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Electoral Results '99

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL
Voters chose four candidates out of eight. The top three vote-getters won four-year terms, the fourth won a two-year term.

- Glenn Anderson (Incumbent) - 4,206
- Charles "Trav" Griffin (Incumbent) - 3,309
- David James - 2,164
- David Cox (Appointed Incumbent) - 2,160
- Dorothy Smith - 3,077
- Michael Kehrer - 2,992
- James Godbout - 2,950
- Michael Rintz - 2,245

UNOFFICIAL VOTE TOTALS

IN THE PAPER TODAY

COMMUNITY LIFE

Celebration: The Felician Sisters of the Livonia province are preparing to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the religious order's continuous service to the people of North America. /B1

AT HOME

Arranging inspiration: Creativity by area decorators will adorn a variety of housing styles on a Northville home tour. /D8

ENTERTAINMENT

Theater: Trinity House Theatre in Livonia opens its season Nov. 5 with Jack Neary's "To Forgive, Divine." /E1

Popular music: "Park: A Rock Band," whose members include Chuck Bartels, formerly of Garden City, is set to tour, release an album, and star in a film. /E1

REAL ESTATE

Where'd it go? Can you depend on getting what you expect when you buy a new home? /F1

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On edge: Family members of victor Charles "Trav" Griffin await election results Tuesday. They are (from left) Griffin's sister Edith Clayton, wife Margaret and son Bill. Below is election victor David James, a newcomer to the Westland City Council.

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY



Incumbents dominate city race

Glenn Anderson, Charles "Trav" Griffin, David James and David Cox were the winners in Tuesday's Westland City Council election. Eight candidates sought four seats on the council.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
dclem@oe.homecomm.net

Westland absentee voters flexed their political muscle Tuesday, swaying last-minute results in a city council election won by incumbents Glenn Anderson and Charles "Trav" Griffin, appointee David Cox and newcomer David James.

progress, not politics." James, a 41-year-old real estate broker, said after winning his first council race. James, a former Wayne-Westland school board member, celebrated with running mates Griffin and Cox amid some 200 cheerful supporters at the VFW Boys Post on Hix Road. "There couldn't be a clearer mandate from the people," Cox, the 41-



Encouraged: Election winner Glenn Anderson (left) visits with Mike Rawson at the Wayne-Ford Civic League Tuesday night.

Please see **INCUMBENTS, A3**

Jaycees seek apology from councilwoman

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
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A Westland Jaycees official Monday accused city Councilwoman Justine Barns of slandering the organization and jeopardizing its ability to raise money for community projects. Jaycees Treasurer Michael Strebbling asked Barns to publicly apologize for issuing a statement criticizing the group in October.

the reputation of the Westland Jaycee name in the eyes of the community," Strebbling said during a council meeting. Barns refused to apologize for her criticism and insisted that the Jaycees "deserve to apologize" for a council campaign flap. Barns last month lashed out at the Jaycees for making a \$1,000 campaign contribution to the group's longtime supporter, Michael Kehrer - one of eight council candidates in Tuesday's election. Jaycees officials said they mistakenly gave twice

the \$500 limit for Westland council elections, but Kehrer remedied the situation by returning \$501 of the money. Weeks after Kehrer returned the money, Barns raised the issue publicly and criticized the Jaycees. Strebbling on Monday questioned why Barns "would deliberately defile an organization that does so much good for the community and its members." The Jaycees is a leadership training group whose members are ages 21 to 39. Its projects include

Please see **APOLOGY, A3**

Pallottine Order planning a visit to Westland

Westland will be one of five cities hosting the dignitaries from the Pallottine Order of Priests when the Irish community has its annual Pallottine dance to benefit the missionary work of the order Saturday, Nov. 6, at the Hellenic Cultural Center on Joy Road, just west of Wayne Road in Westland. The guests will receive a local welcome from the City of Westland with greetings from Mayor Robert Thomas and a special flag welcome from the

Westland Fire Department. Visiting Westland, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Reno and Dallas will be the Rev. Seamus Freeman, rector general on the International Pallottine Order, from Rome, Italy; the Rev. John Fitzpatrick, Irish provincial superior, from Dublin, Ireland; and the Rev. John Kelly, bursar provincial of the International, from Rome, Italy. The dinner-dance starts with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30

p.m. Providing entertainment will be the All Ireland Champion "Gruppa Cool" Children's Orchestra and Dancers, with music for dancing provided by Brian Bonner and his Arranmore Band. The Pallottine Fathers provide worldwide missionary services. They are based in Michigan at the Pallottine House in Wyandotte. The Pallottine House was donated by the late William L. Cahalan, Wayne Circuit judge and

former Wayne County prosecutor. The Rev. Stephen Keough leads the Michigan Pallottine Fathers. Being honored at the dinner will be Bridie Delaney, RN, who has volunteered for more than 20 years for the Pallottine causes in Michigan and Texas. Tickets are \$40 per person, and can be obtained by calling (734) 285-2966. The event is open to all who wish to aid the Pallottine Fathers in their works.

Rotary Toy Show remains favorite for old, young

Toys aren't just for girls and boys. Adults who collect toys now have an event to anticipate, too. The Westland Rotary Toy Show will run 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 14, at Joy Manor, on Joy east of Middlebelt in Westland. Admission is \$3, with kids under age 12 admitted free. Refreshments will be available. "We manage to fill the parking lot," said Ken Belanger, Rotary chairman of the vocational committee. He described the venture as successful in years past. The club has done the shows for about four years, and does two per

year, said Belanger, also Westland Rotary president-elect. The show features different dealers. The show doesn't show anything, but organizes and promotes the event. "It can be Star Wars figures," he said of the offerings. There could be old Daisy air rifles, Barbie items, Hot Wheels or old tin trucks. Many items have increased in value since they were made. One Westland man brought in a toy train, and earned it out more carefully when he learned its value. "It's fun to come and see the value of your old toys," Belanger said. A lot of

bargaining goes on among dealers, without Rotary's involvement. Some visitors sell toys as well. The club goal is to have 60 dealers by the time of the event. There's a Drug Abuse Resistance Education table for raffles. "We give them a courtesy table," Belanger said, adding that organizers are grateful to Joy Manor for donation of the facility. The money raised goes to a worthy cause. "Primarily for vocational scholarships," he said. "It goes into our charitable fund."



ACHIEVERS

University of Michigan-Dearborn students are gaining practical on-the-job experience during the fall semester in positions related to their career goals.

Westland participants are: Emily Kottyan, international studies, Society of Manufacturing Engineers; and Coleen Howell, chemistry, U-M-Dearborn Chemistry Department.

These co-op students have the chance to get training before they have their degrees, said Patricia Jones, co-op director.

The University of Michigan-Dearborn has named students to the dean's list for the summer term. Students on the dean's list earn a minimum 3.5 grade point average while carrying at least 12 credit hours for the semester.

Mejia Rojelio, a senior in biochemistry from Westland, was named to the list.

Lynn Little of Westland has been appointed special events coordinator for CATCH, Sparky Anderson's charity for children.

Little graduated from the University of Michigan-Dearborn. At CATCH, she will assist in the planning and coordination of annual events including the Night of Champions awards dinner and the CATCH Motor City Golf Classic & Preview Party.

CATCH was founded to benefit Children's Hospital and Henry Ford Hospital.

The Wayne Rotary Club has announced sponsorships for three students to attend the annual Rotary Youth Leadership Award program.

The three Wayne Memorial High School students who will attend are: Andre Brown, corresponding secretary of SADD and a senior class officer; Eric Konopka, president of the National Hispanic Honor Society; and Angela Bradford, service vice president of the National Honor Society.

The program will be held Nov. 4-6 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. The primary objectives are to assist and encourage youth leaders and potential leaders in methods of responsible and effective voluntary youth leadership. Participants are provided with a quality training experience to encourage continued and stronger leadership of youth by youths.

Public recognition of the good qualities of many young people who serve their communities is included.

Army Pvt. Tavis M. Dudley has graduated from basic military training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo.

During the training, the trainee received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

Dudley is the son of Elaine M. Dudley of Westland.

He is a 1999 graduate of Livonia Franklin High School.

'99 Carrier of the Year recognized

Jennifer Turrin of Westland has been named Carrier of the Year for the Westland Observer. She is a ninth-grader at Livonia Franklin High School, where she carries an A average.

"She is an excellent carrier," said Jim Heriford, Observer area manager. The whole family is involved, he added, which has a lot to do with their closeness.

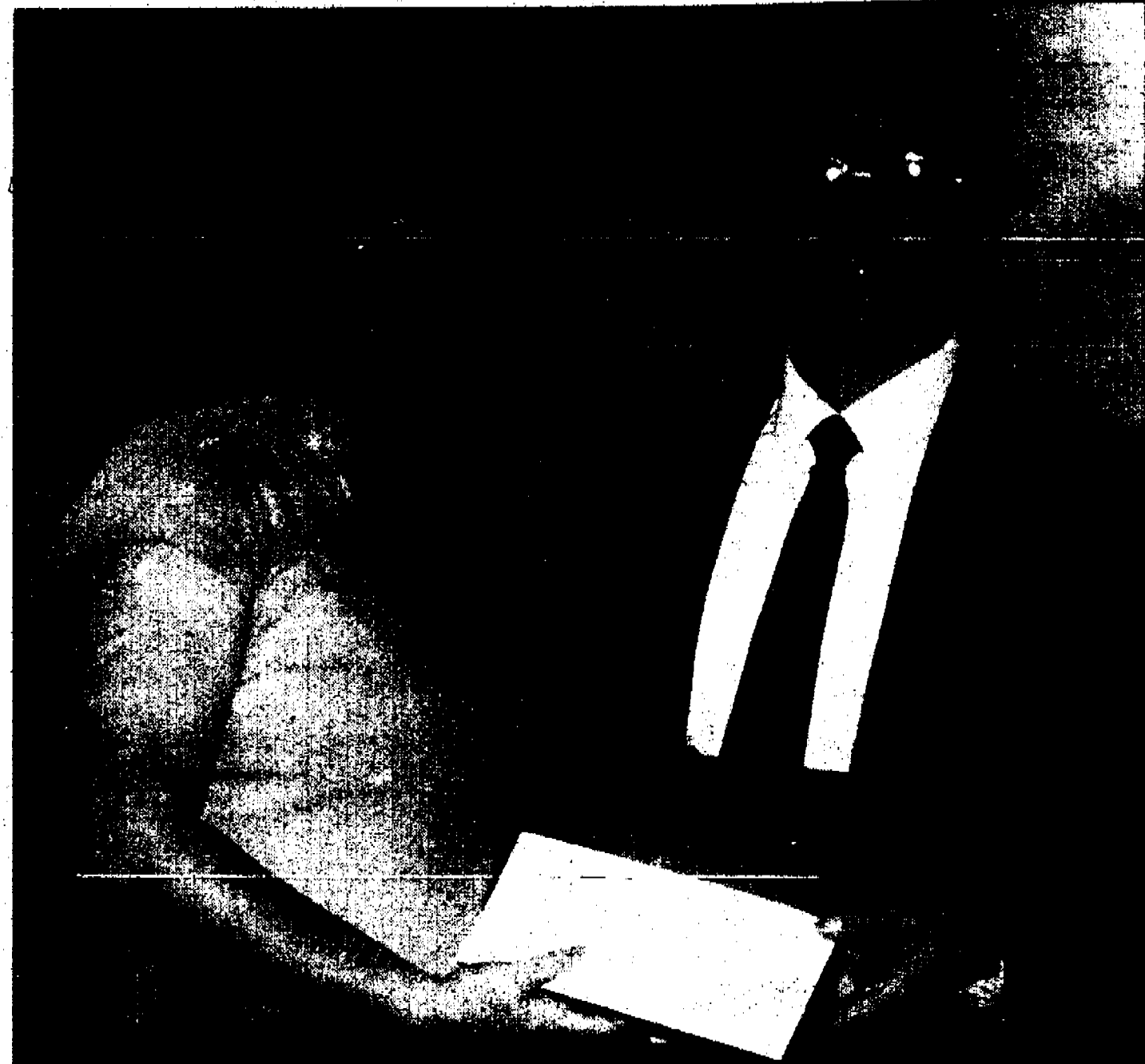
Turrin and others were honored Oct. 26 at a banquet at Vladimir's.

Turrin's favorite subjects are English and history. She enjoys softball and reading.

On the job, she likes delivering the Observer and talking to customers. "I have developed responsibilities and a sense of money while doing this route," she said.

Turrin said the route "could help younger people with learning how to perform certain tasks on time and efficiently."

Kudos: Jennifer Turrin, Westland Observer Carrier of the Year, is congratulated by the Observer's Jim Heriford.



STAFF PHOTO BY SEARON LAMIERIX

City's tree-lighting is on tap for Monday, Dec. 6

Westland will hold its annual Christmas tree-lighting ceremony 6:15 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, on the front steps of Westland City Hall, on Ford near Carlson.

The event marks the beginning of the Christmas holiday season in Westland. Those attending will recognize the "What Christmas Means to Me" essay contest winner. They will light trees throughout the City Hall grounds and welcome Santa Claus.

Mayor Robert Thomas will present Santa with the key to the city. After the tree-lighting ceremony, anyone may have hot chocolate and cookies with Santa at the main fire station next to City Hall.

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID. Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185-2298, on Thursday, December 6, 1999 at 10:00 in the morning.

WAYNE/WESTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT WESTLAND, MICHIGAN 48336 SECTION 00010 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS. Sealed bids for Bid Package #5A: TMP Project #96042 Ford Vocational Technical Center Additions & Renovations - Wayne - Westland Community will be received until 1:30 P.M. local time on Tuesday, November 16, 1999.

WAYNE/WESTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT WESTLAND, MICHIGAN 48336 SECTION 00010 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS. Sealed bids for Bid Package #3B: TMP Project #96018-D New District Wide Security System(s) - Wayne-Westland Community Schools will be received until 1:30 P.M. local time on Tuesday, November 30, 1999.

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION. On Tuesday, Nov. 9, 1999, the Westland Police Dept. will conduct Public Auctions of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00 AM at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

Hospice needs baking help. Volunteers are being sought to "bake a difference" by contributing six to eight dozen holiday cookies in a fund-raiser for Angela Hospice in Livonia.

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OBITUARIES

KATHRYN M. BASHAM Services for Kathryn Basham, 67, of Wayne were Oct. 25 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Bill Kelley Jr.

Mrs. Basham was born Sept. 15, 1932, and died Oct. 21 in Wayne. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her son, John Cropper; brothers, Charles Hord, Winn Hord, Roy Hord, Ronald Hord, Richard Hord and Gary Hord; sisters, Mary Sweet, Anna Gibson, Addie Blythe, Nan Kelley, Linda Werline, Bonnie Hord and Debra Wood; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Basham was preceded in death by her first husband, Floyd Cropper, and second husband, William Basham, and four brothers and sisters.

Mrs. Basham's brothers and sisters reside in Livonia and Westland.

JULIA R. SIMONEAU Services for Julia Simoneau, 67, of Westland were Nov. 1 in St. Theodore Catholic Church with burial at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Gary Michalik.

Mrs. Simoneau was born Jan. 27, 1932, in Jackson and died Oct. 27 in Ann Arbor. She was a dietary aide at Nightingale Nursing Home. She was a member of St. Theodore Catholic Church.

Surviving are her sons, Ronald (Mary) Simoneau of Westland and Donald Simoneau of Dearborn Heights; daughter, Rose (Bruce) Lewis of Westland; sister, Ellen LaBiche of Louisiana; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Diabetes Association Michigan Affiliate Inc., 23100 Providence Drive, Suite 400, Southfield, MI 48075-3680 or in the form of Mass offerings.

Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

PATRICIA L. LEWIS Services for Patricia Lewis, 68, of Westland were Nov. 2 in Merriman Road Baptist Church with burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Wayne Parker.

Mrs. Lewis was born Sept. 13, 1931, in Decatur, Ill., and died Oct. 29 in Superior Township. She was a former resident of Garden City. She was a homemaker. She was a member of Merriman Road Baptist

Church for more than 30 years.

Surviving are her sons, Mark, Michael (Janet), Stephen and Bryon; daughter, Dallana (John) Weichel; sister, Nellita Bartley; and 11 grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Building Fund for Merriman Road Baptist Church.

Arrangements were made by R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home.

IRENE P. COLLIER Services for Irene Collier, 61, of Westland were Nov. 2 in St. Alfred Catholic Church in Taylor with burial at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. Officiating was the Rev. Neil Emon.

Mrs. Collier was born Nov. 4, 1937, in Detroit and died Oct. 30 in Westland. She was owner/manager of a business.

Surviving are her son, Richard (Dawn) Green; daughter, Lisa Linton; brothers, Joseph (Georgianna) and Raymond (Barbara); and eight grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Henry Ford Hospice, Plymouth Branch.

Arrangements were made by John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home.

Murder case probed

BY LEANNE ROGERS STAFF WRITER lrogers@oe.homecomm.net

Candles and flowers were left outside Gundella's Witches Ways and Wares shop Monday in remembrance of owner Veronica Kuclor-Raub, who was found murdered in her home Sunday.

No suspects have been identified in the killing but Garden City police want to locate Peter Raub, the victim's 41-year-old husband, who hasn't been seen since early Sunday.

"Our official position is that he disappeared and we want to talk to him," said Lt. Michael Carr.

Well-known as a self-proclaimed witch and follower of the ancient Wicca religion, Kuclor-Raub ironically died on Halloween. When she opened her shop on Middlebelt, she was adamant that Satanic rituals and other practices had nothing to do with her religion.

The couple's four children found Kuclor-Raub, 34, unresponsive in her bed and called police from a neighbor's home in the 32000 block of Bridge. An autopsy performed found Kuclor-Raub had been stabbed three times.

Based on their investigation, Carr said the couple had attended a Halloween party fundraiser which they organized at the Maplewood Center. After the party, they stopped at a restaurant and were home at 2-3 a.m. Sunday.

When the children awoke on Sunday, their

father was not home and both vehicles owned by the couple were missing.

One vehicle was described as a blue 1989 Ford Econoline Van, Michigan license plate number NG-6091. It says "Raub Painting" on the sides. The second is a red 1990 four-door Pontiac Grand Am, Michigan plate 906-GPX.

Police suspect that Raub is using the Grand Am, Carr said, since he hadn't taken that vehicle during an earlier dispute with his wife.

A teletype with Raub's description has been issued to law enforcement agencies. He's described as 5-foot-11, 155 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes.

Interviews with family and friends produced differing accounts of the relationship between the victim and her husband, Carr said. Kuclor-Raub had filed a domestic violence complaint against her husband last month. Raub had been arrested for domestic violence against his wife in September 1996.

Twenty-first District Court records show that during interviews with court personnel and staff members at First Step, a shelter for domestic abuse victims, Kuclor-Raub reported not being afraid of her husband.

It was recommended that the misdemeanor charge against Raub be taken under advisement for six months. Judge Richard Hammer Jr. instead extended that period for one year.

The victim's late mother, Gundella, was a well-known witch.

Gay rights advocates speak out on school dispute

BY RICHARD PEARL STAFF WRITER rpearl@oe.homecomm.net

Eight gay and lesbian rights supporters gave the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education Tuesday, Oct. 26, their side of the dispute over the removal of two controversial school building displays.

Speaker after speaker emphasized that the central issue is one of tolerance for diversity among people, not the promotion of a gay or lesbian lifestyle.

Only Teresa Sardinha, who spoke at a previous board meeting, supported Interim Superintendent Ken Walcott's decision earlier this month ordering two teachers to remove a bulletin board and a showcase depicting Gay and Lesbian History Month.

Sardinha said, "Putting this (information) into the schools is wrong ...

Lifestyle choices does not belong in the classroom."

Among those speaking against the decision was Tom Salbenblatt, the Plymouth Salem High School mathematics teacher who, along with West Middle School music teacher Mike Chimento, put up the displays. Chimento, a Westland resident, was conducting a concert that night.

Salbenblatt's and Chimento's grievance over the action, filed with the Plymouth-Canton Education Association, the district's teacher's union, is slated for a hearing Nov. 22 before Errol Goldman, assistant superintendent for employee relations and personnel who is the designated administrator for this issue, according to Chuck Portelli, PCEA president.

Portelli said he expects the issue to go to arbitration because it is unlikely either Goldman or the school board will

take any action.

He said arbitration will cost each side \$2,000 "and that's a shame. We should be solving our own problems" on such issues.

Salbenblatt told the board Tuesday night the central issue is "not ... whether the school district sanctions a lifestyle, but (one of) being a child" who feels different from others but fears harassment and rejection.

The math teacher said that homosexuality "is not about sex, it's about being different."

After pointing out that, percentage-wise, it's possible the eight board members could have two gay and/or lesbian offspring among them, Salbenblatt said, "The most loving thing you can do is to allow children to grow up to be the person they were created to be.

"Don't waste time," Salbenblatt added, recalling the fear that kept him

silent for 41 years.

When he asked when the board could tell him whether "the school system will work for the security of all its students, President Sue Davis carefully responded that the board couldn't give a date.

Another speaker, Dennis Meinschein, the father of two boys, asked for a meeting with the board on the situation but was told by Davis it "was not strictly a school board issue."

Board member Roland Thomas said such a meeting is "something we need to discuss if we, as seven people, want to hold one.

Elaina Kielbaso, a second-grade teacher at Allen Elementary School in Plymouth and a city resident, asked if the district is saying that heterosexuals "are the only people we should trust and care about?"

Removing the displays "has taught that prejudice, hate and intolerance are

OK in Plymouth-Canton schools," she charged, to resounding applause from supporters.

Her husband, Jim, chided the district's actions, saying they "were not well-thought-out and are far more repressive than some of you want to believe."

Other speakers, such as Eric Wing, a student at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, cited studies showing gay and lesbian students being more likely to drop out of school or commit suicide.

Another EMU student, Rebecca Fischel, said her mother kicked her out when she "came out" at age 18, while a third EMU student, West Middle School and Salem High graduate Stephanie Totty, told the board "students cannot change" what they are "just because someone wants them to."

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Veterans sought to sign war memorial quilt

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
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It has been more than six years since President Bill Clinton signed a law authorizing the establishment of the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The site has been selected - the east end of the Reflecting Pool between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. The preliminary design has been approved by the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Quilting: Pat Ferguson (left) and her sister Rosanne Raschke, employed at Wal-Mart, put together a Veterans Day quilt.

All that's left is to raise the remaining \$40 million of the \$100 million needed to build the memorial, and if the associates at Wal-Mart stores have their way, the American Battle Monuments Commission will break ground as planned on Veterans Day 2000.

"Wal-Mart decided to spearhead raising the \$40 million and asked its 2,700 stores to do some kind of ceremony," said Lynn Berger, community service coordinator for the Livonia store. "It was introduced at a national meeting and we were asked to do some kind of ceremony for the veterans."

"Some kind of ceremony" doesn't quite describe all that's being planned to honor veterans at the store.

Associates and members of the Livonia community will gather at the store's flagpole at 8 a.m. Veterans Day, Nov. 11, for a ceremony conducted by Vietnam veterans in honor of their World War II counterparts.

ROTC students from Livonia's three high schools will participate and Stevenson students Michelle Bahr and Amanda Truedell will sing the National Anthem a cappella, while fellow student Scott Henman will play taps as Wal-Mart associate Tim Pelfrey raises the American flag.

The ceremony will then move inside the store where Pelfrey will read a tribute to infantrymen and store manager Weymond Denson will talk about the memorial.

The ceremony will close with a special presentation by Pelfrey and Michael Schroeder and cake, prepared by Sam's Club in Westland.

Dressing up the store for the week of the observance will be posters done by students at Cleveland, McKinley and Peace Lutheran schools. After that, the posters will be distributed to the VA Hospital.

But that's not all that's going on at the store, according to Berger. Associates are making pins, a quilt and red, white and blue stars that will honor the veterans while raising money for the memorial.

Pat Ferguson and Rosanne Raschke are making a 64-by-54-inch quilt that will be on display at the store next week. World War II veterans will be

able to sign their own name or sign it in memory of someone who lost their life during the war. When it's finished, it will be put on permanent display in the store.

"Pat just came up to me and said, 'I'm making a quilt,'" Berger said. "It was her own idea and I think it's wonderful."

Wonderful, and the catalyst for many of the other things that are happening at the store.

Kathy Jenkins and her mother are making patriotic pins that are being sold to associates at 50 cents each to wear on Veterans Day, with the money going to the memorial.

The store also is selling World War II Memorial lapel pins and the five-inch red, white or blue stars to honor veterans that will be displayed throughout the store. The proceeds also will benefit the

memorial, Berger said.

On Veterans Day, greeters will pass out flag keychains and stickers to customers and Denson, a retired U.S. Army major, and several other associates who served in the military will wear their uniforms while the other employees will wear red, white and blue clothing.

"What impresses me most in talking about this is that the veterans are in awe of the fact we are doing this," Berger said. "It makes me proud to be a part of Wal-Mart."

While the aim of the activities is to raise money for the memorial, Berger anticipates the ceremony will become an annual thing at the store, although not quite as elaborate.

"It seems that every time we do a project, it becomes a tradition," she said.

Make-A-Wish fund-raiser planned

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan holds its Magical Moments Gala Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Dearborn.

This is an evening of fine dining, entertainment, dancing and

a live and silent auction. Auction items include a new car, a millennium cruise and trips to Florida and Cozumel. Tickets are \$150 per person and corporations may purchase tables of 10 for \$1,500. Seating is limited to 500.

Proceeds benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan which grants wishes to children who suffer from life-threatening illnesses and conditions.

To buy tickets, call (800) 622-9474.

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Dems, GOP offer dueling tax holiday proposals

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Republicans and Democrats alike want to give Michigan residents a "holiday" from sales taxes.

But differing proposals have sparked a war of words in Lansing.

When House Taxation Committee Chair Rep. Nancy Cassis (R-Now) unveiled plans for a two-week sales tax holiday on clothing during the back-to-school shopping season, Minority Leader Michael Hanley (D-Saginaw) criticized it as a drain on the state school aid fund. Proposal A, after all, shifted the tax burden away from property taxes and replaced the money with an increase in sales taxes, the hike being dedicated to the state school fund.

"If Rep. Hanley is going to put

■ 'If Rep. Hanley is going to put a shot across the bow, it would be nice if he were aware of what members of his own caucus - 19 of them - are up to.'

Rep. Nancy Cassis
R-Now

a shot across the bow, it would be nice if he were aware of what members of his own caucus - 19 of them - are up to," Cassis fired back.

She was referring to a plan by Rep. Samuel "Buzz" Thomas III

(D-Detroit) to also offer a sales tax holiday, co-sponsored by 19 House Democrats. Thomas' plan is for a one-day holiday, but would apply to all taxable items.

While she anticipates her plan could cost the state budget any-

where from \$16 million to \$28 million in lost sales tax revenues, according to estimates provided by the House Fiscal Agency, Cassis said Thomas' plan could cost the state \$100 million or more.

"It's irresponsible. It's never been done before. We have nothing to model it on," she said.

Although for only a day, Cassis said she would anticipate that residents would hold off purchases of big ticket items, such as cars and home entertainment systems, in order to get the break on sales taxes. While she

said her plan is aimed at helping families with the purchase of necessities during back-to-school shopping, she said Thomas' plan would allow shoppers to get the break on luxury items as well.

House Bill 4862 would exempt clothing from sales taxes for one week before and one week after the Labor Day holiday. The exemption would be capped at \$500 per individual article of clothing - amounts over that would be subject to Michigan's 6 percent sales tax. She said similar plans have been adopted in New York, New Jersey, Texas

and Florida. House Bill 4650 would allow one day off from sales taxes on all items.

The state budget is expected to produce a surplus of \$380 million in the current fiscal year. Extra funds in school aid money are expected to reach \$500 million next year.

The budget surplus has members on both sides of the aisle looking for breaks to return money to taxpayers.

The bills will not likely be considered until early next year.

CAPITAL CAPSULES

It's no longer science fiction - medical science can determine the likelihood that an individual will fall victim to one of about 4,000 different diseases through genetic testing.

And health insurance companies in Michigan have already begun the practice of screening customers based on genetic testing, according to state Sen. John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek.

"Don't let them kid you," he said "they are already doing it."

But the practice will have to end under legislation, an eight bill package led by Senate Bill 815, sponsored by Schwarz and approved by the senate Wednesday, Oct. 27, in a 27-9 vote.

Schwarz believes the testing would make it impossible for some, with genes that make them susceptible to certain diseases, to get insurance.

If insurers argue testing would save money by weeding out those likely to file costly claims, Schwarz is unsympathetic.

"What is the definition of insurance - it's share risk," he said.

The bills would prohibit genetic testing for insurance, require destruction records of genetic tests, and insure the privacy of genetic tests.

All local senators voted in favor of the bills.

Only Sen. Alma Wheeler Smith, D-Ann Arbor, objected. While voting for the bills, she said she felt they did not go far enough.

"It is my concern that this backdoor approach, rather than going through the complete umbrella protection offered by the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act, does indeed limit the protections available for all of Michigan citizens," said.

Smith and Sen. Dianne Byrum, D-Onondaga, earlier proposed prohibitions to genetic testing under the civil rights acts, which the senate did not accept.

SCHOOL BUILDING NEGLECT

Many school buildings in Michigan have been neglected in the past few years, and now one lawmaker is looking for ways the state government can help improve or replace those facilities.

Rep. Rose Bogardus, D-Davison, is sponsoring legislation that would earmark 45 percent of state tax money from Detroit casinos to a state fund intended to help and support local school building bond issues.

Although all state tax money from the three new casinos is already reserved for education, Bogardus' bill would specifically set 45 percent aside for support of local bond issues. Under casino oversight laws, 81 percent of casinos' "net win" would be deposited in the state school aid fund for K-12 education.

It is anticipated that once in operation, each permanent casino in Detroit will deposit \$25.4 million into the school aid fund each year.

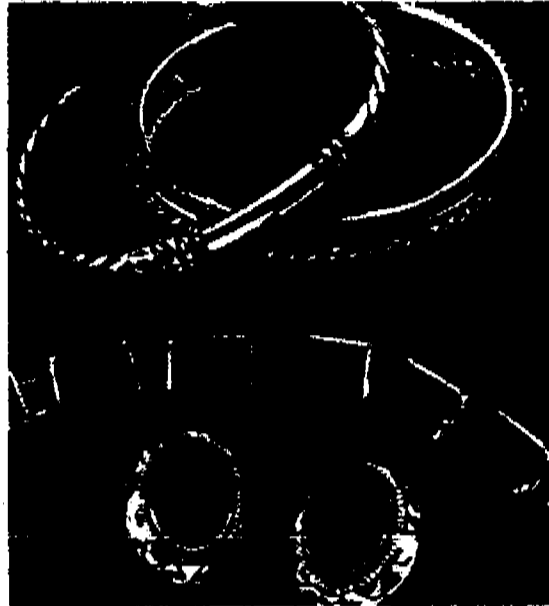
Earmarked in the school aid fund, the money would then be used for matching grants for school districts which undertake capital improvement programs or install new technology. If voters accept bond issues as the ballot box, and levy 7 mills, the fund would assist in repayment of bonds, Bogardus explained.

She said state assistance would be available for major capital improvement projects at existing schools, new construction and installation of computer and technology.

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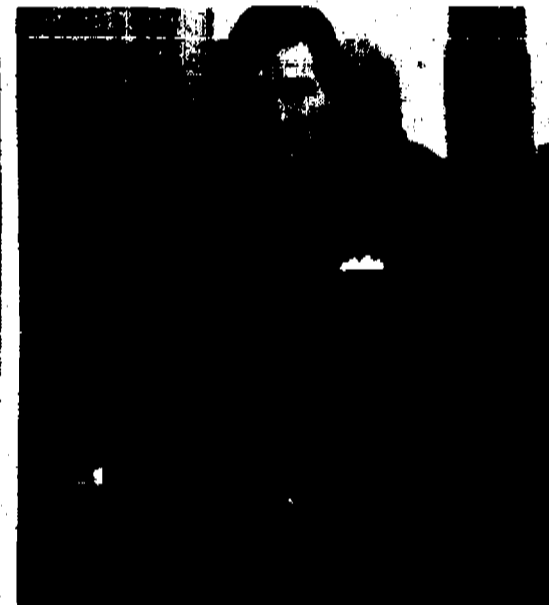
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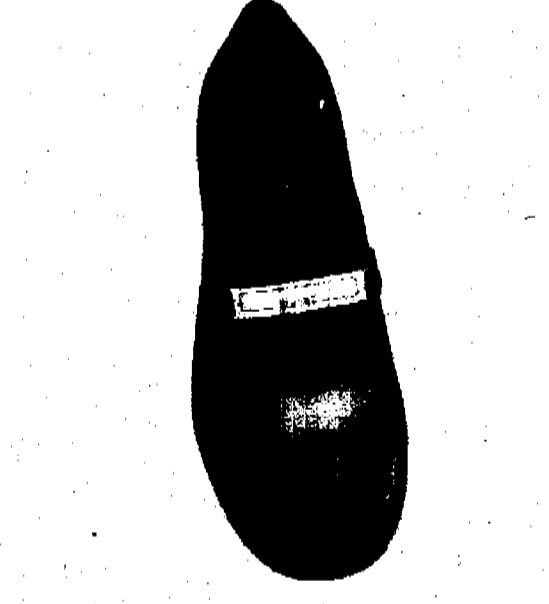
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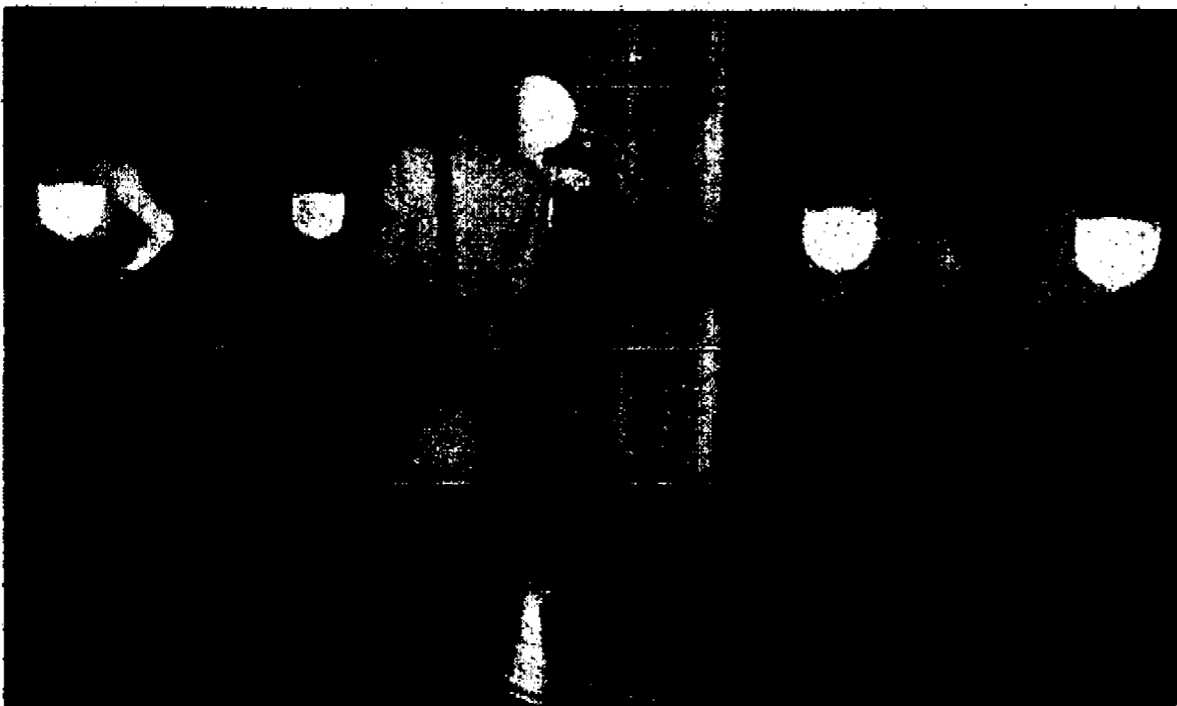
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Victims:
Twelve red silhouettes in the shape of women provided a somber backdrop at the National Domestic Violence Awareness Month Awards Luncheon.



Silhouettes tell grim story at domestic violence lunch

Twelve red silhouettes in the shape of women provided a somber backdrop at the National Domestic Violence Awareness Month Awards Luncheon on Oct. 20.

Presented by the Wayne County Council Against Family Violence, the luncheon honored people and organizations who have made a difference in the lives of survivors of family violence in Wayne County.

Held at the Wayne County Building in Detroit, the event also served as an acknowledgment of National Domestic Violence Month.

The life-sized silhouettes, part of a traveling "Silent Witness" exhibit, depicted family violence homicide victims ranging in ages from 12 to 23 and included written biographies of each victim.

"These silhouettes serve as reminders of the brutality these victims endured at the hands of their attackers," said Nancy Diehl, chair of the WCCAFV and one of the event organizers.

Women of all cultures, races, occupations, income levels and ages are battered, statistics show, by husbands, boyfriends, lovers and partners.

"Every week, headlines tell us how violence continues to pervade our society," said Michael Duggan, Wayne County deputy county executive and one of the speakers for the event. "We must continue to focus attention on the problem of violence in families and work toward its prevention."

Special Spirit awards were given to individuals who made significant contributions of time and energy to the prevention of family violence. The recipients were Wayne County Circuit Judge Richard Halloran; Andrea Solak, chief of special operations, Wayne County Prosecutor's Office; Karen Porter, associate director, First Step, Western Wayne County Project on Domestic and Sexual Violence; Lt. Gwen Brown, commander, Domestic Violence Task Force, Detroit Police Department and



Awarded: The Wayne County Council Against Family Violence (WCCAFV) gave special Spirit awards to individuals who made significant contributions of time and energy to the prevention of family violence. The recipients were (from left) Andrea Solak, chief of special operations in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office; Sandra Tomlin, coordinator of community affairs for Blue Cross Blue Shield; Karen Porter, associate director, First Step, Western Wayne County Project on Domestic and Sexual Violence; Lt. Gwendolyn Brown, commanding officer, Domestic Violence Task Force, Detroit Police Department; Circuit Judge Richard Halloran and past WCCAFV co-chair; and Chuck Spindler, of AirTouch Cellular.

new vice chair of WCCAFV and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and AirTouch Cellular.

Blue Cross Blue Shield sponsored the printing of Wayne County's handbook on family violence prevention. "They accepted the challenge of addressing family violence in our county," said Lynda Baker, director of the WCCAFV. "We are so grateful for this. They really came to our rescue."

One of the victims of family violence described her ordeal with family violence and she expressed a great appreciation to corporate sponsor, AirTouch Cellular, which provided her and other victims with cellular phones programmed to call 911.

Greg Haller, AirTouch regional director of sales, accepted the

award for AirTouch. "This is not something we have to do, this is the right thing to do," Haller said.

Solak said the award "reflects the real passion and commitment of the community."

Also in attendance were John O'Hair, Wayne County prosecutor; Detroit Councilwoman Maryann Mahaffey; Circuit Judge Mary Waterstone and Nancy Diehl, deputy chief of the Wayne County prosecutor's office, director of the child and family abuse bureau and new chair of WCCAFV.

Anyone interested in learning more about the council or Wayne County's family violence programs or materials should call (313) 224-5454.

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County: Winter road service will improve

BY KEN ARRACZYK
STAFF WRITER
karraczyk@ee.homecomm.net

Cameron "Kim" Priebe is convinced the county roads division will do a better job this winter at snow removal.

After a year of meetings with community leaders, purchasing radios and new equipment and working with other road officials, Priebe, the director of the Wayne County Department of Public Services, and other county officials believe they have taken enough steps to improve snow removal operations.

They don't want a repeat of the now-infamous snowstorm of Jan. 2 that dropped 10 inches of snow, followed by 40 mph winds, then freezing temperatures. Many roads in western Wayne County remained snow covered after several days.

Dropped the ball

"We just dropped the ball in that district of your (Observer) coverage area," Priebe said.

The roads division had many new supervisors on the job last year. "We got our training last year," Priebe said.

But this week work crews were placing plows on trucks and checking blades on graders at the central maintenance yard adjacent to Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport to prepare for winter's snow.

That equipment will help Wayne County maintain 462 miles of state trunklines and freeways, 719 miles of county primary roads and 721 miles of county local roads.

Many improvements

Priebe cited many improvements in the county's road division of the Department of Public Services.

■ Improved communications. New phone lines were installed at county yards for local city and township officials to contact supervisors on unlisted phone numbers.

■ New radios for trucks. Earlier this year, county commission-



Wayne County Public Services Director Cameron Priebe said the county 'dropped the ball' in western Wayne County last winter. He hopes new equipment, better organization and a fresh resolve will enhance service this winter. He doesn't want to repeat the aftermath of the 10-inch snow last January when western Wayne County roads were clogged with snow for weeks.



Cameron Priebe



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRIAN MITCHELL

Bring on the snow: At left, Kenny Rodgers works on getting a truck ready for winter work. Above, new trucks await installation of snow plows.

ers approved a contract of \$62,613 to purchase 155 Motorola radios to equip all vehicles in the county's buildings, roads and parks divisions with better two-way radios and assist in communications between trucks and the district yards.

■ New trucks. Wayne County has ordered 14 specialized, high-speed plows, 32 new 10-cubic yard capacity trucks and 19 new five-yard dump trucks with crew cabs. Time delays frustrate Wayne County in receiving the equipment.

"It takes a full year of time from the order until the time we get it," Priebe said.

Wayne County has a fleet of about 160 trucks of which the county would like to overhaul a little each year. "At \$130,000 a truck, it's expensive," said Robert Mahoney, roads director. Salt also deteriorates the trucks. Road officials point out a 1988 truck in the yard that is coated with rust on the rear of the vehicle. The county is painting some of the older vehicles.

Fine tuning

Routes also were "fine-tuned," with roads in proximity to hospitals and fire station taking a higher priority. But road officials have focused on improving communications.

"Area engineers will have phones and radios," Priebe said. They will communicate better with foreman and yard supervisors to coordinate snow removal trucks to areas and roads that may need attention, county officials said.

Salt is purchased through a traditional bid or through the

state. Prices can vary. Last year Wayne County paid between \$30 and \$32 a ton. Oakland County just received salt at \$20 per ton.

Wayne County inventories about 80,000 tons of salt. An average winter's usage ranges between 120,000 and 125,000 tons.

Trucks aren't the only equipment Wayne County uses for snow removal.

It's a beauty

Last winter the county purchased a \$90,000 Oshkosh SnoGo from Houghton County,

which removes heavy snow. County road crews used the machine on I-75 late last winter. "One of the biggest problems on the freeway is the snow can turn a four-lane freeway into three lanes," said John Roach, public information manager for the county's Department of Public Services.

"This equipment can go onto the shoulder and blow onto a freeway embankment, and snow can travel at least 100 feet or it can be loaded into a truck."

All trucks are expected to be prepared for winter snowstorms within two weeks.

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A Distorted View

STORY BY KEN ABRAMCZYK • PHOTO BY BRYAN M. LICHHELL

Students see effects of alcohol through impairment goggles

Joe Zitterman walks slowly across the stage, then wobbles while looking at his feet.

Jason Jones reaches for a set of keys on the floor. He leans over, stretches his arm out, once, twice, then three times before he can grab them.

Aaron Butcher is told to walk toward the open hand of a Wayne County sheriff, but it takes a few steps for him to line himself up.

These three Garden City High School students had difficulty performing simple physical tasks Tuesday because they wore impairment goggles, courtesy of the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. The specially designed eyeglasses distort vision, simulating the visual effect of two alcoholic drinks, so students could see first-hand how drinking affects their vision and perception.

"Youngsters have an attitude that nothing will happen to them," said Sheriff Robert Ficano. "They think they are invincible, that they can control their reflexes even if they are drinking or

doing drugs. "We try to show the reality of it."

The program is part of the sheriff's Adopt-A-School program, and the goggles made their first appearance this year at an area high school. "We want to make sure (students) understand the law, and we want to build trust," Ficano said.

Ficano reminded the students from a Street Law class - which taught them about the criminal justice system, civil rights and consumer law - that drinking by minors that leads to impaired or drunken driving can result not only in death and serious injury, but the suspension or revocation of driver licenses and jail time.

About 3,000 inmates are currently housed in the county jail, Ficano said. "Anyone know what they had in common? They broke the law. They all thought they were smarter than the system."

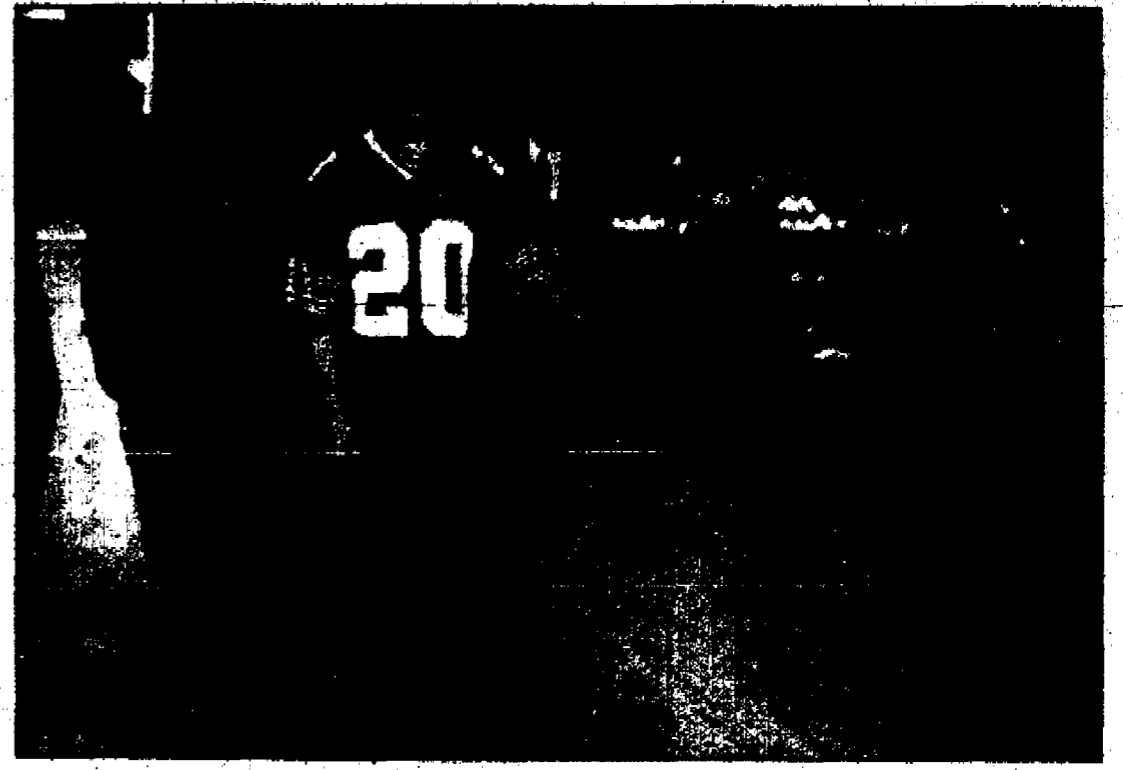
Once police officers arrest offenders and they are jailed, their lives change.

Ficano said. "Once you get in there, we control your life," Ficano said. "We tell you when you get up, when you eat and when you have recreation. You get mail, but guess what? We get to read it."

DeWayne Hayes, a community service program coordinator with the Sheriff's Department, showed the students slides from accidents involving drunken drivers from the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office and a video of Wayne County victims of drunken drivers, featuring families traumatized by the loss of loved ones and others disabled from auto accidents.

Hayes also relayed a story about his own personal experiences. When Hayes first learned to drive, he ran into a police car while transporting a few friends to a party. His father let him drive again, but he was involved in another accident, and his license was suspended.

"It was a bad feeling to lose that privilege," Hayes said. "Sometimes we lose our freedom to do things, and when we



Too the line: Joe Zitterman tries to walk a straight line with his impairment goggles for Officer DeWayne Hayes and Sheriff Robert Ficano.

do, it bothers us.

"If you go to proms or parties, we want you to enjoy yourselves without alcohol."

The three students who demonstrated the goggles for other students believe the program was effective.

Jason Jones, a junior, said the goggles made him feel dizzy. "I think I can do everything, but I don't feel normal," Jones said of wearing glasses.

Aaron Butcher, also a junior, thought the glasses were a good demonstration for the students to deter them from drinking and driving. "I realized that when I couldn't walk around," Butcher said.

Joe Zitterman, a freshman, said the glasses made him "impaired." "They made me fall all over," Zitterman said.



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<p>John George Brown, N. A., (American 1831-1913), oil on canvas, 24" x 19", Sun #2035</p>	<p>Eduard Von Grunow, oil on board, 11" x 10", Sunday #2030</p>

Mensen 19th c. porcelain clock, h 22", 1, 20", Sunday #2045 Phoenix painted glass table lamp Sat #1602

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Some question qualifications of new MEAP board

BY JIM MALOTT
HOUGHTON NEWS SERVICE
malott@houghtonnews.com

Barbara Bolin, executive director of Michigan's Department of Career Development, devised competency tests at Austin Community College in Texas.

She also devised "WorkKeys" analyses for an Austin corporation, says Jim Karshner, communications director for that department. So Bolin, he says, has "extensive experience" in preparation for her new role as a member of Michigan's Merit Award Board.

The board has been assigned to oversee Michigan Education Assessment Program testing in the future rather than the State Board of Education, as a result of orders issued recently by Gov. John Engler.

But that appears to be the closest thing to direct experience. Other appointed members of the board — state Treasurer Mark Murray, Munder Capital Management Vice President Clark Durant, General Motors Human Resources Director Kathleen Barclay, and former Detroit police chief Isaiah McK-



Making big changes: Gov. John Engler has taken charge of MEAP.

innon — do not appear to have any background in testing. Only Art Ellis, on the board because he is the Superintendent of Public Education in Michigan, has experience with tests.

Does that matter?

Views differ

Yes, according to State Board of Education President Dorothy Beardmore. Assessment test design is a highly specialized field, best left to professionals. She notes that even when the MEAP was under the guidance of the state board, members did not review the test or test questions before they were given to students. That was considered a responsibility of educators and department of education staff who had special expertise in the field.

But Maureen McNulty Saxton, spokesperson for Murray and the Treasury Department, said Merit Board members don't need experience in test design. While the board will review the test ahead of time, members will not actually be drafting questions. That will be left to the same educators and staff members who have been doing it all along.

Like other oversight panels, expertise in the field is not required, she contended. She noted that expertise in assessment testing also is not required

■ 'There's a slew of questions that need to be answered.'

Maureen Saxton
Treasury Department spokesperson

of State Board of Education members before they can run for election to their posts.

State board member Kathleen Straus, though one of the most vocal critics of the transfer ordered by the governor, agreed that prior experience isn't necessary. Despite the review by the Merit Board, she expects the panel will take its cue from educators and test writers who do have expertise in the field.

Straus — who is still considering legal action over the governor's order moving MEAP testing to the Treasury Department based on what she considers a violation of the state Constitution — raised another question about the Merit Board's role in reviewing the test.

The State Board of Education, when it was responsible for oversight, did not review the tests before they were given because

of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Once before the public body as a subject of discussion, the test, the questions included on it and the answers would be considered public documents under the Open Meetings Act. That would allow students to cheat by reading the test questions and answers before taking it.

"I assume the Merit Board would follow the Open Meetings Act," Straus said. If the board does indeed review the tests ahead of time, it will make the test public documents.

Other concerns

Those are just some examples of the concerns being raised in response to the governor's order in October transferring administration of MEAP testing from the Department of Education to the Department of Treasury. To provide oversight, the Michigan Merit Award Board was

installed. Shortly after issuing the transfer order, Engler announced the names of three members he had appointed to sit on the Merit Award Board.

According to Saxton, the seventh member of the board has yet to be named. And, she said, there is an executive director of the Merit Award program who has yet to be appointed. Although interviews are being conducted, she said, the governor has not made a selection.

That means it is still early in the formation of the board and much has yet to be determined about how it will operate. Those newly appointed are saying little about their role or qualifications. Bolin, for instance, declined comment because the board has not yet had its first meeting. According to Karshner, how it will operate and what its role will be in the creation of the MEAP test has largely not yet been determined.

"There's a slew of questions that need to be answered," Saxton said.

But there are other issues that make it even more confusing. Beardmore, for instance, contends the Michigan Constitution gives the State Board of Education responsibility for setting policy regarding the test. And that would mean two panels would be charged with overseeing how the tests are to be conducted.

"I'm glad the state board is interested and it should be interested in assessment testing," Saxton responded. But where the distinction is between the state board's policy-setting role and the Merit Award Board's oversight role isn't clear.

Saxton went on to say that the move "will help the state board focus totally on education. The state has moved a lot of things away from the State Board of Education that have nothing to do with the quality of education. This will help the state board by refining and focusing its mission on developing curriculum and setting core standards."

John Truscott, spokesman for Gov. Engler, said the state board has not done much policy setting with regard to the MEAP in the past anyway.

Straus strongly disagrees. "He just doesn't know," she said. "For example, Treasury is saying it is going to release old versions of the test so the public can see what the tests are like. What Truscott doesn't know is that we (the state board) made that decision months ago."

In any case, the qualifications of the Merit Board are being debated. Engler says its members are "distinguished professionals who have the necessary experience and leadership for this important duty."

Critics say the lack of apparent experience with assessment testing is a concern.

Board members

Durant, a resident of Grosse Pointe, was a member of the state board who resigned after missing numerous sessions. He was elected to the Michigan State Board of Education in 1994 and resigned in September. Durant once served as an attorney for the law firm of Timmis and Inman in Detroit.

He has practiced law for 23 years in civil, criminal and corporate matters. He is president of the Genesis Foundation, chairman of the board of the Cornerstone Schools, corporate secretary and a board member for Detroit Mortgage and Realty and a board member for William Tyndale College.

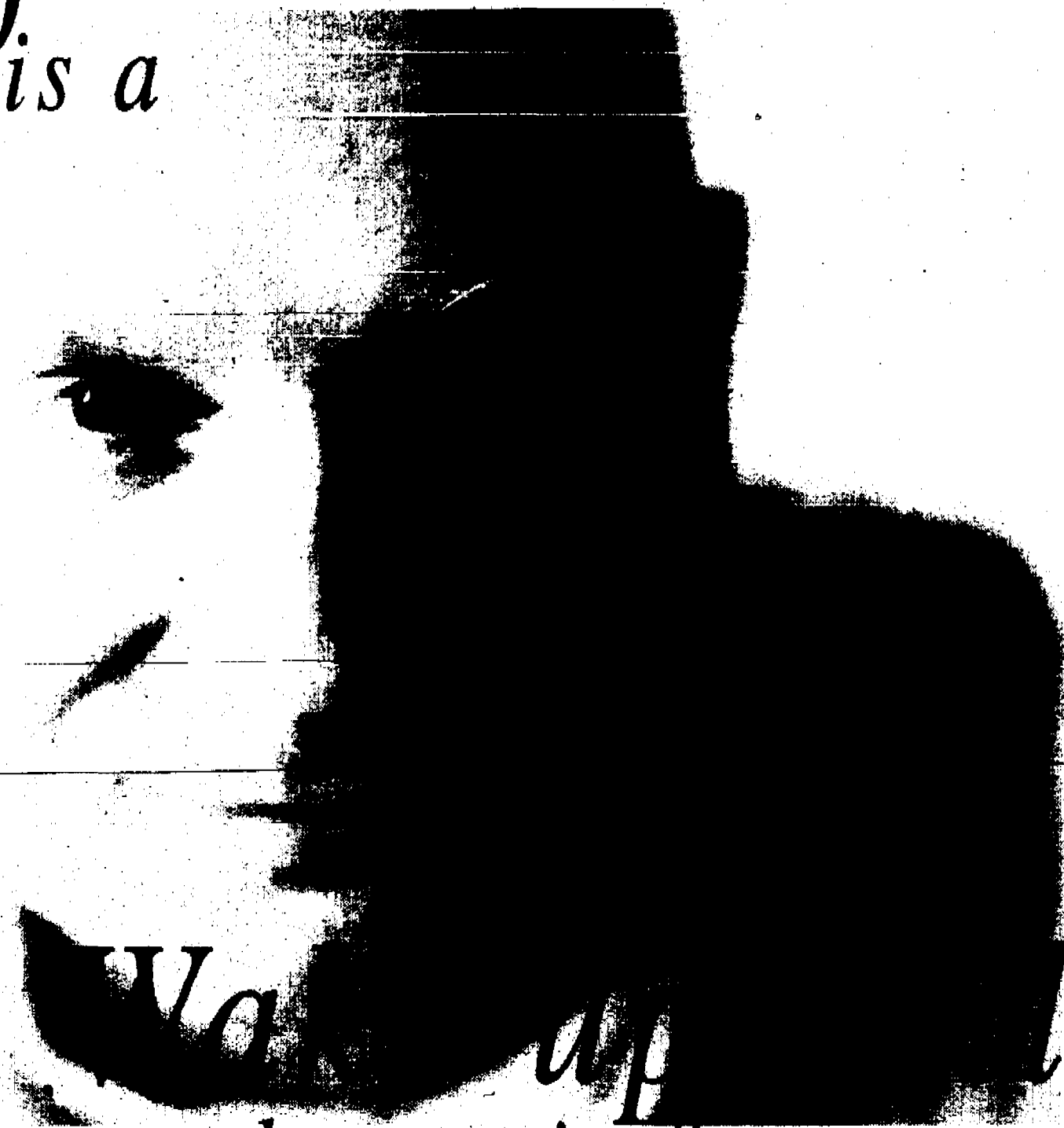
Durant ran unsuccessfully for U.S. Senate and the Michigan Supreme Court.

Barclay, of Grosse Pointe Farms, is vice president of human resources for General Motors and president of General Motors University. She has also worked in retail management with the Southland Corp. in Chicago and Reno, Nev., and as a human resources compensation manager for the Allen-Bradley Co. in Milwaukee.

Barclay is a member of the MIT Board of Governors, the MSU Alumni Board of Directors, the Conference Board's Global Human Resources Council, and the Detroit Women's Economic Club.

McKinnon retired as chief of police in Detroit in 1998. He is now an adjunct professor of criminal justice for the University of Detroit Mercy. McKinnon has been in law enforcement for 29 years, serving as a police inspector, lieutenant and sergeant.

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United Way nears fund-raising goal

PRNewswire - United Way Community Services announced that \$45,917,820 or 63.3 percent of this year's combined goal of \$72.5 million, has been raised. The announcement was made by James P. Holden, president of DaimlerChrysler and general chair of the 1999 United Way campaign, at United Way's mid-report luncheon at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn.

More than 500 volunteers gathered to hear the results to-date in this year's campaign. Highlighted at the luncheon were 1999 totals from the "Big Three Automakers"; the Auto Challenge Match for new business and the Leadership Giving Challenge Match. The \$72.5 million combined goal includes contributions received for New Detroit, Inc. and United Way of Oakland County.

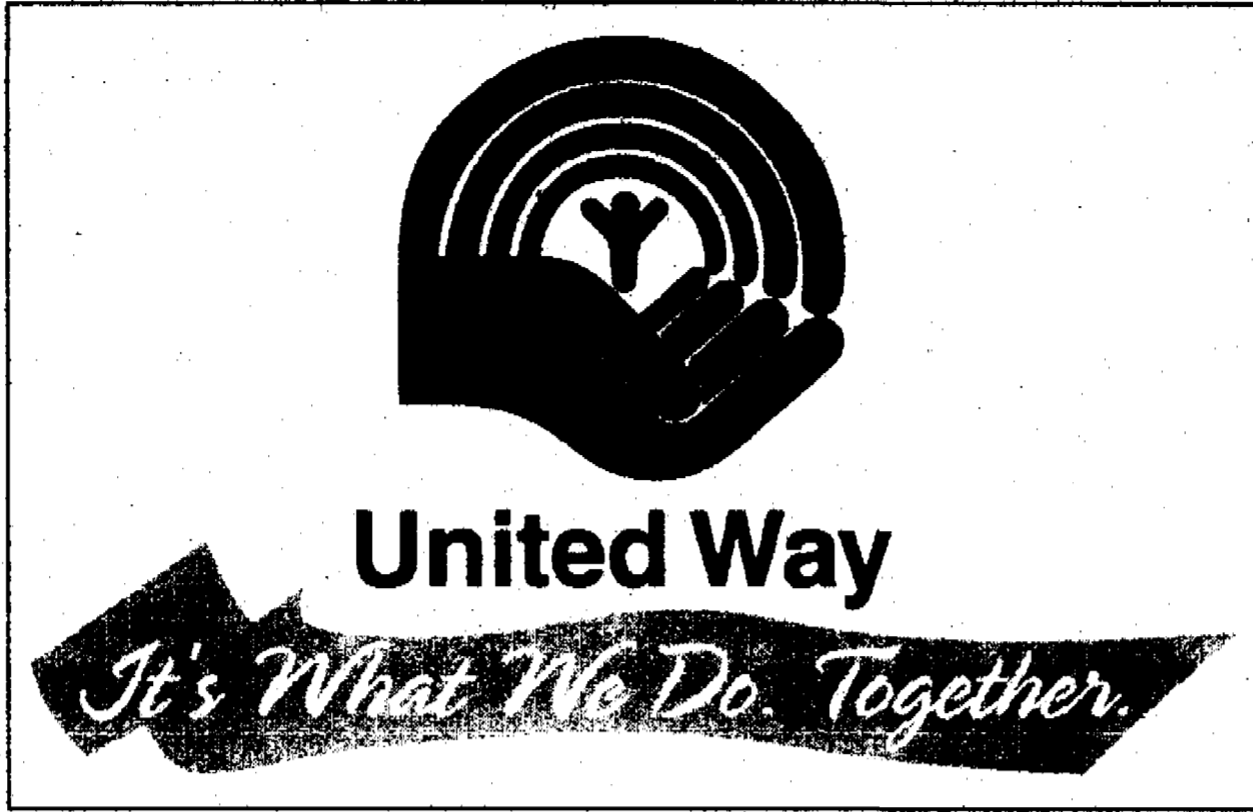
Again this year, two challenge match commitments have been made to encourage campaign participation. They are the "Auto New Business Challenge Match" by DaimlerChrysler Corp., General Motors and Ford Motor Co., which is an incentive for companies to run United Way employee campaigns or give a corporate gift for the first time; and the "Leadership Giving Challenge Match," provided by Ford Motor Co. Fund and a select group of Ford senior executives, which encourages new and increased leadership gifts of \$1,000 or more.

"Reaching a stretch goal of \$72.5 million takes a tremendous effort and commitment by everyone," said Holden. "When we say United Way ... It's what we do ... Together, we mean that literally. I would like to thank the members of our campaign leadership and the thousands of dedicated volunteers who have helped us get this far in the campaign. But, we're not through yet."

Holden added, "We need to keep the momentum to raise as much money as we can to continue serving the more than 1.5 million people in southeastern Michigan whose lives have been touched thanks to your contribution to United Way."

Highlighted today were the 1999 contributions, which together total more than \$31,782,465 from DaimlerChrysler, Ford and GM. The vice chair for the Auto Unit is John F. Smith Jr., chairman and CEO, General Motors Corp., and results of the automotive employee campaigns are as follows:

DaimlerChrysler Corp.: Contributions totaled \$6,701,824 from DaimlerChrysler hourly and management employees in the metro Detroit area. The DaimlerChrysler Corporate Fund made a gift of \$1,100,000, bringing contributions from DaimlerChrysler and its employees to \$7,801,824. For the second year, DaimlerChrysler's campaign was chaired by Thomas W. Sidlik, executive vice president and general manager of Procurement and Supply, DaimlerChrysler Corp. Sidlik also announced DaimlerChrysler Southeast Michigan Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge dealers are adding \$100,000



Ford Motor Co.: Contributions totaled \$13,110,279 from Ford Motor Company hourly and management employees in the metro Detroit area. The Ford Fund made a gift of \$2,190,000, bringing contributions from Ford and its employees to \$15,300,279. This represents the largest gift ever to a single United Way in the country. Ford's campaign was chaired by Roman J. Krygier, vice president, Powertrain Operations; vice chair was Martin Zimmerman, vice president of Government Affairs.

General Motors Corp.: Contributions totaled \$7,273,877 from General Motors Corp. hourly and management employees. The General Motors Foundation made a gift of \$1,307,000, bringing contributions from GM and its employees to \$8,580,877. GM's campaign was chaired by Roderick D. Gillum, vice president of Corporate Relations and Diversity, Chairman and CEO. Jack Smith, led a special effort to significantly increase leadership giving.

The success of the automakers campaigns would not be possible without the full participation and leadership of rank-and-file members of organized labor.

"The camaraderie that exists between United Way and the members of organized labor dates back to the very first Torch Drive in 1949," said Elizabeth Bunn, vice president, International Union, United Auto Workers and Labor Participation chair. "It was the UAW and Ford Motor Co. in the beginning that shaped the bond we now share - a partnership that has evolved to symbolize unity among givers, as well as unity between labor and management."

Other campaigns highlighted with results to-date included: Pacesetter Campaigns, \$1,484,565; Major and Mid-sized Account Units, \$10,471,244; and the Combined Fed-

eral Campaign, \$1,149,919.

Just as community needs increase and challenges change, United Way continues to look at new ways of retaining its current supporters, and reaching out to new ones.

"In order to continue to provide needed services in an efficient and coordinated effort, we must raise more funds each year through establishing new partnerships," said Geneva J. Williams, chief operating officer, United Way Community Services. "United Way Community Services established the New Partners in Giving initiative to address the realities of the changing work environment by reaching out to the community in non-traditional ways."

"It is through this initiative, for the first time this year, WWJ Newsradio 950 and United Way have partnered to launch Internet Campaign '99 - an internet campaign that runs in conjunction with the United Way campaign. This partnership gives us the opportunity to offer and test new ways to communicate the services of United Way to small and medium sized businesses, including home-based businesses and the self-employed. The campaign also provides people a safe and easy way to make a donation to United Way, especially those business owners and individuals who do not have access to the traditional workplace campaign."

The 1999 United Way campaign runs through November 18. For more information on contributing to the campaign or to volunteer, call (313) 226-9200.

To volunteer for the United Way/NFL half-time show at the Detroit Lions Thanksgiving Day game, call United Way Community Services at (313) 226-9422.

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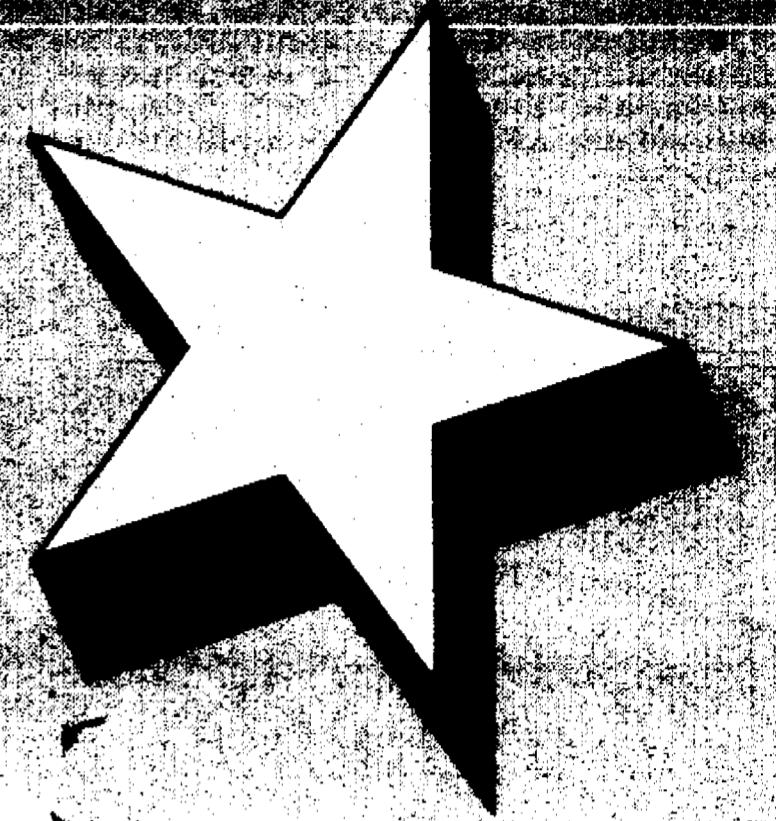
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Southeast Michigan growth rate takes an upswing

The seven-county region of Southeast Michigan, which began the 1990s with an annual population growth rate of 4 percent - less than half of Michigan's one percent annual growth rate - surpassed the state's growth rate in 1996 and is closing the decade with a growth rate of .7 percent, according to the 1999 Southeast Michigan Population and Household Estimates released by SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

"Southeast Michigan has lagged behind the nation's annual population growth rate of one percent," said SEMCOG chief demographer Ed Limoges, "but now appears to be reaping some of the benefits of the surging economy. Instead of residents leaving the region for greener pastures, the 'pastures' in Southeast Michigan are becoming greener and greener."

To mark the end of the millennium, SEMCOG's annual report, 1999 Southeast Michigan Popu-

lation and Household Estimates, debuted at the agency's General Assembly meeting on Oct. 28. This colorful 34-by-42 inch poster includes easy-to-read data, maps and graphs plotting population trends and posting current population and household estimates. "The poster gives users an opportunity to get a clear picture of population estimates in context with other data SEMCOG produces about growth in the region," Limoges said.

In addition to annual growth rate figures, SEMCOG's data also show a higher rate of growth in households over population. While Southeast Michigan's population has increased 4 percent since the 1990 census, the number of households in the region has increased 8.3 percent.

There has been a continuing decline in household size since 1950, noted Limoges. The shrinkage reflects changes in household composition, including a declining percentage of house-

holds with children, fewer children in households with children, more single parent households, more "empty nester" households and more single adults living alone.

SEMCOG estimates continue to place Detroit's population under 1 million at 965,351, a decrease of 62,623 since the 1990 census.

"Our estimates are based on methods that are consistent with the traditional census. They do not fully address the under-

counting of people in areas such as the city of Detroit. I will be happy if the 2000 Census shows us wrong and Detroit's population in 1 million of more."

SEMCOG is a regional planning partnership of governmental units serving 4.8 million people in the seven-county region of Southeast Michigan.

For more information about the poster, contact SEMCOG at (313)961-4266 or check their Website at www.semco.net.

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Contribution: State Rep. Laura Toy (second from left) and state Sen. Thaddeus McCotter (right) receive a check from CVS employees.

CVS/pharmacy contributes to Senior Celebration Day

State Rep. Laura Toy and Sen. Thaddeus McCotter recently accepted a \$5,000 donation from CVS/pharmacy on behalf of Senior Citizen Achievement Needs, the Livonia nonprofit

group organizing Western Wayne County Senior Celebration Day.

"Since CVS/pharmacy is new to this area, customers may not be aware that we are actively involved in many local community efforts," said Susan DelMonico, director of community relations. "Our corporate giving program focuses on health care and education. This event is a great opportunity for seniors to get acquainted with our colleagues."

Toy said she was pleased the pharmacy decided to get involved in Senior Celebration Day, especially since they are new to the community.

"This donation makes

CVS/pharmacy the major sponsor for our event," said Toy. R-Livonia. "We are extremely thankful for what they have done for us, and delighted to include them in our celebration day. It's a good way for us to welcome them to our community."

CVS is the largest retail provider of prescriptions in the nation. The company is the number one drugstore chain in the United States, with approximately 4,100 stores in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast and Midwest regions of the country.

The Fifth Annual Western Wayne County Senior Celebration Day was Friday, Oct. 15.

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Madonna program director co-authors paralegal textbook

Mary Meinzinger Urisko, assistant director of the Legal Assistant Program at Madonna University in Livonia, has released the second edition of the textbook, *West's Paralegal Today*. Urisko co-authored the book with well-known West Legal Studies author and attorney Roger LeRoy Miller.

"The second edition has been modified to reflect the trends in technology which are impacting the legal arena," explained Urisko, a Detroit attorney.

West's Paralegal Today is used by paralegal students and features new information on computer-assisted research and environmental law, as well as the discussion of career trends in the legal assistant field.

Urisko and Judge Gene Schnell of the Oakland County Circuit Court bench will be among the faculty teaching 14 legal assistant courses at Madonna University for the winter term.

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Madonna names 3 to its board of trustees

Three new trustees have been appointed to the Madonna University Board for three year terms. Bishop Moses B. Anderson, auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Detroit; Michael Obloy, president of Special Drill & Reamer Corp. of Madison Heights; and Dr. Ernest Sorini, physician and president of Professional Emergency Care of Ann Arbor.

Anderson is a member of the Society of St. Edmund and a graduate of St. Michael's College in Vermont where he majored in philosophy. He attended St. Edmund Seminary and then went on to earn a degree at St. Michael's and a master's degree in theology at Xavier University.

He was ordained a priest in 1958 and appointed auxiliary bishop of Detroit in 1982. He is pastor of Church of Precious Blood. He is a member of the Madonna President's Cabinet. Michael Obloy is also a mem-



Bishop Moses Anderson



Michael Obloy



Dr. Ernest Sorini

ber of the Madonna President's Cabinet. His father, Leo, is a trustee emeritus of Madonna.

Obloy received his bachelor's degree in business management from Xavier University and a

law degree from the University of Detroit School of Law

Obloy is the father of four children and lives in Troy.

Sorini is a physician and president of Professional Emergency Care and Emergency Resources Inc., a medical service and staffing organization serving 200,000 Michigan residents annually. He also is a partner in a national organization, Simplified Employment Services. He earned a bachelor's degree from Marquette University and his medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin.

He is the father of four sons and lives in Ann Arbor.

The members of Madonna University's board offer assistance in determining priorities and policies with respect to reviewing programming, setting investment guidelines, planning and achieving resource development goals and approving operating budgets.

Telethon held to benefit ACCESS

A telethon to benefit an area community center will be broadcast Nov. 21 in Livonia, Redford and Westland.

The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services in Dearborn will hold its 18th annual telethon from noon until 1 a.m. on MediaOne cable.

For almost 31 years, ACCESS has provided services to the Arab and non-Arab communities throughout the Detroit area, annually assisting more than 40,000 people.

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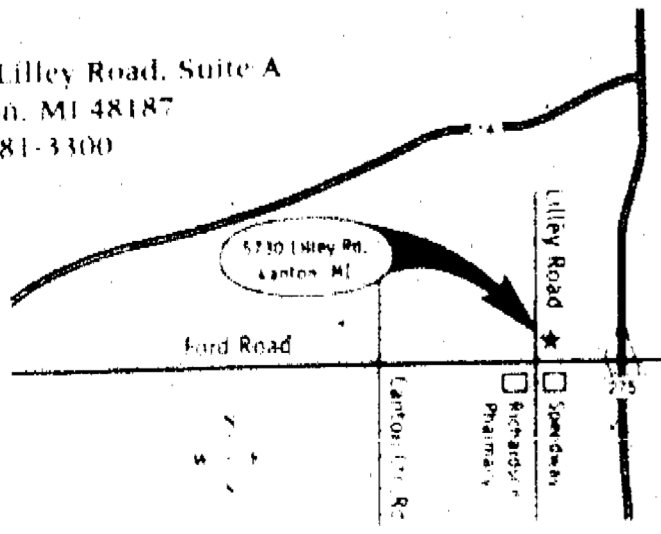


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Westland Observer

OPINION

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36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1999

Working together

Council cooperation aids city

Nov. 2 came and went, and the Westland City Council election was held. The votes have been tallied, the winners congratulated.

It's time to put the occasional rancor of the campaign days behind us and for the winners to work together to be an effective city council serving a thriving community. Westland faces many issues - roads, sewers and other concerns among them. We need strong public safety, solid parks and recreation services.

The voters have spoken, and the four winners should join their colleagues on the council in a spirit of cooperation, working to address residents' concerns and the ongoing issues of the community. Those who were already on the council should welcome the victors in a spirit of cooperation.

CITY GOVERNMENT

In Tuesday's voting, Glenn Anderson, David Cox, Charles "Trav" Griffin and David James emerged the winners. Anderson and Griffin are incumbents, Cox an appointee. They join council President Sandra Cicirelli and members Sharon Scott and Richard LeBlanc.

The candidates who didn't win deserve a pat on the back, too, for giving it their best effort. They should remain involved in city government, putting in their knowledge and views.

Election campaigns can, and often do, bring issues to the forefront. Let's work together to address those issues.

Don't shelve library policy

It was good of Sandra Wilson to admit she'd made a mistake.

Wilson, Westland's library director, hired the wife of Jim Chuck, library board president, for a \$12 an hour part-time job in the children's area. This was in violation of the library's policy against nepotism. Library board member Jo Johnson resigned in protest.

With Cheryl Chuck still on the job, the library board is now considering abolishing the nepotism policy, which prohibits the hiring of spouses, sons, daughters, stepchildren

and foster children of board members.

We admire Wilson's admitting she was wrong, and urge the library board to keep the nepotism policy in place. We can sympathize with the difficulties of finding qualified people for a myriad of positions, but it's still important to make the effort.

That's no reflection on Cheryl Chuck's credentials, as she is no doubt doing a fine job. Nevertheless, the appearance of favoritism must be avoided - as must actual favoritism.

Organ donation saves lives

The vital need for organ and tissue donations in this country was spotlighted this week with the passing of legendary football running back Walter Payton. The Hall of Famer they called "Sweetness" was diagnosed with a rare liver disease last winter and became a candidate for an organ transplant.

Payton used his name and celebrity status to bring the issue of organ and tissue donation to public attention - perhaps taking away from his personal woes and focusing his energies on saving others.

In the end, it was cancer that robbed Payton of his opportunity to become an organ recipient, yet his enthusiasm for promoting such an important message never wavered.

In the state of Michigan alone, some 6,000 families are approached to become organ and tissue donors according to the Ann Arbor-based Gift of Life Agency. Sadly, though, 10 people die each day in the United States due to the limited availability of organs.

This state has undertaken the task of improving its national per capita organ donation ranking with an aggressive campaign launched in July 1998. In just six months from the program's inauguration the number of state residents listed on the organ donor registry increased by 140 percent. The dramatic improvement came following the Secretary of State's decision to mail out organ donor registry enrollment cards with driver's licenses and personal identification cards.

"We've made it convenient for residents to make their personal wishes known," said Secretary of State Candice S. Miller earlier this year.

Individuals who wish to have their name placed on the registry only need to sign the

enrollment card and place it in the provided, stamped and addressed envelope. The card is mailed to the Secretary of State's office where the information is then forwarded to Gift of Life.

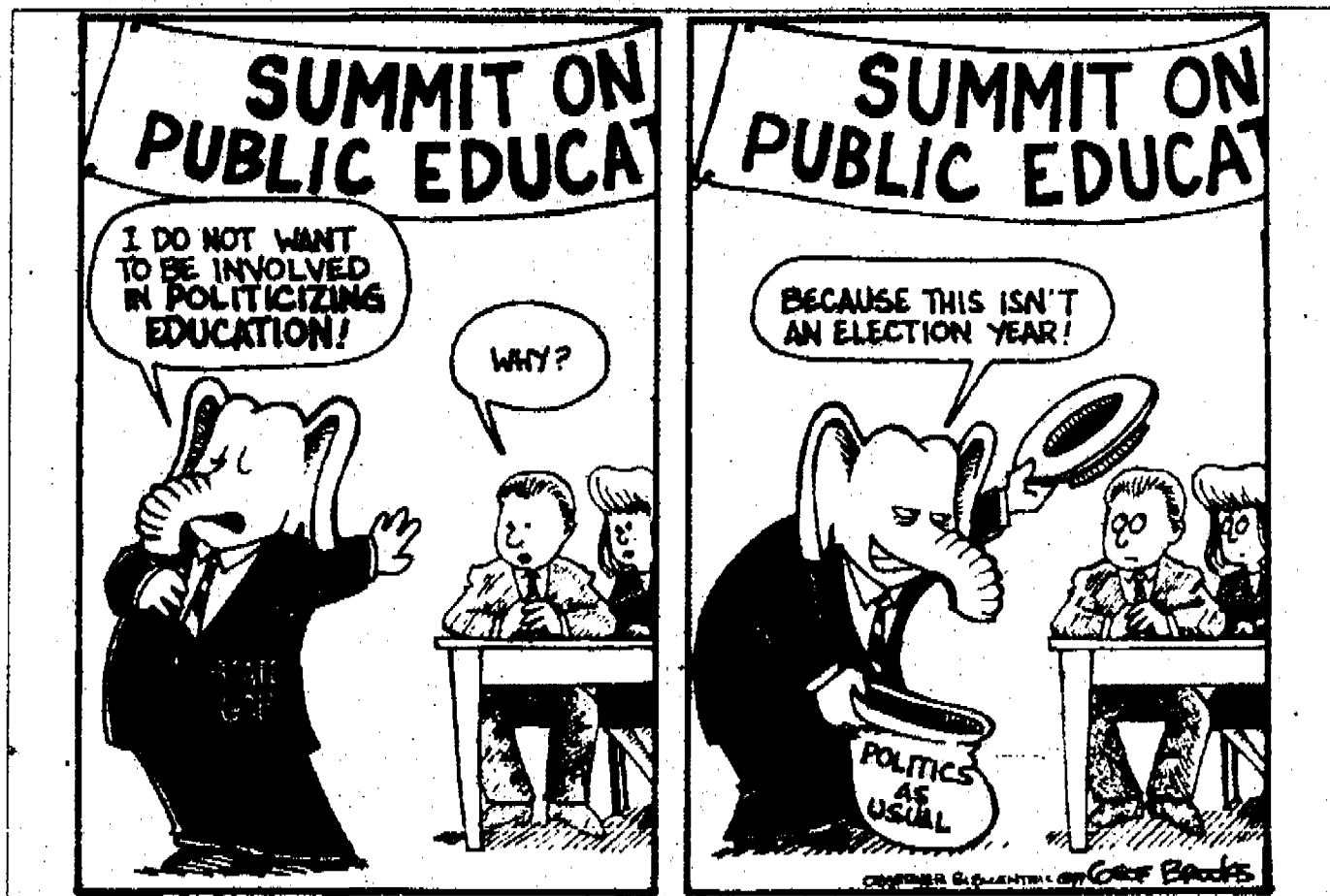
Although the registry process has been simplified, the ultimate test lies with the individual who must communicate his or her wishes regarding organ donation with the family. According to GOL a signature on the back of a driver's license is not a legally binding document and therefore the final decision remains with the family.

While the driver's license program can be one indication of the person's preference the more sure option would be to talk with your family members and loved ones in advance - the value of the conversation could mean the difference between life and death. Although Michigan now ranks 21st out of 50 states in per capita organ donations, the list must grow to 500,000 enrollees to adequately meet the needs of individuals requiring an organ transplant.

Don't wait until the death of a loved one is imminent to make a decision about organ donation. Carry on Walter Payton's and thousands of other individuals' message about the need for organ and tissue donation - give the gift of life.

Nov. 12-14 is Interfaith Donor Awareness Weekend in Michigan. Members of the clergy will be sharing the importance of organ and tissue donation throughout their religious communities via special speakers, distribution of donor registry cards and as part of their sermons. If you would like more information about the Gift of Life Agency or the Interfaith Donor Awareness Weekend, call (800) 482-4881.

GEORGE BROOKS



LETTERS

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

A mockery

The case against Nathaniel Abraham demonstrates just how faulty our legal system is and how badly it has spun out of control. The current status represents how very desperate the legislators, politicians, judges and ordinary citizens have become considering the lack of ability of this society and its parents to control the behavior of children. One wonders about the motives of the prosecutor for these irrational charges.

The following examples plus many others are proof of this corrupt system: violent criminals are walking the streets; nonviolent people are languishing in prisons; judges and prosecutors are making politically correct decisions instead of legal ones (they must get votes, after all); crime rates are falling yet the people continue to be brainwashed into a fear of crime and an acceptance of the construction of thousands more prison beds; a little boy confined in handcuffs and leg shackles is conducted by large-sized officers before a jury; sexual abuse in prisons is ignored; the parole board answers to no one; our Supreme Court makes decisions based on liberal or conservative philosophies which the members carried with them to the bench when appointed by our dictator governor; and victims of rape are held in the same detention centers as the sexual predators.

This child may eventually get some form of justice thanks only to wise defense attorneys and an intelligent and wise jury. But today what does justice mean considering the state of the current legal system? Actually, the judge should discharge this case before the trial even begins. It is a mockery of the judicial system, a sham and an embarrassment to our state taxpayers and citizens.

Beatrice Scalise
Westland

Apology sought

My name is Michael Strebbling, past president of the Westland Jaycees, past state board member of the Michigan Jaycees, and Michigan Jaycee International Senator No. 57381. I am writing on behalf of the Westland Jaycees in response to the malicious remarks made by Councilwoman Justine Barns against the Westland Jaycees in an article published in the Westland Observer newspaper.

We were shocked by the article, as we cannot believe a member of the city council would

deliberately defile an organization that does so much good for the community and its members. The Jaycees are a leadership training organization. We help train ourselves, the leaders of tomorrow, through volunteer community and government involvement. As many of you know, the Jaycees have produced some of the past and present city council members, which is a testament to our leadership training methods.

One of the things I've learned in the Jaycees is that you get all the facts before you make assumptions and accusations. Assuming seldom leads to good. We would like to ask Councilwoman Barns why the Westland Jaycees were not contacted to verify the information prior to contacting the newspapers. Why didn't anyone contact the Wayne County Elections Office to find out if there was anything illegal taking place? I contacted them myself, as soon as we discovered the error, and was told that simply refunding the excess contribution was sufficient in the eyes of the Michigan Department of State-Compliance and Rules Division.

For Councilwoman Barns to blatantly accuse the Jaycees of intentionally doing something illegal or taking away from the community is false and reprehensible. She had to have known full well that the mistake had been rectified almost two months prior to the article's publication, as she was reviewing campaign statements.

Why was this done, we ask? We believe it was done to permanently damage the reputation of the Westland Jaycee name in the eyes of the community.

We feel it's a real shame that a city council member has slandered the name of an organization that has helped so many in its 40-year history. There are so many more valuable ways that Councilwoman Barns could have spent her time. The Jaycees, a leadership training organization, along with other non-profit groups, assist those in need with holiday food baskets, back to school shopping programs, holiday shopping for adopted families and many other projects.

Councilwoman Barns has jeopardized the Westland Jaycees' future ability to raise the necessary funds to continue these projects, yet does not appear to have an alternate solution.

In closing, we believe Councilwoman Barns owes the Westland Jaycees, its members, and the Jaycee organization as a whole a public apology.

Michael Strebbling

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

What is your favorite place to see during the fall color change?



"The northwest-ern section of Michigan, near Traverse City."

Vicky Owens



"Up North - the Oscoda area and anywhere."

Toni James



"Up North - Mackinaw City."

Doris Wilcox



"Hines Drive and out in the country."

David Brown

Westland Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Leaf-burner revels in the sights and smells of season

OK, it's not legal. But then a lot of things aren't, and we still do them. It can't be that bad. DARE doesn't have it on its hit list of drugs and the Mothers Against Drunk Driving have yet to target it.

But it's a drug - it's the smell of burning leaves on an October day. I confess to a severe addiction.

Like an alcoholic who hides his or her bottle, I hide my leaf burning. It's done in the privacy of my back yard at midnight.

For years, this secret addiction was kept under control, for I, like most, live in a community that long ago banned leaf burning. I'm not certain of the penalty in Livonia; I think I've avoided the knowledge, hoping to plead ignorance if caught.

Like other addictions, it was small at first. But once I got the smell in my nostrils, I was hooked, and it grew. Year by year, I'd add a few more

leaves to my fall ritual. Four, five, six leaves - then a couple of handfuls. I justified the action, thinking it created no more smoke than a power lawn mower or a charcoal grill.

Anyway, the work was usually done on chilly nights, when most neighbors were inside. Occasionally, my neighbor would come out of his house, notice the smell and say: "I like the smell of leaves burning."

The conversation would start us on a nostalgic chat about the days when people stood in front of their homes on fall evenings burning leaves.

In his old neighborhood, as in mine on the west side of Detroit, leaf burning was a communal activity. People shared opinions on how best to burn them, as they leaned on their rakes.

Damp days were the worst. Burning wet leaves produced more smoke than fire, and neighborhoods were enveloped by it, making them look



JEFF COUNTS

like a scene from some old, scary black-and-white horror film.

It made Halloween that much more fun. People had only a carved pumpkin on the porch with a candle in it, making the streets dark and misty. These days, every other house is decorated with Halloween lights, making the night less menacing.

In those days, people took pride in being able to burn leaves faster than their neighbors. It was similar to hav-

ing a good lawn these days.

My father indulged himself in this. He was a painting contractor and our garage was filled with lead paint, turpentine and other flammable solvents. The EPA would now consider it a toxic waste site.

In those days, when the leaves were wet, my father would go to the garage under the cover of darkness, return with a can of turpentine, look furtively at the neighbors, and then pour its content on the leaves. He'd then look at me and say: "Stand back." I knew what was going to happen.

We'd both walk a few steps away, let the turpentine soak into the wet leaves, then he'd toss a match into the pile. It was his blaze of glory.

The neighbors looked up from their soggy, smoking messes at our great blazing fire with envy in their eyes. Perhaps that's what planted the

seed of addiction in me, one that got out of hand last year, much to the dismay of my spouse.

Like Native Americans who burn a bit of tobacco for religious reasons, I'd burned a few leaves at a time.

But last fall, I became the equivalent of a five-pack a day smoker. My wife was away for several days, but due home that evening.

I lighted a few leaves, thought of dad and added some turpentine. Then there were headlights in the driveway. "The police? Fire department?" No, worse, my spouse.

She doused the fire, first using the beverage in my cup - an ignoble end to a fine bourbon - and then the garden hose.

Needless to say, she has no out-of-town trips planned this fall. And I'll be forced to control my addiction.

Jeff Counts is the editor of the Redford Observer.

Breaking news stories combine excitement, sorrow

Breaking news is a reporter's adrenaline rush.

When an exciting story breaks, it's a reminder to many of us why we got into newspaper reporting in the first place. It's being on the scene, in the middle of the excitement, getting there first and getting the best information.

Friday was that kind of day at the Observer's Livonia office when a breaking news story set off the reporter's alarm just as the working day began and just half a mile away.

Fortunately, the chemical fire at McGean-Rohco did not cause serious injury. But for several hours there was an anticipation of disaster that seemed appropriately ghoulish for Halloween weekend.

That's the other side of the reporter's rush. It's always the big complaint about newspaper people, that they love disasters, scandals, bad

news. While no one I know would ever want a disaster to occur, it is true that reporters respond with heightened energy when one does occur.

As a reporter I have covered house fires, car accidents, drug raids and a couple of low-rent murders. But the biggest "rush" was a story that turned from minute by minute excitement to a numbing sadness and, finally, to an impotent rage.

I was a very young reporter for the Lorain Journal in Ohio. Lorain is a steel town on the north Erie shore. It is also the home of American Shipbuilding. Early one morning the news editor heard there was a fire at the shipyard.

A photographer and I got there just after the fire department and just before the police, which meant that we got down into the yard. A fire was engulfing the new Roger Blough, a U.S. Steel freighter that was undergo-



HUGH GALLAGHER

ing final preparations for launch.

Billows of black smoke and lights of orange flame made a dramatic sight but also were warning that this mighty freighter might blow at any minute. That didn't deter the brave firefighters who ran into the smoke in search of shipworkers. The photographer, Kurt Smith, took a heartbreaking photo of a firefighter carrying out a limp body that won national awards and led to his selection as newspaper photographer of the year.

The time in the yard allowed me to talk to several workers who gave their theories about what might have caused the fire, theories disputed by company management. But soon the police arrived and escorted me to the gate where reporters from the Cleveland newspapers and television stations had finally arrived.

We set up headquarters in a bar across the street, constantly feeding information back to our city editors.

The story shifted time and again. Finally, it was confirmed, four workers were dead. The freighter was heavily damaged but would eventually be completed.

The owner of the shipbuilding company came to town for damage control. He was the already rich but not yet famous George Steinbrenner. Many of those qualities of arrogance and abruptness that have marked his reign as owner of the New York Yan-

kees were already on display during this crisis.

Though stories like this and the McGean-Rohco fire are the exception, they are an important part of what news people do. We compete to be at a place first because it allows us to get information we might have trouble getting later.

We compete to get to the right people in a timely manner to prevent attempts to cover up.

But as a community newspaper, we also are very careful to understand what is going on and report it accurately, fairly and, we hope, compassionately.

When news breaks, we'll be there. Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of The Observer Newspapers. He can be reached at 734-953-2149 or fax at 734-591-7279 or by e-mail at hgallagher@cc.homecom.net.

Power grab hurts education

Gov. John Engler last week transferred responsibility for (a) adult and vocational education to the Department of Career Development and (b) state education assessment tests (MEAP) to the Department of Treasury. Both previously had been run by the Department of Education.

I thought the headline in The Macomb Daily caught it just right: "Is Engler power mad or just efficient?"

As evidence for the efficiency school of thought, consider the shift of career and technical services and adult education to the Department of Career Development.

I chaired the Job Training Coordinating Commission during the 1980s. In those days, responsibility for job training and career development was inefficiently splattered all over state government. That's why I thought it was right for Engler to create the Department of Career Development; it concentrated responsibility and accountability for career-related programs and job training into one unit.

Moving staff overseeing adult education and vocational schools, including vocational courses at community colleges, to the Career Development department makes sense for the same reason. It strategically links adult and vocational education with community colleges in one coherent part of state government. Given how important high skills are for Michigan kids and businesses alike, I can only applaud Engler's move.

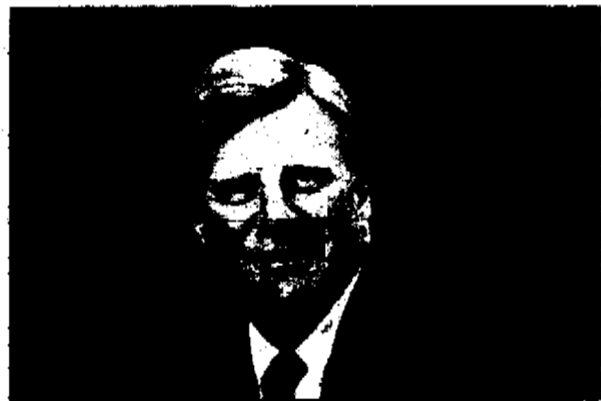
As evidence supporting the power-mad charge, consider what the governor has done to the MEAP program.

MEAP stands for the Michigan Educational Assessment Program, covering reading, writing, science and math, with social science to be added soon. Eleventh-graders who pass all tests can be awarded \$2,500 Merit college scholarships, beginning with the June 2000 class.

Responsibility for the MEAP test has been in the hands of the Department of Education for years. Under its leadership, the test has been one of the most powerful tools for school reform because it assesses what kids actually learn in school and provides solid evidence where individual schools need to do better.

Last year, however, in creating the Merit scholarship program and linking it to MEAP test results, the legislature created a new Michigan Merit Award Board. This provided a convenient rationale for moving oversight of MEAP tests from the education folks to, of all places, the Department of Treasury.

The relevant paragraph from the governor's press release read: "Because the law requires that the Michigan Merit Award Board review and approve the assessment tests before they may be used to determine eligibility under the scholarship program, the responsibility for the administration of MEAP is transferred to the



PHILIP POWER

Department of Treasury."

As evidence for "power mad," consider that of the seven members of the Merit board, six are Engler appointees: Mark Murray, head of Treasury; Barbara Bolin, director of Career Development; Kathleen Barclay, vice president of global human resources for General Motors; Clark Durant, who recently resigned from the State Board of Education after missing the majority of its meetings during his last three years; Isaiah "Ike" McKinnon, former Detroit police chief, and one person yet to be named. The seventh board member is Art Ellis, who gets his seat because he is superintendent of Education.

Excepting Ellis, none of the Merit Board members has any background in kindergarten-through-12th-grade administration, curriculum development or education reform. Murray, who chairs the Merit board, is widely regarded as a sane and thoughtful guy, but he doesn't know much about educational assessments.

Members of the State Board of Education, who are elected statewide (and, therefore, not under Engler's thumb) blasted the move.

"It makes no sense at all to pull responsibility for the MEAP test away from educators and give it to people who know nothing about testing," said member Sharon Gire, a former Democratic state representative. Dorothy Beardmore, a Republican member from Rochester, pointed out that "testing is very technical. It should be based on curriculum standards, which remain in the Department of Education. There is no logic at all in the MEAP move."

Forget all the hot air coming out of the governor's office about better coordination of the MEAP test with the Merit scholarship. The purpose of the MEAP test is not to determine who gets Merit scholarships, the purpose of the MEAP test is to improve education.

It's hard to see anything here other than a pure grab for power.

Phil Power is chairman of Home Town 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@homecom.net.

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Gas Customer Choice program begins 2nd enrollment period

DETROIT/PRNewswire/ — MichCon customers will get a second chance to choose an alternative natural gas supplier this week when the Gas Customer Choice program begins again. When the program was first introduced to customers in January, 70,000 enrolled and switched to a new supplier.

The Michigan Public Service Commission approved Gas Customer Choice in April 1998. The program allows up to 225,000 residential and small commercial customers to buy gas from another company by the year 2001. The way the program is designed, there are enrollment periods in each of the three years: the first ended on May 15, 1999.

The second enrollment period runs through Feb. 29, 2000. The program works on a voluntary, first come, first-served basis and up to 75,000 customers per year can switch to a new gas supplier. Therefore, as year two unfolds, up to 150,000 total customers can choose a new supplier.

"We fully expect to reach the cap for this program because it's what customers want," said Harold Gardner, vice president of marketing, sales and regulatory

■ 'We fully expect to reach the cap for this program because it's what customers want.'

Harold Gardner

MichCon vice president for marketing

affairs at MichCon. "We listened to our customers and have tailored year two of this program to make it even better for customers and suppliers."

For customers who choose to remain with MichCon, a fixed rate of 29.5 cents per hundred cubic feet during the plan's duration is guaranteed. Rates will vary with suppliers. Either way, MichCon will continue to deliver the natural gas through its existing pipeline system, bill customers and respond to all emergencies.

Several changes have been made to the program effective for the second year to minimize any customer confusion. Among the changes:

The name of the program has been changed from "MichCon Select" to "Gas Customer Choice."

A single enrollment period from Nov. 1 through Feb. 29, 2000 replaces a two-phase enrollment period.

MichCon will distribute additional educational materials to customers through bill messages and bill inserts to alert customers to the opportunity to choose a new supplier.

Customer protections have been installed; including a 30-day unconditional cancellation period (for residential customers only) following the signing of a contract with a new supplier.

Suppliers must clearly identify themselves on all solicitation materials and contracts and must leave materials and contracts with the customer to review.

MichCon customer service representatives are being retrained and provided with content-neutral information about the program.

MichCon is one of the nation's largest natural gas distributors, with 1.2 million Michigan families and businesses relying on MichCon for their energy needs.

Bids for Kids



Clinic support: Oakwood Healthcare System's Bids For Kids, held recently at the Wayne Community Center, raised more than \$55,000. This was made possible in part through a contribution made by Jack Demmer Ford in Wayne and other local sponsors. Demmer donated a two-year lease on a Ford Expedition. Here, Jim Demmer (left) congratulates winners Barbara and David Ippel. Proceeds will help continue the support and future expansion of the Lincoln/Jefferson Elementary School-based Health Clinic in Westland. Basic clinic services include physicals, health screenings, immunization, treatment for minor illnesses or injuries and management of chronic illnesses.

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COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

We helped; now you can

Sally (not her real name) came into the Family Resource Center looking a bit disheveled and pale. She plopped down in the chair, relieved that she was finally in a safe haven.

When asked what brought her in, she replied, "I'm at my wits end. Not only do I have a 15 year old who is acting up, but a new husband who dislikes her intensely. He practically breathes fire whenever she's around."

"I feel pulled in two directions and don't know what to do."

"After getting a little more information about the situation, it came out that Sally's daughter hadn't healed emotionally from her biological dad's death three years earlier. And now, to add the "wicked stepfather" into the mix was more than she could bear.

Between his anger that the kids get away with murder, and Sally's anger at her daughter's surliness and disrespect, she sighed, "I could run away with the circus and have more happiness than I have right now."

The counselor spent the hour plotting a course that would get her the help she needed with both her marriage and her daughter. He prescribed several solutions and bundled them up into one package that included referrals for family counseling, grief and loss-support groups for mom and daughter and a parenting workshop for both Sally and the step-dad.

She walked away a different person, realizing that she had much

■ 'Your daughter is still in a lot of pain, and it is splashing out and over you and your husband. If she doesn't get the help she needs and deserves, bring her here for one visit ...'

more power and control of the situation than she originally thought.

As she stood at the door ready to leave, the counselor ended with "Your daughter is still in a lot of pain, and it is splashing out over you and your husband. If she doesn't agree to get the help she needs and deserves, bring her here for one visit and we'll talk about it together."

The business of the Family Resource Center is to help families get answers. What do we help them with? You name it. We have answers.

Whether you are concerned about getting the basics - food, shelter, clothing - or less fundamental things such as substance abuse referrals, counseling, tutoring, child care, legal assistance, or parent workshops - the free-to-the-public service is there to assist you.

And to assist us in keeping the doors open, we invite you to the first Taste of the Arts event. If you like food, then you will enjoy an evening of grazing among some of your favorite restaurants. We will also be showcasing and selling student artwork through a silent auction.

When and where will you find this benefit night?

From 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 38315-Joy between Newburgh and Wayne roads in Westland.

Bring your families and show your support. This event is sponsored by International Minute Press, The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Maui Travel, Hellenic Cultural Center, North Bros. Ford and the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

It costs \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Tickets can be bought at the Westland Chamber of Commerce, 36900 Ford, or by calling (734) 326-7222.

Jacquie Martin-Downs is the coordinator of the Family Resource Center in Westland and has a private counseling practice. If you have a question or comment, write her at the Observer Newspapers, 38251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or at her e-mail address: downja@mail.reso.net

125 years and counting



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Past and present: Postulant Michele Marzicola (back row, left), Sister Michele Marie Bolda, Sister Toni Ann Marie Russo and Sister Angelette Marie Litchney gather with Sister Mary Ludmilla Stender who, at age 106, is the oldest sister at the Felician Sisters Provincial House in Livonia.

Sisters celebrate milestone

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

As Toni Ann Marie Russo, 38, reflects about giving up a thriving law practice in New Jersey to become a nun, in another part of the vast Felician Sisters' complex in Livonia, Sister Mary Ludmilla Stender, 106, recently celebrated 89 years since she entered the religious life.

These women, representing the past and future of the order, are part of the 125 years of service by thousands of Felician Sisters who have committed their lives to helping people, especially the young and the old, in communities around the world.

"I had my own practice in New Jersey," Russo said. "I felt that the Lord was giving me an option. I really felt strongly that he wanted me to teach his children. Given the option, knowing he would love me no matter what, I chose to pursue it and give up my law firm."

On 300 acres bounded by Schoolcraft, Five Mile, Levan and Newburgh roads, the institutions maintained by these dedicated religious are cornerstones of the community - Angela Hospice, Ladywood High School, Madonna University, St. Mary Hospital, Marywood Manor and Marybrook Nursing Care Center, Montessori Center of Our Lady and Senior Clergy Village. They also operate retreat centers in Jackson and Holly.

A 125th anniversary celebration will begin at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7,

at the Felician Chapel in Livonia and will be officiated by Adam Cardinal Maida, leader of the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit. Eight bishops and more than 40 priests will concelebrate with hundreds of laity.

Tours of exhibits, including one highlighting the life of Felician founder Mary Angela Truszkowska, will be held in the provincial house immediately after the liturgy. A reception and dinner, planned by Felician provincial minister Sister Mary Dennis Glonek, will begin at 5 p.m. at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

Sister Mary Cynthia Strzalkowski, who leads the 2,300 sisters in the order worldwide, is the guest speaker. Reservations are required.

The Livonia province of the Felician order is made up of 230 members and grew out of a movement in Poland, Wis., in 1874 when Father Joseph Dabrowski invited five Felician Sisters to that rural village to teach the children of Polish immigrants.

Within a few years, the small Felician community attracted other members and began ministries in Michigan, Illinois and New York.

The sisters moved their central headquarters to Detroit in 1882 and in 1936 relocated to Livonia. It is the oldest Felician Sisters province in North America.

"It is also blessed with the most diverse set of ministries concentrated in one complex," said Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, the provincial secretary.

Felician Sisters are visible and active throughout the Midwest teaching in 26 elementary and high schools from Alpena and Clinton Township to South Bend, Ind., and Toledo, Ohio.

In addition to serving in parish schools in Michigan, Indiana and Ohio, the Felician Sisters also work as principals, teachers, nurses, pastoral ministers, administrators, directors, librarians, tutors, aides, musicians, artists, counselors and combinations of these roles. Together they minister to more than half a million people annually.

The provincial house in Livonia was built under the leadership of Sister Mary DeSales Tocka, when the province's membership was more than 700 sisters. The massive building measures 250,000 square feet and

towers above a grove of trees.

Of the approximately 100 Felician Sisters who live at the complex, 60 are aged or ill.

The congregation's official name in North America is the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Felix, which was named after a Capuchin Franciscan, St. Felix of Cantalice, who lived during the 16th century.

Legacy continues

Nearly 400 years later, the legacy continues with people like Russo who has begun a two-year program that is required of every woman who intends to spend her life as a Felician Sister. Russo entered the order in June 1998 and recently moved to Livonia from New Jersey.

"It's a honeymoon with Jesus," Russo said. "Most friends and family thought I was out of my mind. I had a profitable law firm and was very happy in it. I could go on vacation at any time. I had a dream car, a dream house. Most people couldn't understand why I could give up all of that and become a sister."

"Right now I'm on a vacation to 'have Christ as my spouse and that's a dream for me."

Russo knew she wanted to enter the order while painting a picture of Jesus' mother, Mary.

While there aren't many women like Russo clamoring to enter convents, the numbers have gone up

Please see SISTERS, B2



Blessed Mary Angela Truszkowska

Novice model proves a hit on the runway

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

I didn't trip even once. Despite the fact that the shoes I was given were at least one size too big, my nerves tingled up my spine, and I've never really modeled before, I didn't blunder. I didn't fall.

As a first-time model in the Redford Suburban League's 26th annual Festival of Fashion show, held last month at Livonia's Burton Manor, I wasn't quite sure what I was getting myself into.

The theme, "Afternoon in Paris," gave a European air to the event, while focusing straight in on the familiar faces of metro Detroit. All I knew beforehand was that it involved shopping, new clothes, meeting a lot of new people, and would benefit children in need in Wayne and Oakland counties.

So, I signed up. I may be a community life and entertainment reporter, but how hard could it be to walk down a runway?

As I drove to the event filled with anticipation and a little anxiety - I truly didn't know what to expect.

Noon - I arrived promptly and was guided into a changing room where the clothes I would model were clearly labeled and ready for me to try on. Parisian provided the fashions for this year's show.

I quickly fell in love with the slate gray suede pants, bulky hooded wool sweater and Timberland boots waiting for me in the changing room. Casual attire: nice fit, buttoned and ready for show. I was transformed from reporter back to college co-ed.

12:30 p.m. - By the time I hit the hair and makeup chair, I was already quite comfortably in "model-



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HARTLEY

mode." With one quick look at my almost-black shoulder-length mane, the stylists decided on straight - we're talking ironed straight - hair. They might as well have read my mind.

So Amanda Evans, a stylist from The Works salon on Walled Lake headed up the train, and went to work

With gentle tagging, plenty of hair potions and serious concentration, she did what I consider to be the impossible - she shined my hair down into straight, shiny, soft locks. sheer delight.

Please see MODEL, B2

Walk this way:

Strutting opposite Channel 7's Mike Huckman, Stephanie Angelyn Casola gets to know the runway at the Redford Suburban League's annual fashion show.

Model from page B1

Meanwhile, Dawn So, quality director and stylist at the salon, gathered some makeup on my face to even out my skin tone, and began to transform me into the model-for-a-day I was ready to become, or at least resemble.

Smoky gray shadow accented my eyes, a touch of shimmer highlighted my cheeks and a honey-colored gloss paired with brownish lip liner coated my lips.

Maybe I'm just ultra-girlie when it comes to beauty products, but there's nothing more relaxing than having your hair and makeup done for you, especially when you're being doted upon and complimented by the friendly stylists. I was in heaven.

12:45 p.m. - Spruced up and ready for the runway, I was bidding time as other models rushed in and prepared. Rubbing elbows

'It's been a job and an education. The celebrities were all pleasures to work with.'

Barb Stoner
Parisian Special Events

with television personalities like fashion show commentators Rich Fisher and Doris Biscoe was another treat.

Cindy Jamieson, league member and organizer of models for the show, made herself available for anyone who needed her. She was running a smooth show and doing so with ease.

Barb Stoner, organizer of special events at Parisian, was particularly helpful behind the scenes. It was something of a new experience for her as well.

"It's been a job and an education," said Stoner. "The celebrities were all pleasures to work

with."

Fashions were selected from a "must-have" list of new arrivals for the season that the store carries. Fashions ranged from hues of winter white to deep red and the occasional refreshing splash of color.

Around 1:15 p.m. - Models lined up in the tiny hall behind the stage. Paired male-female couples chatted in line awaiting their turn in the spotlight. Florene Mark, Miss Redford Che'Vonne Burton and ABC's weather-forecaster Kim Adams were only a few of the 33 models.

Romance novelist Shelly Thacker, a Redford resident, said she was surprised that the celebrities looked just like they do on television.

"It's fun for me to get a look at all these celebrities," she said, seeming to forget she's included in that group. Thacker's dose the fashion show before and returned because she considers it to be a good cause. Proceeds from the show are donated to a variety of charities to aid disabled children.

Paired with broadcast reporter Mike Huckman, who was dressed suitably in Tommy Hilfinger casualwear, we took to the stage. Teased a bit about "what a nice couple we make" by our friendly commentators, I blushed uncontrollably down the runway.

The cheers from a roomful of almost 1,000 attendees quickened my pace. I just kept hoping I wouldn't fall down. Just as we stepped offstage, it was back to the dressing room for a quick change, makeup touchup before we got back in line to model evening wear.

Around 2 p.m. - Joyce Harner was another reason things ran so smoothly backstage. A Redford Suburban League member for five years and a Waterford resident, Harner said hers is an easy job. She's ready for a quick fix for any emergency.

If anyone pops a button or rips a sleeve, Harner would be right on the case. Luckily, she didn't seem to have many emergencies to tend to at this event.

While it was my first time par-

ticipating in the fashion show, most models had the routine down pat. Colleen Burcar, Detroit-area radio personality, said she comes back because of the people involved.

"The Redford Suburban League is wonderful," she said. "They care a lot about the community. That's wonderful to see."

Jo-Jo Shutty MacGregor, who happens to be just about my height and an absolute delight to talk to, has been doing the fashion show since its inception. She said the people who attend the show "have the best seats in the house" to see the latest fashions.

Shutty MacGregor works for AAA of Michigan as a radio and television reporter... when she's not strutting down the runway, that is.

2:35 p.m. - After a second trip down the stage and a grand finale in which everyone took one last walk by the crowd, the models hurried back to change, shuffling about with cell phones and switching into high-gear reporter mode for the rest of the day.

Back to business-as-usual, but I can see how it might be tempting to model for a living. I'm not saying my 5-foot, 1 1/2-inch figure is ready to give Cindy Crawford a run for her money, but who doesn't want to be pampered and complimented in a whimsical atmosphere?

I can't wait until next year.

Sisters from page B1

slightly in recent years. The high point of enrollment was during the late 1950s and early 1960s, Kujawa explained.

"I think there's a greater appreciation of the sacred and positive religious values," she said. "Felician Sisters recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of the death of their foundress, Blessed Mary Angela Truszkowska, who was a holy woman who never intended to found a community, but was intent about serving the people in need in her country."

Sister Mary Angela cared for the most vulnerable, the children and elderly, who suffered in war torn Poland. She started the Felician order by helping five children and five elderly people. Other women came to her aid.

"These women saw a need and wanted to help," Sister Kujawa said.

The order has spread to more than 20 countries on four continents.

Blessed pilgrimage

During September and October, 23 Felician Sisters from Michigan and Indiana, including Kujawa, flew to Warsaw to join more than 300 Felician sisters from around the world for a pilgrimage honoring the 100 year anniversary of their foundress' death.

"It really was an outstanding experience, because we were able to walk in the foot steps of

Blessed Mary Angela and appreciate the generous heart she had," Kujawa said.

The Felician Sisters of Livonia will join members of their order around the world in a 10-day pilgrimage this month to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the order. In the United States, the observance will be held Nov. 19-28 in parts of Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan and New York as Felician Sisters retrace their earliest beginnings in North America.

"The 10 days will also honor Father Dabrowski, who not only inspired the Felician Sisters to move to Detroit to expand their ministry, but founded a seminary, SS. Cyril and Methodius in Orchard Lake," Sr. Kujawa said. "The highlight of this trip will be the sisters visiting the cemeteries where the five pioneers are buried, including the leader, Sr. Mary Monica Sybilski in Mt. Elliott Cemetery, and Sr. Mary Raphael in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, both in Detroit."

Two local masses will be held during the pilgrimage. One at 11:15 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 24, at St. Josaphat Church in Detroit and the other at 11 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25, at the Felician Sisters Provincial House in Livonia. The public is welcome.

ANNIVERSARIES

Johnson

Donald and Gertrude Johnson of Livonia recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their children.

The couple exchanged vows on Sept. 3, 1949, at St. Leo's Catholic Church in Detroit. She is the former Gertrude Ricard.

They have two sons, Donald II of Redford and Joseph and wife, Pamela, of South Lyon. They also have four grandchildren, Erica, Donald III, Joseph Jr. and Sidney.

He retired from A&P Warehouse and she retired from Meadowdale Food.

The Johnsons received a trip



to Las Vegas as a gift from their children.

Korzetz

John and Regina Korzetz of Livonia celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at a dinner reception at Burton Manor in Livonia.

Thirty-five-year Livonia residents, they exchanged vows on Aug. 6, 1949, in Detroit. She is the former Regina Mech.

They are the parents of four children - Katherine Bliss and husband James, the late Elizabeth Purcell, Linda Korzetz and Nancy Leib and husband Thomas. They also have five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



He is retired from General Motors, while she is semi-retired from community events.

CRAFTS CALENDAR

LIVONIA STEVENSON
The Livonia Stevenson High School Booster Club will have its annual Holiday Happening Craft Show 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 6 at the high school, 33500 Six Mile Road, Livonia. For more information, call (248) 478-2395 or (734) 464-1041.

FROST
The Frost Middle School PTSA will present its 23rd annual holiday craft show 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 6 at the school, 14041 Stark Road, Livonia. There will be more than 150 crafters, a lunch room and bake sale. Admission will be \$2; no strollers permitted.

MADONNA UNIVERSITY
Madonna University is accepting applications from crafters for its 15th annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Showcase 10 a.m. to 4

p.m. Nov. 6-7 in the Activities Center of its Livonia campus. For more information, call (734) 432-5603.

GARDEN CITY PRESBYTERIAN
Garden City Presbyterian Church will have its annual bazaar 4-8 p.m. Nov. 12 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 13 at the church, 1841 Middlebelt Road, south of Ford Road, Garden City. A turkey dinner will be served 4:30-7 p.m. Nov. 12 and lunch on Nov. 13. There will be arts and crafts, silent auction, cookie walk, white elephant room and bake sale.

OAKWOOD CANTON
The Oakwood Canton Health Center will have its annual holiday craft show 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 13 at the center, 7300 Canton Center Road, Canton. For

more information, call (734) 454-8001.

ST EDITH
St. Edith School will have its fall craft show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 13 at the school, 15089 Newburgh Road, Livonia. For more information, call Diana at (734) 462-6037 or Jo Ann at (734) 464-9370.

CLARENCEVILLE
The Clarenceville High School Athletic Booster Club will have its annual holiday boutique 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 13 at the high school, Middlebelt between Seven and Eight Mile roads, Livonia. Admission will be \$2 and baby-sitting will be available. No strollers permitted.

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WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Gosen-Easterwood

Thomas Ellis Easterwood and Jennifer Jo Gosen were married May 1 at Assumption BVM Catholic Church in Bridgeport by the Rev. Daniel Nowak.

The bride is the daughter of Theresa and Joseph Gosen. The groom is the son of Caroline and Waymon Easterwood of Plymouth.

The bride asked Kimberly Leach to serve as matron of honor with Cheryl Markwood, Julie Boden, Jennie McNamara and Dawn Barber as bridesmaids. Janice Markwood was the junior bridesmaid, and Abbey Leach was the flower girl.

Dave Coleman served as best man with Brad Markwood, Paul Leach, Chris Osburn and John



Jednick as groomsmen and Andrew Farrand as the ring bearer.

The couple received guests at a reception at the Horizons Conference Center. Following a trip to Hawaii, they are making their home in Pinckney.

Darnall-Willert

Jessica Lynn Willert and Ted Raymond Darnall were married Aug. 27 at the Sacred Heart of Jesus Polish National Catholic Church in Detroit by the Rev. Gabriel Grzesik.

The bride is the daughter of Kathy Chesser of St. Clair Shores and Roger Willert of Appleton, Wis. The groom is the son of Jerry and Karen Darnall of Redford.

The bride is a 1990 graduate of Lakeview High School. She is employed by Village Green Co. as the leasing manager at Village Green of Rochester.

The groom is a 1992 graduate of Thurston High School. He is employed as a firefighter by the city of Dearborn.

The bride asked Angie Kaczynski to serve as her honor attendant, while Chris Chupa was the



best man.

The couple received guests at a reception at Laurel Manor in Livonia before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Hawaii. They are making their home in Redford.

Abdoo-Cotton

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Abdoo Sr. of Davisburg announce the engagement of their daughter, Rebecca Marie, to Bruce Anthony Cotton, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ford H. Cotton of Brighton, formerly of Plymouth.

The bride-to-be is a 1990 graduate of Clarkston High School and a graduate of Grand Valley State University.

Her fiancé is a 1987 graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School. A June 2000 wedding is planned at Our Lady of the Lakes Church in Waterford.



Teter-Kley

Ken and Peggy Teter of Lansing announce the engagement of their daughter, Allison, to Jeff Kley, the son of Milt and Sarah Kley of Plymouth.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Waverly High School and a 1997 graduate of Michigan State University. She is the purchasing coordinator at Cummins Michigan Inc.

Her fiancé is a 1993 graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School and a 1998 graduate of Michigan State University. He works as a Wayne County Sheriff's deputy.

A June 2000 wedding is planned in Lansing.



Schopper-Peck

Gerald and Lillian Schopper of Whitmore Lake announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa May, to Thomas R. Peck, the son of Thom and Lynne Peck of Chandler, Ariz.

The bride-to-be is a 1988 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and a 1997 graduate of Arizona State University with a bachelor of science degree in chemistry.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Arizona State University College of Business with a degree in finance.

An April wedding is planned



at St. Timothy Church in Mesa, Ariz.

O'Daniel-Polanski

Pam and Scott Heumann of Livonia and Robert O'Daniel of Jackson announce the engagement of their daughter, Leah Michelle, to Allen Michael Polanski Jr., the son of Allen and Sandy Polanski of Glendale, Ariz., formerly of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and attended Arizona State University. She is employed at Wyndham Garden Hotel in Phoenix.

Her fiancé is a 1996 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School. He is employed at Special Touch Auto in Scottsdale, Ariz.

A May wedding in Scottsdale is being planned.



Criscenti-Jambor

Frank and Pat Criscenti of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Lynn, to Michael John Jambor, the son of John and Judy Jambor of Ann Arbor.

The bride-to-be is a 1990 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School and a 1995 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in labor economics. She is employed as a sales trainer by AirTouch Cellular in Southfield.

Her fiancé is a 1990 graduate of Northville High School, a 1994 graduate of Central Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in business administration and a 1999 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a master of business administration degree. He is employed as a program timing



coordinator by the Ford Motor Company in Dearborn.

A February wedding is planned at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth.

Starr-Wagner

Katy Wagner and Brian Donald Starr were married Oct. 7 in Las Vegas, Nev.

The bride is the daughter of John and Bonnie Wagner of Livonia. The groom is the son of Donald and Joan Starr of Naperville, Ill.

The bride is a graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and Schoolcraft College with an associate's degree in graphic design.

The groom is a graduate of Naperville Central High School in Illinois and Columbia College with a bachelor's degree in music.

The couple honeymooned on a camping trip in the Southwest and an autumn colors tour in the Northeast. They are making



their home in Northville.

Fisher-Yesh

Richard and Dolores Yesh of Livonia announce the engagement of their son, Christopher Steven, to Kathleen Ann Fisher, the daughter of Raymond and Grace Fisher of Austin, Texas.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Molloy College in Rockville Center, N.Y. She is employed as a financial analyst with Clear Commerce Corp.

Her fiancé is a graduate of the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit. He is employed as a computer game animator by Origin Systems Inc.

A February wedding is planned in Austin.



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P.A.R.I.S.I.A.N.

Airline Ambassadors plan holiday mission to Bolivia

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

Just back from Bolivia, Linda Henning Ganzler is already planning a return trip.

Ganzler had gone to her mother's homeland with the idea of helping needy children. She came back knowing she would do it again and again.

"This is my work," said Ganzler who was the medical supply coordinator for an Airline Ambassadors' mission to the South American country in early October. "Before I did this mission, I did missions everywhere. Now I've decided Bolivia is mine."

Noting that the group is very committed to Bolivia and with the blessing of Nancy Revard of Airline Ambassadors, Ganzler has already begun collecting things for a Christmas mission, Dec. 6-9.

The plan is to give the street children a police-supported safe house and the 25 youngsters in an orphanage a Christmas, although her donations list doesn't include toys.

Between now and Nov. 16, Ganzler and Keeley Kelemen are hoping to gather more medical supplies like a dermatone machine for treating burn patients, shunts to treat hydrocephalic children and things like crutches, neck braces and elastic bandages that people may have laying around their homes.

"We had three doctors fighting over one neck brace," Ganzler said. "The doctors wanted more than what we had."

'I went with the idea of being able to do so much and came out feeling like a pebble.'

Keeley Kelemen
Airline Ambassador

They're also looking for clothing, including adult-sized sweats, warm socks, good winter shoes, towels and cash donations. The money will be given to the police and workers at the orphanage to buy gifts for the children. According to Ganzler, \$60 can buy presents for 90 children.

Helping out

The Stride Rite shoe store at Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon in Plymouth is holding a penny drive to raise money, and elementary school children in Boston, Mass., are conducting a clothing drive for the December mission.

Ganzler and Kelemen can't say thank you enough to the people and businesses such as the Bearly Worn consignment store in Plymouth and Water Wheel Health Club in Northville that gave money, prizes for the golf outing and goods for the garage sale that helped make the October mission a success.

They're hoping people will be as generous again and are offering to pick up donations. The cutoff date is Nov. 16 so that donations can be boxed and shipped out to the country. To make arrangements for pickups, call Kelemen at (248) 374-3572.

In a country where the projected per capita income is \$908 in

U.S. dollars and the "government says there isn't a poverty problem," the ambassadors found plenty of people in need of the clothing, blankets, medical supplies and wheelchairs.

At The Foundation - a "very impoverished" medical/dental clinic - a wheelchair was given to an older woman who had been carrying her 48-year-old police-stricken daughter on her back.

Another chair was given to a man who wanted to give his hospital-bound brother a life in spite of spinal cancer. He also received the \$200 needed for surgery that would let him take his brother home.

A woman received \$20 to buy a new gas stove. The mother of six, she had resorted to feeding her children raw potatoes when the family's stove broke.

At a home, donated by the PAC police organization to work with the street children, the youngsters stood in the rain and muck in a line that went out the back door, waiting to get some clothes.

"I went with the idea of being able to do so much and came out feeling like a pebble," said Kelemen. "It's my first time doing something like this and I was embarrassed because I did so little."

At a home for abused children, star stickers put the youngsters in seventh heaven. They also received toothbrushes and clothing.

The home has two rooms and nine beds for 25 children. It was established by a woman who now lives in Switzerland and sends \$200 a month for their care.

The youngsters make little woven purses and small flutes to learn how to work, and arrangements are being made to send a check for \$100 to buy the handmade goods, Ganzler said.

Ganzler and Kelemen are amazed at how helpful people are in the impoverished country. Even a television show broadcast nationwide brings in people with problems and gets them help.

"Everyone told us that what would drive us crazy is that the government says 'we don't have a poverty problem,'" Ganzler said. "It's amazing how little the country has, but anyone who has something, helps out."



Sizing it up: Linda Henning Ganzler joins the crowd of children waiting for clothing at an orphanage in La Paz, Bolivia.

Seminar is for people thinking about college

If you're considering going back to school but think you're too old to go to college, Schoolcraft College's Women's Resource Center has the answer - "Thinking About College?"

The free seminar will be held 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Nov. 10, in Room MC200 of the McDowell Center on the Schoolcraft campus, Haggerty Road north of Six Mile Road in Livonia.

Specifically designed for adult women who are thinking about going back to school, the program will explore such topics as how to get started, financial aid, juggling responsibilities and

finding time to study.

College services - admissions, career planning and placement, counseling, financial aid, Learning Assistance Center, Registrar's Office and Women's Resource Center - will be covered during the program.

"Thinking About College?" is supported in part by the Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne and comes in time for those participants interested in enrolling in winter classes, which start on Jan. 7.

To reserve a spot, call the Women's Resource Center at (734) 462-4443.



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(734) 522-6830
CANTON
46001 Warren Road
(1 Mile West of Canton Center)
Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am
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EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
"1999 Trinity's Year of Prayer Countdown to '2000'"
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5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.
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734-459-9550
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
8:00 Prayer & Praise Service
9:30
Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED
8:00-9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

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Evangelical Presbyterian Church
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"Just west of I-275"
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor
Worship Services,
Sunday School
8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.
Contemporary Service
8:30-9:45 A.M.
Evening Service
6:00 P.M. in the Chapel
Nursery Provided
Now On The Radio 8:30 a.m.
Sunday - WYUR 1310 AM

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Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, Pastor
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10:00 AM - Pastor John Ratz
Get Real: Mirror, Mirror on the Wall
6:30 PM - Pastor Andy Bernard
24-Hour Prayer Line 248-352-6205

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20805 Middlebelt
Farmington Hills, Mich.
WORSHIP SERVICES
Saturday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

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16700 Newburgh Road
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Sunday School for All Ages: 9:30 a.m.
Family Worship 11:00 a.m.
"To Those Who Turn Aside"
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<http://www.undial.com/~sttimothy>

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9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Education For All Ages
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Pastor David Martin
Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Main & Church • (734) 453-6464
PLYMOUTH
8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Nursery 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Dr. James Skumins - Pastor
Senior Minister - Tamara J. Seidel
Associate Minister - Carol MacKay
Director of Christian Education

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
Pastor: Margaret A. Farmington, M.Div.
(734) 422-0494
Worship Service & Sunday School
10:30 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided
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Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor
Rev. Ruth Billington, Associate Pastor
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And we know it.
It's not the goal of our church to crank out people who walk and talk alike. It is our goal to help individuals like you discover a richer and more meaningful spiritual life. Join us this Sunday.
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First Sat. 9:30 a.m.
Solel. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
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Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

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9:45 a.m.
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5885 Venoy
1 1/2 N. of Ford Rd. Westland
425-0260
Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.
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Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 466-3196

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Rev. John J. Sullivan
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5:00 P.M. Life Teen Mass

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17810 Farmington Road • Livonia • (734) 261-1360
May thru October • Monday Night Service - 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School & Bible Classes For All Ages 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship Services
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Pastor James Hoff
Pastor Eric Blankenbiller

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9435 Harry Ruff at West Chicago
Livonia 48150 • 421-5408
Rev. Donald Lineman, Pastor
9:15 Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
and Youth Classes
Nursery Care Available
-WELCOME-

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)
Chuck Souquet, Pastor
10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes
Nursery Provided • 422-8638

Clarenceville United Methodist
20100 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
474-1444
Rev. Jean Love
Worship Services 10:15 A.M., 6:00 P.M.
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
Office Hrs. 9-5

Mt. Hope Congregational Church
30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia • 734-425-7280
(Between Middlebelt & Merriman)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Nursery Care Available
"The Church You've Always Longed For."

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Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
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Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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313-532-8655
Worship Services 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
Thursday 7:30 p.m.
Grade K thru 8
Phone for Enrollment Info
WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

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<http://www.timothyivonia.com>

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9:00 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship
4:30 p.m. - "Connections" - Contemporary Worship
Dynamic Youth & Children's Programs
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Buildings of the Spirit at Aldergate
United Methodist Church
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Between Plymouth and W. Chicago
Bob & Diane Gaudin, Co-Pastors
313-937-3170
November 7
Scripture/Matt 25:1-13
Topic/Parable of the Bridemaids
Rev. Diane Gaudin, preaching

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1180 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wind Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room - 441 S. Harvey, Plymouth
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Thursday 7-9 p.m.
453-1676

St. Genevieve Roman Catholic Church & School
29018 Jamieson Ave. • Livonia
East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Schoolcraft Rd.
MASS: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 9:00 a.m.
Tues. 7:00 p.m. • Sat. 5 p.m.
Sun. 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. & 12:00 noon
734-427-8230

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(734) 394-0357
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Sunday Worship Services - 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.
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NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
422-0149
Worship Services & Sunday School
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
NOTE: Time change for early service
Discovering God's Vision
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"TURN FEAR INTO CHEER HERE"
Rev. Thomas G. Bradley, preaching
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Sunday 5:00 p.m. Topical/Jesus in Our Lives
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Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

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16900 Hubbard Road
Livonia, Michigan 48184
421-6481
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Wednesday 4:00 P.M. Dinner & Chalice
Saturday 5:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist
Sunday 7:45 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist
10:00 A.M. Christian Education for all ages
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available
The Rev. Robert Clapp, Rector

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291 E. SPRING ST.
2 Blocks N. of Main • 2 Blocks E. of Mt. SUNDAY
9:00 a.m. • 10:30 a.m. • 7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 11:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
(Church for all ages)
Pastor Frank Howard Ch. 453-0281

RELIGIOUS NEWS

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

NEW BEGINNINGS

Warren Gilbert will discuss "Managing Memories" when New Beginnings, a grief support group, meets at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile east of Merriman, Livonia. The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one. There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. For more information, call the church office at (734) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (313) 462-3770.

SINGLE POINT

Single Point single adult ministries of Ward Presbyterian Church will have Living Truth in concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 5, in Knox Hall of the church, 40000 W. Six Mile Road, Northville. The concert is free, however, a freewill offering will be accepted. For more information, call the Single Point office at (248) 374-5920.

Therapist, author and speaker Jenie Gordon will speak about "Are Men and Women Different?" at Talk It Over 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12, in Knox Hall. Coffee and cookies will be served, and a freewill offering will be accepted.

Gordon also will speak about "Stuff of Life and Relationships," a growth seminar, at 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 13, in Room C307/309 of the church. Topics covered include "Anger, the Healthy Emotion," "Relax - You've Got to Be Kidney?," "Grabbing Hold of Your Future" and "On Your Mark, Get Set, Wait."

The seminar costs \$20. Call the Single Point office to register.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United of Suburban Detroit-West will observe World Community Day on Friday, Nov. 5, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard, Livonia. The program, "God's Passionate Love," will be at 12:45 p.m. and will feature special guest Bonniebell the clown. Participants should bring the love pillows they've made.

CELEBRANT SINGERS

The Celebrant Singers will perform at 8:10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 5, as part of the Ave Maria Foundation First Friday Breakfast Club meeting in the Ulrich Conference Room off Lobby E of Domino Farms, Frank Lloyd Wright Drive, Ann Arbor.

There will be Mass at 7 a.m. followed by breakfast at 7:40 a.m. and a rosary before the performance. The event is open to the public. Breakfast costs \$3. For more information, call Marie Pelletier at (734) 482-1400.

The Celebrant Singers also will perform 7:45 p.m. Nov. 5 at the Eastern Michigan University Student Chapel in Ypsilanti. The concert is being sponsored by the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University and Ave Maria Institute. A rosary will be said following the performance.

Donations will be taken at the door. For more information, call Stephanie Thomas at (734) 482-1400.

MILLENNIUM DINNER-DANCE

The Irish Pallottine Fathers will hold a Millennium Mission Dinner-Dance Saturday, Nov. 6, at the Hellenic Cultural Center,

36375 Joy Road, Westland. Cocktails will be at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. and dancing to the music of Brian Boner and His Arranmore Band until 1 a.m. Tickets cost \$40 each and are available by calling Eileen Fenn at (248) 349-6521, John Wisley at (248) 681-5736 or the Pallottine Fathers at (734) 285-2966.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST

Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance for divorced and

separated Christians, will have a dance, "Plymouth Rocks," at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, at St. Robert Bellarmine Church Hall, Inkster and West Chicago in Redford. The \$8 charge includes refreshments. Proper attire requested. For more information, call Diane at (734) 971-4553 or Bill at (734) 421-3011.

There also will be a Mass at 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, followed by a turkey dinner and open mike - say a clean joke and don't pay for supper - at St. Kenneth's Parish, Haggerty Road, south of

Five Mile Road, Plymouth Township.

AIDS MASS

St. Theodore of Canterbury Catholic Community will host an AIDS Healing and Anointing Mass for people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. For more information, call the church at 425-4421.

DEEDICATION SERVICE

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will dedicate its newly installed Moeller pipe organ

with a festival Eucharist with order of dedication at 10:30 a.m. and hymn festival at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, at the church, 26212 W. Six Mile Road, Redford. The hymn festival will be led by Margarete Thomsen, organist and choir director, and the Rev. Sharon Janot, pastor. A reception will follow the performance. For more information, call the church at (313) 537-3778.

QUEST SPEAKER

The Rev. Richard O. Singleton will speak at 9:45 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, at St. Paul's Presbyterian

Church, 27475 Five Mile Road, Livonia. Singleton is a noted author and executive director of the Christian Communication Council of Metropolitan Detroit Churches. For more information, call the church at (734) 422-1470.

RUMMAGE SALE

Congregation Beit Kodesh will have a rummage sale noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, at the synagogue, 31840 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia. For more information, call the church at (313) 422-1470.

Please see RELIGION, B6

AT&T Stores

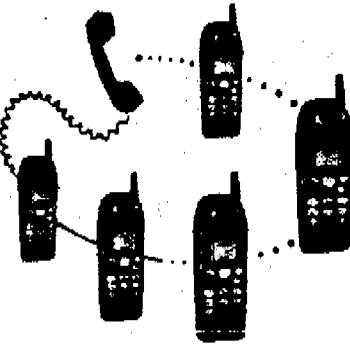
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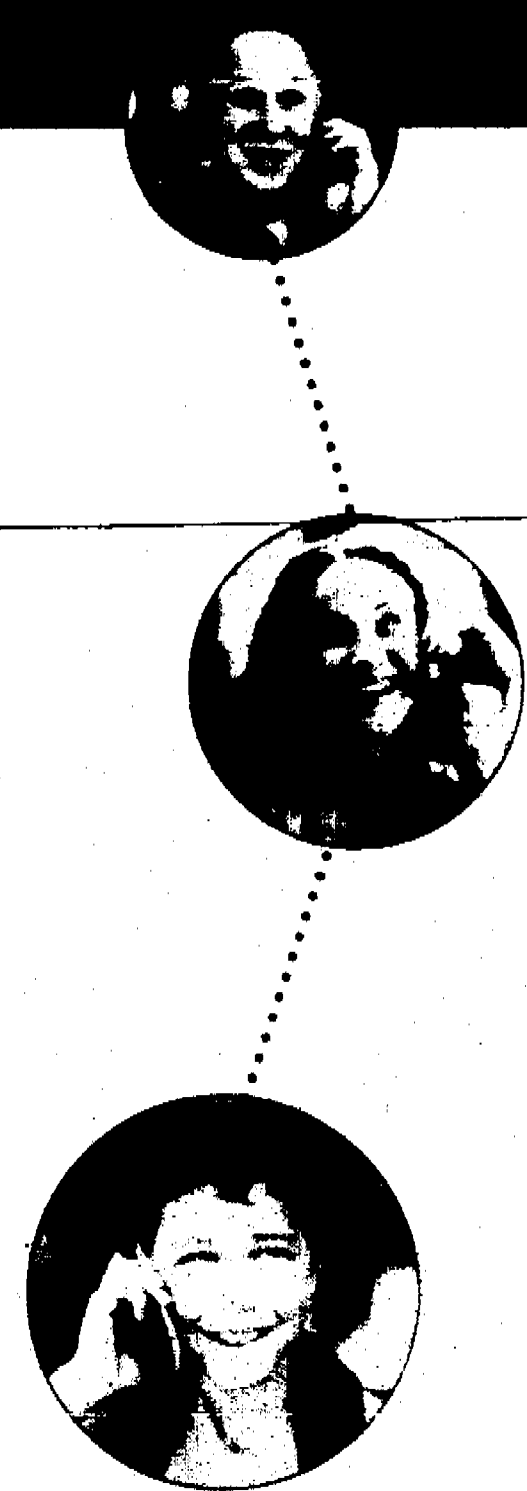
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Christ Our Savior hosts concert **Religion** from page B7

The Wind Symphony and Kapelle of Concordia University in River Forest, Ill., will perform a variety of music in many forms and styles in a concert set for 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia.

The 75-member instrumental ensemble, under the direction of Richard Fischer, professor of music, will perform a variety of pieces by such composers as Hanson, Grantham, Holst and Reed.

The Kapelle, a 40-member choir under the direction of David Baar, visiting professor of music, will sing pieces by Hasler, Billings, Brahms and Bach.

The Wind Symphony and Kapelle are the premiere instrumental and choral ensembles at Concordia University, a Lutheran liberal arts university with more than 1,900 undergraduate and graduate students. Both groups tour the United States annually and have recorded and released compact discs of sacred



Concordia University's Wind Symphony

music.

The concert is part of the 1999-2000 musical celebrations of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church. The Christ Our Savior Choir will join the Kapelle and Wind Symphony for part of this

final concert of Concordia's fall tour.

A free-will offering will be taken at the concert. For more information, call Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church at (734) 522-6830.

mation, call (248) 477-8974.

MEMORIAL MASS

A memorial Mass for alumnae of Holy Redeemer High School will be held at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Junction and West Vernor in Detroit. Refreshments will be served in the high school following Mass.

BIBLE STUDY

The video series, "Unsealing Daniel's Mystery," will be presented 7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, Nov. 8 through mid-December, at Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church, 33144 Cherry Hill Road, south of Venoy Road, Garden City. The chapter-by-chapter, in-depth study of the Old Testament Book of Daniel is free of charge. Each night a new chapter will be covered. Child care will be available for young children. Transportation can be provided for those needing a ride. For more information, call (734) 844-8660.

REMARIED GROUP

The Remarried Ministries of

Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville offers an informal, drop-in support group for those struggling with the issues of a blended family. The group is hosted by the Rev. Paul Clough and meets 7-8:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month in Room C309 of the church, 40000 Six Mile Road. There is no cost. For more information, call Stacy Cole at (248) 374-5912.

REDFORD CLERGY

The Redford Clergy Association will meet for its quarterly meeting Wednesday, Nov. 10, at Presbyterian Village Redford, 17833 Garfield, off Five Mile Road, Redford. The meeting will be held in the Board Room. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m., followed by the meeting. Reservations can be made by calling Alexandra at (313) 541-6487.

GUEST SPEAKER

Ron Bachman will speak at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10, at the St. Aidan Activity Center, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Born with a congenital birth defect, Bachman's legs were amputated at age 4. Born and raised in Detroit, he wore artificial limbs at school, but walked with his hands when at home.

As an adult, he has become a motivational speaker, drawing on his sense of humor and life experiences to speak to audiences of all ages. His themes include human potential and achieving success despite obstacles.

For more information, call (734) 425-5950.

VEGAS PARTY

St. Bernadine of Siena Parish will have its annual Vegas Party, 8 p.m. to midnight, Friday, Nov. 12, at the church, 31463 Ann Arbor Trail at Merriam Road, Westland. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. and admission

will be \$5 per person. For more information, call (734) 427-5150.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other Nov. 12-14 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile, Plymouth Township. The registration fee is \$50. Call Bill and Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan and Debbie at (810) 286-5524.

'RAISING POSITIVE KIDS'

Rick Miller of Christian Training Ministries in Greenford, Ohio, will lead a seminar, "Raising Positive Kids," 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13, at Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman Road, Livonia.

Participants will learn about the positive factors in healthy families, how to generate values in children, tips for building a healthy self-image, meeting the challenge of discipline, ways to motivate your children, how to express loving support, teaching children to think and more.

The cost is \$7 for individuals and \$10 per couples who register by Nov. 7. After that date, the cost is \$10 and \$15 respectively. To register, call Ray Sanders at (248) 476-8222.

SILENT/LIVE AUCTION

St. Thomas A' Becket Catholic Church will have its third annual silent and live auction, "Tropical Evening," 7-11 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13, at the church, 555 S. Lilley Road, Canton.

Tickets cost \$30 and include a bidding number, gourmet hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, open bar and mini desserts, and Polynesian music 7-9 p.m.

Only 250 will be sold. They are available by calling Mike Middel at (734) 981-5383.



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Shoe Box gifts share spirit of giving with needy children

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

Karen Williams is a firm believer in the adage that good things come in small packages. So much so, that she's hoping to collect 2,000 shoe boxes filled with a variety of gifts for needy children.

Williams, who serves on the missions committee and is in charge of home projects at Temple Baptist Church in Plymouth Township, is coordinating collections for Operation Christmas Child, a simple, hands-on missions project of Samaritan's Purse.

"Having been in Colombia and seeing children who don't get anything, this is a passion of mine," said the Canton resident. "I think it's neat. Our kids get so much and most of these children wouldn't get a thing for Christmas."

Operation Christmas Child got its start in 1993 when Samaritan's Purse delivered 28,000 shoe boxes, filled with gifts and the story of Christmas, to needy children.

In 1998, more than 56,500 churches and other organizations and 27,300 volunteers in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, the Nether-

lands, Australia, Germany, and Finland collected more than 2.3 million shoe boxes that were distributed to children in more than 55 countries.

This year's goal is 3 million boxes and 60 countries, including 400,000 for children in Kosovo.

Easy-to-do project

Operation Christmas Child is an easy-to-do project. Participants decide whether they're gifting a boy or girl and the age categories - 2-4 years, 5-9 years and 10-14 years.

Then they fill a normal-sized shoe box with a variety of age-appropriate gift items - toys, school supplies, hygiene items and things like hard candy, flashlights with extra batteries, T-shirts and the like.

The boxes can be wrapped, but the lid must be wrapped separately. Gifts also can include photographs of themselves, and letters, if they like. Some members of Temple Baptist who did that have heard back from the children who received their boxes, Williams said.

Gift tags, indicating the box is for either a boy or girl and the age group, are taped to the top of the box and a \$5 donation to cover the shipping cost should put inside before the box is secured with a rubber band.

The gift tags are on the back of Operation Christmas Child brochures available at Temple Baptist, which is serving as a relay center, collecting boxes until Friday, Nov. 19, that volunteers will box up and deliver to a collection center in Brighton for shipment to the processing center Minneapolis and eventually distribution overseas.

Once in Minneapolis, volunteers will sort the boxes and put in a copy of the Christmas story, printed in the language of the



Loading up: Last year, members of Temple Baptist Church had transferred their shoe boxes from shipping pallets to cardboard boxes at the collection center, so the boxes could be sent on to the processing center in Minneapolis last year.



To make a shoe box gift:

■ Find an empty shoe box. You can wrap it - lid separately - if you would like, but wrapping is not required.

■ Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or girl and the appropriate age - 2-4 years, 5-9 years or 10-14 years. Attach the appropriate boy/girl label from an Operation Christmas Child brochure. Tape it on the TOP of the box and mark the appropriate age category. Labels also can be printed from the Samaritan's Purse Web site - www.samaritan.org.

■ Fill your shoe box with a variety of gifts.

Toys - small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, plastic kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, toys that light up or make noise with extra batteries.

School supplies - pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink-pad sets, coloring books, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, etc.

Hygiene items - toothbrush, toothpaste, wash cloth, soap, comb, etc.

Other items - hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, flashlights with extra batteries, ball caps, socks, T-shirts, toy jewelry sets, hair

clips, watches, small picture books, etc.

Do NOT include items that are used, war-related (toy guns, knives, etc.), perishable (chocolate, crackers, etc.), liquids (shampoo, lotion, etc.), medicines (vitamins, cough drops, etc.) or breakable (mirrors, china dolls, etc.).

You can enclose a note and a photograph of yourself or your family. Include your name and address, the child may write you back.

■ Enclose a check for \$5 or more in the envelope from your brochure (or print the form on the Web site and put it in any envelope along with the donation) and place it in the shoe box to help cover shipping and other costs. Place the envelope in the box so it is clearly visible on top of the gift items.

If you're filling more than one shoe box, you can make one combined donation in any one box. Place a rubber band around the shoe box and lid. ■ Deliver the shoe box to the collection center at Temple Baptist Church, 49555 North Territorial, Plymouth. You can also mail the shoe box to Samaritan's Purse, 801 Bamboo Road, P.O. Box 3000, Boone, N.C. 28607.

country it will be sent to.

"It's amazing how it's grown," said Williams. "Not only does Operation Christmas Child undertake shipment of the boxes, but it also gets the story of Christmas out to children who otherwise wouldn't get anything."

Williams related a story about one child who received a shoe box. He had prayed for a new pencil, and when he opened his box he found 12 pencils. He took one and passed the box on to another child.

"The workers had to explain to him that the entire box was for him," Williams said. "Yes, there's Christian literature in

the box, but these children would not get anything if not for Operation Christmas Child. And if the message touches on child

Ministry for all

Williams stumbled across the project last year when a friend gave her a brochure and asked what she thought about it as a kids ministry.

"I said, 'Kids ministry? Why not everyone,'" Williams recalled. "It lets children see the value and importance of giving to others."

The congregation filled 1,027 shoe boxes last year and Williams is hoping to double that

this year. She received calls from members throughout the summer about this year's collection.

People can drop off shoe boxes at Temple Baptist, 49555 North Territorial, west of Beck Road, in Plymouth Township 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and before and after services at 7 p.m. Wednesday, and 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday.

"Ultimately, the kids are the ones who benefit, but I don't know who receives the greater blessing - them for receiving the gift or me for giving it," said Williams. "I think it's me. I did a mission trip to Colombia two years ago and saw the poverty. This is now a passion of mine."

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Book Lovers Day

Readers get to meet their writers

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

As Paperbacks N Things prepares for its 14th annual Book Lovers Day, someone very special will be missing from the event.

Novelist Joan Shapiro had participated in the event in past years. She and her husband, Norman, of Bloomfield Township were among the victims of last weekend's crash of EgyptAir Flight 990.

"Joan Shapiro was one of our authors," said Nikki Vandette, store clerk assisting with the event. "She called a couple of weeks ago and said she was going to Africa."

Vandette and Joan Adis, store owner, are coping with the fact that Shapiro will not return.

Despite the somber tone, Book Lovers Day will bring together

15 authors, many of whom live in the area. Thoughts will be with the Shapiro family.

Book Lovers Day lasts from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, at the store located at 8044 Wayne Road, between Wendy's and Arby's in Westland.

"It's like a big party," said Vandette. "They enjoy each other as much as the people who come (to have books signed)."

Vandette said they contact local authors and any authors who will be in state at the time of the event. This year's authors include Elizabeth Adkins Bowman, Tori Carrington, Sue Charnley, Anne Eames, Marian Edwards, Nancy Gideon, Jill Gregory, Beverly Jenkins, Penny McCusker, Sharon Pisacreta, Jeanne Savery, Patti Schemberger and Elizabeth Turner.

It also marks the return of authors who attend each year

like Ruth Langon and Redford resident Shelly Thacker.

They will be on hand to sign books and chat with customers at the store. Paperbacks N Things will also have coffee and refreshments for authors and visitors.

The store sells new and used books and has been open for 16 years. Vandette said about six years ago the store expanded to nearly double its size.

"We have a regular clientele," she said. "We have a lot of steady customers... It's like a big family."

So "book worms" interested in joining the family, catching up on news in the author community and meeting some favorite writers are invited to Book Lovers Day. For more information, call Paperbacks N Things at (734) 522-8018.

Seminars look at holiday stress

Even though Christmas and Hanukkah are still weeks away, many people are already dreading the stress of the holiday season. In a recent national survey, more than 40 percent of the respondents indicated that they find the holidays stressful.

"Holiday cheer is a myth for many people," said Marisa Howard, a clinical therapist for

Lifespan Clinical Services in Livonia. "Women are particularly vulnerable, but holiday stress also can affect males and children.

"It (stress) is characterized by emotional highs and feelings of extreme pressure with symptoms typically including loss of sleep, moodiness, irritability and an inability to focus."

Coping with holiday stress will be the theme of a seminar 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17, and again Wednesday, Dec. 8, at the Lifespan clinic, 18316 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. The fee is \$15. Reservations can be made by calling (248) 615-9730.

The seminar will cover the causes and effects of holiday stress, tips for relieving it and referrals for additional help. The sessions will be facilitated by Howard and Linda Migdal, also a clinical therapist at Lifespan.

"We will begin by exploring the sources of holiday stress, ranging from family conflicts to worries over money," said Migdal. "This will include a discussion of unrealistic expectations like the 'image of perfection,' the pressure to find the perfect gifts and create the ideal holiday atmosphere."

Lifespan Clinical Services is a division of Starfish Family Services, a private, nonprofit human service agency with 15 locations in Wayne County and 18 programs for children, adolescents, adults and families.

Right to Life-Lifespan holds legislative breakfast

A legislative breakfast, sponsored by Right to Life-Lifespan, will be held Saturday, Nov. 13, at Burton Manor in Livonia.

The invited speakers will be Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus, State Sen. George Hart, D-Dearborn, and State Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Nov. Also invited to attend are all state and national legislators who represent the metropolitan Detroit area.

The breakfast costs \$15 per person, \$7.50 for students age 21 and younger. Reservations can

be made through Nov. 5, by calling Right to Life-Lifespan at (248) 777-9090 or (734) 422-6230.

Right to Life-Lifespan is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of vulnerable human life from conception to natural death. Established in 1970, it is the largest and oldest pro-life organization in southeastern Michigan, serving Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

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HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Salem rolls; Canton rallies for win



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL BURCKMANN

Fast break: Canton's Anne Morrell scoops up the loose ball against Glenn's Stephanie Crews.

A 21-2 first-quarter run Tuesday carried Plymouth Salem the top seed in the Western Lakes Activities Association girls basketball playoffs...

State-ranked Salem is 17-1 overall, while Stevenson drops to 7-9.

Tiffany Grubaugh scored nine of her game-high 18 points in the opening quarter for the Rocks, who face Farmington Hills Harrison (13-5) in the WLAA semifinals...

Kelly Jaskot and Monica Mair each added 13 points for the winners, while Dawn Allen contributed nine.

Abbey Schrader led Stevenson with nine points, while Lindsay Gusick and Katie King added eight and six, respectively.

CANTON 50, JOHN GLENN 38: After failing behind 23-9, host Plymouth Canton (13-5) stormed back to beat visiting Westland John Glenn (9-9 overall) in a WLAA first-round playoff encounter.

ROUNDUP

Anne Morrell scored 14 points for the victorious Chiefs, while Stephanie Crews countered with 11 for Glenn.

HURON VALLEY 44, ST. ALPHONSUS 33: On Tuesday, senior forward Stacie Graves scored a game-high 17 points to lift Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (11-6) past host Dearborn St. Alphonsus (3-10) in a non-leaguer.

Nadya Walker scored 12 for St. Alphonsus, which fell behind 26-13 at halftime and shot 0-for-4 from the free throw line.

Huron Valley can win the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference title outright tonight with a win at Taylor Baptist Park.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 50, HARPER WOODS 38: Senior guard Anna Rolf hit 3-of-5 from three-point land en route to a game-high 17 points as Lutheran High Westland (5-13, 3-11) snapped a 10-game losing streak with a victory over the host Pio-neers (5-13, 4-10).

Kelly Pruchnik contributed nine points to the victorious Warriors, while Heather Rose and Sarah Marody each chipped in with seven.

Harper Woods, a 19-point winner, over Lutheran Westland in the first meeting between the two Metro Conference teams, got a team-high 14 points from junior forward Amy Szmanski.

CHURCHILL 49, FARMINGTON 35: Deanna DeRoo (12 points) and Kate Hagan (10) paced a balanced scoring attack Tuesday, powering Livonia Churchill (4-13) to a victory over the visiting Falcons (3-15).

Churchill, which snapped an 11-game losing skid, also received seven points and eight rebounds from Stephanie Doyle.

Stacey Selschek contributed six points and seven rebounds, while Meagan Sheehan and Kristin Berry also tallied six apiece.

"It's the best we've played as a team all season," Churchill coach Dave Balog said. "We felt we put it all together and we hope to carry it over the next three or four games."

Julie Kimmel led Farmington, which trailed 31-26 at intermission, with 18 points and 12 rebounds.

Mustangs gallop past Patriots

By RICHARD L. SHOOK STAFF WRITER

Size is a big advantage. Northville has size and the Mustangs use it as well as they can.

Taller Franklin dominated Livonia Northville all the way Tuesday night and earned a 46-30 victory that put the Mustangs into the second round of the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament.

Northville will host Canton on Thursday night.

"Size is our strength and has been all year," coach Pete Wright of Northville said after his team improved to 11-6. "So we have to pound it into the post as much as we can."

The Mustangs did that decently well. Meredith Hasse led her team with 14 points, eight in the third period when the Mustangs scored the first 11 points to take a 30-14 lead.

Janel Hasse scored a dozen, including eight in the first period when Northville got off

to a 13-7 start. Post player Kate Hammond contributed 10.

Both teams played a zone defense but Northville was still able to get the ball inside. And often when it didn't, the Mustangs were able to corral the rebound.

Tera Morrill scored 11 points to lead Franklin, 8-10, but Northville did a good job of doubling up on her at nearly every opportunity.

"When they double on her," coach Gary Warner of the Patriots said, "other people have to step up and do the job."

"We do have the opportunities. It's a matter of converting them into baskets."

"Obviously Tera Morrill is a great player in our conference," Wright said. "You've got to take her away if you can, especially her left hand."

The Patriots played well in spurts. The Mustangs scored the first 10 points of the game but were outscored, 7-3, over the last 4:12.

Franklin outscored Northville at the end of the second and third periods, too, but gave up too much before that.

"Once our kids started running our system," Warner said, "it opened the floor better. But it took awhile against the given defense."

"Northville did a good job of getting the ball into the low post. They know how to move you out of there."

Franklin got as close as 17-14 with 1:39 left in the half but Hammond knocked down her own rebound. Scoring the first 11 points of the second half put the game away.

The Patriots got within 32-21 but Hammond again came to the rescue, banging in a baseliner and opening the fourth quarter with two free throws.

Then Northville let its size carry it home.

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Advertisement for Detroit Red Wings Super Skills event on Saturday, November 27, 1999, at Joe Louis Arena. Features activities like Puck Control Relay, Fastest Skater, and Hardest Shot.

Advertisement for the opening night of the Detroit Pistons vs. New York Knicks on November 5, 1999, at the Palace. Features a photo of Grant Hill and mentions Allan Houston and the Knicks.

WEEK AHEAD: A calendar of upcoming sports events including prep football playoffs, state soccer tournaments, and various basketball games.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

Formidable Walled Lake Western next on slate for state champ CC

By STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER
skowalski@oe.homes.com.net

When the Redford Catholic Central football players think of Warriors, Catholic League rival Birmingham Brother Rice usually comes to mind.

But a school that has the same nickname, Walled Lake Western, gets all of the Shamrocks' attention this week. Along with sharing a nickname with Rice, Western is gaining quite a reputation in football.

CC and Western, each undefeated in 10 games, battle in a Division I district final at 1 p.m. Saturday at Howard Kraft Field in Redford Township.

The Shamrocks, winners of 29 straight games, are two-time defending state champions in Class AA and have been the state's consensus No. 1 team throughout the season.

The Warriors, who were the Class AA state champion in 1996 after being runners-up in Class A in 1992, are ranked as high as No. 1 in Division I.

The Warriors depend on a stingy defense that emphasizes speed and quickness more than size.

The Warriors' top defensive back, senior Lorenzo Parker, has made a verbal commitment to play football at Vanderbilt.

"They look very aggressive, come at you very hard on defense," CC coach Tom Mach said.

South Lyon was held to 101 total yards in a 28-16 loss to Western in the first-round of the playoffs and afterward defensive tackle Delore Semaan made a bold statement in the Detroit

Free Press that was noticed by the CC team.

"No one can run on our defense," Semaan told Mick McCabe. "We came out at 6 in the morning all summer to work for this. I think we've got the best D-line in the state. We played all-out tonight."

CC defensive tackle Jeremiah Hicks, tied for second on the team with 3½ sacks, read that "I'll just answer to it on the field," Hicks said.

The Warriors feature a spread-out offense which Mach likens to last year's Class AA state finalist Rockford.

Senior tailback Cody Cargill has 1,057 yards in 180 carries (an average of 5.9 yards per carry) with 13 touchdowns. Quarterback Chris Payton is a threat to run and pass, rushing for 316 yards in 68 carries with 11 touchdowns and completing 51 of 94 passes for 588 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions.

"They have good speed and create lanes," Mach said.

Western first-year coach Mike Zdebski said the Shamrocks are by far the best team the Warriors have faced. Senior tailback John Kava has 1,303 yards in 197 carries and 13 touchdowns and fullback Mike Wilk has 475 yards in 122 carries with 11 scores.

When the Shamrocks don't get six points, Mike Sgroi has been reliable as a place kicker, making seven field goals with a long of 49 yards.

If the Shamrocks have a weakness it's the passing game where quarterback John Hill has completed 26 of 70 passes for 307

yards with five touchdowns and no interceptions.

Hill has 144 yards rushing in 55 carries.

"They're a very, very good football team," Zdebski said. "They play with a tremendous amount of confidence. If we're going to have a chance it will have to be a defensive struggle. They're big, strong athletes and they're very well coached. If anyone beats them it will be a tremendous accomplishment."

"I've never seen a team this good. We thought we played some pretty good teams, but we haven't played anyone like CC. We have a pretty good record, but when you look at the teams they played versus the teams we played there is no comparison. They're in a totally different league."

"When you go up against a team like them you look for a chink in their armor — something you can attack. We're still looking."

Note: CC's starting two-way lineman Mike Morris and defensive back Mark Wiloughby, were injured in the 24th first round playoff win over Livonia Stevenson but are hoping to play Saturday.

Morris suffered a shoulder injury in the first half and watched the second half with an ice pack on his shoulder. Steve Dominguez, an offensive tackle, started played defensive tackle in Morris' place. The Lombardi replaced Morris on the offensive line of tackle.

Morris was hoping to play but what complicates his recovery is he also has a cast over a broken thumb on the same side as the injured shoulder.

It's not helping his shoulder, having to carry that thing, cast and all, the time. Mach said.

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...Marshall's experience...
...more offensive options at its...
...Marshall said...
...We run multiple sets...
...We can run four...
...one-back with two...
...it all depends on...
...what we look at and feel will be best for us...
...We can do a mix of all these things...
...We can control the flow of the game and see what's...
...Henry Ford is one of many teams benefiting...
...from the expanded playoffs...
...Only in the Trojans...
...it's not that they wouldn't have gotten in...
...without the expansion...
...The difference is in who Henry Ford drew for...
...a first-round opponent...
...We've had five city champions...
...Marshall said...
...but we always played (St. Clair) Catholic...
...Central in the first round...
...That means the Trojans would play one game...
...than watch the rest...
...But this year Henry Ford drew Belleville as...
...its opening opponent and defeated the Tigers...
...40-25...
...Belleville pulled within 21-19 at one...
...point in the third quarter, but was buried in the...
...fourth...
...Dowdell was 6-for-17 for 109 yards with two...
...interceptions but his 56-yard pass to Knott set...
...up his team's first TD...
...Dowdell ran eight times...
...for 121 yards including TDs of 67- and 21-yards...
...Henry Ford ran for 309 yards on Belleville...
...including 46 by Jackson and 82 by Jeff Atkins...
...Marshall warns Chuck Gordon that John...
...Glenn needs to bring his gopher-hole shoes...
...though, because the Henry Ford field is not...
...contributing any aid to Comerica Park...
...They're coming to a rough field," he said...
...in more ways than one...
...Marshall was an All-State quarterback at a...
...Detroit Henry Ford player...
...played a little quarterback and a whole lot of...
...cornerback for Michigan State...
...Marshall was one of the premier...
...line of his time...
...The Henry Ford team that will entertain...
...Western John Glenn at 1 p.m. Saturday is...
...loaded with premier athletes...
...John Glenn isn't shabby...
...Several of his players...
...have caught Marshall's eye...
...They're physical...
...They're a physical team...
...They have a "brother" at running back...
...John Jones that they like to run...
...They have a big receiver...
...It's like playing a Dearborn Fordson or (Redford)...
...Catholic Central type of team...
...Maybe they're not as physical as CC...
...but they're pretty physical and they're well...
...coached...
...Everybody is where they're supposed to be...
...They're a tough team, a tough team...
...Marshall was impressed with Jones but...
...noticed the Rockets' runner might not be...
...breaking any long ones against the Trojans...
...Our whole secondary...
...100 relay team that was the city...
...champion...
...They're all in the low 10-point...
...range, so we figure if he does break one...
...we're going to go get him...
...Henry Ford has some talented kids on...
...offense...
...It's quarterback...
...Dimitri Dowdell is reported...
...ly being wooed by Cincinnati...
...while running back Justin Jackson...
...is the son of Marshall's former...
...Michigan State teammate, Levi Jackson...
...He (Levi) was a senior when I was a...
...freshman...
...Marshall points out...
...but we date him as...
...an old timer already...
...Trojans fight with Eric Knott is a 6-foot-5...
...250

Glenn defense from page C1

able, always hungry to improve 155.

"Smitherman does a lot of things for this team. Returns punts, runs the ball and plays receiver. He does a lot of things to help this team win."

Paddock and Smitherman are flanked by seniors Chad Sansom (5-8, 173) and Nick Rogiero (5-8,

he's had a pretty good game." Gordon is confident his secondary can get the job done.

"They can all run and they've all have good speed," the Glenn coach said. "They will get tested this week."

Kickoff is at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$4 per person.

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Regional champ Parker shows Spartans to MIS

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

Livonia Stevenson recently won its sixth straight Western Lakes Activities Association girls cross country title.

So it was no surprise coach Paul Holmberg's squad will be making its sixth straight appearance at the Division I state meet, which starts at 2:30 p.m. this Saturday at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn.

Stevenson garnered one of the three automatic bids from a third-place finish last Saturday at the Ann Arbor Pioneer regional meet.

Host Pioneer and Saline grabbed first and second with 51 and 86 points, respectively, while Stevenson was third with 97.

And once again, Stevenson senior Andrea Parker repeated as regional champion, outdueling Pioneer's Amber Culp for first-place individual honors.

The two, who have run neck-and-neck all season, finished the 5,000-meter race in 19:03 and 19:14.7, respectively.

"They've probably run a half-dozen races against each other against the past couple years, and for the first two miles they're stride-for-stride," said Holmberg, whose team is making its seventh state meet trip in the 1990s. "But then, when it comes down to the end, Andrea pulls away and beats her."

"It seems every race has been exactly the same."

Freshman Tessa Tarole added a 17th for Stevenson, while freshman Sara Pilon took 18th.

Pilon's older sister, Laura, is a former Stevenson standout who recently finished 12th in the Midwestern Collegiate Conference meet for the University of Detroit Mercy Titans.

"Sara has really come on the last couple of weeks," Holmberg said. "She was the last of our freshmen to crack the varsity and has really improved. I was kind of surprised, but that's the

kind of kid she is."

Sara may also be following in her sister's footsteps.

"They both served as caddies at Western Country Club and they're used to lugging those heavy bags around all summer," Holmberg said.

Stevenson's other two finishers included freshman Steffanie Rousseau (31st) and Tara Tarole (32nd).

"We came in this meet as a very young and inexperienced team," Holmberg said. "And the competition was the most evenly balanced I've seen in years among the top teams, so I was not sure how our young kids would respond."

"The whole thing was nerve-racking and it was a tight course."

Livonia Churchill, a strong second behind Stevenson in the WLAA meet, got in one individual qualifier, 19th-place finisher Susan Duncan.

But the Chargers settled for sixth in the team standings behind fourth-place Novi and fifth-place Plymouth Salem.

"You've got at least four or more teams that deserve to go to the state meet," Holmberg said. "You could be one point out of third and don't go. That happened to Novi last year."

Holmberg, who is making his 12th trip to the state finals as Stevenson coach, will take his team Friday to Jackson for an overnight stay.

"Looking at the teams who qualified I think being in the top 10 is a reasonable expectation for us," Holmberg said. "But with such a young team, I'm wondering if I have too high of expectations."

"There are going to be almost 300 girls in the race. There's going to be so much traffic. You could be running what you think is good race because you're in the top third of the field, but you also could be in 90th place."

"That's what makes it so tough."

Lady Warriors champions

Tess Kuehne clocked an even 20 minutes, leading Lutheran High Westland to the Class C regional title Saturday at Erie Mason.

Kuehne was the first individual among the 81-member field.

Lutheran Westland edged Southfield Christian for the team title, 60-64. The host Eagles got the final automatic bid with 107.

Three others also finished in the top 20 for the Lady Warriors including Angie Matthews, sixth, 20:56; Jessica Montgomery, 16th, 21:34; and Mary Ebendick, 19th, 21:50.

Chelsea Romero added a 24th (22:41), while Aimee Anthony was 36th (23:38).

CLASS A BOYS		
1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 51; 2. Saline, 96; 3. Livonia Churchill, 124; 4. Plymouth Salem, 154; 5. Livonia Churchill, 207; 6. Farmington Hills, 224; 7. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 237; 8. Plymouth Salem, 248; 9. Farmington Hills, 272; 10. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 324; 11. North Farmington, 327; 12. Livonia Churchill, 339; 13. Ypsilanti, 348; 14. Northville, 349; 15. Livonia Ladywood, 379; 16. Farmington Hills, 411; 17. Westland John Glenn, 467.	1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 19:03; 2. Ypsilanti, 20:24; 3. Sara Pilon, 20:24; 4. Steffanie Rousseau, 20:59; 5. Tara Tarole, 21:01; 6. Julie Sachau, 21:10; 7. Melissa Montgomery, 21:29.	1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 19:03; 2. Ypsilanti, 20:24; 3. Sara Pilon, 20:24; 4. Steffanie Rousseau, 20:59; 5. Tara Tarole, 21:01; 6. Julie Sachau, 21:10; 7. Melissa Montgomery, 21:29.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

YOUTH SOCCER CHAMPIONS

Livonia Arsenal, an under-9 boys' team, captured its Great Lakes Soccer League divisional title for the 1999 fall season with a 7-1 record while outscoring their opponents 45-9.

Members of Arsenal include: Brian Azar, Brian Cari, Brandon Cuffe, Patrick Harmon, Brendon Lavigne, Sean Lerg, Dean Motley, Kevin Muller, Keval Patel, Matthew Regan and Tyler Vines, all of Livonia, along with James Leffler of Commerce Township.

The coaching staff includes Bob Regan, Dipan Patel and Mark Vines. The team manager is Tom Leffler.

The Livonia YMCA Lightning, an under-9 girls' team, finished as co-champion along Northville of the Red Division of the Western Suburban Soccer League with identical 7-0-1 records.

The Lightning and Northville tied, 0-0.

Members of the Lightning, who outscored their opponents 31-1, include: Renee Berger, Cara Corp, Joanna Klotz, Brooke Knochel, Amanda Linstrom, Alisha Lindstrom, Lindsey McMullen, Samantha Meeker, Sara LaBerge, Chelsea Rhodes, Rachel Simari, Julia Schroeder, Ariel Rock and Logan Watson.

The coaching staff includes Dana Knochel, Dave Schroeder and Bill Rock.

The Red Rockers, an under-9 girls' soccer team, recently finished 8-0 in the Green Division of the WSSL, outscoring their opponents 37-8.

Team members include Andrea Lopez, Hailey Marantette, Lindsay Marlow, Devin

Parsons, Nicole Polinski, Abby Herberhotz, Madison King, Taleen Mergian, Carly Marantette, Kathy Iskra, Lyndsay Branton, Sam Kliman, Kaitlan Cooper, Elizabeth Marino and Isabella Jukupi.

The head coach is Steven King. His assistant is Mike Kliman.

LIVONIA PARKS & REC HOOPS

There will be a meeting for Livonia Parks and Recreation men's basketball teams, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9 at the Civic Center Library (Room C).

League play will begin in January of 2000.

A meeting for boys Class D (18-and-under) basketball teams will be at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 9 at the Civic Center Library (Room C). You must be in the Livonia or Clarenceville school districts to participate.

League play begins in January of 2000.

For more information, call 734-466-2410.

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THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



"Jest a Second!" Don't miss the Ridgedale Players' presentation of the sequel to "Beau Jest" by James Sherman, 8 p.m. at the theater, 205 W. Long Lake Road, Troy. Tickets are \$11 and include coffee and sandwich afterward. (248) 988-7049.

SATURDAY



Guest conductor Carl St. Clair leads the Detroit Symphony Orchestra 8:30 p.m. at Orchestra Hall in Detroit. Concert features soloist Camellia Johnson, soprano, and includes two works by American composer Frank Ticheli. Tickets are \$19-\$50. Call (313) 576-5111.

SUNDAY



Musica Viva opens its season 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, at Kingswood Auditorium, Cranbrook, 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, with "Flamenco Passion," a show featuring Dame Maria del Carmen. Spanish Dance Theatre with soloists, guitarists, dancers and singers; the premiere of the "Gypsy Ballads" by Garcia Lorca; and a guest appearance by flutist Ginka Ortega. Tickets are \$25, patron tickets \$50. Includes preferred seating and private afterglow. Call (248) 851-8872, patrons call (248) 626-6245.



Family connections: Photo at left, Rikki Schwartz (left to right), Jan Cable and Michelle Roschek rehearse a scene from the Clarkston Village Players' production, "Close Ties." Below, Tim Dunham (Rev. Jerry Dolan) shares a moment of humor with Nora Bonner (Margarette) in "To Forgive, Divine."

STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL



In tune: Cellist Shauna Rolston performs traditional and contemporary compositions for cello. She is among the top cellists expanding the repertoire for the instrument.

Flattering face redefines classical music boundaries

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER
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The resemblance between cellist Shauna Rolston and pop-country singer diva Shania Twain might be more than superficial.

Besides sharing obvious physical similarities and a defiantly glamorous attitude, Rolston is very much like Twain in redefining the boundaries of her musical genre.

Rolston will perform in a concert recital Tuesday at the Cranbrook House. Her program includes sonatas by Debussy, Barber and Chopin.

But don't expect Rolston, 32, to accompany her bow and cello by wearing a pleasantly indistinguishable monocolored gown. Or a neatly pressed and urbane expression.

If some think a half-century of country music traditions were tough barriers to break, then consider what Rolston has accomplished in redefining the image of a

In Concert

classical musician, with her hair-blowing-in-the-breeze supermodel looks and easy-to-laugh nature.

"I'm not trying to project an image," she said. "I just want to feel as natural and free and inviting to the audience."

While Rolston often performs classical pieces considered within the standard repertoire for the cello, her relentless approach and zeal are anything but stodgy traditionalism.

"I imagine that I'm having a conversation with the composer, that they're right there with me and I can ask them questions," said Rolston.

That might not be too far of a stretch. Rolston is in high demand as both a performer and an artist coveted by contemporary composers.

"It's exploring sound and gesture," said Rolston. "I learn a lot working with current composers. I've learned that responding to music requires different types of reflexes, gestures and a sense of drama."

Please see **BOUNDARIES, E2**

Clarkston Village Players presents 'Close Ties'

BY SUSAN B. TAUBER
STAFF WRITER
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Clarkston Village Players is bringing to its Depot Theater a play that will elicit a range of feelings — including possible hunger pangs — from the audience.

The play, "Close Ties," takes place in the kitchen of a family matriarch's summer home. Stage manager Joanne Anderson of Waterford is trying to make the kitchen come to life just as the characters do.

"We're trying to set up the kitchen with running water and a stove that works," said director Al Bartlett of Rochester Hills. "Joanne is a cracker jack. We hope to have a cake baking on stage and we'll have the smell of bacon running through the theater."

But the real challenge to directing this drama written by Elizabeth Diggs, he said, is bringing this "very meaningful story to the people" without it's appearing as a soap opera.

"If it's done successfully, the audience should be able to laugh, to be touched emotionally, to see themselves and members of their families in the characters on stage," added Bartlett, a life member of Clarkston Village Players.

"Close Ties" is set in the 1980s. It centers around the matriarch of the family, Josephine, played by Jan Cable of Clarkston, Josephine's family and a granddaughter's boyfriend.

Others in the cast are Michelle Roschek and Jeff VoVillia of Clarkston, Rikki Schwartz and Bob Genes of Waterford, Mary Beth Skinner and Linda Killewald of White Lake and Bill Bailey of Auburn Hills. Behind-the-scenes people include producer Don Foster of Waterford and set designer Holly Stephens, also of Waterford.

"This is an extremely good play. It's a powerful drama with a beautiful story," Bartlett added. "It reveals the relationships between the people in the family and their relationship with Josephine, whom they realize is developing senility."

Clarkston Village Players presentations are done in the attractive and comfortable Depot Theater, an actual former train depot. The small house brings an intimate atmosphere to productions that isn't experienced at large theaters.

Bartlett recommended the play for adults and teenagers.

"If I had to rate this, I'd rate it PG-13 plus," he said. "There is nothing extremely objectionable, although there are a couple of lines with adult references."

"Close Ties" opens to the public on Friday, Nov. 5.

The rest of the Clarkston Village Players 1999-2000 season includes an unannounced comedy in January, "A Case of Libel" in March, "A Bad Year for Tomatoes" in May, "Mass Appeal" in June and an unscheduled children's show and comedy night



Trinity House injects humor into religious issues

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
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When Thomas Malcolm Olson first read Jack Neary's "To Forgive, Divine," he knew he had a hit on his hands.

As director of Trinity House Theatre, Olson finds it's not always easy to come up with a play that tackles moral issues in a humorous manner. But the opening show of the 1999-2000 season does just that.

"It's one of those plays, you just laugh out loud," said Olson. "I thought it was one of the best comedies I ever read. It has heart without being sentimental. It's about a priest who's examining his life, all the sacrifices he's made, is it worth it?"

Tim Dunham plays Jerry Dolan, the young priest struggling with major life

Please see **HUMOR, E2**

On Stage

What: Trinity House Theatre presents "To Forgive, Divine" by Jack Neary.

When: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20 and 26-27; and 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, 14, 21 and 28. Pay what you can preview performance 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 4.

Where: 38840 W. Six Mile, between Haggerty and I-275, Livonia.

Tickets: \$10, \$5 on Sunday. Call (734) 464-6302.

POPULAR MUSIC

Ready, set, go: Park set to tour, release album, star in film

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
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A name like "Park: A Rock Band" doesn't leave much to the imagination, but the Detroit-based band is anything but a predictable bunch.

Don't confuse Park with the Detroit street of the same name, or the lush, green playground that comes to mind with any mention of the word. Just give the band a listen.

"I like a lot of fire and passion," said Chuck Bartels, Park's bassist and a former Garden City resident. "We try to groove as hard as possible at all times." Perhaps it's just that explosive energy that brought the band together in the first place.

Park's guitarist Joshua Funk (his real name, believe it or not), has been playing music since he was in grade school. He started on the piano and moved on to the trumpet, cello and guitar — perhaps not the most common path for a rock musician, but it's given him a broad base of knowledge. Funk names The Pixies, The Beatles and Ween as musical influences.

He met keyboardist Chad Krueger in 1996 while

working as part of Second City's improvisational comedy troupe, and they formed the band. Park was named for the building in which they lived, Detroit's Park Avenue Hotel. About a year and a half ago, the band solidified its cast of characters adding Bartels and drummer Doug Walsh into the mix. With a regular Monday night gig at The Town Pump, on the first floor of the building, and by completing two CDs within a three-year period, the band has worked quickly to build its reputation in the Metro area.

PARK: A Rock Band

Musically we attempt to combine different styles of music together, find new sounds," said Funk, classifying the group's music as a sort of pop-rock fusion. "There's a lot of improvisation, too."

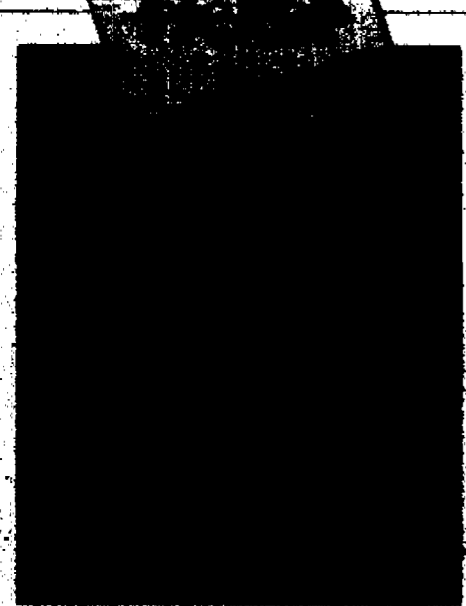
"One of the things we took from Second City was the comedic improvisation and the musical improvisation, and (we're) applying it to music," he said. "I'd say it's a lot easier improvising in theater."

Park completed its first national tour in support of "What I Did On My Summer Vacation," their second

Please see **PARK, E2**



Homecoming: Welcome "Park: A Rock Band" home when they perform Monday, Nov. 8, at the Town Pump in Detroit.



Not too Michigan Opera Theatre presents "Werther," an opera starring Andrea Bocelli, Deyo Graves (pictured), Ying Huang and Christopher Schaldanbrand at the Detroit Opera House, 1638 Broadway, Detroit. Performances 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, and Friday, Nov. 12; 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 14. Tickets \$55-\$250. Call (313) 237-SING, or (248) 645-6666.

Boundaries from page E1

In addition to recently recording short pieces for cello and piano, Rolston has collaborated with a choreographer on a dance, and a filmmaker and percussionist on music for a video entitled, "Smokin' f-holes."

"I'd like to expand the repertoire (for the cello) because that means that I'm evolving as a musician and that I'm contributing to the history of the instrument."

Since her days as a child prodigy, Rolston's career has been

closely followed. She made her New York debut in Town Hall at 16, and has appeared in recital at the most prestigious concert halls in the world. She has also recorded with the London Philharmonia Orchestra, pianist Meahem Pressler and Angela Hewitt.

Rolston last appeared at Cranbrook House in the winter of 1997 as a guest cellist with the renowned St. Lawrence String Quartet.

Park from page E1

album, last summer, but returns to the road this month. The album is described as a combination of Zappa freakout, prog-rock symphony and rock-opera parody. And the band is known for its ability to induce a party at any given moment. Catching Park live is an unpredictable experience, according to band members.

"We can jam one song all night, or stop and start improvised breaks," said Bartels. "On a

good night, a little bit of everything happens and it works well."

But Park: A Rock Band, hasn't stripped itself completely of its theatrical skin. The band performed in a musical comedy, "Garage," at Hamtramck's Planet Ant Theatre. The show, co-written by Funk and Nancy Hayden, debuted in February 1998. A film version is currently in the works, starring Park as — what else — a rock band. "Garage: A Rock Saga" includes a celebrity appearance from George Wendt (Norm of "Cheers" fame).

"It's about a rock band in 1974, a 25-year story about a garage band," said Funk, a Dearborn Heights resident. Park will provide the music for the movie soundtrack, titled "Garage: The Soundtrack," which is due out next spring.

Not all the band members, however, consider themselves actors.

"I felt like a fish out of water," admitted Bartels. "For the live part, we got a lot of material from our album. This movie has kept everyone really busy, especially Josh."

But moviemaking is on hold for the time being as Park sets out on a cross-country tour, starting on the West Coast. "We get to meet people from all over the country, from coast to coast," said Funk with anticipation.

However, it can be rough getting used to touring. "We camp or stay with people we meet," he said. "We usually don't make any money. It gets kind of difficult. But it's kind of an investment. You get what you put into it. You get to eat."

While Park is away, check out the band on disc. Both albums, "Seventh Heaven" and "What I Did On My Summer Vacation," are available through Planet Ant Records. Call (313) 365-4948 or e-mail info@planetant.com. Check the Web at www.planetant.com/park. Welcome the band home when they perform Monday, Nov. 8, at the Town Pump in Detroit. Call (313) 961-1929 for more information regarding the show.

Humor from page E1

decisions. A graduate of Southfield Christian High School, Dunham is a screen writer himself. He appreciates the subtle nuances Neary has written into the play.

"Like any good play, it has something to say. It's almost a tragic comedy," said Dunham who studied screen writing and directing while earning a master's degree at Regent University in Virginia. He's currently working on a film project that is an adaptation of a Flannery O'Connor short story.

"On the eve of his high school band reunion, he runs into a girl he always admired. These feelings for her have resurfaced. She's in a less-than-happy marriage. She starts to have feelings for the priest. He's torn between his responsibilities to the church and his old flame."

Dorothy Dunne plays Rev. Dolan's housekeeper, a woman trying to keep the priest on the straight and narrow path his calling requires him to walk.

"She's a woman devoted to her church and religion," said Dunne, a Livonia resident. "Suddenly she sees this young priest grow up and his great potential and now sees an interruption. Millie is a woman who plays by the rules with a great deal of love and commitment to those around her. She has little patience with human frailty. The play is showing even though he's a priest, he is human. That's what the whole play's about — that we're human."

At 65, Dunne only recently returned to the theater. Most of her roles so far have been with Trinity House because of its commitment to presenting plays with substance.

"At Trinity House, they're very insightful, very thoughtful," said Dunne. "They do the kind of plays that make you think about your religion."

In addition to delivering plays with value, Olson plans to continue working to broaden Trinity House Theatre's audience by also presenting concerts, films and comedies.

Reviving the membership in Trinity House has been a challenge. Actors in the first play will work behind the scenes in the spring play, and vice versa. Thomas Malcolm Olson believes the theater belongs to the people who do the work.

"We're also reaching out to the community by bringing in Hartland Theatre Company productions. The Ann Arbor playwrights also meet here," said Olson. "We want to be seen as a resource for the community by meeting a variety of needs, an outlet for creative expression."

Reviving the membership in Trinity House has been a challenge. Actors in the first play will work behind the scenes in the spring play, and vice versa. Olson believes the theater belongs to the people who do the work.

"The theater is holding a membership drive so we can get a core group of artists who believe in what we're doing," said Olson. "We've enhanced the mission statement that Trinity House exists to enrich and enliven the communities of southeastern Michigan through brave, truthful and necessary works of art. We integrate faith and art but we're not confined to do religious plays."

One of the programs the theater is instituting to encourage membership is the "On the Boundary Series" beginning in January.

"Trinity House is not an actor's theater but a worker's theater," said Olson. "We're giving theater members a venue for their work. The series will try to break down the walls that separate the audience from the actors. The audience will critique the works but emphasis is going to be on craft."

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Bocelli's appearance, MOT's 'Werther' create spectacle beyond stage

Michigan Opera Theatre presents "Werther," an opera starring Andrea Bocelli, Denyce Graves, Ying Huang and Christopher Schaldanbrand. Music by Jules Massenet. Directed by Steven Mercuro. Directed by Mario Corradi.

Performances at 8 p.m. Saturday Nov. 6, and Friday, Nov. 12; 2 p.m. Nov. 14 at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets \$55-\$250. Call (313) 237-SING, or TicketMaster (248) 645-6666.

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

fprovenzano@oe.homecomm.net

Right up until he arrived on the Detroit Opera House stage sitting atop a white horse, the

anticipation surrounding Andrea Bocelli making his North American opera debut had stirred a grand spectacle, even by opera standards.

Nearly 50 critics from around the world showed up in downtown Detroit. Local media talking-heads put on tuxedos and conducted interviews in the opera house lobby. And the streets outside the opera house were filled with pedestrians walking in the brilliant light cast by the massive towers of the nearby under-construction Comerica Park.

Without a doubt, Bocelli's debut must be considered among the operatic events of the year, not just for the Michigan Opera Theatre, but in the international

opera world.

On an exceptionally warm night in late October, the opening of "Werther," starring the world-famous Italian tenor in the lead, had the cosmopolitan feel of a historic performance. Partly because of his wide international popularity and partly because of the obvious challenge for a blind singer to perform the difficult dramatic role, there was a palpable rooting for Bocelli to succeed. Swooning females could be heard, and eager supporters frequently applauded encouragement.

Of course, when it comes to critically dissecting MOT's "Werther" and Bocelli's performance it depends on how success is defined.

For a debut, Bocelli's performance was more hype than rewarding. Unfortunately, it soon became clear that Bocelli's softly modulated, fragile tenor was better captured in the confines of either an amplified stage or a recording studio.

At times, Bocelli's voice was overshadowed by Jules Massenet's music. And for a portrayal of an impulsive, love-at-all-costs romantic caught in a tragic tale of unattainable love, Bocelli was ungettable too emotionally restrained to be believable.

While the pacing and endless dirges of "Werther" is at times tiresome, the performances of mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves and soprano Ying Huang provide

a stirring demonstration of the power and subtly of a trained voice and charismatic stage presence.

Like a bright jewel in the October night, the promise of "Werther" is reflected early in the third act as Graves and Huang share the spotlight. Graves vocal girth invokes the depth of her pain over desperately loving a man she can never marry. And Huang's vocal dexterity is a delightful reprieve from the syrupy melancholy.

Yet perhaps in the end, the knight that rode atop a white horse arrived for another purpose. After all, MOT's "Werther" just wasn't about opera. There was, no doubt, a higher agenda.

In the end, there's little to crit-

icize when considering the sheer guts required for Bocelli to undertake the demanding role of Werther. And perhaps equally impressive is Bocelli's willingness to broaden his horizons, and bring along an adoring public to the melodramatic spectacle known as opera.

Thus, in many ways, Bocelli's mere presence on the Detroit Opera House stage is in itself an unqualified success, and a reminder that MOT Managing Director David DiChiera is one of the most creative and persuasive forces in the opera world.

To think that more and more people are talking about opera and the future of downtown Detroit's theater district shouldn't be underestimated.

'The Heidi Chronicles' has message of honesty and hope

St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook presents "The Heidi Chronicles," by Wendy Wasserstein, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 4-6, at 400 Lone Pine Road, between Cranbrook and Lahser roads, Bloomfield Hills. Shuttle service available from Christ Church parking lot across from the theater. Tickets \$12, seniors and students \$10. Call (248) 644-0527.

MARY JANE DOERR
SPECIAL WRITER

Amy Lynn Smith makes such an engaging lecturer as professor Heidi Holland talking about 16th century women artists in the opening scene of St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook's "The Heidi Chronicles" that her lecturing should garner more interest in the subject. This illustrated mini-play in art history is part of playwright Wendy Wasserstein's Pulitzer Prize winning theatrical view of Americanisms since 1960.

The series of 13 scenes portray and satirize women's issues over the last 40 years, from Miss Crane's high school dances to radical feminine demonstrations. Though seemingly a one-issue play (women's rights), St. Dunstan's version is a touching, more universally conceived nostalgic look at baby boomers, flower children and the now generation from the grassroots up.

As the series of episodes in Heidi's life are presented, Heidi and her friends change their orientation from idealism to political radicalism to militant feminism, and end up fully committed to '80s materialism.

Through three decades of the story, Heidi moves from being a women's rights activist to earning a Ph.D. in art history and becoming a world wide expert on women artists in history. Society and major national events do not influence her even as she is affected by the changes in society.

In these character changes Smith excels. She plays a Heidi

who is compassionate, loyal, kind, non-vengeful, and a good listener. Heidi is a person who believes in her friends, even when they are so wrapped up in their own lives that they are insensitive to her needs. Smith reveals Heidi's hurt and pain.

Mark Nathanson directs this play about women's lib in a straightforward manner making the emphases more widespread than one of just women's issues.

The characters are normal, everyday people portrayed in a subtly satirical manner that, while not uproariously hilarious, is quietly funny. Linda Parker Watson plays April, a stupid TV interviewer who reviews the country's social changes through the lives of the three prominent main characters in a 1982 television program.

Scott MacDonald is the gay pediatrician Peter Petrone and

Chris Steinmayer is the outrageous but arrogant magazine publisher Scoop Rosenbaum. The two of them completely overpower Heidi in the TV interview, not allowing her any opportunity to respond to any questions.

The brilliant Peter uses little jibs to make April's ignorance more apparent. During all of this Watson plays an overdone April with an interpretation that brings out the amusement in the entire satirical scene.

Watson also plays the lesbian Fran who has a chip on her shoulder. This adorable snippet of American life in the 1970s takes place in Ann Arbor. Fran is in a women's rap group made up of Heidi, her friend Susan (played by Marnie H. Diehm), Jill (played by Nicole Stacey) and Becky (played by Jill D. Ross).

Fran is waiting for newcomer

Heidi to admit she is offended by Fran's sexual orientation. When that doesn't happen, Fran verbally attacks Heidi.

Jill is an overly self-conscious American sweetheart "cup cake" type who wants to be in the forefront of this newest fad, women's liberation, but doesn't really want to alter her comfortable position in society. Becky is a high school student from a broken home living with a difficult boyfriend. The scene is wittily written and played out with a great deal of naturalness.

All of the 13 scenes in the show are oriented toward major national events - Nixon's presidency, John Lennon's death, the AIDS crisis, Reaganomics - all meshed together with a nostalgic revue of American pop music played during many of the scenes.

The men in this show are not

just minor afterthoughts but prominent main characters. MacDonald plays the most touching scene in the show between the homosexual Peter and Heidi. While there is no romantic relationship between them these two characters, (Smith and MacDonald) make

the friendship seemed plausible.

"The Heidi Chronicles" is not just another coming of age look at American fads and fancies. It is a simple but profound, satirical, compassionate, pensive, light-hearted play for those who like entertainment with a message of honesty and hope.

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Live goes the distance, comes to Detroit

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

How does one measure "The Distance to Here?" For York Pennsylvania's pride, Live, it's measured with a healthy dose of heart and encapsulated in a fourth album sure to satisfy fans and newcomers alike. Guitarist Chad Taylor phoned in from the road — Mexico City to be exact — on Oct. 27 to chat about the new album and Live's world tour. The following are his thoughts:

Taylor on ... The road
"It's wonderful," he said of Mexico City where Live performed the night before. "It's our first trip down here. We're very excited. We played a show last night. It's interesting to hear several thousand non-English speaking people shouting lyrics at you. It's absolutely amazing." A slightly giddy Taylor claims he loves touring. Since Live will be on tour for the next year and a half, he better be sure.

"It takes a long time to take

this entire show around the world. The single greatest challenge of being on the road is keeping the energy intact. We lead a pretty eccentric life. I sleep through most of the day, eat a little something. Go to the gym. Try and get myself focused for the show." Afterwards, the band adds in some "late night frolicking." "I have to see something in the town I'm in. Then we jump on the bus or airplane to the next city. The energy needs to be there."

Taylor on ... "The distance to here"

It took the band two years to complete about 30 songs for the new album, said Taylor. "We weeded that down to 13. It's a very uplifting, bright, positive album. A 180 degree turn from 'Secret Samadhi.' As a band we're in a very bright spot. I would sum it up as (he slightly pauses) sunshine. I really honestly think 'The Distance to Here' returns to the urgency of (older material like) 'Throwing Copper' and 'Mental Jewelry.'"

His favorite tracks include "They Stood Up For Love" —

which he co-wrote with singer Ed Kowalczyk and bassist Patrick Dahlheimer. "I think that's the Live theme song. That's what we've been trying to do."

Taylor also shared a special affinity for "Run To The Water." "I don't know what it is about that song. I just find a feeling of inner peace. Aghh. I love them all."

He compares the recording of the album to a rollercoaster ride. It started as a slow process, but then took a turn. The rollercoaster headed downhill and took on a life of its own. "It rolled with the speed of gravity," he explained. The ride is available in stores now: thirteen sneak-peeks into the sunshine of Live.

Taylor on ... Performing

"All our shows have been the most energetic, insane...it's almost like a gospel experience. I think the music elevates people higher and higher, it comes over to the stage and we give it right back. I've never felt the instant attachment (like I have with) 'The Distance to Here.' Usually it takes an album months to satu-

rate."

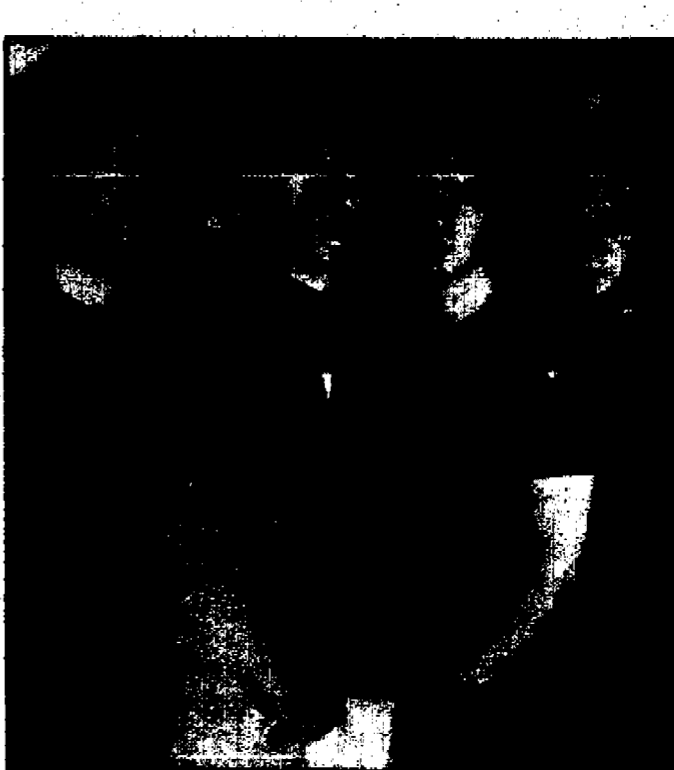
Taylor on ... Growing up

It's no secret that Live is made up of a group of friends. To each other they are more than a band. Taylor explains: "It's a pleasure writing songs with these guys. We were truly boyhood friends. To see Ed's development into a songwriter, watch the natural maturity, it invigorates me."

Taylor on ... The state of rock 'n' roll

"I would say Live's approach to music is to remain pure and honest. Not to rely on a definition of a category or genre like rock and roll...What is rock and roll now is music based on a kindred spirit of sharing emotion purely and honestly in a way that has no limitations. To me I see it as being an endless category."

What can be found in his CD player these days? Chances are you'll run across some of his favorites: Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Billie Holiday (if he's in a romantic mood), or Talking Heads. But Taylor tends to stay open to all kinds of music.



And kicking: Live is (left to right) bassist Patrick Dahlheimer, singer Edward Kowalczyk, drummer Chad Gracey and guitarist Chad Taylor. They'll live up the State Theatre for a sold out crowd Nov. 10.

Taylor on ... Life

"I'm living life one day at a time. When you have tour events, you get wrapped up in day-to-day functions...I enjoy every moment of every day and leave everything else to the future."

For more Live check the Web at www.friendsoftolive.com for video clips or to hear the album before you buy it. If you don't have tickets to the band's sold out Nov. 10 show at the State Theatre in Detroit, that'll be the closest distance you'll come to Live this time around.

Homegrown: Support your local music scene

So you say you're in a rock band. And you want to hear your song on the radio? Good luck.

With so many new bands and musicians flooding the Metro area with sound, it's hard to keep up. But one goal most local musicians have in common is attaining that moment in the sun. Andy Warhol's 15 minutes, that first time they turn on the radio and hear their own words, their own music being broadcast across the airwaves.

One person who's succeeded in making that happen is 89 X Radio's Kelly Brown. Brown is well-known for her profound support of struggling local talent. As host of "The Homeboys Show," which airs 10 p.m. Sunday nights on the modern rock station, she's able to shine a spotlight on the music so often hidden in the dark corners of smoky bars around Metro Detroit.

It isn't an easy task. Piles of packages and compact discs fall upon her desk daily. It's sometimes overwhelming just to keep up, she says. And I can certainly relate. But when music is your passion, you find a way to really listen.

Musical roots

Where did this dedication come from you may ask? Brown, a self-confessed groupie, said she started out following her favorite local bands around town. One in particular,

Ash Can Van Gogh, was her favorite. "I loved them. I saw them struggle so much." Brown places the band, as a top reason for creating "The Homeboys Show" in the early 1990s.

"I wanted to get them recognition," said Brown of local bands in general. "I wanted some of their music to be heard. There was nobody listening to them. Nobody cared about these people."

But Brown did. And she's never stopped caring. With the support of 89X, where she's worked for nine years, she's able to do her part.

Gutsy, very gutsy

"Most radio stations don't want to take a chance with a band that isn't established. They're afraid of taking chances." During her career in radio, Brown said she's seen many "homeboys" shows come and go. She said ultimately radio stations "don't want to waste time with local bands." "I've watched every single radio station (try it). They have not stayed on the air long. They do it because they think it's right. 89X knows how important it is to keep a handle on what's going on on the street. Our listeners care about what's going on. They really care about music. They love our city."

Jeff Moehle, drummer of Knee Deep Shag and former Oakland County resident, said the fact that a radio station even has a "homeboys" show says a lot about its support of local bands.

With only 30 minutes of spotlight local music once a week, Brown has some major decision-making to do. "It makes me feel bad," said the Detroit resident. "I

want everyone to have time, have a little piece of the show." Listeners who've tuned in lately have been exposed to the likes of The Lanternjack, Roundhead, Forge and Queen Bee. And that's barely scratching the surface.

Hi. I'm in a band.

What local bands really need to know to thrive, is how to promote themselves. Whether it's radio or newspapers you're trying to target, it's important to reach out. If you're unsure, find out who the music editor or deejay is you want to reach, and call or e-mail.

Don't be afraid to ask questions. Get an address, fax number or e-mail address and let them know when and where you're playing. Give a few weeks notice. Just finished a compact disc? Send it in along with a brief history of the band and a way to contact you by phone.

Chances are if the music sounds decent, you'll get a call back — or even better, you'll generate something of a buzz. Maybe Kelly Brown will play a song on her show. Maybe I'll write an article. It's can be simple as one word — promotion.

As Brown said: "It has to be a well-oiled machine." Media types aren't looking for the flashiest

package. Information is key. And don't forget about the general public. Hand out flyers on street, send out mailer and e-mailers to fans and friends. During performances, announce when and where you're performing next. It could mean the difference between a full house and an empty club.

Sounding off

A few of Brown's picks for promising local artists? With thought and hesitation she sifts through a list in her mind, too vast to recite, and spouts out names like The Go, Solid Frog, PS I Love You, Perplexa, Speedball, Control Freq and, of course her boy Kid Rock. "He's one of the first people I played on 'The Homeboys Show.' People get really fired up when someone from Detroit makes it. But the great thing about Bob (aka Kid Rock) no matter where he is, what he's doing...he'll always have something from Detroit...He won't forget us."

Not all bands sound like Kid Rock. But perhaps the best part about making music and being a music lover in the Metro area is the diversity. Motown is no longer known for one style of music. From jazz and blues to Brit pop and metal, there's some-

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