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## IN THE PAPER TODAY

### ARTS

**Looking to the future:** Community orchestras are changing fund-raising and marketing strategies in order to guarantee brighter seasons ahead /B1

### AT HOME

**Step, step:** For garden-lovers January is a busy month to plan their gardens for spring and summer months. And expected to be big again this year are stepping stones. /C1

### HOMETOWN LIFE

**Fighting chance:** It takes a lot of guts to ask for financial help, especially when you've been a strong woman who has raised two daughters on her own. /C6

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# Massey sells off auto interests

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

Don Massey has been in the car business for 60 years. He started at age 14 as a porter, then worked the parts counter, graduated to used car salesman and finally got his first dealership, a used car lot on Michigan Avenue in Wayne in 1961.

However, most know Massey for his success as one of the nation's top Cadillac dealers, with his flagship dealership in Plymouth Township.

"I-275 and Ann Arbor Road in the magnificent community of Plymouth, Michigan," says the gravelly voice of Massey on his radio commercials.

At age 73, Massey has decided to sell virtually all his holdings, including 16 dealerships, to Sonic Automotive, Inc., in Charlotte, N.C. Sonic is a Fortune 300 company and is among the largest

automotive retailers in the United States, operating 154 franchises and 29 collision repair centers in 18 states.

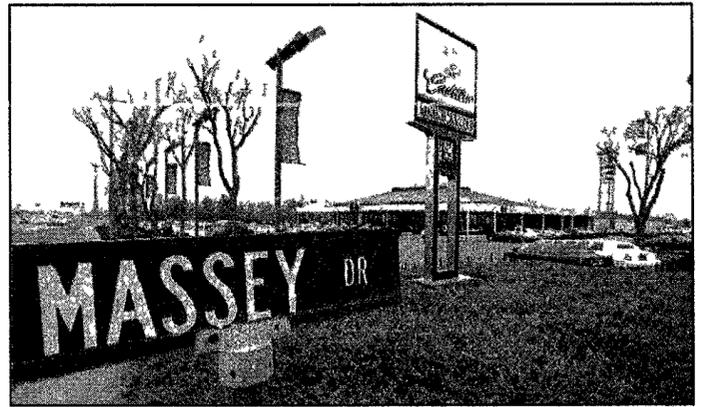
"It's more of an estate issue," said Massey. "Sonic is a fine organization. This will be beneficial to all our employees, the manufacturer and myself."

Massey said he'll still be around as a consultant for Sonic. However, his main concern was the best deal for his 1,300 employees nationwide.

"Several companies have been courting me the past 10 years, and this one is the most appealing for the employees," added Massey. "It's all about the employees. They are entitled to some protection. We have talented people. I wouldn't want to sell them out."

Massey said his duties for Sonic will probably be limited to Plymouth, Lansing and Detroit, where he has dealer-

Please see MASSEY, A2



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Known nationwide: Don Massey, whose Cadillac dealership is on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, is selling all his holdings.

## Plymouth on ice



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

**Getting ready:** Tim Jacobs, left, and Ken Lewis move a carving into place in Kellogg Park on Wednesday afternoon as crews got ready for this weekend's Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular.



**Cool art:** Three-year-old Dino Lewan of Plymouth was out at the 2002 Ice Fest on Wednesday afternoon. The festival, which runs through Monday, features a variety of activities, including several carving competitions, throughout the downtown area. The weather forecast earlier in the week was calling for weekend temperatures around 30 degrees, which would be welcome news to the carvers planning on competing.

# Detroit accepts bid for DeHoCo

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER  
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The last major piece of undeveloped land in Plymouth Township may not be undeveloped for long.

The Detroit City Council Wednesday voted unanimously to approve the sale of 417 acres of land it owns in Plymouth Township, which formerly housed the Detroit House of Corrections, to K/LB Funding LLC for \$50 million.

Detroit, which has owned the land since 1919, reportedly received several bids on the property. However, K/LB was the only bidder which completely responded to all of the bid requirements, according to Councilwoman Sharon McPhail, who presided over Wednesday's council meeting.

The infusion of capital from the sale of the land, located at Napier and Ridge and also includes 400 acres across Five Mile into Northville, is expected to help Detroit fight off the expected \$60 million budget deficit the city faces.

"I think it will be a positive step toward reducing the deficit, which is something the mayor is trying to do," said McPhail. "We're trying to be supportive of that."

Officials at K/LB Funding LLC weren't available for comment. But the purchase could mean more industrial development for the township, according to Supervisor Steve Mann.

"Most likely, given what they sold it to, it means more industrial growth, which is good," said Mann. "We have a good industrial tax base already, and this will just improve it."

Mann said the township may also seek to buy back a piece of the DeHoCo land for public use.

"We'll explore the possibility of getting a piece of that," Mann said. "We've talked to the city of Plymouth and to Northville about the possibility of doing a joint venture, as well. If we can do it, we will."

McPhail, in her first term on Detroit's City Council, said she voted for the sale, though the vote troubled

Please see DEHOCO, A5

# District: MEAP scores show consistent progress

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
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The Class of 2001 at Plymouth-Canton's two high schools performed at higher levels on MEAP science, social studies and writing tests than their counterparts did last year.

On the other hand, they weren't quite as successful in math and reading, as scores dipped a bit from 2000 levels.

However, school officials believe the variances on both the ups and downs show the district is moving in the right direction.

"What you want to do is look over time," said Lon Rutkofske, director of secondary education. "If the scores moderate within a 6-7 percent range over time, it shows the consistency is very good, the quality of instruction is very good, the alignment with the state curriculum is very good."

Rutkofske was particularly pleased with the significant increase in the science scores. However, he noted there can be concerns with peaks and valleys in the tabulations.

Please see MEAP, A5

PLYMOUTH - CANTON MEAP SCORES					
	MATH	READING	SCIENCE	SOC. STUDIES	WRITING
2000 PLYMOUTH-CANTON STATE	84	81	66	33	74
2001 PLYMOUTH-CANTON STATE	65	69	56	24	58
2000 PLYMOUTH-CANTON STATE	81	77	75	36	77
2001 PLYMOUTH-CANTON STATE	68	74	60	27	69

# Massey *from page A1*

ships  
 "I forgot titles 30 years ago," said Massey with a laugh. "I will be a consultant for them (Sonic) on the Cadillac side. All the details of the sale have not yet been worked out. But, I think it will be completed in about 60 days."

Massey started his automotive empire in 1967, when he became a partner in a Cadillac-Oldsmobile dealership on the corner of Main and Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, where the current Dick Scott Dodge dealership sits. He moved his business 22 years ago to the current Plymouth Township location, and added dealerships, mostly Cadillac, along the way, becoming the 19th-largest dealership group in the country.



Don Massey

billion

According to a release by Sonic Automotive, "consideration for the acquisition will be in the form of cash and 1.4 million shares of Sonic Automotive, Inc. Class A Common Stock."

Sonic officials aren't releasing the amount of cash, but said the deal was consummated in the fourth quarter of last year.

ships in Michigan, Colorado, Tennessee, Florida, California, Texas and North Carolina, which have total annual revenues reported in excess of \$1

Sonic stock was trading at about \$18 a share at the time, which would put the stock worth at \$26.5 million. Since the deal, the stock price has risen another \$8 per share.

Bruton Smith, Sonic's chairman and chief executive officer, said "This acquisition continues the execution of our strategy to overweight our representation of luxury brands. In this case, Cadillac Cadillac has an outstanding product plan and management team, with a solid future as General Motors' principal luxury car brand."

The acquisition by Sonic of the Massey dealerships is expected to close in the second quarter of this year, according to Sonic officials. The deal also needs approval of General Motors, which has high praise for Massey.

"Don Massey has been a member of the General Motors family for 35 years, and is an incredible success story," said Bill Lovejoy, group vice president of vehicle sales, service and marketing for General Motors. "He's not only an amazing automobile dealer, but a generous and giving mem-

ber of his community. We look forward to continuing to work with him."

Massey is well-known in the Plymouth community for generous contributions. Massey originally invested \$40,000 to develop what is now known as Massey Field in Plymouth. Last year he donated another \$17,000 for improvements to the baseball field. He most recently donated \$10,000 to the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular to help bail it out of financial problems.

"He's been a big community philanthropist, a huge promoter of the Plymouth community," said Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincok. "He's taken a lead role in that respect, and encouraged others to step up."

Massey was recently involved in discussions with Plymouth Township to sell the municipality land for a new township hall.

As for his future, Massey promises he'll still be around.

"I like the customers and business very much. If I retired, it would be a culture shock," he said.

## PLYMOUTH PIPELINE

### Dance troupe

On Monday, January 28th, at 7pm, The Progressive Flamenco Troupe Fire Rose will open for Dame Maria Del Carmen's Grupo Espana Flamenco Dance Troupe at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan 28 as part of the "Club Night at the Penn" series at the Penn Theatre, located at 760 Penniman in the heart of downtown Plymouth.

Fire Rose combines the traditional Flamenco music and dance forms with elements of jazz, rock, Afro-Cuban and New Age music to create an entirely different and creative performance genre.

For more information, please visit [www.clubnight1.com](http://www.clubnight1.com), [www.blugraye.com](http://www.blugraye.com), or [www.warrenart.com/firerose](http://www.warrenart.com/firerose). In addition, tickets can be purchased by phone at 734-667-8313. For general information, e-mail [info@clubnight1.com](mailto:info@clubnight1.com), or call 734-254-0021.

### PCAC dance

Denim and Diamonds is the theme of the Plymouth Community Arts Council's annual dinner dance and auction to be held Saturday, March 2 at St. John's Golf and Conference Center in Plymouth.

The glitzy western-themed evening will feature dinner, dancing, entertainment and live and silent auctions of fine artworks, travel packages and great merchandise from supporting local businesses.

As previous events have been sell-outs, tickets should be purchased soon. Prices are \$65 per person for members and \$75 for non-members of the PCAC. Call the Arts Council at (734) 416-4278. All proceeds from the benefit support PCAC programming.

### King celebration

As Canton Township officially observes Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 21, some predominately white and some predominately black congregations will join forces in Canton to honor the memory and ideals of King's legacy.

They will hold a joint service at 7 p.m. at Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 N. Sheldon just north of Ford. Other churches participating are New Liberty Baptist Church in Detroit, Canton Christian Fellowship in Canton and Canton Community Church in Plymouth Township.

Now thru January 31st

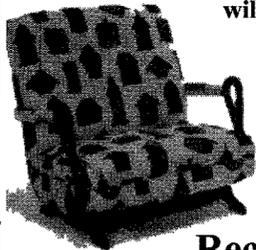
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### Physical Therapy UPDATE

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**MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING**

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) utilizes radio waves and a strong magnetic field rather than x-rays to provide clean and detailed pictures of internal organs and tissues. Because MRI can provide such clean pictures of soft tissue structures near and around bones, it is usually the best choice for examination of the body's major joints: the spine for disc disease and soft tissues and extremities. MRI images can be used to locate and identify the cause of pain, swelling or bleeding in the tissues in and around the joints and bones. They even make it possible to see very small tears and injuries in tendons, ligaments and muscles as well as some fractures that cannot be seen on x-rays.

At the HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY located in Plymouth at 470 Forest Avenue Suite 20, we incorporate the latest diagnostic technology with the proven physical and occupational therapy techniques to achieve maximum recovery. If your primary care physician has been unable to identify the cause of your pain or limited range of motion and provide effective treatment, request a referral for physical therapy. To learn more about our practice, call 435-8370. Early morning and evening treatment hours available.

PS: MRI is widely used to diagnose sport-related injuries as well as work-related disorders caused by repeated static vibration or forceful impact.



John Comish, PT



Mark Mijnsbergen, PT



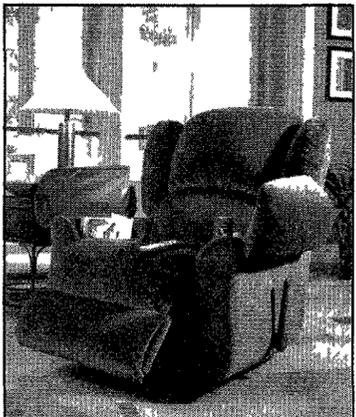
Bob Schlemmer, PT

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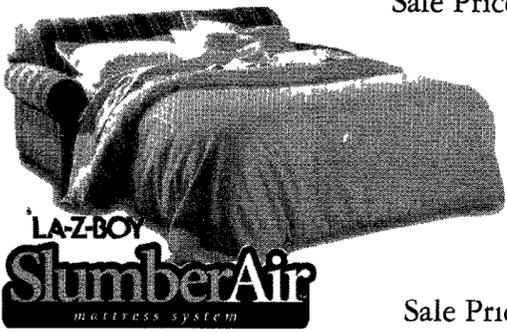
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# Home, sweet home

## Student learning about herself during studies abroad

BY BRAD KADRICH  
STAFF WRITER  
bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net

It's not necessarily the decision her mother would have made, but 20-year-old Sara Wiener of Plymouth has never been one to let people make her decisions for her.

That's why Wiener, a junior at Kalamazoo College, is spending six months in Kenya as part of the college's study abroad program. Wiener, a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School, left for the African continent in September and is due back in mid-March.

When she left, Wiener, majoring in creative writing with a double minor in women's studies and sociology, wasn't sure why she wanted to go to Kenya, but felt something pulling her there.

"Before I left, everyone asked me why Kenya, and I didn't really have an answer," Wiener said. "Something just drew me here. I could have gone just about anywhere in the world, but the mystery and culture of the country drew me here, and I hope that

when I return home and to school that I am a better person for going to a place that I knew was so far out of my comfort zone."

The decision to go to Africa not only caught her friends at school off guard, it surprised her mother, as well. But Laura Wallace realized quickly nothing would change her daughter's mind.

"Africa was a surprise to me, but Sara does what she wants to do," said Wallace, the assistant principal at Emerson Middle School in Livonia. "Culturally, it's so different, it's been an amazing experience for her."

One of the biggest challenges for Wiener has been moving past her own pre-conceived notions of what to expect from the people and the culture of Kenya. An "intense and complex" country, Kenya has been a challenge for Wiener as an American white woman, she said. The preconception of Africans in the mold of the Massai people, with their red cloaks beaded ear lobes and cattle whips had to be overcome before Wiener could realize the

best part of the trip. "Sure, those people exist, but so do people like my host parents, professionals who drive Mercedes to work wearing suits," Wiener said. "My best experiences have been moments when I realized that, although I am so different from these people, we are more alike than we think."

"The realization that I can live happily among and find similarities among the diverse communities of Kenya is special and something I appreciate greatly."

Wiener isn't the only one with preconceived notions. She said the Kenyans have had an equally difficult time accepting her. "They see me walking down the street and, since I'm white, they assume I'm a tourist," Wiener said. "(Sometimes) it's been extremely difficult for me (But) what I've learned about Kenyans and their way of life has made me more accepting, patient and kind."

She also thinks the trip has helped her grow as a person. Never one to leave the house without a shower and wearing a perfectly planned outfit, Wiener

now places less emphasis on those things.

"I'm coming back as someone who went days without a shower and one change of clothes," Wiener said. "I've pushed myself to experience what life is like on the other side of the globe and what I've learned about myself has been invaluable."

What she learns about herself may come in handy when she returns in March, coming back for the first time since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. While they've obviously generated front-page news in the United States, they haven't affected life in Kenya much.

Consequently, while Wiener has undergone personal growth and change in Kenya, her country has been doing some changing in her absence, as well. The life's lesson might be a good one for her, according to her mother.

"It'll be interesting to see her perception of the United States after Sept. 11," Laura Wallace said. "She really has no sense of what it's been like, because she hasn't been here."



**Sisterly guidance:** Sara Wiener, right, is in Kenya on a study abroad program through Kalamazoo College. Her sister, Rebecca, took part in a similar trip to Malaysia during her junior year at the University of Michigan.

### Rotary, Optimists sponsor symphony competition awards

The Plymouth Rotary Foundation and the Plymouth Optimist Club have donated funds to sponsor scholarships for the Plymouth Symphony's *Alive with Musical Color Youth Artist Competition* to be held Sunday, March 3 at Evola Music, 7170 N Haggerty Road, Canton.

Through the generosity of foundations, the Plymouth Symphony recognizes young orchestral talent.

The Plymouth Rotary Foundation is sponsoring the Senior Division Scholarships and the Plymouth Optimist Club the Junior Division Scholarships. The competition is comprised

of three divisions: Senior Instrumental (grades 10-12), Senior Piano (grades 10-12), and Junior Division (combined instrumental and piano grades 7-9). Applicants must be piano, band or orchestra students in the school districts of Livonia, Northville, Novi, Plymouth-Canton, Van Buren (Belleville) or Wayne-Westland or be students at Evola Music.

For an application and/or further information, please contact Dreyer at (734) 451-2112 or by e-mail at plymouthsymphony@aol.com. Applications are also available on the Plymouth Symphony Web site at www.plymouthsymphony.org.

Got an idea for a story? E-mail us at [bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net)

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**Application deadline: February 26, 2002.**

Henry Ford Academy entrance is located on the west end of Henry Ford Museum facing Oakwood Boulevard.

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Henry Ford Academy, an innovative four-year public high school that emphasizes the application of math, science and technology, is sponsoring a series of open houses. These events will provide applications and information about this unique educational opportunity for Wayne County students entering ninth grade in the fall of 2002.

Henry Ford Academy is a partnership between Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village® and Ford Motor Company and is chartered by Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency.

# State: City's water system 'satisfactory'

As far as the State of Michigan is concerned, the city of Plymouth's water supply facilities are fine.

The state recently conducted an inspection of the City of Plymouth's water supply facilities and found them to be satisfactory, according to Stephen Ash-

ford, the Area Engineer for the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. The inspection is required by the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act.

"Based on our visit and review of department records, we have rated the water system satisfac-

tory," Ashford said. The State Inspection involves a site visit and a detailed review of records and procedures, including field operations, inventory control as well as maintenance and construction techniques.

In the state's report to city officials it was specifically noted the

city is already in compliance with a new law that does not take effect until next December, by having Municipal Services employees Scott Baker and Bernie Olsen as State Certified Water Distribution Operators In Charge.

In addition, several other members of the Municipal Services staff have obtained various levels of water distribution licenses from the State.

"Having members of the crew with water distribution licenses shows the city's commitment to a professional level of service that continually delivers safe and reliable drinking water," City Manager Paul Sincock said.

According to Ashford, the inspection report from the Department of Environmental

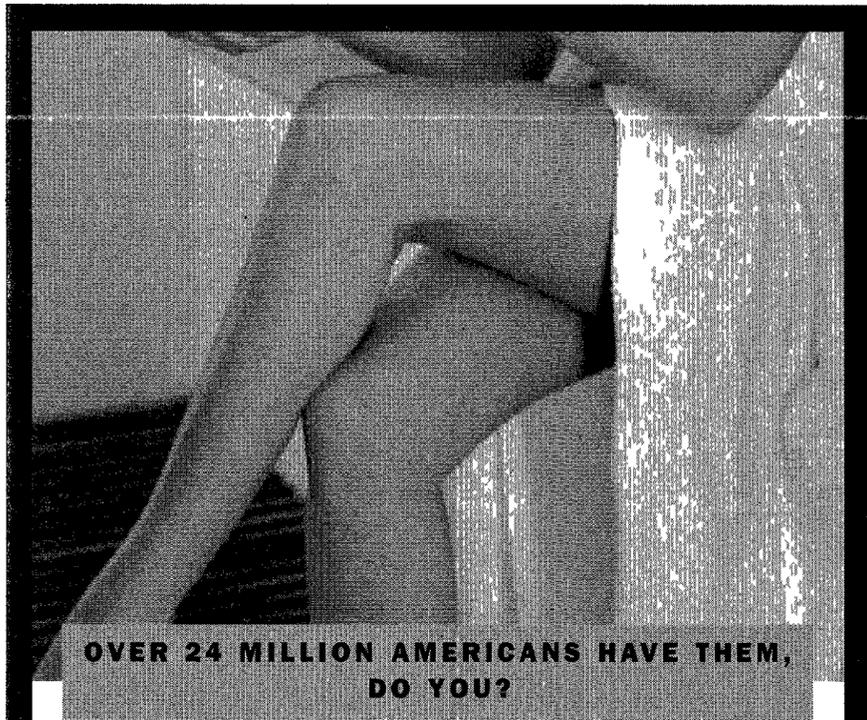
Quality also commended the city's Municipal Services Department for their efforts in providing routine but required programs for fire hydrant testing and flushing, valve turning and bacteriological sampling, chemical sampling and the Consumer Confidence Report.

Scott Baker, Assistant Director of City Municipal Services said that, "the city staff spends a significant amount of time completing routine and often times unseen maintenance of the water system in order to help insure reliability of water flows," said Baker, the city's assistant director of municipal services. "We have an old system in the city and we are very pleased the state recognized our significant efforts in system maintenance."

The city commission set as a priority the maintenance and upgrading of the city's infrastructure and our municipal services crews are working on a daily basis to meet that goal.

The city is working with their engineers at Wade-Trim to update the system Reliability Study and Emergency Operations Plans. The city is also working with Wayne County on the required comprehensive cross connection plan, according to Sincock.

"The recent positive evaluation of our city water system is something that we are all very proud of and this is an excellent reflection on the commitment and dedication of the Department of Municipal Services staff," Sincock said.



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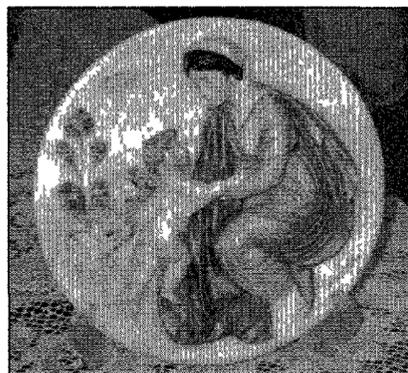
## Discovery Shop hosts collector special

The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in downtown Plymouth, a quality resale shop owned and operated by the American Cancer Society and run by community volunteers, hosts "Spectacular Collector's Plate Special" at Plymouth Manor on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 18-19.

The sale offers more than 2,100 Bradford Exchange plates worth more than \$100,000, donated by David Wert of Plymouth. Wert donated the plates in memory of his father, Jack Wert, who lost his battle with cancer in January 2001. All proceeds from the sale of the plates will benefit the American Cancer Society.

"This collection of plates meant a lot to my father who had collected the plates over the years," said David Wert. "I know that he would have wanted the proceeds from the sale of the plates to go toward a good cause like the American Cancer Society and their ongoing fight against cancer."

The American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in downtown Plymouth invites everyone to the sale at Plymouth Manor, owned by Nick and Tina Ristich, who donated their facility to house this spectacular event. Plymouth Manor is located at 345 N. Main Street in downtown Plymouth.



**On sale:** This is just one of the plates up for grabs at the American Cancer Society Discovery Shop sale this weekend.

"This event offers the community the opportunity to make a difference in the fight against cancer," said Bridget O'Shea, area manager. "Enjoy a wonderful selection of Bradford Exchange plates including *The Lion King*, *The Franklin Collection*, *Gone with the Wind*, *Winnie the Pooh*, *W.S. George Classics*, *Norman Rockwell*, *Oriental Imperial Chung-Te*, sports heroes and many more."

There are six metro-Detroit area Discovery Shops including the store in downtown Plymouth. Additional locations are in the communities of Grosse Pointe Farms, Livonia, Rochester, St. Clair Shores and

Sterling Heights. For directions to a Discovery Shop near you or for more information about the upcoming "Spectacular Collector's Plate Special," call your American Cancer Society at (248) 557-5353.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service. For more information, call the American Cancer Society at (800) ACS-2345 or visit [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

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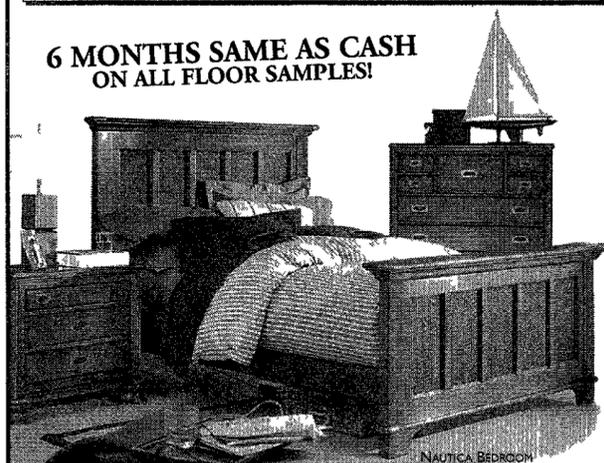
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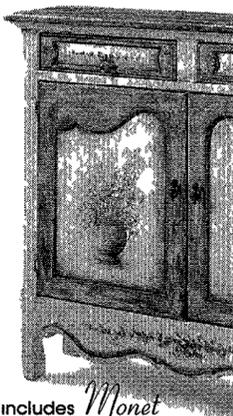
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SPRING 2002 GOLF AND CRUISEWEAR ARRIVING DAILY

**Meap** from page A1

"It's when you get big swings that you really have to start focusing on what's causing the problem," he added

Scores are divided into four categories — Level 1 endorsement exceeded Michigan standards Level 2 endorsement met Michigan standards, Level 3 endorsement at basic level, Level 4 not endorsed Rutkofski said district administrators will take a look at the scores to see how Plymouth Can-

ton matches up with benchmark districts and the rest of the state

According to figures released by the Michigan Department of Treasury, 81 percent of Plymouth-Canton students finished in the top two levels in the math tests, compared to 68 percent statewide, in reading, 77 percent of Plymouth-Canton students scored in the top two levels, while statewide the percentage was 74, in science, Plymouth

Canton 75 percent, state 60 percent, in writing, Plymouth Canton 77 percent state 69 percent

Social studies continues to be a difficult area for high school students Plymouth-Canton finished with only 36 percent of the students scoring in the top two levels However, that's still better than the statewide average of 27 percent

Rutkofski said with the district already among the upper echelon in most tests, the next

goal is to help the students who tested in the lower two levels reach up a notch

"They are the more high needs kids, kids who are struggling," he said "So, we have to focus on particular groups of kids who are struggling, like reading for ESL (English as a Second Language) or special education students If you can't read well, you can't do well on the tests"

Students who score at the top

two levels on the math, reading, science and writing tests are eligible to receive a \$2,500 merit scholarship from the state Canton and Salem high schools are among the top 10 in the tri county area in the number of scholarship recipients Oddly enough, each school finished with 286 merit scholarship winners

Only Troy High School, with 306, and Adlai Stevenson High School in Utica, with 300, had more scholarships awarded

**DeHoCo**

from page A1

her

"This was not an easy vote for me personally," she said "I would like to have seen a new appraisal, because the last one was done two years ago But we have to be supportive of what the mayor is trying to do, so I voted for it"

**OBITUARIES**

**MARY BADYNEE HAJDUK**

Services for Mary Hajduk, 92, of Northville were held Jan 14 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth, with burial at Parkview Memorial Cemetery

Mrs Najduk was born Aug 27, 1909 in Poland and died Jan 9 in Livonia She was a resident of Livonia for 25 years before moving to Northville She was the owner of a restaurant

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ignacy Hajduk

She is survived by daughters, Mary Timoshuk, Helen Jackson and Donna Wenner, 15 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and seven great great grandchildren

Arrangements made by Fred Wood Funeral Home

**WILLIE JANE MCLAREN**

Services for Willie McLaren, 85, of Plymouth were held Jan 15 at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth with the Rev James Skimms officiating Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth

Mrs McLaren was born May 20, 1916 in Monroe and died Jan 13 in Ann Arbor She graduated from Michigan Normal College in 1938 She taught in Port Huron She married John McLaren in 1940 in Monroe

She came to the Plymouth community in 1940 She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Plymouth where she was very active in many church groups She was also a member of the Order of Eastern Star in Plymouth, The Women's Club and The Women's Garden Club of Plymouth She and her late husband were owner and operator of McLaren Silkworth Oil Company, McLaren Lumber and Coal Company, and the McLaren Transit Mix Company

She was preceded in death by her husband, John McLaren

Survivors include daughter, Cindy (John) Hartsig of Howell, son John D (Ning) McLaren III of Ann Arbor and grandchildren John D McLaren IV and Charles I McLaren

Memorial contributions may be given to the Alzheimer's Disease Association or The First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth

Arrangements made by Schrader Howell Funeral Home

**NOVELLA RICCI**

Services for Novella Ricci, 79, of Plymouth were held Jan 10 at the San Francesco Catholic Church with the Rev Guilio Schiavi officiating Burial was at Mt Olivet Cemetery in Detroit

Mrs Ricci was born June 11, 1922 in Ebensburg, Pa and died Jan 7 in Plymouth She was a homemaker

Mrs Ricci was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene Ricci

Survivors include nephew, Leo Rech of Pa, nephew, Joe (Philomena) Bernabo of Macomb, niece, Gloria Badia of Belleville, and guardian, Laura Jameson of Plymouth

Arrangements made by Vehmeulen Funeral Home

**VIRGINIA C. BRENNER**

Services for Virginia Brenner, 82, of Canton were held Jan 16 at St Mary's Catholic Church with burial at St Michael's Cemetery in Defiance County

Mrs Brenner was born May 3, 1919 in Defiance and died Jan 13 in Canton She was a homemaker She was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Arthur and Kenneth Batt

Survivors include husband, Raymond Brenner, sons, James and Daniel Brenner, both of Canton, daughter, Elaine DeLeonard of Clearwater, Fla, brother, Richard Batt of Somerset, Mass, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice of Washtenaw, 806 Airport Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Arrangements made by Schrader Howell Funeral Home

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# OTHER OPINIONS

Thursday, January 17, 2002

## Right to Life's bill aims to pressure politicians

When it comes to Michigan Right to Life, the watchword in the legislature is simple "Ready Set Pander"

Most recent compelling evidence is House Bill 4655, adopted late last year in the House of Representatives' rush to go home for Christmas. The bill would give priority to get \$18 million in federal family planning grants to organizations that don't provide abortions or referrals for abortions and or even offer "public advocacy promoting the legality or accessibility of elective abortion." The bill now goes to the Senate, where passage is likely although not completely assured.



Phil Power

Everybody knows the bill is aimed directly at Planned Parenthood, a respected not-for-profit organization that provides family planning services to more than 60,000 women across the state. These services include gynecological exams, cancer screening, birth control devices and information, pregnancy testing and counseling, treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, HIV testing and counseling, and prenatal health care for mother and child. For many of these women, often poor, these services are simply unavailable anywhere else.

Planned Parenthood does provide abortion at three out of 31 clinic sites. But repeated Michigan Department of Community Health audits have shown that Planned Parenthood has never used any public funds to support or advocate for abortion services in any way.

The stated purpose of the bill is to stimulate "community-based and faith-based" organizations (other than Planned Parenthood, of course) to provide these various services. But in getting started up, these organizations will face all kinds of existing federal and government regulatory requirements, which guarantees delays in providing these services to patients. Moreover, when these organizations do get going, they will be required by the regulations to provide exactly the same kinds of services that Planned Parenthood is already providing.

Other than continuing Right to Life's vendetta against Planned Parenthood, the bill makes no sense on its face.

Some legislators are clear about this. Republican

Sen. John (Joe) Schwarz (R-Battle Creek), the only practicing physician in the Senate. "All this bill does is take money away from an organization with a proven track record of providing health services to low income people who can't get health care anywhere else." For those who oppose abortion, Rep. Pan Godchaux (R-Birmingham) argues that the bill would likely increase the number of abortions by leaving some women currently served by Planned Parenthood without pregnancy prevention counseling.

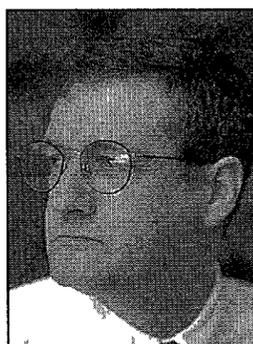
**The stated purpose of the bill is to stimulate "community-based and faith-based" organizations (other than Planned Parenthood, of course) to provide these services (gyn exams, cancer screening, birth control devices and information, pregnancy testing and counseling, treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, HIV testing and counseling and prenatal health care for mother and child.)**

So how come RTL is pushing this legislation just now? Simple. A ton of folks will be running for the legislature this fall, and most of them would kill for Right to Life's support in a primary election.

Here's how the politics work. Term limits will eliminate nearly 50 sitting legislators, mostly Senators, at the end of this year. And a bunch of new districts were created by reapportionment. Result is a whole posse of current House members who want to move up by running for the Senate. It all adds up to an unprecedented opportunity for Right to Life to get leverage on ambitious candidates and exert support for this mean spirited and dangerous legislation. Sen. Schwarz, who is running an uphill battle for the GOP gubernatorial nomination, makes the case clearly. "This legislation flies in the face of existing law that says abortion is legal in the United States. Abortion should be available, safe and rare."

The bill has been referred to the Family, Mental Health and Human Services Committee in the Senate, where the odds are that it will be approved for a vote in the full Senate. If passed there, it's up to Gov. John Engler, who has demonstrated over the years a pronounced reluctance to roll over for anybody. He should veto the bill, thereby striking a blow for common sense and against single-issue vendettas.

Phil Power is chairman of 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



Hugh Gallagher

## Controversial books teach students to think

The controversy that has always swirled around Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn* presents us with one of the strongest

arguments against censorship. Twain is the subject of Ken Burns' new public television documentary that ran Monday and Tuesday on local PBS stations. Burns, an Ann Arbor native, has a deep love for Americana and those subjects that touch most deeply on the American experience - the Civil War, baseball, jazz, the Brooklyn Bridge and Teddy Roosevelt. Twain is a pivotal figure in defining what it means to be an American.

arguments against censorship

Ernest Hemingway said of Twain that all American literature begins with *Huckleberry Finn*. Twain's masterpiece used the vernacular language of blacks and whites along the Mississippi River to tell a story that combined boy's adventure with an epic journey and the first and a stunningly complex exploration of America's racial divide.

Since its earliest days, it has been the center of controversy. First schools and libraries banned it because of its coarse language. Twain had written the much tamer *Tom Sawyer* years before and the sequel was expected to be another "boys book."

But Twain had other things on his mind when he wrote *Huckleberry Finn*. He wrote the book in Huck's language, from Huck's point of view and that made all the difference. Here was a poorly educated, uncouth kid. He is abused by an alcoholic, wastrel father and unable to adjust to "civilized society" when he's taken in by good-meaning Christian women. He sets out for the river and, fatefully, takes with him his guardian's slave Jim.

In recent years, the book has been attacked as racist. It is perhaps the most obnoxious, foolish misinterpretation of any book in history. Rather than being banned as racist, the book should be, and quite rightly is by many, celebrated as the first book to attempt an honest understanding of our racial problems. But many fine teachers locally have been called on the carpet for teaching this literary masterpiece.

Huck is a product of his environment. He's a redneck, full of superstitions and confused ideas about morality. To Huck, Jim is property and stealing away with him is a sin. Through the course of the book, the reader and Huck begin to see Jim as a sensitive, wise and deeply rooted man.

The use of the "n-word" was part of that vernacular of the times and far less offensive than its use in numerous rap songs by black performers. Huck adopts the dismissive language of his deeply Christian community and in time learns better.

A scene near the end of the book has been fairly criticized for making Jim the butt of a joke. The scene itself is the kind of burlesque that Twain did so well. But even here, there might be another point being made. Jim's humiliation is really the idea of Tom Sawyer and takes place as Huck and Jim return to "civilization" and Huck comes under his old friend's influence.

Rather than being banned, Huck Finn should be taught. It should be the one essential book in every middle and junior high school in the country.

Our schools are always walking a fine line when choosing appropriate materials for the classroom and the library. In recent years, some school districts have opted to keep the Harry Potter books from the curriculum because of complaints that the book's occult topics are "anti-Christian." Schools usually have chosen to keep the books in their libraries.

Whether or not J.K. Rowling, author of the Potter books, is Christian, the books are not "anti-Christian" any more than the books about wizards and fantasy lands by J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis. Tolkien and Lewis were devout Christians who borrowed from the same wealth of legend and lore dating back to the days of the Druids to tell stories that drew parallels with the story of Christian redemption. The Harry Potter books, too, are about a struggle between good and evil.

The Potter books are not as richly complex as Tolkien or as elegantly written as Lewis but they are engrossing stories that relate directly to young people and have opened the pleasures of reading to many who had been spending their time playing video games.

School is the right place to discuss the themes, style and even the various myths that have inspired so much of our literature. Middle and junior high school is the right time and place to open the door to discussion not to cut it off. Schools need to challenge thinking not mollify prejudice.

It is also the right time to introduce children to Mark Twain, America's greatest writer, funniest humorist and most insightful social critic.

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

# WAYNE Winterfest 2002

Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>

**Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**The Ghoul's**  
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**Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**COMEDY NIGHT**

Featuring  
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Featuring Act  
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**8:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.**  
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**Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**HOCKEYTOWN LEGENDS**

**Red Wing Alumni**  
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**Wayne Community Center**  
 Cost: \$2 per person  
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 (up to 4 children and a free program)  
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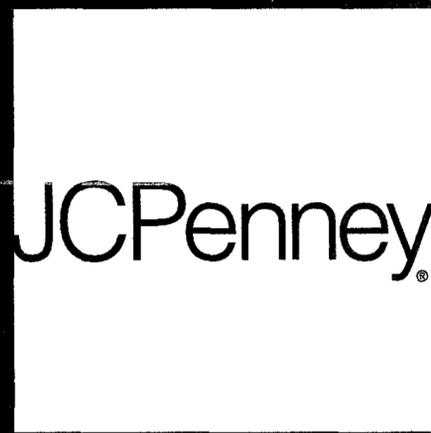
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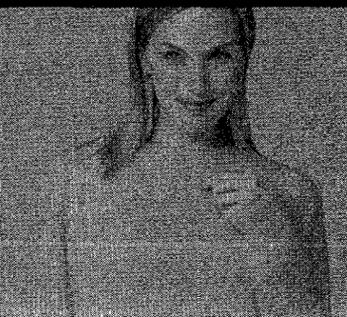
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## CCS student designers turn cars into art

Sleek lines, dazzling metallic paints and plush interiors turned my head long before I was old enough to drive. My dad was probably responsible for my taking an intense interest in cars. An engineer at Ford Motor Company for 40 years, he always bought the sportiest, fastest models with the biggest engines.

Later, I did the same. My 1987 Thunderbird Turbo Coupe lasted 12 years before I sold it to my neighbors' teenage sons. It was quick, red and a thrill to put through all five gears.

But I don't think my craziness over cars is an exception. All Detroiters appreciate stylish vehicles. After all, this is the home of the Big Three and the first assembly line.

Designing cars is definitely an art. The public expects pizzazz when it looks at a vehicle. It should make driving fun, plus be affordable. That's exactly what Christian Hardin had in mind when he designed the Ford Rasp as part of a summer internship program sponsored by the American Iron and Steel Institute at the College for Creative Studies (formerly Center for Creative Studies).

Concept vehicles by Hardin, Hong Yeo and Mike Chan are on display at the North American International Auto Show at Cobo Hall through Monday, Jan. 21.

"You're given a concept, what would we like to drive," said Hardin, a Waterford resident now in his senior year at CCS. "You've got to be creative and come up with something new and fresh. You're putting your thoughts and dreams down on paper."

"It's a take-off on the Shelby Cobra, an affordable roadster costing approximately \$12,000. A kid in high school can't afford an MR-2, so I'm reusing all body panels. They're all alike, so it's perfectly symmetrical."

The Ford Rasp is the car Hardin would like to drive in the future. And he might just get his chance. Steve Saleen of Saleen Mustang fame recently showed interest in the Rasp after seeing the model at the auto show in Detroit.

"I fell in love with design after taking my first class at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center at age 11," said Hardin, who drives a 1971 Dodge Charger in summer and '87 Fiero GT fastback the rest of the year. "I've basically been in love with them since I could walk. I plan on making this my future."

A senior in the transportation design department at CCS, Hong Yeo intends to design vehicles for the future as well. The Bloomfield Hills student came up with a concept Chevrolet ModUV, a modular utility vehicle that is versatile for the buyer as well as economical for the manufacturer to produce.

"The theme this year is low cost tooling, interchangeable parts, cars for the masses," said Yeo. "I designed a van with a lot more freedom. Flexible vehicles are a trend of the industry in Japan and Europe. The customer has a choice of folding down seats and re-engineering the interior of the car. My design gave the manufacturer flexibility without retooling and can be used as an ambulance, van or utility truck."

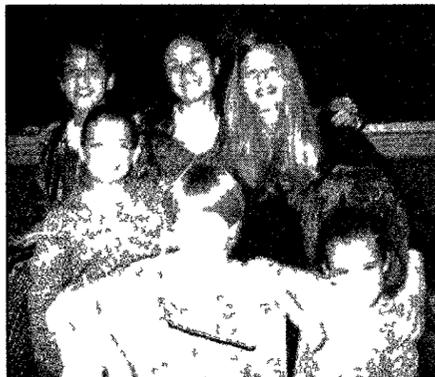
"Not having to retool is cost saving. It also saves on real estate within the plant. Reducing one die makes a difference and you're getting a whole range of vans and trucks."

Yeo designed a city bus in the internship program last year and may see the results rolling down the road.

Please see CHOMIN, B2

## Acting antics:

Cousins Vinne Roberts (clockwise from top left), Amanda Lewan, Becky Roberts, Lucie Patrick, Teddy Roberts and Georgia Patrick had lots of fun during rehearsals.



## Cousins find joy in acting together

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

Vinne Roberts admits he and his five cousins made silly and weird noises during rehearsals for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* which continues through Sunday, Jan. 27, at the Cathedral Theatre in Masonic Temple, Detroit. Merrymaking shortens the time they spend waiting between scenes of the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical directed by Nancy Florowski of Redford. Rehearsals for *Tinderbox* productions generally run three hours on Saturday, five on Sunday. That's a long stretch for the cousins whose ages range from 7 to 15. But they all love

the story based on the Old Testament's book of Genesis about Joseph and his coat of many colors. Roberts, a 13-year-old student at Riley Middle School in Livonia, plays Zebulon, one of the brothers who abduct Joseph, destroy the coat given to him by their father Jacob then throw him into a pit to die.

"It's pretty fun and you get to dance a lot," said Roberts, who's acted with *Tinderbox* Productions three years, most recently in *Joey's Field Trip*. He also plays saxophone in the band at Riley Middle School. "But it's really fun because when we're together we all act really crazy. The musical lasts

Please see COUSINS, B2

## Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

What: *Tinderbox Productions* present the musical  
When: 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19 and 26 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20 and 27  
Where: Cathedral Theatre in Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit  
Tickets: \$5, \$8 reserved box seats. Call (313) 535-8962



## Orchestra directors optimistic about uncertain future

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

Community orchestra leaders paint a grim, but inspired portrait of their nonprofit organizations' future. From Birmingham to Plymouth, Rochester, Livonia and Pontiac, giving is down, volunteers nearly non-existent. But directors of these semi-professional symphonies are not willing to let classical music die after its brought joy to audiences for hundreds of years. Innovative marketing strategies to attract new ticket buyers and a one-on-one approach to fund-raising guarantee brighter seasons ahead.

At age 27, executive director Darlene Dreyer is breathing life into the Plymouth Symphony by launching unconventional methods for reaching the public. Concert information is now advertised on fliers attached to pizza boxes. A multi-faceted approach to raising the \$241,000 operating budget keeps Dreyer busy writing grants and approaching local businesses and corporations. Dreyer is also leading an effort to organize community orchestras to share ideas. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 17 in Royal Oak. "With the Papa Romano fliers we're targeting the direct market we want at home," said Dreyer. "We hope to use ticket sales to raise the

deficit caused when we received a smaller grant from the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs this year. Statewide there was a decrease but local support is helping. A grant from Visteon for our side-by-side concert with students scholarship money from Rotary Optimist and the Kiwanis Foundation, a matching grant from (former PSO president) Don Soenen program ads and investment income from our endowment, which was hit by the market, all add up.

"Grassroots marketing is helping. By placing tent cards on local restaurant tables to promote concerts 2 weeks before, we're reaching audiences who didn't know the PSO existed. The Penn Theatre is flashing a slide of information pertinent to the next concert on their screen before showings. I'm grateful to everybody in the community for its kind support."

Community support allows orchestras to increase programming for residents. Informational lectures/demonstrations and concerts become mainstays in schools. "We've allocated \$10,000 of the budget for educational programs and this year each school in the Plymouth-Canton district will chip in \$500 each. We also offer free admission for age 0 to 12th grade. One of our tenets is to provide education

### Upcoming orchestra concerts

- Livonia Symphony feature violinist Xiang Gao 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, in Churchill High School Auditorium, 8900 Newburgh, North of Joy, Livonia \$16, \$10 students/children (734) 425-4855
- Canton Chamber Orchestra of the Plymouth Symphony with vocalist Deanna Relyea, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, at First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial, Plymouth, and 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20 at Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor \$15, \$12 50 seniors/college students, free for children from birth to 12th grade for Plymouth concert. Call 451-2112. Tickets for Ann Arbor concert vary by seating and can be reserved by calling (734) 769-2999
- Birmingham Bloomfield Symphony present pianist David Syme in a Red, White & Blue Salute to area firemen that begins with a benefit dinner 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 3, followed by concert at 7 p.m. at Temple Beth El 7400 Telegraph at 14 Mile, Bloomfield Hills \$50 for dinner/concert, \$25, concert only, free for students. Call (248) 645-BBSO
- Rochester Symphony, 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22, at Stoney Creek High School Auditorium, Rochester. Volodymyr Shesniuk conducts an all-Russian program \$15, \$13 students. Call Doris Kennedy at (248) 651-4181
- Pontiac-Oakland Symphony with guest organist James Wells, 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24, at All Saints Episcopal Church, 171 West Pike, Pontiac. Tickets \$15, \$10 students/children, and available at the door one hour before concert.

al experiences. By not charging for children, it encourages families to come and use the Cry Room at Our Lady of Good Counsel during concerts. Families can come with infants. One young couple came with a 4-week-old baby. They were able to get out without a baby sitter and enjoy the music."

### Livonia Symphony

Like the rest of the local orchestras, the Livonia Symphony had to

institute measures to make up for losses in giving. LSO president Bob Bennett has lots of experience with budgets as former Mayor of Livonia but the effects of a recession and lack of volunteers present an uphill battle.

"This season the orchestra cut back its seven season concerts to six. Even so, costs mount fast when fees for a single concert run \$16,000. To help raise money for their \$135,000

Please see SYMPHONY, B6









# Warm yourself with laughter: Uncover 'The Mystery of Irma Vep'

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI  
SPECIAL WRITER

"It's kind of like doing the impossible," explained Greg McFadden, who with Remi Sanders, will create a blur of energy and genius in the wildly energetic spoof, *The Mystery of Irma Vep* now playing at Meadow Brook Theatre

The two actors play eight parts in the hilarious play that pokes fun at just about every acting genre from Penny Dreadfuls, a popular theatrical form in Victorian England, to gothic movies, like *Rebecca* and *Wuthering Heights*, and campy horror flicks showcasing mummies and werewolves

Audiences will be treated to a buffet table of delicious giggles and surprises in playwright Charles Ludlam's production that has hints of a Mel Brooks movie or Monty Python skit

"You sweat an awful lot and every time you go back stage you're constantly wiping your face and drinking as much water as you can," McFadden said "I eat at least two bananas every show just to make it through"

Many theater-goers try to uncover as many film and literary references as possible in the "tour de farces" winner of two Obie Awards and a Special Drama Desk Award running through

Sunday, Feb 3

With electric speed, McFadden and Sanders play an Egyptologist with a new bride, a housekeeper with a wooden leg, an Egyptian princess dead for hundreds of years, a ghostly intruder, mummy, werewolf and other interesting characters

## A laugh a minute

"It's nothing but fun," Sanders said "Once you get the characters down, you find your way into this heightened reality, and you always have to keep this level of energy up It's got to come out of an oddly truthful place It's like getting on a roller coaster and enjoying the ride - hopefully for the audience too"

The story, hinging on the plot of the classic, *Rebecca*, focuses on the deceased Lady Hillcrest who looms over the misty bogs of Mandacrest Manor, a haunted house, where Lord Edgar, a renowned Egyptologist lives with his new wife Sanders and McFadden play them all

"The costumes are rigged so they come off very quickly," said McFadden, who studied at Julliard "Everything about the show is geared with the quick changes in mind Part of it is theatrical illusion It seems like a shorter amount of time to the audience than it actually is"

**The Mystery of Irma Vep**  
When: Continues through Sunday, Feb. 3. Performances 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 6 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, and 6:30 p.m. Sunday.  
Where: Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester Hills  
Tickets: \$26-\$38. Thursday preview tickets \$17. Call (248) 377-3300.  
Discounts: Available for senior citizens age 62 and older, students receive a 20 percent discount on advance tickets, excluding Friday-Saturday performances. Student rush tickets - purchase up to two tickets for \$5 each day of show. Couples nights 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, and 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Buy one ticket, get second ticket at half price. Group tickets available by calling (248) 370-3316. For more information, visit www.mbrotheatre.com.  
Meet-the-Artist Talkbacks: After the Sunday matinee on Jan. 20, and 27.

He credits a crew of six people backstage for helping pull off the "impossible"

"There are three times the amount of people backstage than on stage helping to make it happen and they're as much a part of the illusion as we are," McFadden said

Sound designer Tony Vaillancourt is one of the many faces audiences don't see Vaillancourt, a Waterford Township resident and technical adviser to the theater program for the community's school district, makes sure the setting is truly eerie

Sanders and McFadden come to the task with experience having performed *The Mystery of Irma Vep* for six weeks at the

Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park Michael Haney, the director for the Meadow Brook productions, was the director there, as well

"It was a huge hit," McFadden said "They extended us a few times and we were sold out really almost before we opened"

"Cincinnati had done the play 10 years before that and the audience just loved it They were really excited when we came back to do it," explained McFadden who has acted in various New York theaters, including The Actors Company Theatre, the Kennedy Center and numerous regional theaters Audiences may recognize his distinctive voice, which was featured in National

Public Radio's *Titanic The Unsinkable Myth* The endless appeal of the show comes from the humor that is on so many different levels, Haney said

## Warm reception

Referring to a warm reception from audiences in Cincinnati, Haney directed the play there with Sanders and McFadden

"With the bleak mid-winter upon us, it's a great show and once you get to the theater you can warm yourself with laughter," said Haney who has twice received the Cincinnati Entertainment Award He also worked at the Sacramento Theater Company and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival

It's not necessary to know the old movies that the play refers to, Haney said comparing it to *Young Frankenstein*, which captures the style of the original movie, but twists it enough to make it funny The exaggerations push people in the audiences "out of their seats" as they double over in laughter, Haney said "That's what we hope will happen here"

*The Mystery of Irma Vep* premiered in 1984 at Ludlam's Ridiculous Theatre Company in New York

The play starred Ludlam with his partner Everett Quanton and

represented his most successful theatrical production After playing more than 300 performances in New York City, the show was revived in 1998 Off-Broadway and in theaters across the world

## Early theatrical encounters

Ludlam's first encounter with the theater was a Punch and Judy show and freak shows at the Minnesota State Fair At age seven he was writing and staging his own plays When he was 17 he founded his first theater company After graduating from college he joined New York City's Playhouse of the Ridiculous, designing and building sets, acting and directing In 1967 he renamed it the Ridiculous Theatre Company, and all of his plays were produced there He was the company's artistic director

Ludlam continued to act on stage and in TV episodes of *Miami Vice* He taught at New York University and Yale University, and created two black and white films *The Sorrows of Dolores* and *Museum of Wax*

Diane Gale Andreassi is a resident of Livonia and writes about a variety of topics, including theater, for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

## Symphony from page B1

budget the LSO will hold a Feb 8 benefit that begins with a 6 p.m. dinner, followed by a concert and silent auction Tickets range from \$50 to \$200 Call (734) 425-4855

"It's looking dim for the annual golf outing There's no one to chair the event - Chip in for the Arts," said Bennett "We lost the opportunity for our fall fundraiser because the local mall was floundering itself We're trying to cut expenses in other areas, canceling membership in the American Symphony Orchestra League and subscriptions to related publications but while you're doing that costs go up for printing, auditorium rental, postage, insurance and union wages for musicians"

"We sent out 10,000 fliers to schools last year for *The Nutcracker* but the schools wouldn't allow us to do it this year We did place fliers in Target, Kroger and Tru Value Hardware as bag

stuffers to attract audiences "Still it's difficult finding local businesses and corporate sponsors Ford is the largest supporter followed by Target We've also had help from nonprofit organizations like Livonia Town Hall, Livonia Arts Commission and Livonia Community Foundation Individual contributions are growing modestly as our reputation as a good orchestra has grown but there's a cutback of corporate givers Frankly, I don't see a future for community orchestras The main reason is the volunteer base just gets smaller and smaller Even service clubs are struggling just to keep warm bodies"

Introducing children to music is one of the ways the Birmingham Bloomfield Symphony attracts

new audiences Free admission for students enables parents to take in a concert and make it a family affair

"We moved starting times of concerts to 7 p.m. so kids can gain an appreciation for music," said Carla Lamphere, BBSO executive director "10 to 15-years ago music was struggling in the schools Now programs are flourishing Kids are stimulated in schools and want to come to the concerts"

"We're also partnering with service groups to assist our ushers For our Feb 3 benefit concert we'll have the Birmingham Community Coalition which works to prevent substance abuse in kids In addition to helping our ushers, they'll display their material on a table We're trying to show the community we're all here together trying to help each other Today we have to create new situations

for our own groups to survive"

Layoffs led to a decline in corporate giving for all of the local orchestras Lamphere directs the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony's efforts to raise the annual \$180,000 in operating expenses

State grants, corporate and individual giving, ticket sales, three fundraisers a year, and program ads all count when it comes time to put on a concert

"This week I'm starting to make cold calls to give," said Lamphere "We can't depend on the corporate world Last year at this time we had a wonderful commitment from corporations and businesses By June or July, some people pulled back because they were having to lay off people We lost \$10,000 to \$15,000 We had to raise ticket prices to \$25 and

began offering free admission for kids If kids are interested it helps us bring in adults We try to stimulate students in the schools Approximately 20-percent of our orchestra members are music teachers so they're ambassadors in the schools"

## Pontiac-Oakland Symphony

Education plays a major role at several local community orchestras including the Pontiac-Oakland Symphony Music director Greg Cunningham believes young people would develop a love of classical music if they only heard it That's why he works tirelessly to raise their \$150,000 operating budget from corporations and season subscribers

A fundraiser and Michigan

Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs grant supplement the donations Unfortunately, this year's grant money is late and the Feb 9 concert had to be canceled but the Feb 24 program will go on as scheduled

"Students need to be exposed to music We had a petting zoo to introduce children to the different instruments before our Christmas concert," said Cunningham, an assistant music professor and coordinator of instrumental music at Oakland University in Rochester The university contributes in-kind services to the Pontiac-Oakland Symphony and pays his salary The partnership benefits both groups as well as several OU students who play with the POS

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# Lessons in LOVE

## WIN A ROMANTIC EVENING!

FEBRUARY 8, 2002

In 100 words, or less, give us your idea of a wonderfully romantic evening for two and you could win:

- ♥ Transportation, complements of International Limousine in Westland
- ♥ A dozen red roses; Flowers from Joe by Carolynn in Livonia
- ♥ A romantic dinner for two at Cafe Cortina in Farmington Hills
- ♥ Candy from Kemnitz Fine Candies & Gifts in Plymouth
- ♥ Two tickets to a Red Wings game on February 8, 2002

You have until Friday, January 25, 2002 to send in your entry. ♥ You must be 18 years old, limit your lesson in love to 100 words or less, and think romance! ♥ Include your name, age, address, phone, e-mail with your entry

♥ The winning romantic couple will be announced in your hometown newspaper on Thursday, January 31.

♥ Send your entry to:

Cathy Young, Promotion Manager  
"LESSONS IN LOVE CONTEST"  
Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150  
Phone: 734-953-2155 Fax: 734-953-2232 e-mail: cyoung@oe.homecomm.net

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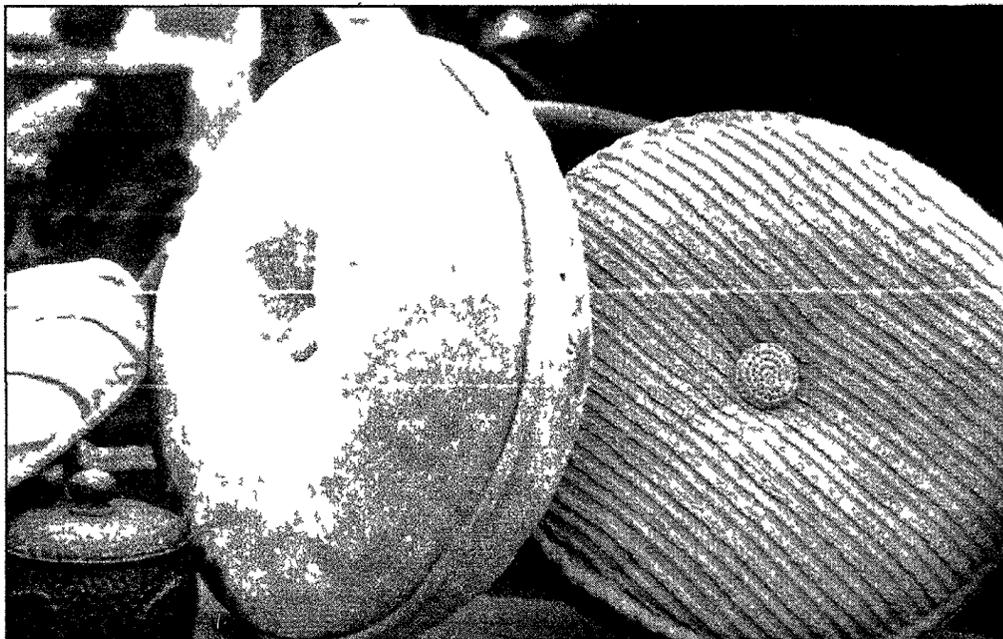
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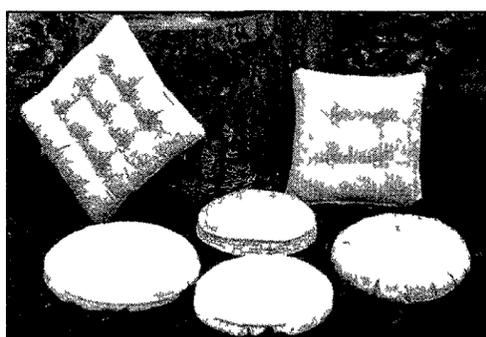
Flowers from Joe's by Carolynn

1099009 Employees of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Olympia Entertainment are not eligible

## Pillows & Poetry



**Work of art:** These concrete stepping stones feature the look and feel of vintage of accent pillows. They are often mistaken for the real thing because of the attention to detail – the tufts, buttons, pleats and gathers make these stepping stones are creative addition to a serene garden. Available exclusively at Goldner Walsh Nursery in Pontiac



BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER  
lmm@oe.homecomm.net

For garden-lovers January is a busy month to plan their gardens for spring and summer months. The season's trends are making way to shelves at nurseries all over metro-Detroit.

And expected to be big again this year are stepping stones. Sure there's the current favorites of stone or resin butterflies, dragonflies, turtles and frogs – but look beyond those mainstays and catch some even more unique ideas.

Colorful concrete throw pillows that will fool anyone into believing they're velour, velvet and suede turned the head of Julia Janiak of Goldner Walsh Nursery on Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac. When a customer returned from a visit to an art gallery out west she told Janiak of the stepping stones detailed to replicate real throw pillows.

"People can't believe they aren't made of real fabric," Janiak said. "The detail is perfect."

Currently, Goldner Walsh Nursery is the only nursery nationwide to carry the Concrete Throw Pillow Stepping Stones, \$59.95 in nine styles, in pastel colors. As a trend-watcher, Janiak said she knows it's only a matter of time before the pillows are discovered at chain stores. For now she's enjoying that Goldner Walsh is the only nursery nationwide to carry the whimsical stones. She expects the pillow stones to be popular near reflecting or meditating areas, as they can complete a serene atmosphere.

"They are perfect for placing near a pond, or anywhere in the garden where people would want to place a pillow and sit," she said.

Janiak said as more people are reducing their time traveling this year, they're spending more time on details to improve the home. At the chain stores, the feeling is the same, said Tina Babusci, a buyer for garden decor at Troy-based Frank's Nursery & Crafts.

"(At Frank's) do-it-yourself kits are big this year," Babusci said. "People are making their own stepping stones, it's a great thing to pass time in the winter and it's a good activity for families." The stepping stone kits that are most popular are mosaic and gem kits and poetry kits. Gardeners can make their own stepping stones with their favorite words or poems, or with the gem stones to complement the color schemes of the garden.

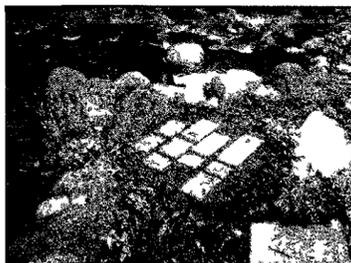
"There are the traditional stones that are still going strong," Babusci said. "Anything with wings, butterflies, dragonflies and turtles are still strong."

Whimsical glow-in-the-dark stones are newer at Frank's.

At Goldner Walsh, the pillows are the current gems and Janiak, who prides herself with discovering rare and cutting-edge garden trends, travels across the globe, from Paris to San Francisco, for original items.

"The art of the pillow (stones) complements the blooms of summer and brings a splash of color to a dark bed of groundcover or creates a complete path for a bold design."

And unlike pillows, you can walk through your garden on them. They are fully cured, fade-proof and sealed.



**Self-made:** Do-it-yourself stepping stone kits (above) allows the gardener to choose whatever poetic word would best suit their garden style. Mosaic and gem stepping stone kits (top, left) are also available at Frank's Nursery & Crafts.

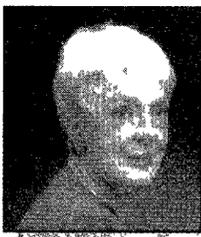
INSIDE



LISA LUCKOW-HEALY

Capture precious moments on pieces of paper

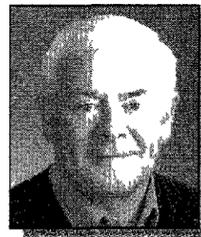
Celebrating Family, Page C4



MARTY FIGLEY

There's lots new for 2002

Garden Spot, Page C3



JOE GAGNON

It's easy to change a washing machine pump yourself

Appliance Doctor, Page C2

# GRAND OPENING SALE

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# It's easy to diagnose, change a washer pump

Service technicians across the country have discussed washing machine pumps for years. One of the most common service calls performed in millions of laundry rooms, the pump is a constant money maker for the appliance service industry. Home owners should be aware that the washer pump is something they can change with the use of simple basic tools.

A pump failure is usually apparent when the machine stops pumping out the water after the agitation cycle. When you remove the clothes from the washer and you put them into the dryer, do you notice the clothes are still too wet? Does the tub still have a ton of water inside? If so, set the timer onto the spin cycle and see what happens.

Remember that washers will

only go into the spin cycle as long as the water is pumping out. Try getting the water out of the washer by placing the drain hose on the floor and letting the water run into the floor drain. If you don't have a floor drain you may have to use the bucket system, one at a time.

Once the washer is empty, put the timer in spin again, remembering to close the lid. If it spins, the problem is usually the pump. The ease of changing a pump on most washers is rather simple, the confusing part of the job for a novice is finding out how to get to it. We know that the pump is inside the cabinet, but how do you get to it? On some makes and models you have to remove the whole cabinet, and on others the front comes off.

Some have a rear access plate that is removed to gain access. Pumps are made of plastic and have hoses connected to them, one from the tub itself and the other to the drain line. It is as simple as that. To make it as simple as I have just described I suggest you do the following:

Take the model number off the washer and drive over to an appliance repair store and ask

the service person to describe to you how to get to the pump on your washer. They will show you how and what a pump looks like and they will sell you one. Ask if it is returnable if the pump should not be the problem.

The sense of pride in doing something like this on your own is a great boost to your mechanical aptitude and bragging rights. An example is a friend of mine who has more money than he needs and plays with the Red Wings. He tells everyone he makes mistakes during a game but he still managed to change the pump on his washing machine. This guy never fixed a thing in his life and he is extremely proud of the job he did.

If he can, then you can do it as well. Think of the savings which could afford a nice dinner at your local restaurant. Remember to sit at the head of the table. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard Saturday and Sunday on 760 WJR. He is a member and past president of the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals. His phone number is (313) 873-9789.



JOE GAGNON

## GARDENING CALENDAR

### MICHIGAN SCHOOL OF GARDENING CLASS UPDATE

There's still time to register for January classes by completing a registration form and mailing it in along with a check for the registration fee. Register at least one week prior to the class date.

Download a registration form and a full copy of class schedules at [www.michigangardening.com](http://www.michigangardening.com) or call 248-4-GARDEN (442-7336) for a class schedule and registration form. Upcoming classes are:

**CLASSES IN LIVONIA**  
Landscape Design - Thursday, Jan 31

Class description: Planning

new landscapes and renovations. How to select and place trees, shrubs and other plants on a large scale. How to visualize planned changes and capture ideas on paper. Developing overall concept plans, component area plans, graphic illustrations, plant and material lists. Covers estimating labor and materials needed. Students explore concepts in lab work and are encouraged to begin designs now which may be used as Independent Projects (see Curriculum for more on Independent Projects).

Pre-requisite: "Focus on Design" and "Garden Design" or equivalent experience. Registration fee: \$212.50. Livonia, nights #208 12LN - seven Thursdays 1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

### CLASSES IN BIRMINGHAM

The Michigan School of Gardening offers specialty and just-for-fun classes at The Community House in Birmingham. To register for these classes or for more information, please contact the Birmingham Community House at (248) 644-5832.

**The Essence of a Chinese Garden** - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan 29

Class description: A Chinese garden's essence lies in its intimate association with nature, in its seeking of the unusual and unexpected and in its ethical and philosophical preoccupations. Come through the moon gate, experience the Chinese garden and consider how to apply its essence to your garden.

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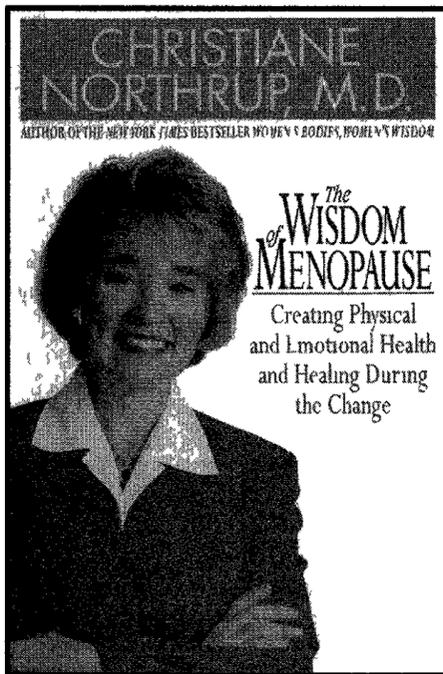
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## Crittenton Hospital Medical Center presents CHRISTIANE NORTHRUP, M.D. "The Wisdom of Menopause"



The bottom line is this: The menopausal transition no longer means you've entered life's final chapter. Rather, it is a passageway to a new beginning, a second spring."

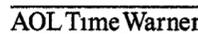
- Christiane Northrup, M.D.

### WOMEN'S WELLNESS CONFERENCE

7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14

Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion, Oakland University  
Tickets are \$25. Seating is limited, so please call 248-652-5269 to purchase your tickets today.

E-mail: [dept\\_healthed@crittenton.com](mailto:dept_healthed@crittenton.com)



# 2002 full of new flowers, greenery, to choose

## DESIGN CALENDAR

There are many new things in the gardening world for 2002. Annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees and much more will make your gardening experiences more exciting and rewarding.

Goldsmith announces several new and improved annual varieties that will brighten your garden beds. They include 'Kiss GARDEN SPOT' gazania with daisy like flowers that mound and grow low to the ground. With colors that include bronze, rose, orange, rose, white and yellow, it may be a tough decision to choose.



MARTY FIGLEY

Colors are blush, lavender, rose and white. 'Ramblin' trailing petunia is only 8 to 10 inches high but crawls to 2 to 2 1/2 feet. Colors are burgundy chrome, nu blue peach glo and shades o' pink.

'Leilani Blue' ageratum is a delicate, clear blue and grows to 14 to 16 inches. The fluffy flowers are self-cleaning. And 'Inca II' margold grows to 12 to 14 inches in colors of gold, orange primrose and yellow.

This information will whet your appetite - look for other Goldsmith flowers that are new and improved.

All-America Selections now has a new trial category - the Multi-Season trial, which was designed to test frost tolerant annuals, perennials or biennials. The trial will be conducted over

two seasons. The primary evaluation will occur the second season. Visit the AAS web site at [www.allamericaselections.org](http://www.allamericaselections.org) and click on the 2001 Winner button for further details. You can also reach them at [www.aaswinners.com](http://www.aaswinners.com) to view the 13 winners available this year. Here are some of them. The following three are F1 Hybrids: Pansy 'Ultima Morpho,' Cleome 'Sparkler Blush,' Petunia 'Lavender Wave.' Other winners are Rudbeckia 'Hirta,' Cherokee Sunset Vegetables, Winter Squash 'Cornell's Bush Delicata,' Pumpkin 'Orange Smoothie,' and the herb Basil 'Magical Michael.'

Parks Seeds also gleaned some winners from their trial gardens. Visit them online at [www.parkseed.com](http://www.parkseed.com) to order, request a catalog, or for more information. You'll be able to grow the following new plants: Allium 'Fireworks Display' - a mix of three species that will make a spectacular show. The Poppy 'Peony Mix' - clear color on double blooms. The mix includes Flemish Antique (White blooms with splashes of pale salmon red), pink, salmon, white and black. Then there is Salvia 'Jeweled Towers' a radiant mix of red, burgundy, lavender and dark purple - flower spikes are 10 inches on 10 inch plants. New vegetable introductions include blue wonder beans, Magda hybrid squash and Lemon Ice hybrid watermelon.

Wayside Gardens ([www.waysidegardens.com](http://www.waysidegardens.com)) also have some new introductions: Apricot flowers bloom on the shrub rose 'Paul Bocus,' hly 'Silk Road' (white flowers with deep crimson rose throats), Purple Emper-

or, a sun-loving sedum, Magnolia 'Jane' is reddish purple the outside and white on the inside, and blooms late in the season. The Cornus kousa 'Limon Ripple' has distinctive foliage - the central area is green and surrounded by a wide band of chartreuse yellow in the edges. Flowers are pure white. The Hibiscus 'Kopper King' sports light pink flowers with deep purple foliage - reaches 4 feet tall. Full sun. All of these plants are hardy in zone 5.

Two beautiful roses have received that All-America Rose Selections award for 2002. They are Love & Peace, a classic hybrid tea, and Starry Night, a

landscape shrub. Five inch, golden yellow flowers edged with pink are surrounded by dark green glossy foliage on Love & Peace. Starry Night bloom in large clusters of pure white flowers, with medium green glossy foliage. These roses are available through mail order catalogs and at garden centers, nurseries, home centers and mass merchandisers in time for the 2002 planting season. Visit AARS web site at [www.rose.org](http://www.rose.org).

If you love to grow ivy and appreciate all the variances of the foliage, look for 'Teardrop,' which has been selected as 'Ivy of the Year' 2002. The shiny dark green leaves are longer

than they are wide and resemble a teardrop. It is self-branching and easy to grow in pot or basket. It's hardiness has been tested as low as minus 15 degrees F in Ohio. Additional information: Suzanne Warner Pierot, phone or fax 845 688 5318.

**Good garden tip:** Use the boughs of a discarded Christmas tree as a mulch to protect tender broadleaf evergreens and small plants from sunscale and frost heave.

*Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (734) 953 2047 on a touch tone phone. Her fax number is (248) 644 1314.*

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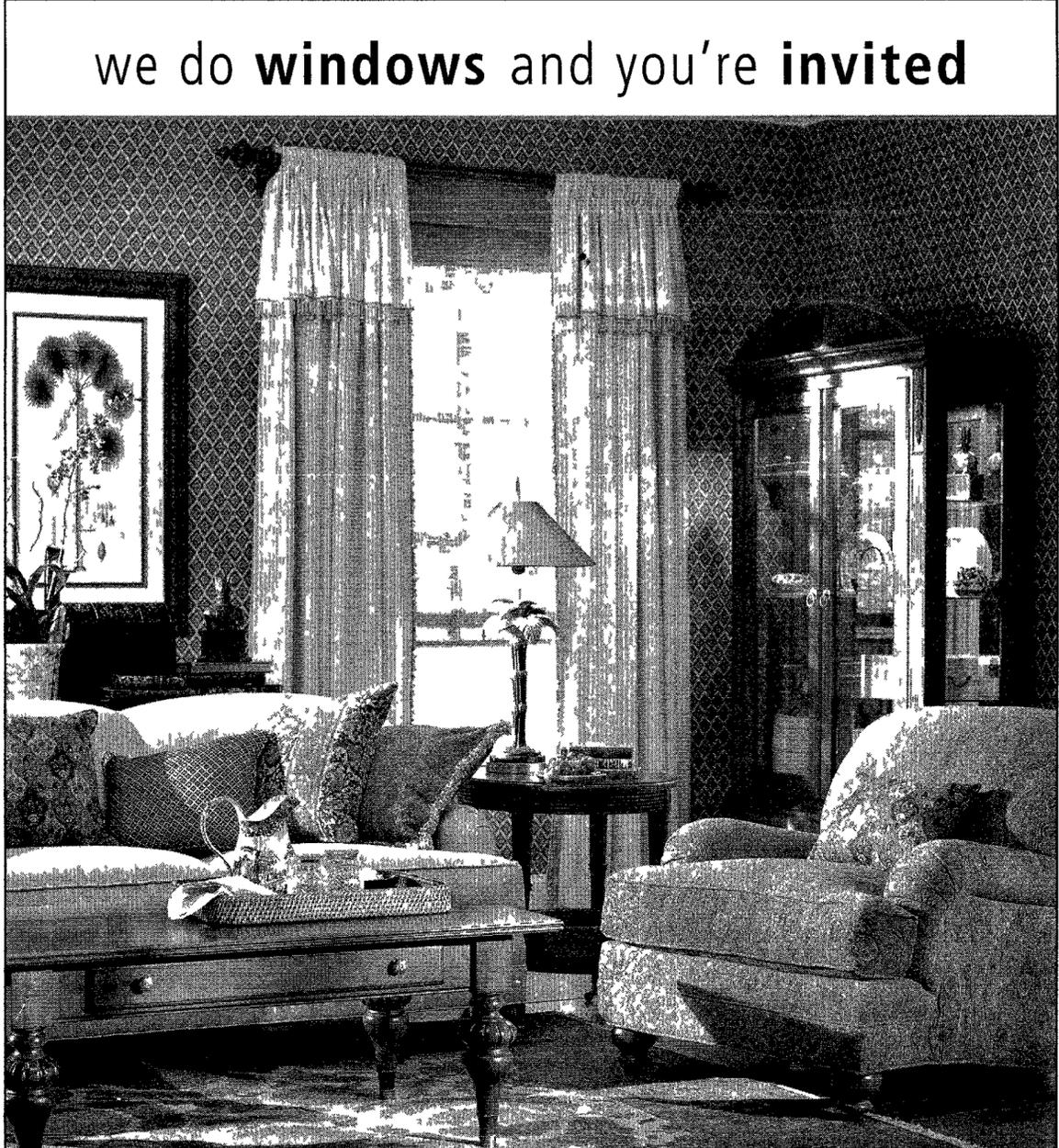
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LISA LUCKOW HEALY

# Capture those precious moments on paper

A few days ago I leafed through the little bits of papers stuffed in my family's journal - the ones I've procrastinated over entering on

the lined pages. These aren't just any little scraps. They are my little gems - the loose pieces of paper I've grabbed from any where I could find a small blank area to write on in a moment's notice to jot down the precious quotes my children recited from the tips of their tongues.

The simple words I've transcribed are better than any passage in any book. They trigger my family's memory banks to a lifetime of memories and spoken words suspended in time. They capture innocence in a world that has forever changed since the events of Sept. 11. They remind us of the values we sometimes forget. They help us feel proud of who we are - not who we are not.

When I recognize I've taken on too many things in a given day or week, I find myself referring back to something one of my sons said several years ago. Are we taking a nap? he

asked.

Yes, I replied. For how many numbers? he innocently replied.

His heartwarming question reminds me of a much simpler time, and a place in his life when nothing was cluttered. He was too young to understand the more complex realities of life. But his words have reminded me over and over again to slow down and enjoy the moment for a few numbers (minutes)!

Last week, while putting my daughter in her car seat, she looked at me and said, 'I've got my neighborhood (hood) on

Her comment brought a smile to my face. It also made me think that too many people spend too much time worrying about what they say and how they say it in their personal and professional lives instead of feeling comfortable about how they express themselves. My daughter was too young to recognize what she said or how she said it. She was living in the moment and innocently expressing herself.

One day, youngest son got all teary-eyed as he said, 'I have something to tell you, but does that mean if I lie my nose will start to grow?'

I learn a lot from my children. They reeducate me on the simpler things in life. They teach me to step back and smell the roses - to see truths over lies, to witness reality and make believe - and to see the beauty or the humor of the moment.

My husband and I graduated from rival universities. He had a good laugh over the following comment one of the boys made some time ago.

Mom, are the Little Brains good?

The who? I replied. The team we were talking about last night?

'You mean the Wolverines?' I asked.

Yes. Yes they are a good team, I laughed.

You don't have to have young children to capture the power of the written word and savor its meaning for a lifetime. Start today. Keep your family journal nearby. Put a small notebook in the console of your vehicle. Put a few pieces of notepaper in your purse or wallet. When someone in your family shares precious, profound or funny words with you, write them down.

Regularly compile these words in your family journal. Periodically share them with each other during family time. Refer to them at a stressful time in your life. Or simply curl up in a cozy spot in your home and read these bits of family history for inspiration and encouragement.

The quotes are sure to stop and make you think about the path your family is taking, and remind you to slow down if life is moving too fast, reevaluate when the going gets tough, and laugh and enjoy life at every opportunity.

To leave Lisa Luckow Healy a message from a touch tone phone about how you celebrate family, call (734) 953-2047, or e-mail your suggestions for future family topics to [LiHealy@mediaone.net](mailto:LiHealy@mediaone.net)

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**WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS**

**DLUGOSS-HAYCOX**

Julie Haycox and Eric Dlugoss were married Aug. 10, 2001, in Newburg Historical Church at Greenmead. The Rev. Gary Dawes officiated.

In attendance were maid of honor Ann Koebel, Laura Haycox, Sara Zarb, Renae Olli, Jackie Jams and Season Bell. The groom's attendants were best man, Stan Rittner, Jeremy Lachalk, David Haycox, Brandon Jarding and Brandon Bell. The dress worn by the bride was worn 55 years ago by her great-aunt, Lottie Walh orski.

Julie is the daughter of Richard and Barbara Haycox of Livonia. She is a 1996 graduate of Churchill High School. She earned a teaching degree in elementary education from Eastern Michigan University in 2001 and is substitute teaching in Sheboygan, Wis.

Eric is the son of Alan and Debbi Dlugoss of Redford. He is a 1994 graduate of Thurston High School. He is a 1990 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and a Petty Officer 3rd Class.

A reception was held at Warren Valley Banquet Center, Dearborn Heights. The newlyweds honeymooned in Jamaica and are making their new home in Sheboygan, Wis.



**KOSLOWSKI-BROWN**

Gail and Dwight Koslowski of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Cindy Lynn of Westland, to Scott David Brown of Dearborn Heights, son of Anna and Douglas Brown of Dearborn.

Cindy is a 1994 graduate of John Glenn High School, received a bachelor's degree in 1998 from Wayne State University and a master's degree in 2000 from the University of Michigan. She is employed as a clinical social worker at the University of Michigan Health System.

Scott is a 1994 graduate of Edsel Ford High School in Dearborn and received a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, Dearborn, in 2000. He is employed with Visteon.



**TURNER-MOCKAITIS**

Doug and Debbie Turner of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Dawn Marie Turner to Eric Adam Mockaitis, son of Donald and Gloria Mockaitis of Valparaiso, Ind.

Dawn is a 1996 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School and is attending Schoolcraft College. She is employed full time as a nanny.

Eric is a 1992 graduate of Boone Grove High School in Indiana, a graduate of the Nashville Auto-Diesel College in Tennessee and is attending Henry Ford Community College. He is employed at Ford Motor Company. A June 22, 2002 wedding is planned in Plymouth.

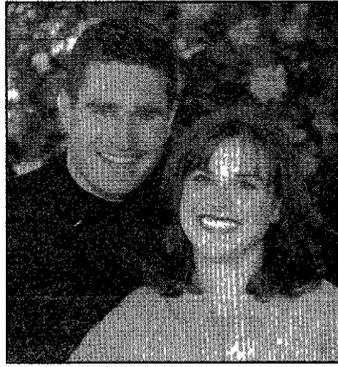


**GRANGER-THOMPSON**

Larry and Cynthia Granger of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter Alyson Granger to Stephen Thompson, son of Dr. Robert and Susan Thompson of Zanesville, Ohio.

Alyson is a 1995 graduate of Ladywood High School and a graduate of the University of Dayton. She is employed at Mars Advertising.

Stephen is a 1995 graduate of Bishop Rosecrans High School and a graduate of the University of Dayton. He works for Covansys. A September 14, 2002 wedding is planned in Plymouth.

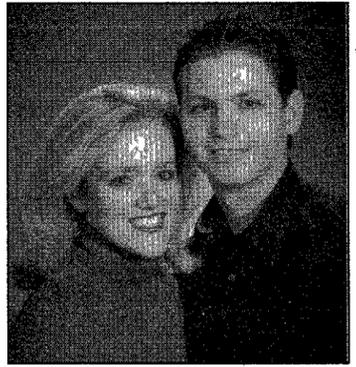


**CONNER-PAWLUSZKA**

Cameron and Maureen Conner of Willow Springs, Ill. announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Mack Conner to Joseph Morgan Pawluszka son of Eugene and Rosemary Pawluszka of Plymouth.

Elizabeth is a graduate of Indiana University and is employed for DPM Association of Chicago, which represents specialists on the Chicago Board Options Exchange.

Joseph holds an undergraduate degree from GMI Engineering and Management Institute and a master's of business administration from Indiana University. He is employed with IBM as a Business Development Manager. A June 2002 wedding is planned in LaGrange, Ill.

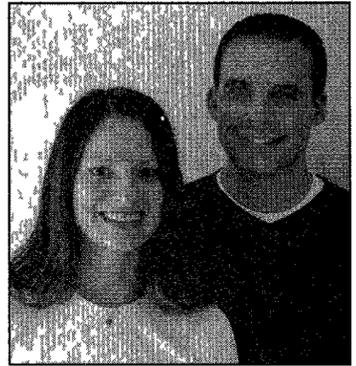


**MOUDY-PASKIEVITCH**

Dr. Philip and Susan Moudy of Buffalo, N.Y. announce the engagement of their daughter Lisa Erin Moudy to Brad Paskievitch, son of Gary and Nancy Paskievitch of Whitmore Lake, formerly of Canton.

Lisa holds degrees from the University of Michigan, include a master's degree in social work, which she earned in 1999. She is currently employed as a therapist for the Eating Disorder Clinic for Women in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Brad is a 1993 graduate of Canton High School, a 1997 graduate of the University of Michigan, and a 2000 graduate of the University of Miami Law School. He is currently employed as a labor lawyer for Muller, Mintz & Kornreich in Miami, Fla. A May 4, 2002 wedding is planned in Buffalo, N.Y.



**CRAGGS-LESAGE**

Erin LeSage and Kirk Craggs were married Aug. 18, 2001, in St. Thomas a Beckett Church, Canton. The Rev. Richard Kelly officiated.

In attendance were Elizabeth Kummer, Christina Kinney, Abigail Ault, Jill Wilson, Kara Walter and Anne Vondracek. Flower girls were Dayna Esper, Katie LaFave and Renee Esper. In attendance for the groom were Kevin Craggs, Nathan Schroeder, Brent LeSage, Shareif Yousef, Frank Lewicki, Tom Bish and Stefan Sissuml. The ring bearer was Zachary LaFave.

Erin is the daughter of Kenneth LeSage of Dearborn and Jane LeSage of Livonia. She is a graduate of Central Michigan University and employed at Preferred Plus Mortgage of Livonia as senior loan officer. She is the varsity volleyball coach at Ladywood High School.

Kirk is the son of Richard and Donna Craggs of Brooklyn, Mich. He is a manager at RCO Technology in Livonia. He is finishing a business degree at Central Michigan University.

A reception was held at Plymouth Manor. The newlyweds honeymooned in Puerto Vallarta and are making their new home in Livonia.



**NEW ARRIVALS**

**DOMINIC JOSEPH RUSSO**

Salvatore and Jennifer Russo announce the birth of their son, Dominic Joseph Russo on November 5, 2001 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

His grandparents are Dennis and Cheryl Brining of Canton, and Salvatore and Ann Marie Russo of Lawrence, New York, and great-grandparents, James and Anna Brining of Canton, and John Kisielewski of Taylor.

**REBECCA CLAIRE POMERVILLE**

Kristina and John Pomerville of Westland announce the birth of their daughter, Rebecca Claire, on Nov. 15, 2001, in Garden City Hospital.

Grandparents are Jeanne Murphy, John Kieshauer, Ann Pomerville and Raymond Pomerville, all of Livonia.

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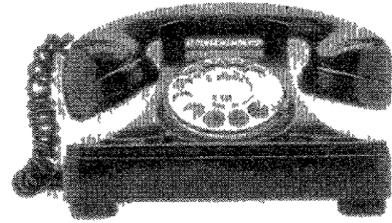
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# Cupid, candy, candlelight and the Red Wings

Ahh, romance we all need it, sometimes a little, sometimes a lot. History is full of couples who were famous for it: Anthony and Cleopatra, Romeo and Juliet, Sir Lancelot and Queen Guinevere, Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston. Pitt and Aniston? Only time will tell.

Now's your time to make history. Love is in the air. Cupid is ready to draw back his bow and let his arrow go straight to your lover's heart. And the Observer Newspapers wants to help.

In honor of Valentine's Day, we are sponsoring a "Lessons in Love" contest. We've already

received over 100 heartfelt entries, but we haven't heard from you. Just describe in 100 words or less your idea of a dream romantic evening for two and send it off to us.

The big night will take place Friday, Feb. 8. We can't promise you an evening in Paris, but we can come pretty close.

- Two tickets to Red Wings game
- Dinner for two at Cafe Cortana in Farmington Hills
- Transportation compliments of International Limousine in Westland
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- A dozen red roses from Flowers from Joe by Carolyn in Livonia

Sorry, you'll have to buy the fancy duds, tip your hair stylist and pay the baby-sitter, a small price for romance.

One more thing, you don't have to be a famous poet like Elizabeth Barrett Browning ("How do I love thee? Let me count the ways") or a Rocky Balboa ("Adrian!") to express your love in unforgettable words. You simply have to write your best version of a romantic evening for two.

Now for the rules. They're simple. You must be at least 18 years old, limit your entry to 100 words or less, and send your Lessons in Love entry to us by Friday, Jan. 25. And, of course, you must be very romantic.

The winner will be announced Thursday, Jan. 31. Send entries to Cathy Young, Lessons in Love Contest, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, phone (734) 953-2155, fax (248) 901-2553, e-mail cyoung@ehomecomm.net

# Baby

The Bartlett's family life probably changed more dramatically after Kiara's birth than after Sept. 11. Like most Americans, Neysa has noticed some differences.

"Things have changed a little, but I think people have taken a step back and realized what's important in life," she said. "I think the important things in life are family and friends, and not to worry about the little things. Life is fragile."

Even with help, Neysa struggles with balancing her roles as doctor and mother. Kiara started teething and is sometimes awake all night, which makes getting up the next morning a real challenge.

"One of the most difficult times was when I had to go back to work and she refused to take the bottle from anyone," she said, adding it's tough making sure all three of her children get the amount of attention they need from her.

In addition to family being the center of her life, it's also the reason she chose obstetrics and gynecology as a career path. Neysa enjoys helping couples experience the special kind of joy



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER  
**Keeping up:** Kiara Bartlett plays with Kiefer, one of her two big brothers. According to mom Neysa, Kiara has no problem keeping up with the boys.

that's part of becoming a parent. But there's no doubt where her heart lies. "I like being a doctor," she said. "I love being a mother."

### All in the family

**Five generations:** Catherine Palazzolo, 90, of Southfield heads a five-generation family. She is shown sitting with her daughter, Phyllis Casey of Livonia on her left and her granddaughter, Sue Casey of Dearborn on her right. Next to Sue is her son, Jeff Hicks holding his daughter, Isabella Hicks, both of Grosse Pointe Woods. When Jeff Hicks was born, he was part of a five-generation family headed by Rosalie Abate, Catherine Palazzolo's mother.

# Feelings

sudden at cocktail hour, I was putting everything on pause. But that's only a fake stop — you're never facing anything. So many distractions (in life) for fear of the great moment just sitting still."

That stillness that Allen describes is one of the few ways people can get in touch with their feelings. It takes monumental effort for us to still ourselves long enough to begin to feel our emotions.

Help can come from your pastor, a therapist, your spouse, your friends, a mentor or by jour-

nalizing. And it's never too late. It's a golden opportunity to rid yourself of a nagging numb-out addiction that can eat at you until your life is over.

And as Tim says, being in touch with feelings makes it so that the pause button is no longer necessary.

*Jacque Martin Downs is a licensed therapist and director of the Family Resource Center in Wayne Westland. She writes about behavior issues for the Observer Newspapers.*

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# Lady Ocelots cage Mott

So who do you stop? Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team provided a good reason — actually, several good reasons — why it remains unbeaten in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association's Eastern Conference when it went up against Flint Mott CC Saturday at SC.

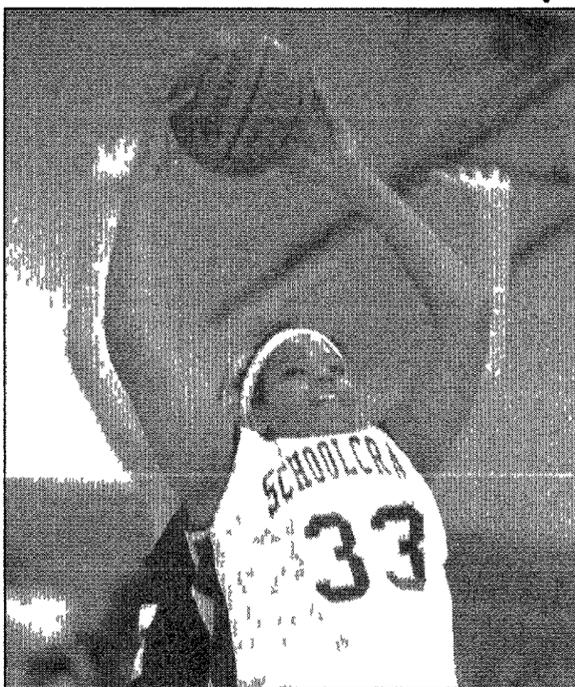
Six Lady Ocelots scored eight or more points, with four reaching double figures, in pounding out a 74-64 triumph over the Bears. SC improved to 3-0 in the conference, 11-5 overall. Mott is 7-8 overall, 2-1 in the conference.

Devin Francois led SC with 13 points, she also had five assists. Kelly Grenan (from Redford Thurston) and Pam Wingate each scored 11, Grenan leading the Ocelots with three three-pointers and Wingate grabbing seven rebounds and Keysa Hamilton netted 10 points.

Kera Hill added nine points and Mia Henderson contributed eight points and eight boards. Rachel Eley finished with six points, 10 rebounds, six assists and five steals.

Mott was paced by Alaynah Teverbaugh with 18 points and 15 rebounds. Quondonya Muldrew added 15 points and five steals, and Monique E-Thames had 10 points.

The Ocelots, who led 38-26 at the half, had a 50-39 rebounding advantage in the game and converted 20-of-33 free throws (60.6 percent) to Mott's 9-of-23 (39.1



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

**Pulling one down:** Schoolcraft's Pamela Wingate grabs a rebound, one of seven she got against Mott

percent)

### Cornerstone 79, Madonna 42:

The battle between unbeaten in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Club didn't live up to the billing Saturday at Cornerstone University.

Madonna University suffered through its worst shooting performance of the season, going from an eight-point halftime deficit (31-23) to a lopsided loss that left it 12-6 overall, 3-1 in the WHAC. Cornerstone is 12-7 overall, 4-0 in the conference.

The Golden Eagles didn't exactly shoot the lights out, but they did convert 32 of 73 floor shots (43.8 percent), including

19-of-37 in the second half (51.4 percent).

Madonna, however, was abysmal 9 of 28 in the first half (32.1 percent) and 5 of 40 in the second (12.5 percent). For the game, the Lady Crusaders hit 20.6 percent from the field.

Carissa Gızickı paced Madonna with 12 points and four assists. No one else reached double figures in scoring. Kathy Pangnis, the Crusaders' leading scorer, was limited to 1 for 10 shooting and five points.

Julie Vogelzang's 17 points and 13 rebounds topped the Golden Eagles. Amy Popielarz added 12 points and Cathi Velzen had 10.

## Rankings from page D2

Matt Radley (Stevenson) 3 Brad Gregory (John Glenn) 4 Adam Schaffer (Salem) 5 Mike Siegrist (Canton)

160 1 Steve Wallace (Wayne) 2 Nick Wroblewski (John Glenn) 3 Dario Mainella (Stevenson) 4 Craig Blair (Salem) 5 Steve Schwarzlose (Redford CC)

171 1 Chris Cracchiolo (Redford

CC) 2 Brian Jones (Churchill) 3 Jack Seres (John Glenn) 4 Phil Portellos (Salem) 5 Jake Bongero (RU)

189 1 Ryan Rogowski (Redford CC) 2 Alex Murray (Churchill) 3 Jake Fairchild (John Glenn) 4 Shahein Rajae (Canton) 5 Josh Herrington (Thurston)

215 1 Phil Rothwell (Canton) 2

Zack Jensen (Salem) 3 Blaic Naysmith (Redford CC) 4 Thom Vandebossche (Churchill) 5 R J Ramsey (Wayne)

Heavyweight 1 Tony Martinez (Livonia Franklin) 2 Jason LaDuc (RU) 3 Pat Clark (Redford CC) 4 Nick Renton (Wayne) 5 Mike Robinson (Stevenson)

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