

Plymouth Observer

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

Cop calls: A Plymouth Township man, 16, was turned over to Youth Services during an investigation of the use of nitrous oxide, considered a controlled substance. /A3

Musical deal: The Southeast Michigan Arts Conservatory is working on a deal to buy the landmark Arnoldt Williams Music building in Canton. /A6

COMMUNITY LIFE

What a mom! Garden City resident Donna Mallard was treated to seven hours of pampering at a Northville salon after being selected as the winner of 'The Observer's recent A-May-Zing Mom contest. /B1

AT HOME

Living with history: A landmarked house in Plymouth is great for a family. /D6

ENTERTAINMENT

Theater: Heartland Theatre Company features "Mainstream," a new comedy by David MacGregor of Livonia at Playscape '99, a festival of new plays. /E1

REAL ESTATE

Outstanding: American Institute of Architects honored Kenneth Newmann for his contributions. /F1

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Parade ushers in July 4th festivities

Everybody loves a parade, and Sunday, July 4, in Plymouth was no exception. The annual Plymouth Good Morning USA Parade was viewed by an estimated 12,000 spectators, despite a 7:30 a.m. start, which makes it the earliest Fourth of July parade in the state.

"It was really hard getting up so early," said Nicholas Vipperman, 7, of Canton. "I liked the big balloons, they were my favorite."

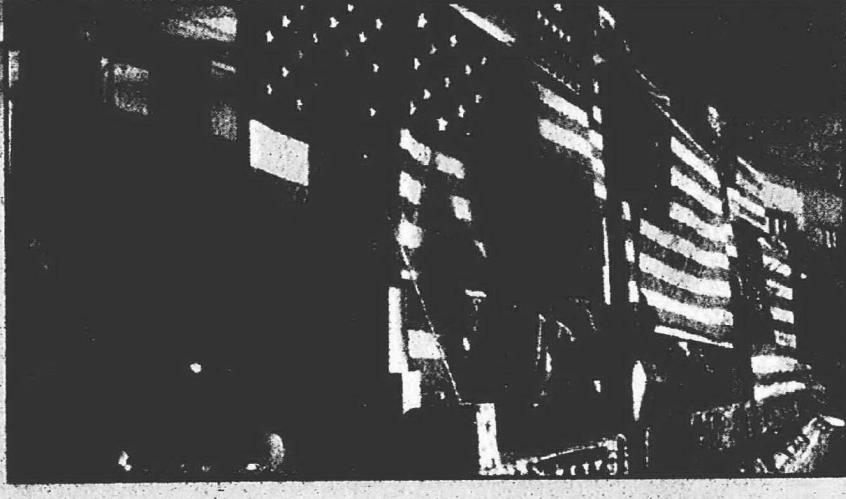
"I liked the man with the suitcase," said Jessica Thoe, 7, of Plymouth Township, unaware that the organizer of the parade is Fred Hill, the leader of the Briefcase Drill Team.

Jessica's mom, Karen Thoe, said this year's parade outshined last year's spectacle.

"We came last year for the first time, and it was even better this year," she said. "There's a good mix of floats and bands and balloons. It's a pretty good parade."

Jack Wilcox, 82, of Plymouth knows all about the parade. He's been around for all of the nearly 60 Fourth of July festivities, including organizing a few himself. He said the early start for the parade, begun a few years ago, was a good move.

Life's a parade. About 1,000 spectators for the third annual Good Morning USA parade, which kicked off Fourth of July activities in the Plymouth community. At right, the Wojcek family float depicts the many stages of the American flag. A religious service was held in Kellogg Park after the parade. Later, a good old-fashioned family picnic was held in Township Park. For more photos, see page A3.



MEAP writing scores decline

Fifth-grade writing scores dropped nearly 25 percent over last year's MEAP scores.

See MEAP scores page A2

BY TONY BRUSCATO
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Plymouth-Canton school officials are puzzled as to why fifth-grade writing scores dropped dramatically in the latest MEAP results.

District-wide, the number of fifth-grade students reaching the "proficient" level fell nearly 25 percent. Fifth-graders scored 62.8 on the 1999 writing tests, compared to 87.1 percent last year.

"It was definitely a shock to us," said

Circus joins Art in Park

BY TONY BRUSCATO
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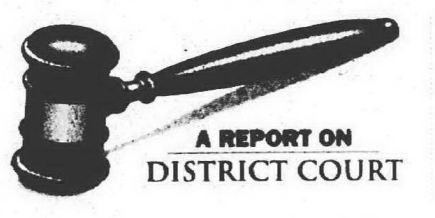
Dianne Quinn has been spending a lot of time this week measuring downtown, trying to squeeze in 400 booths for this weekend's Art in the Park.

"Every inch of the city gets marked," said Quinn, who is putting together her 19th annual show. "I'm trying to make sure everything will fit, but somehow it never happens."

Plymouth's Art in the Park is one of the largest art fairs in the country. In Michigan, it's second in size only to the Ann Arbor Art Fair, which is the following weekend.

"We get a lot of artists who come to

Legal system a mystery to most - even for repeat offenders



A REPORT ON DISTRICT COURT

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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For most people, exposure to Michigan's judicial system is limited to the district court.

Generally, that experience comes in the form of paying a traffic ticket. But not always.

"Joshua," whose real name was changed to protect his identity, recently pled guilty to a single count of hosting an open house party at 35th District Court in Plymouth.

The misdemeanor charge carries a possible \$500 fine and/or 90 days in jail. Joshua avoided jail time, however, and received probation, court costs and a six-day work detail picking up road litter.

"I was nervous," 19-year-old Joshua said of appearing in front of Judge Ronald Lowe. "I was waiting to see what he would say. I was anxious to find out what would happen."

What was it like to be in Joshua's shoes? To answer that question, the

Observer tracked his case as it went through the district court on May 11.

According to Greg Demopoulos, a Livonia attorney who acts as the district court's public defender on misdemeanor cases, Joshua is typical of clients he works with: Joshua's under 30 and doesn't understand how the court works.

"It's my job to make sure that all my clients get treated fairly," said Demopoulos. "We get a lot of first-time offenders here."

That's where Joshua is a little different.

Coming into court on May 11, he was already on probation for an open house party charge. He was cited on Christmas Day of last year when a neighbor called Canton Police about noise from a party in Joshua's apartment.

Two identical misdemeanor charges came in quick order for parties on Jan. 10 and 23 of this year.

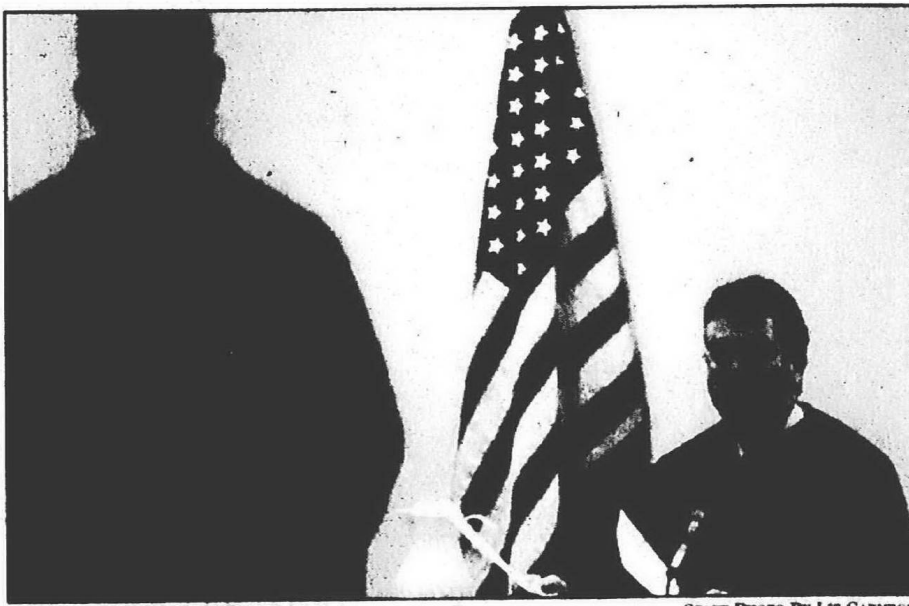
"We were trying to live the college life without going to college," said Joshua, who shared the apartment with three roommates before moving back home to Livonia.

He said Canton Police warned them about holding parties at the apartment several times before issuing the first citation in December.

"We pushed the limit too far," said Joshua, who added that it was his first time on his own, "to see how far we could get with it."

Walking into the district courthouse, which sits at the corner of Haggerty and Plymouth roads, the teenager was apprehensive. He had mixed feelings about how things would work out.

"I don't feel bad about it because I



Return visit: Defendant "Joshua" makes his guilty plea to a charge of hosting an open house party in front of Judge Ronald Lowe at 35th District Court in Plymouth.

See related stories page A10

By 9:15 a.m. the attorney met with the county prosecutor for negotiations. Minutes later, Joshua went in front of Lowe.

Demopoulos explained the agreement with the judge as Joshua looked on.

"That's what you want to do," Lowe asked the teen, who answered with a soft "yes."

"I'll accept your plea," Lowe said.

The encounter lasted less than 10 minutes.

SOUTH DISTRICT COURT 1999 BUDGET
(Jan. 1, 1999 - Dec. 31, 1999)

Revenue - \$4.25 million

- Tickets, from fees - \$3.3 million
- Private security fees - \$0.91 million

Expenses - \$4.25 million

- Salaries - \$1.25 million
- Benefits - \$0.85 million
- Utilities - \$0.2 million

Other revenue - \$0.05 million

25 County given back to five communities, including funding used for construction of new courthouses.

Please see MYSTERY, A11

MEAP from page A1

Verna Anible, the district's director of instruction. "We really don't have any explanation for it at this time. We've used the same instructional strategies all along."

Anible said she will be looking to the Michigan Department of Education for answers. But, until then, Anible said she's not too concerned, noting the state average took a dip of nearly 9 percent. She'll also look at area districts to see if their scores also dropped significantly.

"Otherwise, we'll be looking

deeper into our own programs to find answers," she said.

Brad Wurfel, a spokesman for the Department of Education, said they will look into the scores, "but we have only numbers, and haven't had time to evaluate what they mean yet."

On the other side of the spectrum, seventh-grade reading scores jumped 10 percent.

"We have a program whereby all our language arts classes have students read core novels to help them with reading," said Anible. "We also know that stu-

dents comprehend novels differently than informational literature. So, we're teaching them how to gather that information, remember it and get meaning from it. Perhaps the increase in scores is a result of our efforts."

Fourth-grade math and reading scores, as well as fifth-grade science scores, remained basically steady.

The same can be said for seventh-grade math, as well as eighth-grade science and writing.

However, the science scores

remain conspicuously low at 28.5 percent.

"That's one area we keep addressing," said Anible. "We're spending a lot of time developing elementary science, hoping those children will move forward with a solid science background to the upper grades. Improvements won't be found in just one year."

"We're confident that as we do more hands-on and investigative science analysis, the MEAP results in science will be stronger."

CAMPUS NOTES

To submit your academic honor or graduation announcement to Campus Notes, send the material, printed or typewritten to: Campus Notes, Plymouth-Canton Observer, 794 S. Main, Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

PHI BETA KAPPA

The Detroit Association of Phi Beta Kappa honored 3,200 graduating seniors from southeastern Michigan who maintained a

grade point average of 3.75. Honorees from Plymouth Salem High School include: Aroti Achar, Kristen Adler, Adil Syed Azeez, Derek Bagozzi, Brandon D. Bitter, Dustin A. Bringley, Daniel P. Brooks, Colleen Carr, Allyn J. Charlefour, Elizabeth Cordara, Robert F. Cushman, Nicole M. Eiden, Kristin M. Ewing, Todd E. Fercho.

Danelle K. Filips, Charles Fisher, Lisa M. Flaskamp,

Jennifer A. Foess, Carolyn L. Fry, Erin M. Griffith, Kelly L. Holbel, Monika F. Jonevski, Maneek Singh Kaur, Sarah A. Kindred, Elizabeth Krinke, Jason La Bombard, Evan G. Leung, Christopher Longpre, Michelle A. Magat, Fadi G. Musleh, Michael J. Nichols.

Brian A. Ott, Christine M. Phillips, Mahshid Pirzadeh, Nicole M. Pokto, Lynette J. Polcyn, Devan Popat, Elizabeth Pratt, Marie Louise

Quaranto, Nicole Reitz, Katherine M. Robiadek, Janine Schmedding, Kara S. Seaton, Anita Sinha, Elizabeth J. Spiteri, Erica D. Stein.

Kate M. Szubeczak, Kacie A. Theisen, Ryan J. Thomas, Paula Tomlin, Anne M. Ver-cruysee, Sara Wiener, Adam A. Wilson, Imaan Youssef, Timothy Zdrodowski, and Alicia K. Zulker.

Plymouth-Canton Schools MEAP results

A 2-year comparison of satisfactory/proficient scores (%) between the district and the state

	Math	
	1998	1999
4th grade		
P-C	80.1	78.4
state	74.1	71.7
7th grade		
P-C	72.8	76
state	61.4	63.2
Reading		
	1998	1999
4th grade		
P-C	67.2	67.6
state	58.6	59.4
7th grade		
P-C	58.2	66
state	48.8	53
Science		
	1998	1999
5th grade		
P-C	51.3	47.8
state	40.4	37.8
8th grade		
P-C	29.8	28.5
state	22	23
Writing		
	1998	1999
5th grade		
P-C	87.1	62.6
state	63.3	54.8
8th grade		
P-C	81.4	81.2
state	69	63.5

Source: Michigan Department of Education, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

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by Elizabeth Routson, D.V.M.



STAY OUT OF THE GARBAGE!

A dog who roams the neighborhood eating out of garbage bags and cans is a prime candidate for gastroenteritis, an inflammation of the stomach and intestines. The condition is commonly caused by eating contaminated garbage. Bones and plastic found in the trash can also irritate the stomach lining. Vomiting and diarrhea are the most common symptoms of gastroenteritis. Your dog may also belch or drink more water. Some dogs will eat dirt, plants, or grass when suffering from an upset stomach. Additional causes of gastroenteritis include hair that accumulates in the stomach; certain types of plants and plant toxins; some bacteria and viruses; internal parasites such as roundworms; diseases of the kidney, liver, or pancreas; food allergies; cancer; or stress.

Be a responsible pet owner and keep your dog on a leash or securely restrained in your own yard. When your dog needs medical attention, please contact **PARKWAY VETERINARY CLINIC**. Our reputation for expert, compassionate care is well-deserved - please don't hesitate to ask questions of our knowledgeable staff. Visit either of our two locations at 41395 Wilcox Rd. in Plymouth, tel. 734-453-2577, or 5750 Lilley Rd. in Canton, tel. 734-981-4400. Both locations are open six days a week for your convenience.

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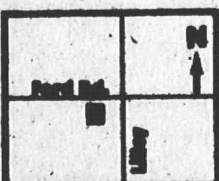
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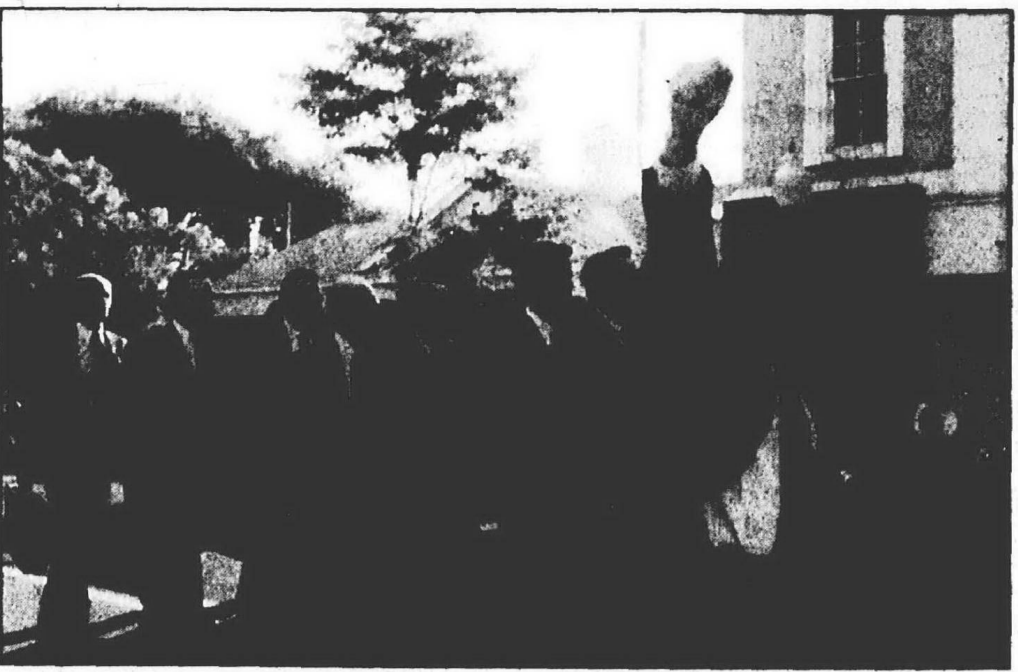
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STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMIEUX

Close call: Above, the Community Federal Credit Union's teddy bear balloon makes it under the wires. At right, the O'Callaghan family from Plymouth cools off under some trees at the Township picnic. From left to right: Lydia, 5; mom Nancy; Andrew, 9; Hillary, 7; and dad David. Far right, John Martino with his kids Paulette, 2 1/2; Gabriel, 5, fishing at the pond.



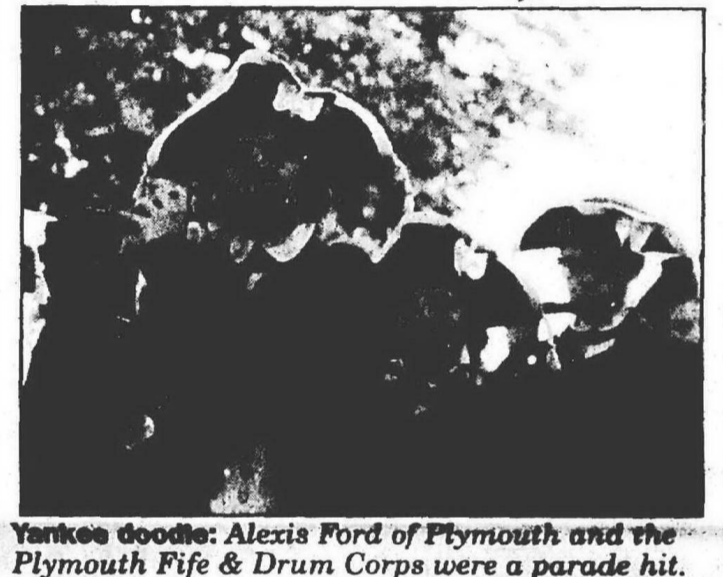
Sound off: An enthusiastic Fred Hill leads his Briefcase Drill team down Main Street during the annual Good Morning USA parade. Hill also is the parade's organizer.

Parade from page A1

"It's cooler in the morning, and everyone still has time to go to holiday picnics," said Wilcox, who was on his way to sit in the Creature Bleacher section. "Fred does a good job with the parade. He's very innovative."
Hill promised it would begin at 7:30 a.m., and it did.
The F-16 fighter jets didn't start the parade as planned, as they backed out because the start was too early for them.
One of three skydivers waving an American flag landed on Main Street near City Hall. The other two were blown off course by the wind and landed somewhere out

of the city limits.
Ten minutes later there was a not-so-surprising late entry to the parade. A CSX train divided the entries.
"No problem, we always plan for something like this," said Hill as he barked on his walkie-talkie for the parade to remain in place until the train passed.
Ten minutes later everything was back to normal.
"Keep it moving," Hill screamed through his megaphone. "Let's keep a 40-foot distance between entries."
The parade marchers were as relaxed as the spectators while

waiting for their turn.
"We love this parade because it has a real hometown feel," said Mark Logsdon of Sterling Heights, a member of the 1st Michigan Colonial Fife and Drum Corps. "This is what a parade is all about."
After the parade, an estimated 800 people stayed for a Sunday service in Kellogg Park by the Solid Rock Bible Church in Plymouth.
Later in the day, a large gathering of people attended the third annual Plymouth Township picnic, held at Township Park.



Yankee doodle: Alexis Ford of Plymouth and the Plymouth Fife & Drum Corps were a parade hit.

COP CALLS

Aggravated assault

Plymouth Township Police continued Tuesday to investigate an aggravated assault and battery incident that they responded to about 3:38 a.m. July 1.

They took a report from a Plymouth man at Oakwood Hospital, who was later transported by Huron Valley Ambulance to the University of Michigan Hospital for further treatment.

The man suffered a laceration of his upper lip, a fractured right thumb, and a broken left ear drum in an incident that the man said occurred in the Trailwood subdivision, according to the police report.

"We are trying to determine exactly what house the incident occurred in," said Jamie Senkbeil, Plymouth Township police community resource officer.

Police were dispatched to Oakwood Hospital where they took the initial report.

In sketchy details, the report indicated that the man who was struck said that he returned to the Trailwood subdivision to pick up where an earlier fight took place. He told police that on June 29 he went to a house in the subdivision where a person came up from behind and punched him in the left ear. He said that he didn't fight back at that time because he was with his girlfriend.

The report didn't say what the fight was about. The man said that a friend drove him to Oak-

wood Hospital. Huron Valley Ambulance transported him to University of Michigan Hospital, police said.

Drug sniffing

A Plymouth Township man, 16, was turned over to Youth Services during an investigation of the use of nitrous oxide, considered a controlled substance, on Northern about 11 p.m. June 29.

A Plymouth Township police officer on patrol saw four young men sitting in a 1993 Ford Tempo parked in the driveway. The auto was impounded, police said.

Police said that one man had a black leather bag with a bright blue tank in between his legs that was filled with nitrous oxide. He was in the process of filling a balloon, the reporting officer said. Two balloons were located in the car.

Two Canton Township men, ages 17, and a Plymouth man, 19, told the officer that the teen had just finished snorting.

The township has been fortunate in not having similar incidents that have occurred in other nearby communities recently, Senkbeil said.

She cautioned both teens and parents about the dangerous practice of snorting or "huffing."

"It can cause immediate brain damage," said Senkbeil, a former D.A.R.E. officer.

by staff writer Sue Buck

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY'S
POPULAR PICKS

Editor's note: Every week the Plymouth District Library staff provides the Observer with their list of "Best Sellers" based on the number of requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing requests with the library at 453-0750.

FICTION

- Hannibal Thomas Harris
- Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets J.K. Rowling
- White Oleander Janet Finch
- Mother of Pearl Melinda Haynes
- The Testament John Grisham

NON FICTION

- The Greatest Generation Tom Brokaw
- Every Man a Tiger Tom Clancy
- Tuesdays with Morrie Mitch Albom
- Betrayal Bill Gertz
- Encore Provence Pater Mayle

PARENT'S CHOICE YOUTH POETRY

- So Many Circles, So Many Squares Tara Hoban
- My Fire Engine Michael Rex
- Morning, Noon, and Night Jean Craighead George
- I Lost My Bear Jules Feiffer
- Arlene Alda's 123 Arlene Alda

U of M reading programs scheduled

University of Michigan-Dearborn, Center for Corporate and Professional Development, has announced that it's offering a series of reading enrichment programs for 4 year olds through adults.

This summer programs will be offered in Dearborn, Southgate, Plymouth/Canton, Northville, Ypsilanti, Ann Arbor, Lansing, Flint, Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo.

The first session began on June 2, and the second session starts July 28. The classes meet once each week for five weeks. Tuition is \$159 for the beginning reading program and \$239 for all other levels.

The programs for young children focus on developing the basic phonics and vocabulary building skills required to make learning to read easy and enjoyable.

Older students learn techniques for smoothing out the reading process while improving their study skills and vocabulary. The program, for high school seniors, college students and adults, improves reading speed, comprehension and retention.
Last year this program served over 1,900 participants. For more information, or to register, call (800) 418-7910.

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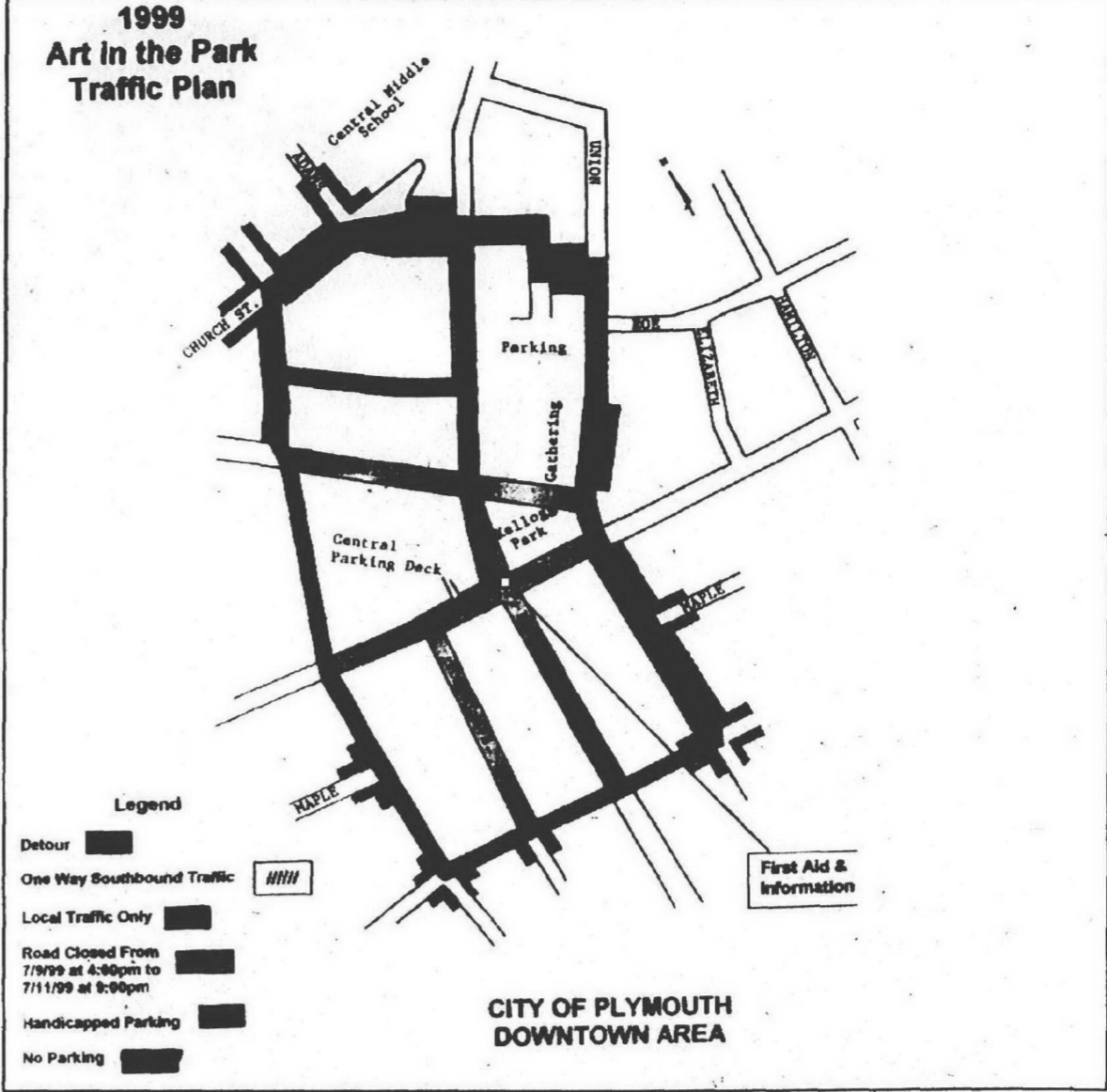
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Art from page A1

our show and then head to Ann Arbor the following week," said Quinn. "I think the scheduling helps improve the quality of our show."
 Quinn admits Art in the Park is still young-at-heart at 19 years. But, there is no doubt the event is growing in magnitude. "I remember when we started with about 30 artists in Kellogg Park," recalls Quinn. "Now we have more than 400 artists displaying their goods."
 The event has expanded throughout downtown, and Quinn promises there's a price range for everyone who attends. "There are items being sold for less than a dollar, and I've seen some selling for \$30,000," added Quinn.
 Assistant Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincoc said Art in the Park is one of the best-run events in the city.

"This is the only event that not only pays 100 percent for city services, but also pays rent to the city for the use of the streets for the event," said Sincoc. "Generally the city makes about \$10,000, which goes into the general fund."
 Downtown can expect nearly 100,000 people Saturday and Sunday, so Sincoc has some advice: Bring comfortable walking shoes, carry plenty of water and be patient. "The downtown area will be blocked off from traffic, so close parking will be at a premium," said Sincoc. "We'll start blocking off the streets about 4:30 Friday afternoon."
 Not only will there be the large crowds for Art in the Park, there are a couple of weddings planned in the downtown area, and the Plymouth Lions Club is sponsoring the Kelly Miller Cir-

cus, which this year will be on the grounds of Central Middle School.
 "We hope to raise money to help children and seniors locally," said chairman Bill Baxter. "We also use some of the money we make for the upkeep of Lions Park in Plymouth."
 Art in the Park runs 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.
 The circus has two Saturday performances, 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Advance tickets, \$7 for adults and \$5 for children, can be purchased at Kroger, Wiltsie Drugs, Trading Post and Mel's Barber Shop through Friday afternoon. Tickets at the circus will cost \$9 for adults and \$6 for children. Children under three are free. Saturday morning's circus tent raising, scheduled for 9 a.m., is free.

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DNR reels in fishing loan program

Park visitors will be able to borrow fishing tackle at eight southeast Michigan State Parks and Recreation Areas, three Oakland County Parks and three Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Parks this summer in an effort to make first-time fishing experiences more accessible to new anglers.

The fishing equipment was provided to the participating parks through the state Department of Natural Resources Urban Fishing Program.

"This is a grass roots program designed to get fishing tackle into the hands of beginners and start them on the path to regular fishing," said DNR Director K. L. Cool. Each participating park will have 20 rods and reels avail-

able on a loan basis, along with basic fishing tackle such as hooks, sinkers and bobbers. The fishing equipment will be offered at no cost to children and other park-users who want to try casting a line. A nominal deposit may be required. (Please check with individual participating parks for details.)

- The following parks participating in the fishing tackle
- Dodge #4 State Park, Waterford, 248-666-1020
 - Holly Recreation Area, Holly, 248-634-8811
 - Metamora-Hadley Recreation Area, Metamora 810-797-4439
 - Pontiac Lake Recreation Area, Waterford, 248-666-1020

- Proud Lake Recreation Area, Milford, 248-666-1020
- Seven Lakes State Park, Fenton, 248-634-7271
- Sterling State Park, Monroe, 734-289-2715

- Oakland County Parks:
- Addison Oaks, Leonard, 248-693-2432
 - Groveland Oaks, Holly, 248-634-9811
 - Independence Oaks, Clarkston, 248-825-0877

- Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Parks:
- Lake Erie Metropark, Rockwood, 800-477-3189
 - Stony Creek Metropark, Shelby Township, 800-477-7756
 - Willow Metropark, Belleville, 800-477-3182

Arts Conservatory to buy Arnoldt Williams building

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
sdaniel@oe.homecomm.net

The Southeast Michigan Arts Conservatory is working on a deal to purchase its current digs.

The conservatory occupies township landmark Arnoldt Williams Music Building on Canton Center Road just north of Ford. SMAC Director Jeff Myers hopes the transaction will be complete by early next month.

"It would make us a lot stronger," he said. "We'll have a firm commitment to the community. We want to stay in Canton. The community has been unbelievably supportive of what we do."

The conservatory opened in June of last year. Since then, the township has paid about half of SMAC's \$160,000 monthly rent on the building.

That agreement runs out at the end of this month. Myers said the conservatory can't afford to pay the full rent amount.

"It would be very, very difficult," he commented.

Purchasing the building could save the conservatory as much as \$50,000 per month, said Myers.

"The reason we're looking at doing this is purely economic," he said. "It would provide us with lower payments and some equity."

If the deal goes through, a sale of half the parcel is likely. It would put SMAC in an even better financial situation, said Myers.

"If we can sell the front parcel," he explained, "it will really capitalize us. It would basically pay our mortgage for five years."

An appraisal of the building and parcel should be complete in about two weeks. Myers

thinks it will ultimately cost about \$1 million to make the purchase.

"We're confident it will be in that neighborhood," he said.

Monroe Bank and Trust would finance the deal. SMAC has worked with the financial institution extensively since its inception in terms of improvements, equipment and operating funds.

"They have a big stake in our enterprise," said Myers.

The conservatory is less reliant on the bank, but still receives as much as 20 percent of its monthly operating capital.

"We've had struggles like any new company," said Myers. "It has been a heck of a year. We've gone through some immense growing pains. But we've been able to turn it into a fairly strong organization."

Purchasing the building won't change any plans in constructing a larger more permanent home in Canton, said Myers.

"Our plans are in-line with the township's," he said.

Growth in student population has been key. SMAC started with just 88 students and now has more than 700.

"We've gone from almost no staff to 36 employees," Myers added.

Summer is a slower time for the arts conservatory. Various camps tide the company over until fall when students begin lessons again.

Myers expects SMAC's student growth to continue. He thinks more than 1,000 will be signed up by the end of this year.

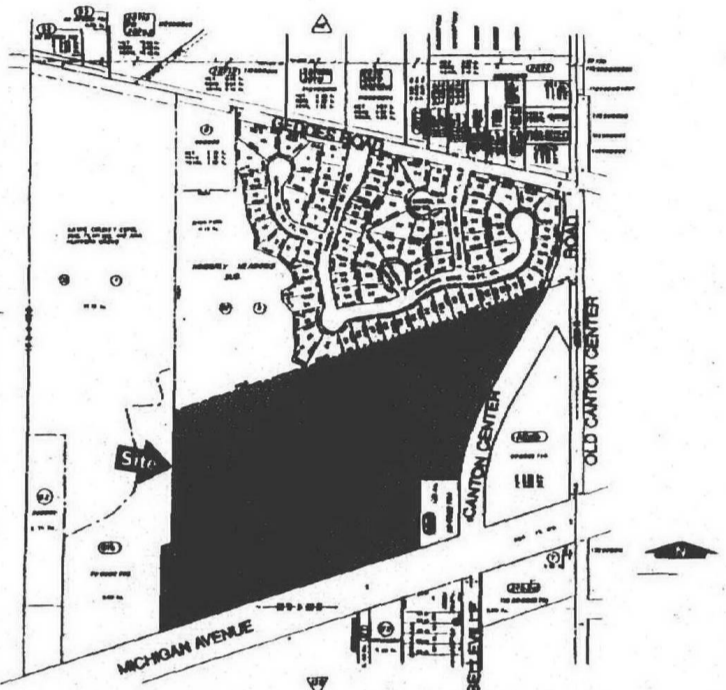
"Everything is set up and in place for them now," the director added. "We're focusing on elementary and middle school-aged kids."

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON CANTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Monday, July 19, 1999 at 7:00 P.M. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road to consider a request for the following special land use as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance.

RAHAM SHOPPING CENTER SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR A SHOPPING CENTER IN EXCESS OF 200,000 SQUARE FEET AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 17.02B.1 AND,

HOME DEPOT SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR A SUPERSTORE WITH GARDEN CENTER AND OUTDOOR SALES AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 17.02B.18, 17.02B.2, AND 17.02B.5 FOR PARCEL NO. 129 99 0001 700. Property is located on the north side of Michigan Avenue west of (New) Canton Center Road.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, July 15, 1999 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: July 8, 1999

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Schoolcraft Board 'adjusts' McDowell's salary again

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabracsyk@oc.homecomm.net

'This is not a merit increase, but an adjustment.'

Greg Stempien
trustee

Just a month after approving a salary increase for the Schoolcraft College president, trustees there have again increased his salary, to \$120,000, to make the position more competitive with other colleges.

Trustees voted 5-0 on June 23 to increase College President Richard McDowell's pay. In May, McDowell received a contract extension through 2002 and a pay raise for the 1999-2000 fiscal year of 3.25 percent, the same raise the college's four unions received for this year.

That placed his salary at \$114,066.

Trustee Greg Stempien, who chaired a committee to examine the president's salary, recommended to the board on June 23

that McDowell's salary should be increased to \$120,000 or about 5.2 percent.

"We felt the compensation was wholly inadequate," Stempien said. He suggested a base salary be established for the president at \$120,000 with a review every six months.

"This is not a merit increase, but an adjustment," Stempien said.

That recommendation was approved by a 5-0 vote, supported by Stempien, Brian Broderick, Dick DeVries, Mary Strom and Patricia Watson. Trustees Mary Breen and Steve Ragan were absent.

Stempien said he saw that Washtenaw Community College officials were offering \$127,000 to its president to start. Stempien believed that salary may have increased as high as \$137,000, but Washtenaw officials could not be reached to confirm these figures.

"I was the one who raised the question of what do we do if Dick quit," Stempien said. "We would have to hire someone and give them president's compensation, but you will have to pay them more than Dick."

"I think he's an excellent administrator, and if he had a bad staff, he would get criticism

from me, too. Now if we had a new president, we would pay him more, who is an unknown quantity, than someone who's been here, who is a proven quantity."

A check with other community colleges of salaries for the 1999-2000 fiscal year confirmed Stempien's assessment that McDowell was earning less than other community college leaders. The president at Henry Ford Community College will earn \$120,126, while the president at Lansing Community College was recently hired at \$124,000.

Macomb Community College's president earns \$138,900. The chancellor at Oakland Community College — home to 24,455 credited students on five campuses last year — received a pay raise effective July 1 to place him at \$133,000.

Stempien was asked why this salary increase was not presented to the board in May during McDowell's evaluation, which also was completed a few weeks before the district's board election. Schoolcraft trustees gave McDowell high marks again for his job for the 1998-99 school year, stating that he exhibits "strong financial, marketing and planning skills."

In the district's board election on June 14, Stempien and Watson ran and won election to their respective seats.

"This additional information from Washtenaw came up, and some other members of the board felt it would appear that the board was giving Dick merit pay of this amount," Stempien said, referring to the 3.25 percent increase, so trustees decided to increase his salary again.



Schoolcraft president: Richard McDowell

State issues grants to clean up dangerous abandoned tires

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

There are an estimated 20 to 30 million old scrap tires "on the ground" at present throughout Michigan.

Piled up in junk yards, they're a fire hazard. They can be a health hazard too, according to Kyle Cruse, coordinator of the Scrap Tire Regulatory Program in the state's Department of Environmental Quality. Because old tires trap and hold water,

creating a good place for mosquitos to breed, they can produce those biting insects in numbers 4,000 times greater than a natural environment.

At the rate the state has been getting those tire piles cleaned up, it may take 40 to 50 years to get the job done.

But sites in Oakland and Wayne counties are next on the list. The state issued grants in June to owners of 11 scrap tire collection sites across the state to pick up and reprocess old tires. The \$828,000 in grant money is expected to clean up

some 700,000 tires statewide.

Harold Rayberg, owner of land on Pontiac Trail in Walled Lake, once the site of Farmington Auto Parts, received a \$74,550 grant to pay for the removal of 50,000 car tires, 1,000 truck tires and 12,000 rims. According to the terms of the grant, Rayberg will be reimbursed for the costs of removal when the state receives verification that reprocessing companies have turned those tires into new products.

The grants are made available under Part 169 of Michigan's Environmental Protection Act.

The grants are available for sites where tires accumulated prior to 1991 or where tires have been abandoned. The program is funded through a 50 cent fee tacked on to the cost of vehicle title transfers, Cruse explained. Half the money goes to clean up

old sites. The other half goes to regulation of current tire disposal.

The act gives priority to collection sites near schools and residential areas. The Walled Lake site meets both criteria, Cruse said.

Detroit will get a \$11,552 grant to clean up tire piles on vacant lots throughout the city. Cruse explained that grant is part of an ongoing program in the city to remove abandoned tires.

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<p>CANTON Tuesday, July 27th 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY 1200 S. Canton Center Rd. (Between Palmer & Cherry Hill)</p>	<p>NORTHVILLE Wednesday, July 28th 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (evening) NORTHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY 212 W. Cady (Downtown Northville)</p>

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Car raffle benefits 2 causes

Cancer research and historic preservation will benefit from a special raffle sponsored by the Mid-Lakes Mercury Owners Inc.

A new 1999 Mercury Cougar donated by Lincoln Mercury will be raffled Sunday, Aug. 22, at a "Salute to Edsel Ford and 60 Years of Mercury" show on the grounds of the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House, Grosse Pointe Shores. Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and the Piquette Plant Preservation Project (to save and restore the birthplace of the Model T).

Ron and Nina Wiswell of Canton Township are coordinating the show, which takes place the day after the Woodward Dream Cruise. Both events are expected to attract car enthusiasts from throughout the Midwest.

Ron is director of Mid-Lakes Mercury Owners and Nina serves as secretary of the club and show director.

The Wiswells are the original owners of a 1976 Cougar XR7 and a 1960 Mercury Monterey.

Ron's love affair with cars has been lifelong.

"My husband has been a car enthusiast since he's been a little kid and when you live with someone who loves cars and you go to car clubs and shows... well the influence just kind of wears off on you," said Nina.

Raffle tickets for the new Cougar are \$50 and available by calling Mid-Lakes Mercury Owners at (734) 981-6462. The drawing will take place at 2 p.m. A limit of 3,000 tickets will be sold. Other prizes include \$1,000, second place; \$500, third place; \$250, fourth place and \$250 fifth place.

The show is planned from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 22. Admission is \$5 per person. Children 15 and under are free when accompanied by an adult.

The show will salute Edsel Ford, originator of the Mercury. From its inception in 1939, the Mercury had a strong image with its standard 95-horsepower, V-8 engine. The 1939 Mercury had several trend-setting features - lockable ignition and steering column, two-spoke steering wheel, taillight with side markers and others.

An original 1939 Mercury pilot-production car will be featured at the show along with many other vehicles produced by Mercury over the last 60 years.

Other cars to be showcased include the Edsel, Lincoln, Panther and other brands once sold new by Lincoln Mercury Dealers.

In addition to the Karmanos Cancer Institute, also benefiting from the raffle is the Piquette Plant Preservation Project which needs \$200,000 for the second stage of its restoration campaign.

The group has launched a national campaign aimed at seeking donations from auto enthusiasts, preservationists and citizens who appreciate the importance of the landmark

Piquette Plant which was constructed in 1904 at the corner of Piquette and Beaubien by Ford Motor Co.

The 66,000-square-foot, three-story, brick and wood New England Mill-style building measured 56 by 402 feet. The Model T went into production in September 1908 at the Piquette Plant.

For more information about the show or the preservation project, call Nina Wiswell at (734) 981-6462.



PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

Helping out: (from left) Dr. William Peters, director and CEO of Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute; Mike Kolb of Hines Park Lincoln Mercury; Prof. Jerald Mitchell; and Nina Wiswell, show organizer, from Canton Township by the prize Cougar.

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STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

What A Mess: Above, Rebecca Ramos, front, and Enriquetta Figueroa try out some messy, muddy hair-dos. Top right, Arlene Carter, 8, gets low in the mud during the limbo. Bottom right, a fire truck sprays water making a better mess for the dancing children.



Mud Day '99

Kids beat the heat in the cool ooze

More than 350 youngsters who played in the mud Tuesday morning didn't get scolded for a change.

That's because that day was designated as Wayne County Parks' annual Mud Day in the Perrin Area of Hines Park on Hines Drive near Inkster Road. More than 200 tons of topsoil and over 20,000 gallons of water were mixed to make this area's messiest playground on a hot day with high humidity and temperatures rising in the 90-degree temperatures.

"We had a lot more parents here this year, so that was really neat," said Chawn Farmer, park

spokeswoman.

Parents had been advised for their children to wear old clothes and shoes.

Children were separated into age groups for Mud Limbo, but the wheelbarrow race had to be canceled because too much water had been mixed with the top soil and created too watery of a mixture of mud. Still, the youngsters enjoyed races and Mud Limbo.

The day's events culminated with the selection of Mr. Mud, Jason Hawkins, 10, of Lincoln Park, and Mrs. Mud, Enriquetta Figueroa, 13, of Detroit. They also received gift certificates from Target stores.

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JULY 10

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JULY 11

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JULY 17-18

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JULY 24

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On stage in the Food Court, 5 pm - 9 pm

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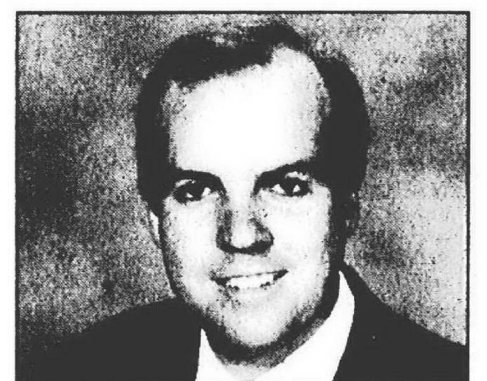
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TIPPING THE SCALES: Growing caseloads a problem

By TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER
tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net

The workload for district courts throughout Wayne and Oakland counties is rising, with most at a sizable increase. Tougher police enforcement and changes by the Michigan Legislature are largely responsible, judges and court administrators say.

The courts are coping as best they can to operate within the budgets given them by the communities they serve. District courts were developed to handle criminal misdemeanor cases, traffic infractions, preliminary hearings for criminal cases and small claims in the local communities.

Western Wayne County has some of the busiest district courts in the region, with the 18th District Court in Westland and 35th District Court in Farmington Hills. All three are in line to add a third judge, if legislation is passed and then signed by the governor.

"Our caseload is about 43,000 a year," said 35th District Court Chief Judge John MacDonald. "We have an increased caseload, but not enough resources to take care of it."

The court handles cases for five communities: the cities of Plymouth and Northville; and Plymouth, Canton and Northville townships.

MacDonald said the State of Michigan, which governs the courts, expects judges to handle an average 13,000 cases a year.

The Plymouth court, which has tried for years to secure a third judge, technically handles 21,500 cases per judge.

However, Plymouth court officials bring in a visiting judge several days a week to help with the heavier caseload. That's not unusual for many of the busier courts in order to keep up with the demands.

"Otherwise the docket would suffer and the defendants would suffer," added MacDonald. "We can't do the job of moving cases along without another judge."

David Wiacek, court administrator for Westland's 18th District Court, said from 1997 to 1998 his court increased its docket by 8,000 cases.

"We're struggling to keep up," said Wiacek. "We could use additional help."

However, Wiacek isn't going to get the help he needs soon, for a good reason.

"We have no place left in this building to put another employee," added Wiacek. "The city council has tentatively approved a building addition in its proposed budget. We'll have to wait and see."

And just like his counterparts, Judge Richard Hammer in Garden City's 21st District Court, agrees the workload is getting tougher to handle.

"The number of cases are up. This is the heaviest volume of cases since I've been here," said Hammer. "I've budgeted for one more staff person, but I don't have the space to put that person."

Despite the fact that caseloads

in most courts are up while staffing levels haven't kept pace, most judges and court administrators like the idea that they have a voice in keeping their communities safe.

"Many communities take a state law and make it into a local ordinance for more control," said Ron Lowe, 35th District Court judge in Plymouth. "Police officers and local communities feel that keeping the offense at the district court level will get more serious treatment than if it's thrown into the chaos in Detroit courts. Many of our cases would get lost compared to the type of crimes committed in Detroit."

For instance, anyone caught with more than a thousand dollars of stolen goods could find themselves being tried in Wayne County Circuit Court in Detroit.

However, it's no secret to most court officials that many times police will lower charges in order to be able to supervise a case locally. For example, when it comes to theft, many times authorities will charge a thief with stolen goods under \$1,000, despite the fact he may have stolen several television sets, a couple of computers and an entire collection of compact discs.

"We have people being charged with misdemeanors who could have been charged with a felony," said Joe Mysliwiec, a 15-year court administrator at Livonia's 16th District Court. "It's a way for us to have more control over justice, like making sure

there is restitution."

Westland judge Gail McKnight credits an aggressive police department for responding to the needs of the community.

"Drunk driving cases were up by 300 because of the mayor, council and police department recognized a problem," said McKnight. "We also take domestic violence cases seriously, and the number of those cases is up dramatically."

McKnight also points to the state legislature for an increase in work for her court and the availability for police officers to issue a multi-count ticket.

It used to be if a police officer wanted to cite a driver for three violations, the officer had to write three separate tickets. Many times the officer would let the motorist off with only one or two tickets.

"However, officers are now able to write multi-count tickets which means less work for the officer, but more work for the court," said McKnight. "And there are always increased demands by the state legislature for us to do more."

Every court administrator and judge will agree with that.

"The changes from the legislature can boggle your mind," said Mysliwiec. "The state just tells the courts to implement changes without adding resources or staff training."

Mysliwiec said when he first began working in the courts 22 years ago, he saw one change a year.

"Now we see changes every six months," he added. "It impacts

Year	1997	1998	1999
18th District Court, Westland	21,500	29,500	37,500
35th District Court, Farmington Hills	43,000	47,000	51,000
21st District Court, Garden City	15,000	17,000	19,000
35th District Court, Plymouth	21,500	29,500	37,500
47th District Court, Farmington Hills	27,607	25,589	22,500

us and the way we do business." That's the same in Farmington Hills, where 47th District Court Administrator David Walsh said while the caseload is slightly down, new state limits on lawsuits are on the rise.

The maximum limit for filing lawsuits in district court has risen from \$10,000 to \$25,000, which has increased filings in 47th District Court by 1,400 cases.

"These type of cases tend to be judge- and clerk-intensive," said Walsh. "And they tend to have the largest impact on the court system and for longer periods of time. While traffic tickets stay in the system about 90 days, lawsuit cases stay pending longer."

Wayne County district courts have not seen the types of increases in civil lawsuits as have those in Oakland County.

"The increase has been huge for us. I think it's the largest in the state," added Walsh. "I think it's happening in areas where there is a lot of business ... cases that have to do with contracts."

On the other hand, criminal statistics for 47th District Court have remained stagnant for the past few years. And traffic tickets are down dramatically.

"The state police are writing about 25 percent fewer tickets on the freeways, so our count is down substantially," said Walsh.

Traffic tickets are keeping 17th District Court in Redford Township busy.

"We're getting more requests for hearings on traffic tickets these days," said court administrator Judy Timper. "I guess everyone wants their day in court."

Fine print: Where you speed, what you pay

By LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER
loconnor@oe.homecomm.net

When crossing the city limit from Redford or Livonia into Farmington Hills, leadfoot drivers feel \$30 more weight on their wallet.

At Farmington's 47th District Court, speeding fines for 1-10 miles an hour over the posted limit on surface streets are \$110. In Livonia and Redford, the same ticket is a relative bargain at \$70-\$80.

The bluelight special on speed-

ing tickets goes to Garden City's 21st District Court, which charges \$55 for 1-5 mph over and \$65 for 6-10 mph over.

Why such a disparity? Three years ago, Farmington's 47th District Court officials did a cost analysis in terms of court, police and prosecutor time and resources spent with each ticket written. Court officials put the tab at \$167.

As a result, court officials increased fines from \$75 to \$110

for a ticket 1-10 mph over. Farmington's court is one of the few statewide to do such a cost analysis.

"It's based on our belief that rather than taxpayers paying the costs, it's more prudent to have those who commit the violations pay more of the costs associated with this," said David Walsh, 47th District Court administrator.

In the Farmington area, traffic violations decreased from 27,607 in 1997 to 25,589 in '98. Part of

the reason: Michigan State Police wrote only 2,575 traffic infractions in '98 compared to 3,340 in 1997.

However, the number of people fighting tickets has shot up, Walsh said. He doesn't have "scientific proof" higher fines is the reason why but suspects they play a role.

"We definitely have more hearings," he said.

A sum of \$24 on every ticket written - regardless of the municipality - goes directly to the state.

In the Farmington area, traffic violations decreased from 27,607 in 1997 to 25,589 in '98. Part of the reason: Michigan State Police wrote only 2,575 traffic infractions in '98 compared to 3,340 in 1997.

18th District Court - Westland	0-5 MPH over: \$70	6-10 MPH over: \$80
17th District Court - Redford	0-5 MPH over: \$70	6-10 MPH over: \$80
18th District Court - Westland	0-5 MPH over: \$70	6-10 MPH over: \$80
21st District Court - Garden City	0-5 MPH over: \$55	6-10 MPH over: \$65
35th District Court - Plymouth	0-5 MPH over: \$70	6-10 MPH over: \$80
47th District Court - Farmington Hills	1-10 MPH over: \$110	11-15 MPH over: \$120



JUDGE BRZEZINSKI



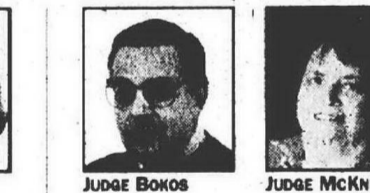
JUDGE MCCANN

JUDGE PROFILES
18th District Court, Westland
Name: Judge Robert B. Brzezinski
Age: 62
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
\$4,573 longevity pay from local court budget
Years on the bench: 17
Education: University of Notre Dame, University of Michigan Law School
Hobbies: golf and fishing
I chose the law for my career because: The drama of a well-tried lawsuit always intrigued me.
Justice is: Simply abiding by the Golden Rule - treat everyone as you would want to be treated regardless of race, national origin or religion.

Name: Judge Kathleen J. McCann
Age: 49
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
\$915 longevity pay from local court budget
Years on the bench: 4 1/2
Education: Livonia Stevenson High School; Hillsdale College, BA Degree with majors in English and history, minor in education; Detroit College of Law, JD Degree, 1978
Hobbies: Reading, gardening, skiing, travel
I chose the law for my career because: At its best, it is a profession where the wrongs of society can be righted. While the law is not always successful, each accomplishment toward that goal is fulfilling, and I find it to be an honorable pursuit.
Justice is: That truth which endeavors to stave off despair. So long as the truth is the object of justice, and impartiality the virtue of justice, then chaos, fear and discord may be diminished.

JUDGE PROFILES
17th District Court, Redford Township
Name: Judge Karen S. Khalil
Age: 34
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
Years on the bench: 7
Education: Albion College, BA Degree, 1985; University of Detroit School of Law, JD Degree, 1988; National Judicial College
Hobbies: Cooking, gardening, walking and spending time with my family
I chose the law for my career because: Public service is one of life's highest callings and I have chosen to serve my community as a representative of the legal profession. I have found my role as judge and public servant to be both challenging and highly rewarding.
Justice is: A guiding principle upon which our society is established. It enables us as a nation to function in an orderly manner, guaranteeing equality and freedom for all our citizens. As a judge, I must guarantee the administration of justice based on the rule of law which governs us. This is a responsibility I take very seriously.

Name: Judge Charlotte L. Wirth
Age: 47
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
Years on the bench: sworn in April 1999
Education: Redford Union High School; Wayne State University, BA Degree; Michigan State University, BA Degree; Wayne State University School of Law, JD Degree
Hobbies: Reading, boating, volunteer work in the community and schools
I chose the law for my career because: I love the concept and study of law both in theory and in its practical application toward solving real people's problems. Law was not considered a likely career for women when I was young and I never even thought of it as a possibility until the end of college. I found my business law classes in college extremely interesting and I had always enjoyed history and government.
Justice is: The accurate and efficient administration of enacted laws eliminating bias or prejudice based on economic status, race, religion or gender.



JUDGE MCKNIGHT

JUDGE PROFILES
18th District Court, Westland
Name: Judge G. Charles Bokos
Age: 60
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
Years on the bench: 7
Education: Redford High School, Detroit, 1955; Wayne State University, BA Degree, 1961; Wayne State University School of Law, bachelor of law and JD Degree, 1964
Hobbies: Golf, enjoying grandchildren, good conversation and good cigars.
I chose the law for my career because: I started out in college in a pre-dentistry curriculum. I soon found out that science classes were not for me and switched to law because I could not think of anything else to do. It turned out to be the right decision.
Justice is: Access to the courts for all persons and a fair and even-handed enforcement of the law.

Name: Judge Gail N. McKnight
Age: 53
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
Years on the bench: District court judge since 1985, juvenile court referee, 1981-1984.
Education: University of Detroit, BA Degree in journalism, 1967; Wayne State University, JD Degree, 1976
Hobbies: My grandchildren, gardening and volunteer activities at the YMCA, Youth Assistance Program, Incorporated, Society of Irish American Lawyers and the United Irish Societies.
I chose the law for my career because: Becoming a lawyer was a later-in-life decision. It is an excellent profession where I have a daily opportunity to make different decisions, and hopefully to make a difference in the lives of the individuals I deal with, and to fulfill my responsibilities to the citizens of Westland.
Justice is: The fair treatment of all citizens irrespective of the status, race and religion. It is the making of impartial decisions in a timely, fair and respectful manner. It is making certain that all staff who carries out the court's orders treat all in the same manner. Ultimately, it means that the community of the judge will be a better and safer place to live and work.

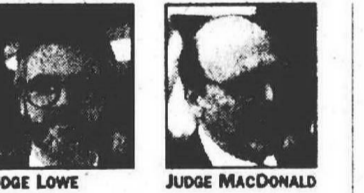


JUDGE HAMMER

JUDGE PROFILE
21st District Court, Garden City
Name: Judge Richard Hammer
Age: 48
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
Years on the bench: 10
Education: University of Detroit, BA Degree 1972; University of Detroit, JD Degree, 1975
Hobbies: Active in a number of church, community and civic organizations, including Garden City Kiwanis and Garden City Chamber of Commerce; has served as a member of the board of directors of First Step, a domestic violence and sexual assault shelter in western Wayne County.
I chose the law for my career because: Prior to appointment and subsequent election as district judge, served as an assistant attorney general for the State of Michigan, a staff attorney for the Wayne County Circuit Court and an account executive for Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith.
Justice is: N/A

JUDGE PROFILES
35th District Court, Plymouth (includes cities of Plymouth and Northville, Plymouth, Canton and Northville townships)
Name: Judge Ron Lowe
Age: 43
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
\$566 longevity pay from local court budget
Years on the bench: 4 1/2
Education: Plymouth Salem High School, 1974; Hillsdale College, 1978; Thomas M. Cooley Law School; 1982; continuing education through classes at the National Judicial College.
Hobbies: Storytelling, reading, Harley Davidson motorcycles and woodcarving
I chose the law for my career because: First and foremost I was strongly influenced by my father, an attorney, and my Sunday school teacher, Judge Dunbar Davis. They instilled in me an understanding and appreciation of the law. Secondly, it was an effective career to combine my talents with my desire to help others.
Justice is: What you hope to achieve after you determine the facts and apply the law.

Name: Judge John E. MacDonald
Age: 65
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
\$6,805 longevity pay from local court budget
Years on the bench: 14 1/2 years
Education: Attended University of Michigan; Wayne State University Law School
Hobbies: Gardening
I chose the law for my career because: I felt I could best serve my fellow man by resolving issues between people.
Justice is: Very important to our democratic society. Those in charge of dispensing justice have a serious burden to treat all individuals fairly and justly.



JUDGE MACDONALD

JUDGE PROFILES
47th District Court, Farmington Hills (includes cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills)
Name: Judge Frederick L. Harris
Age: 69
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
\$1,828.96 longevity pay from local court budget
Years on the bench: 10
Education: Michigan State University, BA Degree, 1952; Wayne State University, JD Degree, 1963; graduate/judicial studies, National Judicial College (University of Nevada-Reno), Harvard University Law School, University of Virginia
Hobbies: Grandchildren, golf, photography, music, reading
I chose the law for my career because: I was inspired by my best friend to pursue the profession.
Justice is: The constant perpetual wish to render everyone their due.

Name: Judge Marla E. Parker
Age: 44
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
\$457.24 longevity pay from local court budget
Years on the bench: 6 1/2
Education: University of Michigan, BA Degree; Wayne State University Law School, JD Degree.
Hobbies: Family and community activities
I chose the law for my career because: Law is a field that provides opportunities to make an impact on the lives of individuals, the community and society as a whole.
Justice is: Fairness.

JUDGE PROFILES
47th District Court, Farmington Hills
Name: Judge Marla E. Parker
Age: 44
Salary: \$113,192 state salary
\$457.24 longevity pay from local court budget
Years on the bench: 6 1/2
Education: University of Michigan, BA Degree; Wayne State University Law School, JD Degree.
Hobbies: Family and community activities
I chose the law for my career because: Law is a field that provides opportunities to make an impact on the lives of individuals, the community and society as a whole.
Justice is: Fairness.

Raising misdemeanor dollar amount keeps it local

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

If a case starts there, it's more likely to stay there under new court guidelines.

In January, property crimes involving up to \$1,000 went from being felonies - handled by county circuit courts - to misdemeanors. Those cases, including probation, fines and mountainous paperwork, remain in district courts.

Before, a person charged with property crimes such as shoplifting and theft that involved more than \$100 was arraigned in district court. From there, his case went onto the county circuit court in Detroit or Pontiac.

Court observers don't see the change as a caseload shift but simply keeping up with inflation. The standard hadn't been changed in more than 20 years.

So far, district court caseloads haven't increased substantially, administrators say. Others pre-

dict the full effect won't be known for at least a year.

"Everybody was saying caseloads would jump ... I haven't seen it," said Joseph Mysliwiec, Livonia 16th District Court administrator.

One reason is authorities try to charge breaking and entering, vandalism and shoplifting under local ordinances, rather than sending those cases on to circuit court.

"Those cases might not receive the same attention there, whereas locally every case gets scrutinized to its fullest," said David Wiacek, Westland 18th District Court administrator.

In Wayne County Circuit Court (now merged with the former Detroit Recorders Court), judges sentence defendants for serious felonies involving rape, robbery or murder.

"All of a sudden there is a shoplifter who stole \$101 in merchandise before him," said Ray Walsh, Wayne County

So far, district court caseloads haven't increased substantially, administrators say.

deputy chief prosecutor. "You're probably not going to do as well with the judge's perception because of the lower category of crime."

"If we're trying to fashion a remedy, I'd prefer to keep it before the local judge."

At the district court level, cases are likely to move swiftly. Farmington Hills detective Matt Koehn handles retail fraud cases. In one week alone, he had three people plead guilty before a local judge.

Before, those defendants would've automatically had to plead not guilty and have their cases bound over to circuit court after a preliminary exam.

"I think it cuts down on the amount of time we're in court," Koehn said. "You can arraign

them and then they can plead guilty."

Witnesses, attorneys and even defendants don't have to drive to Detroit or Pontiac for a circuit court proceeding.

Instead the local court is absorbing most of the work. **Here's a typical case:**

■ **On March 23:** Police arrested Farmington Hills girl, 17, for retail fraud III after she put jewelry in her purse and tried to leave Kohl's. Total value of items taken was \$127. She was booked and posted bond.

■ **On April 7:** Prosecutor Sydney Smith authorized a 93-day misdemeanor warrant for the defendant on a charge of retail fraud III.

■ **On the same day:** The defendant pleaded guilty before Magistrate James Brady. Under the old guidelines, she would've had to enter a not guilty plea and receive a preliminary examination date. The magistrate held her plea in abeyance pending a



sentencing date before Judge Fred Harris. She was referred to the 47th District Court's Probation Department for a presentence investigation.

Brady continued her \$200 cash bond. The misdemeanor carries a 93-day or \$500 fine or three times the value of property stolen.

She was scheduled for sentencing at 8:30 a.m. June 10 before Judge Fred Harris.

"Usually we have the arraignment (and preliminary examination) and we're done," said David Walsh, Farmington 47th District Court administrator. "Now we have the case for the duration."

Disposition of cases, 1999 39th District Court PLYMOUTH	
• Beginning pending	8,281
• New caseload	48,894
• Total caseload	40,236
• Guilty pleas, admissions of responsibility	8,778
• Non-jury trials, hearings, informal hearings	236
• Jury trials	15
• Preliminary exams waived	288
• Preliminary exams conducted	52
• Magistrate informal hearings	3,012
• Magistrate other dispositions	1,842
• Violations bureau dispositions	17,482
• No-prosecution dismissals, non-service dismissals	227
• All other dispositions	21,879
• Total dispositions	48,279
• Ending pending	9,046

Note: 39th District Court serves cities of Plymouth, Northville; Plymouth, Canton and Northville townships.
Note: Excludes parking violations.
Source: State Court Administrative Office

Mystery from page A1

"I'm glad it's over with," Joshua said.

But his day in court wasn't over.

Joshua's next stop was to the probation department for an interview. It was, perhaps, the most important part of the process.

Because of the volume of cases the court sees - it serves the townships of Canton, Plymouth

and Northville as well as the cities of Plymouth and Northville - Lowe and fellow Judge John MacDonald rely heavily on the department's recommendations.

"We've been one of the top five busiest courts in Michigan for years and years," said Lowe.

That doesn't mean either judge abdicates responsibilities or blows off any case that comes

through the court, however.

"In the end," Lowe said, "we give them the time they need. I don't believe we've ever shorted people the time they needed because we were busy."

With the probation department visit completed, Joshua and Demopoulos met at 10:35 a.m. They went over details of the teen's punishment in a tiny meeting room off MacDonald's

court room.

"If you don't go (to the work assignment), you're looking at jail time," Demopoulos told Joshua. "They don't take any excuses."

Attorney and client headed back into Lowe's court shortly before 11 a.m. After a 20-minute wait, Joshua stood before the judge a second time.

Lowe scolded the teen after

reading back the terms of his punishment.

"You just have too much contact with alcohol for someone that's not of age," he said.

With the sentence handed down, Joshua left the district court at about 11:30 a.m., some three hours after arriving.

"He has learned his lesson," Demopoulos said later. "He

won't have any more parties."

For his part, Joshua has seemingly turned his life around since the citations.

He attends Schoolcraft College, works part-time and helps his parents around the house.

"I'm back on the right track," the 19 year old said. "All the partying got out of hand."

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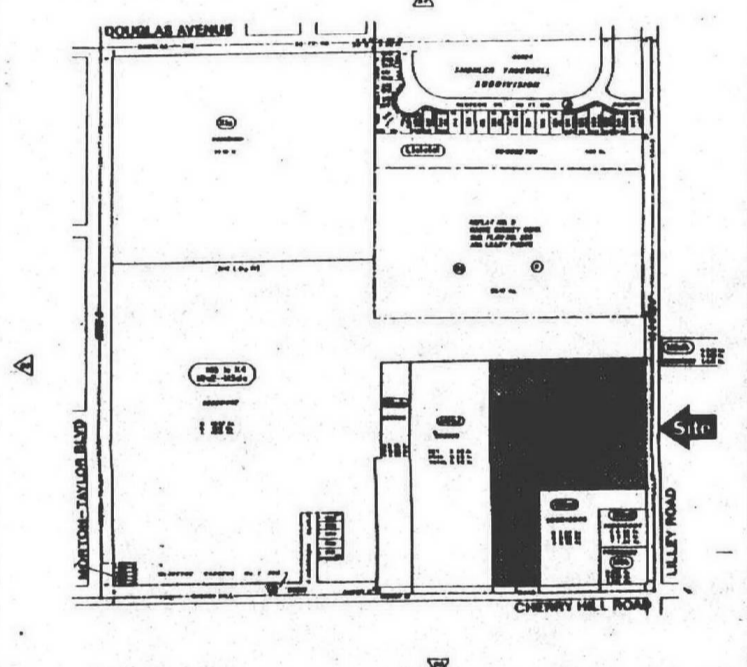
BUSINESS NOTES

Charter Township of Canton Planning Commission
 The Charter Township of Canton Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 2, 1999, at 7:00 p.m. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road. The hearing will be held to consider a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. The amendment would rezone a portion of the township from Light Industrial to C-3, Regional Commercial. The property is located on the south side of Michigan Avenue between Lotz and Hannan Roads.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 2, 1999 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

WALTONWOOD AT CHERRY HILL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - FINAL PLAN. CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NOS. 055 99 0008 000, 055 99 0010 000, 055 99 0011 002, 055 99 0012 000, 055 99 0013 000, 055 99 0014 000, AND 055 99 0015 000. Property is located north of Cherry Hill Road and west of Lilley Road. Second Public Hearing.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, July 29, 1999 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

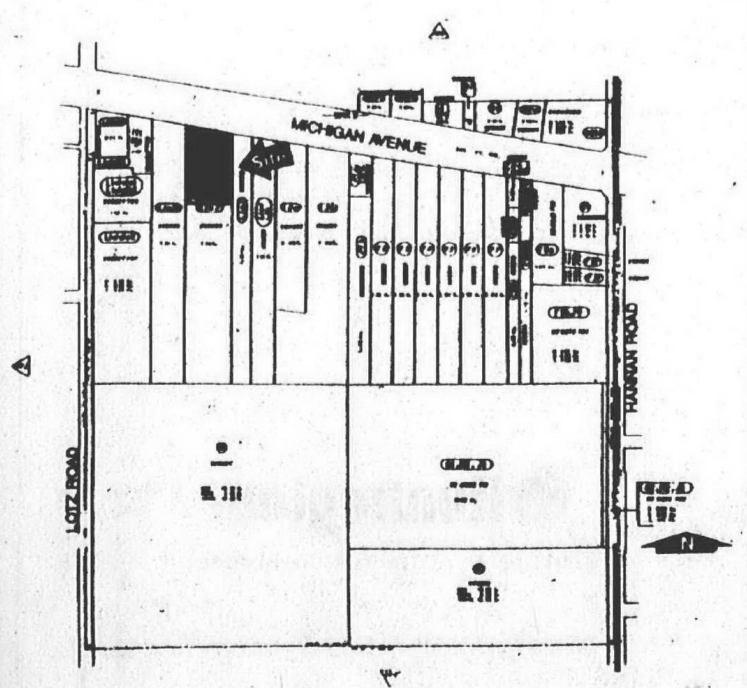
VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: July 8 and 22, 1999

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 2, 1999 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:

CANTON COMPANY REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PART OF PARCEL NO. 141 99 0029 000 FROM LI-2, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL, TO C-3, REGIONAL COMMERCIAL. Property is located on the south side of Michigan Avenue between Lotz and Hannan Roads.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, July 29, 1999 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: July 8 and 22, 1999

OBITUARIES

SOPHIE LUTHER
 Services for Sophie Luther, 91, of Westland were July 6 at Neely-Turowski Funeral Home with the Rev. Jerry Yarnell officiating. Burial followed at Glen Eden Cemetery.

Sophie Luther was born Jan. 14, 1908 in McDonald, Pa. She died July 2 at Oakwood Hospital-Deaerborn. She was a homemaker, and lived in the area for years.

Survivors include daughter, Irene (Paul) of Canton; son, James (Diane) of Canton; brother, Leo Krzeminski; grandchildren, Michael, Lynne, Richard, Kevin, Kristin, Susan, Richey and Skipper; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by Neely-Turowski Funeral Home of Canton.

JOSEPH M. STONE
 Services for Joseph M. Stone, 56, of Plymouth were held July 7 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, officiated by the Rev. J. J. Mech. Burial was at Greenlawn Cemetery of Nelsonville, Ohio.

Mr. Stone was born Sept. 3, 1932 in Athens Co., Ohio. He died July 3 in Livonia. He was a manager at Ford Motor Co. and a war veteran. He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Stone.

Survivors include wife, Paula Mercedes Stone of Plymouth; mother, Hazel B. Stone of Gahanna, Ohio; sons, Joseph (Libby) Stone of Missoua Viejo, Calif., Michael (Kelly) Stone of Livonia and Gregory Stone of Plymouth; daughter, Lisa (Todd) Birou; brother, William Stone also of Gahanna; sister, Marilyn Garner of Grove City, Ohio; and grandchildren Jeffrey Birou, Kevin Birou, Jessica Stone, Joseph Stone, Matthew Stone, Michael Stone, Nicholas Stone and Steven Stone.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society, 29350 Southfield Rd., Suite 110 Southfield, MI 48076, or to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154-5010.

Arrangements were made by

Vermeulen Funeral Home of Plymouth.

DONALD H. PANKOW
 Services for Donald H. Pankow, 75, of Livonia were July 8 at St. Peter's Evangelist Lutheran Church of Plymouth, with the Rev. Peter M. Berg officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth.

Mr. Pankow was born Aug. 19, 1923 in Livonia and died July 4 in Livonia. He spent his winters in Seminole, Fla. He moved to the Livonia community from Plymouth in 1962.

He worked for Dunn Steel Products in Plymouth for 18 years and left to fulfill his dream of owning and operating the Alibi Bar in Ypsilanti for four years. He then worked for Vico Products in Plymouth for the next 25 years. He was a member of St. Peter's Evangelist Lutheran Church of Plymouth, the Plymouth Lt. Gamble Post No. 6695 of the V.F.W., the American Legion Post No. 32 in Livonia and the Holiday Isles Elks Lodge in Madeira Beach, Fla.

He served in the U.S. Navy for two years during World War II. He enjoyed bowling, golfing, baseball, hockey, hunting and fishing.

He is preceded in death by his brother, Leo Pankow.

Survivors include his wife, Joan Miller Pankow of Livonia; daughter, Karen (Bill) Blue of Westland; sons, Kerry (Carol) Pankow of South Lyon and Keith (Meg) Pankow of Hamburg; stepdaughters, Sandra (Karl) Melow of Livonia and Sheila (Dan) Kerber of Plymouth; stepson, Michael (Veronica) Evans of Plymouth; sister, Clara Forman of Plymouth; nephew, Robert Pankow of Westland; niece, Joyce Stowell of Northville; 13 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice of Livonia.

Arrangements were made by

Schrader-Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth.

JAMES MAROLD FARRAR
 Services and burial for James Harold Farrar, 82, of Plymouth, were in Hornbeak, Tenn. Visitation was at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth July 6.

Mr. Farrar was born Nov. 15, 1916 in Hornbeak. He died July 4 in Livonia. He was an assembler at Continental Can Company in Melvindale for 26 years. He retired in 1979. He was married for 58 years.

He was a member of the Historic Church of Plymouth. He was also a member of the Harmony Lodge No. 184, F. & A.M. in Tiptonville, Tenn. He has been a lodge member since 1954. He enjoyed fishing and hunting. He loved family gatherings and enjoyed traveling to Tennessee for them. He also traveled throughout the South.

Survivors include wife, Dellmar Farrar of Plymouth; son, James Victor (Charlotte) Farrar of Warren; daughter, Brenda (Larry) Dolen of Fowlerville; six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth.

WAYNE MARVIN FALERIOS
 Services for Wayne Marvin Falerios, 76, of Canton were at the McCabe Funeral Home's Canton Chapel July 5 with the Rev. Frederick Cooley of the First United Methodist Church officiating.

Mr. Falerios was born Sept. 20, 1922 in Flint. He died July 1 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Superior Township.

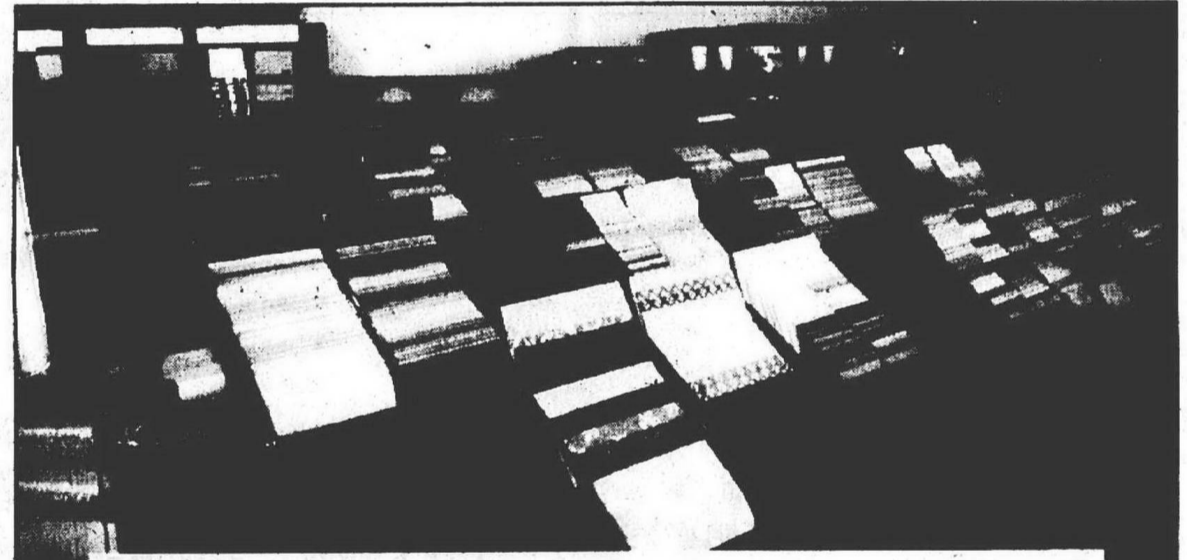
He was a retired engineer for Ford Motor Co. Mr. Falerios served in World War II from Feb. 26, 1944 to Oct. 18, 1945, and received the Purple Heart.

Survivors include his wife, Donna Falerios; son, Matthew Falerios; daughter, Janet Garza; brother, Eugene Falerios; sister, June Perkins; four grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Arrangements were made by McCabe Funeral Home of Canton.

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MILITARY NEWS

To submit your military announcement, send the material printed or typewritten to: Plymouth-Canton Observer, 794 S. Main St., Plymouth, Mich. 48170

GRADUATED

Keith S. Pund graduated from the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y., and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. The new lieutenant majored in environmental engineering. He is the son of David G. and Janet R. Pund of Canton. Pund is a 1995 graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School.

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MOVIE GUIDE
 WILD WILD WEST (PG-13) 12:15, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45
 STAR WARS: PHANTOM MENACE (PG) 11, 1:35, 4:10, 6:50, 9:25
 OGI BABBY (PG-13) 12:30, 2:30, 4:45, 7:05, 9:15
 TARZAN (G) 1, 3, 5, 7, 9
 AUSTIN POWERS II (PG-13) 12:45, 2:50, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
 THE GENERALS DAUGHTER (R) 12, 2:30, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
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McCotter targets 'rat bounty' and other outdated laws

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Currently under Michigan law, you can get a dime "bounty" for presenting the head of a rat to a city, township or village clerk.

Bob Dole could be prosecuted for promoting Viagra, violating a 1931 law banning "immoral advertising," defined as ads that refer to "the restoration of 'Lost Manhood.'"

And it's illegal today to use the image of a deceased president to promote alcoholic beverages.

These are examples of outdated laws that state Sen. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, hopes to get off the books by the time we reach the new millennium. McCotter has been appointed to chair the new State Law Revision Task Force, assigned to the job of reviewing archaic laws still in effect in Michigan.

Also on the panel are Sens. Alma Wheeler Smith, D-Salem Township, and Mike Goschka, R-Brant. The task force was formed and appointed by Senate Majority Leader Dan DeGrow, R-Port Huron, in late June.

Besides the chuckle factor, there are some serious reasons for finding and reviewing these old, outdated laws, McCotter said. One is that they can result in uneven or arbitrary enforcement.

An example is the case of the "cussing canoeist," a recent trial in northern Michigan that

received national attention because a man was ticketed for violating an old law that prohibits using profanities in front of women and children.

"A, it's sexist," McCotter said. "I might forget to mow the lawn and my wife might not be nice when she reminds me. B, can you imagine what would happen if (Prosecutor) John O'Hair started enforcing that law in Wayne County."

But there may be valid reasons for leaving such laws on the books, he said. That's why the panel will review the laws and

hold public hearings before making any recommendations to remove or repeal them.

Old, unenforced and outdated laws just cause public disrespect for the law in general, McCotter said, giving another of the serious reasons for review. Police officers have many important laws to enforce, so they don't need the clutter of outmoded laws, he said.

Lawmakers should also be reminded that what sounds like a good idea today might not be worthwhile 20 or 50 years from now, he said. The review may

help by "curbing the zeal to pass laws just for the sake of passing laws, or for the purpose of appeasing a fleeting popular passion."

McCotter said he believes that the legislature should have panels assigned to find and get rid of old, unworkable laws every four or perhaps 10 years. The current common practice of sunset bills won't take care of the entire problem, he explained. Too many sunsets on laws could themselves create problems for the Legislature.

The task force is looking for

help in identifying arcane state laws. Its members are asking the public to contact them, with examples of outdated laws worth reviewing. State residents may submit their suggestions by writing to McCotter, Attn: Law Revision Task Force, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI, 48909. Suggestions may also be submitted by phone, (517) 373-1707; fax, (517) 373-3935; e-mail, sentmccotter@senate.mi.us.

The task force expects to report back to the senate with a list of archaic laws to be repealed in December.

The "rat bounty" is one law that is already at the top of McCotter's hit list.

"My mother is the Livonia City Clerk. She hopes that we can end the 'rat bounty' so she doesn't have to include it in her next office budget. In the end, the law is irrelevant to our society because there are more modern means to deal with the problem of rats, such as professional exterminators and term limits," he quipped.

Seminar on government bids offered

The U.S. government is the single largest buyer of goods and services in the country, spending billions of dollars each year.

If your company has considered competing for government contracts or hasn't been successful winning bids, attend the seminar, How to Become a Government Contractor, at Schoolcraft College Thursday, July 22.

This half-day seminar will show how to fine tune the process of working with the government, and how companies can introduce products and services to this diversified market.

Topics include: the philosophy of government purchasing; updates on requirements for government contractors; the impact of technological advances such as e-commerce, the Internet, bulletin boards and EFT on doing business with the government, and Schoolcraft Business Development Center's services and training programs for businesses seeking government work.

Business owners will learn how to compete and win the many contracts available to small businesses, gain an understanding of technological advances that have streamlined doing business with the government, and get to know the agencies that purchase products or services.

The seminar will be presented from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. for a \$25 per person fee. Participants must preregister by calling the Business Development Center at (734) 462-4438.

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

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Plymouth Observer

OPINION

A14(P)

794 SOUTH MAIN, PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 48170

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1999

Community wins City, township build bridges

The Plymouths pulled off the hat trick last week during a joint meeting of both elected boards.

A triple pact was sealed between the city commission and township board for the funding of the Sheldon Road railroad underpass, the hiring of three new firefighters and a centralized police/fire dispatch.

Both sides of the table received what they wanted. The city will pay less for the Sheldon Road railroad underpass. The township will get the three new firefighters it has been lobbying for. The centralized police/fire dispatch will save both communities financially from a service that doesn't need to be doubled.

But in the end, it was the community that won.

Tie ups from trains crossings at Sheldon Road near the busy M-14 corridor will cease for motorists when construction is completed on the \$8.2 million project. Three new firefighters will offer a level of emergency service that residents should have been receiving for some time. And, not only will the centralized police/fire dispatch save taxpayers in both the city and township financially, but offer them speedier service when emergency back up is

needed.

The compromise between the city and township says a lot more. In our opinion, it sets a path for renewed communication that will benefit the entire Plymouth community. All elected officials should be commended for their cooperation in making these agreements possible.

A bridge has been built.

We've appreciated the work of the Joint Services Commission, which is represented by three members of each elected board and meets monthly; however, we hope all 14 elected officials continue to meet at least twice a year.

Who would have thought that hot dog vendors and popcorn and peanut sales wouldn't be necessary at last Tuesday's combined meeting of the city commission and township board?

Ironically, the person hired to help mediate the meeting was 40 minutes late. And by the time the Michigan State University facilitator arrived, it was nearly a done deal.

It just goes to prove that city and township officials do have what's best for the "community" in mind.

Court reform is growing issue

It's been 30 years since there were substantial changes in the Michigan court system. In 1969, through Public Act 236, the state established 101 district courts to handle local criminal cases and smaller civil matters. Twenty of those districts, with 38 judges, are in Wayne County outside of Detroit. Oakland County has 10 districts and 32 judges.

Almost everything that affects the legal system in southeastern Michigan has changed in three decades - except the courts themselves. Population has shifted, traffic patterns are different, as are trends in education, employment and technology. Even our views on crime and the way society deals with it are radically different than they were in the 1960s. After all, who ever thought the state would spend nearly twice as much on prisons (the 1999 corrections department budget is \$1.44 billion) as education (\$870 million)?

Recent changes in state law also play a role in how many people walk through the doors of local courthouses each day, particularly in heavily-populated suburbs. The limit on civil cases handled at the district level went from \$10,000 to \$25,000 several years ago. And more criminal misdemeanors are likely to be heard locally now that the property theft/damage limit has been bumped from \$100 to \$1,000.

The Observer urges the state legislature to move court reform to the front burner when it reconvenes in September. State representatives and senators will have this chance when the Michigan Supreme Court submits its report on judicial resources.

Specifically, the House and Senate must take up legislation that addresses a growing imbalance in the most basic level of the judicial system - and the part which has the widest impact on the majority of Michigan citizens - its district courts. While we don't believe a major overhaul is required, the court system must be given freedom to create additional judgeships where needed. That means doing away with the current reapportionment

system, which requires consolidation in some districts before others can be expanded. Partisan politics has rendered such redistribution an unlikely, if not impossible, task.

The 35th District Court - which handles cases in five growing communities, primarily in western Wayne County - would be a good starting point for adding a judgeship. So would the 47th District Court, which covers Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Caseloads in the 35th District (Plymouth, Northville and Canton townships; and the cities of Plymouth and Northville) have increased steadily over the last five years to nearly 42,000 in 1998. Two judges preside over criminal and civil matters for a geographic area that contains 84 square miles and nearly 140,000 people. The 35th District now handles 21,500 cases per judge, per year - far in excess of the state recommendation of 13,000. (The court brings in a visiting judge several days each week to help with caseload.) By comparison, Dearborn's 19th District Court has three judgeships with a smaller caseload, geographic area and population.

While caseloads have remained relatively stable in the 47th District, population has grown substantially within its boundaries. Its neighboring communities in Oakland County include multiple districts (48th, 50th, 52nd) with three and four judges serving combined communities with smaller populations and lower caseloads per judge.

Unfortunately, there is a tendency by municipalities to use district courts as highly principled but easily-disguised revenue centers. We see that every time a new courthouse is built or major expansion is approved for an existing one. That's one reason why we must take a cautious approach when adding judgeships.

But we see no reason why exploding growth in parts of southeastern Michigan should continue to be under represented on the district court bench.

ARKIE HUDKINS



LETTERS

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, that's why we offer this space for your opinions. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity we ask that you provide a contact telephone number and if mailing or faxing a letter, please sign it. Letters can be mailed to: Valerie Olander, Plymouth Editor, 794 South Main, Plymouth, MI 48170, faxed to Valerie at (734) 459-2700 or emailed to volander@oe.homecomm.net

Leadership at local level

I left the Plymouth District Library last Tuesday afternoon feeling pretty good.

I had the honor of being a participant in a process that will allow the citizens of the greater Plymouth community to enjoy better service at less cost, and this was the result of action by local leaders who were determined to get the job done.

The actions taken by the joint Plymouth City Commission and the Plymouth Township Board were the final results of many hours of serious discussions by my fellow members of the joint City/Township Joint Services Committee over the past two years. Public thanks are in order for former Mayor Don Dismuke and Supervisor Kathleen Keen-McCarthy for their foresight in establishing the committee and to my commission colleague, Commissioner Colleen Pobur, and Trustees Ron Edwards and Chuck Curmi for staying the course.

The issues were diverse, and many solutions were offered, but in the end what was for the good of the Plymouth community ruled the day.

The agreement on the Community Funding formula (67-33 percent split) for the Sheldon Road grade separation reflects a reasonable population mix of the two communities. The project will be of huge benefit to thousands of our citizens who travel Sheldon Road entering and leaving our community on a daily basis.

The addition of three new firefighters to our Community Fire Department will allow for an award-winning operation to continue at that level into the 21st century.

The consolidation of police dispatch operations will provide both communities with a substantial savings to their respective budgets, and the centralized dispatch will provide for a greater police presence throughout the community on a daily basis. Another win/win situation.

Good work, folks!

Dave McDonald

Plymouth City Commissioner

Goals accomplished

As we begin this long weekend dedicated to remembering what makes our nation great, I want to express my deep admiration and appreciation for the progress that we have made this week. On Tuesday, June 29, the city commission and township Board of

Trustees sat down at a formal joint public meeting to deal with several issues of mutual importance that have been hanging over our heads for many months.

In a display of collaboration and shared vision, we were able to hammer out deals on three items that started out as separate but became threads in one whole piece of legislative cloth.

We agreed to jointly fund three additional firefighters for the Plymouth Community Fire Department, to establish a shared police dispatch operation and to cooperatively fund the construction of a railroad underpass at Sheldon Road. These agreements accomplished goals long held dear by the police and fire departments and will contribute to improving the quality of life for all the citizens of our community. The Joint Services Committee, of which I am a member, tried hard to fix what needed fixing but, ultimately, we were unable to do so.

It took the power and will of both full boards of elected officials sitting down together, under public scrutiny, to fashion those deals. I thank all of my colleagues for doing what we got elected to do in a statesmanlike way. I am thoroughly impressed with the people and with the process. It's fortifying to know that the working relationship we forged this week will serve us well in the future when we face other issues of shared significance.

It's an honor and a pleasure to serve with you all. Happy Independence Day!

Colleen Pobur

Plymouth City Commissioner

Thanks for Parents' Day

The Plymouth-Canton Education Partnership and the Educational Excellence Foundation would like to thank the community sponsors of the third Parents' Day. Over 150 parents learned valuable child-rearing tips from the keynote speaker and breakout sessions.

Thank you to the following sponsors: Canton Chamber of Commerce, Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, Community Federal Credit Union, Johnson Controls, St. Joseph Mercy Health System, Target, Coffee Express, Extended Day Program-Child Care, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and East Middle School.

The Parents' Day Committee

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

How do you keep cool on a hot summer day?



'Give me a cold beer.'

Dennis Goldsmith
Canton



'We like to go swimming.'

Carolyn Bonitas
with Colin and
Carter
Canton



'I enjoy going swimming.'

Amy Welke
Canton



'I either go fishing or stay in a cool basement.'

Wayne Tolmie
Canton

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.

Plymouth Observer

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— Philip Power

LETTER

All-night party thanks

Thanks to all who helped make the 1999 PCEP All Night Senior Party a safe and successful time for all of our kids.

To the future of our community. Congratulations on a job well done!

Thanks to: 1/2 Off card Shop, 1st Security Title, Absopure, Accent Signs, Aco Hardware, Alphagraphics, Al Larson, Alliant Food Service, AMC Livonia 20, Amour Studios, Applebee's of Canton, Artistic Promotions, Inc., Asadoorian Printing, AutoNation, Avis and Assoc., Bagel Express, Baker's Square, Basic Electric & Telephone Co., Beach Bum Tan Club, Bea's Flowers and Gifts, Bed N' Stead, Belle Tire Distributors, Benito's Pizza, Beyer Friendly Drugs, Big Lots, Blackwell Ford, Blockbuster, BMG Distributing, Bright Jewelers, Bruegger's Bagels, Bryan Kulczyk, Busch's Marketplace, Cafeteria Staff, Candi Lobelle, Canton Auto Repair & Exhaust, Canton Cinema, Carriage House Productions, Central

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Committee for the seniors all-night party

POINTS OF VIEW

Gov't should help parents spend time with kids

If you've paid any attention at all to politics in the last decade, you've heard an awful lot from our national and state leaders about how we need to return to "family values."

Educators (teachers, administrators and school board members alike) for years have admonished parents for not being more involved in their kids' lives.

After the recent string of tragic school shootings, child development experts everywhere told adults we have to start spending more time with our children. Talk to them, get to know them, find out what's going on in their lives.

Then a funny thing happened on the way to the state House of Representatives. The issue of parents being able to spend time with their kids got all balled up with other issues, like local control of school districts and the profits of Michigan's tourism industry.

Twice this year the state House has turned down a proposal by Rep. Scott



MIKE MALOTT

Shackleton, R-Sault Ste. Marie, to mandate that school districts take a four-day weekend over the Labor Day holiday.

The bill is already severely watered down from its original concept. Shackleton's final proposal was to mandate that four-day weekend only for the next three years. And the representatives rejected even that.

Originally, he had coupled the proposal with another bill forming a committee to review the school calendar, hoping that by the end of the three-year period, the committee could come to some conclusions about what, if any, rules the state should make regarding school calendars.

Even that is watered down from bills offered in previous years ordering districts to hold off the launch of the school year until after Labor Day.

Now, you might think I'm overreacting to this. It's just one darned holiday after all. And if parents want to spend time with their kids, they've got the rest of the year to do that, you might say.

But my point is that the rest of the year has become very busy for most families. We live in a society with an increasing number of two-income couples and single-parent households. The demands of the working world burn up a lot of time for those parents. Nationally, the number of hours worked per week is on the rise and the average leisure time of the individual is declining.

Kids' schedules too have become incredibly busy, with all the after-school programs offered to them. So vacation time (when parents and children alike can wind down and spend the whole day goofing around with each other) is special. For many families, it may be the only time of

the year when parents can really get reacquainted with their children.

And most adults working in the private sector get only two weeks per year.

Perhaps those two weeks should fit easily into two and half months of the kids' summer time, but there are other considerations, like scheduling vacations with co-workers and getting reservations. There are only so many cabins and resorts and campgrounds up north to house all those vacationing families in a two-and-half-month time period.

It's a shame then that school districts in Michigan have taken to scheduling the return to classes ahead of Labor Day. The school year began to sneak ahead of the holiday when the state insisted on a longer school year. Now many districts start classes a few days before the holiday. Some have scheduled the return to classes a full two weeks ahead of Labor Day. I could accept that it was necessary

to get in the longer school year except that many districts don't seem to have adjusted anywhere else. They still have week-long winter breaks and another week in the spring. Many give a week off at Easter. Most give two weeks off at Christmas.

What adult working in the private sector gets two weeks off at Christmas? Or a spring break? So parents cannot use that time to spend with their kids.

Lawmakers must realize they can't just give lip-service to the idea of family values then put obstacles in the way for families to overcome. They have to adopt policies that encourage parents and children to spend time together.

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (248) 349-1700 or by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net

New Waterford Eccentric paper starts landing on doorsteps today

One of the most special things that can happen to somebody in the newspaper business is to be in on the birth of an entirely new newspaper.

Over the 30-odd years I've been in the business, I've been lucky enough to have been present at the creation of a new newspaper a fair number of times. But it's always a thrill when it happens. I suppose the birth of a newspaper is much like the birth of a new baby, with all the attendant effort, anxiety, pain and hope.

It also serves to remind us why we are in the business in the first place.

Our company specializes in publishing community newspapers that provide local news, information and advertising that are relevant to the daily lives of people in their own home towns. We believe that any company has to have a firm ethical and philosophical foundation in order to be successful. We sum up that philosophy as follows:

Our fundamental business purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the communities we serve, contribute to the business success of our advertisers, provide fulfilling careers for our staffers and earn a fair profit.

In carrying out this philosophy, we practice a special kind of journalism which we call "community journalism" to distinguish it from the kind of journalism practiced by the big city newspapers and TV stations with which we compete.

That's why on the masthead of our editorial pages, we run this statement:

"Because we publish community newspapers, we think about community journalism in a fundamentally different way than our bigger competitors. They consider themselves to be independent from the stories they cover, swooping in to write the unusual or sensational and then dashing off to cover something else. We regard ourselves as both accurate and fair journalists and as caring citizens of the communities where we work."

Today marks the first edition ever of the new Waterford Eccentric, designed to serve the needs of readers in Waterford Township, a thriving and rapidly growing community in Oakland County, just west of Pontiac. Delivered Thursdays and Sundays each week, it's one of the community newspapers published by HomeTown Communications Network, the company that owns this newspaper.

The founding of a new newspaper usually has to do with community residents and leaders wanting a real hometown paper and/or being



PHILIP POWER

dissatisfied with an existing paper.

In the case of the Waterford Eccentric, it turns out that a group of civic leaders approached us several months ago. They were unhappy with the existing newspapers circulating in the area, none of which were centrally concerned with Waterford residents or invested in meeting the needs of the community. They asked us to start a new newspaper, one that folks in Waterford could call their own.

Because HomeTown Communications already publishes a number of Eccentric newspapers serving communities throughout Oakland County, their request fell on receptive ears.

We ran the numbers and determined that a new Waterford paper had a fighting chance of being profitable. We found a good office location right on Dixie Highway, in a high traffic area right next to the Blockbuster video store.

We looked for an editor and found a real star in Dan Dean, who had established his credentials with our company as a brilliant photographer and then editor of the Troy Eccentric, a sister newspaper in Oakland County. Dan and Justin Wilcox, the publisher of our newspapers in Oakland County, recruited a corps of reporters and an advertising sales staff, some already Waterford residents.

And now, after several months of detailed planning and frantic effort, a new newspaper has been born.

Our company philosophy lays down the marker by which we expect to be judged by our readers and the communities we serve. I hope you'll get in touch with your community editor or me, both when we meet that standard and when we don't.

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

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Community Life

The Observer

INSIDE:

Reading program, B5
Chorus wins big, B8

Page 1, Section B

Sue Mason, Editor 734-953-2131 smason@oe.homecomm.net

on the web: http://observer.econline.com

Thursday, July 8, 1999



JACK GLADDEN

Construction is fodder for a new game

If you're reading this column, you've probably been through them. Or, at least, you've tried to get through them. I'm talking about road construction projects.

Trying to get from one place to another isn't as easy as it used to be. Sometimes, it seems, it's almost impossible.

But those projects got me thinking, and I came up with another money-making scheme. I'm working on a board game (or maybe a computer game) called "The Road Construction Game." I still have to work out the details, but it will go something like this:

The board will be a road map, featuring freeways, major streets, subdivisions and, of course, railroad tracks.

Some of the players are commuters. Their playing pieces are little cars, like those in Monopoly. The object of the game is for the commuters to get to work and back in the shortest possible time.

Other players are road commissioners, road construction workers and railroad engineers. Their job is to try to block the commuters' paths and keep them from getting to work and back. The railroad engineers are minor, but important, players.

The road commissioners start the game. Each commissioner is in control of one sector of the map. He tries to get as many construction projects going in his sector as he can, but the projects cost money.

On his turn a commissioner draws a "dollar card." The cards range from "\$1 million: Close one city block for three turns" to "\$60 million: Close 8-mile section of freeway for entire game."

When a commissioner draws a card, he decides which street or streets to close and passes the card to a construction worker who sets up roadblocks in the appropriate areas. The roadblocks stay up for as many turns as the card allows.

Commissioners can play a project card immediately or hold onto it and combine it with other cards into one project. A commissioner could use two "\$1 million" cards and close two city blocks for three turns. As a point of strategy, commissioners should try to close as many freeways as they can early in the game.

On the commuter's turn, he draws a "move card." Those cards range from "Go one city block on this turn" to "Proceed directly to freeway and go to exit nearest your work or home."

The object of the commissioners is to anticipate the commuter's route and put roadblocks in his path so he has to turn around and take another street.

If a commuter draws a "one block" card on his turn, the commissioner tries to set up a project in front of him, so that on his next turn the commuter has to back up and try another route.

When a commuter approaches a railroad crossing, a commissioner can, if he chooses, pass his turn to a railroad engineer who draws a "delay card." Delay cards range from "train blocks roadway for one turn" to as many as six turns.

A commuter can decide to wait for the train to pass or he can turn around and try a different route. But if the commuter gets blocked by a train, a wily commissioner can play a project card behind him and block his escape route.

The game is won by the first commuter to return home or by the commissioner who sets up a road project that blocks the commuter in completely.

Come to think of it, this would make a good "travel game." You could play it in the car while you're stuck in traffic.

Jack Gladden is a copy editor for The Observer Newspapers. He lives in Canton Township.

New look for 'A-May-Zing' mom

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

She admits she could get use to the "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous" — having someone to do her hair, give her a manicure, pedicure and facial and even apply her makeup.

"I could get use to this lifestyle," said Donna Mallard, while nail tech Theresa finished her pedicure at Gerald's Salon in Northville. "I've never had a day with nothing to do."

"I've never had a pedicure before; it's just great."

"I'm glad you're enjoying it," responded salon owner Gerald Haynes, who was waiting in the wings to style her hair. "I've been thinking about the cut, but she has final approval."

The Garden City resident was treated to the works at the salon, some seven hours of pampering after being selected as the winner of The Observer's recent A-May-Zing Mom contest.

Her day started with a facial and waxing by skin care specialist Sarah, who also did her makeup, the manicure and pedicure before Haynes began cutting and styling her blond hair.

His plan for her "small (fine) hair" was to do a blunt cut to jaw bone level.

"I want to get it as short as I can and tie in the layers," Haynes said. "She needs a lot of body. The coloring will help. It swells the hair and gives it more body. It makes it easier for her to work with."

The Garden City resident also received a \$50 gift certificate from Fonte D'Amore restaurant in Livonia that she and husband Chuck will use to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary, and \$200 in clothing from Bon Loot in Northville.

Her Bon Loot selection included two skirts, a Wind River butterfly dress, Van Saken sweater and a pair French Dressing jeans, a popular item at the store.

"They come in different colors and are nice-fitting," said manager Becky Lavine. "They're comfortable, have a light stretch and fit well and we have a waiting list for them."

"I wanted something to wear to work," said Mallard, who works in men's fragrances at J.L. Hudson's store at Westland Center. "I have to wear a blazer, so I'll get a lot of use out of them."

Daughter's tribute

Mallard was nominated by her oldest daughter, Jennifer Zylla, who lauded her mother for still finding time to "love us individually, applaud our accomplishments, debate our quarrels, encourage our dreams" after her then 13-year-old son Chuck was paralyzed in a diving accident.

She knew of her daughter's intentions and became misty eyed hearing what she wrote.

"She said she was going to nominate me and gave me a really brief idea of what she was going to write," Mallard said. "I thought it was the nicest gesture, even if nothing came of it; I thought it was the nicest thing to do."

All the Mallard children — in addition to Chuck

and Jennifer, there's Lori and Julie who just graduated from high school — were still living at home when Chuck broke his neck while surface diving into a four-foot-deep pool with friends.

The spinal cord was compressed by the break but not severed, and initially Chuck could not move at all. But the injury, like that suffered by Detroit Lions player Mike Utley, eventually left Chuck a quadriplegic with some movement in his arms.

Initially rushed to Garden City Hospital, he was transferred to Henry Ford Hospital where he stayed for three weeks before being moved to Children's Hospital for a six-month stay.

Making it work

The Mallards worked around work schedules to be at the hospital every day. The girls keep things in order on the home front.

"It was difficult in the beginning, quite a challenge, but everybody helped a lot," Mallard recalled. "If it hadn't been for the kids being here ... they were our support system. They kept things neat and cleaned and able to take on responsibilities around the house."

The Mallards didn't let Chuck's injuries interfere with family life. School activities — both Jennifer and Lori were on the pom-pom squads — and beauty pageants — Lori was in several — family vacations, two weddings ... the family did it.

Thanks to a wish granted by Rainbow Connection, the family enjoyed a trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, giving them a chance to regroup.

"It helped to maintain the same lifestyle," Mallard said. "And it helped him. He didn't get the chance to sit there. It encouraged him to carry on."

'Thinking About College' is open to everyone but designed primarily for women age 30 and older.

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

When it comes college, sometimes just thinking about it is the first giant step — particularly for people who have been out of school a decade or more.

To help alleviate fears associated with that first giant step, the Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College presents "Thinking About College" 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, July 29, in room MC200 of the McDowell Center. Schoolcraft College is on the east side of Haggerty Road south of Seyen Mile.

The orientation costs \$5 and includes lunch. Reservations are necessary. Mail checks to: Women's Resource Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia 48152.

Topics to be discussed include getting started,

finances, choosing a college path and time management.

"Thinking About College" is open to everyone but designed primarily for women age 30 and older. Topics designed for this age group examine questions about age, keeping up, improving career prospects and finding time for study.

The program was started by Jan Munday, who, like many women, grappled with questions about whether returning to college was the right thing to do. She began attending Schoolcraft in 1979 and has

since graduated from Eastern Michigan University. She is completing post-graduate work in Boston.

Women's Resource Center Director Nancy Swanborg said many student success stories began with someone attending the "Thinking About College" orientation, which has been offered for about 15 years.

"It's an excellent program," Swanborg said. "The evaluations are always very positive, and it's a great way to meet people."

Meeting people is one of the most important aspects of college, especially for those who haven't set foot inside a classroom for years, she added.

"Having a buddy is often really helpful," Swanborg said.

For more information about "Thinking About College," call (734) 462-4443.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

At the end: More than seven hours after she entered Gerald's Salon in Northville, Donna Mallard walked out with a new look and wearing her new dress, just a few of the prizes she received for winning The Observer's A-May-Zing Mom contest. Joining her was her daughter, Jennifer Zylla, who nominated her mother for the honor.



Finishing touch: A skin care specialist applies lip color in the final stages of Mallard's makeover.

"We didn't want to neglect their needs, even though Chuck was our main priority."

A man of few words — "That's why Jennifer wrote the letter." — Chuck says his mother is his inspiration. Describing her as a caring person, he said he wants to live his life "the way she lives hers."

"She always has fun and does fun stuff," he said. "And her 'mom jokes' ... you can always tell when she starts, if it's a mom joke."



Chit-chat: Mother and daughter share a "quiet" moment while waiting for Mallard's hair to dry.



Snip, snip: With the manicure, pedicure and facial complete, it was salon owner and stylist Gerald Haynes turn to cut Mallard's blond tresses.

Schoolcraft program helps college-bound women

Catholics plan statewide computer link

The Michigan Catholic Conference will use today's technology during the early years of the Third Millennium to further the mission of the church, founded by Christ nearly 2,000 years ago. "Within five years, we will link every one of the more than 1,000 Catholic parishes, schools, social services agencies, hospitals and other institutions throughout Michigan to a statewide computer network that will make it possible to deliver accurate, timely communications with each of them instantaneously," said Sister Monica Kostielney, MCC

president and CEO.

Founded in 1963, the MCC is the public policy arm of the Catholic Church in Michigan.

"Michigan's seven Catholic dioceses are now linked by computer, and many parishes, schools, and other institutions within each diocese have Internet capabilities," she said. "We hope to have everyone on line by 2003."

Nancy Kranich, manager of administrative services, and Ken Caron, wide area network manager, will implement plans for the statewide information network.

Kranich will be responsible for developing major new applications, including an interactive Web site and data base, and will oversee computer operations at MCC's Lansing offices.

Kranich was a programmer analyst and operations manager for several manufacturing, medical, insurance, banking and retail firms in Grand Rapids and Lansing before joining the MCC staff in 1989.

A business administration major at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Kranich also has an associate degree from Grand Rapids Community College and has taught data processing and programming at Lansing Community College.

Caron, until recently director of information at Lansing's largest law firm, will administer the MCC Areopagus Network activities. The network will connect more than 1,000 Catholic churches and other institutions throughout Michigan's 83 counties.

MCC's computer network is named after the rocky hillside in Athens where St. Paul stood in the year 55 and revealed the Resurrection to the Greek high court. The Areopagus was a place for hearing voices and sharing ideas, and St. Paul used its open forum to fulfill his calling as an apostle.

Prior to his employment with Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, Caron was a computer network administrator and personal computer specialist with the Alro Group in Jackson and a paramedic firefighter with the Delta Township Fire Department. He also served as the fire department's computer administrator.

RELIGIOUS NEWS

Listings for the Religious News should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2131.

RUMMAGE SALE

St. James Presbyterian Church will have a rummage sale 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, July 9, and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 10, at the church, 25350 W. Six Mile Road, Redford. For more information, call (313) 534-7730.

FLEA MARKET

Vendors are needed for a flea market 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 10, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, Wayne at Hunter in Westland. Space costs \$20. Applications are available by calling Ray or Jackie Gagnon at (734) 722-7225.

WOMEN'S AGLOW

Women are invited to bring a Bible, pen and paper to hear a talk by Penni Schwendemann, president of Canton/Westland Chapter of Women's Aglow, 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 10, in the Community Room of Auto Nation, 39600 Ford Road in Canton. Refreshments will be served at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call Schwendemann at (734) 261-5268.

SINGLE POINT

Single Point Ministries of Ward Presbyterian Church will host a summer divorce recovery workshop 7-8:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 12-16, and 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 17, at the church. The cost is \$25 in advance or \$30 for those who register the first night and \$15

for those who are repeating the workshop and have the books. Free child care will be provided. The ministry also has volleyball at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Rotary Park in Livonia, a Lighthouse Cafe (coffee house) that meets 7-9:30 p.m. in Knox Hall the fourth Friday of the month (cost is \$5), outdoor tennis 4:30 p.m. until dark Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 1 Saturdays and 1-5 p.m. Sundays at Rotary Park and biking to various locations at 10 a.m. Saturdays at the church. For more information, call (248) 374-5920.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other July 16-18 and Sept. 24-26 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile, Plymouth Township. The registration fee is \$50. Call Bill and Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan and Debbie at (810) 286-5524 or visit this Web site: www.rc.net/detroit/wwme.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Charli Johnston will discuss "Healing through Journaling" when New Beginnings, a grief support group, meets at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 5, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, east of Merriman, Livonia. The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one. There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. For more information, call the church office at (734) 422-6038.

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 Computer Workstations and Printers. Specifications and Bid Packets will be available for pick-up at the front desk of the E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays. Technical questions should be directed to Jim Casteel, PCCS Director of Integrated Technology, at (734) 416-2708. Sealed bids are due on or before 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 14th, 1999. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and reject all bids, as the judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
ROLAND THOMAS, Secretary

Publish: July 1 and 8, 1999

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR USE SUBJECT TO SPECIAL CONDITIONS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission has received a request from Petre and Tania Gueorguiev, to grant a Use Subject to Special Conditions to allow a 'Gymnastics School with ancillary retail sales, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 83. The subject property is located at 9229 General Drive. The property is located on the west side of General Drive, south of Ann Arbor Road and north of Joy Road. Application No. 1589/0699. Tax I.D. No. 062-01-004-000.

The Planning Commission seeks input to determine if approval of the Use Subject to Special Conditions should be issued under Section 15.2 of Zoning Ordinance No. 83. The land is currently zoned IND, Industrial District.

Questions regarding the request may be directed to the Community Development Department during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Planning Commission will consider the request at its regular meeting on July 21, 1999, commencing at 7:00 p.m. Written comments concerning the request will be received prior to the meeting. The address for application review and for written comment is: Plymouth Charter Township, Community Development Department, 46555 Port Street, Plymouth, MI 48170. Telephone Number 734-453-4372. The meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall. The address for Township Hall is 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

MARCIA SAYES, Secretary
Planning Commission

PLEASE TAKE NOTE. The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township Meetings, to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's office, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number (313) 453-3840, TDD users: 1-800-649-3777 (Michigan Relay Service)

Publish: July 8, 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 Asbestos Abatement for Four PCCS Buildings. Specifications and Bid Forms are available for pick-up at the front desk of the E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, MI between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays. Technical questions should be directed to Brian Goby, PCCS Procurement & Project Analysis Coordinator, at (734) 416-2953. Sealed bids are due on or before 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 14th, 1999. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and reject all bids, as the judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
ROLAND THOMAS, Secretary

Publish: July 1 and 8, 1999

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 1999

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 1999 at 7:00 P.M., in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall to consider the following:

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

AMENDMENT TO THE SIGN ORDINANCE

In accordance with the Americans with disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Carol Stone, ADA Coordinator
201 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

All interested persons are invited to attend.

Publish: July 6, 1999

WESTERN TOWNSHIPS UTILITIES AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS

4:00 P.M., MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1999

Regular meeting called to order at 4:12 p.m.

Present: Thomas Yack, Karen Woodside, Kathleen A. Keen-McCarthy.

Agenda-adopted.

Minutes of regular meeting of May 24, 1999-approved.

Minutes of study session of June 15, 1999-approved.

Schedule of operating expenses totaling \$714,347.57-approved.

Operations & Maintenance Report for May, 1999-received and filed.

Operations Manager's Report for June, 1999-received and filed.

Request To Advertise For Bids; Portable Manlift-approved.

Award of Contract; Financial Advisor-contract awarded to Bendzinski & Company of Detroit, Michigan.

Flow Meter Maintenance Contract Revision; Martin Control Services-approved.

Request To Advertise For Bids; Phase 3(A)-Sewer Cleaning & CCTV Inspection-approved.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

THOMAS J. YACK
Chairman

This is a synopsis. A complete copy of the minutes may be reviewed at the WTUA offices located at 40995 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187.

Publish: July 8, 1999

Urgent Care when you need it

The recently opened Henry Ford Medical Centers in Plymouth & Canton offer urgent care services. Both centers offer walk-in urgent care for the pediatric and adult patient. So if you are suffering from a sore throat, have a minor cut or an ear infection, come see us. Our urgent care physicians can treat many kinds of minor accidents and illnesses.

Urgent Care Hours

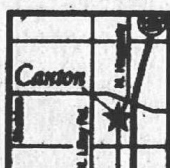
Plymouth
44300 Beck Rd.
• Monday through Friday
7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
• Weekends and Holidays
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Canton
6100 Haggerty Rd.
• Sunday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

For more information or to make an appointment, please call:
Canton (734) 981-3200,
Plymouth (784) 453-5600.



M-14 and Beck



Haggerty between Ford and Warren

Expect more from your medical center.
www.henryfordhealth.org

ANCIENT GOLD

The Wealth of the Thracians

TREASURES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Now through August 29

THE DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

A major exhibition of over 200 brilliant gold & silver objects, recently excavated in Bulgaria from 15 royal Thracian sites, dating from 4000 BC to 200 AD.

Tickets at the DIA box office: 313/833-4005
Free tickets for DIA members
5200 Woodward Ave. www.dia.org

MERITOR

The exhibition is organized by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria & The Trust for Museum Exhibitions. It is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities. In Detroit the exhibition is made possible by a generous grant from Meritor Automotive, Inc. Additional support is provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the City of Detroit.

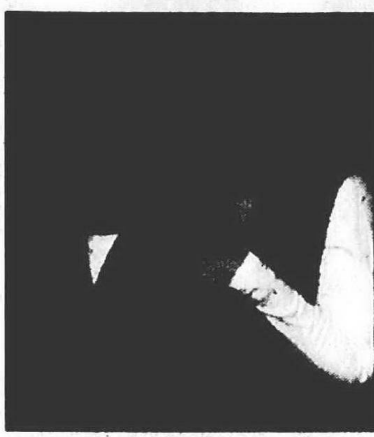
WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Wick-Wiesner

Alice Wick of Bloomfield Hills announces the engagement of her daughter, Lisa Gail, to John Paul Wiesner, son of Greta Wiesner of Redford. Lisa is also the daughter of the late Charles Wick, and John is also the son of the late Ken Wiesner.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Groves High School and Central Michigan University. She is employed in child care.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Thurston High School, and attended Schoolcraft College. He is employed with Novi Industries.



An August wedding is planned.

Garza-Nichols

Jose and Christine Garza of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Michelle Ann, to John Michael Nichols, the son of Sharon Nichols and James and Sally Nichols of South Carolina.

The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of John Glenn High School. She is employed as a flight attendant, based in Detroit.

Her fiancé is a 1993 graduate of Jefferson High School. He is employed by the Ford Motor Co. in Wayne.

A May wedding is planned at Christ Our Savior Lutheran



Church in Livonia.

Williams-Moss

Ed and Carol Williams of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Rebecca Lee, to Todd Michael Moss of Garden City, the son of Martha Moss of Dearborn Heights and the late Chet Moss.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Central Michigan University. She is employed as an information technology consultant at Stopka and Associates.

Her fiancé is a graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn and has completed his master of business administration degree program at Wayne State University. A lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve, he



is a supervisor at Blue Cross Blue Shield.

A January wedding is planned at Faith Baptist Church in Dearborn Heights.

Korpi-Willard

Al and Marlene Korpi of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Amy Elizabeth, to Jeffrey Alan Willard of Northville, the son of Robert and Florence Willard of Bay City.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Michigan State University. She is a teacher with the Northville Public Schools.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Saginaw Valley State University. He is employed as a compute programmer.

A September wedding is planned at St. Maria Goretti Church in Bay City.



Lark-Totosz

Dennis and Carol Lark of Dearborn announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa, to Michael Totosz, the son of John Totosz of Farmington Hills and Kathryn Sutton of Alvin, Texas.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Edsel Ford High School and a 1997 graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a bachelor's degree in communications. She is an assistant account executive in corporate marketing at Campbell & Co.

Her fiancé is a 1989 graduate of Shrine Royal Oak High School and a 1996 graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a bachelor's degree in history. He works as a tax consultant



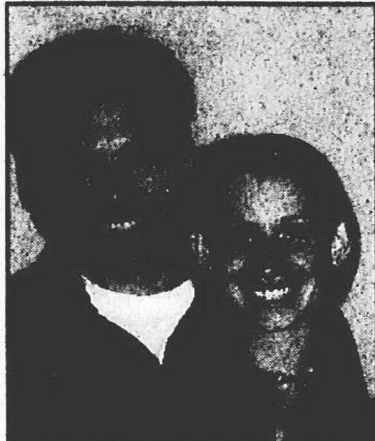
for PriceWaterhouseCoopers. A September wedding is planned at the chapel of the Masonic Temple in Detroit.

Oswandel-Stelmaszek

Kenneth and Virginia Oswandel of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristin, to Michael J. Stelmaszek, the son of David and Nancy Stelmaszek of Ferndale.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and 1998 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor of fine arts degree. She is employed as a graphic designer by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

Her fiancé is a 1998 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School and a 1992 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor of arts degree. He is employed as a copywriter by



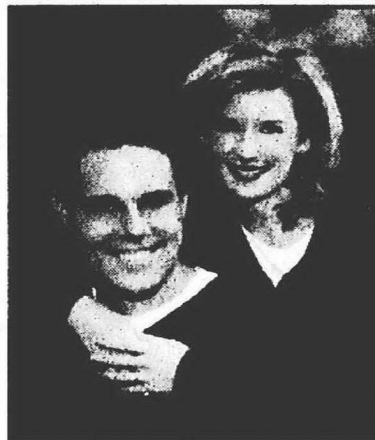
Solomon-Friedman. An August wedding is planned at Mercy Center's Mother of Mercy Chapel in Farmington Hills.

Mulholland-Klotz

James and Phyllis Mulholland of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Amy Suzanne, to David Michael Klotz, the son of Herbert and Mary Klotz Jr.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Divine Child High School and a 1996 graduate of Central Michigan University with a bachelor's degree. She is works in the human resources department at Community EMS in Southfield.

Her fiancé is a 1990 graduate of Bishop Foley High School and a 1995 graduate of GMI-EMI with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. He is employed at General Motors



Flint Truck Assembly Plant. An August wedding is planned at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Rochester.

Yoakam-Seltz

Ruth McCarthy of Livonia and Thomas Yoakam of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Ruth, to Mark Seltz, the son of Allen and Lois Seltz of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a 1994 graduate of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills. She is currently a student at Madonna University in Livonia and works in Southfield.

Her fiancé is a 1989 graduate of Monroe High School and a 1993 graduate of Michigan State University. He is currently a graduate student at Eastern Michigan University and is employed as a buyer at Whedco Inc. in Ann Arbor.



An August wedding is planned at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia.

Ellsworth-Zawacki

Lois and Bill Woodroe of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Ellsworth, to David Zawacki, the son of Rosemarie and Terry Zawacki of Libertyville, Ill.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 graduate of Northville High School and a graduate of Western Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in secondary education. She is a substitute teacher for Novi Public Schools.

Her fiancé is a 1992 graduate of Lake Forest High School in Illinois and a graduate of Western Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in aviation. He is employed with Gateway Computers.



A September wedding is planned at St. Michael Catholic Church in Livonia.

D'Ortenzio-McGuire

Jerry and Renee D'Ortenzio of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Dannon, to Daniel McGuire Jr., the son of Daniel and Rita McGuire of Plymouth and Nancy and Ted Nelson of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a senior, majoring in elementary education at Eastern Michigan University. She is currently working for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools in the Kids' Time Program.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Michigan State University. He is employed as the parks and recreation supervisor by the City of Northville.



An August wedding is planned for St. Robert Bellarmine Church in Redford.

Read Taste on Sunday

Warren's 19th Annual Art in the Park
120 Artists from Around the Country
Hourly Drawings - Win \$20 Gift Certificates
Food/Entertainment - All Ages
July 10 & 11 (Sat. & Sun.)
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Halmich Park
West of Ross on 13 Mile Rd. For info, call (810) 977-1857

BALLOONS RIDES 7 Days A Week
"The Ultimate Adventure" Also the Ultimate Gift
248-634-9400
Children's Miracle Network
Seven Lakes State Park
Balloon Race
July 23, 24 and 25, 1999

This summer there is so much going on it's hard to decide what to & where to go! That's why the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers has put together this special directory to make it easier.....
For more information about advertising please call
Rich: 734-953-2069

Camp Corner Directory

Every Summer thousands of children look forward to camp...

....Give them the opportunity to experience yours with an advertisement in our 1999 Summer Camp Corner.

For information contact Rich : 734-953-2069

GIBSON'S SUMMER ENRICHMENT CLASSES

July 12-16 or July 19-23 Ages 4 to 15

Call (313) 537-9289 or 537-8688 Redford, Michigan

FIRST & GOAL Youth Football Camp

July 10-11 9am-3pm

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY Presented By: Suburban Youth Football Conference Open to Grades 3-8 (248) 375-1388

S.L.A.M! Girls' Sports Camps '99

Presented in cooperation with The City of Southfield Parks and Recreation Department

July 12-16 • 9am to 3pm
Beech Woods Recreational Facility
9 Mile and Beech Road, Southfield
Open to All Girls ages 8-14

Offering: Volleyball, Basketball, Soccer, Softball, Stretching, Weight Training and Nutritional Guidance Counseling
Guest Speakers on topics specific to Women's Sports

Only \$75.00 Call Today (248) 884-9971

Proudly Sponsored by: Big Boy Restaurants and Merchant of Yoo/Whole Foods, Inc.

It's Strong! Premium Linked Account

- Premium Rate Certificate of Deposit
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Get premium rates on our newest investment choice of 1999. And when your CD matures, the balance will automatically move to your linked Money Market account. You don't even have to come in. Keep all or part of it in the Money Market or reinvest in another CD — whenever you want to. It couldn't be easier. Your investment couldn't be safer.

5.30% APY 12-month Premium Linked CD

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Branch offices throughout metropolitan Detroit, Otsego, Kalamazoo, Oshtemo, Durand, Chesaning, Okemos and Kentwood.
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*The minimum deposit to open the CD is \$10,000, which must be maintained to obtain the Annual Percentage Yield (APY). The minimum to open a Money Market account is \$2,000, but to obtain the above Money Market APY, the minimum of \$10,000 must be maintained. APY on balances between \$2,000 - \$9,999 is 2.75%. The Money Market account must remain open for the entire term of the CD. Interest earned on the CD will be credited and automatically transferred to the Money Market quarterly. Principal will be transferred at maturity. Money Market interest is variable and is credited monthly. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal of CD. Brokered and retirement accounts not eligible. Fees may affect earnings. This offer subject to change without notice. APYs effective as of July 1, 1999.

CALENDAR

WEEKEND

FAMILY CAMP OUT

■ Canton Parks and Recreation Services and Media One are sponsoring a family Camp Out and Movie Night featuring "George of the Jungle." Tent set-up begins at noon on Friday, July 16, and tents must be down by noon the next day. There is no fee if campers pre-register by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 14. After July 14 there is a \$10 fee. For more information or to register call Canton Parks and Recreation at (734) 397-5110.

SUMMER BIRD HIKES

■ Maybury State Park in Northville Township hosts bird identification hikes throughout the year. The next hike will take place at 8 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 14, at the riding stable parking area on Beck Rd., 1/4 mile south of Eight Mile Rd. These hikes provide a chance to observe bird species seen in the park, and record dates, locations and trends from year to year. Each hike lasts one to two hours. The hikes are open to all, regardless of birding experience. Dress for the weather and bring along binoculars if you have them. For more information, call the park office at (248) 349-8390.

BEANIE BABY SHOW

■ The Plymouth "All Beanie Baby Show" returns from 11 a.m. through 3 p.m., Sunday, July 11 during the City of Plymouth's "Art in the Park." The show is being held at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for kids 4-12 years old. Vendors and collectors will be selling current and retired Beanie Babies and their accessories. For more information, call (734) 455-2110.

FARMER'S MARKET

■ The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce will sponsor Plymouth's Farmers Market. 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturdays through Oct. 23, with the exception of Sept. 11. The market features fresh produce, dairy and cheese products, baked goods, flowers and plants, fresh herbs, dried flowers, crafts and seasonal items. Coffee and lemonade will be available. The outdoor market is held under the Gathering, across from Kellogg Park next to the Penn Theater in downtown Plymouth. Call (734) 453-1540.

CREEPLY CRAWLIES

■ Maybury State Park will host a special hike for children and their families 11 a.m. Saturday, July 17. The program, Creeple Crawlies, will feature insects and other small creatures. Learn about these small but interesting animals through activities and a guided hike. Meet at the Farm Demonstration Building, Maybury State Park is located on Eight Mile, one mile west of Beck in Northville Township. The program is free; however, a state park

motor vehicle permit is required for entry. Call the park office for more details at (248)349-8390.

AROUND TOWN

SENIOR HEALTH LECTURE

■ Saint Joseph Mercy Health System and Dr. Bharate Srivastava will present a series of free lectures devoted to seniors and their health. The next lecture will be held from 1 to 2 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 11 at Canton's Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway. The topic will be health issues of women, including osteoporosis, breast cancer, uterine cancer and nutrition and exercise. For more information, please call (734) 397-5444.

RAGTIME CONCERT

■ The Fine Arts Series of First Presbyterian Church of Northville is presenting pianist Bob Milne 7 p.m. Sunday July 11 in the church's sanctuary. The concert is titled "An Evening of Ragtime," and features familiar tunes along with stories about their composers and the history of the songs. Tickets are \$10 adult (\$12 at the door) and \$35 family (\$40 at the door). Please call the church office at (248) 349-0911 for information.

JUNIOR GOLF LESSONS

■ Canton Parks and Recreation Services is sponsoring a series of golf lessons for youths ages 7 to 18. Classes will be assigned by age groups and skill levels. The lesson fee, \$50, includes instruction from PGA professionals, range balls, Parks and Recreation/Pheasant Run T-shirt and a certificate of completion. Classes are July 14, 15, 21 and 22.

CRANBROOK DINNER

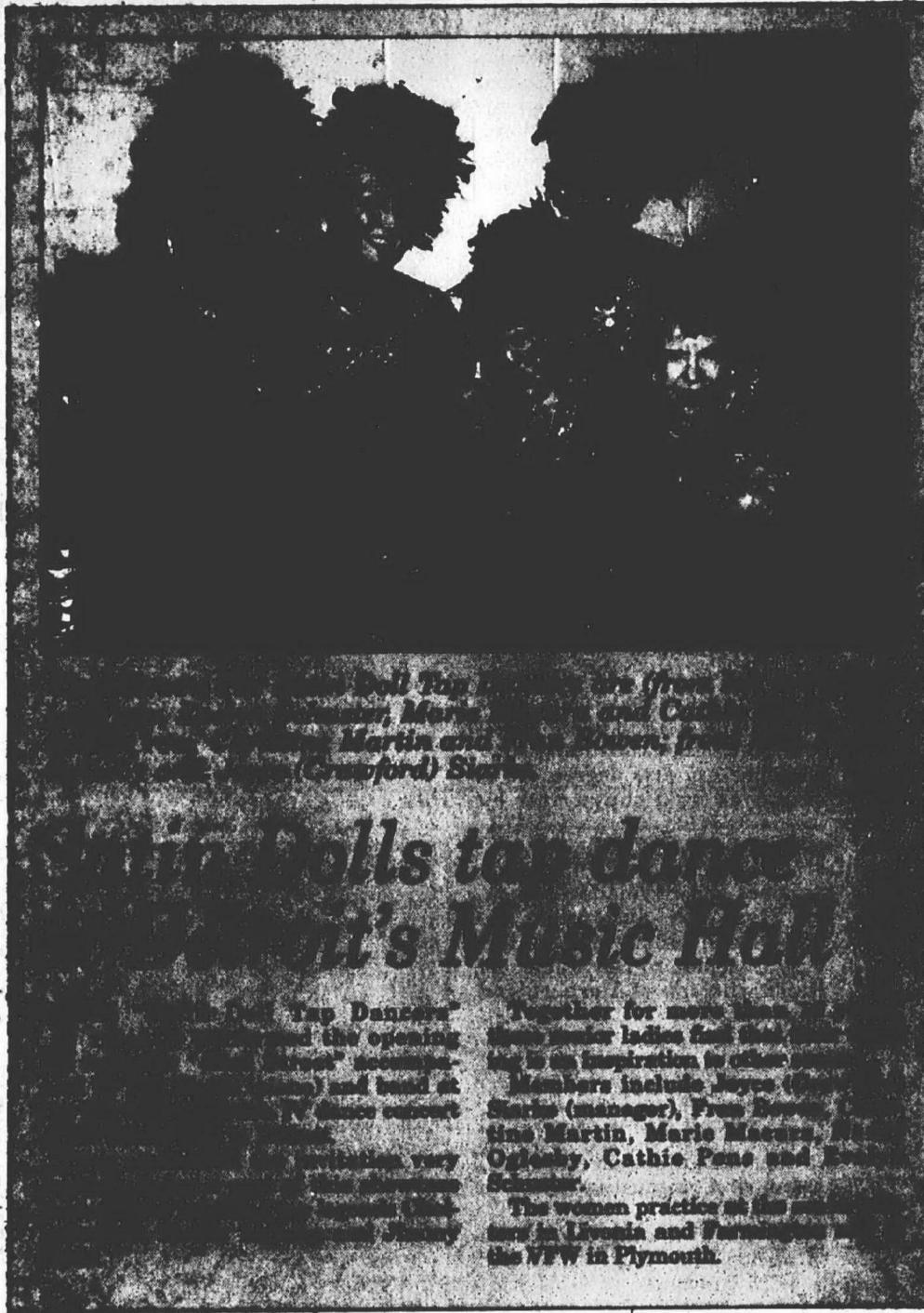
■ An elegant evening of music and dinner to benefit Cranbrook House and Gardens is set for 6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 6. Cranbrook House and Gardens is at 380 Lone Pine, Bloomfield Hills. There is free parking at Christ Church, directly across Lone Pine with free shuttle service provided. In case of rain, many rooms of Cranbrook House will be open. For tickets, call (248) 645-3147.

SUMMER GRAIN HARVEST

■ The annual Summer Grain Harvest at Maybury Farm will take place at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 24. Learn how small grains and corn were harvested and processed in the past through demonstrations and hands on activities. All activities take place in the Farm Demonstration Building.

HUNTER'S SAFETY

■ From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Aug. 7 and 8 the Canton Public Safety Department and Summit on the Park will be offering the second annual Hunter's Safety Course. All participants must be at least 12 years of age. Students will be asked to show proof of age before class. A Social Security number will also be required at the time of reg-



istration. Check-in will start at 8:30 a.m. and class will start promptly at 9 a.m. A parent/guardian meeting will be held prior to class. Bring a sack lunch and a drink. The class is held at Summit on the Park-Professional Development Center. The fee is \$20 resident/ \$25 nonresident. For further information call (734) 397-5110.

SINGLES DANCES

■ Dances are held from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. every Friday at Burton Manor in Livonia (Schoolcraft west of Inkster) Admission is \$4 before 8:30 p.m. and \$6 after. The dances are for 21 and over, no jeans please. For more information call, (734) 981-0909.

WALK IN THE PARK

■ Single Place Ministries

of First Presbyterian Church of Northville holds a walk in Heritage Park 10 a.m. every Saturday. The park is between 10 and 11 Mile, on Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. For information, call (248) 349-0911.

FLEA MARKET

■ The Canton Historical Society will host its annual Flea Market on the grounds of historic Cherry Hill School 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 7. The school is at the corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge Roads. A 10-by-10-foot space for vendors is \$15. Vendors must provide their own tables and chairs. The Society will be selling donated items inside the school. Donated items can be brought to the school from noon to 4 p.m. Friday,

Aug. 6. For information call 981-1475.

TECHNO MASTERS CAMP

■ Day camp is held 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 26-30 at West Middle School for grades K-8. The cost is \$175, and students must bring a lunch. Call (734) 416-4927.

CAMP BORDERS

■ Camp Borders is a free 10-week program for children 7-12 years old. All metro area Borders Stores will offer a variety of educational and cultural events every Thursday at 7 p.m.

CAMP INVENTION

■ A one-week science and creativity day camp is held at Isbister School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 2-6. The camp is for grades 2-6 and costs \$180. Call (800) 968-IDEA.

ADOPT A DUCK

■ The first-ever Great Canton Duck Derby is fast approaching. Participants can "adopt" ducks for the Friday, Aug. 13, event at Heritage Park. Adopt ducks at locations around the township including the parks and recreation office at the Summit and at other summer events such as concerts in the park. Cost is \$2 for one duck; \$5 for three ducks; or \$11 for seven ducks. Each duck will be entered in the derby and eligible to win prizes including round-trip airline tickets, autographed sports memorabilia, a \$1,000 savings bond, camcorders, gift certificates and other items. For information, call the parks and recreation office, (734) 397-5110.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

■ The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce wants to remind you it offers a 24-hour hotline of events and "What's Happening" in Plymouth. Call (734) 453-1540 and touch one for Calendar of Events.

GARDEN WALK

■ The Sixth Annual Garden walk-The Gardens of Northville will be held Wednesday, July 14 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased from gardenviews (202 Main.) and the Northville Chamber of Commerce (199 Main). For more information call (248)348-3263.

CRAFTERS NEEDED

■ Madonna University is accepting applications from crafters for its 15th annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Showcase to be held from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, November 6 and 7, in the Activities Center on campus. Booth space measuring 9-by-6-feet with two chairs and one 6- or 8-foot table is available for \$50 for either Saturday or Sunday or \$90 for both days. Booths with electricity are an extra \$5. For information, call (734) 432-5603.

REGISTRATION

■ Garfield Co-op has openings for children 18 months to 5 years. Garfield Co-op is in Livonia, at Cass Elementary, 34633 Munger, south of Six Mile and west of Farmington Road. Call (734) 462-0135.

■ Suburban Children's Cop Nursery has openings now in all classes for 18 months through five years of age. Located in Livonia bordering Canton, Plymouth and Westland. Call April at (734) 522-8469.

SUPPORT GROUPS

CAMP MONARCH

■ The "My Nest is Best" pediatric program at Angela Hospice is sponsoring a family-oriented weekend camp. Camp Monarch is a bereavement camp designed for young people and their caregivers who have experienced the loss of a loved one. The camp begins at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 13 and ends noon Aug. 15. The cost of \$75 per family

includes housing, meals, and activities for the weekend; however, Camp Monarch is open to every family regardless of their ability to pay. For information call (734) 464-7810.

STARTING OVER

■ Starting Over is a group for widowed men and women younger than 45. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of the month at Plymouth Church of Christ. Call (734) 662-5999.

ARBOR HOSPICE

■ Arbor Hospice sponsors grief support programs open to the public. If you would like more information or would like to sign up, call (734) 662-5999.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS

■ Community Hospice and Home Care Services has a drop-in grief-support group that meets 6:30-8 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month. Call Becky Rouse at (734) 522-4244.

DIVORCECARE

■ DivorceCare recovery seminar and support group meets 7 p.m. at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon in Canton. Child care is provided through fifth grade. DivorceCare features experts on divorce and recovery. Seminar sessions include facing anger, facing loneliness, depression, new relationships, KidCare and forgiveness. There is a one-time registration fee of \$10. Call Bernice at (734) 459-3333.

COUNTERPOINT

■ Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people age 10-17 and their families. Call (734) 563-5005.

ANGELA HOSPICE

■ Angela Hospice offers free monthly grief support groups for people who have experienced the loss of a loved one. All groups meet at the Angela Hospice Care Center in Livonia. For meeting dates and times, call Ruth Favor, (734) 464-7810.

VOLUNTEER WORK

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

■ Plymouth-Canton Head Start, in Central Middle School, is looking for volunteers to help in the classroom with large-group activities, assist children during recess, participate in the Learning Centers and assist during meal times. If you have a morning or afternoon free, Monday through Thursday, call 416-6196.

■ Hospices of Henry Ford Health System needs volunteers in Canton and Plymouth. Volunteers can help by visiting patients, either at their home or a nursing home, to offer emotional support, companionship and comfort. Call (313) 582-2382.

■ William Beaumont Hospital Hospice is looking for volunteers to support the care of people with terminal illness and their families. Call (248) 853-8931.

The Plymouth Observer welcomes Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Plymouth Observer, 794 South Main Street, Plymouth, MI. 48170, or by fax to 734-459-4224. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 469-2700 if you have any questions.

Event: _____

Date and Time: _____

Location: _____

Telephone: _____

Additional info.: _____

Use additional sheet if necessary

CAMPUS NOTES

To submit your academic honor or graduation announcement to Campus Notes, send the material, printed or typewritten to: Campus Notes, Plymouth-Canton Observer, 794 S. Main, Plymouth, Mich. 48170

WNU GRADUATES

A total of 2,509 students received degrees from Western Michigan University in April. Graduates from Canton include: Molly LaPorte, Michele Pilotto, and Heidi Richardson. Graduates from Plymouth include: Christina Coletta, Heather Daniels, Todd Piwowar, and Matthew Shear.

NORTHWOOD GRADUATES

Northwood University granted 47 degrees to the fifth graduating class of the Executive MBA program on May 15. Among them were Robert William Lehr II of Canton and Pamela Wong of Plymouth.

ALBION GRADUATES

Scott E. Salla of Plymouth and William B. Lamborn of Canton recently graduated with bachelor of arts degrees from Albion College. Brandon M. Sullivan of Northville and Daniel P. Kogut of Canton both graduated cum laude from Albion by maintaining a grade point average between 3.4 and 3.6. Clair E. Walton of Ply-

mouth graduated magna cum laude from Albion's honors program with a bachelor of arts degree in biology and theater. She also received the Beulah G. Champ Award in drama.

MSU VETERINARY AWARD

MSU veterinary student Amy Wildrose received the Cardiology Award at the College of Veterinary Medicine's annual honors banquet. Wildrose is a 1998 graduate of Canton High School.

ADRIAN DEAN'S LIST

Jamie C. Johnson of Plymouth, an Adrian College freshman planning a major in music, was named to the 1999 spring semester dean's list. To

achieve this honor a student must maintain a grade point average of 3.5. Johnson is a 1998 graduate of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills.

LAWRENCE TECH SCHOLARSHIPS

Brooke Brennan and Theodore Trainor, both of Canton earned scholarships to Lawrence Technological University.

LAWRENCE TECH HONOR ROLL

Thomas M. Burke of Plymouth has been named to the dean's honor roll at Lawrence Technological University. To be named to the honor roll a student must maintain at least a 3.5 GPA.

Seedlings provides summer reading for visually impaired

Visually impaired children in the metropolitan area are being treated to a summer reading program, thanks to Seedlings Braille Books for Children of Livonia and a grant from the Community Foundation of Southeastern Michigan.

Paula Korelitz and Jan Hankins, who both serve in Seedlings Board of Directors as part of the "Keep Kids in Touch" program, delivered the books to visually impaired students in a seven-county area.

Among the stops the women made were at the visually impaired programs at Hull School, Perrinville Preschool and Churchill High School.

Hankins, a Farmington Hills resident, began tutoring visually impaired students at Hull School in Livonia at the suggestion of Sue Ward, a third-

Paula Korelitz and Jan Hankins, who both serve in Seedlings Board of Directors as part of the "Keep Kids in Touch" program, delivered the books to visually impaired students in a seven-county area.

grade teacher at Hull and fellow Farmington Hills resident.

At Hull, Ward and Hankins shared "The Tenth Good Thing About Barney" with Ward's students Tiffany Taylor of Westland and Colin Beck and Ted Makos, both of Livonia.

Hull student and Westland resident

Sheena Hudson received "God, I've Gotta Talk to You" and "M and M and the Bad News Bears," while Autumn Marsh of Livonia was delighted with her print and braille book, "Tight Times" by Barbara Shook Hazen.

For Hankins, an alumna of Delta Gamma fraternity, well-known for its emphasis on community involvement and service for the visually impaired, it was a "Kodak moment" when she delivered "Keep Kids in Touch" books in the visually impaired classroom at Churchill High School.

One of the students, Jason Lippford of Romulus, recognized her voice as that of his classroom tutor eight years earlier.

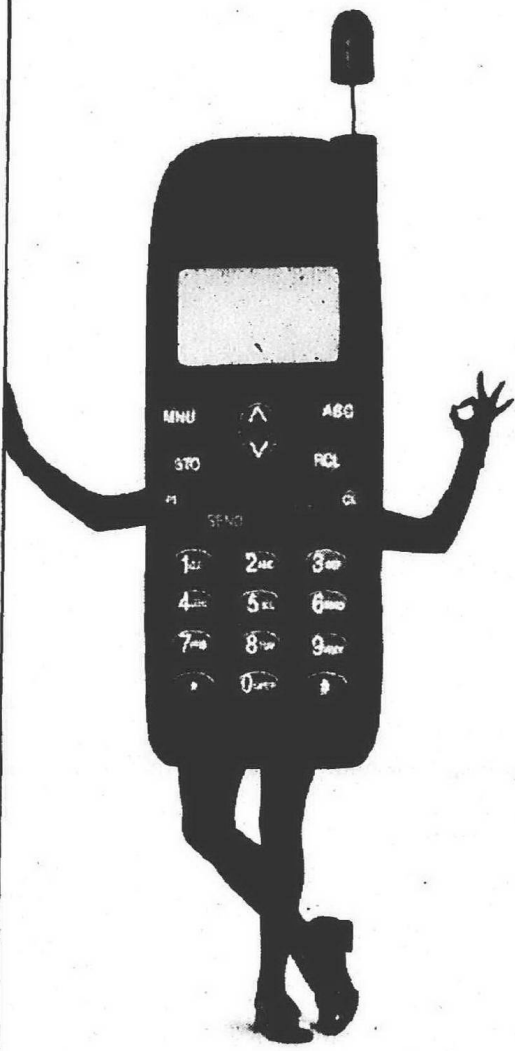
He threw his arms around her in welcome and with tears in her eyes,

Please see SEEDLINGS, B6



Reunited: At one high school, Jan Hankins was reunited with Jason Lippford of Romulus, the elementary student she had tutored at Hull School in Livonia eight years ago.

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- Assessment strategies
- Writing across the curriculum
- 7 habits of highly effective people
- Career-focused high schools
- K-12 science & math strategies to increase learning & MEAP scores
- Flexible scheduling for middle and high schools
- Grant writing

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Dr. Willard R. Daggett
"Essential vs. Nice-to-Know"

Dr. Richard Sagor
"Using the Assessment Process to Motivate Students"

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19370 VREELAND ROAD • WOODHAVEN, MI 48183



Dr. Moucheltes AUCTION AT THE GALLERY

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Friday, July 16th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 17th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Monday, July 19th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, July 20th: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, July 21st: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 22nd: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

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Edmund Henry Osthaus (American 1854-1928), oil on canvas, 50" x 35" Sunday #2011
German hand carved ivory figure of an angel, dated 1800, 14" H. #2015
Margaret Dawson (English 1854-1931), oil on canvas, 24" x 30" Sunday #2015

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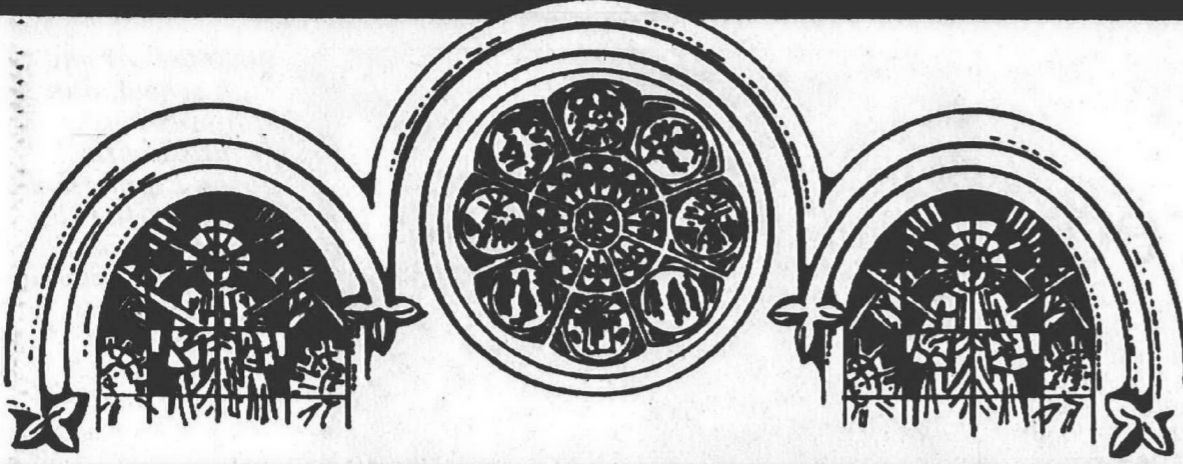
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Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
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 Priest's Phone (810) 784-9511

Mass Schedule:
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 First Sat. 9:30 a.m.
 Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
 Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass

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 Rev. John J. Sullivan

Masses: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 A.M., Sat. 5:00 P.M.
 Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M.
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 48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187
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 Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
 Saturday - 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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SUMMER HOURS:
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 Nursery Care Available
 "The Church You've Always Longed For."



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Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
 Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
 Reading Room - 445 S. Harvey, Plymouth
 Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Thursday 7-9 p.m.
 453-1676

Brightmoor Tabernacle

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 26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI I-696 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn • 248/352-6200

8:45 Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:00 pm "Family Night"

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 6:30 PM - A God Who Laughs and Cries
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 Sunday School 10:45 am
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Saturday Evening 6 p.m.
 Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.
 Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30

Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

Risen Christ Lutheran
 46250 Ann Arbor Road
 (1 Mile West of Sheldon)
 Plymouth • 453-5252

Worship Service 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
 Pastor David Martin
 Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
 9600 Levern • So. Redford • 313-937-2424
 Rev. Lawrence Witto

WORSHIP WITH US - SUMMER SCHEDULE
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
 Thursday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
 Christian School: Kindergarten-8th Grade
 313-937-2233

St. Michael Lutheran Church & School
 3003 Hannon Rd., Wayne (corner of Glenwood & Hannon)
 (734) 728-1950

Sunday Morning Worship Services
 Traditional Services 8 & 11 am
 Contemporary Service 9:30 am
 Sunday School (Children & Adults) 9:30 & 11 am
 Wednesday Night Service 7 pm
 Rev. Dr. Robert J. Schultz Rev. Merle Welhousen

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School
 5885 Venoy
 1 Blk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland 425-0260

Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
 Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
 Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.

Gary D. Headapohl, Administrative Pastor
 Kurt E. Lamken, Assistant Pastor
 Jeff Burke, Principal/D.C.E.

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
 9415 Merriman • Livonia

Sunday Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
 Monday Evening Service 7:30 p.m.
 School Grades • Pre-School • Church & School office:
 (734) 422-6930

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
 25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY
 532-2288 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
 Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
 Nursery Provided

Rev. Victor F. Halbock, Pastor
 Rev. Timothy Halbock, Assoc. Pastor

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
 17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 261-1360

May thru October - Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.
 Sunday School & Bible Classes For All Ages 9:45 a.m.
 Sunday Worship Services 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 Pastor James Hoff
 Pastor Eric Steinbrinner

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 16360 Hubbard Road
 Livonia, Michigan 48154
 421-8451

Mon-Fri. 9:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist
 Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Dinner & Classes
 Saturday 5:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist
 Sunday 7:45 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist
 10:00 A.M. Christian Education for all ages
 Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available
 The Rev. Robert Clapp, Rector

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church & School
 14750 Kinloch • Redford Twp.
 313-532-8655

Worship Services 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
 Thursday 7:30 p.m.
 Grade K thru 6
 Phone for Enrollment Info
 WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

Timothy Lutheran Church
 8620 Wayne Rd.
 (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
 Livonia • 427-2290

Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor
 9:00 a.m. Adult & Children's Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Family Worship

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
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 Sunday Services - 11am and 7pm
 Wednesday Bible Study - 7pm
 Pastor - Kenneth Macleod - tel 313-421-0780

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
 30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
 Chuck Sonquist, Pastor

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 11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes
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 9:30 Lifeline Contemporary Service
 11:00 Traditional Service
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 CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School for All Ages

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor

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 Contemporary Service 8:50-9:45 A.M.
 Evening Service 6:00 P.M. in the Chapel
 Nursery Provided

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 Rev. Janet Noble-Richardson, Pastor
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8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
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 Senior Minister Associate Minister
 Carole MacKay
 Accessible to All Director of Christian Education

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
 (Between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
 (734) 422-0494

Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
 Nursery Care Provided
 We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
 Rev. Richard Prieter, Pastor
 Rev. Ruth Bittington, Associate Pastor
 Visit our Website at <http://www.kenetnet.com/rosegdale>

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 Sunday Memorial Service 10:00 A.M.
 Sunday School 11:30 A.M.
 Bible Class - Wednesdays 7:30 P.M.
 36516 Parkdale, Livonia
 425-7610

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 453-1829

Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
 Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
 Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
 Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
 NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-3196

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
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 474-3444
 Rev. Jean Love

Worship Services 10:15 AM, 6:00 PM
 Nursery Provided
 Sunday School 9 AM
 Office Hrs. 9-5

Clarenceville United Methodist
 20100 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia
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 Rev. Jean Love

Worship Services 10:15 AM, 6:00 PM
 Nursery Provided
 Sunday School 9 AM
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 Farmington Hills

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Sunday Worship at 9:15 and 11 a.m.
 Church School at 9:15 and 11 a.m.

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 Rev. Kathleen Groff
 Rev. Jane Bergquist
 Rev. Robert Bough
 Mr. Melvin Rookus

"Building Healthy Families..."

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 (734) 394-0357

New Service Times
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 Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.

Agapé Christian Academy - K through 12

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 36500 Ann Arbor Trail
 between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
 422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

"Being Alone, Yet Not Lonely."
 Rev. Thomas G. Badley, preaching

Contemporary Worship Service
 Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
 Rev. Thomas G. Badley
 Rev. Melanie Lee Carrey
 Rev. Edward C. Coley
 Visit our website: www.ubmc.org/newburgmc

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United Methodist Church
 10000 Beech Daly, Redford
 Between Plymouth and W. Chicago
 Bob & Diana Goudie, Co-Pastors
 313-937-3170

Air Conditioned Sanctuary

SUMMER WORSHIP
 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.
 Learning Centers & Continental Breakfast
 9:00 a.m.

Scripture/Exodus 14:21-31
 Focus/Crossing Red Sea
 Rev. Diana Goudie, Preaching

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH
 291 E. SPRING ST.
 2 Blocks N. of Main - 2 Blocks E. of MI

SUNDAY
 Bible School 10:30 A.M.
 Worship 11:30 A.M. AND 6:00 P.M.
 (Nursery Provided in A.R.)

WEDNESDAY
 Bible Study - 7:30 P.M.
 (Classes for all ages)

Pastor Frank Howard Ch. 453-0323

Seedlings from page B5

she reached up to hug the boy she had known as an elementary student. Sam Rau of Westland, a ninth-grader at Churchill, received "A Gift of Magic" by Lois Duncan, while 10th-grader Bridget Cavanaugh of Redford received a Braille book with "Rescue 911" stories about kid heroes and 12th-grader Tim Kropp of Livonia has "The Trouble with Tuck" by

Theodore Taylor to read this summer. Korelitz, also a Farmington Hills resident, has been a volunteer and Seedlings board member since its inception 15 years ago. As a former teacher of the visually impaired in the Detroit Public Schools, her passion and insight lend a special expertise to the daily mission of Seedlings. While distributing the books, Korelitz had

Seedlings is hoping to make "Keep Kids in Touch" an annual project.

The opportunity to visit the elementary students she worked with in early intervention programs.

The children were thrilled to meet someone who remembered them as babies and preschoolers.

For Seedlings is a non-profit agency dedicated to providing high interest, low cost Braille books for children.

"Keep Kids in Touch" is a way of realizing its mission to increase the rate of literacy among visually impaired children by ensuring access to the same books as their sighted peers and making the books affordable.

The summer reading program was initiated as a way to encourage visually impaired children to keep their Braille skills current while providing the pleasure of new books for the summer.

Seedlings is hoping to make "Keep Kids in Touch" an annual project.

"Our charter has been so well received by teachers, students and parents, we'd like to obtain funding to offer this statewide next year," said Seedlings founder and director Debra Bondie.

For more information about Seedlings, call (734) 427-8552 or send e-mail to seedlink@aol.com



Sharing: Paula Korelitz shares a print and Braille book, "Arthur Tricks the Tooth Fairy" by Marc Brown, with Kevin Andrews, a preschooler at Bussey Center in Southfield.



Reunited: While at Hull, Hankins delivered "God, I've Gotta Talk to You" and "M and M and the Bad News Bears" to Sheena Hudson of Westland.

NEW VOICES

Neil Harold Blevins and Dawn Marie Jordan of Wayne announce the birth of a son, Neil Harold II March 31 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Chuck and Trish Blevins of Westland and Roy and Sue Jordan of Westland.

Jack and Kate Boyd of Livonia announce the birth of William Vincent Charles April 21 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He has two siblings, John, 9 and Tyler, 19 months. Grandparents are Mike and Betty Cassidy of Redford.


Michael and Nicole Tennis of Dearborn announce the birth of Logan Mitchel April 23 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He has a brother, Brandon, 2. Grandparents are Tom and Denise Wolfrom of Canton, Michele Tennis of Dearborn and Michael Tennis of New Hampshire.

Terrence and Staci Jones of Detroit announce the birth of a daughter, Teri Theresa April 24 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She has a sister, Amber Miles, 7. Grandparents are Stanley and Gladys Ley of Redford and Emmett and Carolyn Jones of Detroit.

Charles and Luvenia Wright of Redford announce the birth of Cameron Diaz May 17 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins sisters Llekken, 11 and Bailee, 3. Grandparents are the Charles and Jo Wright of Southfield and Ken Hawthorne of Westland.

Bob and Brandy Holmstrom of Livonia announce the birth of a son, Nicklas Robert May 21 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins two siblings, Charlie, 4 and Kelsey, 8. Grandparents are John and Naomi Gray of Wixom and John and Ruth Holmstrom of Novi.

Jodi Shupe of Taylor announces the birth of Clara Elizabeth Dasher May 21 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Sherise and James Dasher of Taylor and Pat and Don Dudek of Garden City.



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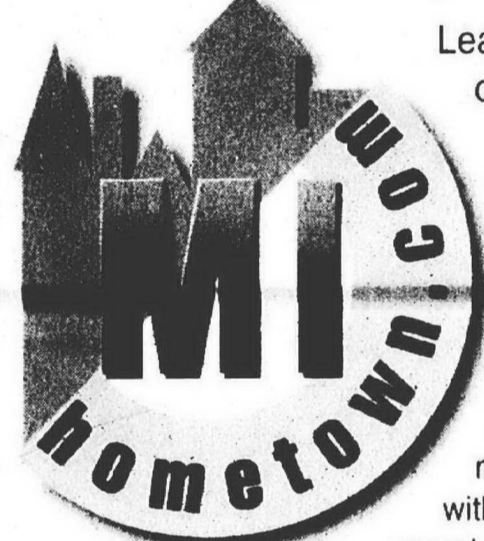
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Local chorus scales the musical heights

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

One sweltering summer night at Heritage Park in Farmington, the Spirit of Detroit Chorus gave a refreshing show of enormous energy, Broadway-like professionalism and showed the pizzazz that recently captured a first place in competition.

Judges at April's Grand Rapids regional competition awarded the Spirit of Detroit Chorus 644 points, the highest score ever awarded in the Region 2 competition. It was sixth time the local chorus won the regional competition.

Every time the group has competed at the regional level, it has won, said Pam Majewski, membership co-coordinator with Carol McKee.

"It's overwhelming," said chorus director LeAnn Hazlett. She also won the title of master director during the regional competition, because the chorus earned more than 600 points.

"I enjoy making a musical product where I can mold the music into what I want to hear," said Hazlett, who drives from Swanton, Ohio, weekly to practice with the group of 114 women who range in age from 14 to nearly 80.

Their backgrounds cover the same broad spectrum - from sin-

"The lights go on and the feeling is incredible. There are 8,000 people in the audience, and it's like being a rock star. And all your friends are calling out 'Spirit, Spirit, Spirit.'"

Pam Majewski
-membership coordinator

gle to stay-at-home moms and an array of professions.

On their business cards, chorus members proclaims a mission statement: "Dedication to musical excellence." And members believe they embody that spirit.

"It's wonderful to realize that we're one of the best choruses in the world and that we're meeting our goal with so many wonderful friends," Majewski said.

Members live in almost every metropolitan Detroit community, but are mostly from Farmington Hills, Westland, Plymouth and Canton, as well as, outstate; Canada and Ohio.

Practice, practice

For the next year, they'll exercise their vocal chords practicing for the international competitions in 2000 in Orlando, Fla., where they will compete with Sweet Adeline choruses from all over the world.

"When we go on the international stage, we realize that it's

something that a lot of choruses will never see," Majewski said. "The lights go on and the feeling is incredible. There are 8,000 people in the audience, and it's like being a rock star. And all your friends are calling out 'Spirit, Spirit, Spirit.'"

At the competitions they've become known as the chorus with ideas, using innovative props and costuming.

"I think choruses around the world are looking at Spirit and saying: 'What are they going to do next?'" said Majewski. The best part about being in the chorus is that members make everlasting friendships, she said.

New members sought

Stressing that the auditions are "gentle," Majewski and McKee say they're always looking for new members.

The main criteria is a love of music, McKee said. Members don't even have to be able to read music.

Anyone interested in joining

the volunteer chorus should attend the group's weekly meeting 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays at St. Paul Presbyterian Church on Five Mile west of Inkster Road.

"There's a big spirit of sharing and a great love for each other and support," McKee said. "What was so remarkable is that here's a group of woman coming together, doing the best they can do with a spirit of love and a joy of singing."

A local 'treasure'

They've become a local "treasure" and are regularly featured in newspapers, on television news shows and seen around metropolitan Detroit in summer music programs, such as the one at Heritage Park and in Livonia. They're also available for hire.

"We will sing wherever and for whomever and sometimes it's a full chorus and sometimes a small chorus and sometimes as a quartet," said Majewski. The price depends on the request.

Despite the group's size, members of the Spirit of Detroit Chorus manage to stay close-knit during good times and bad - with heart-warming stories about introducing each other to prospective spouses and singing at funerals.

One member was introduced to her fiancé by another member

and during a recent practice her fiancé proposed on bended knee before all the other members.

He wanted them to be present, he said, because without the Sweet Adelines he wouldn't have met her.

Another member, who joined just three months ago, was widowed recently. To her surprise, the group sang at her husband's funeral.

Anyone interested in hearing the Spirit of Detroit Chorus perform, the group's next public engagement is its annual show Saturday, Nov. 13, at Mercy High School in Farmington. That performance will also feature the 1998 International Championship quartet, "Rumors."

Call Majewski at (734) 495-1505 or McKee at (734) 459-3785 for more information.

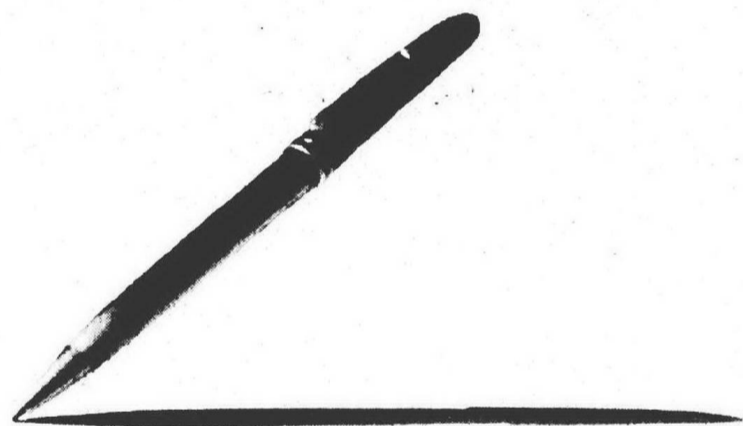
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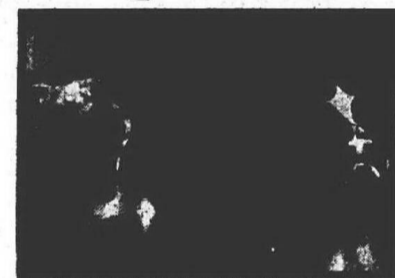


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Observer Sports

The Observer

INSIDE:
Summer hockey, C2
Swim schedule, C5

P/C Page 1, Section C

Thursday July 8, 1999

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Series is set

So — who says a tie doesn't mean anything?

The final softball standings in the Canton Community Junior Baseball and Softball Association, and the ensuing match-up for the best-of-three World Series, were decided by a single tie, between the Western Division Diamondbacks and the Eastern Division White Sox. The tie meant nothing to the Diamondbacks; they won the West easily, posting a 10-3-1 record to outdistance the Athletics, Cardinals and Devil Rays, who were all 5-9.

In the East, however, the White Sox finished 10-3-1 — and that proved a bit short. The Blue Jays were division champs, posting an 11-3 record; the Phillies were close, too, taking third with a 10-4 mark. And right behind them were the Marlins at 9-5.

The Blue Jays and Diamondbacks will meet in the World Series, starting at 6:30 p.m. tonight at Field No. 1. Game Two is slated for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, with Game Three (if necessary) at 6:30 p.m. next Thursday (July 15). All will be at Field No. 1.

The CCJBSA's other eight teams will compete in a one-game elimination tournament. First-round games begin at 6:30 p.m. tonight, with the White Sox going against the Tigers (Field No. 2); the Athletics meeting the Cardinals (Field No. 3); the Phillies playing the Braves (Field No. 6); and the Marlins taking on the Devil Rays (Field No. 7).

Winners meet in the semifinals at 6:30 p.m. July 13, with the tournament title game set for 6:30 p.m. July 15.

Hockey sign-up

The Canton Amateur Hockey Association is now accepting applications for its Mini-Mite program, which begins Aug. 1 at the Arctic Pond Ice Arena in Plymouth. Registration forms must be received by Friday, July 9.

The Mini-Mite program, for ages 5-8 years-old, will focus on learning to skate and basic hockey skills. Registration forms are available at Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit on the Park in Canton, or on the hockey association's web-site: <http://sport.mlive.com/sport/canamhoc> key.

Cost is \$125 per player. For more information, call (734) 207-1002.

Grand Prix package

The Detroit Historical Society has fewer than 100 special VIP passes remaining to the Detroit Grand Prix, scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 8 on Belle Isle. For \$150, a VIP pass-holder will receive entry to a private hospitality tent; unlimited food and beverages; pit passes; a grand stand ticket for the race; and round-trip transportation from the Detroit Historical Museum (located at 5401 Woodward) to Belle Isle.

Also, \$50 of the cost is a tax deductible donation to the Detroit Historical Society, which supports the Detroit Historical Museum, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle, Historic Fort Wayne and the Historic Moross House.

To reserve tickets, call Jennifer Richard at (313) 833-1405.

Hockey offerings

The city of Plymouth Recreation office is offering ice hockey clinics and some late night drop-in hockey through the rest of the summer at the Plymouth Cultural Center, located at 525 Farmer in Plymouth.

Clinics will be every Friday through Aug. 27. From 1-2:20 p.m. there will be a hockey skating skills clinic, with no pucks or sticks, for all ages; cost is \$6 per person. From 2:30-3:50 p.m. each Friday, there will be a hockey skills clinic with sticks and pucks, for ages 6-and-over; cost is \$6 per person.

On Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays through Aug. 27, there will be late night drop-in hockey from 11 p.m.-midnight at the Cultural Center for adults 18 and over. Cost is \$7 per player, with the first four goalies admitted for free.

For information regarding either, contact the Recreation office at (734) 455-6623.

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

Junior Olympic regional at Canton

It wasn't exactly something that was campaigned for, but when the opportunity to host a major track and field event came knocking at the door of Canton's Mike Krafchak, he answered.

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR
cjrisk@oe.homecomm.net

Something like this doesn't just fall into your lap. It's not possible.

Unless, of course, you're Mike Krafchak.

The Canton resident and longtime track/cross country supporter had been "away from the sport for a while," in

his own words. Then something happened, and people in the state associated with track and field figured out what to do.

Just ask Mike.

"The other area that had it (Jackson) ran into some problems, and I guess they just figured we were capable of doing it," was Krafchak's explanation of how Plymouth Canton HS became the site of the Region V USA Track and

Field Junior Olympics today through Sunday. "They knew we'd been able to pull off something like this before."

Don't underestimate the size of the task. More than 1,400 competitors, ages 8-18, from four states — Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia and Michigan — will descend upon the Canton track for the four-day affair. The main events are Saturday and Sunday; today will be the heptathlon and decathlon, and on Friday will be the heptathlon, decathlon, pentathlon, triathlon and, at the University of Michigan, the steeplechase.

Competition will be in four age divisions, for both males and females. The

top three finishers in each event will qualify for the USA Track and Field National Junior Olympics July 27-Aug. 1 in Nebraska.

This weekend's regional is by far the most prestigious track and field event for those of this age group in the state, and likely won't be matched for another five years — which is how often Michigan sponsors this event. The last time it was in the state, in 1994, it was in Melvindale.

This is the first time the Plymouth-Canton area has been the regional host, according to Krafchak.

"This is just a good thing for kids,"

Please see TRACK, C8

Lighting strike

SOFTBALL

A combined 26 hits enabled the Plymouth Lightning to overwhelm the Livonia Cyclones twice Tuesday, 11-2 and 11-1, in a Girls Incredible Fastpitch Softball League double-header at Plymouth Salem.

The Lightning, consisting mainly of Salem HS players, improved to 6-1 with the sweep.

Amanda Sutton was the winning pitcher in the opener with a five-hit, one-walk performance. She struck out six in her six innings on the mound.

Four Lightning players had two hits apiece to pace the 11-hit attack. Amanda Bilkie led the way with two

doubles and two runs batted in; Jen Allen also had two hits and two RBI. Shae Potocki added two hits and one RBI, Katie Kelly had two hits, and Dawn Allen contributed a double and an RBI.

In the second game, Liz Dekarske tossed a one-hitter at the Cyclones. She walked two and struck out eight in six innings.

Jessica Chapman's three-run home run was the key blow in the

Please see SOFTBALL, C2



Legging it out: The Lancers' Becky Mitchell sprints toward first base during Tuesday's game with the Farmington Diamonds, which the Diamonds won.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESSLER

Goal in sight

Stibel aims for U.S. team

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR
cjrisk@oe.homecomm.net

He discounts it now, like some possession he's had for so long its value is taken for granted. But while priceless to others, the ability to handle the pressure associated with major gymnastics meets has become commonplace to Doug Stibel.

Which is why his failure to make the U.S. team competing in the Pan American Games, though disappointing, is already history. Dwelling on such a negative would do him no good.

Indeed, Stibel — a Plymouth Canton HS graduate — doesn't merely dismiss the setback, as if it never happened. He insists on getting something positive out of it.

"I missed a couple of my routines," he said in evaluating his performance at the Pan Am team trials two weeks ago. "I was dealing with school, trying to figure out what I was going to do the rest of the summer, if I was going to take classes or not."

"Mentally, I was kind of burnt. I thought once I got there (to the trials) I could overcome it, but I couldn't."

Then he added: "It's kind of good and kind of bad. It was something I was shooting for. But the upside is, I've had more time to train and my routines are improved."

What Stibel is training for now is the U.S. Regional qualifier, which will be July 31 in Houston. The top 17 at that meet advance to the U.S. Team Trials in Sacramento, at which the top 14 finishers qualify for the U.S. team. The ultimate goal: the Sydney Olympics in 2000.

Such mental discipline is commonplace for an athlete like Stibel, who competed at All-Around Gymnastics in Livonia through 1993. That's evident; all one need do is consider what he's accomplished in the past two years alone.

A three-time All-American at Ohio State, Stibel tied for second on the high bar at the NCAA Men's Gymnastics Championships last spring with a personal-best score of 9.775, and he finished sixth in the floor exercise. All this after missing six months due to a



Doug Stibel
Gymnastic hopeful

fractured back suffered while training in January, 1998.

Stibel suffered the injury on his landing on a new mat after a practice vault. "Sometimes they're slick when they're new, and they can throw you," he recalled.

Which is just what happened.

Still, he continued to train and compete for OSU despite the injury. "It felt sore, but I never really thought it was broken," he said. He managed to make it through the NCAA season, but when he started training for the 1998 Pan American Team Trials last summer, the pain increased, finally sidelining him. He didn't return to training until last December.

While the time away didn't help, Stibel certainly proved his mental toughness — which he now dismisses.

"The gymnastics isn't really mentally draining right now," he said. "I wouldn't compete in the sport if I didn't have fun with it, if I didn't really enjoy it."

He loves to compete, and believes he's capable. He'll be in all-around competition at the upcoming regional qualifier, which is what he competed in during his last two years at OSU.

"Just watching the World University Games in (Mallorca) Spain this week, seeing what other guys are doing, I think I have a pretty good chance," Stibel said.

His more intensive training has helped, too. His collegiate eligibility is exhausted; the coaching he gets now is more one-on-one.

His back, while "sore every now and then," is not a concern. His future is, and gymnastics very likely will be a

Please see STIBEL, C8

SOCCER

Bucks get shot at Mutiny

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

The Mid-Michigan Bucks, who get to take on the Tampa Bay Mutiny of the Major Soccer League Monday night in a U.S. Open Cup match (see related story), are chalked full of familiar names.

Co-owners Jim and Dan Duggan, Livonia natives who built the Saginaw-based Premier Development Team from the ground up in 1990, feature several players from Oakland and Wayne counties.

One of the most notable on the 17-0 Bucks is former Birmingham Seaholm star and Michigan's Mr. Soccer in 1998, Ryan Mack.

Mack, a forward who has five goals and four assists in 11 games, will be teamed



Scott Emert
Former Madonna standout



Ryan Mack
top prep player in 1997

starter on the Indiana Hoosiers' 1998 NCAA National Championship team.

Former Oakland University captain Chad Schomaker, in his third year with the Bucks, is a

dynamic force and fifth on the team in scoring.

Another former OU player, Michael Dodd, had two goals in the stunning 2-1 upset win over the A-League Minnesota Thunder in round No. 3.

Madonna University's

Scott Emert, the 1998 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Player of the Year and NAIA Honorable Mention All-American, is another key player.

Redford's Tino Scieluna, who played for prep powerhouse Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day and was a two-year captain at Butler University, lends support on defense. His brother Mario, who has played professionally in Malta, also adds support as a reserve.

All three goalkeepers are from area high schools including Alan Placek (Country Day), Eric Pogue (Troy Athens) and Mike Skolnik (Livonia Churchill).

Other key area Bucks include Paul Doroh, former OU captain and NCAA

See MID-MICHIGAN BUCKS, C5

Owners riding high with the Cup qualifiers

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

Coming off a successful stint with the World Cup Michigan Host Committee in 1994, Livonia native Jim Duggan, along with his brother Dan, wanted to continue to ride the wave.

And so far it's a script right out of Endless Summer, but it's even better in 1999.

Co-owners of the 17-0 Mid-Michigan Bucks, part of the Great Lakes Division of the Premier Development League (made up primarily of area collegiate players), the Duggans are creating quite a stir in the soccer world.

The Bucks, based out of the Saginaw area, are in the Sweet 16 of the U.S. Open Cup and will host the Tampa Bay Mutiny of the Major Soccer League at 7:30 p.m. Monday at White Pine Middle School Stadium in Saginaw Township, where a crowd of 3,000 is expected.

Please see BUCKS OWNERS, C5

Lakers' rally can't catch Wolverines

The Wolverines built a 6-2 lead through two periods, but the Lakers kept chipping away at it, eventually closing to within 7-6 with more than four minutes left in their Metro Summer Hockey League game Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

But Ryan Ward and Bill Trainor (from Canton) led a late assault, Ward scoring twice and Trainor getting a goal and an assist in the final 89 seconds, to secure the Wolverines' 10-6 victory.

The result allowed the Wolves to even their record at 3-3. The Lakers saw their hold on second-place dwindle to a single point, their record falling to 3-2-1.

Ward finished with three goals and an assist to pace the Wolverines. Krikor Arman (West Bloomfield) added two goals and two assists, Eric Hawkins (Redford/Catholic Central) contributed a goal and two assists, and Jim Wheaton (Plymouth), Brad Feiler (Canton) and Matt Krupa each scored a goal. Marc O'Keefe (Livonia) had three assists and Varujan Krikor (West Bloomfield) added two assists.

Thomas Monnier (Catholic Central) was in goal for the Wolves.

The Lakers got two goals from Nick Anselm (Canton), a goal and three assists from Brian Jardine, a goal and an assist from Chris Libbett (West Bloomfield), and single goals from Brian Sutherland (Plymouth) and Ryan Law (Livonia). Matt Frick (West Bloomfield) contributed two

assists.

Brandon Hothem (Troy) was in goal for the Lakers.

Broncos 7, Spartans 7: This game was never assured, so it was appropriate it ended in a tie Tuesday at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

The Broncos (1-3-1) led 4-1 late in the opening period and 5-2 early in the second, only to see the Spartans (1-4-2) battle back with four-straight goals to go up 6-5 with 2:39 left in the second.

However, the Broncos' Tony Keshishian (Plymouth) knotted it at 6-6 with just 10 seconds left in the second, then Nick Smyth (Rochester Hills) put them up 7-6 with 10:46 left in the game.

The final, game-tying goal came from the Spartans' Jason Lawmaster (Westland), his third of the game (with one assist), with 2:31 remaining.

Trevor Pagel (Redford) added two goals, Pete Mazzoni had a goal and two assists, Nick Lewarne had a goal and an assist, and Chris Powroznik (Redford) chipped in with three assists. Eric Pagel (Redford) was in goal for the Spartans.

The Broncos also got two goals and an assist from Scott Kale, a goal and two assists from Smyth, two goals from Gord Statham, a goal and an assist from both

Keshishian and Kyle McNeillance (Livonia), and two assists from Jon Miller. Will Hamele was in goal for the Broncos.

Huskies 20, Spartans 13: A 10-goal second period pretty much put this MSHL game, played Monday at the Plymouth Cultural Center, in the win column for the Huskies.

Three of the Pietilas — Phil, John and Mark — did a lot of the damage. Phil Pietila had three goals and six assists, while John Pietila collected five goals and two assists and Mark Pietila got two goals and five assists. Ben Blackwood led the Huskie goal-scorers with six, with one assist; Jim Tudor (Canton) added three goals and two assists, Eric Kilunen got a goal and four assists, Glen Piilinen totaled four assists and Keith Pietila netted three assists.

Dan Dobrowski (Southfield) was in goal the entire game for the Huskies.

The Spartans were paced by Trevor Pagel (Redford) with five goals and Mike Porter (Catholic Central/Northville) with four goals and one assist. Jason Lawmaster (Westland) added two goals and four assists, Jack McCoy (Farmington Hills) had seven assists, Chris Powroznik (Redford) got four assists, and both Pete Mazzoni and Dave Street had one goal and one assist. Eric Pagel (Redford) and Tom McNeil (Plymouth) divided time in goal.

The Huskies improved to 3-1.

Bulldogs 14, Wildcats 10: The Bulldogs opened up a 9-5 lead after two periods of their MSHL game Monday at Plymouth Cultural Center, then increased it to 12-5 early in the third before the Wildcats battled back to close to within 12-10 with 1:43 left in the game.

Goals by Matt Prater and Kevin Swider (Livonia) in the final 35.5 seconds secured the win for the 'Dogs, who remain atop the MSHL with a 5-1 record. Swider's goal, with 1.7 seconds left, was his fifth of the game; he had three assists, too. Prater also had two assists.

Other scoring leaders for the Bulldogs were Eric Bratcher with two goals and five assists; Jason Basile (West Bloomfield) with a goal and four assists; Corey Swider (Livonia) with a goal and three assists; Brad Yonemura (Garden City) with two goals and an assist; Darin Fawks (Livonia) with two goals; and both Troy Milam and Adam Krug (Livonia) with two assists.

Ted Martens was in goal for the 'Dogs.

The Wildcats, who fell to 1-4, got six goals and an assist from Sean Kass. Darin Silvester contributed a goal and three assists, Mike Swistak (West Bloomfield) and Brent Bessey each had a goal and an assist, Paola DeCina (Canton) had a goal, and Vic DeCina (Canton) got three assists. Aaron Jones (Troy/Brother Rice) and Dan Dobrowski (Southfield) were in goal for the 'Cats.

Team	W	L	T	Pts
Bulldogs	5	1	0	10
Huskies	3	2	1	7
Wolverines	3	2	0	6
Spartans	3	4	2	4
Broncos	1	3	1	3
Wildcats	1	3	0	2

Name (Team)	G	A	Pts
Ben Blackwood (Huskies)	6	1	13
Eric Bratcher (Bulldogs)	2	5	14
John Pietila (Huskies)	5	3	14
Corey Swider (Bulldogs)	1	7	13
Mike Vigilante (Lakers)	2	8	13
Eric Hawkins (Wolverines)	1	5	11
Nick Jardine (Lakers)	2	5	11
Spot Curtin (Lakers)	1	9	10
Krikor Arman (Wolverines)	1	9	10
M. McNeillance (Broncos)	2	2	10
Eric Olesch (Lakers)	1	4	9
Brian Hales (Bulldogs)	1	4	9
Jay Storm (Huskies)	1	5	8
Jim Tudor (Huskies)	1	7	8

Name (Team)	GA	Avg.
Art Baker (Huskies)	1	2.03
Phil Osear (Bulldogs)	9	3.57
J.J. Weeks (Huskies)	6	3.98
Brandon Hothem (Lakers)	9	4.47
Ted Martens (Bulldogs)	13	5.24
Tom Mitchell (Spartans)	14	5.57
Rick Mannon (Broncos)	18	5.98

Softball from page C1

Lightning's 15-hit attack. Potocki added two doubles and two RBI, while Jennifer Warnick, Kelly, Sutton and Dekarske each collected two hits.

Diamonds 4-9, Lancers 2-1: The Farmington Hills Diamonds improved their record to 7-1 in the Girls Incredible Fastpitch Softball League Tuesday by sweeping a doubleheader from the visiting Livonia Lancers (Ladywood HS).

Beth Danielewicz, who will be

a freshman at North Farmington High School, was the winning pitcher in both games, tossing a one-hitter in the opener.

She struck out 12 and walked one in the first game. Danielewicz helped her cause by going 2-for-3 at bat with a double and two RBI.

Sarah Reading also had two hits, scored a run and knocked in a run. Lori Tapper, Katie Wolk, Kelly McKeon, Kristy Reinhardt and Meredith Reilly contributed one hit apiece to the Diamonds'

nine-hit offense.

In the second game, which ended after five innings due to darkness, Danielewicz allowed three hits, struck out six and walked none.

The Diamonds also had just three hits, but they didn't have to hit the ball since they received 13 walks.

Amelia Araiza, McKeon and Danielewicz had the hits, and Stephanie Karros drove in a run with a groundout.

Danielewicz and McKeon walked twice as did Wolk and Alissa Melvin. Reading and Danielewicz scored two runs each; McKeon, Wolk, Melvin and Nicole Moudros accounted for four more runs.

Lasers 16-14, Cobras 0-4: The Livonia Lasers evened their Girls Incredible Fastpitch Softball League record to 3-3 Tuesday with a sweep of the host Plymouth Canton Cobras.

The first game was ended after

three innings by the mercy rule.

Jamie Linden doubled twice and had two RBI to pace the offense, while Tera Morrill contributed a two-run double.


Kerstin Marshall and Amy Sandrick had two hits apiece, and Marshall had an RBI.

Pitchers Tara Muchow (two innings) and Nicole Zabkiewicz (one inning) combined for victory. Muchow struck out six and walked two. The Cobras did not get a hit.

In the second game, Sara Knopsnider had a double, triple and three RBI to pace the Lasers. Muchow had three singles, while Linden and Zabkiewicz each knocked in a pair of runs.

Linden had a triple and double, while Zabkiewicz, the winning pitcher, got two singles.

In five innings, Zabkiewicz allowed three hits and five walks, while fanning six.



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Bucks owners from page C1

Translation in surfer talk: This is the equivalent of the Tigers playing their Class A affiliate at Lakeland.

The Bucks laid claim to the biggest story in soccer's minor leagues by pulling off the upset of the year, a U.S. Open Cup win June 28 over the A-League (Division II) Minnesota Thunder.



Jim Duggan Bucks' GM

"It's the pinnacle for us — and it really hasn't sunk in yet," said Jim Duggan, the team's general manager. "We always thought we could beat a D3 Pro level team, and we thought we might be able to beat some A-League teams, but we weren't exactly jumping up and down about playing Minnesota, the runner-up in last year's (A-League) championship."

The Mutiny, 6-10 in the MLS and in fourth place in the Eastern Division, feature Colombian national star Carlos Valderrama, along with U.S. National Team players Dominic Kinnear and Steve Tritschuh, as well as All-Star goalkeeper Scott Garlick.

They will try and snap a five-game MLS losing streak tonight when they play at home (on ESPN) against the San Jose Clash.

"Who would have thought the first MLS game played in Michigan would be in Saginaw?" said Dan Duggan, who has dedicated the Bucks' season to longtime area soccer godfather Paul Scicluna, who died tragically in a car accident this spring.

The last Division I team to play in Michigan was the old Detroit Express of the North American Soccer League, which

left the Silverdome after the 1980 season.

Founded in 1986, the United Soccer League fields 134 teams from five different leagues.

One step below the Division II A-League is the D3 Pro League, followed by the Premier Development League.

"We paid the franchise fee (in 1996) and it was our job to find a territory," Jim Duggan said. "They had teams in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Detroit and Ann Arbor at the time. And since it was only a 1 1/2 hour drive from Detroit, we thought mid-Michigan was an up-and-coming soccer area."

So how did the Mid-Michigan Bucks, who pulled out a 4-3 shootout victory Saturday night over the Kalamazoo Kangaroos, become such a juggernaut?

"The continuity of the team is important," Jim Duggan said. "Fifteen of our 20 played for the Bucks before. It's a huge difference when you get guys to return. It usually goes in two-year cycles."

Defender Jeremy Aldrich, a native of Mattawan, Mich., and former standout at Butler, played last year for the Bucks before being picked up by the MLS' Miami Fusion.

"We get to pick the amateur talent, which the D-3s and D-2s can't have," Jim Duggan said. "It's a lot like college recruiting. In our level you have to have 10 or less pro players. Our team only has three."

"But I'd say at least six of our players by next year will go on and play at the A-League level."

After beating four teams in their own division, the Bucks knocked off the Austin (Tex.) Lone Stars of the D-3 Pro League in round No. 2.

Ironically, Premier Development League teams won five of eight U.S. Open Cup matches against D-3 opponents.

"Nobody from our league has ever beaten an MLS team," Jim Duggan said.

In 1997, the San Francisco

Bay Seal, playing in the D-3 Pro League, began one of the most dramatic runs in the 114-year history of the U.S. Open Cup.

The Seals, featuring a team of young players who had played together throughout their teenage years and coached by a pediatrician with no coaching license, dropped two MSL teams en route to a semifinal match with D.C. United.

The only other PDL team to advance to round No. 3 was the Central Coast RoadRunners, also

in 1997.

"To say our fans are excited would be an understatement," said Jim Duggan, who resisted the temptation to move the game away from White Pine to a bigger venue. "This is not only a huge game from an Open Cup standpoint, but it is also the first time an MLS team has played in Michigan."

"Despite being held on a Monday night, and with such short notice to promote the event, we expect a terrific crowd."

* Tickets for the Bucks-Mutiny game are \$7 pre-sale or \$10 at the gate. They are available at the Trading Post in Plymouth, located on Ann Arbor Road between Main Street and Sheldon (call 734-453-0022); Soccer World of Livonia (call 734-421-7533; Soccer World of Rochester Hills (call 248-844-9900); Waza Masters of Redford (call 734-453-0022) or Oakland Yard of Waterford, located on M-59 west of Crescent Lake Road (call 248-673-0100).

Concealed falls

The third time wasn't the charm for the Concealed Security 12-year-old travel baseball team.

Concealed lost the championship game of a tournament for the third time this season, 6-3, to the Ohio Thunder on Sunday in the finals of the Firecracker Classic at Halmich Park in Warren.

Concealed, which fell to 57-12 overall, struck out an unprecedented 14 times. Coach Lou Pirronello can't remember his team striking out more than six times in a game before.

Concealed managed three hits, scoring two runs in the first inning for a brief 2-0 lead. Two walks were followed by an RBI single by Scott Szyrka (Orchard Lake). A suicide squeeze bunt by Eric Vojtkofsky (Wayne) scored the second run.

Szyrka's triple brought home the third Concealed run in the sixth. Ryan Shay (Garden City), safe on an outfielder's error, scored the Concealed run.

Shay pitched "masterfully" in relief, according to Pirronello. He allowed no runs on two hits and no walks with four strikeouts after entering in relief of starter Steve Karchefsky, who struggled with control.

Concealed figures to get another shot at the Ohio Thunder in the National Amateur Baseball Federation regional, held in Toledo, Ohio.

A championship there would send Concealed to the World Series in Sylvania, Ohio. Second place or worse would mean Concealed would join the American Amateur Baseball Congress district.

"The kids can't wait to play them (the Thunder) again," Pirronello said.

In the semifinals, Concealed rallied to beat Homer, Ill. 2-1. Winning pitcher Chris Russin improved his record to 7-3, allowing one run on one hit and two walks with eight strikeouts.

Russin is someone Concealed didn't even think it would have available less than a month ago.

"He's a kid we thought was lost to the season, hurting his hand three weeks ago," Pirronello said. "It looked then like it would be at least six weeks (out) and a fractured hand. But he got a second (doctor's) opinion and he's playing."

Shay's fifth-inning home run

with Russin aboard after a single erased a 1-0 Concealed deficit. Vojtkofsky and Eric Drieselman (Garden City) had two hits each to lead Concealed.

Drieselman pitched a stellar game in the quarterfinals, won by Concealed, 4-1, over the Ohio Merchants.

Drieselman, whose record improved to 9-1, allowed five hits and two walks with one strikeout.

Fifteen of the 21 outs came on ground balls.

"Eric doesn't strike many out but he has such a great circle change-up, he gets everyone to hit ground balls," Pirronello said.

Concealed's 11-hit attack was led by Szyrka, who was 4-for-4, including two doubles and a triple. Karchefsky was 2-4, both hits being doubles, and Mark Pirronello (Livonia) was 2-3 with an RBI.

Regardless of what happens in the NABF regional or possibly in AABC action, Concealed is assured an invitation to the Continental Amateur Baseball Association World Series, July 29-Aug. 8, in Omaha, Neb.

Concealed earned that after taking fifth place at last year's CABA World Series.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Roller hockey clinic

Skatin' Station II is hosting a Roller Hockey clinic for coaches Aug. 1 and for players Aug. 2-3.

The Aug. 1 coaches clinic is free to all active Skatin' Station II and Rollerama II coaches. It runs from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The player clinic Aug. 2-3 costs

\$120 per player and includes three nights of on-rink instruction and one day of off-rink instruction.

Instructors include Team USA Coach Dave Fromm plus team members Terri Shook and Rick Parnell.

Instructional sessions run 90 minutes each and are limited to

35 players.

The 8-and-under age group session runs from 4:55-5:50 p.m.; 9-11 from 5:30-7 p.m.; another 9-11 group goes from 7-8:30 p.m.; and the 12-15 age group is from 8:30-10 p.m.

For more information call the Skatin' Station II at (734) 459-6401.

Mid-Michigan Bucks from page C1

Division II All-America; West Bloomfield's Adam Schomer, a former All-Stater at Birmingham Groves and All-Ivy Leaguer from Cornell; Adam Heinemann, Ortonville-Brandon and Oakland University; English-born David Hall, OU; Erik Nelson, Country Day and Dayton University; Paul Snape, a native of England who played at OU (the team's second leading scorer); and defender Ryan Mollien, Madonna.

The team's aces include Brazilian native Rodrigo Costa, the team's top scorer; Stephen Armstrong, Cape Town, South Africa; defender Benjamin Djeukeng, hometown Yaounde, Cameroon and member of two-time NAIA champion Lindsey Wilson (Ky.); Nick Stocky (Utica Eisenhower) and Will Purdy (via Ann Arbor and Kalamazoo Hackett).

The team's head coach is Ann Arbor's Steve Burns, who has led the University of Michigan club

soccer team to back-to-back national championships in 1997 and '98.

Burns, who is a candidate for the new created U-M varsity position, is looking forward to the historic game as well.

"What a great opportunity for our players, our fans and for the entire state of Michigan to get an MLS game, especially when it is

not an exhibition," said Burns, who must construct a defense to slow down international star Carlos Valderrama.

"I told our players to get the autographs out of the way before warmups. We are honored to be on the same field with Valderrama, as well as the entire Tampa Bay team."



Alan Placek Butler University grad



Tino Scicluna from Country Day



Chad Shoemaker Oakland U. graduate

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Making the grade

Canton's Mortiere helps Close Encounters reach World Series

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER
skowalski@oe.homecommnet

Close Encounters is the team's name. It's also what the players are assured of in national prominence when they participate in the Class A women's slow-pitch World Series.

If they don't bring home the top prize, at least they can say they came close.

The unlimited age team coached by John Powell has a long tradition of excellence and this year a trio of former Garden City High School stars are key players.

Close Encounters is strong up the middle where the Garden City contingent of shortstop Carolyn Shanks, second baseman Yvonne Jenks and center-fielder Jennifer Kintz roam. Kintz also pitches when needed.

There also is a Garden City connection on the coaching staff as Powell is assisted by John Slavin, a former resident now living in Canton. Joe Ayres is the other assistant coach.

Close Encounters is 7-2-1 in the Adray Metro Travel League, 4-4 in tournament play. Close Encounters placed third last weekend at a World Series Qualifier in Louisville, Ky. The third-place showing earned the team a berth in the 16-team national tournament later this summer in Lexington County, S.C.

Powell, a bank vice president, has coached Close Encounters since its inception. The team won the Class B national title last year, which gave it an

FAST PITCH

automatic promotion to Class A competition this year.

Powell said the team chose Close Encounters as its name some 20 years ago because some of the team members back then enjoyed a movie title by a similar name.

Powell said sponsors include Dr. James Armstrong of the Southwest Medical Plaza, Wilson Paint and Decorating, Professional Garments and Sander's Building Services.

The player roster also includes a pair of players from Farmington: Daphne Rhodes and Heidi Lawrence.

Lawrence is a starting outfielder who bats third in the lineup. She'll hit ".500 plus this season," according to Powell.

Heather Arioli (Grosse Pointe), Audra Ayres (Pinckney), Treva Blansett (Detroit), Christine Boguslawski (Detroit), Yvonne Davis (Chesterfield Township), Theresa Gibson (Romulus), Colleen Kmiecik (Roseville), Kelley Line (Huntington Woods), Danielle Mortiere (Canton) and Wanda Peruski (Waterford) round out the roster.

Mortiere is a utility player and leadoff hitter with an above .500 on base percentage.

"She's a leader on the field, playing wherever needed," according to Powell. "She gets things started for us."

Shanks and Jenks, who sound more like law firm partners than a second-base combination, are four years apart

and didn't play on the same teams in high school or in college, at Western Michigan University. But they play as if they've been teammates for years, Powell said.

"We're very fortunate to have two outstanding ballplayers in Vonne and Carolyn," Powell said. "Both together are outstanding. They turned about four double plays this weekend alone. Their major asset is defense and they are very, very aggressive and exciting baserunners. They have a good knowledge of the game."

This is Shanks' first year with Close Encounters and Jenks played briefly for Powell a couple years ago. Kintz played for Close Encounters at last year's world tournament and this year became a full-time member.

All are hitting above .450 for tournaments, Powell said.

"Kintz is a power hitter, an excellent defensive outfielder," Powell said. "She's very capable of dominating the game with her hitting."

The players on Close Encounters range in age from 21 to 43, Powell thinks. Powell is positive about the low end of the age spectrum but not sure about the exact age of the oldest player.

Theresa Gibson, because she's not telling.

The average age is about 26 to 28, and it would be much lower without Gibson, who seems to know the formula to the Fountain of Youth.

Most of the Close Encounters players starred in fast-pitch in their teens and in college but are eager to play slow

pitch, which gives the fielders more chances.

"There's a strong interest by the younger players to play fast pitch because of the (popularity of the) Olympics," Powell said. "However, slow pitch is still very popular. It keeps everyone involved, unlike fast pitch, which is usually dominated by the pitcher."

"One thing about slow pitch is that even with a low-scoring game it's exciting. You don't have 'weak' positions. A lot of times people think the weak position is right field, but not in slow pitch."

Close Encounters plays Thursday night double-headers at Softball City in Detroit, on Eight Mile Road near Woodward Road.

They have a tournament remaining in Rockford, Ill. as well as the Michigan Invitational Tournament and state tournament to look forward to next month.

Close Encounters has won the Class B state title the last three seasons.

Powell said he loses a few players each season to retirement, other teams and some for reasons that men's team coaches can't understand.

"We lost two to retirement last year and over the years we've lost players to motherhood," Powell said. "We lost a girl to another team last year and then she was lost to them because she decided to have a third child."

Some women also leave to play in a less-competitive league after having enough of the rigors of Class B or A ball, Powell said.

"Some decide to play down in Class C because they prefer to play with friends or whatever," he said. "It's pretty demanding, a major time commitment (Class A and B ball). We have preseason practice and practice on a 'need' basis once the season starts."

In the last five years, Close Encounters has finished first once, second two times and third twice. All the new players have blended well, according to Powell.

"There's a lot of camaraderie on the team and for a new group they're bonding well," said Powell, counting the number of personalities he's blended. "We have police officers, nurses, public relations people, college students, saes people, accountants."

Peruski is the team's pitcher, and there's more to being a good slow-pitch pitcher than meets the eye, according to Powell.

Peruski and Jenks made the all-tournament team last weekend.

"People recognize the need for a good pitcher in slow pitch and she's a good one," Powell said.

The three Garden City players, Davis and Lawrence made the all-tournament team in Cincinnati last month.

Powell hails from Oklahoma, where he was a high school baseball star before going on to play at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga.

He got involved in coaching softball after taking up the sport following his baseball career. He still plays twice a week in leagues.

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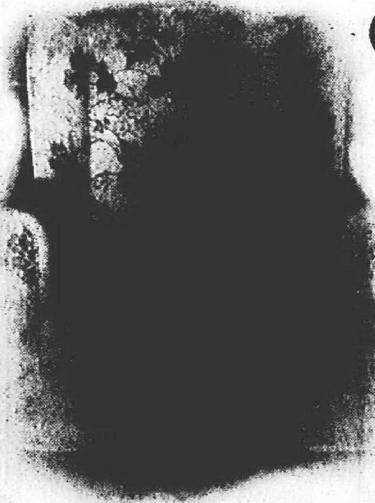
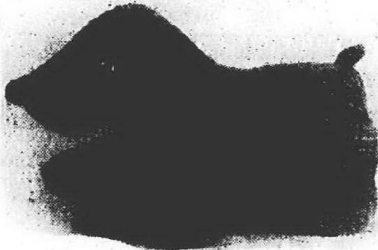
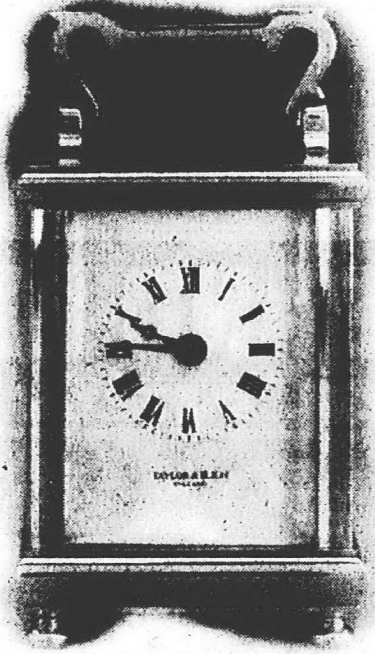
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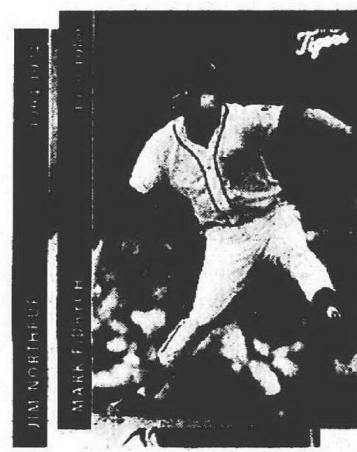


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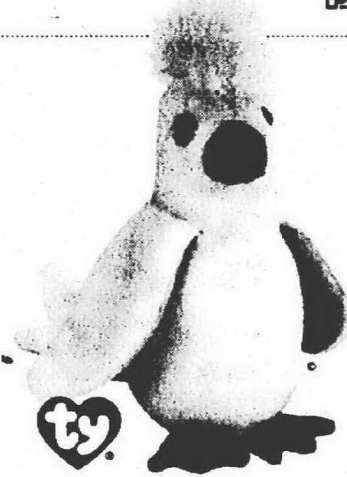
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NEWS OF NOTE

Women's golf

The 83rd Women's State Amateur Golf Championship begins Monday with qualifying at Tecumseh Country Club.

Although entries are accepted with a 23.4 index or lower, this year's tourney field will be the strongest in history with the highest index of 16.7 to make the field.

Thirty-four have an index under 6, while 87 are under 11, and 114 are under 16.

The 120-player field includes Kellianne Nagy (7.1 index), Megan Johnson (8.5), Heidi Aittama (10.0), all of Livonia; Priscilla Gilliam (14.4), Canton; Katherine Collins (3.9) and Laura Kowalski (4.8), both of Plymouth; Deborah Comstock (12.5), Redford; Nancy Coyne (7.1) and Lisa Chalmers (10.9), Farmington Hills.

Match play begins Tuesday with the finals set for Saturday.

Baseball classic

The 13th annual Wayne Baseball Association Late Summer Classic Tournament (ages 13-14) will be Friday through Sunday, July 30-Aug. 1, in Wayne.

The entry fee is \$200 per team. The registration deadline is Wednesday, July 21.

The tournament rules meeting and draw will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 22 at the Wayne Baseball Building, 34630 Annapolis, Wayne.

For more information, call Jeff Auer at (313) 292-4175.

Hoop assistant needed

The Schoolcraft College men's basketball program is seeking a second assistant coach willing to work practice hours from 2:15-5 p.m., Monday through Friday; also scout and attend games.

Those interested should contact SC men's basketball coach Carlos Briggs at (734) 462-4400, Ext. 5254.

Top team
Compuware wins 16-and-under qualifier

Compuware won three of five games using the international tiebreaker and was defeated in the 16-and-under girls National Softball Association qualifier last weekend in Warsaw, Ind.

The first-place finish gives Compuware an automatic bid, bypassing the state tournament, to the national competition Aug. 2-8 in Charlotte, N.C.

In the opener, Jessica Brubaker (Waterford) pitched a two-hitter in a 4-1 victory over the Indiana Sharks. She struck out six and didn't walk anyone.

Sarah Comstock (East Lansing) and Andrea Hillsey (Waterford), who had a triple and a double, were 2-for-2.

Chrissy King (Farmington Hills), Emily LaBar (White Lake) and Comstock drove in one run apiece.

Compuware won its next two games 2-1 in extra innings.

Beth Carcuff (Richmond) also pitched a two-hitter against the Indiana Roadrunners. Melissa Wilson (Lake Orion) had two hits and scored a run. Carrie Shine (St. Clair)

SOFTBALL

knocked in the winning run in the top of the eighth inning.

In the bottom half, Lauren Monterey (Farmington Hills) made a putout in left field and threw to second base for a double play. The Roadrunners were retired on a popout.

Compuware needed two runs in the bottom of the ninth inning to defeat the Chicago Windmills.

With Monterey on second base, Shine was safe on a fielder's choice. Hillsey followed with an RBI single and scored the winning run (after Shine was out at the plate) on a single by LaBar.

Lisa Copeland (West Bloomfield) and LaBar had two hits apiece.

Compuware edged the Indiana Storm in seven innings, 1-0. The winners had only two hits and scored in the fourth inning.

Wilson singled and moved up on

Copeland's sacrifice and LaBar's infield out. She scored on King's ground ball when the third baseman overthrew first base.

Carcuff was the winning pitcher, allowing four hits while striking out six and issuing no walks.

In the championship game, Compuware had to come from behind to defeat the Roadrunners again, 6-4.

Compuware scored twice in the seventh inning to tie, 3-3, and scored three runs in the top of the eighth to win.

Hillsey was 3-for-5 with an RBI, and Lindsay Simko (Clarkston) was 2-for-3. Shine, who was named the Compuware MVP by the coaches, hit a two-run homer in the eighth.

Stephanie Stavale (Brandon) and Monterey knocked in one run each. Copeland and King had one hit and scored one run apiece.

Brubaker was the winning pitcher, allowing nine hits, striking out three and walking one.

Another member of the Compuware team is Lindsey LaBar (White Lake).

SWIMMING CALENDAR

Dearborn Masters meet

A long-course (50-meter pool) Masters swim meet will be held at Dunworth Pool, located in Leavgood Park in Dearborn, beginning with warm-ups at 8 a.m. Sunday.

There will be 13 individual events and a series of relays. Swimmers may enter a maximum of four individual events and one relay.

Cost is \$12. All competitors must have their 1999 U.S. Masters Swimming registration; those wishing may register at the meet for \$25 (effective through Dec. 31, 1999).

Events include the 200-meter freestyle; 50 backstroke; 100 butterfly; 50 breaststroke; 400 individual medley or freestyle (your choice); 100 back; 50 fly; 50 free; 200, 400 and 800 relays; 100 free; 200 IM or free; 100 breast; 50 free; and 800 free.

The cost includes a picnic lunch following the meet.

Dunworth Pool is located south of Ford, west of Telegraph, at the west end of Denwood and Sheridan. For additional information, call Skip Thompson at (248) 683-2191.

Lake Michigan swim

The fifth annual YMCA Lake Michigan Swim will start at 8:15 a.m. Saturday, July 17 in Grand Haven. The 1.75-mile open water swim begins at the North Pier and proceeds north to the North Beach Pavilion.

Entry fee is \$20 if completed and mailed by Friday, July 9; late registrations will be \$25, and will be accepted through July 16. There will be no registration the day of the race.

Competition will be for males and females in six age divisions: 19-and-under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60-and-over. Check-in is 7:15-8 a.m. on race day, with a mandatory meeting

from 8-8:15 a.m. The swim will end at 10 a.m.; all those still in the water will be assisted to the finish line.

All swimmers must report to the finish line, whether he or she completes the swim. Aids (snorkels, fins) may not be used, but goggles and wet suits are permitted.

T-Shirts are guaranteed to all competitors who register early. Trophies will be awarded to all age division winners; refreshments will be available to all swimmers at the finish line.

Registration forms are available at the Tri-Cities Family YMCA, 1 Y Drive, Grand Haven. For information, call (616) 842-7051.

July 25 at Big Portage Lake, located in the Waterloo Recreation Area in Waterloo. The 1.5-mile open water swim will consist of three half-mile laps.

Entry fee is \$15 if postmarked before July 10, \$18 for late entries. A USAT license will be required to compete in the swim. For those not possessing one, a one-day license may be purchased at registration for \$5.

Race day registration will be from 6:30-7:30 a.m. at the park, or from 2-5 p.m. Saturday, July 24 at the Tortoise & Hare Concept Store, located in the Traver Village Mall on Plymouth in Ann Arbor. Entries are available by calling (734) 662-1000, or by faxing (734) 662-3388.

The top female and male swimmers, the top female and male masters swimmers, and the top two males and females in each age group will receive awards. Age divisions are: 15-19, 20-24,

25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, and 80 and over.

Coastal Crawl

The Harbor Springs Coastal Crawl, featuring a one-mile, two-mile or three-mile open water swim in Little Traverse Bay, will be Aug. 1 at Zorn Park, located on Bay Street in Harbor Springs. Check-in is 7-7:55 a.m.; there is a mandatory meeting at 8 a.m.

The three-mile race begins at 8:30 a.m., followed by the two-mile at 8:45 a.m. and the one-mile at 9 a.m. Average water temperature for Aug. 1 is 65 degrees.

Entry fee is \$20, which includes a picnic lunch. Applications are available by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Marilyn Early, 6212 Emmet Hts.,

Harbor Springs, MI, 49740. Mail check and application to the Hammerhead Swim Club, c/o Erin Fortune, 3125 Valley View Trail, Harbor Springs, MI, 49740 by July 18. Registrations are limited to the first 150 applicants.

A limited number of custom-designed T-shirts for the race will also be available.

Wet suits and flotation devices, or any device used to maintain body heat, will not be allowed. The races are open to all swimmers, but those under the age of 13 must provide written competency from their coach. Medals will be given to male and female age division winners. Divisions are: 12-and-under, 13-14, 15-18, 19-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, etc. (age as of Aug. 1).

For more information, call Early at (616) 526-9824 or Fortune at (616) 526-6840.

Pizzaman Swims

The Domino's Pizzaman Swims are scheduled to start at 8:30 a.m. Sunday,

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Track from page C1

said the former Livonia Ladywood coach. "A lot of them don't have a lot of other options, and this is something they really look forward to. They plan their summer around it."

"I knew we could help. I mean, how can you turn down helping 1,500 kids?"

There wasn't much time to pull it all together. When first approached in late April, Krafchak immediately went to district athletic director Brian Wolcott to obtain the use of the school district's stadium. "I'm really proud of how the school district came through for us," said Krafchak.

Still, there wasn't much time to plan out everything else.

"Really, the last four weeks have been very hectic," Krafchak said, speaking on his car phone

while taking a break from setting up the track. "But everything's falling into place."

Had Krafchak not been able to help, and had no one else stepped forward, the event "probably would have been passed over to Ohio, and that would have given our state a big black eye."

There's no such concern now. The meet gets started at 9 a.m. each day, and is expected to conclude between 5-6 p.m. All the

regular track and field events — high jump, long jump, 1,500-meter run, hurdles, shot put, discus, pole vault — will be competed, as will a few not seen in Michigan high school competition, like the triple jump, the javelin and 3,000-meter race walk. There will also be relays.

Everything considered, it should be a captivating four days — certainly one that's worth the effort.

THE WEEK AHEAD

ADRAY METRO BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

Friday, July 9
Livonia's Ford Field: Hines Park vs. Troy Jet Box, 5:45 p.m. (2).
Sunday, July 11
Livonia's Ford Field: Livonia Adray vs. Windsor Selects, noon (2).
Windsor's Mic-Mac Park: Livonia D.C.I. vs. Windsor Stars, 5:45 p.m. (2).
Tecumseh (Ont.) Lacrosse Park: Michigan Rams vs. Tecumseh, 5:45 p.m. (2).

GREAT LAKES WOODEN BAT LEAGUE

Thursday, July 8

Panthers at Grand Lake, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, July 9

Panthers vs. Michigan Rams, TBA.

Saturday, July 10

Panthers vs. Delaware Cows

at Livonia's Ford Field, 5:30 p.m. (2).

Sunday, July 11

Panthers vs. Youngstown B.C.

at Liv. Bicentennial Pk., 2 p.m. (2).

GIRLS INCREDIBLE FASTPITCH SOFTBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE SCHEDULE

(double-headers start at 6 p.m.)

Thursday, July 8: Diamonds vs. Lasers at

North Farmington; Lancer vs. Knights at Livonia Ladywood; Cyclones vs. Cobras at Livonia Stevenson; Thunder vs. Wildcats at Plymouth Salem; Hornets vs. Lightning at Farmington Hills Mercy.

AMERICAN LEAGUE SCHEDULE

(double-headers at 6 p.m.)

Thursday, July 8: Livonia Gators vs. Farmington Hills Mustangs at Livonia Churchill; Livonia Red Sox vs. Franklin Ladybugs at Livonia Ladywood; Southfield Broncos vs. Livonia White Sox at Beverly Hills Country Day; Walled Lake Wings vs. Livonia Rangers at Walled Lake Western.

Stibel — C1

part of it — for now on a competitive level, but then perhaps in developing talent.

"I'd like to get into coaching," Stibel said. "At least to see if that's what I want to do."

Whatever Stibel chooses to do, it seems certain that if he puts his mind to it, accomplishing it will be well within his range.

Outdoors — C7

SPECIAL SEEDS

Bring an old soup can for a special project and learn about seeds during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 15, at Highland.

CONSTELLATION HIKE

Explore the night sky and learn Native American folk lore during this program, which begins at 8:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, at Maybury.

CREEPY CRAWLIES

Take a look at the amazing world of insects and other small creatures during this program, which begins at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 17, at Maybury.

SUMMER EVENINGS

Explore the park's natural and cultural history through a variety of weekly hikes and interpretive presentations during this class, which will be held at 7 p.m. each Thursday through the end of August at Maybury.

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.

ALL AROUND

Take a guided hike and discover many of the things above and below us that often go unseen during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 10, at Kensington.

BUG HUNT

Children ages five-12 will discover the miniature world of insects during this program, which begins at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 10, at Indian Springs.

DAWN PATROL

Get up early and search for wildlife during this guided hike, which begins at 7 a.m. Sunday, July 11, at Kensington.

SMALL FRY SAMPLER

Ages four and five will learn how children and weeds grow during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 13, at Kensington.

NATURE DISCOVERY

Ages six and seven will learn what makes mammals different from other animals during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 14, at Kensington.

ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS

Ages eight-10 will discover what lives in flowing water during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 14, 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.

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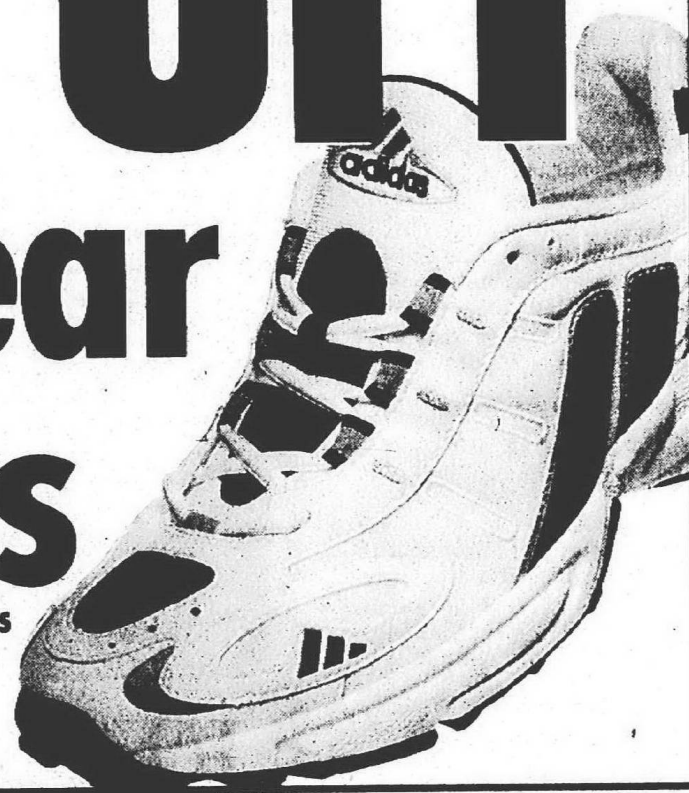
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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Guy Louis brings his musical family show, *The Chautauqua Express*, to Birmingham City Hall, Pierce and Martin, west of S. Old Woodward. Show begins at 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY



American Family Theaters' Broadway for Kids present the family classic "Aladdin" at noon at the Meadow Brook Music Festival on the campus of Oakland University. Tickets \$10 pavilion or \$5 lawn. Call (248) 645-6666 or online <http://www.patavenet.com>

SUNDAY



See live animals including snakes, turtles and frogs at Nature Place at Cranbrook Institute of Science, 1221 N. Woodward Ave. in Bloomfield Hills. Nature Place is open 1-5 p.m., the Institute of Science is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (877) 462-7262 or visit www.cranbrook.edu



Hot Tix: Works by more than 400 artists and craftsmen, including Norris Hardeman, are featured at Art in the Park in downtown Plymouth, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, July 10, and until 5 p.m. Sunday, July 11. For more information, call (734) 454-1314.



Conductor: Marin Alsop will conduct the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's season opening at Meadow Brook this weekend.

DSO

KICKS OFF SUMMER SEASON WITH FANFARE AND BACHARACH

BY ALICE RHEIN
STAFF WRITER
arhein@oe.homecomm.net

Even casual classical music listeners are familiar with Aaron Copeland's heralded "Fanfare for the Common Man."

Its contemporary namesake, "Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman," by American composer Joan Tower, has yet to attain widespread popularity within the classical world.

But Marin Alsop, who will conduct the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's season opening at Meadow Brook this weekend, is eager to change that.

On Friday, Alsop, who is music director of the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and the Concordia Orchestra in New York City, will lead the DSO in back-to-back fanfares.

"Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman" uses the same instrumentation as Copeland's. It's very different, but it makes the same statement," said Alsop, who just returned from an engagement with the London Symphony Orchestra. "I like to pair them together. The old and the new provide different perspectives."

The wisdom of youth

Different perspectives could be the operative phrase for this weekend's offerings at Meadow Brook.

Friday's "Opening Fanfare" is billed as a "family fun night" with fireworks following the evening's selections of the fanfares, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 with Russian-born pianist Vladimir Feltsman, selections from Bizet's *Carmen* and Britten's "Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra" narrated

by WJBK FOX 2's Huel Perkins.

"Sometimes I think young people are the most open-minded creatures on Earth.

They are open to new sounds and new ideas," said Alsop, a native New Yorker whose own desire to become a conductor came at an early age after she saw Leonard Bernstein conduct a young people's concert with the New York Philharmonic.

She later was able to study with the great conductor for two seasons at Tanglewood, the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

"That was a dream come true to have him as my hero all my life and then be able to study with him," said Alsop, who prefers her age be given as "a little over 40."

On Saturday, Alsop, who attended Yale and received her master's degree from the Juilliard School, will conduct the DSO and violinist Pinchas Zukerman in selections by Berlioz, Bruch, Adams and Beethoven's Symphony No. 7.

Of her two guest artists Alsop said, "It's nice to work with the upper echelon of performers and it's great for Detroit to feature them in a summer series. You may get people who only go to one concert for the year and they are going to get fine quality."

Man, myth and legend

On Sunday, Alsop will lead the orchestra in a half-hour pops concert. Then, Mr. Music himself, songwriter Burt Bacharach, takes the stage to perform his greatest hits like "What the World Needs Now" and "I Say a Little Prayer."

Told that this concert was

Please see D50, E2



Guest artist: Russian-born pianist Vladimir Feltsman will perform with the DSO on Friday.

WHAT: Detroit Symphony Orchestra at Meadow Brook Music Festival, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills.

TICKET INFORMATION: Four and five-concert packages, \$40-\$185. Single tickets for July 9-10 concerts, \$13-\$45. July 11 Burt Bacharach concert, \$15-\$40. Call (248) 645-6666 or (313) 576-5120, discounts for students under age 18. Visit the DSO Web site www.detroit-symphony.com

THIS WEEKEND

- 8 p.m. Friday, July 9 - "Opening Fanfare," conducted by Marin Alsop. Program includes Copland's Fanfare for the Common Man, and Joan Tower's Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman No. 1.
- 8 p.m. Saturday, July 10 - "Beethoven Outdoors," features violinist Pinchas Zukerman in a program of Ruch's Violin Concerto.
- 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 11 - The DSO with Burt Bacharach.

WHAT: Playscape '99, a festival of new plays

WHEN: Thursday-Sunday, July 15-18
WHERE: Performance Network, 408 W. Washington, (2 1/2 blocks west of Main St.) Ann Arbor

TICKETS: \$12 general admission to mainstage production, \$9 students. Staged readings \$5 suggested donation. Call (734) 663-0681 or <http://comnet.org/PNetwork> on the Web

MAINSTAGE

■ "Mainstream," a full-length, original comedy - 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, July 15-17, and 2 p.m., Sunday, July 18.

STAGED READING SERIES

■ "Talk Show," a comedy in two acts - 1 p.m. Saturday, July 17.
■ "Dance Like No One's Watching," a new full-length play - 4 p.m. Saturday, July 17.

Heartlande showcases new works

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

Most theater companies pick up where Heartlande Theatre Company leaves off — after the play is polished and ready to go.

The process of creating new works is what excites Jan Radcliff, executive director of the theater company which is presenting "Playscape '99," Thursday-Sunday, July 15-18, at Performance Network in Ann Arbor. "It's exciting to get a play on its feet and see what it looks like," said Radcliff, a Birmingham resident.

Playscape showcases new, original works by local playwrights, which are presented and directed by local actors and actresses. Two of the three featured writers, M.V. Patton and David MacGregor, have been participating in Heartlande's New Plays Initiative. A new work by Kitty Dubin of Birmingham was also selected.

"This is the fifth year we're doing it," said Radcliff. "The plays are worth the money. They're sheer entertainment. What we do, I think is unique. We're the only theater completely committed to writers."

A theater company without a home, Heartlande works to develop works by artists such as MacGregor of Livonia, an instructor at Wayne State University, through its New Plays Initiative formed two years ago.

"It's good stuff," said Radcliff. "People come in with low expectations and they're blown away. This is a great way to support local artists."

Presenting new works is just part of the process. MacGregor and the other five writers in the group meet every two weeks.

"We run through an act or two and get feedback on what worked and what didn't," said MacGregor. "These people have a passion for the theater. I value that. When I write stuff it's a pretty solitary experience. It's validating to know you're not a lone voice in the wilderness."

In some ways, you could call Playscape a dress rehearsal. This year three works are being presented — "Mainstream," a full-length comedy by MacGregor and two works in process, "Talk Show," a comedy in two acts by M.V. Patton, and "Dance Like No One's Watching," a new full-length play by

Please see HEARTLANDE, E2

MUSIC

Bad Company working together again

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Riding in a taxi cab throughout the streets and tunnels of New York City, Simon Kirke is taking on the role of Mr. Mom.

Never mind that he, vocalist/guitarist Paul Rodgers, bassist Boz Burrell and guitarist Mick Ralphs have reformed to tour as Bad Company and cut a few new tracks. His priorities have changed temporarily.

"I'm going into a tunnel so bear with me if we get cut off. I'm in a New York taxi cab. It's amazing isn't it? I'm calling you from this cell phone. I have to pick up my daughter from school. If we don't get to do it all, we can get together later," Kirke said referring to an interview.

WHO: Bad Company featuring Paul Rodgers, Mick Ralphs, Simon Kirke and Boz Burrell

WHAT: Perform with special guest David Lee Roth

WHEN: 8 p.m. Friday, July 9
WHERE: Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit.

HOW: Tickets, \$25, \$35, \$45, are available at the Joe Louis Arena box office and all Ticketmaster outlets. For more information, call (313) 983-6606.

The quintessential English gentleman, Kirke is even as polite and thoughtful when he describes Bad Company's make-up and break-up.

"I have to say straight-up it's been fantastic," the drummer said. "We're all a bit

the bit wary because when we sort of parted company all those years ago, it wasn't under the best of circumstances. We were a little bit cautious of working together again," Kirke explained.

The quartet was relieved of its reservations when a pay-per-view concert early in the tour went especially well, he explained.

"The vibe was just fantastic. I think there's a newfound affection and respect. It had been eroded away in 1980 or 1981, whenever it was," said Kirke, who along with the rest of Bad Company, will perform at Joe Louis Arena on Friday, July 9.

"We just got tired of each other basic-

Please see TOGETHER, E3



Reunited: The recently reformed Bad Company performs with special guest David Lee Roth on Friday, July 9, at Joe Louis Arena. The band released an anthology on Elektra Records.

DSO from page E1

almost sold out, Alsop said, "No kidding? He's coming around again. I'm sure he's happy." Indeed, who would have known ten years ago that the tunes thought destined to be hummed exiting elevators would make Bacharach a new teen sensation? But the same swinging martini lounge craze that resurrected Tony Bennett, Tom Jones, and Mel Torme from performance parody also brought back

Bacharach. The British band Oasis got the pendulum swinging by putting a picture of their musical hero on the cover of "Definitely Maybe," the band's 1994 hit album. A couple years later, Oasis songwriter Noel Gallagher joined Bacharach onstage during a concert, and the 70-year-old's coolness was sealed. Now, hip bands including the Cranberries, REM, Massive Attack and Stereolab are cover-

ing Bacharach tunes. At least five of his songs appeared in the movie "My Best Friend's Wedding." And he, himself, had a cameo appearance in the Austin Powers' movies. Last year, he and Elvis Costello worked together on "Painted from Memory," a stunning collection of Bacharach's polished arrangements and Costello's rueful lyrics. **Classical ventures**

Appearing with the DSO is not at all out of character for the songwriter who has racked up more than a half-dozen Oscars and Grammy Awards for his songs and scores. Trained in classical music, Bacharach turned towards Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker, but never thought he, too, could be a jazzman. Popular music was his forte. And since the late 1950s, he's been churning out the mega-hits

that made singer Dionne Warwick a star and gave countless hits to numerous artists. Bacharach's appearance with the DSO is definitely the highlight of the "Sunday Summer Pops" expanded series which also includes a Gershwin Gala on July 18 and Audra McDonald singing Broadway tunes on July 25. For Alsop, this weekend marks her debut with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Recent and

upcoming appearances include the National Symphony in Washington, D.C., and the symphonies of San Francisco, Atlanta, Houston, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Vancouver and Toronto. "Every orchestra has its own personality," said Alsop, "About the quality and level of this orchestra, I've only heard good things about Detroit."

Heartlande from page E1

Dubin. "It stretches different muscles for actors and directors," said Radcliff. "They know they'll have

an impact on the works being presented. It's a collaborative effort. It's exciting for the writer to get feedback. That excitement,

that process is what keeps us rejuvenated." Staged readings, Radcliff believes, are an interesting art

form. "They're plays that aren't done yet, they're under cooked," she said. "But in some ways they reveal the magic of theater. The audience has to participate imaginatively. Afterward we pass out surveys and do talk backs if time allows. The audience takes an active part in the process of the play. They participate in the creation of art. It's a dynamic aspect of theater."

MacGregor has been watching the rehearsals of his play for the past couple of weeks.

"The appeal of theater is you can present stuff as an unadulterated vision of the writer," said MacGregor. "You sit and study and hammer away at the play. It's very isolating. But these people are so passionate. In a way, I feel so unworthy. The people involved are so talented. It's a pleasure to work with them. In a

play the human element is right there."

MacGregor's "Mainstream" is a story about a Medieval English professor so obsessed with his research that he often sleeps in his office. He falls apart when his wife leaves. A colleague suggests he write a novel which, much to the professor's surprise, is a best-seller. The professor becomes a pop icon but is still troubled.

"Talk Show" by Patton, is a satire about talk shows. "Dance Like No One's Watching," by Dubin is about a married couple who enters therapy embarking on an emotional roller coaster ride.

For Radcliff it all comes down to process, taking an idea, developing it into a play with a beginning, middle, and end, and seeing actors and directors bring it

to life. "It's the evolution of an artist and a piece of work that's what's most exciting for us," she said. "We don't have overhead. We don't pay our actors a lot. If you're not having fun, you're not getting the artistic pay-off. People don't do it for the money."

Still, she admits, "it's difficult to always be a guest in someone else's house. We hope we can hang on long enough to find a place to call home."

Playscape is part of the Performance Network's TreeTown Theatre Festival, a celebration of plays and dance by local artists, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, until Aug. 26.

Brass Tacks Theatre Ensemble is presenting William Shakespeare's "King Lear" through July 11.

Share Greenfield Village memories

(PRNewswire) — Dust off those old photo albums. Clean out your desk drawers. Greenfield Village wants pictures of you and your family!

In honor of Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village's 70th anniversary this year, the institution is hosting a photo contest, "Sharing Your Memories of Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village." Participants are encouraged to submit family

photos taken in either the museum or the village between 1929 and 1999.

When you visit Henry Ford Museum or Greenfield Village, be sure to bring along your photo in an envelope. Look for the entry forms and receptacles at ticket counters within both the museum and village.

Simply fill out the form with your name, address, phone number and description and date of the picture and include it in the

envelope with your picture. Please note, the photos may not be returned.

The contest will close July 23. On Aug. 2, the institution's panel of judges will select the top four photographs.

A grand prize winner will receive a free family membership to Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village. Runners-up will receive tickets to the museum and village.

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Together from page E1

ly," he added simply. "It was like a marriage that really got tired. We'd done a lot of touring, a lot of recording, endless tours, deadlines to meet. We had eight years of it and we just got tired of it. We said, 'Enough.' It was a pretty mundane reason, really. None of us found God or anything like that."

The reunion was almost as simple. Elektra Records met with Bad Company to discuss the band's 25th anniversary

and things just fell into place. The label released "The 'Original' Bad Company Anthology" earlier this year and suggested that the band do something to promote it.

"This year sees the 25th anniversary of the release of the first album. Last year we had a meeting to discuss the back catalogue. It was one of those sort of legal meetings where we had to attend in person," Kirke explained.

"We found we got along really well. Then the suggestion was made of a box set or an anthology to commemorate the classic album. The record company suggested that we go out to promote the record but I think the truth was we kind of missed each other."

"I certainly missed Mick and Boz because they're so manic and funny. Paul's singing really evokes strange feelings. He's a terrific singer. I love his voice."

It also evoked creative juices. Besides hits like "Shooting Star" and "Feel Like Makin' Love," the two-CD set "Anthology" includes four new songs — "Tracking Down a Runaway" and "Hammer of Love" by Rodgers, and the Ralphs-penned "Ain't It Good" and "Hey, Hey."

Through touring, recording and rehearsing, Kirke explained, "a

certain magic suddenly reared its head again."

He's unsure of the future of the band but would like to think that a new album is in the cards.

"I would like to do a new album, yes. That's not a view that is

whole-heartedly shared by all of us at the moment," he said with a snicker. "We're just play-

ing this a week at a time, really. We don't really want to make a grand plan in case it all blows up.

"That's being pretty pessimistic but I have to be realistic. We haven't played together for 20 years. The signs are very encouraging but I'm being a little cautious when I say that there are no plans for a new album because there aren't. But I don't see it being out of the realm of possibilities."

BOOK HAPPENINGS

Book Happenings features various events at suburban bookstores, libraries and literary gatherings. Send news leads to Keely Wygonik, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or fax them to (734) 591-7279 or e-mail to kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

BOOK SIGNINGS

Farmington Observer reporter and Livonia resident Tim Smith will sign copies of his new book, "Miracle Birth Stories of Very Premature Babies - Little Thumbs Up!" 2.4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 7, Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 396 John R Road, Troy. Smith can be contacted directly at (248) 477-5450.

BORDERS (ANN ARBOR)

Los Angeles Kings player Dan Bylsma discusses and signs his book "So Your Son Wants to Play in the NHL." 7 p.m. Thursday, July

8; Sir Morgan the Knight stops by Camp Borders, 11 a.m. Saturday, July 10, at the store, 612 Liberty St. (734) 668-7652.

BORDERS (ARBORLAND)

"Fight Club IV," a short story writing workshop geared for 14-20 people, 4 p.m. Thursdays; Creative writing group, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 8; "ArtVentures" with crafts from Argentina, 2 p.m. Saturday, July 10, at the store, 3527 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor. (734) 677-6948.

BORDERS (AUBURN HILLS)

Ron Nelson performs his old west style cowboy poetry at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 10, at the store, 3924 Baldwin Road, Auburn Hills. (248) 335-5013

BORDERS (FARMINGTON HILLS)

Leon Schoichit displays his watercolors through July 31 in the Borders Cafe; Knitters Gathering holds its meetings, 7:30 p.m. Mondays, July 5 and

19; Monthly business networking meeting featuring keynote speaker, Lisa Sawicki, president of the Lapides Publicity Group in Royal Oak, 9-10 a.m. Thursday, July 8, at the store, 30995 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. (248) 737-0110

BORDERS (ROCHESTER HILLS)

Amazing Clark's Puppet Show visit Camp Borders, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 8; Sheila Landis Trio performs 8 p.m. Friday, July 9, at the store, 1122 Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 652-0558.

SOUTHFIELD LIBRARY

Book discussion series at the library, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield features the works of Edith Wharton. Registration is required and participants will be responsible for providing their own books. Register at the Fiction Desk, or call (248) 948-0470.

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BRASS TACKS ENSEMBLE
A timeless production of Shakespeare's "King Lear," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, July 8-10, and 2 p.m. Sunday, July 11, at the Performance Network, 408 West Washington, Ann Arbor. \$12, \$9 students/seniors, pay what you can for Thursday performances. (734) 663-0696

P.T.D. PRODUCTIONS
"The Boys Next Door," a play about four mentally handicapped men living in a communal residence, 8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, July 8-11 and Thursday-Saturday, July 15-17, at the Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron Street, Ypsilanti. \$12, \$9 seniors/students. (734) 483-7345

YOUTH

NOVI THEATRES
"Jack in the Beanstalk...a Parody," by Linda Wickert, Friday-Sunday, July 9-11, at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 West 10 Mile, Novi. \$8, \$7 advance. (248) 347-0400

SPECIAL EVENTS

"ARTISANS AFTERGLOW"
The Ann Arbor Artisans' Market Art Fair Afterglow will be held 5-10 p.m. Saturday, July 24 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, July 25, David Swain and his band play swing, blues, jazz and rock 6-10 p.m. Saturday, acoustic guitarist Ken King performs traditional and modern folk music noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, wide variety of arts and crafts will be for sale, at the City Market, 315 Detroit Street in Kerrytown.

BEANIE BABIE SHOW
11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, July 11, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. \$5, \$2 ages 4-12. (734) 455-2110

CZECH AND SLOVAK AMERICAN FESTIVAL

Music, foods, United Moravian Society Dancers, Bohemian crystal, pastries, artifacts, garnet jewelry, 2:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, July 10 and 1:30-8 p.m. Sunday, July 11, at Yack Arena, 3131 Second St. at Eureka Road, east of I-75, Wyandotte. \$6, free for children age 14 and younger. (734) 416-0376/(313) 382-0406

SAILING CHALLENGE
Bacardi Bayview Mackinac race begins in Port Huron, 11:30 a.m. Saturday, July 17 and ends Tuesday, July 20 on Mackinac Island. The first boats are expected to arrive on the island in the early morning hours of Monday.

DEPOT TOWN CRUISE NIGHTS
Hundreds of street rods rumble into Depot Town 6-9 p.m. Thursdays through Sept. 9, Cross Street in Ypsilanti. (734) 483-4444 or www.ypsilanti.org

HOT COUNTRY JAM
3-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 9-10, Ned Doerr and the Red Ryder Band, Steele Canyon, Tony Phillips, Kristyn Smith, Shalee Tension, MB Owens and Midnite Holler, Janis Leigh and the Luck of the Draw, Shane Minor, and Pam Tillis, at Heritage Park, on Pardee Road, between Goddard and North Line roads, Taylor. Free. (734) 453-9157 or www.wattsupinc.com

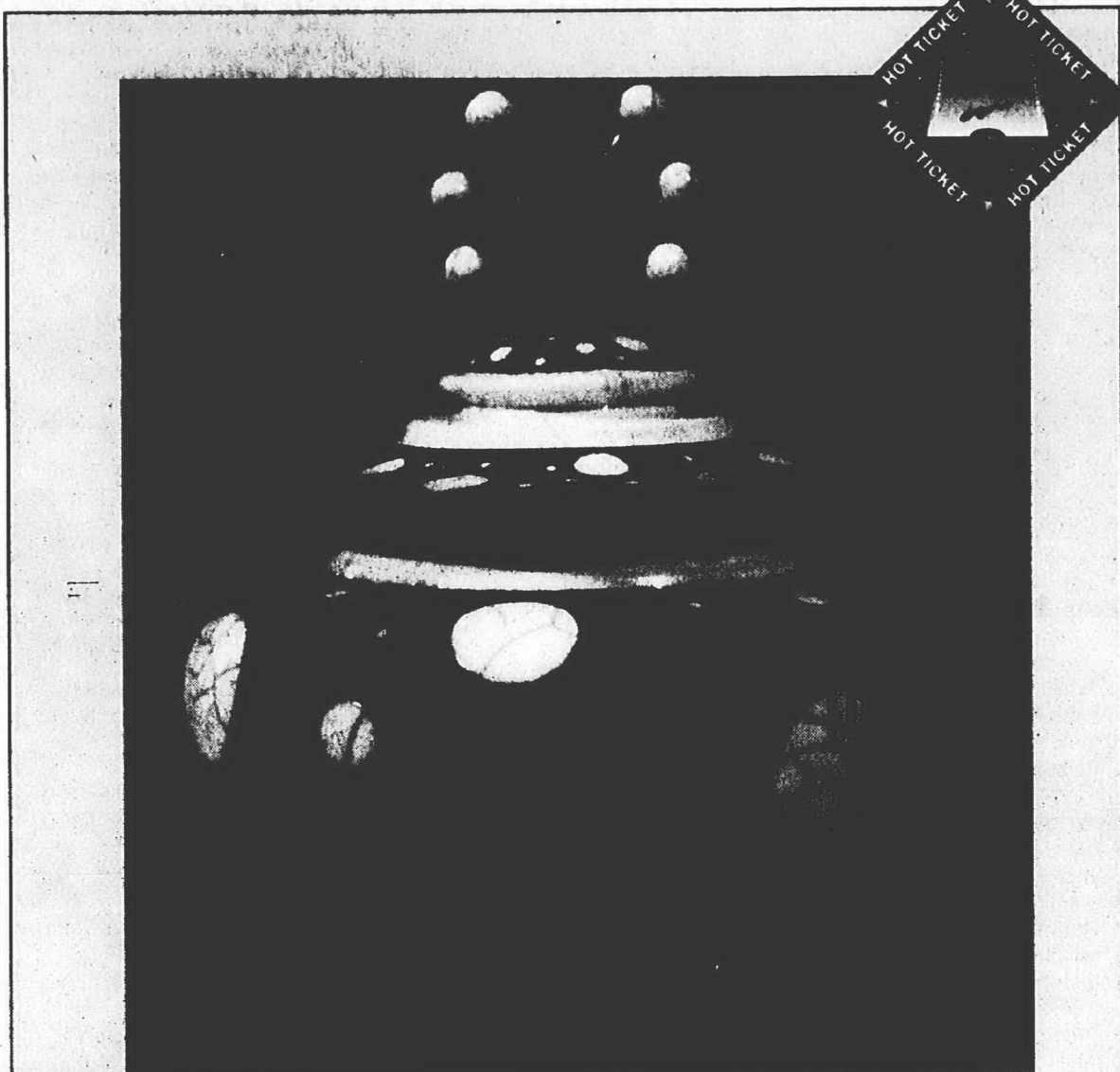
REDFORD THEATRE
Film "The Adventures of Robin Hood," with guest organist Tony O'Brien, 7:30 p.m. organ overture followed by 8 p.m. film Friday, July 9, and 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. overtures with 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. films, Saturday, July 10, Historic Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser Road, Detroit. \$2.50. (313) 537-2560 or http://theatreorgans.com/mi/redford

"SCI-FI SIGNALS"
11:30 a.m. Saturday, July 10 hear local astronomer Mike Best give a lively history and update on UFO's, known as Dr. Carl Sagan with Humor, Best will use slides and video clips to illustrate his points; also readings by Ann Arbor authors Steve Piziks and Sarah Zettel at 1 p.m., at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main, Plymouth. (734) 453-0750

SUPERFEST
7 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Maze featuring Frankie Beverly, with special guests The O'Jay's, Gerald Levert, Next and Jesse Powell, at Chene Park, Detroit. \$65, \$47.50, \$27.50. (248) 645-6666

TEDDY BEAR SHOW AND SALE
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, July 18, at Weber's Inn, I-94 exit 172 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor. \$5, \$1.50 children. (502) 423-STAR or www.bright-star-productions.com

YANKEE AIR MUSEUM
Mustang Round-up featuring P-51 Mustangs, Heinkel He-111, B-17 Flying Fortress "Sentimental Journey," and over 50 classic Ford Mustangs, airflight demonstrations throughout the day, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, July 17-18, off Beck Road, at Willow Run Airport, Belleville. \$4, \$3 children/seniors; World War II Symposium featuring guest speakers Gunther Rall, Bud



Art fair: Karin Batchelor is of more than 400 artists and craftsmen, featured at Art in the Park in downtown Plymouth, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, July 10, and until 5 p.m. Sunday, July 11. For more information, call (734) 454-1314.

Anderson and Robert Morgan 6 p.m. Saturday, July 17, \$35. (734) 483-4030

BENEFITS

"JUST ZOO IT"
Gift of Life 5K Run and 1.5 mile Fun Walk to celebrate the gift of life and learn more about organ and tissue donation, 9 a.m. Saturday, July 17, rain or shine, at the Detroit Zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile, Royal Oak. \$20, includes zoo admission, two free tickets to the Detroit Rockers home opener Nov. 7 and commemorative t-shirt. Children under age 10 admitted free to the zoo before 10 a.m. (877) 966-6863

"SERIOUS MOONLIGHT"
Benefit celebration takes on a Caribbean flavor in conjunction with Cranbrook Art Museum's summer exhibit "Contemporary Art from Cuba," dancing, food, silent auction, and music by Blackman & Arnold, 8 p.m. to midnight, July 10, outdoors at the museum, 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. \$85 advance, \$90, to benefit the art museum. (248) 645-3361

THE THREE TENORS
7 p.m. Saturday, July 17, at Tiger Stadium. \$50-\$350, to benefit Michigan Opera Theatre's New Century Fund Campaign to complete the Detroit Opera House. (313) 237-3433/(248) 645-6666

FAMILY EVENTS

DAN BRIERE
Of "Little Creatures" shows live animals including a monitor lizard and hedgehog, 7 p.m. Friday, July 9, Cohn Amphitheatre, adjacent to the Lewis E. Wint Nature Center at Independence Oaks County Park on Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$2.50. (248) 625-6473/(248) 858-1684 (TTY) or http://www.co.oakland.mi.us

KEVIN DEVINE
Hosts a children's concert as part of the Summer Reading Club, 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 14, West Bloomfield Public Library, 6315 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Free. All ages. (248) 682-2120; 6:30 p.m. Birmingham City Hall, 151 Martin St., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 588-2914

FARMINGTON AREA FOUNDERS FESTIVAL
Featuring Country Line and Square Dancers, Bonne Temps Roule, Mudpuppy, the Chisel Brothers, the Imperial Swing Orchestra, Starlight Drifters, Forbes Brothers, Jill Jack, Black Market, and The Howling Diablos, through Saturday, July 10, downtown Farmington. (734) 453-9157 or http://www.wattsupinc.com

HIGHLAND RECREATION AREA
"Sneaky Snakes," 10 a.m. Thursday, July 8; "Special Seeds," 10 a.m. Thursday, July 15; "Special Seeds," 10 a.m. Thursday, July 15, at the park, 5200 E. M-59, White Lake Township. Free, motor vehicle permit required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. (248) 685-2187

PROUD LAKE RECREATION AREA
"Environmental Kids," 10 a.m.

Tuesday, July 13, at the park, 3500 Wixom Road, Milford. Free, motor vehicle permit required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. (248) 685-2187

GORDON RUSS
Magician and comedian performs 1:30 p.m. Thursday, July 8, Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St., Plymouth. \$4, \$3 children. City residents receive \$1 off. (734) 455-6620

MARC THOMAS
Ventriloquist and magician performs 1:30 p.m. Thursday, July 15, Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St., Plymouth. \$4, \$3 children. City residents receive \$1 off. (734) 455-6620

TROY FAMILY FESTIVAL
Featuring Marc Thomas, Harpbeat, moon walk, The Spoon Man, The Amazing Zeemo, face painting, jugglers, hands-on children's crafts, food and puppet show, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, Boulan Park on Crooks Road north of Big Beaver Road, Troy. Free. (248) 524-3484

FREE SUMMER CONCERTS

"CONCERTS ON THE LAWN"
The Edge plays jazz to rhythm and blues, funk, pop, rock, reggae and rap, 7 p.m. Sunday, July 11, on the front lawn of the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen Road, at Civic Center Drive. (248) 424-9022

GAZEBO CONCERTS
Simon & Hilary performs everything from folk to Handel, Irving Berlin and the blues 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, at Burgh Historical Park, Civic Center Drive and Berg Road, east of Telegraph, Southfield. (248) 424-9022

"IN THE PARK"
Air Margaritaville with Michael Fedorka, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 8, Shain Park, Birmingham.

"MUSIC IN THE PARK"
Noon Wednesday, July 14, Harpbeat, in Kellogg Park, Main Street, between Penningman and Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth. In case of rain, concert will be held in The Gathering next to the Penn Theater. (734) 416-44RT

"MUSIC UNDER THE STARS"
Joe Kinglsey Band, old time favorites, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 8, at Livonia Civic Center Park, Five Mile, east of Farmington Road; Peterson Country Music featuring dancers, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 15, at Greenmead Historical Village, Newburgh, south of Eight Mile, Livonia. (734) 466-2540

NOVI CONCERT BAND
8 p.m. Thursday, July 15, at Heritage Park, Farmington.

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY BAND
7:30-9 p.m. Friday, July 9, at the bandshell, Northville. (248) 349-7640

WESTLAND CULTURAL SOCIETY
Pyramid II with Tyrone Hamilton, 6 p.m. Sunday, July 11, at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion, behind Westland Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road, between Wayne Road and Newburgh. Free. In case of

rain, concerts will be held inside Bailey Recreation Center. (734) 722-7620/(734) 522-3918

CLASSICAL

"AN EVENING OF ROBERT SCHUMANN"
Featuring pianists Michele Cooker and Arthur Greene, lyric soprano Elizabeth Parcells, violinist Megan Reiter and commentary by Susan Nisbett, 8 p.m. Saturday, July 17, at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$25, \$15, \$10. (734) 769-2999 or kch@ic.net

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
With conductor Martin Altop and pianist Vladimir Feltsman, 8 p.m. Friday, July 9; "Beethoven Outdoors" with conductor Marin Altop and Pinchas Zukerman, 8 p.m. Saturday, July 10; With Burt Bacharach, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 11; "Pictures at an Exhibition," 8 p.m. Friday, July 16, with conductor Neeme Jarvi and violinist Chuan Yun Li; all at Meadow Brook Music Festival, Oakland University, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester. \$13-\$50. (313) 576-5111 or http://www.detroitssymphony.com

POPS/SWING

BRIAN SETZER ORCHESTRA
With BR5-49, 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 9, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$29.50 pavilion, \$15 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or http://www.palacenet.com

STARLIGHT DRIFTERS
9:30 p.m. Thursday, July 15, Karl's Cabin, 9779 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 455-8450 (western swing)

AUDITIONS/ OPPORTUNITIES

BIRMINGHAM CONCERT BAND
Looking for adult musicians (woodwind, brass, and especially percussion players) of all ages, rehearsals are 7:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at Groves High School Birmingham. (248) 474-4997

EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE
Auditions for the new pre-professional dance company, 1 p.m. Sunday, July 18, at the EDE Center for Dance, 1541 Hamlin Road, between Crooks and Livornois, Rochester Hills. (248) 852-5850; also summer dance day camp for boys and girls who have completed grades 1-6, July 19-30 and Aug. 2-13.

MICHIGAN DANCE EXPRESS
Hosts its Summer Dance Camp July 25-29 at Camp Copneconic in Fenton for ages eight and older, camp combines four hours of daily dance training with traditional summer camp activities such as swimming and boating, styles include ballet, tap, jazz, and lyrical along with classes in modeling, production and swing. (734) 397-9755/(313) 562-1203

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE
Auditions for the children's chorus in "Werther" Tuesday, July 13, boys with unchanged voices and girls with

out vibrato (ages 10-17) who are under 5 ft. 2 in. tall, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway. For performances Oct. 29 to Nov. 14. (313) 237-3274

SPIRIT OF DETROIT CHORUS
Looking for new members of all ages to rehearse and become new members of the ladies group that sings four-part harmony in the barbershop tradition, 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile west of Inkster Road, Livonia. (313) 937-2429

STAGECRAFTERS
Auditions for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," 7:30 p.m. (registration begins 6:30 p.m.) Friday and Monday, July 9 (men) and July 12 (women), also casting non-pit musicians/actors who can play violin/fiddle, electric/string bass, electric/acoustic guitar, flute/recorder and hand percussion, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. For performances Sept. 17-19, 23-26 and 30, and Oct. 1-3 and 8-10. (248) 541-4832

SUMMER DRAMA CAMPS
Ages 5 and up join the Whistle Stop Players for sessions 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, July 12-16 and Aug. 9-13, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, at Junction. \$100, \$75 PCAC members. (734) 416-4ART

SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR PERFORMERS
Workshop with Walk & Squawk's artistic directors Erika Block and Hilary Ramsden and Lavinia Moyer and Angela De Castro, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Saturday, July 12-17 (\$180); also theater camp for teenagers July 19-23 (\$100), at the Walk & Squawk Performance Project, 122 East Mosley, Ann Arbor. (734) 668-0407

JAZZ

MARCUS BELGRAVE
7-11 p.m. Saturday, July 10, at the Gem and Century Theatres, 333 Madison Avenue, Detroit. (313) 963-9800

TASILIMAH BEY
8:30 p.m. to midnight, Saturdays, at Fishbone's Rhythm Kitchen Cafe, 29244 Northwestern Hwy., north of 12 Mile, Southfield. (248) 351-2925 (ragtime piano)

SANDRA BOMAR QUARTET
8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday, July 16, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocal/piano/bass/drums)

RON BROOKS TRIO
9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 16-17, at the Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 662-8310

JUDIE COCHILL TRIO
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, July 10, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocal/piano/bass)

GEM JAZZ TRIO
6-10 p.m. Thursday, July 8, at the Gem and Century Theatres, 333 Madison Avenue, Detroit. (313) 963-9800

WENDELL HARRISON QUINTET
8:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, Orchestra Hall, Detroit. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. (313) 576-5111

BILL HEID TRIO
8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, July 8, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (piano/bass/drums)

HEIDI HEPLER AND MICHELE RAMO
With Todd Curtis, 7-11 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, Too Chez, 27155 Sheraton Dr., Novi. Free. All ages. (248) 348-5555; 8 p.m. to midnight Saturdays, Northern Lakes Seafood Company's Tavern Bar, 475 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. 21 and older. (248) 646-7900 (Brazilian jazz/American standards)

IMMUNITY
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday, July 11, Jamaica Joe's, 6041 Haggerty Road, West Bloomfield. Free. All ages. (248) 926-5300; 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday, July 16, The Deck at Second City, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 965-2222 (reggae)

"JAZZSTAGE" SERIES
Presented by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Marcus Belgrave Quintet 8:30 p.m. Friday, July 9; Wendell Harrison Quintet, 8:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, and Teddy Harris Jr. Quintet, 8:30 p.m. Friday, July 30, Orchestra Hall, Detroit. \$10 advance, \$15. (313) 576-5111

HUGH MASEKELA
Headlines "Concert of Colors," 2:30-9 p.m. Sunday, July 11, also Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca, Laura Vinson & Free Spirit, Emil Zrihan, and George Gao and the Silk Ensemble, at Chene Park, Detroit. Free, but passes required. (313) 664-2015 or www.newdetroit.org

SHAHIDA NURULLAH QUARTET
8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Friday, July 9, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older.

(248) 645-2150 (vocal/piano/bass/drums)

SHEILA LANDIS
With Wendell Harrison, Gary Schunk and Ralph Armstrong, 8:30-11:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 833-3700

PHILIPPE LEJEUNE
8 p.m. Friday, July 9, at Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$25, \$15, \$10. (734) 769-2999 or kch@ic.net

DEE DEE MCNEIL
6-10 p.m. Friday, July 9, at the Gem and Century Theatres, 333 Madison Avenue, Detroit. (313) 963-9800

MATT MICHAELS TRIO
With vocalist Barbara Ware, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, July 8, at the Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. \$5 cover waived with dinner, and \$5 drink minimum. (248) 474-4800

MICHIGAN JAZZ FESTIVAL
Tom Saunders & the Detroit All Stars, SCool Jazz/PRime, Alma Smith, Steve Wood, George Benson, Janet Tenaj, Matt Michaels/Jack Brokensha, Barbara Ware, Dennis & April Tini, Naima Shamborguer, Louis Smith, Paul Vornhagen, Pistol Allen, Larry Nozoro, Ron Kischuk and the Tartar Sauce Jazz Band, Jim Stefanon's Oldest Living Saxophone Octet, Bess Bonier, Sheila Landis, New Generation, Ed Nuccilli & The Plural Circle, Brookside Jazz Ensemble, Jim Wyse and Johnny Trudell's Big Band, noon to 10:30 p.m. Sunday, July 18, at Schoolcraft College, on Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia. Free. (248) 474-2720/(734) 459-2454

GARY SCHUNK TRIO
8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, July 15, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (piano/bass/drums)

SCHUNK/STARR/DRYDEN
11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Thursday, July 8, The Plaza, one block west of the Southfield Civic Center, Southfield. Free. All ages. (248) 354-9540

VINCENT SHANDOR TRIO
With vocalist Jeannine Miller, 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 9-10, at the Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 662-8310

JANET TENAJ TRIO
Featuring Sven Anderson, piano and Kurt Krahnke, bass, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays, at Fishbone's Restaurant, 29244 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield. (248) 351-2925

URSULA WALKER AND BUDDY BUDSON
With Dan Kolton, 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursdays at Forte, 201 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 594-7300

THE WARREN COMMISSION
6:30-10:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Big Rock Chop and Brew House's stone terrace, 245 E. Eton, Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 647-7774

PAMELA WISE AND THE AFRO-CUBAN ALL STARS
8:30 p.m. to midnight, Fridays, at Fishbone's Rhythm Kitchen Cafe, 29244 Northwestern Hwy., north of 12 Mile, Southfield. (248) 351-2925

WORLD MUSIC

THE ARTICLES
10:30 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Rochester Mills Beer Co., 400 Water St., Rochester. Free. 21 and older. (248) 650-5060 (Jamaican jazz)

CHEFTAINS
8 p.m. Friday, July 9, Kresge Auditorium, Interlochen Center for the Arts, Interlochen. \$17.50-\$29.50. (616) 276-6230 (Celtic)

RON CODEN
9 p.m. Friday, July 9, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-1135 (Irish)

THE DISTRACTIONS
9 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-1135 (Irish)

JIM PERKINS
9 p.m. Thursday, July 15, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-1135 (Irish)

GERARD SMITH AND FRIENDS
9 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-1135 (Irish)

UNIVERSAL XPRESSION
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 9-10, The Deck at Second City, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 965-2222 (reggae)

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

R.G. DEMPSTER AND FRIENDS
8-11 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Coffee

Please see next page

8 days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Keely Wygonik; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

Continued from previous page

Beaenry, 152 N. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 646-6022

POETRY/ SPOKEN WORD

DONNA DEMEYER AND MARC MAURUS
7:30-10 p.m. Thursday, July 8, as part of the Plymouth Poets' seventh annual Summer Celebration of Poetry at Coffee Bean Company, 844 Penniman, at Harvey Street, Plymouth. (734) 459-7319

PARADIZ X. WILLIAMS
With Will Tupper, 6-10 p.m. Sunday, July 11, The Grand Cafe, 33316 Grand River Ave., Farmington. Free. All ages. (248) 615-9181

"POET IN RESIDENCE"
Rod Rhenhart, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, July 8, 15, 22, 29, and Sunday, July 11 (Kellogg Park), at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth. (734) 453-0750 for specific events and programs.

SONYA POUNCEY
With Ann Holdrieth and Rod Reinhart, 7:30-10 p.m. Thursday, July 15, as part of the Plymouth Poets' seventh annual Summer Celebration of Poetry at Coffee Bean Company, 844 Penniman, at Harvey Street, Plymouth. (734) 459-7319

DANCE

COBBLESTONE FARM DANCERS
8 p.m. Saturday, July 15, all dances taught, open jam for string band musicians of all levels 4-6 p.m. (free), at the Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, south of I-94, Ann Arbor. \$7. (734) 665-8863/(734) 426-0241

PICNIC SOCIAL DANCE
3-7 p.m. Sunday, July 11, music by Bob Ostrowski & The Valiants, at the American Polish Cultural Center, 1975 E. Maple, at Dequindre, Troy. \$5. (248) 689-3636

WOLVERINE SILVERSPUR DANCERS
7:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, July 10, at the Italian American Cultural Center, 12 Mile, east of Hoover, Warren. \$7, \$6 WSD members. Free lesson and snacks. (810) 573-4993

COMEDY

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB
Billy Ray Bauer, Robert Mac and Tim Lilly, Thursday Saturday, July 8-10 (\$10); Jef Brannan, Mike Allen and Rob Little, Thursday-Saturday, July 15-17 (\$10), at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesdays Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S
at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

MAINSTREET COMEDY SHOWCASE
Kirkland Teeple, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 9-10, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. \$8 advance, \$10. (734) 996-9080

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE
Karl Anthony, July 8-11, also appearing Thomas Ward; Spike Rizzo July 14-18 with Elliott Branch, at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays (\$5), 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays Thursdays (\$6), 9:30 p.m. Fridays and 9 p.m. Saturdays (\$12), and 7:30 p.m. Sundays (\$6). Prices subject to change. (248) 542-9900 or <http://www.comedycastle.com>

SECOND CITY
at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Mainstage comedy acts: \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. (313) 965-2222

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

BELLE ISLE ZOO
Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Oct. 31, at the zoo on Central Avenue on Belle Isle, two miles east of downtown Detroit, entrance is on East Jefferson at East Grand Boulevard. \$3. \$2 seniors age 62 and older and students, \$1 ages 2-12. (248) 398-0900/(248) 399-7001

CRANBROOK HOUSE AND GARDENS
Tours 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sundays through Sept. 26 (\$10); Thursdays to Sept. 30 a noon lunch is offered only with a house tour and only by reservation for an additional \$10; gardens open through Aug. 31 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday (\$5). at Cranbrook, 380 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 645-3147

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND ART MUSEUM
"Contemporary Art from Cuba: Irony and Survival on the Utopian Island," at the art museum. (248) 645-3361; "Scream Machines: The Science of

Roller Coasters," "Our Dynamic Earth," and planetarium and Lasera programs at the science center, 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. Extended Friday hours, 5-10 p.m. through Aug. 13. 1-877-462-7262

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM
"Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901," formerly known as "Furs to Factories," with a new Land Office, a "Wheel of Fortune" style land acquisition interactive, three new video screen interactives, a documentary video, a new Heavy Industry section and a display explaining Detroit's move from "Stove Capital of the World" to the Motor City, automobile capital of the world; "Remembering Downtown Hudson's" exhibit, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805 or <http://www.detroithistorical.org>

DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER
"More than Meets-the Eye," an interactive exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution takes visitors through some of the daily experiences of blind and visually impaired people, continues through Aug. 29. (313) 577-8400, ext. 417; IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest" at 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, "Thrill Ride" at 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" multiple showings seven days a week, "Whales" opens June 19, at the center, noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 7 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sundays, at 5020 John R (at Warren), Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4. (313) 577-8400

HENRY FORD ESTATE- FAIR LANE
Estate tours include the restored riverside powerhouse, Henry Ford's personal garage and cars, giant generators placed by Ford and Thomas Edison that still operate, and the tunnel to the 56-room mansion with elaborate carved woodwork and personal artifacts, at 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. (313) 593-5590

HENRY FORD MUSEUM/GREENFIELD VILLAGE
The village is celebrating its 70th season with a host of activities, and exhibits such as Abraham Lincoln's assassination chair and a life mask made 60 days before his assassination, at the museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, \$12.50, \$11.50 seniors, \$7.50 kids 5-12, members and children under 5 free. (313) 271-1620

MEADOW BROOK HALL
Tours 10:30 a.m., noon, 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. daily (through August, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. \$8, \$6 seniors age 62 and over, \$4 children ages 5-12. Luncheon in the Dining Room 11:15 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. Monday-Friday. (248) 370-3140

ROCHESTER HILLS MUSEUM
"Something Old, Something New: Wedding Gowns of the 19th and 20th Centuries," on display 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays-Saturdays through Sept. 25, at the museum on Van Hoosen Farm, 1005 Van Hoosen Road, one mile east of Rochester Road off of Tienken Road, Rochester Hills. \$3, \$2 seniors and students. (248) 656-4663

CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY
"The Third Root: Africans in Mexico" artists reception 7-9 p.m. Friday, July 9, continues to Aug. 22, at the museum, 315 E. Warren Ave., Detroit. \$5, \$3 for children ages 17 and younger. (313) 494-5800

BEACH BOYS
With Creedence Clearwater Revisited, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$25 pavilion, \$15.50 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

PAT BENATAR
With the Vudu Hippies, 7:30 p.m. Monday, July 12, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

BIG DOG AND THE WOOFERS
7 p.m. Friday, July 16, as part of Concert in the Park, Kellogg Park, Plymouth. Free. All ages. (734) 432-0126 or <http://www.freeyellow.com/members2/bluebite/page1.html> (blues)

FRANK BLACK AND THE CATHOLICS
8 p.m. Thursday, July 8, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$12 in advance, \$15 day of show. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

"BLIND PIG SHOWCASE"
With Non Solace, The Griffin Shepherd, Smirk and Dose, 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Free. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or <http://www.blindpigmusic.com> (variety)

BLUE ROSE
8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, July 15-16, Bad Frog Tavern, 555 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-9400 or <http://www.bluerose.iuma.com> or blueroseband@hotmail.com (blues)

BONNE TEMPS ROULLE
10:30 p.m. Friday, July 9, Rochester Mills Beer Co., 400 Water St., Rochester. Free. 21 and older. (248) 650-5060; 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Smitty's, 222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages. (248) 652-1600 (R&B)

JOEY BOWEN
9 p.m. Thursday, July 8, Fifth Avenue Ballroom, 25750 Novi Road, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (248) 735-4011 (blues)

BOY SETS FIRE
6 p.m. Friday, July 9, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6 in advance. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (emo-core)

JOE BROWN
9 p.m. Saturday, July 10, 313 Jac, above Jacoby's, 624 Brush St., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 886-7860 or <http://www.staterecords.com/313jac> (rock)

"BUDWEISER SUPERFEST"
With Maze featuring Frankie Beverly, O'Jays, Gerald Levert, Next and Jesse Powell, 7 p.m. Saturday, July 10, originally scheduled for Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit, moved to Chene Park, 2600 Atwater, Detroit. \$25, \$35, \$45, \$55, \$65. All ages. (313) 983-6606 (R&B)

CALLIN MARVIN
9 p.m. Saturday, July 10, C.K. Diggs, 2010 Auburn Road, Rochester Hills. Free. 21 and older. (248) 853-6600 (rock)

TERRI CLARK
With Tony Phillips, 8 p.m. Thursday, July 8, Clio Area Amphitheater, 301 Rogers Lodge Dr., Clio. \$26 reserved, \$21 bleachers. (810) 687-7611 or <http://www.clioamp.org> (country)

CODE BLOOM
With Master of None, 8 p.m. Saturday, July 10, J.D.'s Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Tickets at Ticketmaster. 18 and older. (810) or <http://www.codebloom.com> (rock)

THE COMMODORES
7:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (southern)

DOMESTIC PROBLEMS
8 p.m. Friday, July 16, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Cover charge. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicicbag.com> (jam rock)

EL TOPO
With Voda, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, July 8, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or <http://www.blindpigmusic.com> (rock)

ELIZA
8:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, Smitty's, 222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages. (248) 652-1600 (acoustic pop)

FLAMING LIPS
With Sebadoh and Robyn Hitchcock, 9 p.m. Friday, July 16, Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron St., Pontiac. \$20. All ages. (248) 333-2362 or <http://www.961melt.com> (alt rock)

FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE
With Owsley and Imperial Teen, 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$8 in advance. \$10 at the door. All ages. (313) 961-

MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (pop)

STEWART FRANCKE
8 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Cover charge. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicicbag.com> (pop/rock)

GANGSTER FUN
9 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Fifth Avenue Ballroom, 25750 Novi Road, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (248) 735-4011 (ska)

LARRY GARNER
9 p.m. Thursday, July 8, Fifth Avenue, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 542-9922 (blues)

THE GHETTO BILLIES
With The Dopes and Frisbee, 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 9, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or <http://www.blindpigmusic.com> (funny rock)

MICHAEL GLABICKI
Of Rusted Root, 8 p.m. Friday, July 16, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac. Canceled. (248) 335-8100 or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

GRADE
With Error Type 11, 7 p.m. Sunday, July 11, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

KERRY GRANT
9 p.m. Thursday, July 8, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-1135 (rock)

GROOVE WITH IT
9 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-1135 (blues)

FAITH HILL
With Jessica Andrews, 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, Meadow Brook Music Festival, Oakland University, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester. \$29.50 pavilion, \$15 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com>; 8 p.m. Thursday, July 15, Kresge Auditorium, Interlochen Center for the Arts, Interlochen. \$21.50/\$36.50. (616) 276-6230 (country)

FLAMING LIPS
With Sebadoh and Robyn Hitchcock, 9 p.m. Friday, July 16, Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron St., Pontiac. \$20. All ages. (248) 333-2362 or <http://www.961melt.com> (alternative rock)

FOOLISH MORTALS
10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 9-10, Woody's, 208 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 543-6911 (rock)

FOUNTAINS OF WAYNE
With Imperial Teen and Owsley, 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$10 in advance. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (pop)

GORDON BENNETT
7 p.m. Thursdays in July, Gameworks, 4316 Baldwin Road, Auburn Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 745-9675 (rock)

GRR
9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 9-10, Bogeys, 142 Walled Lake Road, Walled Lake. Free. 21 and older. (248) 669-1441; 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 14, Oxford Inn, 43317 Grand River Ave., Novi. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 305-5856 (acoustic rock)

"INDEPENDENTS DAY FESTIVAL"
With Diesel Boy, Teen Idols, and 30 Foot Fall, 7 p.m. Sunday, July 11, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$8 in advance. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (punk)

INTOXICANTS
With Superdot, Skrapz and Gramercy Riffs, 8 p.m. Thursday, July 15, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$4. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (punk)

JAMIROQUAI
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$30 main floor, \$25 balcony. All ages. (313) 961-5451 (pop)

JILL JACK
With Stewart Francke, 8 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Cover charge. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicicbag.com> or <http://www.blueboundary.com> (pop/rock)

CANDYE KANE
9 p.m. Thursday, July 15, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac. \$8. All ages. (248) 335-8100 or <http://www.961melt.com> (blues)

KANOBLISS
With Brian Henry Holvey, 9 p.m. Friday, July 16, 313 Jac, above Jacoby's, 624 Brush St., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 886-7860 or <http://www.staterecords.com/313jac> (alternative rock)

MIKE KING
8:30 p.m. Friday, July 9, Smitty's,

222 Main St., Rochester. Free. All ages. (248) 652-1600 (acoustic rock)

KNEE DEEP SHAG
With Daddy Longlegs, 8 p.m. Friday, July 9, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Cover charge. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicicbag.com> (funk/reggae)

KUNG FU DIESEL
9 p.m. Thursday, July 8, Karl's Cabin, 9779 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 455-8450 (rockabilly)

LIMP BIZKIT
With Staind and Orange 9mm, 5:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, Phoenix Plaza Amphitheatre, 10 Water St., Pontiac. \$25. All ages. (248) 645-6666 or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

LIQUID BROTHERS
9 p.m. Friday, July 16, Dick O'Dow's, 160 W. Maple Road, Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-1135 (pop)

JOHN MICHAEL MONTGOMERY
With Lee Roy Parnell and Montgomery Gentry, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 8, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$27.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (country)

MOTLEY CRUE
With Scorpions as part of the "Maximum Rock Tour '99," 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$35 pavilion, \$15 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

MUDDUPPY FEATURING PAUL RANDOLPH
8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 9-10, Oxford Inn, 43317 Grand River Ave., Novi. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 305-5856 (blues)

BOBBY MURRAY
9 p.m. Thursday, July 15, Fifth Avenue Ballroom, 25750 Novi Road, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (248) 735-4011 (blues)

ORIGINAL BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF LOVE
With Fez and Delta 88, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, July 15, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or <http://www.blindpigmusic.com> (rock)

PARK
9 p.m. Friday, July 9, 313 Jac, above Jacoby's, 624 Brush St., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 886-7860 or <http://www.staterecords.com/313jac> (eclectic)

THE REEFERMAN
9 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, Fifth Avenue Ballroom, 25750 Novi Road, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (248) 735-4011 (blues)

ROXANNE
9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 16-17, C.K. Diggs, 2010 Auburn Road, Rochester. Free. 21 and older. (248) 853-6600 (acoustic modern rock)

RUBY MOON
10 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 543-4300 (rock)

SOLID FROG
With Dirty Harry and Watershed, 9:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or <http://www.blindpigmusic.com> (rock)

TWISTIN' TARANTULAS
Celebrate release of CD with party and performance, with The Tumblers, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 11, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance. \$10 at the door. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rockabilly)

WAILIN' INC.
9 p.m. Friday, July 9, Fifth Avenue Ballroom, 25750 Novi Road, Novi. Free. 21 and older. (248) 735-4011 (blues)

CLAY WALKER
With Lila McCann, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 15, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$25 pavilion, \$15 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (country)

WILD WOODY'S
10:30 p.m. Friday, July 16, Rochester Mills Beer Co., 400 Water St., Rochester. Free. 21 and older. (248) 650-5060 (rockabilly)

"W4 106.7 HOT COUNTRY JAM"
With Pam Tillis, Friday-Saturday, July 9-10, Taylor. Free. benefits National Kidney Foundation of Michigan. All ages. (734) 453-9157 or <http://www.wattsupinc.com> (country)

CLUB NIGHTS

ALVIN'S
The Hush Party with resident DJs Melvin Hill and Cent, 10 p.m. Mondays, and Club Color, featuring funk and disco, 8 p.m. Wednesdays (free before 10 p.m.), at the club, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5, 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvinsxtcom.com>

ARBOR BREWING COMPANY
Latin dance night, 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Tuesdays in June at the restaurant/bar, 114 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor. Free. 21 and older. (734) 213-1393 or <http://www.arborew.com>

BLIND PIG
"Swing-a-billy" night with dance lessons, dancing and a special performance by The Johnny Favourite Swing Orchestra, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 11, with DJ Del Villarreal, at the club, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. 19 and older; "Solar" night Black Electric, Keith Tucker and Craig Gonzalez, 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, \$6, 18 and older. (734) 996-8555 or <http://www.intuit-solar.com> or <http://www.blindpigmusic.com>

CLUTCH CARGO'S/MILL STREET
"Flashback" night with "The Planet" WPLT on level two (Clutch Cargo's), old school funk on level three, and techno and house on level four, 8:30 p.m. Saturdays, at the club, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Free before 9 p.m. 21 and older; Alternative dance night, 8 p.m. Wednesdays in Clutch Cargo's, 18 and older. (248) 333-2362 or <http://www.961melt.com>

GOLD DOLLAR
Hip-hop and dancehall reggae dance night with DJ Chino, 8 p.m. Wednesdays at the club, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.golddollar.com>

THE GROOVE ROOM
Funk, hip-hop and top 40 with DJ Mac D, Thursdays. Women admitted free; "Love Factory" alternative dance night Fridays; Alternative dance with DJ Matt Saturdays; Alternative dance Tuesdays; gothic, industrial and retro with DJ Paul Wednesdays. Free. at the club, 1815 N. Main St. (at 12 Mile Road), Royal Oak. Free before 10 p.m. nightly. 21 and older. (248) 589-3344 or <http://www.thegrooveroom.com>

LA BOOM TEEN NIGHTCLUB
Dance night for teens ages 15-19, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays at the club, 1172 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake. Ages 15-19. (248) 926-9960

MAJESTIC THEATRE CENTER
"Good Sounds," with music by The Tonehead Collective and images by Thomas Video, 9 p.m. Fridays at Magic Stick, 18 and older. Free; "Work Release," Rock 'n' Bowl happy hour with bowling, music and complimentary food from the Majestic Cafe, 5-8 p.m. Fridays at Garden Bowl, \$6, 18 and older; "Rock 'n' Bowl" with DJ Del Villarreal, 9 p.m. Fridays and DJ Guttenball, 9 p.m. Saturdays at Garden Bowl. Free. 18 and older; "The Bird's Nest," punk rock night with live performances, 9 p.m. Mondays at Magic Stick. Free. 18 and older; "Soul Shakedown" with DJ Big Andy, 9 p.m. Tuesdays at Magic Stick. Free. 21 and older. (313) 833-9700

MOTOR LOUNGE
"Back Room Mondays," service industries employee appreciation night, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Mondays. Free. 21 and older; "Community Presents" with resident DJs, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tuesdays. \$3, 18 and older; "Maximum Overload," 9 p.m. Fridays, \$6, 18 and older; "Divine" with DJs Mike Clark, Mark Flash and Brian Gillespie, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturdays, \$6, 21 and older, all at the club, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. (313) 396-0080 or <http://www.motordetroit.com>

ST. ANDREW'S/THE SHELTER
"Three Floors of Fun," 9 p.m. Fridays, \$3 before 11 p.m., \$5 afterward, 18 and older; X2k dance night, 10 p.m. Saturdays; "Incinerator," 9 p.m. Wednesdays in The Shelter. \$6, 21 and older. St. Andrew's and The Shelter are at 431 E. Congress, Detroit. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com>

STATE THEATRE
"Ignition" dance night, 9 p.m. Saturdays at the club, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (313) 961-5451 or <http://www.statetheater.com>

24 KARAT CLUB
"Cruise Night" with hot rods, Harleys and live bands, 8 p.m. Thursdays, Latin/House dance night, 9 p.m. Sundays; intermediate swing lessons, 9 p.m. Tuesdays; and beginner swing lessons, 9 p.m. Wednesdays, at the club, 28949 Joy Road (two blocks east of Middlebelt Road), Westland. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 513-5030

VELVET LOUNGE
"Viva La Noche Latina" with dance lessons from 9-10 p.m., followed by dance night, Fridays, at the club, 29 S. Saginaw St., Pontiac. (248) 334-7411

POPULAR MUSIC

AIR SUPPLY
7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 15, Meadow Brook Music Festival, Oakland University, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (pop)

BERNARD ALLISON
9 p.m. Thursday, July 15, Fifth Avenue, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 542-9922 (blues)

AMERICA
With Three Dog Night, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 11, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$24.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

BAD COMPANY
Featuring Paul Rodgers, Mick Ralphs, Simon Kirke and Boz Burrell, with special guest David Lee Roth, 8 p.m.

Friday, July 9, Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit. \$25, \$35, \$45. (313) 983-6606 (rock)

BEACH BOYS
With Creedence Clearwater Revisited, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 10, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$25 pavilion, \$15.50 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

PAT BENATAR
With the Vudu Hippies, 7:30 p.m. Monday, July 12, Pine Knob Music Theatre, I-75 and Sashabaw Road, Independence Township. \$22.50 pavilion, \$12.50 lawn. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

BIG DOG AND THE WOOFERS
7 p.m. Friday, July 16, as part of Concert in the Park, Kellogg Park, Plymouth. Free. All ages. (734) 432-0126 or <http://www.freeyellow.com/members2/bluebite/page1.html> (blues)

FRANK BLACK AND THE CATHOLICS
8 p.m. Thursday, July 8, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$12 in advance, \$15 day of show. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

"BLIND PIG SHOWCASE"
With Non Solace, The Griffin Shepherd, Smirk and Dose, 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 13, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Free. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 or <http://www.blindpigmusic.com> (variety)

BLUE ROSE
8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, July 15-16, Bad Frog Tavern, 5

Adam Sandler grows up with 'Big Daddy'

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

"I know, I know," Adam Sandler might have said to his agent around a year ago, "the dopey characters sell. But the critics say I can't act because I haven't done anything with pathos. Hey, I can do pathos. Get me somethin' with pathos. Then get me a dictionary."

So at 32, Sandler may be all through with "Waterboy" roles, opting for grownup parts like "Big Daddy." Big mistake.

Once the word goes out that Sonny Koufax (Sandler's charac-

ter) is just this nice, regular guy with a few problems — promising law career on hold, dumped by his girl, dissed by his dad, eclipsed by his college buddies — you can expect Sandler to go back to the well for another dose of dopiness.

Meanwhile, "Big Daddy" gives us a kinder, gentler Adam without discarding the wise guy New Yorkerisms. Koufax finds himself the dumpee in a doomed relationship with girlfriend Vanessa (Kristy Swanson) and adopts a five-year-old boy to prove he's ready for real responsibility.

When the plan backfires — she takes up with some old guy anyway — he tries to return the kid like an unopened CD. Having second thoughts, he convinces Social Services to let him keep young Julian until a foster family can be found. How much trouble could one kid be?

Act II is the film's best segment, in which Sonny's parental baptism by fire includes coping with bedwetting, racing to McDonald's before they switch menus from breakfast to lunch, and fighting over the TV and yet even more bladder problems ("Only you and my grandfather

go every 30 seconds.")

Naturally, the two become inseparable despite a court order to the contrary. Elements of Jim Carrey's "Liar Liar" and Tim Allen's "The Santa Clause" creep in at this point, as Sonny dusts off his law degree and fights for custody.

First-time screenwriter Steve Franks turned over his draft to Sandler who, with partner Tim Herlihy, added pieces of business from their own childhood like Julian's attachment to a favorite toy. They also scripted some scene-stealing supporting characters, from an omnipresent

delivery guy (Rob Schneider) to an urbane homeless person (Steve Buscemi, who had a memorable moment in Sandler's "Billy Madison.")

There are big laughs in "Big Daddy," but parents will note that most of them feature body parts or functions, injurious slapstick (tossing a branch in the path of a Rollerblader) or smart aleck East Coast comebacks. Your own child is not likely to respect you more after seeing it unless you, like Sonny, can also teach him/her to expel a six-foot string of drool.

"Big Daddy" aims more for the heart than the funny bone, and might have hit closer to its mark if Sonny didn't go through the whole film looking and sounding like he just woke up.

He sports a bad stubble even for his big first date with his roommate's fiancée's sister Layla (Joey Lauren Adams).

So is Sandler, like Sonny, ready to take on some real responsibility? And is that what we want from our Waterboy? The public, as it should, will be the judge and jury.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, July 9

"AMERICAN PIE"
Coming-of-age comedy about a group of high school seniors who lose their virginity by prom night. Stars Eugene Levy, Natasha Lyonne, Alyson Hannigan.

Scheduled to open Friday, July 16

"EYES WIDE SHUT"
Story of jealousy and sexual obsession. Stars Tom Cruise, Nicole Kidman.

"LAKE PLACID"
A scientist, a game warden, a sheriff and an eccentric mythology professor converge near a remote lake in Maine to investigate a gruesome fatality. Their adventure, faced with humor and terror, leads to a shocking secret beneath the anything but placid waters. Stars Bridget Fonda, Bill Pullman, Oliver Platt.

"THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT"
Horror film about three college students, who in 1994 hired into Maryland's Black Hills Forest to shoot a documentary about a local legend, and were never heard from again. Stars Heather Donahue, Joshua Leonard.

"THE WOOD"
Comedy of three childhood friends reminiscing about years gone by the even of their friend's wedding. Stars Omar Epps, Taye Diggs, Richard T. Jones.

"DROP DEAD GORGEOUS"
Comedy about a small town's obsession with its teenage beauty contest. Stars Kirstie Alley, Ellen Barkin, Kirsten Dunst.

Scheduled to open Friday, July 23

"TWICE UPON A YESTERDAY"
Exclusively at the Landmark Maple Theatre. A forlorn lover in London gets the chance of a lifetime to turn back the clock and relive a relationship that went wrong with a previous girlfriend. Stars Douglas Henshall.

Scheduled to open Friday, July 30

"DEEP BLUE SEA"
Group of researchers working on a cure for cancer using materials from genetically enhanced sharks becomes stranded on a damaged and sinking marine research facility. There, they are menaced by the sharks they have created, which now surround them with deadly intent. Stars Samuel Jackson.

"OUTSIDE PROVIDENCE"
A hilarious yet poignant story of a young man's coming of age when he's packed off to prep school after crashing into a parked police car. Stars Shawn Halosy, Alec Baldwin.

Schedule to open Friday, Aug. 6

"FIGHT CLUB"
Tale of a man who sets up a fight in which young men are paired off in bloody, no-holds barred bouts that continue until one drops. Stars Brad Pitt.

"THE IRON GATE"
A giant metal machine falls to Earth in 1958 and frightens the residents of a small town in Maine, until it befriends a 9-year-old boy named Hogarth. Animated feature.

"WHITE BOYS"
Funny, honest and searing look at white wanna-be gangstas in the heartland — and at America's youth struggling to find their place in a multicultural society.

Scheduled to open Wednesday, Aug. 11

"IN TOO DEEP"
A police detective goes deep undercover to get a notorious gangster. But in his quest, he risks losing himself. Stars Omar Epps.

"NEXT TO YOU"
A teenage girl and boy who have grown up next door to one another have never made a love connection. But when long time friends and neighbors gather for their high school's centennial celebration, they realize they were meant for each other all along. Stars Melissa Joan Hurt and Stephen Collins.

Scheduled to open Friday, Aug. 13

"BROKEDOWN PALACE"
Two high school girls set off on a dream trip to Thailand following their graduation. The dream turns to a nightmare when they are accused of drug trafficking and sentenced to 33 years in a Thai prison until an expatriate American lawyer comes to their aid. Stars Claire Daines.

Scheduled to open Friday, Aug. 20

"MICKY BLUE EYES"
Romantic comedy about an English art dealer in New York who falls in love with the daughter of a Mafia boss. T

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

<p>National Amusements Showcase Cinemas</p> <p>Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14 2150 N. Opdyke Rd. Between University & Walton Blvd 248-373-2660 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP STAR WARS: EPISODE 1- THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG) NP SOUTH PARK (R) NP WILD WILD WEST (PG13) NP AN IDEAL HUSBAND (PG13) NP THE SUMMER OF SAM (R) NP BIG DADDY (PG13) NP THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) NP TARZAN (G) AUSTIN POWERS: THE SPY WHO SHAGGED ME (PG13) NOTTING HILL (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Showcase Dearborn 1-8 Michigan & Telegraph 313-561-3449 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sun.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP STAR WARS: EPISODE 1- THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG) NP SUMMER OF SAM (R) NP WILD WILD WEST (PG13) NP BIG DADDY (PG13) THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) TARZAN (G) AUSTIN POWERS: THE SPY WHO SHAGGED ME (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Showcase Pontiac 1-5 Telegraph Sq. Lake Rd. W. Side of Telegraph 810-332-0241 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP STAR WARS: EPISODE 1- THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG) NP BIG DADDY (PG13) NP TARZAN (G) NOTTING HILL (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Showcase Pontiac 6-12 2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of Telegraph 810-334-6777 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Fri. & Sat.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP SOUTH PARK (R) NP WILD WILD WEST (PG13) NP THE SUMMER OF SAM (R) THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) AUSTIN POWERS: THE SPY WHO SHAGGED ME (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>One Venue Warren & Wayne Aids 313-425-7700 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.</p> <p>NP SOUTH PARK (R) NP THE SUMMER OF SAM (R)</p>	<p>The General's Daughter (R) AUSTIN POWERS: THE SPY WHO SHAGGED ME (PG13) NOTTING HILL (PG13)</p> <p>ALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Showcase Westland 1-8 6800 Wayne Rd., One blk. S. of Warren Rd. 313-725-1060 Bargain Matinees Daily All Shows until 6 pm Continuous Shows Daily Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.</p> <p>NP DENOTES NO PASS</p> <p>NP STAR WARS: EPISODE 1: THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG) NP WILD WILD WEST (PG13) NP BIG DADDY (PG13) TARZAN (G)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star Theatres The World's Best Theatres Bargain Matinees Daily 55.00 All Shows Starting before 6:00 pm Now Accepting Visa & MasterCard *NP Denotes No Pass Engagement</p> <p>Star Great Lakes Crossing Great Lakes Shopping Center 248-454-0366</p> <p>NP SUMMER OF SAM (R) NP AN IDEAL HUSBAND (PG13) NP WILD WILD WEST (PG13) NP SOUTH PARK (R) NP BIG DADDY (PG13) NP STAR WARS: EPISODE 1 (PG) NP THE RED VIOLIN (NR) NP TARZAN (G) THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) INSTINCT (R) NOTTING HILL (PG13) THE NUMBLY (PG13) ENTRAPMENT (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star John R at 14 Mile 32289 John R. Road 248-585-2070</p> <p>No one under 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP IDEAL HUSBAND (PG13) NP BIG DADDY (PG13) NP TARZAN (G) NP THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) AUSTIN POWERS (PG13) NP STAR WARS: THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star Rochester Hills 200 Barclay Circle 853-2260</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP IDEAL HUSBAND (PG13) NP THE SUMMER OF SAM (R) NP WILD WILD WEST (PG13) NP SOUTH PARK (R) NP BIG DADDY (PG13) THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) AUSTIN POWERS (PG13) NP STAR WARS: EPISODE ONE, THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p>	<p>Star Southfield 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-696 248-353-STAR No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>FOR SHOWTIMES AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE CALL 248-372-2222 WWW.STAR-SOUTHFIELD.COM</p> <p>NP WILD WILD WEST (PG13) NP SUMMER OF SAM (R) NP SOUTH PARK (R) NP BIG DADDY (PG13) THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) NP TARZAN (G) AUSTIN POWERS: THE SPY WHO SHAGGED ME (PG13) NP STAR WARS EPISODE 1: THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG13) INSTINCT (R) NOTTING HILL (PG13) THE NUMBLY (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Star Winchester 1136 S. Rochester Rd, Winchester Mall 248-656-1160 No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p>NP SHILOH 2 (PG) TARZAN (G) THE RED VIOLIN (NR) NOTTING HILL (PG13) ELECTION (R) THE NUMBLY (PG13) INSTINCT (R) ENTRAPMENT (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists Theatres Bargain Matinees Daily, for all shows starting before 6:00 PM Same day advance tickets available. NV - No V.I.P. tickets accepted</p> <p>United Artist Oakland Inside Oakland Mall 248-988-0706</p> <p>SOUTH PARK (R) NV SUMMER OF SAM (R) NV ENTRAPMENT (PG13) NV</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists 12 Oaks Inside Twelve Oaks Mall 248-349-4311</p> <p>SOUTH PARK (R) NV BIG DADDY (PG13) NV THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) NV STAR WARS EPISODE 1: THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG) NV</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>United Artists West River 9 Mile, 2 Block West of Middlebelt 248-788-6572</p> <p>SUMMER OF SAM (R) NV WILD WILD WEST (PG13) NV SOUTH PARK (R) NV BIG DADDY (PG13) NV TARZAN (G) NV THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) NV AUSTIN POWERS: THE SPY WHO SHAGGED ME (PG13) NV STAR WARS EPISODE 1: THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG) NV NOTTING HILL (PG13)</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Visa & Mastercard Accepted</p>	<p>United Artists Commerce Township 14 Located Adjacent to Home Depot Just North of the intersection of 14 Mile & Haggerty Rd. 248-960-5801 All Stadium Seating *High-Back Rocking Chair Seats *Two-Day Advance Ticketing</p> <p>SUMMER OF SAM (R) NV SOUTH PARK (R) NV WILD WILD WEST (PG13) NV BIG DADDY (PG13) NV TARZAN (G) NV THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER (R) NV AUSTIN POWERS: THE SPY WHO SHAGGED ME (PG13) NV STAR WARS EPISODE 1: THE PHANTOM MENACE (PG) NV NOTTING HILL (PG13) NV</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p>Birmingham Theatre 211 S. 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STREET SCENE

Fountains of Wayne records blissful pop album



CHRISTINA FUOCO

There are certain things that go together naturally — hot dogs and baseball games, Thanksgiving and turkey, and Michigan and water sports.

Fountains of Wayne lead singer Chris

Collingwood used that philosophy when he was writing the pop gem "Red Dragon Tattoo."

"If you're singing about tattoos and you don't have Korn in the song, then you really haven't covered your subject fully," the

soft-spoken Collingwood said with a laugh.

"That guy's got a lot of tattoos. That's their primary appeal I think. They're like superheroes."

Another reference in the same song will have sentimental appeal to thirty-somethings — "I brought a .38 Special CD collection/Some Bactine to prevent infection."

Bactine? "What actually made me think about that, was Bloom County," Collingwood said cracking himself up. "There was this Bloom County strip at some point where, I think it was Bill the Cat, somebody got blown up in

the last frame and there was some reference to Bactine. I remember thinking it was really funny."

Crafty pop songs

"Utopia Parkway" is a blissful pop album of crafty pop songs. The album, surely to make many critics' Top 10 lists for 1999, was recorded with Collingwood and vocalist/bassist Adam Schlesinger, both of whom are core members of Fountains of Wayne, and new bandmates guitarist/vocalist Jody Porter and drummer Brian Young.

"The first record when we recorded it, it wasn't a real band at all. It was just the two of us.

This record, we recorded with a real actual band. It couldn't be any more different from the way the first record was done," he said.

"We also took our time indulging several whims where the first record we were just blasting it out punk style. There's a lot more overdubbing for one. There's songs with Latin percussion on it. We did one song with a string section. We did stuff with drum loops. The guitar sound is much more varied on the new record because we actually bothered to get up and change the amp setting sometimes. On the first record the guitar sound was either quiet or

loud."

The change, he added, was a reaction to that.

"After the record first, it's usually the case. Bands who had a raw first album will try to build on it and do some more experimental things the second time around. I think a lot of people would have been really disappointed if we did the same album over again. I'd much rather make a different record and have it suck than make the same one. I can't stand when bands do the same album twice."

Fountains of Wayne, Owsley and Imperial Teen perform Wednesday, July 14, at The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431

E. Congress, Detroit. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster. For more information, call (313) 961-MELT or visit <http://www.961melt.com>

Fountains of Wayne can be reached at fountainsofwayne@usa.net

Last column

After seven years, this will be my last column for The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. I have accepted the position as Senior Content Producer, basically, editor-in-chief, of Detroit City-Search.Com. Please feel free to e-mail me at cfuoco@citysearch.com. Thanks for reading!

For artists, musicians, the Internet is a shortcut

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

It is the age of cyber-everything. Where do the new technologies leave the poets, the artists, the songwriters and musicians? Most artists that I've met feel that having the opportunity to expose their work on the web to a huge potential audience is a shortcut that allows them to bypass some of the greatest obstacles to their success. Yes, you can double click to the imaginations of the most talented people in the performing and visual arts.

What? You don't have a computer or access to the internet? That's okay. If this were a technology column, I wouldn't be writing it. My goal is to help you sample the arts in the familiar ways that you're used to, in this space and on BACKSTAGE PASS on Detroit Public TV. I promise pot to load you up with a bunch of web addresses.

Recording industry

There is, however, a very significant place for the artist on the internet. In the recording industry, Tom Petty recently raised some eyebrows by making his new material available on the web. Is he giving away his product or promoting it? After a decade which offered videos that

used every imaginable special effect and technological trick to sell music in that exciting new CD format, are there any gimmicks left?

Jonatha Brooke isn't new to the music scene, having first emerged in 1989 in the highly acclaimed band The Story. Her songwriting skills have always distinguished her in the crowded field of female singers. She creates in a traditional way, writing the songs on her 1997 album, "10 Cent Wings," while riding out a howling storm in a cottage on the island of Nantucket. When her new album, "Jonatha Brooke Live," was finished, the first place you could hear it was her Web site. How contemporary!

"The record was done and I

wanted to make it available as soon as possible. This allows my fans the immediacy and convenience of purchasing from the comfort of their own homes, and I don't have to fight with everyone else for shelf space during the holiday battles." Brooke explained.

If you love music, you've probably had to wait for months for a record company to release an album by your favorite artist. In Brooke's case, the Web site provided a quick link between performer and fans. Then came more established means of sharing her music, such as a tour that included a concert at 7th House in Pontiac, a memorable performance on BACKSTAGE PASS that airs on Detroit Public

TV Thursday, July 8 and Friday, July 9, and, of course, in the rack at your better music stores.

Visual artists

An astounding number of visual artists are also getting their work exhibited on the web.

It's a way to create a permanent gallery, which is quite a luxury for those who were often troubled by having to part company with their most prized creations once the piece sold. While some artists consider the internet to be a new art medium, others resist because that are unconvinced that the web is respectful of the integrity of their work.

Who's right? It really comes down to using what you're com-

fortable with, whether you're the artist or the audience.

I like having a choice of how I appreciate the arts. Nothing beats being there at the performance halls, galleries, or cultural events. But new technologies can bring us closer than ever before to the artists. The BACKSTAGE PASS Web site at www.wtvs.org actually has a cyber-artist-in-residence, Lowell Boileau, and will soon offer a music vault with dozens of performances that have been featured on the series.

Let's not shy away when new technology brings us different methods for appreciating the arts. After all, drive-in movies were fun, but those in-car speakers left a lot to be desired.

Van Gogh exhibit on its way to Detroit Institute of Arts

In June of 1890, during his convalescence in Auvers and just one month before his suicide, Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) wrote: "What fascinates me much, much more than does anything else in my metier is the portrait, the modern portrait...I should like to do portraits which will appear as revelations to people in 100 years time."

Taking this famous passage as a point of departure, the Detroit Institute of Arts (March 12 to June 4), the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (July 2 to Sept. 24) and the Philadelphia Museum of Art (Oct. 22 to Jan. 14, 2001) will present "Van Gogh: Face to Face," a major exhibition that will tour the three organizing

institutions in the year 2000.

Featuring some 50 paintings and drawings from an international array of public and private collections, "Van Gogh: Face to Face" will focus, for the first time, on van Gogh's evolving approach to the portrait throughout his tragically brief life.

"Van Gogh's portraits resonate with personal compassion and the conviction that, when thoughtfully observed, nature reveals profound truths," explained Maurice D. Parrish, DIA interim director. "These qualities, along with his great talent, inspired this ambitious undertaking."

"This exhibition opens a door

on van Gogh and his world that is unprecedented," added Malcolm Rogers, Ann and Graham Gund director of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. "We see the painter reflected in the faces of his sitters—this is the genius of the artist's most powerful portraits."

The permanent collections of the DIA, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and the Philadelphia Museum of Art are graced by a total of five major portraits of the Roulin family Joseph Roulin, a postman, showed great and consistent kindness to van Gogh

during his sojourn in Arles in 1888. Roulin, together with his wife Augustine and their three children, were the artist's most frequent and loyal models during this period. These pivotal works, representing van Gogh at his most innovative, will be joined by important portraits from every stage of the artist's career.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a lavishly illustrated, 272-page survey of van Gogh's portraiture.

For more information about van Gogh exhibition tickets for the DIA, call (313) 833-8499.

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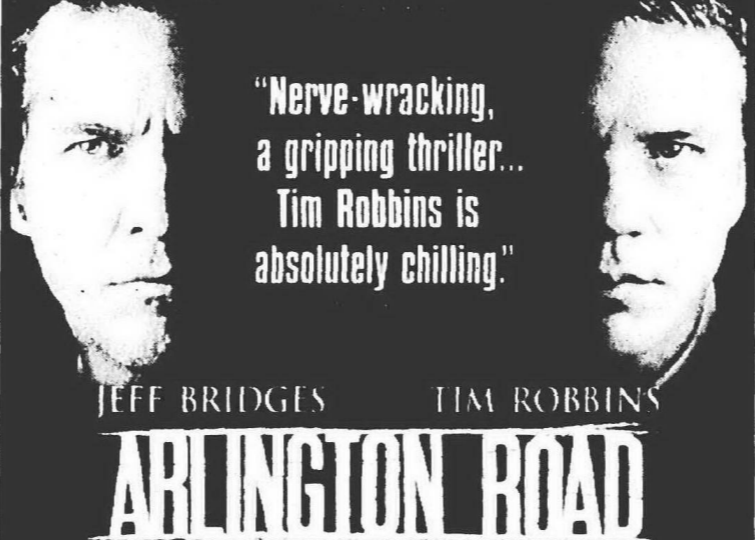


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AMC BEL AIR 10	STAR THEATRES GRATIOT	SHOWCASE CINEMA PONTIAC 1-5	AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY 12	Sorry, No Passes or Coupons, V.I.P. or Group Activity. Please Admitted.
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The Fiddler preserves Old-World traditions

BY JUDITH DONER BERNE
SPECIAL WRITER

Michael Kurchersky had a dream — to preserve his Mom's recipes.

His dream began in the former Soviet Union where he studied hotel and restaurant management, eventually working as assistant manager in the largest restaurant (400 seats) in Moscow.

It persisted even as he and his family left in 1976, during the Russian-Jewish exodus.

"I came with no money and no English," he says. And, as he settled in metro-Detroit, learned English, worked as a painter and in a factory, and saved enough money to buy Kelly Hamburgers, in Hazel Park.

It was partially realized starting in 1983 when, with the help of the Hebrew Free Loan Association, he purchased a former Waffle House on Northwestern Highway in Southfield.

It became the Sunrise Cafe. A string of five more Sunrise Cafes followed, all open for breakfast and lunch. He still owns three.

The dream was actualized last October when he opened The Fiddler, a full-service restaurant serving home-style Russian, Ukrainian Polish, Jewish and Middle Eastern foods on Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield. Sadly, his mother died two months before.

His wife Maya is intimately involved with the restaurant, conveniently located next to her own successful skin care salon. "I tell him, it's your destiny to be next to me," she says with a smile.

She also contributed many recipes, including the best-selling mushroom barley soup. And Maya is responsible for the Fiddler's name and that of the Sunrise Cafes, both inspired by the

The Fiddler
Where: 6676 Orchard Lake Road, south of Maple in West Bloomfield Plaza; (248) 851-8782.
Menu: Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Middle Eastern and Jewish-style specialties
Hours: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and Sunday; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday. Live music, Friday and Saturday nights.
Reservations: Suggested on Friday and Saturday. Visa and Mastercard accepted.
Here are some other local restaurants that serve Polish and Eastern European dishes.
■ **3 Brothers Family Restaurant**, Polish and American Cooking — 8826 Joy Road, east of Lilley, Plymouth, (734) 416-3393.
■ **Steve's Family Dining** — 40370 Five Mile Road, Plymouth, (734) 420-0368
■ **Amadeus Cafe-Patisserie** — 122 E. Washington (between Main & Fourth Ave.), Ann Arbor, (734) 665-8767.
■ **Jennie's Pierogies** — Pierogi, beet and cabbage soup to go, 6659 Middlebelt, Garden City, (734) 523-0911
■ **Polish Village Cafe**, 2990 Yemans (east of Jos. Campau, south of Caniff), Hamtramck, (313) 874-5726.
■ **Polonia** — 2934 Yemans (at Jos. Campau) Hamtramck, (313) 873-8432.
■ **Under the Eagle** — 9000 Jos. Campau (3 blocks south of Holbrook), Hamtramck, (313) 875-5905.

musical "Fiddler on the Roof."

"We cook at Fiddler like we do at home — all from fresh ingredients," says Maya, who spends her days off from the salon making sure that the recipes carefully described on the menu are being closely followed. We don't deep fry or use additives or preservatives," Michael says proudly. "We grill with no oil."

For instance, the potato latkes (pancakes) that lead off a hefty list of appetizers are detailed as "made from an old family recipe you're sure to remember. Served golden brown with sour cream or apple sauce or with mushroom gravy." The list includes blini (the traditional Russian pancakes), stuffed cabbage or stuffed pepper (vegetarian or with meat), Siberian pelmeni (paper-thin dumplings wrapped around seasoned ground beef and onion) and chopped liver announced as better than "the most famous delis in New York."

Most are in the \$6 range.

Vareniki combines Ukrainian-style dumplings filled with fresh Michigan tart cherries and served with cherry sauce and either sour or real whipped cream. Would you consider that a fusion dish? Although it's listed as an appetizer, it is often ordered for dessert, Michael reports.

Check out Michael's mom's recipe for Pozharski chicken cutlet, "two fluffy and delicate patties of fresh ground chicken breast served covered in our homemade mushroom gravy," as well as the legend behind it. Or a 19th century recipe for beef stroganoff, cited as "created in Russia for Count Pavel Stroganoff, a dignitary at the

Court of Alexander III." Or Veal Rasputin, a scallop of veal rolled and stuffed with mushrooms and onions, then grilled.

Other entrees, served with a side of vegetables or potato or rice, bread and a choice of soup or salad, include more robust versions of the ethnic appetizers as well as cornish hen, calves liver, lamp chops and short ribs. Prices are from \$9 to \$15.

Gourmet omelets are available at any time as are an assortment of main course salads, including Caesar, tuna, tabbouli and fattoush. A Russian summer salad contains sliced cucumbers, fresh tomato, red onions, garnished with garlic, dill parsley and cilantro.

Desserts include amaretto almond cheesecake, homemade blintzes and apple and cherry strudels. All but the blintzes are in the \$3 range.

As you might expect, two large paintings depicting fiddlers figure prominently in the decor of the simply-decorated neighborhood restaurant, where small vases of fresh flowers grace the tables.

On Friday nights, patrons can expect the lighting of Sabbath candles and passing around of a Challah bread. A fiddler and keyboard player entertain on Friday and Saturday evenings.

"We make kind of a club for Russian Jews," Michael says, 15,000 of which now live in metro Detroit. But he counts many regulars who are native-born Americans.

Like Sharon and Ken Singer, who live in Farmington Hills. "I enjoy everything," Sharon says. "It's like eating in my Mom's



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HOFFMEYER

At your service: Maya and Michael Kurchersky present some of the dishes featured at The Fiddler.

home. I've never had a bad meal there. Everything is quality food. My husband loves the stuffed cabbage. My granddaughter loves the potato latkes."

An empty storefront between

The Fiddler and Maya's Skin Care is being readied to handle Fiddler's growing take-out business and catering requests. And an application for a liquor license has been filed, Michael reports.

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8:00 PM - 10:30 PM REGULAR BOYS
11:00 PM - 1:00 AM 8 GUYS NAMED MOE
SATURDAY, JULY 10TH
12:00 NOON - 1 PM NEMESIS
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM LONG GOODBYE
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM BON TEMPS ROLLE
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM 8 GUYS NAMED MOE
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM NORMA JEAN BELL & THE STAR BAND
10:30 PM - 1:00 AM IMPERIAL SWING ORCHESTRA
SUNDAY, JULY 11TH
12:00 NOON - 1 PM TRAIN 45
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM LONG GOODBYE
3:00 PM - 5:30 PM IMPERIAL SWING ORCHESTRA
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM REGULAR BOYS
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