your neighbors. Call Hugh Gallagher at (734)953-2118 or e-mail at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

### NEW AT CEDAR POINT

The new entertainment at Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio, will include a high dive act, a new IMAX movie and a party band.

"Splash" will be a high diving demonstration in the Cedar Point Aquatic Stadium featuring eight Olympic caliber divers in a 20-minute display of diving talent.

The new IMAX offering is "Extreme." The 1999 IMAX movie combines incredible extreme sport action with narration from the athletes and a contemporary soundtrack. Sports include skiing and snowboarding, mountain climbing, surfing and windsurfing.

"Jump, Jive & Jam!" will feature a high-energy party band as a prelude to "Cedar Point Summer Spectacular" laser, light and

sound extravaganza. "Jump, Jive & Jam" will feature kick off the summer party on June 26 and run through Aug. 22. Cedar Point opens Sunday, May 9.

### BERKSHIRES IN SUMMER

The Berkshire Hills of Western Massachusetts will celebrate summer 1999 with dozens of world premieres among hundreds of performances, including two world premieres based on the novel "Summer" by Edith Wharton, which is set in a rural Berkshire village. The stars of stage and screen will be evident in the area including Academy Award-winning actress Gwyneth Paltrow's appearance at the Williamstown Theatre Festival as Rosalind in Shakespeare's "As You Like It," scheduled Aug. 14-15.

On Aug. 28, the Berkshire Opera Company will premiere

the operatic version of Wharton's "Summer" Aug. 31, Sept. 2 and 4 at the Koussevitzky Arts Center on the Berkshire Community College Campus in Pittsfield.

This year the Boston Symphony Orchestra will honor Seiji Ozawa's 25th anniversary as music director at Tanglewood. The BSO will begin its season July 9 with Ozawa conducting Beethoven's 6th and 7th symphonies. Tanglewood will also feature noted classical soloists, jazz and popular music.

The area also features dance, drama, choral and operatic performances at various venues.

For more information on the Berkshires, a free guide book, a free Culture in the County Brochure, map and calendar of events, visitors may contact the Berkshire Visitors Bureau at (1800)237-5747. Visitors may

also write the Berkshire Visitors Bureau, Berkshire Common, Pittsfield, MA 01201 or visit the Web site at www.berkshires.org

### KAYAKING

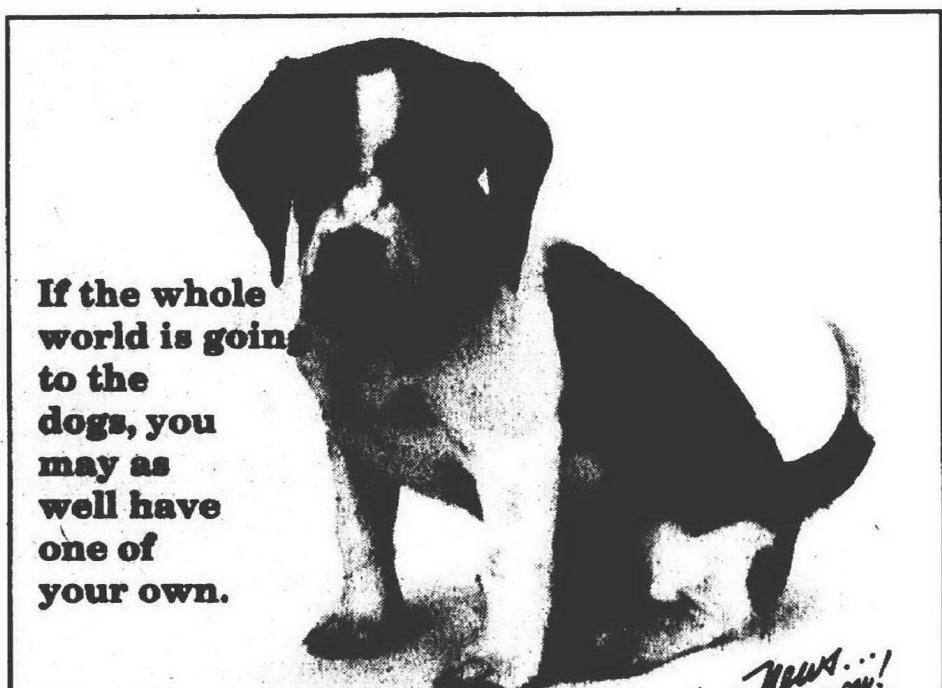
REI is holding a Kayak Demo Day 1-3 p.m. Sunday, May 2, at Gallup Park in Ann Arbor, take the Geddes Road exit off US-23 west to Huron Drive. This clinic is an on the water event co-hosted by Walden Kayaks. This is a chance to try a kayak, learn paddling techniques, water safety and your options with kayak accessories. Open to beginners and skilled kayakers. All clinics are free and open to the public.

### BEER BASH

The fourth annual World Expo of Beer will be held Friday-Saturday, May 14-15, in Frankenmuth, Mich. More than 2,000 beer lovers "tapped into" last

year's expo. The Budweiser Beer School is back. Each classroom is comprised of two 53-foot long trailers that unfold and join together to make a 1,400-square-foot classroom that seats 48 people. To participate in the class, call Linda Nichols at (517)652-6106 or 1-800-FUN FEST.

Tickets to the World Expo purchased prior to May 4 receive an official World Expo of Beer 1999 glass mug. Each ticket includes 10 "samples." Ticket price is \$10 and can be ordered by calling toll free, 1-800-FUN FEST. The Expo will fun 5-10 p.m. Friday and 2-10 p.m. Saturday.



If the whole world is going to the dogs, you may as well have one of your own.

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# Observer & Eccentric

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OBSERVER  
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## Brodie honored

Bob Brodie, basketball coach at Plymouth Salem HS for the past 15 season, was named the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan's Region I Coach of the Year in Class A. Brodie guided Salem to a 20-5 record this season and a berth in the state quarterfinals, where the Rocks lost to Pontiac Northern 70-64. It equaled the furthest a Salem team has ever advanced in the state tournament.

He was also the Observerland's coach of the year.

## Radtke commits

One of the best NCAA Division III soccer programs in the state has gotten a bit better with the addition of Theresia Radtke, a defender from Plymouth Canton HS.

Kalamazoo College announced Radtke's commitment to become a Hornet in the fall last week. She joins five others who have also committed, with hopes of extending Kalamazoo's success, which included an 18-3 record and an 8-0 mark and a first-place finish in the Michigan Independent Athletic Association last fall.

## Compuware honored

None of its players received any recognition, but at least the Compuware Ambassadors — regular-season winners of the North American Hockey League and on the brink of representing the league at the National Gold Cup Championship Tournament April 30-May 5 in Lincoln, Neb. — got something from the NAHL.

Ryan Miller, a goalie from the Soo Kewadin Casino Indians, was named league MVP; George Parros of the Chicago Freeze is the NAHL's rookie of the year; Jon Kretin of the Springfield Junior Blues was the most valuable defenseman; Rick Zombo of the St. Louis Sting was the coach of the year; and Jason Durbin of the Danville Wings earned the NAHL Community Service Award.

And the Ambassadors? Mike Vellucci was named the NAHL's executive of the year. Last February, Vellucci was named chairman of the NAHL's board of governors, which is in addition to his duties as president, general manager and coach of the Ambassadors. Vellucci's six-straight appearances in the Gold Cup was highlighted by a national championship in 1994. He also coached the U.S. Junior Selects to a gold medal in the Freedom Challenge this year in Lake Placid, N.Y.

## Girls hoop camp

The Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem basketball coaches will join together to host the Canton-Salem Skills Camp, a girls summer day basketball camp for girls who will enter grades fourth through ninth this fall, co-hosted by Salem's Fred Thomann and Canton's Bob Blohm.

There will be two sessions. Session I, which will run June 21-24 and June 28-July 1, will be 1-3 p.m. each day for girls in grades fourth through seventh. Session II, for girls in grades eighth and ninth, will be 1-3 p.m. each day July 6-8 and July 12-16.

Cost is \$65 for each session. All sessions will be at the Canton and Salem gymnasiums. Included are a T-shirt and a basketball.

Checks should be made payable to Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and sent to Plymouth-Canton HS, c/o Bob Blohm, 8415 Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI, 48187.

For more information, call Thomann at 459-7315 or Blohm at 414-8156.

## Titan baseball outing

The fourth annual University of Detroit-Mercy baseball alumni and friends golf outing beginning with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 15 at Bogie Lake Golf Club, 11231 Bogie Lake Road, White Lake.

All proceeds go to UDM baseball.

The cost is \$100 per person (includes 18 holes, cart, beverages, lunch and dinner).

Hole sponsorships are available (signage provided UDM). Program ads are also available for \$25.

Checks should be made payable to: UDM Baseball and mailed to: Bob Miller, Jr., Golf, 15050 Golfview, Livonia, MI, 48154.

For more information, call (734) 464-0808 or (734) 941-7847.

# 6-run rally sends Salem past Hawks

**Talk about reversals. Plymouth Salem opened its baseball season in poor fashion, losing its first five games. But coach Dale Rumberger made certain the Rocks knew the competition they were facing, and that's paid off.**

A slow start has been replaced by a surge by Plymouth Salem's baseball team, which won its fourth-straight game Wednesday by beating Farmington Harrison, one of the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament finalists last season, 7-1 Wednesday at Harrison.

The game was knotted at 1-1 going into the top of the seventh inning, when the Rocks struck for six runs. Rich Stankov started the rally with a single; after a Steve Gordon sacrifice to move Stankov up a base, Steve Stiles

unloaded a run-scoring double. Nick Eicher followed with a two-run home run to make it 4-1. After that came a walk to Chris Longpre, a single by Joe Rizzi, a two-run double by Jason Lukasik and an error by the first baseman that allowed Lukasik to score.

Salem opened the scoring with a run in the first on a double by Longpre and another double by Mike Hoben. Harrison tied it in the third on a single by Blake Ashley, a stolen base, a single by Blake Boesky and a sacrifice fly by Bob Austin, delivering the run.

Sophomore Chris Trott improved his record to 2-1, giving up just three hits and one walk while striking out five in seven innings. Zach Burton started and took the loss for Harrison.

Hoben had three hits, including two doubles, with an RBI to pace the Rocks. Rizzi and Stankov each contributed two hits.

Ashley had two hits for the Hawks.

The win improved Salem's record to 4-5 overall, 2-1 in the WLAA. Harrison fell to 1-2, both overall and in the conference.

**Redford CC 12-17, U-D Jesuit 2-0:** University of Detroit-Mercy was the site of a Catholic League Central Division double-header on Wednesday that included Detroit Catholic Central.

Maybe U-D Mercy should have been the Shamrocks' opponent.

U-D Jesuit was no match for CC, which swept both ends of the double-header, 12-2 and 17-0.

U-D Jesuit scored the first run of the double-header on three straight walks and a ground ball in the bottom of the second before the Shamrocks unleashed their potent offensive attack.

CC scored a run in the third on a two-out RBI single by Casey Rogowski and nine more in the fifth. Starting pitcher Mark Cole had two doubles during the rally to drive in four CC runs.

Cole was the winning pitcher, striking out seven and walking four in four innings.

Please see BASEBALL, D2

# Churchill chops Rocks

The Rocks are now 2-3-1. Churchill improved to 4-0.

"That was big because we had Rochester Adams on Saturday," said Churchill coach Chad Campau. "It was nice to be able to play them as an undefeated."

"Plus, Salem beat us twice last season."



Close contact: Salem's Jami Coyle (right) tangles with Churchill's Deanna DeRoo in pursuit of the ball during Wednesday's WLAA match-up. A bad start put the Rocks in a 2-0 hole before the first half was half over.

Ten minutes into the second half, the Rocks tied the score on a Towne goal off a penalty kick.

But two minutes later, Stacey Supanich scored to give the Chargers the win. Conklin assisted on the game-winner.

Kerri LaPorte was in goal for Churchill and made 18 saves, several of which Campau said were critical.

"Under the circumstances," Campau said, "I was very happy with the results."

"We've had injuries and illness from the beginning of the season. We played 12 people Wednesday. We knew the girls were getting tired, but they kept working hard and got us the win."

Now it's the lull before the storm for the Rocks. They host Walled Lake Western at 7 p.m. Monday, then travel to play at defending state champion Livonia Stevenson at 7 p.m. Wednesday in a pair of WLAA matches before hosting non-league foe Troy Athens — the team that ended Stevenson's 42-match win streak earlier this season — at noon Saturday.

Canton 3, N. Farmington 0: It was a goal-feeding frenzy Wednesday at Canton, with the Chiefs bombarding North Farmington in a WLAA crossover game.

Elise Thornell did the bulk of the damage, scoring four goals. Beth Sandusky added a goal and two assists,

with Anne Morrell getting a goal and an assist.

Other goals were scored by Nicole Miller, Amanda Lents and Stephanie Johnson. Allison Mills added three assists, with Melanie Dunn, Sarah Debien and Pam West getting one apiece.

The win improved Canton's record to 4-1-1 overall, 3-1 in the WLAA. The Chiefs play at Westland John Glenn at 4 p.m. Monday, then host Farmington Harrison at 7 p.m. Wednesday in a pair of WLAA matches. On Saturday, Canton travels to Troy for a non-league game at 10:30 a.m.

# Chiefs lose Hudson, but still win; Rocks stopped

It was an up-and-down week for Plymouth Canton's softball team. And maybe an illuminating one.

Ace pitcher Gretchen Hudson suffered a hyper-extended knee last weekend, putting her on the sidelines and the Chiefs in a quandry — a slight one, anyway.

Canton, ranked fourth in the state, isn't reliant upon one player. Jenny Fisher stepped in and pitched superbly against Western Lakes Activities Association rival North Farmington, surrendering just three hits and two walks in the Chiefs' 4-0 victory Wednesday at North.

Unfortunately, Laura Stewart wasn't as fortunate last Monday. Stewart gave up five hits and four runs in a 4-3 loss to Walled Lake Western in a WLAA Western Division game played at West-ern.

Fisher improved her record to 2-0

with her shutout win over North. She struck out six.

Christina Kiessel paced the Chiefs' attack with two hits, including a double, and one run batted in. Liz Elsnor added a double and an RBI, Carrie Kovachevich had a single and an RBI, and Fisher helped her own cause with a base hit and an RBI.

Kristina Colombo was the losing pitcher for North.

The win pushed Canton's record to 2-1 overall and in the WLAA; the Chiefs are 0-1 in the WLAA's Western Division.

Chiefs' coach Jim Arnold was hoping to have Hudson available by early this week.

**Harrison 3, Salem 2 (9 innings):** Errors proved costly to Plymouth

# Salem still WLAA master; Canton topples Northville

It was never too close Thursday at Westland John Glenn HS.

The Rocks hosted Westland John Glenn in a Western Lakes Activities Association boys track meet, and Salem — the defending WLAA champions — had no trouble disposing of the Rockets 94-43.

The win left Salem with a 2-0 dual-meet record, 1-0 in the WLAA's Lakes Division. Glenn is 0-1 in the division.

Chris Mason, Jon Little and Nick Allen each had two individual wins — well, sort of. Little and Allen had a win apiece when they both ran in the 3,200-meters and tied for first in 10:46.0.

Little won the 1,600 in 4:34.8; Allen was first in the 400 in 54.6.

Mason's victories came in the 100 (11.6) and 200 (24.1) dashes. Other Salem winners were Gabe Coble in the long jump (18-foot, 10-inches); Matt Carpenter, Sean Galvin and Ryan

Silva, who tied for first in the high jump (5-6); Mark Snyder in the shot put (46-1); Ryan Thomas in the 110 high hurdles (15.5); and Bobby Cushman in the 800 (2:01.5).

Salem's 3,200 relay team of Mark Bolger, Cushman, Little and Allen also earned a first (8:25.8). So did the Rocks' 400 relay team of Dave Clemons, Mason, Pat Johnson and Mark Sheehan (45.9).

"This might have been a little costly," said Salem coach Geoff Baker, noting that two valuable sprinters — Mike Shull and Mason — pulled up in their races with potential hamstring muscle pulls. Shull came up lame in the 100, Mason after winning the 200.

"It was a cold day, but the (pole) vault was a bright spot," said Baker. "We had two clear 8-6 (Greg Kubitski

Please see SOFTBALL, D4

Please see BOYS TRACK, D4

**BASEBALL**  
**Monday, April 26**  
 Canton at F.H. Harrison, 4 p.m.  
 Farmington at Salem, 4 p.m.  
 W.L. Western at Churchill, 4 p.m.  
 Northville at Franklin, 4 p.m.  
 Stevenson at N. Farmington, 4 p.m.  
 John Glenn at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.  
 Wayne at Trenton, 4 p.m.  
 C'Ville at Cranbrook (2), 4 p.m.  
 Luth. W'ald at Luth. N'west, 4:30 p.m.  
 Baptist Pk. at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday, April 27**  
 Ply. Christ. at A.P. Inter-City (2), 4 p.m.  
 Churchill at Edsel Ford, 4 p.m.  
 Franklin at Garden City, 4 p.m.  
 St. Agathe at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 28**  
 Churchill at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.  
 Franklin at Salem, 4 p.m.  
 Northville at Stevenson, 4 p.m.  
 Canton at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Wayne at Edsel Ford, 4 p.m.  
 Harper Wds. at Luth. W'ald, 4:30 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 29**  
 Ply. Christ. at A.A. Gab. Richard, 4:30 p.m.  
 Redford CC at Stevenson, 4 p.m.

**Friday, April 30**  
 F.A.A. Greenhills at Ply. Christ. (2), 4 p.m.  
 Harrison at Churchill, 4 p.m.  
 Franklin at Canton, 4 p.m.  
 W.L. Central at Stevenson, 4 p.m.  
 Salem at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Wayne at Taylor Truman, 4 p.m.  
 Luth. East at C'Ville (2), 4 p.m.  
 Luth. W'ald at Liggett (2), 4:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 1**  
 (all double-headers)  
 Ply. Christ. at Flat Rock Toun., 10 a.m.  
 Lakeland at Canton, 1 p.m.  
 Purcell Marion at Salem, 2 p.m.  
 RU Tournament, 9 a.m.  
 Churchill at Berkley, 11 a.m.  
 Dearborn at John Glenn, 11 a.m.  
 DeLaSalle at Redford CC, 11 a.m.  
**GIRLS SOFTBALL**  
**Monday, April 26**  
 F.H. Harrison at Canton, 4 p.m.  
 Wayne at Farmington, 4 p.m.  
 Churchill at W.L. Western, 4 p.m.  
 Franklin at Northville, 4 p.m.  
 N. Farmington at Stevenson, 4 p.m.

**W.L. Western, 4 p.m.**  
 John Glenn at Salem, 4 p.m.  
 Taylor Truman at Wayne, 4 p.m.  
 Luth. East at C'Ville (2), 4 p.m.  
 Luth. Westland at Liggett (2), 4:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 1**  
 Canton, Salem at Bedford Toun., 8:30 a.m.  
 Ply. Christ. at Red. St. Agathe, 10 a.m.  
 Richmond Tournament, 10 a.m.  
**BOYS TRACK**  
**Monday, April 26**  
 Redford CC vs. DeLaSalle at Red. Thurston, 4 p.m.  
**Tuesday, April 27**  
 Wayne at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Luth. W'ald at Luth. East, 4:30 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 29**  
 Canton at Churchill, 3:30 p.m.  
 Northville at Franklin, 3:30 p.m.  
 Farmington at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.  
 Dearborn at Wayne, 4 p.m.  
 Stevenson at Salem, 5:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 1**  
 Ram Relays at Flat Rock, TBA.  
 Observers Relays at RU's Kraft Field, 3:30 & 6:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS TRACK**  
**Monday, April 27**  
 Wayne at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Ladywood at Divine Child, 4 p.m.  
 Luth. W'ald at Luth. East, 4:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday, April 28**  
 Churchill at Canton, 3:30 p.m.  
 Franklin at Northville, 3:30 p.m.  
 Salem at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.  
 John Glenn at Farmington, 3:30 p.m.  
 Wayne at Woodhaven, 4 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 1**  
 Stevenson Stafford Relays, 10:30 a.m.  
 Ram Relays at Flat Rock, TBA.  
**GIRLS SOCCER**  
**Monday, April 26**  
 W.L. Western at Salem, 7 p.m.  
 Wayne at Ypsilanti, 4 p.m.  
 Canton at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Luth. W'ald at Luth. North, 4:30 p.m.  
 Ladywood at Country Day, 7 p.m.  
 Churchill at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.  
 Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
**Tuesday, April 27**  
 Mercy at Ladywood, 5:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, April 28**  
 F.H. Harrison at Canton, 7 p.m.  
 Taylor Truman at Wayne, 4 p.m.  
 Luth. N'west at Luth. W'ald, 4:30 p.m.  
 Franklin at N. Farmington, 5:30 p.m.  
 John Glenn at Farmington, 5:30 p.m.  
 Northville at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
 Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 29**  
 Ladywood at Divine Child, 5:30 p.m.  
**Friday, April 30**  
 Stevenson at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
 Thurston at Wayne, 4 p.m.  
 Luth. W'ald at Aquinas, 4:30 p.m.  
 Churchill at A.A. Pioneer, 7 p.m.  
 Franklin at Garden City, 7 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 1**  
 Canton at Troy, 10:30 a.m.  
 Troy Athens at Selma, noon  
**GIRLS COLLEGE BASKETBALL**  
 (all double-headers)  
**Monday, April 26**  
 Siena Heights at Madonna, 1 p.m.  
**Tuesday, April 27**  
 Spring Arbor at Madonna, 2 p.m.  
**Thursday, April 29**  
 Tri-State at Madonna, 2 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 1**  
 St. Xavier at Madonna, 1 p.m.  
**Sunday, May 2**  
 St. Xavier at Madonna, 1 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL**  
 (all double-headers)  
**Sunday, April 25**  
 Madonna at Aquinas, noon.  
**Monday, April 26**  
 Madonna at Olivet, 4 p.m.  
**Tuesday, April 27**  
 Madonna vs. Indiana Tech at Livonia Ladywood H.S., 4 p.m.  
**Wednesday, May 26**  
 Madonna at Cornerstone, 4 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 1**  
 Madonna vs. Tri-State at Livonia Ladywood, H.S., 1 p.m.  
**TBA - To Be Announced**

## Baseball from page D1

Brent shainbock pitched two innings of scoreless relief. He allowed three hits, walked none and struck out three.  
 The Shamrocks erupted for seven runs in the first inning and four in the second in Game 2 which ended after five innings due to the mercy rule.

Winning pitcher Charlie Haeger allowed no runs on two hits with four strikeouts in four innings. Senior Bob Malek pitched the fifth inning, allowing no hits with two strikeouts.  
 Cole had three RBI while going 2-for-5 at the plate.

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Fri	May 14	Indians	7:05	
Sat	May 15	Indians	1:05	Pregame On-Field Youth Clinic
Sun	May 16	Indians	1:05	
Mon	May 24	Blue Jays	7:05	Postgame Kids Run The Bases
Tue	May 25	Blue Jays	7:05	
Wed	May 26	Blue Jays	7:05	
Fri	May 28	White Sox	7:05	Postgame Fireworks Show
Sat	May 29	White Sox	1:05	Negro League Game Detroit Stars Cap
Sun	May 30	White Sox	1:05	Collector Card Set #1
Fri	June 4	Cardinals	7:05	Postgame Fireworks Show
Sat	June 5	Cardinals	5:05	Stadium Pin #1
Sun	June 6	Cardinals	1:05	Tiger Stadium Poster
Fri	June 18	Athletics	7:05	Postgame Fireworks Show
Sat	June 19	Athletics	5:05	Pregame On-Field Youth Clinic
Sun	June 20	Athletics	1:05	Collector Card Set #2
Fri	June 25	Twins	7:05	Postgame Fireworks Show
Sat	June 26	Twins	5:05	
Sun	June 27	Twins	1:05	Stadium Pin #2
Tue	July 6	Yankees	7:05	
Wed	July 7	Yankees	7:05	
Thu	July 8	Yankees	7:05	
Fri	July 9	Brewers	7:05	Postgame Fireworks Show
Sat	July 10	Brewers	5:05	Collector Card Set #3
Sun	July 11	Brewers	1:05	Beanie Baby Day
Fri	July 23	Red Sox	7:05	1984 World Series Weekend
Sat	July 24	Red Sox	5:05	1984 World Series Weekend
Sun	July 25	Red Sox	1:05	Equipment Bag
Fri	Aug 13	Angels	7:05	Postgame Fireworks Show
Sat	Aug 14	Angels	4:05	Stadium Pin #3
Sun	Aug 15	Angels	1:05	'99 Baseball Card Team Set
Fri	Aug 27	Orioles	7:05	Postgame Fireworks Show
Sat	Aug 28	Orioles	5:05	Tigers Cap
Sun	Aug 29	Orioles	1:05	Collector Card Set #4
Fri	Sept 10	Blue Jays	7:05	Postgame Fireworks Show
Sat	Sept 11	Blue Jays	5:05	
Sun	Sept 12	Blue Jays	1:05	Stadium Pin #4
Mon	Sept 20	Indians	7:05	Postgame Kids Run The Bases
Tue	Sept 21	Indians	7:05	
Wed	Sept 22	Indians	7:05	
Thu	Sept 23	Indians	7:05	
Fri	Sept 24	Indians	7:05	Postgame Fireworks Show
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## Chiefs tip Mustangs; Rocks win

There was more than one opponent facing Plymouth Canton at its scheduled girls track meet at Northville Thursday.

The weather was horrible, with blowing winds and rain wreaking havoc (indeed, Thursday's Plymouth Salem-Westland John Glenn dual meet was halted at the mid-point due to deteriorating conditions — see following story). And the meet was extremely close.

It came down to the final event, the last race, and Canton emerged with the victory by the slimmest of margins: 68 2/3-68 1/3.

The Chiefs even their dual-meet record at 1-1 with the win; they are 1-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division.

The meet was decided by the 1,600-meter relay. Meredith Fox, Kristen Schilk, Terra Kubert and Crystal Alderman teamed to win the event, and clinch the

meet, in 4:31.4. "All the girls showed great determination and effort in absolutely deplorable running conditions," said Canton coach John Venning. "I'm very proud of their hard work and level of commitment."

The Chiefs had a pair of double-winners in individual events. Crystal Alderman took top honors in both the 100-meter (17.1) and 300-meter (51.8) hurdle events; Jenny Sciberras was first in both the discus (86-feet, 3-inches) and shot put (31-10).

Other Canton individual firsts went to Fox in the 100 (13.8) and Schilk in the pole vault (6-0). The Chiefs also won the 3,200 relay, with Sarah Rucinski, Amy Dupuis, Kubert and Jaelyn Bernard (11:01.0).

"I have a strong feeling that the chemistry is there," said Venning. "And I know we can make some things happen. We just need to get it all together."

### Salem unbeaten

Seven track events were cancelled due to poor weather Thursday, but the coaches decided to make the meet official and give Plymouth Salem — which led 44-25 — the win over visiting WLA Lakes Division rival Westland John Glenn.

Heavy rain and blowing winds convinced officials to stop the meet after John Glenn had won the 4x200-meter relay (1:50.3).

The field events were completed, with the Rocks' Tiffany Grubaugh winning twice, in the shot put (35-feet, 6-inches) and discus (114-5). Salem also got a win in the pole vault from Nina Nowicki, the only vaulter to clear the opening height (6-0).

Salem also got wins from Rachel Jones in the 100 (12.7) and from its 4x800 relay team of Becky Phelan, Shannon Will, Annemarie Vercurryse and Miranda White (10:29.5).

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# Chargers' pitchers rule John Glenn, Thurston

Seven innings or five, a no-hitter is still a no-hitter.

Livonia Churchill's Adrienne Doyle tossed a no-hitter Wednesday night, dominating host Westland John Glenn, 11-0, in a game shortened to five innings.

Then on Thursday at Churchill, the Chargers thrashed Redford Thurston, 8-1, behind the pitching of freshman right-hander Meghan Misiak.

Misiak hurled seven innings, giving up just two hits. She struck out 13 and didn't walk a batter.

Doyle fanned 12 in her gem, which didn't have a clear-cut winner until the Chargers posted an eight-run fifth. Churchill only had four hits in the game.

It was scoreless after three but then, in the fourth, two walks with one out followed by a Kelly Stahley triple to right gave Churchill a 2-0 lead. Stahley then scored on wild pitch.

In the Thursday game, Churchill scored a run in the sec-

ond on Stephanie Doyle's two out RBI single, added three in the fifth and four in the sixth.

Christine Fones went 3-for-4 with two RBI and Anne Senne had two hits and an RBI.

Thurston got its lone run in the seventh on Julie Stoll's triple plus an error.

Churchill is now 4-3. Thurston is 2-2.

**W.L. Central 13, Franklin 0:** Kami Scott tamed the Patriots, holding them to just two hits and striking out six.

The Vikings shellacked Tara Muchow, taking advantage of eight walks and seven hits. Four of the runs were unearned as the result of three Franklin errors.

Jamie Linden and Kelly Young got the Livonia Franklin hits. The Patriots are now 2-2 overall, 0-2 in their division and 1-2 in the WLAA.

## Softball from page D1

Salem Wednesday against visiting Farmington Harrison. The Rocks made six of them, resulting in three unearned runs — and a loss.

Salem slipped to 1-2 overall and 1-1 in the WLAA.

Amanda Sutton again suffered a hard-luck loss. She pitched all nine innings and did not give up an earned run; she allowed six hits, did not walk a batter and struck out one.

"She's pitching great right now," said Salem coach Bonnie Southerland, noting Sutton's 0.67 earned run average this season.

The Rocks had a chance to win. They led 2-1 going into the sixth inning, but the Hawks (3-0, both overall and in the WLAA) got a game-tying run without the benefit of a hit to force extra innings. An error, a fielder's choice, a fly out to left field and a dropped fly ball in center made it 2-2.

Two more errors resulted in Harrison scoring the game-winning run in the ninth. An error to start the inning followed by Leslie Schrock's single put run-

ners in scoring position. A ground ball back to Sutton ended with a low throw to first and a dropped ball — and a run.

Salem scored runs in the fourth and fifth, Sutton singling in the fourth and coming home on two wild pitches. Carrie Carter walked to start the fifth, stole second and scored on Katie Kelly's single.

Kelly had two hits and an RBI in the game. Maureen Buchanan added three hits for the Rocks.

"We're right there," said Southerland. "We're playing well, and we're playing well together."

**PCA 12, Agape 2:** Sarah Lori collected three hits and drove in three runs to lead Plymouth Christian Academy to an easy win over Canton Agape Christian Thursday at Agape.

The Eagles evened their record at 2-2. Agape is 0-1.

Sophomore Crystal Martin tossed a one-hitter at the Wolverines, striking out eight. Deanna Worley and Lisa Larew added three hits apiece for PCA.

## Boys track from page D1

and Dan Dwenger) and another over 8-feet (Jim Brzuch)."

Now the Rocks prepare for a home meet against Livonia Stevenson Thursday.

### Canton edges Northville

Visiting Northville came away with more first-place finishes, but Plymouth Canton's depth was pivotal in the Chiefs' 77-60 dual-meet victory over its WLAA Western Division rival Thursday.

The win improved Canton's record to 1-1 overall, 1-0 in the division. Northville is 0-2 overall, 0-1 in the division.

The Chiefs won seven of 17

events, with Jordan Chapman winning a pair, the high jump (5-foot, 10-inches) and pole vault (10-6). Other individual firsts went to Ugo Okwumabua in the long jump (19-5 1/4), Jerry Gaines in the 400-meters (54.6) and Steve Blossom in the 800 (2:10.3).

In the relays, Jim Korona, Blossom, Andy Tessema and Marty Kane combined for a first in the 3,200 (9:03.3), and Jack Tucci, Jim O'Brien, Dave Thomas and Aaron LeBeau teamed for a win in the 1,600 (4:00.5).

Where Canton's depth showed was in its second-place and third-place finishes. In the 13 individual events, the Chiefs placed second in 11 and third in nine others. K.J. Singh recorded a pair of personal bests in finishing second in both the 100 (11.5) and 200 (23.4); Jason Rutter also had a pair of seconds, in the 1,600 (4:56.6) and 3,200 (10:58.0).

Kane battled teammate Blossom all the way in the 800, finishing second by a narrow margin (2:10.7), and Chapman added a second to his pair of firsts in the long jump (18-2 1/2).

"We're more than a month ahead of where we were last year," said Canton coach Bob Richardson.

The Chiefs next action is a WLAA Western Division dual at Livonia Churchill Thursday.

### Chiefs solid at Hawk

Several Canton competitors fared well at the Hawk Friday-10th grade Invitational Friday at Farmington Harrison HS.

Kevin Palmer and Ken Page combined for a first-place finish in the long jump relay, totaling 33-feet, 3-inches. Another strong performance was turned in by Ugo Okwumabua, who took third in the open 110-meter intermediate hurdles (16.4) and teamed with Page for a third in the high jump relay (10-8 total).

Doug Kurth also had a strong showing, placing fourth in the open 400 (58.1).

**LIVONIA STEVENSON 200 1/2**  
NORTH FARMINGTON 25 1/2  
April 23 at Livonia Stevenson

Shot put: Brad Arsenault (LS), 43.7 1/2; Dustin Wilkin (LS), 47.4; high jump: Dan Ferris (LS), 5-8; long jump: (tie) Tony Wright (LS) and Nate Kanan (NF), 17-11; pole vault: Baslin (LS), 10-8; 3,200-meter relay: Stevenson: 9:03; 150 hurdles: Brian Jones (S), 15.2; 100 dash: Mike Lenardon (LS), 15.67; 800 relay: Stevenson, 1:36.9; 1,600: Job Verellen (LS), 4:41.9; 400 relay: Stevenson, 47.5; 400: Dave Navarro (LS), 56.5; 300 hurdles: Brian Jones (LS), 42.5; 800: Charlie Samboulan (NF), 2:05.8; 300: Dan Howery (LS), no time available; 3,200: Eric Bohn (LS), 12:27; 1,600 relay: Stevenson, 3:40.

North second places: 110 hurdles, Mike Millat, 16.7; 100, Steve Powell, 11.3; 400, Mike Bowman, 56.6; 300 hurdles, Millat, 48.8; 3,200, Matt Wiegand, 10:49; pole vault, Joe Lebovic, 10-0; high jump, Mike Leach, 5-4.

North third places: long jump, Bowman, 17-8; pole vault, Chris Duncan, 8-6; 200, Powell, 20.7; 300 hurdles, Kyle Meteyer, 45.5; 110 hurdles, Meteyer, 17.1; 1,600, Tim McIntosh, 4:55; discus, Ryan Lewis, 115.7.

**LIVONIA STEVENSON 200**  
NORTH FARMINGTON 25  
April 23 at North Farmington

Shot put: Emily Yankovsky (LS), 29-2 1/2; discus: Emily Yankovsky (LS), 99-0; high jump: Andrea Polinsky (LS), 4-10; long jump: Katie Gaffey (NF), 13-4; pole vault: Lauren Turner (NF), 7-6; 3,200-meter relay: Stevenson (Katie Sherron, Kim McNeelance, Sarah Keerfott, Andrea Parker), 11:15.3; 100 hurdles: Cassie Ehrendt (LS), 17.4; 100 dash: Angela Mikkelsen (LS), 13.4; 800 relay: North Farmington (Vicky Hand, Laura Hirzel, Kristin Ulewicz, Dayna Clemons), 1:59.7; 1,600: Heather Vandette (LS), 5:52.5; 400 relay: North Farmington (Dayna Clemons, Laura Hirzel, Lauren Turner, Nicole Taylor), 56.5; 400: Christy Tzilos (LS), 1:07.2; 300 hurdles: Colleen Boorman (LS), 54.5; 800: Andrea Parker (LS), 2:35.9; 200: Dayna Clemons (NF), 29.2; 3,200: Jenna Felczak (LS), 13:40; 1,600 relay: Stevenson (Angela Alfonsi, Andrea Parker, Katie Sherron, Christy Tzilos), 4:37.

North second place: 100 hurdles, Dayna Clemons, 17.6; third places: 100 hurdles, Katie Gaffey, 17.6; 1,600, Heidi Frank, 6:02; 400, Katie Harris, 1:09.8.

Coach's comment: "Dayna Clemons had a big day (three first places — two on relays — and one second), and Katie Gaffey did a nice

job." North coach Bill Pivrell said. "Going into the finale, she was in fourth place in the long jump," which she ended up winning.

Best-meet records: Stevenson, 4-0 overall, 1-0 Lakes Division; North Farmington, 0-2 overall, 0-1 Lakes Division.

**LIVONIA CHURCHILL 95**  
FARMINGTON HARRISON 42  
April 23 at Farmington Harrison

Shot put: Gaybriell Newton (FH), 28-1; discus: Jenny Heffer (LC), 100-10; high jump: Lindsey Ceeli (LC), 4-10; long jump: Beth Kwapla (LC), 14-2 1/2; pole vault: Jana Peterman (LC), 8-6; 100-meter hurdles: Emily Mayberry (FH), 18-6; 300 hurdles: Mandy Hein (LC), 53.1; 100: Amber Gallero (FH), 13.5; 300: Stephanie Dean (LC), 28.9; 400: Becky Rodriguez (LC), 1:08; 800: Ashley Fillion (LC), 2:38.6; 1,600: Ashley Fillion (LC), 5:42.2; 3,200: Allison Fillion (LC), 12:39.8; 400 relay: Harrison (Angel Todd, Lisa Rosemary, Angela Fodor, Emily Mayberry), 56.3; 800 relay: Churchill (Melissa Lokken, Rodriguez, Kwapis, Dean), 1:56.4; 1,600 relay: Churchill (Fillion, Rodriguez, Dean, Hein), 4:33.0; 3,200 relay: Churchill (Allison Fillion, Jennie Ogg, Katie Paulson, Colleen Hayden), 11:09.0.

Dual-meet record: Churchill, 2-0 overall, 1-0 Western Division; Harrison, 0-2 overall, 0-1 Western Division.

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### Correction Notice


In our April 25<sup>th</sup> ad, we advertised a Compaq notebook computer (model 1670). Due to manufacturing delays, this notebook may not be available. However, we are offering rainchecks for this item. We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.

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(To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric's Outdoor Calendar send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to (248) 644-1314 or send E-mail to bpark@oe.homecomm.net)

**SEMINARS**

**SPRING BREAK FOR BICYCLING**

Learn the basics of body mechanics, bicycle mechanics and bicycle touring during this class, which is sponsored by Working Wheelers Cycling Club and begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, at Eastern Mountain Sports in Farmington Hills. Space is limited and the registration deadline is Saturday, April 24. Call (248) 553-7764 for more information.

**BOATING SAFETY**

Members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be on hand to explain boating safety and what they look for during a boat inspection, during the regular meeting of the Metro West Steelheaders, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

**WOMEN'S FLY FISHING**

River Bend Sports Shop in Southfield is sponsoring a Women's Fly Fishing School on Sunday, May 23. Participants will spend a fun-filled day learning the basics of fly fishing including lessons in casting, knot tying, reading the water, playing, landing and releasing fish, entomology and fly selection and more. Cost is \$125 per person and class size is limited. Call Pat Rofe at (248) 350-8484 for more information and to register.

**FLY FISHING SCHOOL**

The Riverbend Sports Shop in Southfield is sponsoring several fly fishing schools in the upcoming months. Held at the Huntsman Hunt Club in Dryden and Hunters Creek Hunt Club in Metamora, the schools include lessons in basic fly fishing techniques including casting, knot tying, reading the water, playing, landing and releasing fish, entomology and fly selection and more. Classes are scheduled for April 25, May 8 and 16, June 6 and 19, July 11 and 25, August 15 and 29, and Sept. 12. Class size is limited. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474 to register and for more information.

**MOUNTAIN BIKING**

Join author Mike Terrell and learn where to go mountain biking in the northern Lower Peninsula during this class, which begins 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, at REI in Northville. Call (248) 347-2100 for more information.

**FLY TYING**

Paint 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.

**MORE FLY TYING**

River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tyers. Classes will be held at various times in May, June and July. For more information and to register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474.

**ACTIVITIES**

**PAINT CREEK NIKE**

Take a fast-paced hike over level terrain along the Paint Creek Trail with members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on Sunday, April 25. Participants should meet at noon behind the Michigan National Bank on 14 Mile Road, east of I-75 (south edge of the Oakland Mall). Call June Cox at (248) 435-9522 for more information.

**SEASON/DATES**

**FREE FISHING**

Michigan's annual Free Fishing Weekend will be held June 12-13.

**TROUT**

Trout season opens April 24 on designated streams, rivers and lakes.

**WALLEYE**

Walleye season opens April 24 on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

**SAUGER**

Sauger season opens Saturday, April 24, on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

**MUSKY**

Musky season opens Saturday, April 24, on inland waters of the Lower peninsula.

**PIKE**

Northern pike season opens Saturday, April 24, on inland waters of the Lower Peninsula.

**CLUBS**

**FLY TYING**

The River Bend Sports Shop Fly Tying Club meets every other week in Southfield. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474 for more information.

**CLINTON VALLEY BASS**

Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

**METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS**

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

**MICHIGAN FLY FISHING**

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

**FOUR SEASONS**

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843 for more information.

**FISHING BUDDIES**

Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. The 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 Rd., 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.

**ARCHERY**

**3D LEAGUE**

Royal Oak Archers will hold a 15-week 3D league beginning at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, on its walk-through range in Lake Orion. Call (248) 693-9799 or (248) 589-2480 for more information.

**MOTHER'S DAY SHOOT**

Oakland County Sportsmans Club will host a Mother's Day 3D shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, May 9, on its walk-through range in Clarkston. Mothers shoot free. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

**LIVONIA RANGE**

The newly renovated Livonia Archery Range is open to the public. The range features seven field lanes and one broadhead lane and is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Livonia residents shoot free of charge. The range is located on Glendale Ave., east of Farmington Road. Call (734) 466-2410 for more information.

**YOUTH SHOOT**

Detroit Archers will host a youth shoot on Saturday and Sunday, May 1-2, at its clubhouse and grounds in West Bloomfield. Every participant age 17 and under will receive a trophy. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-

2110 for more information.

**INTRO TO ARCHERY**

The Livonia Archery Range will host a beginner archery class on May 1. Call (734) 466-2410 for more information.

**JUNIOR OLYMPICS**

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

**JUNIOR ARCHERS**

A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

**SHOOTING RANGES**

**BALD MOUNTAIN**

Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeeet & 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 Greenshield Rd., which is three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills off M-24. Call (248) 814-9193 for more information.

**PONTIAC LAKE**

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

**ORTONVILLE RECREATION**

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are 12-5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (248) 693-6767 for more information.

**METROPARKS**

**METROPARK REQUIREMENTS**

Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

**STICKS AND STONES**

A naturalist-led hike focusing on the needs of many animals begins at 2 p.m. Sunday at Kensington.

**1999 PERMITS**

The 1999 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 COUNTY PARKS**

**COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS**

Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

**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.

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**Garden City**  
Thursday, April 29  
2 p.m.  
at Garden City Public Library  
2012 Middlebelt Road

**South Livonia**  
Tuesday, April 27  
2 p.m.  
at Bill Knapp's  
32955 Plymouth Road



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BOWLING AND RECREATION

Ottman team takes lead; Bowlerette rolls a perfect

THE PIN ALLY AL HARRISON

The Dan Ottman Enterprises team hit it big by taking the lead in Team All-Events at the 96th annual American Bowling Congress Championship Tournament, currently going on at Syracuse, NY.

Captained by Troy's Dan Ottman, with Jay Lang, Kerry Kreft, Chris Jones and Bill Oplikowski, their 45-game total pinfall of 9919 beat the previous high of 9918 rolled by the Lodge Lanes team of Belleville.

Ottman's team won the 1997 team championship in this highly-regarded event. He also serves the bowling community as Executive Director of the Michigan Junior Masters Association, was recently elected to the Greater Detroit Bowling Hall-of-Fame and serves as director of the regional Pro Bowlers Tour.

The ABC event ends June 20, 1999. More than 50,000 bowlers are competing from all over the United States.

The ladies All-Star Bowlerettes finished their championship season with one more perfect game, this one delivered by Debbie Hanson in the first game last Monday night at Cloverlanes in Livonia.

It was the sixth 300 this season in the league and her first. Much of her excitement was the joy of beating her husband, Bob, to the family's first 300.

Bob had flirted with one last December, his 298 coming after leaving 7-10 on his twelfth shot.

Debbie immediately phoned home to her hubby, Bob Hanson Jr, who rushed over and gave her hugs and kisses. He really wasn't jealous at all.

Debbie actually started the night with fifteen strikes in a row, as she followed with the first three in game two.

Debbie and Bob work together in their Redford-based family business, Excel Products, and they bowl together in an every other Saturday mixed league at Wonderland Lanes in Livonia.

Asked how she felt in the 10th and final frame of her perfect, she said, "I wanted a cigarette, but I had just quit smoking about six days ago."

Debbie had some elbow problems until she started wearing her Band-it, for no pain and a better game.

Steve Hubble of Westland is the pin mechanic at Town en Country Lanes in Westland.

Besides being able to keep the

automatic pinsetters working properly, Steve is a pretty good bowler.

Last Tuesday he stroked his first 300 game while in the Westside Proprietors Traveling League bowling at Taylor Lanes.

Steve is averaging 209, which is more difficult when you bowl in a different house each week.

Earlier this year I had written about John Stephens.

His story is a monument to the human spirit, for not only did he lose a leg and one-half in Vietnam, he took the challenge of bowling and has shown the world that the mighty spirit of man can overcome great adversity.

Nobody else bowls like John Stephens. His style is unique.

But he adapted to his physical limits and has come on as a 200-plus bowler in the K of C league at Merri Bowl in Livonia.

To top off the long list of achievements, he has just bowled an incredible series of 822.

Anyone who has ever bowled knows how hard it is to roll an 800 series, so here is another chapter in the book of John Stephens, and we salute him!

Phil Horowitz of West Bloomfield was named Captain of the U.S. Maccabees Games bowling team which will be competing this summer for the world championships in Mexico.

The Maccabee Games are the Jewish Olympics. Competitors come from all over the world to compete. And unlike the Olympics, bowling is a featured sport.

Brian Butka of Troy finished second in the Midstates Masters, most recent event held at Imperial Lanes.

Butka qualified 11th in the 256-entry field and also averaged 232 in winning five match games. He had to settle for the \$1,600 runner-up prize.

His two three-baggers in the final game fell just short of Jim Rathburn's five-bagger. The score in the final was 223-221.

Two pins made a difference of \$1,600 in prize money. Remember that when you read this week's Pro Tip by Fred Bauss.

Next time you are asked to donate to a bowling charity fundraiser, think of the big picture.

Traditionally, bowlers have proven their generosity and it may be worth knowing that a recent survey shows in 1998 the bowling community raised \$73.5 million for those charities.

The survey showed \$32 million was raised for national-based charities, more than \$21million for local charities, another \$9 million for scholarship funds and about \$10 million was contributed in nonmonetary donations.

As a prime-time bowler in this area, Fred Bauss has fourteen 300's, four 800's, multiple All-Star and team championships plus the Hoinke scratch and handicap tournaments.

The owner of the Pro shop at Astro Lanes has also won five Shammy Burt team tournaments, GDBA doubles championship handicap and scratch in 1988, three GDBA team championships and been named to several all-city teams.

Fred has some advice to offer bowlers on spare shooting.

Some people tend to think strike all the time and not give the amount of attention due to the gentle art of making spares.

As a championship bowler, he has seen many occasions where a tournament was decided by only a few pins.

That means just one more spare could brought in hundreds or even thousands of extra dollars.

"Spare shooting has actually gotten more complex with the new types of equipment and today's lane conditions, Bauss said. He uses the golf "drive for show, putt for dough" cliché.

"You can strike for show, but you better make spares if you want the dough," he said. "I see a lot of players who do practice, but neglect that part of the game."

Fred doesn't call it a lost art, but says it tends to get pushed aside as bowlers strive for more strikes.

The spares don't seem to be as important because we have the ability to throw more strikes, and we are always thinking

strikes. While the better equipment gives us the ability to make more strikes, it also takes away from our ability to shoot spares.

"Very seldom, do I throw my strike ball at a spare. I don't necessarily encourage that method, but you surely need to find a good method of throwing a straighter shot to make those spares.

"You should have a plastic or Urethane ball that will not react on the lanes or else develop a method of throwing that will give the same results.

"If you hook at spares, you are going to miss some of them. On my team in the All-Stars, there isn't one player who throws a hook at spares. Zero.

"All the good bowlers today do not get their ball to hook at the spares. Some throw it harder, and many use a certain ball that will not hook."

Large vertical advertisement for bowling equipment, featuring various brands like Storm, Duro, and others, with detailed product descriptions and prices.

Turkey permits are at a high; trout season is in full swing



BILL PARKER

Turkey season opened Monday. Trout, walleye, pike and musky seasons open Saturday. Steelhead are in the Clinton and Huron rivers and southern Lake Huron is littered with steelhead, salmon and brown trout. It's time to get out and celebrate the arrival of spring.

The popularity of Michigan's spring turkey season has never been higher as upwards of 111,000 hunters applied for a permit this year.

"It looks like it will be another good season, weather permitting," DNR upland gamebird specialist Al Stewart said. "There are 135,000 birds out there so the numbers are good. It's a pretty exciting time for turkey enthusiasts and turkey hunters.

"Last year was an excellent production year with very high pelt survival. Overall, the winter was fairly mild, too, so they came through it pretty good."

Hunters who failed to receive a permit for their desired hunt period can still participate in the season through the experimental fourth hunt period, May 18-31. While many feel the experimental hunt is held too late in the spring for hunters to be successful I've got news to the contrary. The late season can be as productive as the early hunts.

"Hunter success during the late hunt is around 22 percent while hunter success during the rest of the season runs at about 26 percent," Stewart said. "That tells me the difference is basically user error. If there was 10 or 20 percent difference or higher then maybe the opportunity would be different but that's not the case. A lot of hunters are having success in the late hunt."

And why not? By then most of the hens have gone to nest, but the Toms are still hot to trot, which makes them susceptible to being called.

If you didn't get the permit you wanted take a chance and get out during the late hunt. I've hunted that season twice and taken two nice, mature Toms.

Trout season on tap

If fishing is more your cup of tea this is the weekend you've undoubtedly been awaiting as the 1999 trout season opened Saturday on designated trout lakes and streams across the state.

From the Big Two Hearted

April is spring's 1st month, with lots of new life to see



TIM NOWICKI

April is a good month to celebrate our environment because we can see the rejuvenation of dormant life and the arrival of "vacationing" summer residents.

This past week marked the celebration of Earth and Arbor Day on April 22 and April 23, respectively. Celebrations help us remember some of the things we can easily take for granted. Earth Day is a day to think about all living things on this planet, while Arbor Day is focused on trees.

Trees in Michigan have a rich history, especially the white pine. Even before the white pine lumbering era in Michigan, trees of various kinds were harvested for lumber which was used in place of metal and plastic we use today. Lumber was used to build our country to what it is today.

Each kind of tree has unique features and qualities that make it valuable. Soft wood, like pine, is good for rough construction and some finish work too. Michigan white pines help build Detroit, Chicago and many small towns in between. Hardwoods are also valuable for finish work and furniture. When visiting a mansion in Wyoming a few years ago, it was mentioned that oak and walnut was shipped from Michigan to finish the interior.

and the Tobacco in the Upper Peninsula to the fabled "Holy Waters" of the AuSable, Michigan's trout streams, big and small, will be bursting with anglers.

Northern Michigan's fabled trout streams offer favorable conditions for natural reproduction. Southern Michigan streams aren't conducive to such occurrences because of the greatly fluctuating water temperatures from summer to winter. There is limited year-to-year carry over in some of southern Michigan's streams - which accounts for the occasional 15- to 20-inch fish caught down here each year - but not enough to sustain a viable fishery. Thanks to an aggressive stocking program by the Michigan DNR, trout anglers in southeastern Michigan don't have far to go to enjoy the thrill of bringing a feisty trout to the net.

Inland lake anglers will be busy this weekend, too, as pike, walleye and musky seasons open Saturday. Walleye anglers will be out in force on such lakes as Union, Kent, Cass and Belleville while pike anglers will seek their prey on Orchard, Union, Lake Sixteen and Lakeville lakes among others.

Salmon Stakes reminder

It's not too late to get tickets for the River Crab Salmon Stakes. Slated for Saturday, the annual fishing tournament/raffle is based at the River Crab Restaurant in St. Clair and raises money to benefit programs that help troubled children, adults and their families statewide.

Money is raised through the sale of \$10 raffle/entry tickets. Raffle prizes include a trip for two adults and two children to Mackinac Island, use of a private suite for a Detroit Tigers baseball game, a weekend for two in Chicago, \$500 in gift certificates to Chuck Muer restaurants, and a limousine ride and dinner for two at a Chuck Muer restaurant.

There are also cash stipends for the anglers, boats and clubs who catch the biggest salmon and trout.

On top of all this, all ticket purchasers are winners since ticket stubs are good for \$10 off dinner for two or Sunday brunch at participating Chuck Muer restaurants.

Tickets are available at Charley's Crab in Troy, Meriwether's in Southfield, Muer's Sea Food Tavern in West Bloomfield, Big Fish in Dearborn, Big Fish Too in Madison Heights, Gandy Dancer in Ann Arbor, or by calling the River Crab at (800) 468-3727.

Trees also produce fruits that serve as food for animals and humans. Unfortunately, animals in the eastern states will not know the taste of American chestnuts that were so plentiful and economically important years ago. A blight killed most of the trees.

Shade, shelter, cover and oxygen production, along with filtering carbon dioxide from the air, are just a few of the other things trees do for life on earth. These practical and utilitarian features should not shadow their beauty and majesty. Imagine a world without trees - I shudder at the thought.

Without green plants to produce oxygen, all other living things, except a few things that survive on sulfur, would not exist. Today only about 1% of all the living things that ever existed on earth are living. Though a million different kinds of insects have been identified, over 4,000 mammals, about 9,000 birds and thousands of plants, invertebrates and others, life has been on this planet so long that today we see only a small percentage of those life forms.

During Earth's long history many species disappeared, long before man arrived on the scene. But by celebrating Earth Day we can remind ourselves that we are just one of those life forms and that we shouldn't accelerate the rate of extinction for the other species, because just as they are dependent on other species, we are dependent on other species too.

# YO! Students!

## Need a job this summer?

If you're looking for something to do this summer—mowing, babysitting, — whatever, we'll run your ad totally FREE during May 1999.

That's right! No charge! Just call us with your ad, which in five lines or less, should tell our readers:

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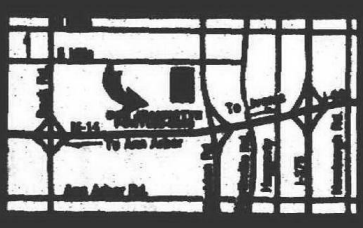
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