

School board ratifies contract with principals

BY TONY BRUSCATO
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The Plymouth-Canton Board of Education has ratified a 5-year contract agreement with the district's administrators' union.

The 7-0 vote at the Sept. 14 board meeting came 12 days after the 45-member union ratified the contract, following two years of negotiations.

The pact includes previously agreed upon pay increases of two percent for the past two years, and 2.5 percent for the current school year. Pay raises for the final two years have yet to be negotiated, and will in part be based on increases in the district's foundation grant from the state.

Plymouth-Canton Administrator's Union president Jim Burt, principal at Eriksson Elementary in Canton, also notes there's a buyout provision in the contract.

"It's the same monetary amount the teachers received, \$60,000 over eight years," said Burt. "However, unlike the teachers contract in which they could take the buyout and find a job elsewhere, the principals would have to retire and not seek other employment. The district didn't want to encourage us to leave."

The buyout is in effect for the 2001 and 2002 school years, and for administrator's who have at least 10 years experience in the district.

Teen burned from aerosol spray fire

BY SUE BUCK
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Three teens playing with aerosol spray while working at the Compuware Arena resulted in a Plymouth Township man, 17, being treated for first- and second-degree burns Saturday.

The 17-year-old was listed in fair condition Monday at the University of Michigan Medical Burn Center in Ann Arbor, according to Plymouth Township Sgt. Steve Rapson.

Police weren't releasing the injured boy's name pending further investigation that may lead to charges, Rapson said. The young man's face, hands and hair were burned, according to a police report.

"It was horseplay," said Steve Vellucci, arena director. Tuesday, Vellucci declined further comments pending final police and fire reports. He expected to discharge the responsible person.

"Arena officials were extremely concerned for the well-being of employees and people inside," Rapson said. "A hockey game was going on."

Compuware is located on Beck Road, south of Five Mile Road in Plymouth Township and is home

to the Whalers.

The boy who was treated and the two other employees, 15 and 17, were "messing around" with Colman Gum Remover aerosol spray in the janitor's room, a police report said.

They had also thrown tampons soaked in the chemical onto the ceiling when one boy lit a cigarette lighter, police said.

"That is highly flammable," said Plymouth Township Fire Chief Larry Groth. "It resulted in a flashy fire explosion. This is a very dangerous thing. The other juveniles were lucky to escape injury. The gum remover is used to remove gum from underneath seats."

About \$5,000 of the room contents were destroyed and the fire was confined to that area, Groth said.

Following the explosion, one of the boys drove the injured young man to the fire station at Beck and North Territorial so fire fighters could begin treatment, Groth said. "At that time we had no knowledge of where they came from."

Within the same time period, the fire department also received a fire alarm and a 911 call from the arena, Groth said.

Library to kick off Teen Read Week

The Plymouth District Library has events lined up during Teen Read Week, Oct. 17-23, and throughout the year.

Teen Read Week is designed to turn teens on to reading. The message is "Reading Rocks Read for the Fun of It!" The Plymouth District Library will join hundreds of other libraries, the American Library Association, and the Young Adult Services Association in the celebration.

"Teens sometimes get so busy they forget that there's more to reading than just school books," says Eva Davis, Young Adult Librarian. "Teen Read Week aims to remind teens that reading is fun, it's free and can be done anywhere, anytime. We also hope it encourages parents and teachers to promote reading."

During Teen Read Week, the Plymouth District Library will be offering special programs just for teens, including:

- Black and White photo contest. Anyone may enter, but the photos must feature local teens reading at Plymouth locations, such as Kellogg Park, their schools, or their homes. Deadline for entry is Oct. 11, and the photos will be on display in the library during Teen Read Week.

- Reading Rocks! Name That Rocker! Contest. During Teen Read Week, photos of disguised musicians will be on display. Guess who they are and win prizes.

- Reading Rocks! Nominate Your Favorite Read! Throughout Teen Read Week, teens are encouraged to come to the

- Reading Rocks! Name That Rocker! Contest. During Teen Read Week, photos of disguised musicians will be on display. Guess who they are and win prizes.

library and fill out a form to vote for their favorite book.

- Reading Rocks! Open Mike Night. From 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21, teens are invited to come to the library to share their poetry and short prose pieces. Refreshments will be provided.

Davis says there are lots of ways teens can "read for the fun of it."

- Keep a book going all the time by carrying it in a backpack or read on the bus ride to school.
- Spend a few minutes reading each night before to bed.
- If you liked the movie, read the book.
- Read to a younger sibling.
- Don't finish a book if it does not interest you. Pick up something else.
- Visit the library and ask your librarian to recommend great books for teens.

Free booklets of good reads for teens are available at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main St., and also on their Teen Zone website, <http://www.plymouth.lib.mi.us/picks.htm>.

Poet travels to Cape Town for peace

BY SUE BUCK
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Rod Reinhart, known as the Plymouth community's poet-in-residence, will travel to Cape Town, South Africa, to promote world peace Dec. 1-8.

Reinhart will be one of three men from Michigan attending the 1999 Parliament of the World's Religions.

Reinhart, a Detroit school teacher and Plymouth Township resident, will be accompanied by the Rev. Ed Mullins, director of Christ Church Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills, and Lance Fertig, a member of the Conservative Synagogue in Ann Arbor and a longtime human rights activist and public interest attorney.

"This project was spawned by the war in Yugoslavia," Reinhart said. "We started talking about it a year ago. We want to end to all religious wars and campaigns of hatred and prejudice."

Religious war at its roots is not really religious, explained Reinhart. "It's political. It's far more about dictators, rulers and kings who manipulate religious people."

Participants will take part in a forum on how groups can work together for justice, peace, equality and brotherhood.

Locally, the first World Sabbath of Religious Reconciliation, a separate event, is planned to be an annual event for religious leaders of different faiths and backgrounds to dialogue about religious persecution. The event will be held at a still undetermined time the evening of Jan. 22, 2000, at Christ Church Cranbrook, located at the corner of Lone Pine Road and Cranbrook Road.

Participants will repent for both active and passive support of religious prejudice, hatred, persecution and war. "We will be committing ourselves to work for justice, equality, brotherhood and peace among all religions," Reinhart said.

Reinhart was involved in the peace movement for many years lobbying to end the war in Vietnam and nuclear proliferation. He supports gun control and civil rights.

Reinhart and his Plymouth Poets group



World peace: Rod Reinhart, known as the Plymouth community's poet-in-residence, will be one of three men from Michigan attending the 1999 Parliament of the World's Religions in Cape Town, South Africa.

said they faced their own discrimination this summer during the Art in the Park event downtown. When a Native American man in the group sang a song about how Gov. John Engler's environmental policies weren't good for Native Americans a nerve was struck, Reinhart said. Police became involved and the poets were told by festival organizers that a main stage performance was canceled. There was nothing offensive, he said.

Reinhart sent a letter asking the American Civil Liberties Union to investigate the incident. The matter is unresolved.

Occupationally, Reinhart has recently been named interim rector of the Episcopal Church of St. Christopher and St. Paul in Detroit.

Reinhart is also part of the organizing team for the 15th annual Christmas celebration for "People Who Care About People With AIDS." This year's celebration continues the ministry of bringing an interfaith, inter-community ministry to people suffer-

ing from AIDS. These are often people who have been alienated from the church, their families and much of society, Reinhart said.

The event will be held at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10 in St. John's Episcopal Church, 26998 Woodward in Royal Oak. Reinhart, the founder, received a tribute from the state Legislature in 1997 for his work with this event.

Homophobia, like racism and sexism, is a sin, Reinhart said. It wasn't long ago that most churches seemed hostile to gay people, he said.

A fund-raiser is planned for 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6, to help pay for the \$3,500 trip to South Africa. The event is being held at the Plymouth Township home of Bill Joyner. A donation of \$25 per person is requested. Additional contributions are welcome. For more information, call 453-2920.

Reinhart's web site is <http://members.aol.com/revrodrev/index.htm>

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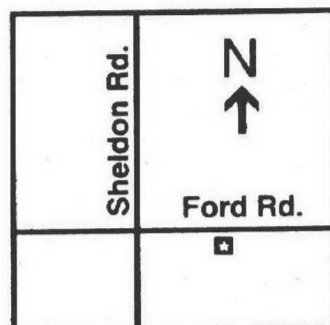


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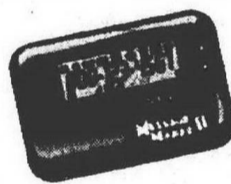
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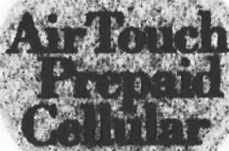
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Mercury level in metro rainfall called health threat

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
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Mercury levels in rain falling from the skies in metro Detroit are 65 times the Environmental Protection Agency's "safe" level, according to a report issued Sept. 14 by the National Wildlife Federation.

The NWF report, "Clean the Rain, Clean the Lakes," said such high levels present serious health implications for humans and wildlife.

The report said the leading sources of mercury are emissions from coal-fired power plants, incinerators and manufacturers of chlorine and caustic soda. It calls on those industries to cut mercury emissions and, eventually, eliminate them altogether.

"What we'd like to see is the coal-fired power plants step up to the plate and reduce their emissions," said Andy Buchsbaum, water quality projects

manager for the NWF's Great Lakes regional office in Ann Arbor.

Samples taken in more remote areas of Michigan at South Haven and Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes also far exceeded EPA standards, the NWF said.

The NWF also called on hospitals and other medical facilities to practice "mercury-free medicine" by eliminating mercury from their waste streams and incinerators.

"The impacts are enormous," the report states. "Mercury is a potent neurotoxin in people and in wildlife. It can cause subtle but permanent neurological and brain damage at very low doses; at higher doses, it can cripple and kill."

The state of Michigan issues annual fish consumption advisories because of mercury contamination levels in fish. Mercury concentrates in plankton, then organisms, then the tissue

of fish or other wildlife, bioaccumulating with each succeeding species in the food chain.

Larger fish, such as walleye and lake trout, can have mercury concentrations over a million times higher than the surrounding water.

The report also dispels the long-held belief that nature can clean up pollution.

"Rain contamination by mercury completely reverses what we believe to be true about the pollution of our lakes and streams. Before, we assumed that nature had mechanisms to clean up contamination, to dilute pollution. Before, we assumed that rain was nature's way of cleaning our waterways.

"Now we know the opposite is true: Rain itself is so contaminated by mercury that it adds pollution to our lakes and streams."

The NWF has initiated a new effort, the Clean the Rain Campaign. "We're looking for assistance by industry or state government to control or eliminate mercury emissions," Buchsbaum said.

Regional groups joining the NWF in the campaign were Michigan United Conservation Clubs; Clean Water Action, Michigan; Lake Michigan Federation; and the Michigan Environmental Council.

Buchsbaum would like to see mercury levels lowered through more "clean fuels" or solar and wind energy or shift to natural gas. Consumers should conserve energy when they can. "If you use less energy, you will burn less coal," Buchsbaum said.

Energy plants aren't the only ones that emit mercury. Furnaces and boilers also add to emissions, Buchsbaum said.

Detroit Edison spokesman Scott Simons said Edison was working with the EPA and looking at ways to reduce mercury emissions from its coal-firing plants. "While there is some mercury in the emissions, we don't believe it's as high a contributor as they have indicated,"

Simons said.

"We have reduced our levels by 30 percent in the last several years."

The NWF wants Congress to enact legislation requiring a 95 percent reduction of mercury emissions from all major sources in 10 years.

Other NWF recommendations include:

- On the state level, the six Midwestern Great Lakes states should require all major sources to use state-of-the-art controls on mercury sources. States should set and enforce pollution caps of mercury emissions to protect state waterways under the Clean Water Act. If the states fail to

set and enforce the caps, the EPA must take over.

- State energy commissions should determine the true costs of coal-burning power plants - including their pollution costs - on the industry. Determining the pollution costs will make energy conservation and fuel conversion more cost effective.

- Customers can conserve energy by purchasing energy-efficient appliances and weatherizing their homes. Avoid purchasing consumer products containing mercury.

The National Wildlife Federation report on mercury levels in rainfall can be viewed at www.nwf.org/water/news/ctrex.html.

Red Cross takes blood donations

The American Red Cross will accept blood donations 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5, and Wednesday, Oct. 6, in Madonna University's Science Wing.

To make an appointment, call the office of student life at (734)

432-5428. Walk-in donors are also welcome.

Eligible donors must be at least 17 years old and may donate every eight weeks, but not more than five times a year.

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PLYMOUTH Monday, October 4th 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (evening) Plymouth Cultural Center 525 Farmer Rd. (btwn. N. Territorial & 5 Mile off Sheldon)	FARMINGTON HILLS Tuesday, October 5th 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (evening) The Longacre House 24705 Farmington Rd. (btwn. 10 & 11 Mile Rd.)	NORTHVILLE Wednesday, October 6th 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (evening) Northville Public Library 212 W. Cady (Downtown Northville)

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Oakwood Welcomes

Yasser M. Awaad, MD, MSc
Director, Pediatric Neurology and Movement Disorders Program

Oakwood is pleased to welcome Yasser M. Awaad, MD, MSc, and the new Pediatric Neurology and Movement Disorders Program. Dr. Awaad brings his medical expertise and more than 21 years of experience to Oakwood where he will care for infants, children and adolescents with a variety of neurological problems including: headaches, seizures, head trauma, learning disorders, cerebral palsy and many other diseases. Dr. Awaad also specializes in the evaluation and management of children and adults who experience tics, Tourette syndrome, dystonia, spasticity and other movement disorders.

Education and Professional

Dr. Awaad is a member of the American Academy of Neurology, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Movement Disorders Society and the National and International Child Neurology Associations. He completed his Pediatric residency and Child Neurology fellowship at New York University Medical Center and comes to Oakwood from Children's Hospital of Michigan. He utilizes state-of-the-art therapy to treat children with spastic muscle disorders, including oral medications, Botulinum toxin injections and intrathecal Baclofen pumps.

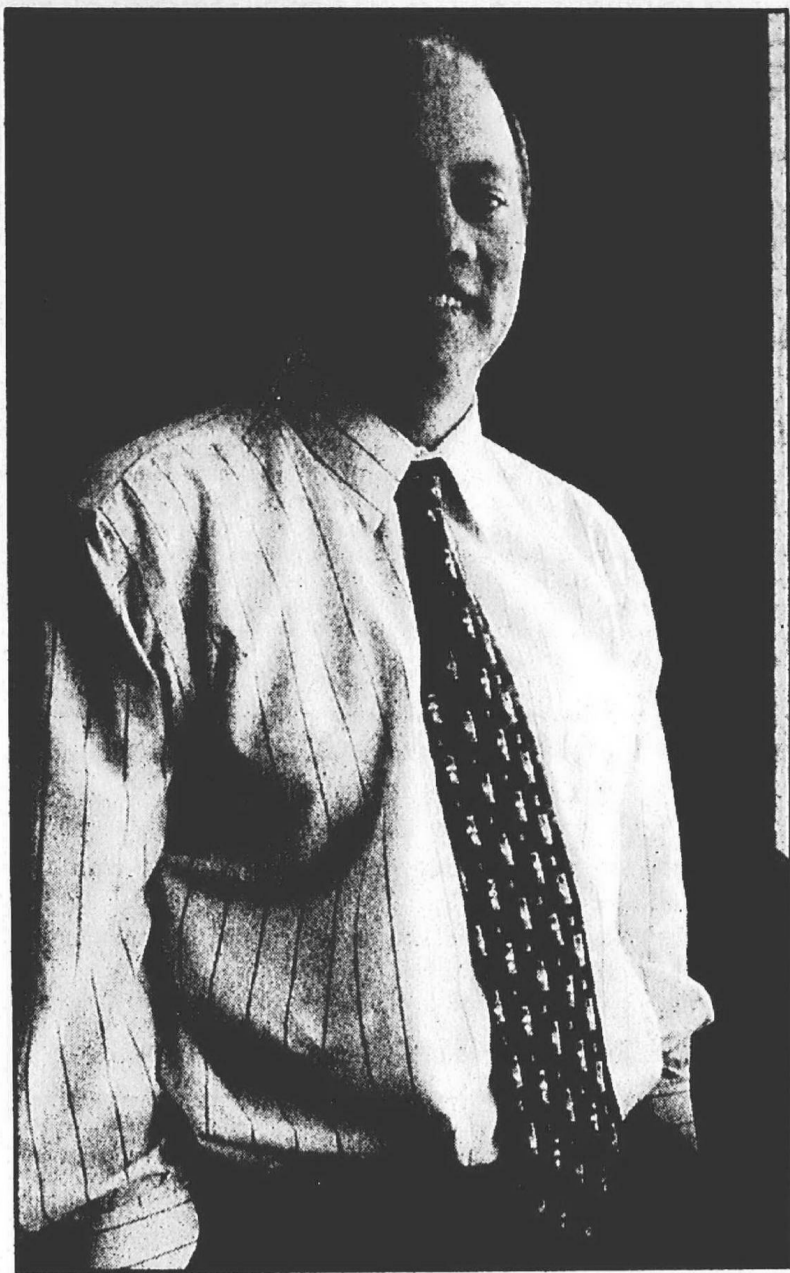
Practice Information

In addition to his pediatric neurology practice and role with the Movement Disorders program, Dr. Awaad is also joining Oakwood's new Program for Exceptional Families - a multidisciplinary program that provides comprehensive, coordinated care for children with chronic, complex disorders and disabilities. He is currently seeing patients at his office in the Oakwood Waterworks Building on Michigan Avenue in Dearborn. To schedule an appointment today, please call 313-791-4323.

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Pediatric Neurology and Movement Disorders Program

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Ready to run: Mike Duggan wants to use the prosecutor's office to take on gun manufacturers.

Duggan ready for another battle

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
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Mike Duggan admits he would be more qualified to serve as the next Wayne County prosecutor if his resume included some prosecutions of criminal cases.

"I will have to learn that, no question about it," Duggan said.

But that won't curtail his efforts at vying for the Wayne County prosecutor's job next year. Duggan, 40, of Livonia, will run for the seat being vacated by John O'Hair, who will retire next year. George Ward, chief assistant prosecutor, and state Sen. Virgil Smith, D-Detroit, also will be running.

All Duggan hopes voters do is look at his civic track record and an uncanny ability to get things done: Turning the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation bus system around financially in the late 1980s, plugging for a ballot proposal to finance baseball and football stadia in downtown Detroit and, this summer, organizing contractors to get Detroit schools rebuilt.

Most recently, he helped Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey get a millage approved last week to build a new recreational facility in Livonia.

Gun control

So why does the deputy county executive want to be prosecutor?

Duggan believes society is too tolerant of minors in possession of guns.

Since 1990, 6,000 youths and children were caught carrying guns, with 1,000 of those kids

from the suburbs. "They almost always got probation," Duggan said.

"People aren't into tax cuts anymore. What they care about is safety, and safety for their kids. I haven't found one parent who will let their kids go to the parks alone anymore."

Duggan doesn't blame the current prosecutors but believes the more serious crimes such as homicide should get a higher priority. Wayne County should adopt a get tough policy similar to Boston, Duggan believes. "They cracked down on guns. If you're caught, you will serve time, and they enforce it."

Duggan wants guns out of the hands of youths, but said he doesn't want to infringe on the rights of adults who own guns for protection. "I will go after guns. I want guns out of the hands of felons," Duggan said.

Wayne County has initiated a community corrections program for adults in which about 1,000 received employment after signing up for drug treatment.

Duggan is concerned about easing requirements for adults to carry concealed weapons because of the impulsive nature of individuals when they are angry. "A person who isn't a bad person can pull the trigger, then does something they wouldn't do any other day of their life."

"Their life is ruined."

Duggan also points to how the sports teams and merchants lobbied with elected officials to fight easing of CCW permit requirements.

Possible conflicts

If Duggan were elected prosecutor, he may need to decide whether to investigate contracts involving public money, including Wayne County's.

Last year Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy had found Wayne County could be paying as much as \$400,000 too much to lease 37 vehicles and discovered the airport could have leased the majority of vehicles for an average of about \$17,000 each, not approximately \$28,000, as was the airport's actual reimbursement to APCOA, the parking operator at Metro.

Dunleavy reported his findings to the county prosecutor's office in accordance with the county ethics ordinance.

Upon further investigation, Ward found Wayne County is

entitled to a \$503,647 refund claim on APCOA's 37 lease agreements with lending institutions for shuttle buses. APCOA leased the shuttle buses through financial agreements with various lending institutions, then collected reimbursements from Wayne County.

Duggan was asked how he would handle such an auditor general's report that may be considered embarrassing to the McNamara administration and how he would handle any potential conflict of interest.

"I'll do what's appropriate," Duggan said.

On Detroit Metro airport, Duggan also admits the county "screwed up" with the APCOA contract and the 42-year-old food contract, but commended David

See DUGGAN, A10

Rebuilding city schools: 'Someone had to do it'

Mike Duggan spent the summer pushing to get the schools rebuilt in Detroit and organizing contractors to complete the repairs.

Approximately \$80 million was spent this summer to repair the schools out of a \$1 billion bond package approved several years ago by Detroit voters.

"Someone had to do it," Duggan said. "It was unbelievable. Some schools hadn't been painted in 25 years. You had to see it, the warped floors and the

restrooms that had been locked down for years."

Classrooms, rest rooms and hallways topped the list of priorities in the school repairs. Out of 105 buildings with leaking roofs, 101 were fixed with an average cost of roof repairs at \$500 per building.

In order to keep the schools maintained, Duggan would like to see each building get its own budget with principals to have the power to purchase custodial services from outside contractors. If the Detroit Public Schools maintenance staff doesn't take care of a problem in a timely fashion, then it will be contracted out.

Some schools need massive changes. Cass Tech High School is seven stories high and "totally nonfunctional."

Duggan believes the Detroit schools needed reform, and Interim Superintendent David Adamany is a "real special" administrator, Duggan said. "He doesn't accept that poor kids can't read," Duggan said.

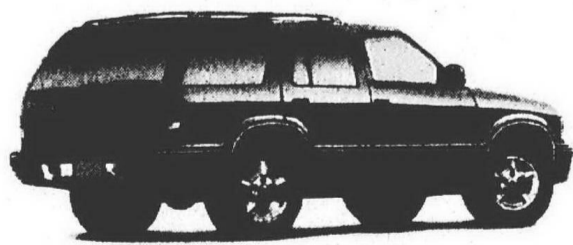
Adamany wants children to have homework every week, Duggan said.

Duggan would like to see the students have hope as many don't believe they have a chance at an education or success. Parents may feel intimidated because they are less educated than teachers, Duggan said.

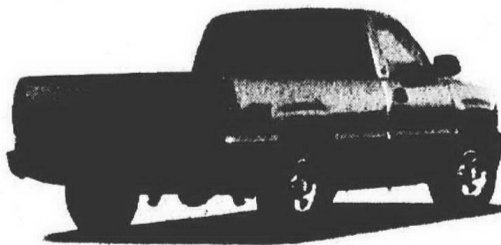
Duggan believes a "school bonus" can help provide incentives for those schools that beat a "base line." "Schools that beat these test scores get a bonus. Those who don't, don't."

Duggan encourages parents to get more involved with the schools, including the maintenance of facilities. Helping fix the Detroit schools this summer taught him that "being quiet in the face of incompetent government is the wrong thing," Duggan said.

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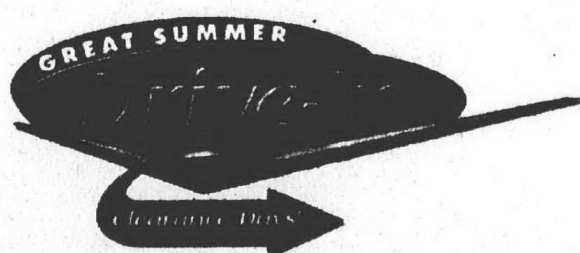
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Talking to children is first step in building trust

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabracyk@oe.homecomm.net



Welcome:
Director of Learning Services for Wayne RESA, Phyllis Robinson, welcomes everyone.

Talking to children is important in building trust, according to a high school principal.

Carol Gerisch, principal of River Rouge High School, once knew of a gang's arrival at her school for one simple reason — a student told her.

"They tell you because they trust you," Gerisch said. "They know you are looking out for their best interest. Kids want to help because they want to go to school in a safe environment."

Gerisch joined Wayne County Sheriff Robert Ficano and several school consultants in talking with superintendents and police administrators at a summit Sept. 15 at the Wayne County Regional Service Agency in Wayne.

Officials also listened to a national teleconference on safe schools. About 1,000 sites were tuned into the conference. They learned about Project ACHIEVE at Cleveland Elementary School in Tampa, which incorporates a "Stop and Think" curriculum. The teleconference also fea-

tured a school district in Westerly, R.I., which works on early intervention with youths by using planning centers within each school. Students can go to talk about their feelings or problems, resolve conflicts, get assistance with school work or work on problem-solving skills.

Officials also learned about the East Baltimore Mental Health Partnership, which provides an intensive, individualized support staff for students.

Ficano, who convened the workshop with RESA Superintendent Michael Flanagan, outlined the school safety bills, namely one law that requires the creation of a statewide school safety information policy. The

state superintendent of public instruction, Attorney General Jennifer Granholm and the State Police have until Oct. 4 to develop this policy which will then be disseminated to local school districts.

"School boards then have 90 days to meet with the prosecutor and local law enforcement agencies on how the statewide policy will be implemented," Ficano said.

Ficano outlined some of the steps his office has initiated to curb school violence. An Internet crime unit has been created and a toll-free number (1-800-SHERIFF) established to report suspicious activities.

Some law enforcement agencies have blueprints of the schools in case of evacuations, Ficano said, but he warned of going too far with school security measures.

"We don't want to turn the schools into a bunker mentality," Ficano said.

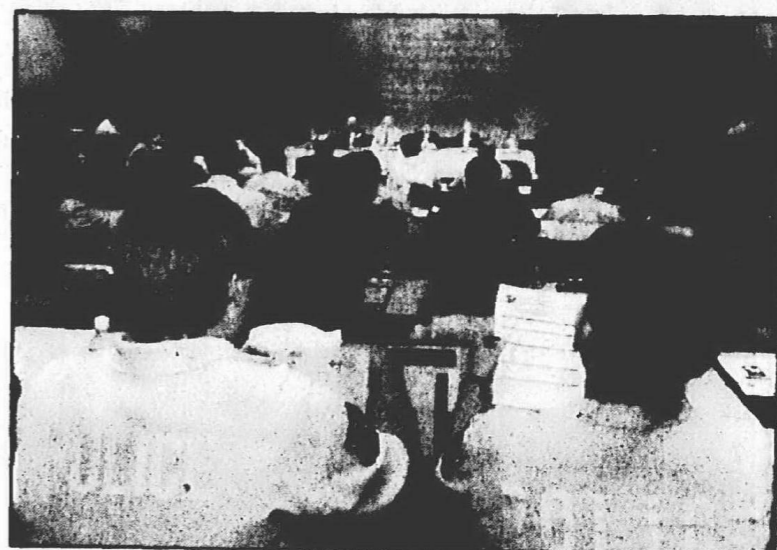
Students were walked to school during the first days of school by sheriffs to develop a bond with local communities. Officers are volunteering for an "Adopt a School" program.

"What's important is to get to know the officers or people like the deputy police chief and who will be working with you if a crisis comes up," Ficano said.

Kathy Gibson, a RESA consultant, said there were three safe school approaches that needed to be used — schoolwide prevention for all, early intervention for at-risk students, and targeting individuals, Gibson said.

Ron Schigur, an assistant Wayne County prosecutor, has simple advice for school administrators.

"When you see a problem, do something about it. Don't pass it onto the next guy."



Sharing Ideas: Wayne County police departments and local school representatives attended the Wayne County Summit on School Violence program.

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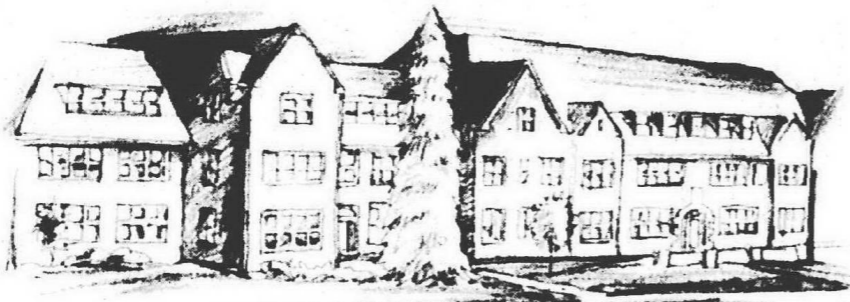
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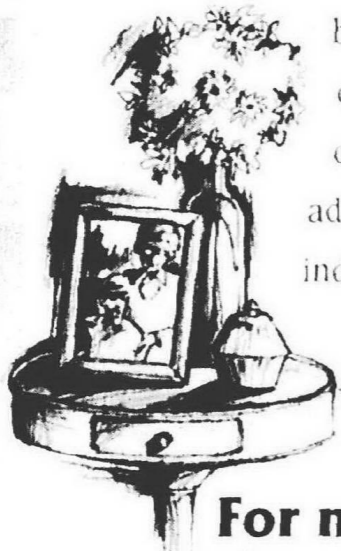


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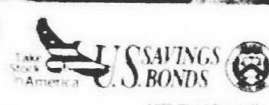
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SPRAWL: Opposite sides find common ground

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Bureaucrats, business suits, bunny huggers and lawmakers on both sides of the political aisle met in Traverse City Sept. 9 and 10 to talk about the issue of urban sprawl and found something surprising — common ground.

The Michigan Legislative and Business Leaders Forum on Growth Management, sponsored by the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and Public Sector Consultants, brought together people from all sides of the sprawl issue for the first such statewide discussion of the topic.

And state lawmakers present said they expect legislation to be proposed this fall to address the concerns. In fact, they expect it will be a priority for the coming session.

Exactly what form such legislation will take isn't clear, lawmakers agreed. They were using the conference as a brainstorming session to come up with specific ideas for new laws.

What came of the conference was that incentives, rather than regulation or prohibitions, should be used to direct development back toward the central cities, away from undeveloped areas. Such a plan would have to make use of "the power of the purse string," essentially coordinating the state budget to put in place the financial incentives to redirect growth back to the cities.

Development in "greenfields" would not be banned, or even restricted, but those building in such areas would have to pay their own way without the monetary assistance now given by the state. Road projects would be reviewed based on whether they encourage sprawl or redevelopment.

Gov. John Engler, lawmakers agreed, would have to be on board with such a plan, although the governor did not attend the conference.

Sprawl is everyone's problem, conferees concluded, not just a suburban issue or a farmland preservation issue, as it is often described. Also involved are central cities, where redevelopment must be encouraged if sprawl is to be curtailed.

Nor is it just an environmental issue. David Walters, co-director of the Charlotte Community Design Studio, labeled it a financial issue.

"The primary purpose is to reduce the property tax burden," he said. "If you are, as I am, in favor of having as much money in the hands of taxpayers as possible and only as much in the government purse as necessary, then we need to make the most



Fields of homes: New housing developments are quickly covering former farm land and open fields in Plymouth Township west of Beck Road.

STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

efficient use of the existing infrastructure. If we make more efficient use of our infrastructure, it will take less money to maintain and improve it and that money can go elsewhere. That is why local governments need to get involved in the smart growth equation."

There was also little disagreement about the severity of urban sprawl in Michigan. Paul Hillemonds, president of Detroit Renaissance and former speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives, summarized the concern in his remarks at the close of the conference. Portland, Ore., expects to see a 50 percent growth in population in the next 20 years, but only 8 percent of the land in that region is anticipated to be developed as a result, he said.

Compare that to southeast Michigan, where 4 percent growth in population over the last two decades has led to the urbanization of 53 percent more land.

The seminar was hardly a love-in. Some issues quickly produced controversy. For example, state Sen. George McManus, R-Traverse City, only halfheartedly proposed a statewide ban on zoning ordinances which require residential lot sizes of one acre or more, knowing it would meet with quick resistance. It did.

But the idea pointed out the nearly universal sentiment among conferees that large lot requirements in the suburbs only exacerbate sprawl. Seen by many municipal planners as a way to preserve open space, large lots simply spread development out further and leave green space only in private hands.

The Michigan Environmental Council's

Julie Stoneman called for the creation of an Office of State Planning, which was met with the response, "Careful, you might get what you ask for." Still, the idea pointed to the fact that many conferees see the lack of coordination in planning among cities and townships as one of the leading contributors to urban sprawl. But local government officials are likely to see any intrusion into planning on the part of the state as a violation of their home rule.

Stoneman quickly amended her idea to the creation of an Office of State Planning Assistance.

Rep. Jack Minore, D-Flint, broached the same issue when he

jokingly said he was glad to see his breakout group was not the only one to propose the elimination of township government. Michigan's tradition of leaving planning and development in the hands of local government is a big part of the problem, conferees agreed. But that led to a serious proposal to tie state revenue sharing for cities and townships to participation in cooperative regional planning efforts.

Still, the controversies were relatively minor. The tone of the conference was set by Carl Guardino, president of the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group, who gave the opening speech. As he outlined how his organization has contributed to regional planning in California, he said members had agreed to "work on the 95 percent we can agree on and ignore the 5 percent of the issues where we don't agree and probably never will agree."

Growth management, Guardino explained, has to address four areas to be successful: provide adequate affordable

housing to accommodate the population of the region; provide necessary transportation, either by roads or mass transit; provide adequate education to all residents; and protect the environment.

He said the "shut the door" mentality used by many no-growth advocates when it comes to housing development only means that residents will seek homes elsewhere, actually encouraging sprawl. Likewise, one of the main factors why people move to the outlying suburbs is to find school districts which provide a better education for their children, he said. Making sure all districts have good educational programs will discourage sprawl, he argued.

John Frece, special assistant for smart growth to Maryland's governor, explained his state's growth strategy. Local governments are asked to designate "growth districts." State resources are applied to developments in those growth zones, while the state budget has been coordinated to withhold financial aid from development outside those regions. The strategy is applied to everything from roads to water and sewer lines.

Rep. Susan Tabor, R-Delta Township, said she is frustrated with the urban sprawl issue. Good proposals have been in short supply, and she is eager to propose and pass legislation addressing the issue this fall.

Rep. Patricia Godchaux, R-Birmingham, said it's "a no-brainer" that the sprawl issue has to be addressed, but feels valid proposals have not been offered in the past. Typically prohibitory in nature, she agrees incentives must be used instead.

Rep. Valde Garcia, R-St. John, said he's not sure he's heard those good ideas yet. He proposed hearings across the state to take input from local officials on what they would like to see as incentives for regional, coordinated planning.

A group of lawmakers came to the conferences with a set of "guiding principals" on what they would like to see in the way of legislation. The coalition included Tabor and Reps. Patricia Birkholz, R-Saugatuck, Jon Jellema, R-Grand Haven, William Byl, R-Grand Rapids, Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, and Stephen Ehart, R-Lexington.

Among their principles were that legislation must respect private property rights, link land-use policy with infrastructure development such as road improvement and utility construction, provide sufficient housing, preserve and even enhance local control while encouraging intergovernmental cooperation and encourage redevelopment of so-called "brownfields."

Ideas to combat sprawl

How can the state government address urban sprawl? A variety of proposals came out of the Michigan Legislative and Business Leaders Forum on Growth Management in Traverse City Sept. 9 and 10, sponsored by the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and Public Sector Consultants. But as moderators pointed out, inclusion on the list does not indicate universal consensus.

Here's what the conferees came up with:

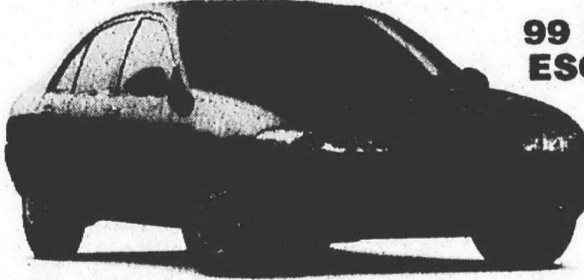
- Use tax credits and financial incentives to encourage growth in already urbanized areas, as opposed to prohibitions or restrictions on "greenfield" development.
- Use financial incentives to encourage local government participation in regional planning initiatives and regional coordination of services.
- Concentrate on job development in central cities, to eliminate the need to move out to find work.
- Develop better public transportation in already urbanized areas.
- Make cities safe places to live through improvements in public safety.
- Identify properties available for redevelopment, to eliminate the difficulties builders and developers have finding parcels on which to build in urban areas.
- Eliminate the state sunset on incentives for "brownfield" redevelopment.
- Publicize the improvements already being made in the urban school districts.
- Remove the income caps on tax credits for "urban homesteading."
- Reduce the barriers to single family home ownership that typically drives up costs for homebuyers.
- Create a strategic growth commission, which would gather citizen input on the direction of development policy.
- Assess agricultural land on its use as agricultural land rather than on its potential development value.
- Eliminate provisions in the property tax law that cause valuations to "pop up" when farms are passed down from one generation to the next.
- Coordinate school construction, to end the phenomenon of closing old schools within a region while replacing them with new schools in sprawling areas.
- Standardize zoning laws with uniform definitions of various zoning categories across municipalities.
- Provide a state model zoning ordinance intended to encourage "smart growth" strategies.
- Provide a state model plat for new housing developments, using design rather than low density to attract homebuyers.
- Provide increased education and training on smart growth strategies for those appointed to municipal planning boards.
- Coordinate the state budget to provide financial assistance only to developments where urban infrastructure already exists.

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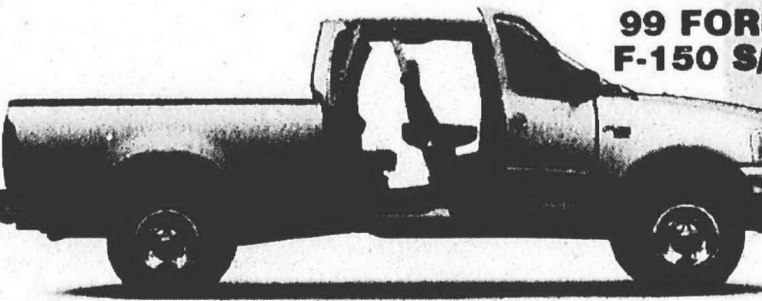
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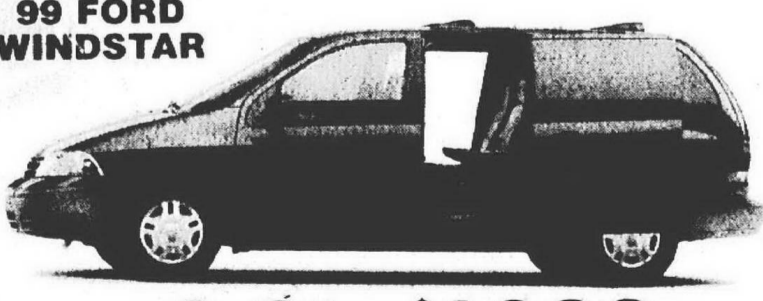
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Eastbound ramp to I-696 reopens

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabracyk@oe.homecomm.net

Northbound I-275 motorists who exit onto eastbound I-696 can expect to get their old route back.

By the end of the day today (Thursday), the ramp from northbound I-275 to eastbound I-696 will be re-opened. Contractors were working Tuesday to complete guard rail work on the new ramp to wrap up that phase of the \$49 million I-275 reconstruction, according to Robin Pannecouk, spokeswoman

for the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Since early July motorists had been detoured onto eastbound I-5 on the Keith Deacon Memorial Highway in Farmington Hills for about 2-1/2 miles to a turn-around near Middlebelt Road, then back to the eastbound I-696 exit from M-5.

The end of the five-mile detour will be a welcome relief for the 200,000 daily commuters who use I-275.

Also on I-275, contractors from John Carlo Inc. were completing paving of the freeway's

new northbound lanes. "The area between 10 Mile and Grand River is all that's left," Pannecouk said.

In the early part of next week, contractors are expected to complete and reopen the Seven Mile interchange ramps. They will then move to Six Mile to finish those ramps in early October.

When the project was first outlined, construction was scheduled to be finished in early November, but that completion date almost certainly will be moved up by MDOT.

2 defendants ready to settle with county on gun lawsuit

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabracyk@oe.homecomm.net

Wayne County officials believe they are close to settling the county's gun lawsuit within the next two weeks with two of the 35 defendants.

Dick's and Sports Authority were expected to settle soon with Wayne County, according to Mike Duggan, deputy county executive.

Wayne County filed a lawsuit in May seeking \$400 million in damages from 35 gun manufacturers, distributors and dealers. County officials believe that gun manufacturers, distributors and dealers are liable for damages because they have acted with negligence by failing to supervise gun sales by dealers named in the complaint.

The city of Detroit and Mayor Dennis Archer also filed a similar complaint. The county's complaint includes Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara, Prosecutor John D. O'Hair, County Commission Chairman Ricardo Solomon and Commissioners Edna Bell and Robert Blackwell.

Investigators conducting stings last spring on gun dealers allegedly selling to people identified to the dealers as minors or felons.

Several months ago, gang members told Wayne County and Detroit police investigators that straw purchases — that is a purchase of a gun by a felon or an underage person, buying a gun through a partner who is a qualified purchaser — were common throughout Wayne County.

The county said a recent study by the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms also showed that up to half of guns used in the commission of crimes are obtained through straw purchases.

Under Michigan law, rifles and shotguns may not be sold to people under 18. Selling and delivering handguns or handgun ammunition to anyone under 18 also is prohibited.

Duggan hoped the lawsuit could spur gun manufacturers to create smart guns, which fire only after they read the owner's fingerprints. County officials want the gun manufacturers to tighten up controls to prevent the sales to minors and felons.

"We also want them to license like Sprint does when a dealer opens a store for cellular phones," Duggan said. That includes interviewing the gun dealers, inspecting the facility and tracking gun sales.

Duggan from page A6

Katz for advertising the contracts for bids.

"I would like someone to write something about David Katz for something he's done," Duggan said. "We knew we had a mess out there."

Duggan believes contracts were not paid attention to as closely as they should have been during the time when plans were outlined to expand Metro Airport. "They let the day-to-day

stuff slide, and we not paying attention to contracts."

Duggan said the county was "on this before the audit." Duggan said that he "resented" the way Duggan claims the audit was used by someone running against him.

"If there had been money taken, it would be a kickback," Duggan said. "There's nothing to suggest that there is anything criminal in the APCOA deal."

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More tax cuts on the agenda for returning legislature

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

State lawmakers return to session in Lansing this week with a full agenda. And in one form or another, money is at the top of everyone's priority list.

Tax cuts are still alive as a possibility for the fall session. House Speaker Chuck Perricone, R-Kalamazoo Township, had hinted early in the summer at the prospects for further tax slashing measures to come around in the fall, following the state's actions cutting income taxes and eliminating the Single Business Tax in the spring.

According to House Taxation Committee Chairwoman Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, the prospects for further tax cuts remain alive. Up for consideration are further cuts in the individual income tax rate and additional exemptions for senior citizens.

Tax holiday

But lawmakers may also take up a proposal for a two-week holiday from sales taxes, to be scheduled around the Labor Day weekend in future years in order to assist families who must do back-to-school shopping, Cassis explained. The proposal is modeled after a similar sales tax holiday in the state of New York.

Of course, prospects for a tax cut all depend on revenue projections, according to House Majority Floor Leader Andrew Raczkowski, R-Farmington Hills. Projections this spring were for a substantial budget surplus. If those hold true when they are updated this fall, Raczkowski said, tax cuts are likely. The size of the surplus will help to determine what kind of tax relief is given, but he said many proposals have been offered over the summer.

The projections are scheduled to be released in a revenue consensus meeting scheduled for Friday, Cassis said.

Road funding

Another money issue on the agenda for the fall is Act 51, according to Raczkowski. The state's Transportation Funding Study Committee is set to report back to the Legislature before year's end with proposals for how to revise Michigan's road funding distribution formula under Act 51. The formula has

caused no end of controversy between the state, county road agencies and municipalities. Whatever form a revision takes, it is sure to see significant debate. But the formula must be revised soon since Act 51 is scheduled to sunset next September.

Another controversial money issue will be revived from the spring session. Rep. Robert Goselin, R-Troy, complained about Oakland County's "donor status" because it sends more money to the state government than it gets back in services. Sen. Shirley Johnson, R-Royal Oak,

has requested a breakdown from the Senate Fiscal Agency and the Department of Management and Budget on exactly how much the county really does donate. And they received promises from leadership to address the issue this fall.

Goselin anticipates pushing forward with House Bill 4777, the bill that would bar municipalities from making laws pertaining to minimum wages or prevailing wages. Originally written to prohibit municipalities from passing rules in areas of law already addressed by the state, the bill received a strong

negative reaction from cities, townships and villages. Now narrowed to the wage issue, the bill is still expected to meet with strong local opposition.

Other issues

Sen. Dianne Byrum, D-Onondaga, said she'll be pushing for legislation this fall to increase penalties on insurance companies which fail to pay legitimate claims from policyholders in a timely fashion. The issue is an outgrowth of a lawsuit between a policyholder and an insurance company in her district. The insurance company

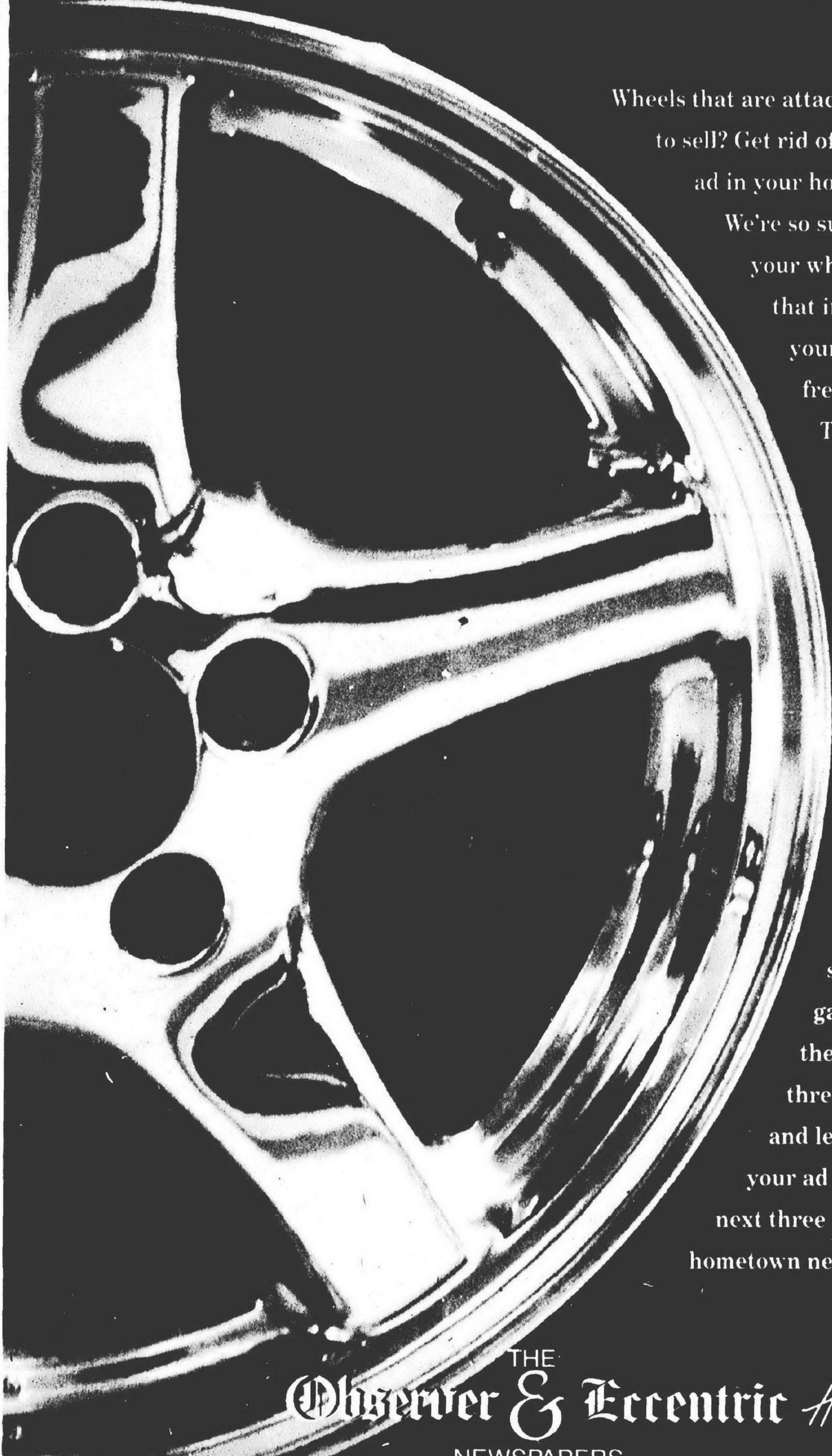
claimed the house fire was the result of arson, a conclusion with which the fire marshal did not agree. The policyholder had to file suit to win payment of the coverage.

Sen. John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, said he'll push for prohibitions against health insurance companies using genetic screening as a condition of coverage. He explained some health insurance companies are ready to begin using such screening. By identifying certain genetic markers, such screens can determine whether the person is more susceptible to certain illnesses. And

Schwarz said the fear is that insurance companies will use the screening tests to disqualify some customers, or raise their rates.

Sen. Bill Bullard, R-Milford, said he foresees the first full revision to the state Drain Code in 40 years. The issue revolves around how county drain commissioners assess costs for their operations. The concern is that some residents are routinely overcharged for drain assessments but not reimbursed. Also at issue is how the drain commissioners must notify residents of future drain projects.

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Madonna offers new master's degree program

A master's degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages has been established at Madonna University in Livonia.

The degree program is designed to educate and train teachers of English as a second or foreign language. The 36 semester-hour program, which is expected to begin in the winter 2000 term, provides students with a foundation in language theory and application, as well as in educational principles.

"The curriculum will combine traditional classes with technological tools such as interactive video," said Dr. Edith Raleigh, dean of graduate studies at Madonna. "Students will have the opportunity to practice their skills in classroom settings."

Throughout the curriculum, coursework will emphasize the cultural aspects of language, learning, teaching, testing and assessment.

Andrew Domzalski will direct the program and has joined the faculty as assistant professor. Domzalski earned his master's degrees from Marygrove College and Warsaw University and his doctorate at Oakland University. He will also be teaching English as a second language courses.

Madonna University's program in English as a second language was instituted in 1991 to serve the growing international student population, many of whom are in need of training in English to successfully pursue their academic interests in the United States.

The master's degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages joins 14 other master's degrees at Madonna University in business, education, health services, hospice and nursing.

For more information, contact the Madonna University Graduate Studies office at (734) 432-5667.

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Ex-Tiger pitcher just a regular guy

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

Former Detroit Tiger pitcher Dan Petry wore an invisible turban and made a searing delivery to the Farmington Exchange Club.

The member of the 1984 Tiger World Champions imitated Johnny Carson's Carnac the Magnificent to tickle his audience at the Brass Pointe restaurant Sept. 9.

With Exchange Club member Barry Melamed serving in the Ed McMahon role as foil, Petry held a hermetically sealed envelope to his temple and uttered the words "Gabe Kapler, chocolate chip and Monica Lewinsky."

"Name a rookie, a cookie and a nookie," Petry said upon opening the envelope.

After another envelope-to-the-temple ruminant, Petry said "catch 22."

"What would the Tigers do if you hit 1,000 fly balls to them?"

Unassuming nature

Petry's routine sparked howls of laughter. If the "Tonight Show" humor didn't sway the audience, his unassuming manner and sincere expression of his love for the area did.

After retiring from baseball, Petry and his family settled in Farmington Hills and the former hurler now works as a sales representative.

He helped coach the North Farmington/West Bloomfield baseball Cobras to a world championship this summer.

Like many former Detroit athletes, the Palto Alto, Calif., native stayed here. Midwestern values made him feel grounded. "I found it was a lot more down to earth than in California where it's a more fast-paced, holiday atmosphere," he said. "I never felt closer to anything than playing with the Tigers."

Rank-and-file fan

He shares the passion of an everyday fan when talking about the team that drafted him as a 17-year-old in 1976.

Like most Tiger zealots, he cringed when news of Tiger Stadium's demise first broke.

"I said why? Yeah, it was a little dirty and it was a little cramped. The playing field was the finest I ever played on," said Petry, who added he's softened his stance since then and acknowledged there is a need for a new park.

"I know that last day (Sept. 27) is not going to be easy," he said. "I have so many memories down there. I hope it sticks around for awhile."

The Exchange Club's John Richardson asked about speculation that Petry's former teammate Kirk Gibson is the cure for what ails the current team.

"I think that's what they're lacking a little bit - someone to scare the living crap out of them," he said.

As for the current team, "I kind of think it's a chemistry thing more than a lack of talent," he said. "I think they have a talented team."

Petry was more than empathetic when Exchange Club member Bob Brown lamented about escalating ticket costs at the new Comerica Park. The team is creating an "elite palace" for an elite set of fans, Brown said.

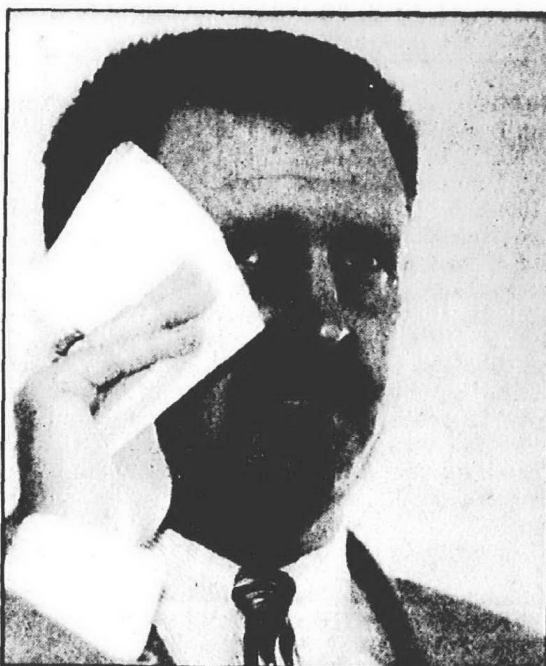
"I think they're just slitting their own throats," Brown added.

Petry said he's not renewing his Tiger season tickets that he shares with a coworker because they're doubling in price for the new ballpark.

Without the begrudging tone somewhat typical of former athletes, Petry acknowledged the differences of today's baseball player.

Petry came up through the Tigers system, spending at least a season in Bristol, Va., Lakeland, Fla., Montgomery, Ala., and Evansville, Ind., before making it to Detroit in 1979.

"I think that's what is missing today: You have guys who signed last June who are already up in the major leagues," Petry said.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRIDLER

Playing spoof: Dan Petry has some fun doing a Johnny Carson routine.

Novice artists take to the wilds

Nature enthusiasts and novice artists can join Wayne County naturalists for "Watercolors in the Wild," 1:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland.

The program, funded through the parks millage, will teach participants basic art techniques and how to apply them to create

nature scenes in an outdoor studio. Suitable for ages 9 and up, the fee is \$5 per adult and \$3 per child. Advance registration is required. Basic watercolor supplies will be provided.

The Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is located on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. For information, call (734) 261-1990.

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Crash from page A1

investigation. Sgt. Wes McKee, supervisor of the Livonia Police Department traffic bureau, said the four women were eastbound on I-96 in a 1988 Ford Tempo about 7:45 p.m. when the car left the freeway west of Wayne Road. It went up the southern embankment, through a fence, across Schoolcraft and hit the tree, McKee said. The car landed on its roof.

Police do not know how fast it was traveling, but are working up an estimate, McKee said.

There were no indications that drugs or alcohol were a factor in the crash, McKee said. It is not known if the women were wearing seat belts, but Roberson said the Tempo had automatic belts.

There were about six witnesses to the accident, some from the freeway and at least one from

the service drive, and police plan to reinterview them, McKee said Tuesday.

Alisha Roberson was taken to St. Mary Hospital, then airlifted to the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, but died en route, McKee said.

Stan Roberson said he was told his daughter died on the tarmac as she was being rushed toward a trauma team at U-M Hospital. He had seen her, briefly, at St. Mary, just before the airlift.

"I went out to the helicopter and they wouldn't let me go with her," he said.

The driver of the Tempo, who turns 20 today, was in stable condition Tuesday at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills. Another passenger, 17, was in satisfactory condition at Botsford.

The third passenger, also 17, was in fair condition at U-M Hospital.

Visitation for Alisha Roberson is set for 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. today and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday at the Canton Chapel, McCabe Funeral Home, 851 North Canton Center Road. The funeral will take place 11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home, the Rev. John Beyer presiding.

Burial will be at Knollwood Cemetery in Canton.

Staff writer Scott Daniel contributed to this story.

Sentence from page A1

Wendell Sikes of Plymouth Township, who son Matt was also ticketed, said he wanted to continue the fight.

"I know we could have won," said Sikes. "But it's hard to fight the system when it costs so much. I wish I had the financial means to go all the way."

"I don't think I should have to do community service, but to fight it would cost thousands of dollars and who knows if we would have won," said Matt Sikes, 16. "However, the good thing is I don't think the cops will give out any more of those

tickets because of the fuss. I think they'll have more respect for the kids downtown."

Along with Novrocki and Sikes, 16-year-old Jamie Wand of Canton will also pay the court costs and participate in 32 hours of community service.

Robbi Woelfel, 17, of Canton, was scheduled to have a hearing on her ticket Wednesday in 35th District Court. Because of her age, Woelfel's ticket is being handled as an adult offense.

Lowe believes there was a lot of misinformation during the case and is happy the situation

has been resolved.

"I discovered the misunderstanding and took steps to correct it," said Lowe. "I'm satisfied the young people were given the appropriate options and made a decision on proper information."

Police Chief Bob Scoggins, whose department came under fire for handing out the tickets, said, "This is an appropriate way to handle these matters and in dealing with juveniles. I'm in favor of what the court has done."

Read Observer Sports

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The Charter Township of Canton 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, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

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Publish: September 23, 1999

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PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 168 of the Public Acts of 1959 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Comprehensive Plan of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, October 4, 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 Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan:

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH FUTURE LAND USE AMENDMENT - CONSIDER AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP FROM RURAL RESIDENTIAL (1 DU/2 ACRES) TO VERY LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (1 DU/ACRE) FOR PARCEL NOS. 025 99 0001 004 AND 025 99 0001 005. Property is located on the south side of Warren Road between Ridge and Napier Roads.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, September 30, 1999, in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Publish: September 23 and 24, 1999

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Mayflower Hotel

Demolition sparks revitalization

People stood and watched as North American Dismantling began demolishing the Mayflower Hotel last week. A steady crowd of five or 10 stopped by throughout the day. Some brought their children and others brought their parents. But most everyone brings memories.

Passersby stop to share stories of engagements, weddings and other events they had at the hotel, built in 1926. Most had heard of the Roundtable, where influential people would gather in the morning to talk business.

The demolition of the hotel wasn't a huge event that drew large crowds like the implosion of the J.L. Hudson building in Detroit. The Mayflower quietly is disappearing from Plymouth's scene as a crane gobbles it up piece by piece, tossing aside the remnants of what was once the city's cornerstone.

It's sad to see it fade into memories. However, the unfortunate truth is that the hotel was plagued by financial dilemmas and poor upkeep for many years. The Mayflower was a white elephant, which held Plymouth back from entering a new frontier. Its demolition has been talked about for so long, the actual happening is somewhat numbing for most.

The future holds so much more with the \$7 million Mayflower Centre development planned by John Vincenti. The Mayflower Centre will be the new cornerstone of Plymouth, offering a three-story building with retail, office and residential space, bringing

However, the unfortunate truth is that the hotel was plagued by financial dilemmas and poor upkeep for many years. The Mayflower was a white elephant, which held Plymouth back from entering a new frontier. Its demolition has been talked about for so long, the actual happening is somewhat numbing for most.

downtown living to new heights. The centre will be capped with 11 condominiums selling for \$250,000 to \$400,000. A two-story yet-to-be named restaurant will have outdoor seating in the center's atrium at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Main.

And by looking around downtown, we see how the \$7 million project has sparked new interest by new and existing business owners as well. Two new restaurants, Paisano's and E.G. Nicks, are expected to open soon. Meanwhile, the renovation of the Box Bar facade will accent the plans for the Mayflower center's brick and limestone-trim building. The owner of the Penn Theater also is completing a restoration of its marble facade.

In another year, the city of Plymouth will have a look and feel so different from what we're used to and that will be a breath of fresh air.

Put cell phones on hold in car

We've seen the bumper stickers. Maybe you have too. One says: "Drive now — talk later." Another states: "Why don't you drive while I shove that cell phone ...?"

Well, you get the idea. People are becoming concerned about the ubiquitous cellular phone, especially when it is used by motorists who need to keep their eyes on the road, their hands on the wheel and their minds on the task at hand: driving.

An recent Observer article pointed out that, according to medical and academic research, talking on a cell phone makes a driver four times more likely to be involved in an accident, roughly the same rate of increase experienced by drunk drivers.

Think about that: If you believe the studies, yackers can be almost as bad as boozers behind the wheel.

Several countries (Spain, Portugal, Israel, Italy, Brazil and Chile) have responded to the danger by banning cell phone use while driving. Similar attempts in the United States have little support.

And, as the article pointed out, it is unlikely that the Michigan Legislature will act any time soon to ban or restrict the use of cell phones by motorists. Why? Because something like three quarters of our state senators and representatives make liberal use of them on those long drives to and from the Capital.

"We'd be hard pressed to vote in something like that," an area state representative told our Lansing reporter Mike Malott. "It would be a case of 'Do as I say, not as I do.'"

Well, we believe the use of cell phones in cars should be neither restricted nor banned. To do so would be an illogical reaction to a technology that is quickly becoming an integral part of the communications and business worlds.

A little common sense on the part of the phone-packing public and some thought and innovation by the industry itself should make legislation unnecessary, we think.

Cell phones are today what fax machines were a decade ago — the latest communications gizmo. Thing is, few drivers felt the need to send or receive faxes while barreling along I-696 or I-75 at 70 miles per. Portable phones are, however, completely adaptable to the automobile.

With cell phones, people are no longer out of touch while they're getting from here to there. As the Nextel advertisement says, cell phones are "How business gets done."

So use cell phones, but use them safely. A few tips for motorists (and forgive us for stating the obvious):

- Remember that driving is job one. If traffic is getting a bit too hectic, better ring off and call later on a land line.

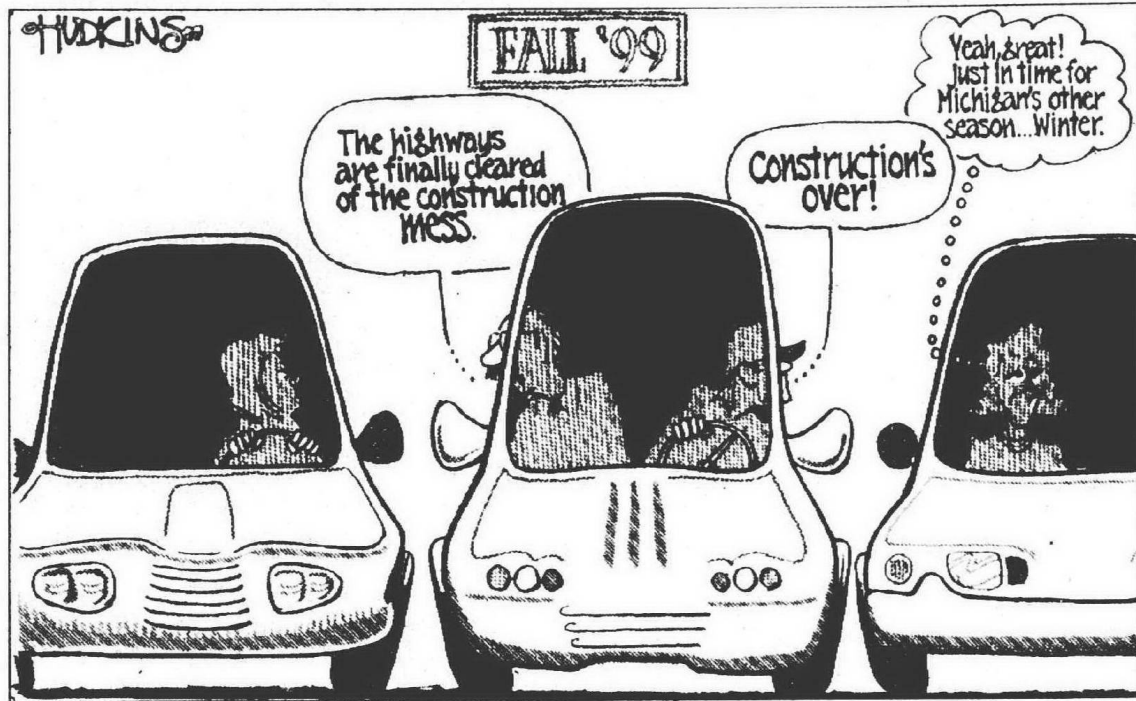
- Whenever possible, leave the phone in its holder on the dashboard and make use of the speaker feature. You can pay closer attention to the road when the phone isn't jammed between your head and shoulder.

- Use speed dialers or voice-activated dialer if there is one. Perhaps the cell phone industry should make voice-activated dialers standard.

- If possible, let a passenger make or take the call.
- Pull off the highway, perhaps into a parking lot, to make your call. Remember, though, police say it can be dangerous to be parked on the shoulder of a busy road.

States have laws on the books against careless driving. Of course, they would apply to drivers who happened to be on the phone when they were stopped for, say, weaving in and out of traffic. We don't need more laws to cover the same thing.

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

Allegations are false

I am honored to be a member, appointed by the city commission, of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). The DDA has always exhibited the highest integrity in all its dealing and the accusations against it and me are false. There were bids for the Downtown Business Association (DBA) contract, I did abstain and I was not involved with the DBA selection process. I welcome the city commission's investigation to clear the good name of my colleagues.

I am not a party (stockholder, director or partner) to any property which owes taxes or back water bills. Nor have I been. Perhaps this has been misconstrued because of my expression of interest in the success of my husband's business, as any spouse would be.

I believe the people of this community deserve a commission and candidates who hold themselves to the highest standard — individuals who put the needs of the city and the citizens as their priority, not their own personal agenda. I have done so and will continue to do so.

Let's get on with addressing the challenges and opportunities facing the city. I look forward to the opportunity to serve on the city commission.

Sally Repeck
 Plymouth

First amendment rights

This letter is written in response to the editorial in the Observer and the W. Edward Wendover penned "With malice toward none" in the Community Crier.

First, I must point out that I have known Wendover for over 20 years and Repeck and Shrewsbury for over 10 years, and consider all three of them to be people that I enjoy being associated with, in the past, present and hopefully in the future.

Second, I think it is important for all of us to recognize the important role that the fourth estate (that is the press) plays in our lives. It plays the most important role as "watchdog" of government. We count on the press to help protect us, as free individuals, from what ever government, or the main actors of government, "politicians" may have in store for us. We need a free press, one unencumbered by close and cozy ties with politicians in order to give us the objective "truth."

In the past, I could always count on Wen-

dover to expose in his paper, the dealings of government and politicians. If he thought that government was not doing a proper bid, he would print it. If he thought, although he may not have had his facts completely substantiated, that a politician had not been a good citizen by not voting regularly, paying taxes, or disclosing his or her money supporters, he would print it. Unfortunately, he has not shown consistency of reporting in this city election.

Shrewsbury is being attacked for writing and publishing the very same facts that would normally be cited in either the Crier or the Observer papers. The questions should not be, "How dare Shrewsbury," but rather, "Why did Shrewsbury have to do it." Is this not the job of the fourth estate (press)? Of course it is!

We simply need to ask, Why has Wendover not reported on the apparent bid problems between himself as publisher of the Crier and spouse DDA representative Repeck, the current non-payment of taxes that he and Repeck have and the apparent problem of campaign fund-raising that he and Repeck have.

My issue with the Observer is that the reporters and editor were well aware that Wendover, due to the fact that his wife, Repeck, is a candidate, was wearing soft gloves, and did nothing to fill their responsibility to inform the public. Surely, Shrewsbury should have put his own house in order first, and maybe could have discovered a less offensive avenue to deliver his message, but the first amendment is not about killing the messenger but rather allowing him or her to speak.

Jerry Vorva
 Plymouth

Throw out the vote

Talk about taxation without representation!

How absurd to ignore a better and practical location. Obviously we elected fools to represent the Plymouth-Canton residents. I certainly feel the vote should be thrown out. We, the taxpayers, insist on the only logical new site. This would provide the school and a substantial savings for years to come.

Elizabeth Schmidt
 Plymouth

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

What's your favorite fall activity?



"I wish I could sit in the sun and read a book. I love fall, it's the best season."

Suzanne LaFollette
 Canton



"Watching softball or volleyball. I have a grandchild who plans softball and I'm going to be in the senior Olympics."

Gerry Gavura
 Canton



"Going to a cider mill."

Tina Mabrouk
 Canton



"Getting a pay raise, I hope. I'm in technology."

Lalf Hanson
 Canton

Plymouth Observer

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— Philip Power

LETTERS

Disagreed with editorial

It was with great amazement that I read your editorial (Aug. 26) regarding the vote of the school board to place the new high school at the western site of the high school property. Your chastising of the three school board members who voted for the eastern site was odd after you acknowledged that they chose the more "practical, cost-effective and easiest to implement decision." I, on the other hand, would like to thank three members for a decision that seems very responsible.

You go on to say that the district is not legally bound to build the high school on the west site, but the promise of a new school apart from the campus was implicit in the campaign. That is an assumption that could certainly be debated. While I can not pretend to know what every voter believed at the time of the vote, I would guess that voters knew that it would be at the Beck/Joy location as opposed to a Beck/Cherry Hill location, for example. In other words, it would be built in this general vicinity. I believe that what the voters expect is a high school that delivers curriculum effectively, is fiscally responsible and works.

We have proven track record. Eighty-five per cent of our graduating students attend post-high school institutions. Our attendance rate on any given day is 95 percent. Our band is nationally acclaimed and our sports teams are consistently ranked at the top in the area. The myriad of clubs at the park accomplish much in the area of community service. We have 13 advanced placement (AP) classes and a curriculum that offers much depth and variety to our students. How many high schools can claim an automation robotics lab and a student run restaurant?

Your statement that the high school campus may have worked in the 1970's, but not today is preposterous.

It appears that the writer of this editorial has not visited Salem or Canton High School. The editorial smacks of meaningless rhetoric and

shows a real lack of knowledge of the park. The intent of the article appears to be to generate heat as opposed to shedding any real light on the debate. I am enclosing a profile of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park and encourage you to visit. I think that you will be impressed with what you see.

Janet Dersey
Salem High School Counselor

Poll the parents

According to the Observer and four trustees, a vote for the east site for the new high school would have been a "clear violation of the public trust." As the parent of a current park student and a middle school student, I voted for a new high school to alleviate the terribly crowded conditions at the park. I did not vote for the school because the "proposed" site was Beck and Joy. The issue was and is overcrowding, period. The trust I placed in the electorate was to relieve those conditions, and to do it quickly and cost effectively.

If all concerned agree that the east site is the most practical and cost-effective and facilitates a quality curriculum, doesn't the vote for the west site violate the implicit requirement of the trustees to make wise use of tax dollars? Their ill-defined strategy reminds me of the Kevin Costner movie, "Field of Dreams." Build it (a baseball field) and they will come... Build it (the school) and the money will come? Sorry, that doesn't compute.

At some point in history, a decision was made to have a joint school district and to assign students to either school by lottery. As a newcomer to the area, I asked a past graduate of PCEP why it was done this way. She passionately explained that the park assured the most diverse and academically challenging environment and the lottery prevented destructive rivalry between Plymouth and Canton. So, why do we now need a school apart from the current campus? Have the issues involved in a joint district

changed and is the rivalry gone? Or are they more evident than ever?

My "warm and fuzzy" side certainly agrees with the idea that a more intimate learning environment sounds nice. Although an intimate learning environment may be the goal, there is absolutely no guarantee that it will occur at Joy and Beck. Teachers and students make the environment.

Oh, by the way, what is an "alternative" high school? I always thought it was a vocational-technical school. Does this mean we move all of the auto-body equipment out of Canton High School?

You raise a good question on parental involvement - since we have already used a great deal of time, why not use another month and spend it asking parents of current and future high school students what they want? You'll have a better chance of getting me to agree to answer a poll now than you'll have of getting more tax dollars later.

Monica Batts
Plymouth Township

Favors East site

I vote for the East site, nearest the current facilities, for the construction of the new high school.

Reasons:

- We cannot afford to build a comprehensive high school which will necessitate large, permanent costs for transportation.

- It is likely that many outstanding programs will have to be cut or reduced in order to save money.

- A fourth building nearby will serve the same purpose of reducing overcrowding. Students will still be spread among four buildings.

The East location is the far better alternative, given the limitations we have.

Patrick J. Barry, Jr.
Teacher, Salem H.S.

Campus makes sense

Both my wife and I feel it makes the most sense to locate all three high schools together at the park and

not have the new one on the west side at Beck Rd.

Ray Maloni
Plymouth Township

Tickets are extreme

I am the mother of three children, the youngest child, Elliott Thomas ("ET"), our 16 year old, has recently encountered difficulty with the Plymouth Police Department.

In light of the young man recently cited for "blocking the sidewalk" and the resultant comments of the Chief of Police and Plymouth District Judge Ron Lowe, I feel compelled to write this letter. As a result of these incidents, among many others, I ask myself has the intolerance in today's society gotten to the point that young men can no longer gather on city streets peacefully, in their vehicles or on the sidewalks, in the communities in which they live, without the expectation of harassment from the police.

In ET's particular case, he was parked along a city street in the city of Plymouth, when a Plymouth police officer, for no apparent reason, ordered the two young men out of the vehicle, searched the vehicle, destroyed property, and cited them both criminally, for "possession of tobacco."

Judge Lowe's comments in the sidewalk case, "the law is the law," were extreme. It is my belief to allow such abuses to continue under the watch of the likes of Judge Lowe is despicable and contrary to every belief we as Americans hold dear.

Linda Jokinen
Plymouth

Examine teen behavior

This letter is in response to an Observer article of Sept. 12. Before we consider a teen community center, we need to examine current behavior. While spending an evening downtown with my family, we witnessed traffic laws being ignored and pedestrians nearly run down; profanities yelled

from corner to corner; a girl parked in a jeep exposing her breasts to passing cars; boom boxes and radios blaring and public urination.

Parents pull up with van loads of kids, drop them off and drive away, leaving them for the city to worry about. The crowds get bigger, and the behavior gets worse every year. I believe that the majority are not from Plymouth.

These are not the kind of teens who would appreciate, or use, a community center. They are clearly doing what they want to do.

I am not against a community center. I think it is a great idea. I have growing children. But, if Plymouth is to consider this, it should be for local teens and a guest. Not for every teen in the metro area. Also, they should be responsible for organizing events and upkeep. A teen "board" if you will. And, there should be events. Not just a place to hang out that they will tire of in a month.

There was a quote in the article that said, "other than kids, there's nobody in downtown Plymouth at night." My response to that quote is, it's because of the kids that nobody goes to downtown Plymouth at night. I live (and work) in Plymouth and after our one or two evenings downtown, we spent our summer nights elsewhere. I wasn't fearful or threatened, it just isn't a family atmosphere anymore, which is the main reason I moved to Plymouth in the first place.

The current cruising and loitering must be stopped. Even if they have to barricade the streets, which they did one year with great success.

E. Schultz
Plymouth

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

Candidate's spouse brings fresh approach to campaign

In this era of news spin and press manipulation, a good way for a reporter to gain insight into the real workings of a candidate is to talk informally with the spouse. It's still a good method, even today when we've heard far more psycho-babble than we ever wanted about the marital dynamics between Bill and Hillary.

So last week I dropped in at the Ann Arbor Jewish Community Center to listen to presidential candidate Bill Bradley's wife, Ernestine Schlant Bradley. A professor of German and comparative literature at Montclair State University in New Jersey, Dr. Ernestine Schlant, as she is professionally known, is the author of a recently published book, "The Language of Silence: West German Literature and the Holocaust."

Not surprisingly, the crowd was rapt when I sidled in about half way through her presentation. It was just what you might expect from a professor of comparative literature: literate, detailed, knowledgeable, academic. "You cannot deconstruct the Holocaust," she argued at one point, launching into a review of 40 years of German literature.

"What's going on here?" I wrote on my reporter's pad. "Here is a mature, perceptive, intelligent, civilized person implausibly engaged in a political process that is none of these things!"

At the end of her talk, Mrs. Bradley took questions, which she answered carefully and in detail. Only one dealt with her husband's campaign. Her answer consumed five minutes, concluding with the thought that Sen. Bradley had learned from her that reading a country's literature often turned out to be far more useful to a visitor than a briefing from the state department. "No sound bites here," I thought.

So when we sat down for a visit, I wondered how a wife, German-born and a full-blown academic, relates to a husband, a former professional basketball player and now a professional politician. "It's not that difficult," she responded, "because it's very liberating when you know for certain what the most important thing is. In my case and at this time in my life, it's my husband's campaign."

"But how," I asked, "can you manage in two entirely different worlds? One, academia - where intelligence is used to illuminate and words are used to clarify - and the other, politics - where intelligence is used to confuse and words are used to conceal?"

"For me, it's not a problem," she said, pointing out she had participated in each of Bradley's three past campaigns for the Senate. "I know Bill's position on the issues, but I express them in my own way and in my own



PHIL POWER

language. I won't read the position papers from the campaign; I speak about Bill, not for Bill."

But the contradiction between the two worlds? In her mind, the resolution is that, "Bill really believes that he is running a different kind of campaign, one intended to reconstitute respect for the political process in this country. He wants to talk seriously to the voters, to present himself as an authentic, serious and non-politically driven candidate." The purpose: To give voters now frustrated and alienated with the political process some hope that the system can change.

At the end of our talk, I asked Mrs. Bradley about the story that her husband decided not to run for president in order to be by her side in 1992 when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in June of that year. "What a lovely anecdote," I thought, "perfectly illustrating the contrast between the Bradley family and some other political families we know about."

"Not true," she declined to mythologize. "By the time I was diagnosed in June, the campaign for president was long under way. Bill was a rock during my illness, but it had nothing to do with his not running for president."

Hmm. I've never met Sen. Bradley. I have no idea whether he'll win the nomination, or be elected, or make a good president. That's what campaigns are designed to explicate.

But I do know that Professor Ernestine Schlant Bradley is a mature, perceptive, intelligent and civilized woman whose adult presence in the hurly-burly of a political campaign gives me comfort and, perhaps, a bit of hope.

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@homecomm.net.

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Grand opening



Kroger opening: Michigan Sen. Thad McCotter (from left) joins Plymouth Township Kroger store manager Bob Szczodrowski, Marnette Perry, president of the Kroger Co. of Michigan, and Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, Plymouth Township supervisor, along with a host of Kroger store employees, guests and Kroger customers at the grand opening of the new Plymouth Township Kroger store. The new Kroger, located at 44525 Ann Arbor Road, is open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to midnight.

WTUA from page A1

decides on another site, Faas said.

"This was a way for Canton Township to take on the risk on behalf of the three communities if this site is suitable," Faas said. "Without an option agreement in place, we're risking a higher price."

Both Treasurer Ron Edwards and Trustee Charles Curmi, who voted against approval of the \$8.2 million WTUA budget last week, remained hesitant on this option. They hoped negotiations could influence YCUA to drop their insistence on composting.

Curmi said Monday that his yearly "no" vote on the WTUA budget is an expression of his frustration. "I have always voted no on the WTUA budget," Curmi said. In its early days, the authority didn't have enough control but that has improved, Curmi said.

WTUA's existence accelerated "the paving over" of Plymouth, Northville and Canton Townships, spurring increased development, Curmi said.

The same thing could happen to Salem Township if WTUA sells some of its future capacity to that township, said Curmi.

Dishmon

from page A1

years he worked as publisher of The Observer Newspapers he showed enormous skill, management competence, and consideration for readers, customers and company employees alike."

Richard Aginian, president of HomeTown Communications Network, said, "I welcome Banks back with the confidence that he will bring his leadership and other broad skills to this very important position. The challenges that the O&E must address are significant. Banks is just the right person."

Dick Brady, corporate vice president for sales and marketing, has been serving as interim general manager.

Dishmon came to The Observer & Eccentric in 1995 from the Dallas-Fort Worth Suburban Newspapers where he served as vice president of newspaper operations. Dishmon worked as city circulation manager for the Dallas Morning News and Shreveport Times. He was circulation director at the Texarkana Gazette.

He will rejoin the O&E on Oct. 18.

Dishmon and his wife, LouAnn, live in Livonia. They have six children and one grandchild.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers publishes the Birmingham-Bloomfield, West Bloomfield, Troy, Rochester, Lake Orion, Oxford, Clarkston, Southfield and Waterford Eccentrics in Oakland County and the Farmington Observer in Oakland County along with the Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Westland and Garden City editions in western Wayne County.

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highlights

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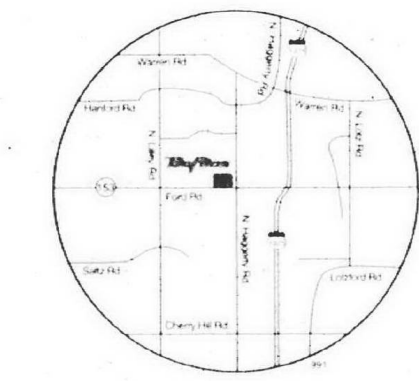
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Community Life

The Observer

INSIDE:

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Page B3

PC Page 1, Section B

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on the web: <http://observer.eccentric.com>

Thursday, September 23, 1999

COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

Starting Over has widower resuming life

Tom and his wife had been married many years when she developed a brain aneurysm. So serious was the dilatation that within one week, Tom buried her.

A short time later, Tom, like so many men who have lost a spouse, was searching for comfort through another relationship. He came across a personal ad in the newspaper and called the woman who had written it.

She recognized his fresh pain and candidly told him it was too early for him to date. But, he now remarks, he was a typical guy.

The woman told Tom about a group, called Starting Over, which met in both Madison Heights and Plymouth.

She recommended he check out the group because it was designed for people who had recently lost a spouse.

Started by Cathy Clough, a widow herself, Starting Over has been in existence for more than 12 years and has helped more than 2,000 widows and widowers.

All of the trained leaders are also widowed, adding that special dimension of empathy, because

'I have a macho image of myself, and I remember walking into the first meeting, thinking I'm the only one who's been dumped on. But you listen to others' stories and think, boy, have I been selfish.'

Tom
widower

"I have a macho image of myself, and I remember walking into the first meeting, thinking I'm the only one who's been dumped on," he said. "But you listen to others' stories and think, boy, have I been selfish."

Starting Over is a part of Arbor Hospice and its program doesn't cater only to grieving spouses or significant others. It also runs age-specific groups for children, preschool through high school.

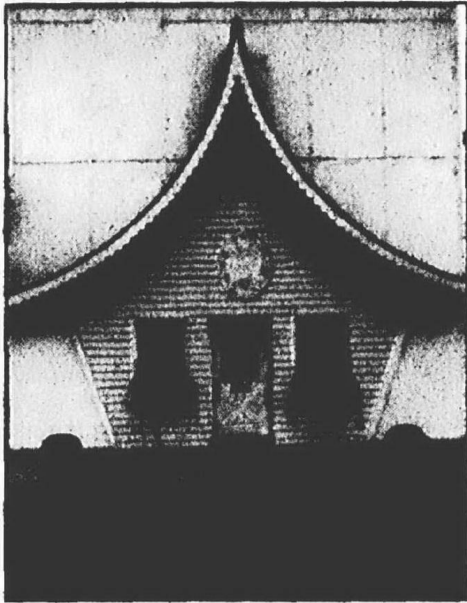
The kids benefit by learning that they, too, are not alone in their hurt. The multi-media activities encourage the kids to vent all of their feelings about the death.

Tom adds that, "I've made many friends and, if I'm having a bad day, I can pick up the phone and call them, as they do me."

Families grieving the loss of one parent often suffer in silence. If you know anybody who is going through that, Starting Over and the other bereavement programs offered through Arbor Hospice may be for them.

For more information about this unique program, call (800) 783-5764. Details about times and locations will be provided.

Jacquie Martin-Downs is the coordinator of the Family Resource Center in Westland and has a private counseling practice. If you have a question or comment, write her at the Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or contact her by e-mail address at dwnaj@mail.resa.net.



A house for the making

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@oe.homecomm.net

As if on a mission, Linda Michele-Doble embarked on a special toy hunt. Strolling up and down the aisles of miniature toys upstairs at Muriel's Doll House on Penniman in Plymouth, she searched for a southwest-style house.

Peering into glass cabinets filled with tiny furniture, she explained her newfound interest in the art of creating doll houses.

Like many crafts, it combines her interest in many facets of art — from using textures to pottery. More importantly, Michele-Doble said creating a doll house will allow her to work closely with her 13-year-old daughter.

"It's something I've always wanted to do with her," she said.

What surprised the former Plymouth resident most about collecting and creating doll houses was its continued popularity. From children to adults, the industry has become huge, she said.

While she enjoys shopping at stores like Muriel's Doll House, Michele-Doble said Michigan is somewhat behind when it comes to the overall industry.

"There's still not that much (of it) in Michigan, compared to the East Coast," said the new collector.

She traveled from Brighton to Plymouth specifically to get a head start on her doll house venture. Michele-Doble knows that doll houses are not just for children anymore.

A long-term project

Just ask Clare Alt, a clerk and doll house builder who works at the quaint Plymouth toy shop. Creating the perfect doll house takes time, patience and consideration.

Alt said it takes up to one year to complete a single house. Customers may buy them pre-assembled or in a kit form to build themselves.

Alt, who began working at the store 15 years ago during the Christmas rush, said she doesn't know



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURCHMANN



It's a small world: Linda Michele-Doble (above) of Brighton was searching for a southwest-style house when she stopped to take a closer look at some of the dinette sets at Muriel's Doll House. Dave and Amy Page of Ann Arbor (left), and their children Andrea Scafasci, 10, and Madelyn Scafasci, 6, also checked out the furniture displays.

exactly when she became interested in doll houses, but once she began working at Muriel's she never left.

She said the houses can serve different purposes — as toys for children, or a way for adults to recapture their own childhood. Customers come back years later and share memorable childhood moments with the staff.

"We have a lot of people come back and tell us how much enjoyment they got (out of the doll houses)," said Alt. "Young people, in their 20s will come in and say they got all of their dolls here."

Muriel's Doll House has been in business in Plymouth for 28 years.

"It's rewarding to know we order things people will treasure," said Alt.

Margaret Devlin, store manager, agrees.

"You can take it to any level you want," she said.

The youngest collectors are about 4 years old although it is considered a hobby for men and women of all ages.

Working and playing with doll houses teaches children to be gentle, added Devlin. Alt said it also teaches them how to "take care of their things."

"It brings out your creative and organizational skills," added Alt. "It's a long-term project."

Devlin had some advice for those who've just begun to consider doll houses as a craft. She said choosing a shell, or framework, in one's price range is the first step. Deciding on interior and exterior colors is the next important choice a new collector makes, whether that collector is 4 or 40 years old.

A new doll house owner must also decide whether the house will have electricity or not. A kit can cost between \$50 and \$120, excluding the light fixtures. After electricity is added, the house may have wood floors or carpeting placed inside it. Delicate oriental rugs are another option.

Doll houses may be small replicas of real homes, but the cost varies depending on how intricate the owner wants it to be. Devlin has built houses cost

Please see **MINIATURES, B2**

Mom, daughter go for blue at State Fair



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LEMIEUX

Oh, so blue: Kristin Broome (left) and her mom Ginger Broome show off some of the blue ribbons they received from the 1999 Michigan State Fair.

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@oe.homecomm.net

Ginger and Kristin Broome call themselves "everyday people."

But it isn't every day that a mother-and-daughter team can call themselves national blue-ribbon winners at the Michigan State Fair.

Ginger Broome and her 11-year-old daughter, Kristin, kept themselves busy all summer long preparing for multiple contests at this year's state fair. But the most memorable one was their joint entry in the Land O'Lakes "Sweet Treat Team Championship."

The Broomes won first place for their Caramel Apple Pizza recipe and took home a \$200 prize. Ginger will use her half to — what else — buy a new mixer for cooking. Kristin plans on spending her share at the mall.

They only began entering Michigan State Fair competitions last year, although it was something Ginger Broome had thought about for some time.

"My mom and I, when I was a kid, would go to the fair," said Broome.

"She would see the display and say 'You could do that.'"

Now Ginger has proven to herself and her family that she can do that. She entered seven contests in addition to the "Sweet Treat" competition. Her daughter entered nine categories.

"It's so exciting," said Ginger. "My husband didn't know there was money involved."

While the Broome family was elated to receive the \$200 cash prize — and winners Ginger and Kristin look forward to judging next year's competition — the true reward was the quality time spent between mother and daughter. They called it a "family thing."

"It's a neat thing for father and son, mother and daughter," said Ginger. "It's a neat thing to get involved with your kids."

A busy summer

Kristin, a seventh grader at Lowell Middle School in Westland, said it was a busy summer preparing for the fair. She may not be as excited about cook

Please see **RIBBONS, B2**

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Germain-MacGillis

Chris Germain of Livonia announces the engagement of her daughter, Carrie, to David M. MacGillis, the son of David and Marilyn MacGillis of Pontiac.

The bride-to-be is a 1987 graduate of Garden City High School, a 1991 graduate of University of Michigan-Flint and a 1996 graduate of Central Michigan University.

Her fiancé, is a graduate of Pontiac Catholic High School and Baker College. He is employed by DaimlerChrysler.

A May wedding is planned at St. Benedict's Church of Waterford.



Smith-Cosby

Dennis and Jill Smith of Kalkaska announce the engagement of their daughter, Tammy Marie, to Jeromey Jay Cosby, the son of Rebecca Palac of Westland and Jay Cosby of Lincoln Park.

The bride-to-be is a 1997 graduate of Ferris State University with a degree in dental hygiene. She is employed as a dental hygienist by Dr. Thomas Vale in Gaylord.

Her fiancé is a 1999 graduate of Ferris State University where he majored in secondary math education and minored in coaching and physical education. He is working as an intern at Gaylord High School.



A July wedding is planned at the Methodist Church of Gaylord.

Kurzawa-Osterland

Allen Kurzawa of St. Clair Shores and Jacqueline Michalowicz of Harrison Township announce the engagement of their daughter, Rebecca Anne, to Brian Karl Osterland, the son of Herb and Janet Osterland of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1998 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in social work.

Her fiancé is a 1992 graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and a 1997 graduate of Eastern Michigan University. He is employed as a teacher at Livonia Franklin High School.

An October wedding is



planned at St. Peter's Church in Fair Haven.

Furtak-Pennington

Jill Ann Furtak and David Guy Pennington were married Aug. 7 at St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church by the Rev. Stan Tokarski.

The bride is the daughter of Mike and April Furtak of Livonia. The groom is the son of Mark and Jeanine Pennington of Livonia.

The bride is a college student, homemaker and mother. The groom is a mechanic and the manager at Autolab.

The bride asked Kristin Kowalczyk to serve as her maid of honor, with Laura Pennington and Julie Holt as bridesmaids. Amber Rose Pennington was the flower girl.

The groom asked Jack Parmenter to serve as best man, with Brian Furtak and Doug Smith as groomsmen. Josh Shepard was the ring bearer.



The couple received guests at a reception at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Walt Disney World in Florida.

Wess-Gorman

Susan Wess of Westland announces the engagement of her daughter, Brooke Allison, to Matthew Edmond Gorman, the son of Mike and Margaret Gorman of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a bachelor of arts degree. She is employed by Andersen Consulting.

Her fiancé will receive his bachelor of arts degree from University of Michigan-Dearborn in December. He works for the City of Westland Sports Arena.

An October wedding is planned at St. Mary Catholic



Church in Wayne.

Gusfa-Kelly

James and Barbara Gusfa of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristen Allison, to Patrick Marc Kelly, the son of Patrick Kelly of Drummond Island and Carolyn Kelly of Rockford.

The bride-to-be is a 1998 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a masters of arts degree. She is employed with Dearborn Public Schools as a speech language pathologist.

Her fiancé is self-employed as the owner of Top to Bottom Building and Contracting.

An October wedding is planned at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth.



Rominske-Biskner

Richard and Denise Biskner of Redford announce the engagement of their son, Michael, to Audra Rominske, the daughter of Alan and Judy Rominske of Roseville.

The bride is employed at Edward Jones Investments as an office administrator.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University.

A February wedding is planned at Northville Christian Assembly.



Linja-Jamieson

Edsel and Esther Linja of Calumet announce the engagement of their daughter, Janice, to John Jamieson, the son of Carol Jamieson of Birmingham and the late John E. Jamieson.

The bride-to-be is a 1984 graduate of Garden City High School. She is employed at MSX International.

Her fiancé is a 1991 graduate of Western Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in jour-



nalism. An October wedding is planned at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Madison Heights.

Taube-Brown

Peggy Taube of Westland announces the engagement of her daughter, Julie Ann, to Patrick Robert Brown, the son of Dennis and Dolores Brown, also of Westland.

The bride-to-be, also the daughter of the late Anthony Taube, is a 1992 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School. She is employed by Crestwood Dodge in Garden City.

Her fiancé also is a 1992 graduate of John Glenn High School. He is employed by Richard's Tool and Die in Wixom.

An October wedding is



planned at St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne.

NEW VOICES

Gary and Deanna Windland of Westland announce the birth of a daughter, **Shyann Elizabeth** May 3 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She joins one brother, J.R. Grandparents are Joanne Lemieux of Plymouth and Gerald and Maxine Blevins of Newark, Ark.

Steve and Gerrilynn Voss of Westland announce the birth of **Sydney Nicole** May 4 at Providence Hospital in Southfield.

She joins a sister, Kirstin Elizabeth, 21-1/2 months. Grandparents are Joan Long of Garden City and the late Theodore Sidney Long, Diane Munson of Milford and Jim and Marge Voss of Dearborn Heights.

Ken and Dawn Pyko of Plymouth announce the birth of **Benjamin Jerome** May 12 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. Grandparents are Dan and Judy Pyko of Livonia and Jerry and Jan Kowalski of Mil-

ford. Great-grandparents are Charles and Bernice Hirst of Howell and Christine Heimann of Wyandotte.

Todd and Tracy Crump of Garden City announce the birth of **Kayla Rose** June 2 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She has a brother, Kyle. Grandparents are Will Crump and Beve Miller of Garden City and Mr. and Mrs. Milton Miller of St. Helen.

Joshua and Sarah Decker of

Westland announce the birth of **Rayana Marie** June 3 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. Grandparents are Brad and Marlana Swartz of Westland and Connie Canfield of Inkster.

Shannon Filloon and Edward Weldon of Westland announce the birth of **Shawn Dylan Weldon** June 4 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Carol Weldon of Garden City and Deanna Filloon of Dearborn

Heights.

Cindy Hedger and Craig Waynick of Westland announce the birth of **Trevor Jason Dale Hedger** June 4 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Rita Hedger of Westland and Gerri Case of Redford.

Mark and Joanne Moening of Livonia announce the birth of **David Louis** June 5 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. He has three siblings - Sean, 8, Abby, 6,

and Stephen, 2. Grandparents are Cliff and Ruth Moening of Trenton and Harry and Mary Lou Phene of Livonia.

Frederick Paul and Leandra Werner of Westland announce the birth of **Frederick Paul** June 6 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins one sister, Kara, 8. Grandparents are Jim and Susan Lauer of Westland and Ann Doman of Stuart, Fla.

Please see VOICES, B8

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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.

BICYCLE RIDE

Jim King, youth minister for St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church in Livonia, will bicycle with other members of the parish from the Mackinac Bridge to Grand Haven Friday-Sunday, Sept. 24-26, to raise money for underprivileged children to attend a two-week Christian summer camp program in Ligonier, Pa. The riders plan to complete the 265-mile ride in three days.

"Involving children in Christian camping programs is vital," said the Rev. George Shaloub of St. Mary Church. "Not only does camp provide an experience that will last a lifetime, but at camp, the children learn Christian principles and are given tools to go out and live a Christian life in a world that many times sends a non-Christian message."

People interested in contributing to the fund-raiser can call King at (734) 422-0010. Checks, earmarked for the Bike Fund, can be sent to St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church, 18100 Merriman, Livonia 48152. All donations are tax deductible.

BLOOD DRIVE

St. Edith Catholic Church will have an American Red Cross blood drive 2-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24, in the church hall, 15089 Newburgh Road, Livonia. Walk-ins welcome.

FULL IMPACT

Crossfire Youth Ministry will present the feats of strength of Full Impact 6-7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24, at New Life Ministries, 1075 Venoy Road, Garden City. Full Impact can rip Detroit telephone books in half, bend an inch of steel in half and break concrete karate-style while lighting the fire to invade the darkness. For more information, call New Life ministries at (734) 421-0476.

RUMMAGE SALE

St. John Episcopal Church will have a rummage sale 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, in the parking lot of the church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Spaces are available and cost \$20. For more information, call the church office at (734) 721-5023 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Aldersgate United Methodist Women will have their annual fall rummage sale 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, at the church 10000 Beech Daly, Redford. There will be a white elephant sale, kitchen equipment, small appliances, toys and books in Wesley Hall. Clothing of all sizes will be available in the Fellowship Hall, with special women's garments in the

boutique section. Proceeds will be used for church and district missionary projects.

PARISH MISSION

St. Theodore Catholic Church will have a parish mission Saturday-Wednesday, Sept. 25-29, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. The theme of "Year of Favor" will be presented by speaker and preacher of the word the Rev. Dennis Theroux. For more information, call the church at (734) 425-4421.

MOMS SALE

Newburg United Methodist Church will have a Mom to Mom Sale 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. For information, call (734) 422-0149.

POLISH DINNER

St. Mel's Women's Club will host a Polish dinner 5-8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25, in the Activity Building, 7506 Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights. There will be entertainment and a Share the Wealth raffle. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under age 12. They're available by calling Rose Hibskey at (734) 422-4461 or Rose Panetta at (313) 278-7589.

HOMECOMING SUNDAY

The First United Methodist Church of Garden City will celebrate Homecoming Sunday on Sept. 26 with a worship service at 10:45 a.m. at the church, 6443 Merriman Road. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Robert C. Grigereit who was pastor of the church from 1976 to 1987. A pot luck meal will follow the service. Church school will be at 9:30 a.m.

Friends and former members are invited to come for worship and fellowship. Please bring a dish to share at the pot luck. For more information, call the church office at (734) 421-8628.

FALL REVIVAL

Plymouth Church of the Nazarene will have a fall revival 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, and at 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Sept. 27-29, at the church 45801 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.

The Rev. Mike Adams of Orlando, Fla., will present the truth in a style that is exciting, sometimes funny and thought provoking. Dave and Charlene Adams of Newcastle, Ind., will provide the special music. For more information, call the church at (734) 453-1525.

'WITHOUT VIOLENCE'

"Without Violence" will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 27, and 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 28, by the Aid Association for Lutherans Branch 3177 at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia. The program will include a video that demonstrates what people have done to reduce or control the amount of violence in their

Please see RELIGION, B7

St. Raphael holds parish mission

The Rev. Michael Sullivan of the Augustinian Preaching Apostolate at Villanova University will conduct a parish mission at St. Raphael's Catholic Church of Garden City Sunday-Wednesday, Sept. 26-29.

The title and theme of the mission will be "A Parish Retreat: a Time of Grace." Sullivan will preach at Masses at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, and at 8 and 10 a.m. and noon Sunday to start the mission begins. The church is on Merriman, one block north of Ford.

The 59-year-old priest conducts missions at parishes throughout the country for 40 weeks yearly. and, according to Jim Haughton in a recent article in "The Catholic Standard and Times," Sullivan is "a priestly spellbinder who can catch, grab and hold a congregation for a half hour or 90 minutes with his



Rev. Michael Sullivan

mission sermons."

Missions that usually ran for a week were part of many Catholic parishes until after World War

II but practically disappeared with Vatican Council II in the mid 1960s.

"They didn't know what to preach anymore," Sullivan said. "Part of my impetus was seeing preachers on TV and having Catholics listening to them. No one was reaching them in the Church."

Fear is not part of Sullivan's mission talk approach. He would rather draw parishioners with solid religion, common sense and wit.

His mission schedule, Sullivan said, concentrates on the seven Sacraments: "To Be Born Again" is the topic of the first night and concentrates on Baptism, Confirmation, the power of the Spirit.

On the second night, Sullivan will speak of the healing love of Jesus operating within people.

The topic of the third evening is "The Call to Be Church." The

Catholic Church was built on St. Peter "and his kind" - that is, equally imperfect men and women through the centuries.

The final evening will stress fidelity and commitment - "Our Response to Christ's Call."

Sullivan received a bachelor's degree from Villanova University and master's degree in theology from Augustinian College. He did graduate work at Catholic University of America and also received a master's degree in counseling from St. John's University.

He was ordained to the priesthood in 1967 and spent eight years in parish ministry. He was a member of the executive board of Worldwide Marriage Encounter and was appointed in 1980 to full-time retreat work and parish renewal preaching.

For more information, call St. Raphael Parish Center at (734) 427-1533.

Christ Our Savior recognizes grandparents

Puppen fur Christus (Puppets for Christ) of St. Lorenz Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth will present a Christian program during the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services Sunday, Sept. 26, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia.

The puppet ministry team will present the Gospel of Jesus Christ through skits and songs as a part of Grandparents Sunday at the church.

Puppen fur Christus started with five puppeteers in 1981 and has grown to 14 teen and adult puppeteers today. Since its start, it has given more than 630 presentations, worship services or workshops.

The puppet team also has participated in four Michigan and

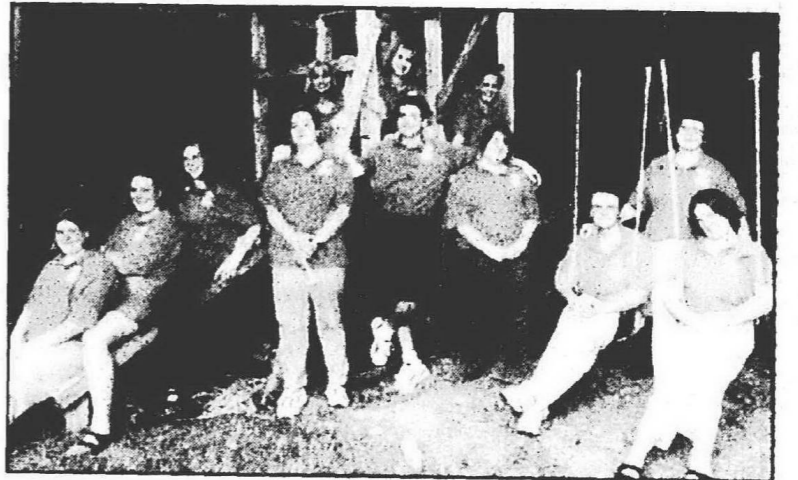
two national youth gatherings, at the Bethesda Lutheran Home and the 1994 North American Lutheran Sunday School Convention.

On Grandparents Sunday, the church recognizes and affirms the importance of grandparent and grandchild relationships in personal and spiritual growth. All grandparents present for the service will receive a gift.

A special gift will be given to the parent with the most grandchildren and great-grandchildren with him or her at each service.

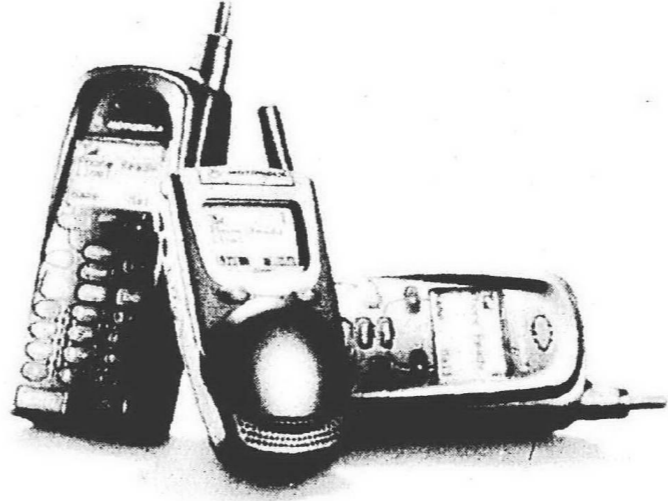
A light Bible breakfast will be held at 9:30 a.m. in the gymnasium and a refreshment and fellowship time in the church lobby will follow the 11 a.m. service.

Grandparents Day also will be



Puppen fur Christus (Puppets for Christ)

observed during the 9:30 a.m. Lutheran Church, Canton campus, 46001 Warren Road.



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Religion from page B5

lives, families and communities. Adults attending the program will receive a magazine which will provide a good understanding of violence and conflict. Children will receive an activity book which teaches positive ways to control conflict and violence.

For more information and to register for "Without Violence," call Lisa or Beth at (734) 421-7249.

'SERMON ON THE MOUNT'

Actor Frank Runyeon will present the "Sermon on the Mount" in a new setting at 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon Road, Canton. There is a \$5 admission charge.

Runyeon will present the sermon as told by Matthew to the church in Antioch shortly after the Roman Army had burned Jerusalem to the ground.

Runyeon received his bachelor of arts degree in religion from Princeton University and studied at Fuller Seminary and Yale Divinity School before receiving



Frank Runyeon

his master's degree with honors from the General Theological Seminary.

He continues his studies for a doctoral degree while touring with his five current productions - "Sermon on the Mount," "AFRAID! The Gospel of Mark," "Life or Death - The Gospel of John," "What Are You Doing? The Letter of James" and "The 3 1/2 Stories of Christmas."

For more information about the performance, call the church at (734) 459-3333.

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Westland will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 26. Bishop Robert Rimbo will be the guest preacher at the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Prince of Peace began as a

mission congregation of the American Lutheran Church and held its first service in the auditorium of Wayne High School. Fifty-seven people attended. Later, services were held in the basement of the Hearstone Inn and American Legion Hall.

The Rev. Lennis Heins was installed to serve the congregation and on Sept. 26, 1949, a meeting was held to adopt a constitution and select a name.

The first building at Michigan Avenue and Fourth Street in Wayne was dedicated on Nov. 25, 1951. Following a study of the congregation's future needs, a 10-acre site was purchased on Palmer Road. On Sept. 26, 1971, the congregation's 22nd anniversary, ground was broken for the current building, which was dedicated on Sept. 10, 1972.

In addition to Heins, other pastors called to serve include Carl Beyer in 1953, Robert Brown in 1960, James Beckham in 1967, Larry Rorem in 1978 and David Bonde in 1990.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United Suburban Detroit-West will have a carry-in salad luncheon 12:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1, at St. Matthew United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Participants should bring one salad for each three persons attending from their church.

Espranza Barcelona, associate director of the Ecumenical Campus Center in Ann Arbor, will speak. Donations of soap and eyeglasses will be collected for World Medical Relief.

Child care reservations are required and can be made through Sept. 27 by calling Arlene Younker at (734) 425-1466.

Felician Sisters conduct Marian Rally in Livonia

Inspired by Pope John Paul II's references to the approaching end to the second Christian Millennium, the Felician Sisters will sponsor a Marian Rally Sunday, Sept. 26, on the grounds of the Provincial House, 36800 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

The rally will begin with a Eucharistic celebration at noon at the Presentation Provincial House chapel, with the Rev. Robert Haener, Angela Hospice chaplain, as the celebrant and homilist.

The Rev. Joseph Mallia of St. Kenneth Parish in Plymouth Township will preside over the

devotional service at the Czestochowa Shrine at 1:30 p.m.

The Rev. Michael Daly, chaplain at the Presentation Provincial House, will lead the rosary during the procession to the Fatima Shrine, while the Rev. Howard Vogan of St. Genevieve Parish in Livonia, will preside at the devotional service at the shrine.

Programs, refreshments and rest stations will be available on site. Parking will be available at the Provincial House parking lot off Newburgh Road.

For more information, call the (734) 591-1730.

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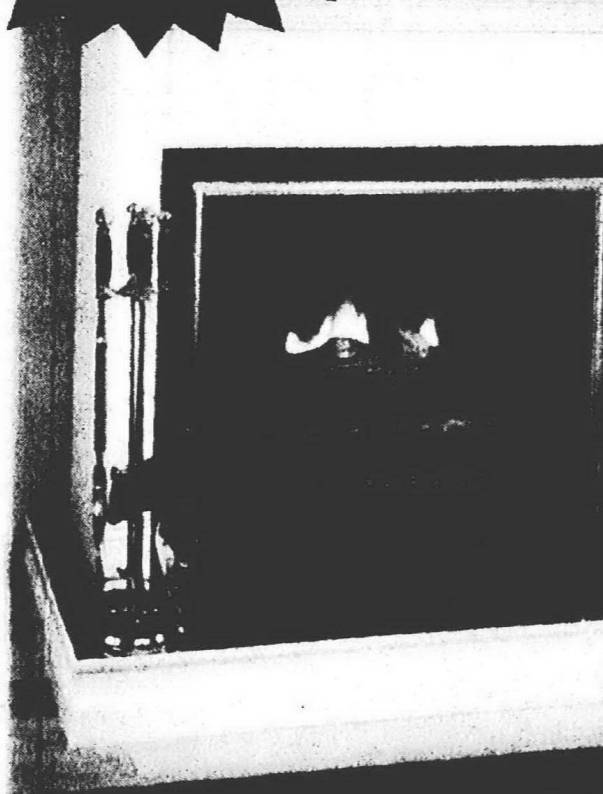
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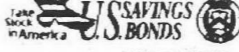
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Deadline nears for Women of Achievement Awards

Tickets are now on sale for The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Women of Achievement annual awards luncheon to be held Friday, Nov. 5, at the Fairlane Club in Dearborn.

Individual tickets are priced at \$25 each and are available through Oct. 15 by sending a check, payable to the YWCA, to the agency at 26279 Michigan Ave., Inkster 48141.

The mistress of ceremonies will be Monica Gayle of WJBK-FOX 2. The guest speaker will be

Michigan Attorney General Jennifer Granholm.

A 1997 recipient of a Women of Achievement Award, Granholm was a federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office and the youngest person appointed as the Wayne County Corporation Counsel. Granholm was the first woman elected state attorney general in November 1998 and the first new state attorney general in 37 years.

The luncheon is an annual tradition that recognizes western

Wayne County women who have made outstanding contributions to business and the community.

Nominations can be made in six categories through Friday, Sept. 24. Completed forms must be received by the YWCA by 5 p.m. that day. They can be mailed or hand-delivered to the Y's Michigan Avenue office or faxed at (313) 561-7344.

The six categories are:

■ Arts/communications - A woman who has excelled in the arts, media or public relations,

including such fields as visual, literary and performing arts, journalism, television and radio.

■ Business/industry - A woman who has exhibited outstanding abilities and accomplishments as an entrepreneur or at the technical/professional, management or executive level.

■ Government/law - A woman who has provided exceptional leadership in government or the legal profession, either in an elected or career capacity.

■ Professions - A woman who

has demonstrated excellence and commitment as a professional in the field of education, health, human service, religion or research.

■ Volunteer service - A woman who has made significant contributions to her community through her volunteer efforts.

■ Young woman - A young woman of today (ages 16-23) who has demonstrated leadership qualities, service to the community and a positive glimpse of

tomorrow's woman.

Nominations should include a narrative (one page maximum) about the candidate's qualities of leadership, areas of achievement, past and present and demonstrated commitment to improving western Wayne County through work-related and/or volunteer activities, and a resume or other biographical information (maximum of two pages).

For more information, call the YWCA at (313) 561-4100.

Voices from page B3

Dena Marie Holden and **Matthew George Bitzer** of Westland announce the birth of **Gage Matthew Bitzer** June 7 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Anita Long, Jon Long, William Gale and Georgia Carter.

Tamara Brazell and **Bud Minor** of Wayne announce the birth of **Chelsea Rae** June 7 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Siblings include Skyler, 3, and Crystal, 8. Grandparents are Georgia and Bennie Brazell of Dearborn Heights and Paula and Mike Bradbury of Livonia.

Michael and **Jill Greener** of

Livonia announce the birth of **Dakota Colton** June 7 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. Grandparents are Jim Clark, Arlene Clark and Jerry Greener. Great-grandparents are Olga Clark and Helen Greener.

Greg and **Lisa Marshall** of Canton announce the birth of **Alexander James** and **Grant Gary** June 8 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. Grandparents are Ed and Sandy Pitman of Dearborn, Gary and Lee Marshall of Westland and James and Kristine Gregg of Bloomfield Hills. Great-grandparents are Ben and Ruth Neuman of Dearborn, Al and Kay Abraham of Redford and Grant and Erma

Padgett of Westland.

Scott and **Irma McCloskey** of Canton announce the birth of **Alexandra Marie** June 11 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. Grandparents are Ramon and Alejandra Escobar and William and Gerry McCloskey, all of Garden City.

Bill and **Debbie Beaudoin** of Westland announce the birth of **Andrew Joseph** June 13 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins a brother, Jacob, 3. Grandparents are Mel and Marge Tockstein of Westland and Anne Beaudoin of Amherstberg, Ontario, Canada.

Mark and **Cheryle Betke** of

Westland announce the birth of **Aaron Michael Christopher** June 14 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. He joins siblings Lauren and Dillon. Grandparents are Robert and Sharon Kidd of Wayne, Ed Betke of Westland and the late Joan Betke.

Melanie and **Bradley Bates** of Garden City announce the birth of **Serena Nicole** June 15 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins siblings Bradley II, 6, and Griffin, 2. Grandparents are Dan and Mae O'Guin, Shelley Pack and Jackie and Ed Bates.

Community Hospice adds home care service

Community Hospice and Home Care Services Inc. has expanded its services to people living in western Wayne, eastern Washtenaw and southern Oakland counties.

For 18 years, the not-for-profit agency has been providing compassionate care for terminally ill patients and their family. It is now providing that same care to people recovering from or disabled by an illness or injury or chronically ill.

Clients must be homebound and in need of intermittent skilled nursing and/or therapy. The services available are diag-

nostic, treatment, monitoring, rehabilitation and emotional support, including skilled nursing, home health aide, physical, occupational and speech therapy and medical social work.

The philosophy of the new home care services is to allow patients to remain at home for treatment or rehabilitation. The goal is for patients to function as well as possible.

For more information, call Community Hospice and Home Care Services Inc. at (734) 522-4244, or visit its Westland office at 32932 Warren Road, Suite 100.

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LINCOLN

Hawks must forfeit pair of grid wins

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER
domeara@oe.homecomm.net

FOOTBALL

Farmington Harrison has been a perennial participant in the high school football playoffs, but the Hawks might be spectators this year.

The two-time defending state champion's post-season aspirations were dealt a blow when it learned it would have to forfeit two victories for using an ineligible player.

The Hawks, who had won their last three games after losing the season opener to Oxford, are 1-3 instead of 3-1.

The ineligible player, whom Harrison coach John Herrington described as a fourth-string full-back, played the last play of a 35-12 victory over Walled Lake Central and the final six plays of a 56-6 rout of Livonia Churchill the next week.

The player was deemed ineligible, because he hadn't earned enough credits during the second semester of last school year.

Students take six hours of classes and are required to pass four to be eligible. His transcript indicated two failures, and it was assumed he had failed two one-hour classes, according to Herrington.

A secretary in the Harrison office was reviewing transcripts last week and discovered one of the failing grades was in a two-hour class, meaning the player in question had received only three hours of credit instead of

four.
After being informed of the situation a week ago, Herrington and his coaches reviewed game film to determine for certain if the player had played. He didn't play Friday in a 38-7 win over Northville.

Harrison officially informed the Michigan High School Athletic Association of the violation Monday as expected under terms of the honor system used by the MHSAA.

Herrington said he was "sick to my stomach" when he learned about the forfeitures. Nothing like this has happened in his 37 years of coaching football in Farmington — the last 30 as the only head coach in Harrison history, he added.

"My thought was 'What is it going to do to the seniors,' because I know there's no gray area with the state?" Herrington said. "It's black and white. If you play an ineligible player, you forfeit."

Herrington said he informed his players of the situation before practice Monday.

"They were stunned and very, very upset," he said, "but kids bounce back great. I told them it's going to hurt for a while, but we have to put it behind us and move on."

"We had a very good practice. They made the coaches feel a lot better by going out and practic-

ing hard. (The coaches) couldn't feel any lower, because we feel we let them down.

"The bottom line is it's my responsibility to make sure everyone is eligible, and I didn't follow up on it. I had not personally checked the list."

Aside from the death of Shawn Mayberry two years ago, Herrington said he hasn't had a lower moment in his coaching career.

"Obviously, that was worse, when you lose a young man," Herrington said. "But this is more devastating than any loss we had, because the kids didn't lose it on the field. They didn't have anything to do with it."

Under a new playoff format instituted this year, every team with a 6-3 record will qualify, but that means the Hawks must win all five of their remaining games.

Harrison must win Oct. 1 at undefeated Walled Lake Western to share the Western Division title and will have to beat the Lakes Division champion for the Western Lakes Activities Association crown Oct. 16.

"We thought, after the Northville game, we had a good chance," Herrington said. "Obviously, with two losses in games that were victories, it's going to hurt a lot."

"We'll all pull together and do the best we can. (Plymouth) Canton is very good, and Country Day is a tough team down the road. It's going to be tough."

Like the old cliché, the Hawks

will play them one at a time, he added.

"We have improved dramatically since the first game, and I think the kids will bounce back from this and play very well," Herrington said.

"We were just saying 'That's the way life goes. Sometimes you have ups, and sometimes you have downs. We have to try to fight back from this one.'"

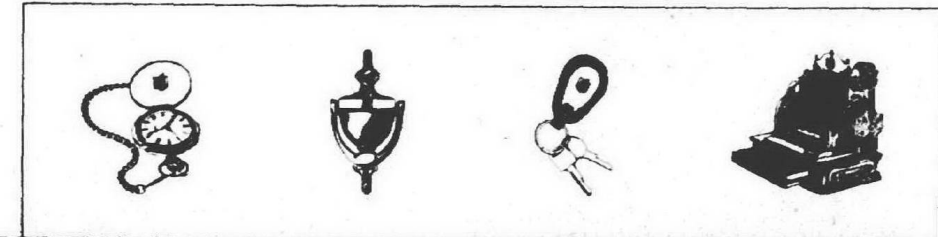
The new playoff system will include some 5-4 teams across the enrollment spectrum to round out the field in eight divisions, but that would leave a lot to chance.

If the Hawks do finish 6-3, they would undoubtedly be a lower-seeded team in the district tournament.

"We wouldn't host a game, but we wouldn't care," Herrington

said.
Since the playoffs began in 1975, the Hawks have qualified 17 times, played in a record 12 championship games, won nine state titles and compiled a 47-8 record.

Detroit DePorres has won 10 state titles under two coaches. That means Herrington has the most of any coach in playoff history.



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Eagles defeat Warriors

ROUNDUP

Harper Woods Lutheran East racked up 444 yards in total offense Saturday to beat Metro Conference foe Lutheran High Westland, 38-12 (0-4, 0-3).

Stephen Lewis rushed for 179 yards, while teammate Robert Quinnie added 169 including TD runs of 16, 39 and 18 yards.

Lutheran Westland lost quarterback Charlie Hoeft to a knee injury late in the first half. Hoeft, who appears to have a slight tear to his anterior cruci-

ate ligament, may be lost for the season.

Andy Moldenhauer, who replaced Hoeft, threw a 50-yard scoring pass to Luke Kasten in the second quarter as the Warriors trailed 19-6 at halftime.

Moldenhauer and Kasten teamed up again for a 28-yard scoring pass in the final quarter.

Lutheran Westland had 197 yards total offense. East had 17 first downs to the Warriors' eight.

Nose guard Kevin Packard led the Warriors defensively with 10 tackles, while Andrew McLaughlin and Josh Moldenhauer added nine apiece. Jonathan Burkee recovered an East fumble.

East recovered a pooch kick against the Warriors.

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Talented cast takes audience 'Back to Bacharach & David'

The Village Players of Birmingham will present "Back to Bacharach & David" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24-26, and Oct. 1-2, at the playhouse, 752 Chestnut (on the east side of Woodward, two blocks south of Maple). Tickets \$14, discount for students 18 and under. Season tickets available. Call (248) 644-2075.

BY ROBERT WEIBEL
SPECIAL WRITER

The Village Players production of "Back to Bacharach and David" is a likable and spirited musical revue. First presented on Broadway in 1994, it celebrates the careers of Burt Bacharach and Hal David. The distinctive, romantic music of Bacharach and the telling lyrics

of David defined easy listening, pop music of the '60s and '70s. This prolific songwriting team also scored hits on stage ("Promises, Promises") and in many films. Who can forget "Raindrops" from "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" or "The Look of Love" from "Casino Royale." These and many other favorites are performed splendidly in a cabaret style setting by Carollee Castle of Birmingham, Holly Hellsten of Troy, Mark Maccagnone of Lathrup Village and Patty Ward of Birmingham.

They not only sing well, but demonstrate a feel for the tunes much in the manner of Dionne Warwick, who made a career of interpreting Bacharach and David. The four singers be it as

singles, duet, trio or harmonious quartet never miss a beat, which is not always an easy task with Bacharach's arrangements and David's lyrics. Carollee Castle phrasing was especially good on ballads such as "Don't Make Me Over." She and the ensemble scored on a number of up-tempo tunes such as a swinging version of "Do You Know The Way To San Jose?" Patty Ward showed her vocal dexterity on a variety of songs ranging from "I'll Never Fall In Love Again" to "This Guy's In Love With You." Mark Maccagnone did a wonderful introspective rendition of "Alfie" and was impressive in several medleys. Holly Hellsten sings with energy and an understanding of the contours of a

song as she belted out tunes like "Walk On By" and "Reach Out For Me." The trio of musicians (piano, guitar and drums) are not mentioned in the program, but they did a superb job of creating the Bacharach sound. Also missing is listing of the songs performed. Director Beverly Dickinson and Musical Director John Dickinson have created a marvelous evening of entertainment. Cabarets and clubs featuring song stylists are no longer in vogue, but this talented cast and technical crew recreate a bygone era. This is good stuff. Don't miss it.



On stage: Carollee Castle (left to right), Patricia Ward, Holly Helsten, and Mark Maccagnone star in "Back to Bacharach & David."

Here's a toast to Kid Rock, Eminem and other artists

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

This has been the summer of Kid Rock and Eminem, a pair of Macomb County rappers who have electrified audiences at Woodstock '99, the MTV Music Awards, and concert halls across the country. They have become the music industry's cover boys, a distinction which usually happens when you have both talent and charisma to offer.

Still, there are many who have nothing positive to say about the hip-hop sounds which they may only hear emanating from the audio system of a passing motorist. Much of this skepticism is rooted in the belief the success of these artists is a matter of riding the wave of a current music form that appeals to those buying the most recordings — those in their teens and early twenties.

The fact that fame generally proves to be a very fleeting thing also is the impetus for discrediting new artists. I'm telling you now that if you grew up in the 1960s, you may have been swept away by doing the "Freddie" to

the only hit by Freddie and the Dreamers. Being young in the 1970s may have yielded some embarrassing moments on the dance floor while under the spell of K.C. and the Sunshine Band. If you're approaching 30, there may be a Tiffany cassette in your collection, or you're wondering what you were thinking when you waited in line at Ticketmaster for that heavy metal hair band you just had to see perform live.

Your tastes may change with age, but respect what you discard by replacing it with something different. There will be music that you may not have bothered with before. You may find yourself at the Truffaut Festival at the DIA's Detroit Film Theatre instead of catching a sneak preview of "Revenge of the Nerds: The Next Generation." A re-run of "ER" just may prompt you to catch the Theatre Company's production of Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman" at U of D Mercy.

While fame is often temporary, the performing and visual arts endure. As the 1990s began, who would have predicted that two rap artists from Macomb County would be the hot ticket with their explosive performances and top of the charts albums. We also can't forecast how long the popularity of Kid Rock and

Eminem might last, or even what form of creative expression they might turn to over time. There is an element of mystery in the arts. You never know what talent might emerge from the Center For Creative Studies, the Mosaic Youth Theatre, the Detroit Filmmakers Coalition, or the increasing number of young artists working in warehouses and other makeshift art districts throughout the Detroit area. One project I'm particularly excited about is the city-commis-

sioned Millennium Bell, a metal sculpture by artist Chris Turner. It will become a permanent symbol of Detroit's commitment to the arts in the next century. We'll give an update on the progress in an upcoming column and on Detroit Public TV's BACKSTAGE PASS program, seen 7:30 p.m. Sundays on Channel 56. But, for now, here's a toast to Kid Rock and Eminem and all artists who have captured our imagination. And here's to all

those whose desire to embrace something keeps the arts a fascinating journey of discovery.

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STREET

Don't 'Blink'; you'll want to see Monk perform Saturday



STEPHANIE A. CASOLA

When Bill Keith sent over his own personal copy of "Blink," the latest CD by Monk, I knew it must be something special.

As the station manager for Plymouth-Canton's 88.1 F.M., Keith wouldn't steer me in the wrong direction where music is concerned, especially when it's music he feels strongly about.

"I think one of the things that really stands out is the style of the music, as far as improvisation," said Keith of the Cincinnati-based band. Using words like phenomenal and original to describe the band piqued my curiosity even more.

From jazz to rock to acoustic pop, Monk moves fluidly from one genre to the next. It didn't take much convincing; I had to hear more for myself, more from the voice behind Monk, Ric Hordinski.

Hordinski's voice is the sort of sound that can set a stranger at ease within seconds, the sort of captivating voice that leaves one wanted to hear more.

The music he creates delivers the same effect. Yet, the singer-songwriter from Cincinnati, Ohio refuses to describe his sound. It's not surprising since his band, Monk, is known for its ever-evolving, improvisational tone. Monk's latest CD, "Blink," was released in the same spirit.

Available on Flat Earth Records since in mid-July, it's a live compilation of music, ranging from the atmospheric, to the ambient, and tinged with rock and roll.

"I'm real happy with the way 'Tattoo' came out and the spontaneity of 'Circle of Quiet' was really fresh and genuine."

Beginning with Beatles

But long before he was making his own music, Hordinski found himself captivated by the record player. "I was very interested in music as a child," he said. "My earliest memories of music are sitting by the 45 r.p.m. turntables playing my mother's Beatles record over and over again."

By the time he was 14, Hordinski knew he would pursue a career in music. Though he attended college, he left to become a professional musician. A job in the music industry led to an opportunity for Hordinski to see the world, which further piqued his interest in starting a band.

"I had a certain kind of sound I was interested in producing," he said. "The band I was in before made it more and more difficult (to do that)."

"This Train" moves on

After making six records with Over the Rhine, and having performed live with Bob Dylan, The

Samples, Johnny Cash and Moby, Hordinski left to pursue his own interests with Monk, and to begin a producing career.

Monk is about the freedom to experiment with ambient sounds and intimate ideas. Hordinski has welcomed contributors on all three Monk albums: including Ben Folds of Ben Folds Five and Dave LaBruyere of Shawn Mullins band. In 1998, Monk was noted on National Public Radio's Top 25 Essential Listening for the Echoes program.

"I kind of like to let it take its own course," Hordinski said of new material he's working on for Monk's fourth CD. "I know it'll be very textural and I'm not really sure what specific direction it will take."

The name of the band has no specific meaning. It conjures up images of jazz great Thelonious Monk, whose music was criticized and misunderstood early in his career. Hordinski said the name itself is "pretty romantic." It suits the multiple textures and an essence of solitude which flows from the music.

Free form inspiration

By keeping an open mind and using improvisation, Hordinski

said, the songs dictate what an arrangement will be. Forming preconceived notions about new material is limiting to him as a musician, he said. Monk's music remains free of such limitations.

"I am inspired by listening to other musicians often," he shared, "By hearing music of another culture, and by knowing the significance music has had for people over the course of thousands of years." He said he's inspired to be a part of the tradition of making music, and the sort of honesty music can hold.

Autobiographical

When writing songs, Hordinski said he's affected by whatever happens to be going on in his life at the time. "My songs are always pretty personal. There is generally some sort of first person perspective. I don't write story songs."

That ability to reveal personal aspects of his life through his music can be both therapeutic and inspirational. "Sometimes writing a song is like the relief you feel when you get caught doing something wrong. It's out and everybody knows about it...Sometimes it's inspirational for me to hear it over and over.

Those are the moments you live for."

To see Monk live is to witness the band in a free format, one that proves to be a little more raw than "Blink" has revealed.

"It's wide open," said Hordinski. "There's a lot of improvisation. Every night's a different show."

Monk commenced a tour of the Midwestern U.S. on Wednesday, Sept. 22 and will reach Livonia by Saturday. It won't be Hordinski's first experience at Trinity House Theatre; he played an acoustic set on his own at the Trinity stage once before. "It was a nice atmosphere," he said. "I'm looking forward to coming back."

Bill Keith, myself, and fans in the area are looking forward to seeing Ric, and Monk live at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25 at Trinity House Theatre, 38840 West Six Mile Road, Livonia. Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$8 for theater members and can be reserved (734) 464-6302.

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Read Taste on Sunday

"THE MOST POWERFUL MOVING FILM EXPERIENCE THIS YEAR!"

Advertisement for the film 'Jakob the Liar' featuring Robin Williams. Includes a small image of the actor and the text 'COLUMBIA PICTURES'.

Table with showtimes and locations for 'Jakob the Liar'. Locations include AMC Livonia 20, AMC Southfield City, AMC Sterling Ctr. 10, etc.

Advertisement for the film 'Simon Sez' featuring the 'R O D M A N' cast. Includes a large image of the cast and the text 'IT AIN'T OVER 'TIL... SIMON SEZ'.

Table with showtimes and locations for 'Simon Sez'. Locations include AMC Livonia 20, AMC Southfield City, AMC Sterling Ctr. 10, etc.

Advertisement for the film 'Blue Streak' featuring Martin Lawrence. Includes a large image of the actor and the text 'TWO THUMBS UP! IT JUST GETS FUNNIER AND FUNNIER! MARTIN LAWRENCE BLUE STREAK'.

Table with showtimes and locations for 'Blue Streak'. Locations include AMC Livonia 20, AMC Southfield City, AMC Sterling Ctr. 10, etc.

Large advertisement for the film 'Double Jeopardy' featuring the title and a large image of a woman's face.

Advertisement for the film 'Mumford' featuring the title and a large image of a man's face. Includes promotional text like 'OUTLANDISHLY FUNNY!' and 'HILARIOUS!'.

Advertisement for the film 'Dog Park' featuring the title and a large image of a dog. Includes promotional text like 'FROM ONE OF THE COMIC MINDS BEHIND "KIDS IN THE HALL"'.

