



THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

City Hall: The Westland City Council will have two study sessions April 10 at City Hall, Ford near Carlson. At 6:30 p.m., there will be a discussion of separate water and sewer meter systems as requested by local condominium associations. At 7:30 p.m., Mayor Robert Thomas and council members will discuss his new budget proposal.

SATURDAY

Family fun: The Civitan Bunny Brunch will take place 9 a.m. to noon April 15 at the Bailey Center, on Ford near Carlson. It is sponsored by the Westland Civitan Club and Westland Parks and Recreation. Price is \$2.50 for ages 1-12, \$4 for adults. The Easter Bunny will visit. Tickets are available at the Bailey Center or at the door. For information, call Donna Jensen, (734) 729-8075.

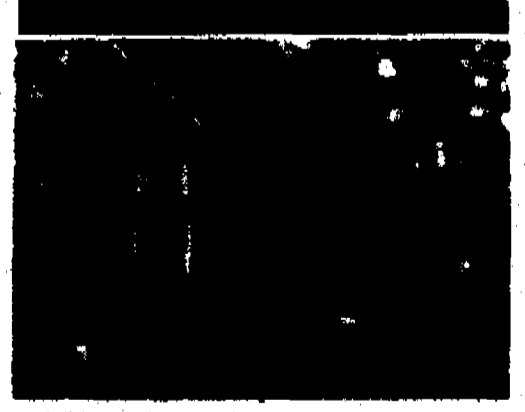
Seedlings: The annual City Tree Giveaway will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 15 at the Bailey Center. Seedlings of several varieties will be given to Westland residents. For information, call the Economic Development Department, (734) 467-3220.

SPECIAL SECTION

Tea time: Check out the Observer's special section on golf./Inside

INDEX

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Apartments/E9 | Movies/C4 |
| Arts/C1 | New Homes/E1 |
| Automotive/H5 | Obituaries/A4 |
| Classified/E,G,H | Real Estate/E1 |
| Classified Index/E5 | Service Guide/H3 |
| Crossword/E5 | Sports/B1 |
| Jobs/G1 | Taste/D1 |
| Malls/C6 | Travel/C8 |



The first place to visit when you're looking for a new place to live? The Real Estate ads in today's HomeTown Classifieds!



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Officer charged

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
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A Westland police officer faces an April 18 court hearing following allegations that he sexually molested an 18-year-old passenger of a car he stopped near Warren and Wayne roads.

Please see CHARGED, A2

Budget resident-friendly

■ Mayor Robert Thomas' proposed city budget includes tax cuts for residents.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
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Mayor Robert Thomas has proposed cutting taxes, reducing water-sewer rates and fixing roads in his new budget plan.

His far-reaching blueprint for change would return about \$85 to a typical Westland homeowner who has a \$120,000 house.

Thomas' plan, hinging on Westland

City Council approval, would cut city taxes and water-sewer rates for the budget year starting July 1.

The mayor will tuck an additional \$60 into the same homeowner's pocket in 2001 - if council follows his suggestion to let a 1-mill incinerator tax expire.

Thomas' vision marks a drastic shift from his earlier plans to keep the city's tax structure in place and to build a multimillion-dollar recreation center and a new City Hall.

He has said his new plan emerged after he did some "soul-searching" for ways to ease the tax burden on residents while maintaining services

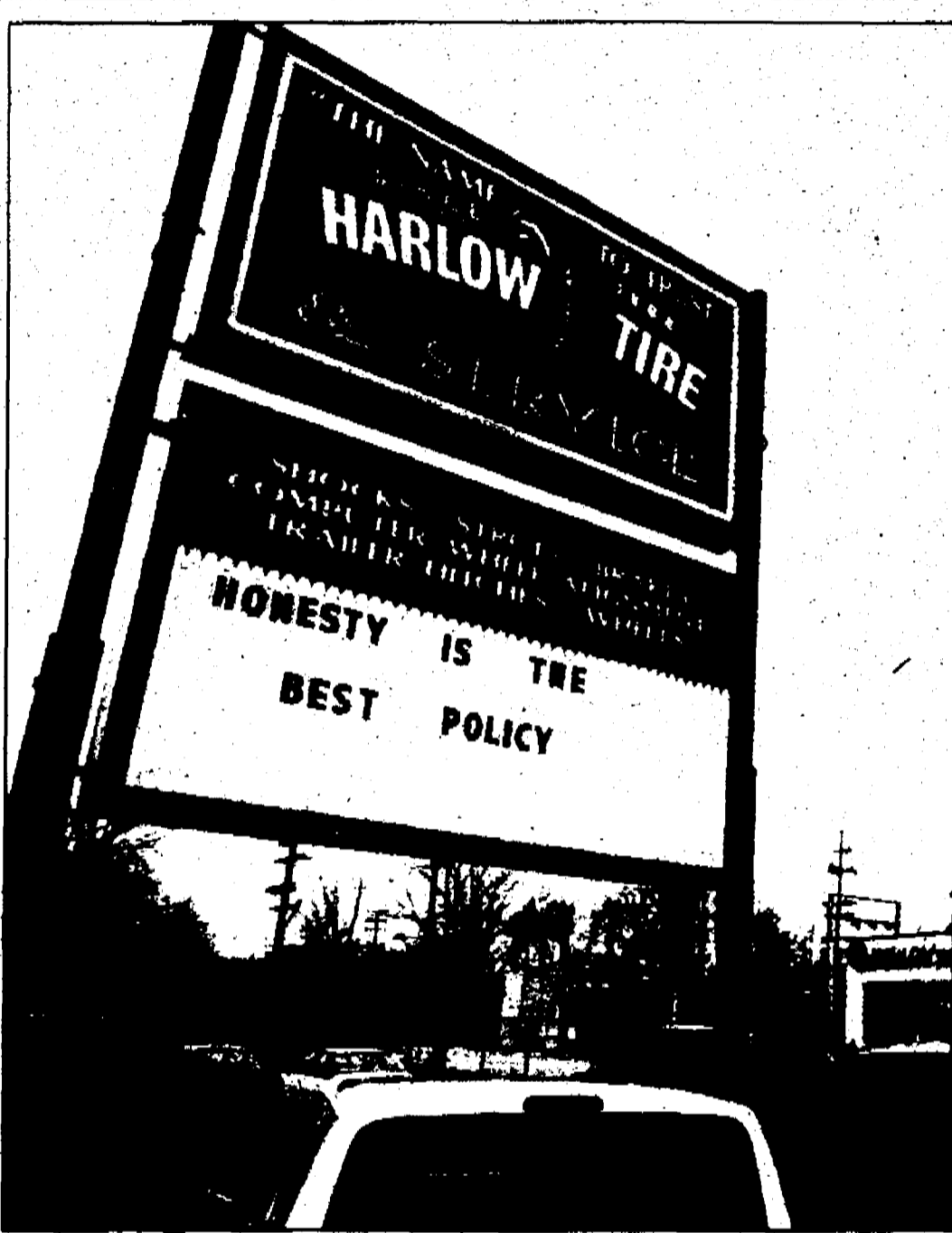
they've come to expect.

"It's a good, solid budget," Thomas said Wednesday as he and his finance director, Tim McCurley, spelled out the plan during a joint interview in the mayor's office.

Thomas' \$48 million general fund budget will survive only if council members agree to phase out a special Tax Increment Finance Authority district north of Ford Road, embracing a renewed citywide emphasis.

"I think there's a good chance they'll buy into it," Thomas said.

Please see BUDGET, A4



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Sign of the times: Harlow Tire's sign shares hopeful messages with customers and passing motorists.

Sign shares words of encouragement

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Margaret Harlow has a lot to say and she likes saying it on the sign outside Harlow Tire, the 35-year-old business she owns with her husband, Jim.

She prefers displaying uplifting words to hawking sales.

"I would rather they think of Harlow Tires as the place with that neat sign," Harlow said.

Her favorite saying, "Time Spent With a Child Is Never Wasted," greeted passers-by last December and at least one of her customers was inspired.

He said he read the sign every day and it made him think about how he felt torn between his obligations at work and getting involved with his child's activities.

"That gave him the inspiration to take the time off of work and do what he needed to do with his child," Harlow said.

She took over the job of maintaining the sign at Ford and Wayne roads eight years ago when the old sign was refaced.

Ever since, Harlow hopes that she's making a difference in strangers' lives with lines like "Honesty Is the Best Policy," "When a Child Looks Up to You, What Kind of Person Does He See?" and "You're Never So Tall As

■ 'Most are directed toward the rearing of children. I think parents need a lot of encouragement to do the right thing when it comes to their kids.'

Margaret Harlow
--Harlow Tire

When You Stoop To Help a Child."

Sometimes, she uses the sign to do a little cheerleading for a school team and once a year she supports a program reminding parents to press the remote control. She tells parents to: "Turn Off the Violence" and "Do Something With Your Child."

Other times, she advertises activities at her church, The First Congregational Church of Wayne. But she always avoids making political statements beyond reminding people to vote.

Usually, she thinks of the slogans herself; other times, Harlow has read it or heard it somewhere else.

"Most are directed toward the rearing of children," Harlow said. "I think parents need a lot of encouragement to do the right thing when it comes to

Please see SIGN, A2

Trial ordered following apartment shooting

BY DARRELL CLEM
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A suspected gunman, accused of firing an assault rifle toward an unmarked Westland police car and a neighboring apartment building, has been ordered to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Craig Birch, 39, faces trial for seven felony criminal charges amid allegations he fired 26 rounds from his residence on the south side of The Landings apartment complex, near Hunter and Central City Parkway.

A gunman, distraught over a lost job and girlfriend problems, ended a five-hour standoff with authorities when he

■ None of the shots he fired hit anyone, although several struck the unmarked police car and an apartment building, police said.

surrendered at 7:24 a.m. March 16.

None of the shots he fired hit anyone, although several struck the unmarked police car and an apartment building, police said.

Police evacuated some residents of The Landings and warned residents of a nearby condominium development to stay in their basements until the standoff had ended.

In Westland 18th District Court on Thursday, Birch voluntarily waived his

right to a preliminary hearing - a move that averted courtroom testimony.

His decision prompted Judge C. Charles Bokos to order him to stand trial on seven charges: discharging a firearm at an occupied dwelling; discharging a firearm from an occupied dwelling; malicious destruction of property; three felony firearms counts; and being a habitual offender.

Birch's attorney, Dawn Ison, couldn't be reached for comment on Birch's ver-

sion of what happened early March 16.

Birch, who spent time in a psychiatric hospital unit after his arrest, is now jailed on a \$500,000 cash bond. A not-guilty plea has been placed in his court records.

The Landings gunman used what police Sgt. John Buresh described as a Russian semi-automatic assault rifle, similar to an AK-47.

Birch could face a four-year prison term if convicted of the more serious charges against him.

However, a judge could sentence him to an additional two years - for a total of six - because he is charged as a habitual offender.

Embezzling on the rise

BY DARRELL CLEM
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A Westland Sam's Club cashier is accused of letting friends pass through her checkout line without paying for merchandise totaling \$9,648.

The 18-year-old Romulus suspect could face five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine if convicted of an embezzling charge.

She is accused of ringing up electronic equipment, food, housewares and other items but accepting little or no money from customers, police said.

Store witnesses reported seeing the cashier accept little money for large items taken between noon and 3:30 p.m. from Sam's Club at 35400 Central City Parkway west of Wayne Road.

Witnesses also told police they saw the customers loading the merchandise into a U-Haul bed and a Dodge Durango sport utility vehicle.

The customers escaped with the mer-

chandise by the time store officials pulled the suspect's cash register drawer and compared cash and receipts.

"It was determined that the (suspect's) drawer was \$9,648.47 short," a police report said.

The shortfall stemmed from 13 separate transactions made by the cashier, the report said.

Police Lt. Marc Stobbe said the Sam's Club incident is only the latest in a growing number of retail store embezzling cases.

He has said embezzling incidents have become increasingly common due to a healthy economy that has created more jobs - and more opportunities to steal from employers.

Embezzling and fraud cases have been on the rise in Westland despite an overall decrease in crime, Stobbe has said.

The Sam's Club cashier on Thursday

Please see RISE, A4



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Music: Wayne Memorial High presents "Schoolhouse Rock Live." Kelly Levernz (foreground), Liz Vineyard (left to right, second row), Jamie Merchant, Angela Tala, Amanda Lickliter and (back row) Vinićia Farmer and Kyle Zrenchik sing a song from the play. For more on the production, to be staged Friday and Saturday, April 14-15, see A3.

Rockin'

■ 'I can't wait until the performance.'

Kyle Zrenchik
cast member

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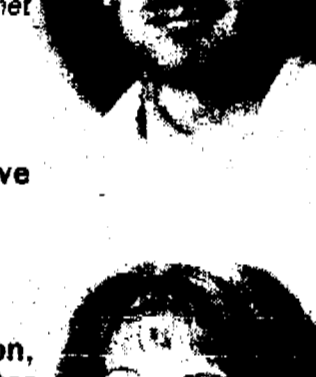
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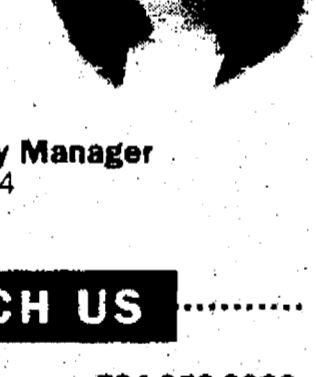
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Board race draws scant interest

BY DARRELL CLEM
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A June 12 Wayne-Westland school board race is stirring little community interest, even though elected trustees help to navigate a 14,500-student district.

Appointed incumbent Richard Eisiminger has entered the race along with Cynthia Schofield, who served on a citizens committee that pushed a successful \$108.3 million bond issue for building improvements.

Unless other candidates beat

Monday's 4 p.m. filing deadline, Eisiminger and Schofield will be assured of victory when voters go to the polls to elect two school board members.

Incumbent board President Robin Moore has announced she won't seek re-election, saying she is keeping a promise she made to her children and grandchildren.

Eisiminger and Schofield are seeking four-year terms.

Eisiminger was appointed to the school board last July after former board member David Cox was tapped for a Westland City Council appointment.

Two other possible school board candidates for the June 12 election had pulled petitions as of late last week but had not returned them to elections offices at 3001 Fourth St. in Wayne Memorial High School's art annex.

Newcomer Michael Tolentino pulled petitions, but he couldn't be reached for comment on whether he will actually enter the race.

One other person also has pulled petitions but requested anonymity, district elections official Susan Piereson said.

"It'll be just a few days before we know who all the candidates are," she said.

The promise of big money isn't among the reasons for candidates to enter the race.

School board members earn no more than \$1,830 a year. They are paid \$30 for each meeting they attend, with an annual cap of \$1,530.

They also receive up to \$300 a year for mileage for using their own vehicles for school district business.

Sign from page A1

their kids. What I put up there are things that are important."

Harlow has three grown children; they have made her a proud grandmother who also likes to welcome the next generation on the sign.

But she doesn't always feel inspired. If her writing muse just isn't there, Harlow advertises a sale or lets the sign stay blank for a while.

"Sometimes, I just don't feel very inspirational or creative and I'll take it down," she said.

That's when she knows her

written pep talks are important, because people will complain that they miss her advice.

Other slogans stay up longer than she originally intended because she knows that they're affecting someone. Like the line, "Dream Big, Work Hard, Never Give Up." It will greet motorists for awhile longer, because an employee asked Harlow to leave it up.

"He said that he when he drove into work it motivated him," she explained.

Charged from page A1

Eight-year officer Steven Jaworski, 34, has been placed on paid suspension by Chief Emery Price as he faces charges of third- and fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct.

Jaworski, a married man who denies the charges, was released on a \$25,000 personal bond after he was arraigned Friday afternoon in front of Redford District Judge Karen Khalil.

Jaworski could face 15 years in prison if convicted as charged.

He is accused of sexually molesting the Westland-teenager about 4 a.m. March 24 after stopping a car that was believed to be leaving a loud party, police said.

"We had reports of a possible drunk driver leaving the party," Price said.

However, no arrest was made.

The passenger who claimed she was molested waited one week to report allegations that Jaworski "touched her inappropriately" while he was searching her, Price said.

The officer's patrol car wasn't equipped with cameras that might have shed light on the allegations, the chief said.

"There were some other people who were present (with the woman), but they did not see the actual allegations take place,"

Price said. Jaworski was charged after Westland police Sgts. Michael Terry and Deanna Slezak conducted an investigation into the teenager's allegations.

Jaworski has no prior criminal record, and Price said police officials "have no reason at this time" to suspect that similar incidents may have occurred.

Price conceded that police officials are treating the matter "seriously" as Jaworski awaits the court hearing that will determine whether he should stand trial on the charges. A not-guilty plea has been placed on record for the defendant.

Price called a press conference to announce the charges after news of Jaworski's arraignment on Friday began to spread.

Price conceded the announcement was a difficult one.

"I can name a lot of other places I'd rather be," he said during the press conference at the Westland police station.

"We all feel for him and his family," the chief said of Jaworski.

The suspect faces two charges. He could face 15 years in prison if convicted of third-degree criminal sexual conduct and two years if found guilty of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct.


Census forms available

Residents who did not receive a census form should contact the Westland Economic Development Department at (734) 467-3165. Census forms

may be picked up at 37095 Marquette, Westland.

Census workers are also needed; if interested, call the Census Bureau at (313) 359-1052.

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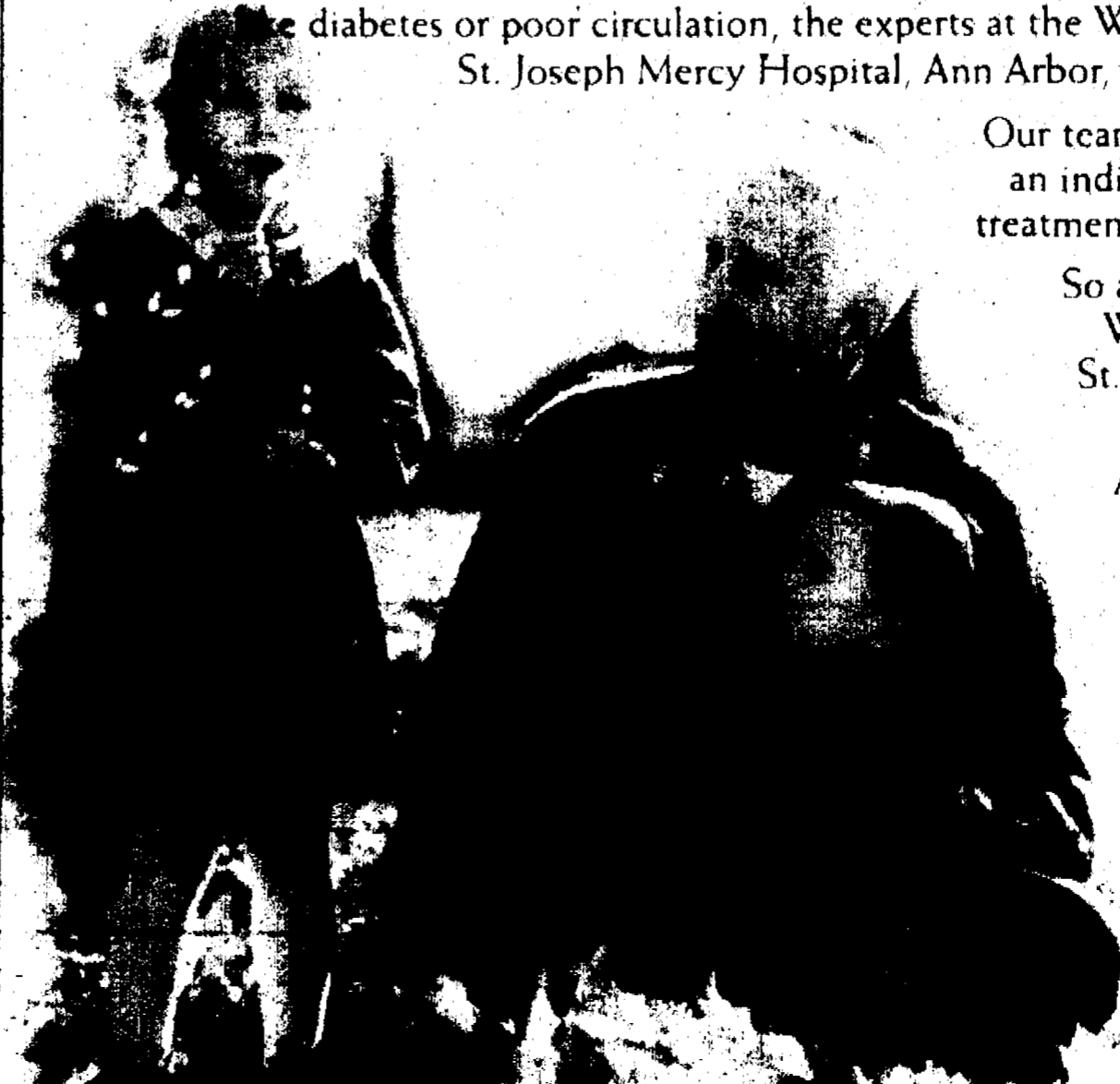
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Wayne Memorial High students take to stage in lively musical

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER
jbrown@oe.homecomm.net

A nervous teacher facing her first day on the job is the focal point of "Schoolhouse Rock Live," the upcoming student production at Wayne Memorial High School.

"It's just like the cartoons we saw when we were little," said Elena Garcia, director and drama teacher. The action centers around the teacher, who receives help when the cartoon characters come to life.

"It's perfect for elementary," Garcia said of the production. "There's nothing inappropriate."

The production features "Conjunction Junction" and other musical numbers. It was chosen "because it's fun," Garcia said. "We have really energetic and lively kids. It's perfect for them."

Curtain time is 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 14-15, in the Stockmeyer Auditori-

um at Wayne Memorial High, Glenwood and Fourth in Wayne. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, seniors and children.

The show features 12 actors, with half performing Friday and half Saturday. There will be 7 p.m. receptions both nights, featuring displays of student projects in a variety of fields.

Students were enthused about opening night during a recent rehearsal. Junior Vinicia Farmer, who plays Dina, was in "Fame" last semester and is glad she got involved in "Schoolhouse Rock Live."

"Because I love Ms. Garcia and it's really fun," she said. "I wanted to meet new people. I actually learned a lot of things."

The production helped her learn parts of speech. "It's full of energy," Farmer said. "It keeps you on your toes." She said it's a great way to express yourself and could help students overcome stage fright.

Freshman Kyle Zrenchik plays Joe and was also in "Fame." "I've always liked being

on stage and acting," he said. "I can't wait until the performance."

Both students keep up with their schoolwork. Zrenchik described rehearsal as "like hanging out with your friends with a little choreography. It takes dedication, but it all pays off."

Recently, eight cast members went to Traverse City for the Michigan State Thespian Festival. They represented the school, Garcia said, and participated in workshops. She also attended, as did chaperones David and Beverly Merchant.

The Friday cast includes: Angela Talo, Mike Porta, Kyle Zrenchik, Amanda Lickliter, Liz Vineyard and Vinicia Farmer. The Saturday cast includes: Jamie Merchant, Andre Passmore, Chris Williams, Heather Dobrowolski, Ami McCain and Kelly Levenenz. Katie Russ is stage manager.

Salvation Army teaches lessons in life

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Miles and Chris Millar want their parents to know that smoking stinks. And they told as many people who would listen Wednesday during a "Kick Butts" assembly at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army.

Their father recently quit and their mother, Nina, who is in the process of giving up the habit, helped them put together a poster board presentation that included her nicotine inhaler and patch.

"I want my dad and mom to stop smoking," Chris said. "It's very bad for your health and I think people shouldn't do it. It's a bad influence on kids."

"Kick Butts" also featured a skit, "Tar Wars, Teach It Straight," that was written and produced by Knowledge Is Power students for other students, their parents, volunteers and Salvation Army staff in the audience.

The program is part of a complete drug awareness platform

offered to students in the KIP tutoring program sponsored by the Salvation Army. The 9-year-old Millar twins get free tutoring help in spelling, reading, writing and math.

Miles said the extra help in his studies has improved his grades in math and, "I think in reading." If he could only remember to turn in his assignments, he's sure he would be even better.

Tutoring help is available in all subjects and there is no charge to children in the out-County area, according to LeauRette Douglas, Wayne-Westland Salvation Army community program director.

Students meet with tutors from 4:50-5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, September through June, with breaks that correspond with the school calendar year.

KIP began five years ago and has grown each year. Currently, there are 34 students from Garden City, Westland, Wayne, Romulus and Inkster enrolled.

Students from other Wayne

County communities are also welcome, Douglas said. Registration begins the last week of September annually. However, students ages 7 to 17 enter the program at different times throughout the year.

"Most of the kids who enter the program have a problem with reading or math," Douglas said. "They're not quite making the grade or failing. They need the extra help. Some of the kids have learning disorders."

Report cards are one measure of KIP's success.

"The whole point is that we work with them and make an improvement educationally, as well as with their character," Douglas explained.

Volunteer tutors include people from the community, parents and educators, like Marge Harris, a paraprofessional for special education in the Wayne-Westland school district, who has been involved with KIP for more than two years.

"I've worked with special ed kids for about 18 years now and

I saw such a need for this," Harris said. "I'd like to do it more, but I live a long way from here, in Dexter."

Sometimes, it's hard for parents to schedule all their children's academic needs, Harris said.

"The kids need a little more help than they're able to give them," she added. "This is a real nice place for the kids to come."

In other cases, Douglas said, parents won't accept that their children need academic help. Those are the parents who never call to enroll their children in KIP or who wait until the end of the school year hoping for last-ditch efforts.

"Once a problem is identified, get some help immediately," Douglas stressed. "So many kids fail because parents aren't taking initiative to get their kids in programs."

For more information about KIP, call the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army at (734) 722-3660.

Livonia school supporters get word out

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER
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Supporters of a \$28 million bond issue have turned their sprint into a full gallop before Monday's election.

"We've done just about everything a political campaign committee can do," said Jim Watters, Say "Yes" to Schools Committee chairman.

Voters have their say on Monday at the finish line. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close 8 p.m.

Proposals A, B and C are:

■ Proposal A - It renews 0.75 mill (18 mills for non-homestead) for operations. Proposal A's tax levy raises \$31 million annually for day-to-day operations of the district.

■ Proposal B - A tax renewal of 1-mill tax to pay for ongoing maintenance of the district's 32

school buildings. Proposal B levy raises \$4 million annually.

■ Proposal C - A \$28 million bond issue that would add a 0.4-mill tax - 40 cents on every \$1,000 of state taxable value - to pay for expansion of high school and middle school athletic/physical education facilities.

The campaign for the three proposals started in January, but proponents have stepped up efforts in recent weeks.

That's included enlisting high school student-athletes, who passed out literature to homes Saturday. Kids only visited those homes where they knew the occupants.

"The athletic director and coaches asked the student-athletes if they'd like to exercise their political rights and talk to people they know - people they may have baby sat for or cut

their lawns," Watters said. "It's just another way to raise awareness."

Tag Day drew 150 participants from Churchill High alone. In groups of two to three, students passed out literature on the three proposals and logged positive voters' names.

"There was a lot of enthusiasm and the coaches did a great job putting it together," Watters said.

Many student-athletes who took part will have graduated by the time new fieldhouses would be built, if the bond measure passes. That impressed Superintendent Ken Watson.

"The kids at the high school are doing it for their brothers and sisters and others," Watson said.

The Say "Yes" to Schools Committee has spent more than

\$3,000 to get out the word, according to campaign expense reports. The committee has sent mailings to those who vote absentee and others who take part in school elections.

In the fall, the district commissioned a telephone survey that indicated solid support for the two renewals. Respondents were lukewarm towards a bond issue for athletic facilities.

Since then, the school district and "Yes" Committee have done quite a bit to educate people on the issue, particularly that the 0.4 mill bond increase is offset by a decrease of the same amount in operating millage, said Jay Young, Community Education director.

"We've done a lot to make our case to the public," Young said. "I think maybe we will be able to turn the corner."

Schools applauded

As part of Wayne County RESA's Celebration of Excellence, two elementary schools in the Wayne-Westland district have been honored with Gov. John Engler's Golden Apple Award. Hoover and Vandenberg elementaries, both in Wayne, were honored April 6 as Most Improved Elementary Schools.

The award is measured by

the school's MEAP scores of fourth- and fifth-graders. A school qualifies for a Most Improved award if it has a 60-point or higher MEAP score gain in math, reading, science and writing over a two-year period (1997-99).

It also requires an 80 percent or higher participation rate in schools with 50 or more students in the building

Westland man charged in Canton robbery

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
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A 32-year-old Westland man has been arraigned in the strong-armed robbery of a Canton woman March 29.

Charles McDonald will face a charge of felony robbery April 14 at a 35th District Court preliminary exam. If convicted, he could face up to 15 years in jail.

Plymouth Magistrate Eric Colthurst set a \$10,000 cash bond for McDonald. The Westland man is currently being held in the Wayne County Jail.

Canton police arrested McDonald Tuesday after a routine traffic stop.

Police reports said he ran a red light at the intersection of Haggerty and Warren roads. A township officer stopped McDonald and subsequently arrested him for driving with an expired license.

The officer, reports said, also realized that McDonald and his vehicle matched descriptions given in the robbery. He was then transported to the Canton Police Department without incident.

CRIME

Police believe McDonald robbed a 34-year-old Canton woman.

McDonald, whom she described as 6 feet tall and 170 pounds, stole a small amount of cash from her at the Classy Chassis Car Wash on Canton Center north of Ford, according to police reports. The victim was washing her car when he approached her and asked her for change for a dollar.

She told him she didn't have it. Reports said he left her came back moments later. The woman sprayed him with water, but he grabbed her and demanded money.

Reports said the woman went to her car, got her change purse and gave it to him. McDonald then fled on foot east from the car wash. He was seen getting into a gray Mercury Cougar at a nearby Taco Bell restaurant.

Police later found all of the woman's property. She was uninjured in the incident, reports said.

Auxiliary helps with program

A local group of hard-working women helped make a success of an April 1 ceremony honoring local police officers and firefighters.

The Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323 and its Ladies' Auxiliary helped make the annual event a success.

The event honored police Sgt.

Ronald Knoll, police officer of the year. Officer Joseph Bobby, who received a special police officer award for rescuing a dog from a fire. Gary Leirston, fire officer of the year, and David Kapelanski, firefighter of the year.

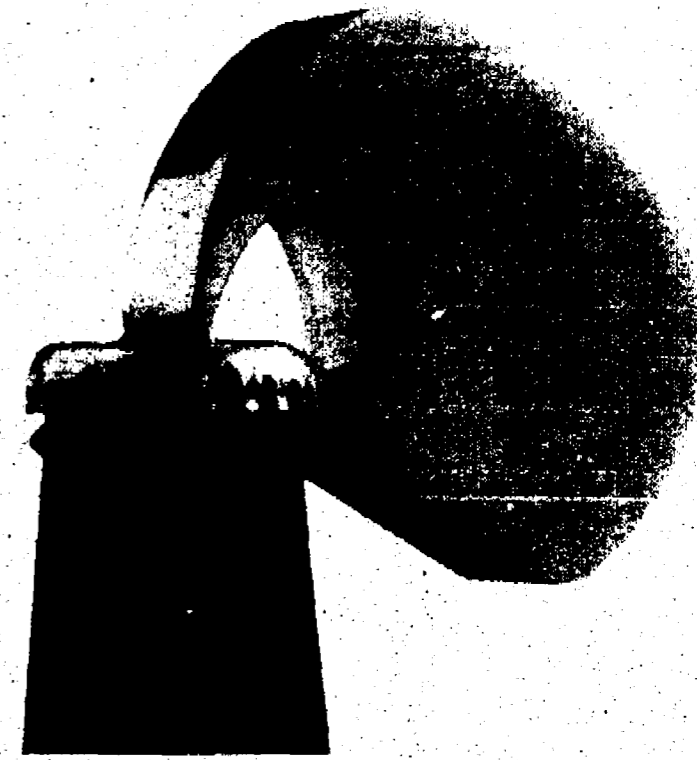
The annual event was held at Harris Kehrer VFW Post 3323 on Wayne Road.

Open house on tap at business

Clyde Smith & Sons will hold a spring open house 1-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, April 15-16, celebrating 160 years in business. The nursery business is on

Newburgh south of Troy in Westland. There will be free seminars, door prizes and refreshments.

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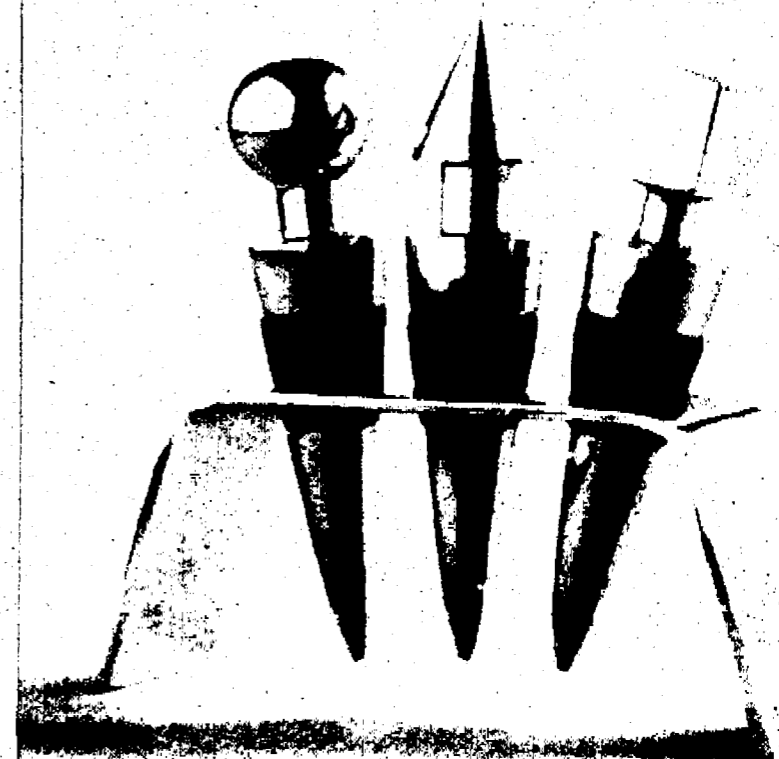
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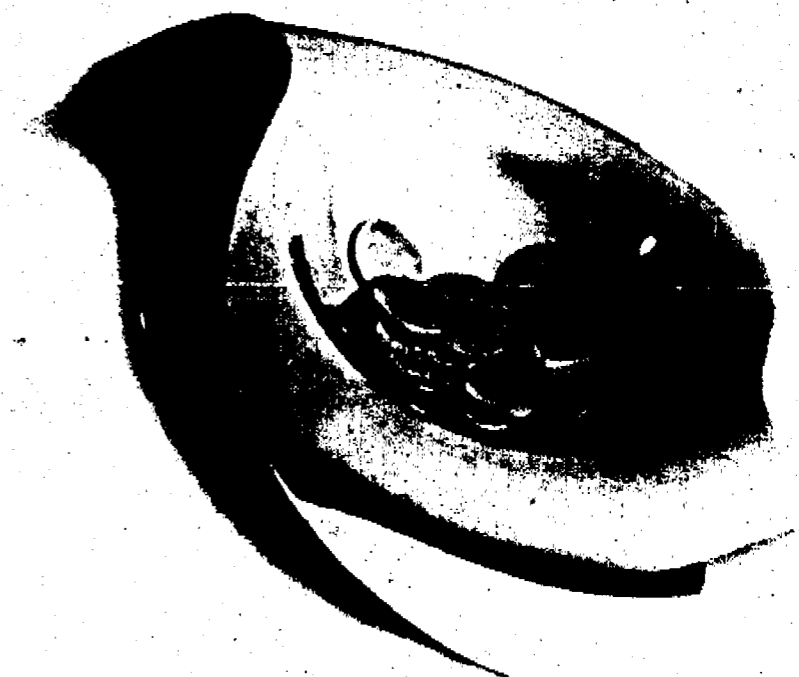
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Probate code changes draw strongly mixed reactions

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

Reactions ranged from joyous to cautious regarding the new statewide probate code, which took effect Saturday.

Financial planner Mark Wira welcomed the code with near open arms, while attorney Walter Sakowski and Chief Probate Judge Milton L. Mack Jr. were wary.

Wira saw the new code as a great improvement administratively, Sakowski said it could open the doors to thievery and Mack, chief judge of Wayne County Probate Court, said parties to the administration of wills better pay attention.

Wira, founder and president of Ann Arbor Financial Investment Advisory Corp. in downtown Plymouth, declared the new code will "greatly reduce the administrative nightmare of probate."

Sakowski, who's practiced law in Livonia since 1983, agreed the new code "makes it easier to probate an estate," but "it also makes it easier to rip off an estate, as a general rule."

And Mack flat-out warned the parties to wills, "You better make sure that you stay in close contact with whoever is in charge of the estate and stay fully informed."

The new code, known as EPIC - for the Estates and Protected Individuals Code - replaces the Revised Probate Code, which has been in effect almost 21 years.

EPIC is expected, among other things, to reduce up-front legal fees, simplify probate by making it more difficult to contest wills, increase privacy of the parties involved and equalize shares for grandchildren.

Judges concerned

While EPIC "significantly reduces" court involvement in wills, Mack said, there's concern among probate judges that citizens won't be ready for it due to past dependency on the judges to make sure everything is right.

"This burden will shift to the heirs," Mack said. "We will (now) deal with" problems "more on a complaint basis."

Mack said judges can still hear disputes in court, "but (EPIC) makes court review optional." Besides, he noted, "a relatively small number of cases result" in contested wills, anyway.

Under the new, informal proceedings, parties will administer an estate and then file a paper with the court saying everything's done, Mack said.

Adds Wira, "As long as a will is signed by three people, the will is (now) considered non-pettable."

Also, noted Mack, as long as "the intent of the testator is carried out," that will be considered good enough.

EPIC "eliminates a lot of technical objections that can be raised," he said. "In theory, it reduces the amount of litigation." Reduction in court involvement means reduced public scrutiny and thus more privacy, he added.

Gone also - unless requested by the parties - is the issuance by the court of bonds on estates, said Sakowski.

"Before, the court had the authority, based on the assets of an estate," to require a bond equal to the assets, said the Farmington Hills resident who's practiced law 17 years at Middlebelt and Five Mile Roads.

Will is all

Furthermore, he said, now the deceased partner's will is all the

The new code, known as EPIC - for the Estates and Protected Individuals Code - replaces the Revised Probate Code, which has been in effect almost 21 years.

surviving spouse or child needs to close the deceased's bank accounts

"Before, they had to go to court and get a small-estate order," he said. In effect, "There's no way to prevent them from doing that at 10 different banks."

"Banks are going to love this

one," he commented.

Mack said the new code also will even things out for grandchildren in some cases, making them equals among themselves. "Studies show that's what most people want," he said.

Sakowski said that "Overall, (EPIC) is a good change because

it reflects some of the changing circumstances in the way people think of inheritances, in the way things should be handled."

'License to steal'

But it also "may be a license to steal," he said.

Mack noted that, with fewer bonded fiduciaries (trustees), it will be harder to correct problems. "I'm kind of concerned about that," he said.

"Probate" is now sort of taken out of the preventive mode and put in a clean-up mode. We don't expect to really see the consequences (of EPIC) until probably

the end of the year," Mack said.

"That's when problems will start to surface," said the chief judge.

Wira, who's been in business since 1993, agreed with Sakowski and Mack, saying "If a person has the propensity to rip off an estate the door would always be open. One should always be cautious in planning for your estate."

Furthermore, he said, "People often put off estate-planning to the last minute. They don't always value the true effect (that has) on the family business or on loved ones."

But he believes the good in EPIC will outweigh the bad.

"Michigan has always been in the dark ages when it comes to probate court," he said, "mainly because so much money is to be made by the court system and the paper-pushing attorneys."

"Also, Michigan left it wide open for contesting wills." Now, "the law will give a chance for mediation or settling estates without having to go to court."

"And any opportunity not to have to go to downtown Detroit is greatly appreciated," he said with a grin, citing parking-lot fees.

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Secretary's Day program all about attitude

It's all about the attitude! Join Schoolcraft College for an enlightening and enjoyable day that celebrates and supports secretaries, administrative assistants, office personnel and general office staff. Schoolcraft College presents its annual Secretary's Day, Wednesday, April 26, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia, focusing on attitude and self-discovery.

Presenter Joanne Estes, founder and president of Vision Quest, will share techniques for analyzing, adjusting and maintaining your attitude, the differ-

ence your choices can make, and strategies for helping others improve their attitudes at work and at home.

Lunch and a vendor showcase highlighting the newest in office supplies begin the afternoon session. Aj D. Jemison, general manager of Fairlane Town Center, will describe fashion in the workplace and corporate expectations in the light of the more casual trend, and offer shopping tips.

The afternoon wraps up with relaxation as herbalist, aroma therapist and author Colleen K.

Dot presents an introduction to aromatherapy and offers ways to "spring clean" your body with natural herbs and pure essential oils.

The fee for the daylong session and lunch is \$89. To register or

for more information, contact Continuing Education Services at (734)462-4448.

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

Learning Center takes applications for summer

The Learning Center at Madonna University in Livonia is currently accepting applications for its summer term, which begins in June. Since enrollment in limited, it is important that applications be completed as soon as possible. Early applications will allow sufficient time for an assessment of each student before classes begin.

The tutorial sessions are designed for students from the first through 12th grades who are experiencing difficulty in reading and its related skills. Parents/guardians may choose one session in Block I: 9-10:30 a.m. June 19 to July 14; Block II: 9-10:15 a.m. or 10:30-11:45 a.m. June 19-30; Block III 8:30-10:15 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. July 5-14; or Block IV 8:30-10 a.m. or 10:15-11:45 a.m. July 17-28. Individual or group instruction (two students) is available. Certified teachers who are

graduate students in Madonna University's literacy education and learning disabilities master's degree programs will offer the tutoring sessions in Blocks I and II.

Prior to admission, each student will be informally assessed and a tailored remedial plan will be designed. Instruction is designed to enable the student to be a more successful and independent reader and will include strategies for reading fiction and non-fiction text, process writing and study skills. Students will develop a portfolio of their work during the session.

For more information, call (734)432-5586 or Sister M. Duane, (734)432-5585. Madonna is in Livonia at I-96 and Levan Road.

Lucky key



Prize winner: Tracy Rutkowski of Canton was the winner of a two-year lease of a 2000 Ford Explorer sponsored by the 18 Suburban Ford Dealers Association. The five finalists for the award received a key in between the second and third periods of the March 22 Detroit Red Wings game and each finalist had a chance to start the 2000 Explorer. The finalists were chosen from nearly 5,000 entries. Tracy receives her Explorer March 27 from Craig Atchinson of Atchinson Ford in Belleville.

Arthritis Today

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In the arena of joint and muscle conditions, the body seems to have substantial potential to make repairs and restore you to a state of reasonable function and minimal pain. Thus, doctors need to be careful to not prescribe medications that may help but definitely can cause side effects and considerable expense.

On the other hand, the physician must encourage you to undertake efforts to preserve the strength and stamina of your body. You need to be prepared to take advantage of the healing your body provides; otherwise, your state of poor conditioning will counter the gain of healing.

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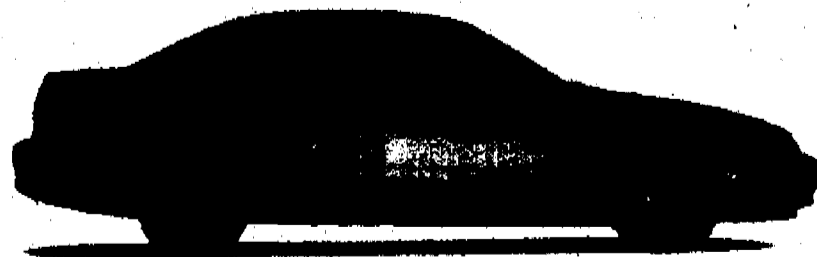
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Once polluted Newburgh Lake will be site of August triathlon

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

Ever think you'd see anyone swim in the Rouge River? The day may be closer than you think.

To show the progress made in cleaning up one of Michigan's - and the country's - most polluted rivers, Wayne County is planning a triathlon in late August, the highlight being a half-mile competitive swim in Newburgh Lake, an impoundment of the Rouge on the border of Livonia and Plymouth Township.

According to James E. Murray, Wayne County environmental director, the event, scheduled for 8 a.m. to noon Sunday, Aug. 20, will also include a five-kilometer run around the lake and an 18-mile bicycle race through Hines Park, home to the lake.

"I think it's a real signal to the public and the world that the Rouge River is on a comeback," said Murray, a Livonia resident

'I think it's a real signal to the public and the world that the Rouge River is on a comeback.'

James E. Murray
Environmental director

who got the triathlon rolling.

But, he cautioned, "We're not encouraging open recreational swimming in the lake yet." Only trained athletes will compete.

Public swimming will wait until plant life is firmly re-established, he said, adding that County Executive Ed McNamara "is hoping, long-term, to have a swimming beach" either at the lake or farther upstream.

For now, Murray said, "the water qualities have improved enough that in this portion of the river - Newburgh Pointe - a swimming competition "is

acceptable."

The county health department "signed off about two months ago on the water quality," he said.

"And what a great accomplishment that is," he added, noting that, for the last 80 years, officials have "warned everybody to stay out of the river" due to pollution from more than 50 years of industrial waste-dumping and natural runoff of fertilizers and road chemicals.

Newburgh Lake, a collection basin in the Rouge system, was drained and dredged in 1998 at a cost of \$12 million to remove PCBs and other contaminants.

That was just part of the \$600 million spent since 1992 on the federally mandated cleanup of the Rouge Basin, which stretches from the Detroit River to Oakland County.

Plants and fish have since been successfully re-introduced into the lake and boating and fishing are allowed, although the fish still cannot be eaten.

Sullivan plans to seek re-election

Pledging to make Wayne County more "user-friendly," County Commissioner John H. Sullivan, D-Wayne, announced Thursday his intention to seek re-election to a second two-year term.

"Wayne County government needs to be more user-friendly for residents," said Sullivan, whose 11th District includes the cities of Wayne, Belleville and Romulus and the townships of Canton, Huron, Sumpter and Van Buren.

Issuing a call for satellite offices, Sullivan said, "Western Wayne residents must drive 20 to 40 miles to downtown Detroit, then battle to find a parking space every time they need to pay property tax bills or conduct other county business.

"Satellite offices are needed in the western part of the county," he said.

Sullivan, who serves on more commission committees - seven - than any other commissioner, said he also plans to work on



John Sullivan

regional transportation and "fight for a light rail system from" Wayne County's Detroit Metropolitan Airport to downtown Detroit.

"Our region needs to develop a comprehensive public transportation plan for western Wayne County and downtown Detroit," he said.

Sullivan said his efforts in his first term on the commission have led to "competitive bidding of all contracts" at Metro Airport; "the widening, reconstruction, paving and building of many roads" in the district and "improving the relationship" between the county government and the district's communities.

He said he also ensured that approximately one-third of the entire Wayne County road budget was spent in his district in 1999 and plans "to top that figure this year (2000).

"Citizens in my district know that they can count on me and that I am always willing to listen to them and to work hard on their behalf," he said. "I appreciate having the opportunity to serve the people of the 11th District."

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Summer Session: June 28 through August 18



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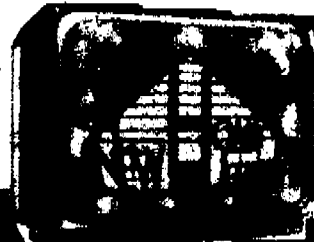
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L/W Page 1, Section B

Brad Emons, Editor 734 953 2123. bemons@oe.homecomm.net on the web: http://observer-eccentric.com

Sunday, April 9, 2000

Proposal C puts school athletics at crossroads in Livonia

The "Say Yes to Schools" campaign concludes Monday when voters will be asked to approve three different proposals to enhance the educational and extracurricular school experience.

As a sportswriter in this community for over 20 years and a product of the Livonia Public Schools, I am clearly aware of the need to pass all three proposals on the ballot.

Proposal C seeks a .4 mill bond offering (equaling the .4 mill reduction of the authorized tax in 1995) for 25 years, yielding \$28 million for construction and expansion of gymnasium and athletic facilities at all three Livonia high schools, along with the four middle schools.



BRAD EMONS

The high schools will receive new gyms with three full courts; a wrestling room; combined aerobic dance, cheerleading and gymnastics room; free weight room; fitness center; increased locker room facilities; and upper-level four-lane running track.

The middle schools will receive "state of the art" outdoor tracks at Holmes and Emerson, along with new gymnasiums at Emerson, Frost and Riley.

With the increased number of boys and girls teams (because of Title IX), Livonia's current athletic facilities have become cramped and outdated.

Since 1972, the district has added 19 girls athletic teams and six sports for boys at the high school level. This results in a 292 percent increase in teams using high school facilities despite a 38 percent decline in enrollment.

With suburban sprawl headed up the I-96 corridor toward Lansing, the Livonia Public Schools need to keep up districts such as Novi and Brighton, which offer impressive athletic facilities.

I'll never be confused with Kevin Costner (aka Ray Kinsella), but I posed one simple question to Dr. Ken Watson, Superintendent of Schools, in an informal interview session last Tuesday.

Once we build these fieldhouses of dreams, will they come?
"This is the end of a 10-year cycle for facilities improvement," Watson said. "We added libraries and computers, the last stage is athletics, which is unfortunately always the last in line."

"Athletics is no more important than music or the French club, but now it's very important, more than ever before."

"We have settled community, but we have to make some commitment to the next three generations, sort of what the early settlers made to this district 30 years ago. Even though we're in a settled community, I confident it still puts kids first."

Watson emphasized that school activities have become more essential to the district's success than every before.

No doubt Proposal C addresses those needs.

Watson assured me that once the facilities are built, they will be accessible to the community.

They better be because they're going to have competition from the outside, whether it's the existing Livonia Y or the new City of Livonia Community Center (which could be up and running by 2003).

When a coach needs a gym or wants to bring in a group to help augment an athletic program, there should be no questions asked.

Football players shouldn't have to be asked by their to take home their equipment over Labor Day weekend because the fieldhouse has been locked up.

Believe me, that kind of stuff has happened more than once in this district.

Last Tuesday, I had a vigorous discussion Dr. Watson and Fred Price.

Please see EMONS COLUMN, B4

Ocelots sign North cager

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

Schoolcraft College men's basketball coach Carlos Briggs reeled in another significant recruit Friday when North Farmington's 6-foot-6 center Emir Medunjanin, a native of Bosnia, signed with the Ocelots.

Medunjanin, a two-time first-team All-Observer performer, averaged 14.7 points and 8.6 rebounds this season for the 15-6 Raiders.

The Ocelots are coming off a 24-7 season and an Eastern Conference championship in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association. Briggs is 74-20 in three seasons at Schoolcraft.

"I think we signed one of the better players from this area, somebody who will work hard from an academic and basketball standpoint," Briggs said. "Emir came here four years ago from

Bosnia and is just learning the English language.

"Coming to Schoolcraft will not only enhance his academics, but he also has a chance to play at the (NCAA) Division I level."

Medunjanin will most like play the small forward position for Schoolcraft.

"Emir has some size and is a guy who can shoot the ball," Briggs said. "He received good high school coaching from Tom Negoshian. He's fundamentally sound and disciplined player."

"It's not always you can get a quality player like Emir from this area."
Two players off this year's Schoolcraft team, point-guard Brian Williams (Wayne Memorial) and shooting guard



Emir Medunjanin

COLLEGE HOOPS

Gilbert Mitchell (Detroit Cody), both committed to Western Illinois, a Division I school in the Mid-Continent Conference. Another point-guard, Reggie Kirkland, will sign this week with Division II Wayne State.

Two other Ocelots, top scorer and rebounder Rob Brown (Oak Park) and small forward Lamar Bigby (Detroit Northern), could be committing to Division I schools as early as this week.

The 6-5 Bigby is being pursued by Cleveland State, Texas A&M, Texas Christian, Bowling Green State and Western Michigan University. Purdue has also expressed interest.

Meanwhile, the 6-4 Brown is considering Wisconsin-Green Bay, Western Illinois, Alabama A&M, WMU and Long Island University-Brooklyn.

1st wins for Blazers, Pats

GIRLS SOCCER

Livonia Ladywood captured its first girls soccer match of the season Thursday in a Catholic League Central Division encounter against visiting Harper Woods Regina, 3-1.

"It took a few games to put things together," said Ladywood coach Jill Logsdon, whose team is 1-4 overall and 1-2 in the Central Division. "We're coming around now."

Ladywood led 1-0 at halftime on Andrea Schimmel's goal at the 38-minute mark.

Regina then tied it in the second half but Stefanie Stachura tallied the game-winner at 20:55. Megan Kogut added an insurance goal with just 11 minutes left.

"It was a pretty even match in the first half," Logsdon said. "We got the first goal in the second half and that clinched it. We got to every ball first. Everyone played hard in the second half."

FRANKLIN 1, THURSTON 0: On Friday, Katie Roberts scored with five minutes left in the game to lift Livonia Franklin to a 1-0 win over host Redford Thurston.

Roberts scored off of a corner kick that deflected off of an Eagle defender and scooted into the net as Franklin, winless a year ago, improved to 1-2-1.

"Other than that, we played fine," said Thurston coach Rob Garcia said. "We were missing three girls. Megan Lloyd had a slight concussion from the Belleville game and two other starters were out."

Stephanie Shelton made 12 saves for the Eagles, now 0-4-1 overall.

Thurston mustered just three shots but nearly scored on a shot by Andrea Russell that hit the crossbar, came straight down on the goal line, but not into the net. The ball was then kicked out, bit a post and caromed out of the goal area.

STEVENSON 3, DEARBORN 0: Lindsay Guskic scored three goals and had an assist to lead the host Spartans in a weather-shortened game Friday.

Dana White chipped in two goals and an assist for the Spartans (3-0), while Danielle Lewis added a goal and an assist.

The game lasted just fifty minutes due to the weather conditions, but it was enough time for Stevenson to show its dominance, outshooting Dearborn, 30-1.

Carly Wadsworth and Megan Urbats also scored goals for Stevenson.

On Wednesday, Stevenson went on the road and trounced Walled Lake Western 9-0.

JOHN GLENN 9, FRANKLIN 0: Sarah Pack had four goals and one assist Wednesday, leading Westland John Glenn (2-1) to the Western Lakes Activities Association crossover victory over visiting Livonia Franklin (0-2-1).

Other Glenn offensive producers included Noelle Swartz, one goal and three assists; junior captain Lacey Catarino, two goals and one assist; senior captain Val Kurzynski, one goal and two assists; and Crystal Klugore, one goal and two assists.

Goalkeeper Jade Fukuda made eight saves and stopped a penalty kick for the second straight game.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Patriot shield: Livonia Franklin's Deby Carlin (No. 3) fends off a Redford Thurston player during Friday's 1-0 non-league win.

Churchill names hockey coach

Mazzoni takes post; Livonia Stevenson's Harris resigns

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

One varsity hockey position was filled Thursday, but two others remain open after Redford Unified coach Pete Mazzoni took the Livonia Churchill job, replacing Jeff Hatley.

Mazzoni was also approached by Livonia Stevenson after Mike Harris recently stepped down.

In just two seasons with Redford Unified, Mazzoni posted records of 19-4-2 and 22-2-1. This season Mazzoni was named Observerland Coach of the Year.

"We feel fortunate to have a person of

Pete's quality," Churchill athletic director Marc Hage said. "We're definitely pleased because we feel we got the best candidate. We're impressed with what he did the last two years with Redford Unified. We think he'll keep our program at a high level."

Mazzoni was also expected to interview Friday with Churchill administrators for a teaching position.

Many thought Mazzoni, a 1987



Pete Mazzoni Leaves RU

Stevenson graduate, was ticketed to return to his alma mater.

"I applied at both schools, but I just felt more comfortable at Churchill," Mazzoni said. "It was a tough decision. There's a lot of uncertainty right now at Stevenson with a new athletic director and principal coming in. At Churchill both are returning and I've heard nothing but good things about the building and the people. I'm real excited about the opportunity there."

Churchill, under Hatley, won its first regional championship since 1986. The Chargers lost only two seniors to grad

Please see HOCKEY COACHES, B2



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HENNINGHANN

Leaves job: Mike Schuette is out after eight seasons at Westland John Glenn.

Schuette pulls out at Glenn 4th area hoop coach to quit

BY BRAD EMONS
SPORTS WRITER
bemons@oe.homecomm.net

The domino theory continued Wednesday for area high school basketball coaches as Westland John Glenn's Mike Schuette becomes the latest to leave.

Schuette, who finished 101-70 in eight seasons with the Rockets, becomes the fourth area varsity cage coach and the third in the Western Lakes Activities Association to step down shortly after the 1999-2000 season. Two other WLAA positions are also reportedly open, bringing the total to five.

Schuette, who turned in a letter of resignation to Glenn athletic director Gerald Szukaitis, becomes the second varsity boys basketball coach in the Wayne-Westland Schools to walk away within the past week. Wayne Memorial's Chuck Henry also resigned after 17 seasons.

Schuette cited family considerations for his departure, just as Dan Robinson had recently done at Livonia Franklin, and Tim Newman had done at Livonia Stevenson.

"I don't want to miss my two boys playing at the high school level," said Schuette, who has a sixth-grader and an eighth-grader, both in the Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Schools (where his wife is also employed). "Last November I told my assistant Joel Lloyd that it was probably be my last year at Glenn."

"The decision was simple, either continue to coach at Glenn and miss my kids' growth at the high school, or put aside coaching. I saw what happened with Jim McIntyre (Stevenson) and Bob Brodie (Plymouth Salem) when they couldn't watch their sons play because they were coaching at another school. I didn't want to go through that."

Schuette, however, hasn't completely put aside coaching. He'll remain as the varsity girls coach in the fall at Redford Thurston where he has spent the past 15 years and continue to coach varsity baseball in the spring at Cranbrook.

"I love coaching and being with young kids. It's high school sports," said Schuette, who is a guidance counselor at Glenn. "I loved being part of such a school activity, the excitement, being with the kids and just the overall excitement of the game."

"I'm sure I'll try to get back into it at some place and time in our school system."

Schuette's final campaign at Glenn ended with a disappointing 4-16 mark.

Coming off a 14-8 season in 1998-99 and buoyed by the return of 6-foot-8 Yaku Motun, a transfer

See SCHUETTE RESIGNS, B2

SPORTS ROUNDUP

RIM 3-ON-3 STARS VICTORIOUS

On April 1, The Rim Stars of St. Paul's Lutheran in Livonia captured first place in its division (grades 5-6) in the Plymouth St. Peter's three-on-three Basketball Extravaganza.

Kyle Majestik, Brad Schmidt, Tony Pounders and Nick Pauling comprised the team, which finished with a 4-0 record.

CC'S ROGOWSKI SELECTED

Redford Catholic Central sophomore Ryan Rogowski Decision Consultants, Inc. of Southfield Black Sox, a 16-year-old travel team, will compete June 16-25 in the 2000 Baseball Junior Olympics, in Tucson, Ariz.

The Black Sox, coached by Norm Brusseau, will consist of players from nine different high school in southeastern Michigan.

Also on the roster are Josh Clay and Matt Eckfeld, both of Ypsilanti; Noah Hampson and Curt Wilkinson, both of Saline; Shane Hulshof, Adrian; T.J. Hudge, Ypsilanti Lincoln; Scott Kaufman and Rick Perry, Fenton; Russ Lupica, Napoleon; Chris Purri, Dexter; and Matt Rolan, Ann Arbor Huron.

Black Sox players will also be eligible to try out for the 2000 Junior National Baseball Team, which will compete in the Pan American Games later this summer in Aruba.

Teams are chosen for the Junior Olympics based on strength of schedule, scout

awareness, individual achievement and character.

SPARTANS' SHED ALL-ACADEMIC

Livonia Stevenson's Miss Soccer, defender Andrea Sied, was one of 18 players from across the country to be selected for National High School Athletic Institute's All-American Scholar Athlete Award for 1999-2000.

The award came after Sied participated in interregional play in Tucson, Ariz. as part of the U.S. Youth Soccer Association's Olympic Development Program.

COLLEGIATE TRACK NOTE

Alma College senior Jenny Dulz (Livonia Stevenson) placed second in the discus with a throw of 128 feet, 1 inch and second in the 100-meter hurdles in the double-dual women's track meet April 1 at Hope College.

Dulz has season-bests for the Lady Scots in the shot put (32-8), discus (128-1) and 100 hurdles (17.23).

BASEBALL PLAYERS WANTED

Westland Federation Baseball is seeking players ages 12-16 for the upcoming season.

Those interested should call Charles Grant at (734) 326-5626.

HOCKEY COACH WANTED

Redford Unified is seeking a varsity hockey coach.

Those interested should call Redford Union athletic director Jim Gibbons at (313) 592-3408.

Franklin, Muchow start 2-0

Franklin's Franklin is off to a 2-0 start in the season.

The Patriots won their second straight Friday with a five-inning, seven-run triumph over host Dearborn, 11-4.

Senior pitcher Tom Muchow struck out 10, allowed just one hit and one walk in five innings. She also helped her own cause with a single, double and three RBI.

Kendra Andrews, Jamie Linden, Amy Sandrick, Nikki Zabkiewicz and Jeanette Bertrand each added two hits.

Andrews had a triple and two RBI, while Linden had a pair of singles and one RBI.

On Thursday, Muchow struck out 12 and scattered four hits two walks over seven innings Thursday as Franklin defeated host Redford Union, 6-3, in the season opener for both schools.

Muchow also collected a pair of hits, including a triple, and RBI. Bertrand also had two hits for the victorious Patriots.

Sandrick's two-run double in first inning keyed a five-run Franklin first inning.

Liz Shamus, the losing pitcher, gave up seven hits and four walks over seven

innings. She struck out five.

Ann Arbor Pioneer (2-1) swept Livonia Ladywood (0-2) in a non-league double-header as Michelle Adams clubbed a pair of two-run homers in the opener.

Freshman Patti Kozinski had three of Ladywood's hits, including a pair of doubles and two RBI.

Losing pitcher Shelly Moran worked six innings, allowing five hits, two walks and five earned runs. She struck out five before giving way to Pam Szwarta.

Three errors led to the Blazers' undoing. "They (Pioneer) played a pretty solid game, we got them at the wrong time," Ladywood coach Bob Lujak said. "The errors kind of hurt us and we stranded too many runners."

Pioneer, scoring six runs on four Ladywood errors in the first inning, also won the second game despite being out-hit, 15-11.

Senior first baseman Gabe Zahn (2-0) struck out nine and walked three. She also went 3-for-5 with three RBI, three stolen bases and three runs scored.

Huron Valley collected a total of 14 hits. Senior third baseman Gabe Zahn (2-0) went 2-for-3 with two RBI, two runs and two stolen bases for the Hawks. Teammate Lauren Merian added two hits, two RBI, two runs and two stolen bases.

Schuette resigns

from page B1

from national high school power Mount Zion Christian Academy (N.C.), Glenn had high hopes entering the 1999-2000 season. The Detroit Free Press' preseason poll even had the Rockets ranked among the top 25 teams

in the state. And despite an impressive early season victory over state-ranked Adrian, Glenn's season turned sour after two returning starters, forward Ben Harris and guard Eric Jones were both gone by mid-season. The 6-8 Moton, surrounded by an inexperienced team, was the only senior left on the roster.

In 1992-93, Schuette left a varsity boys position at Thurston to replace Pat Bennett at Glenn. His first team finished 12-9.

In Schuette's second season (1993-94), Glenn captured its first-ever regional championship

in Jackson with thrilling win over Ann Arbor Pioneer. The Rockets then lost a close Class A quarterfinal battle with Battle Creek Central and wound up 20-5 overall.

That team featured 6-10 Guy Rucker, who became a starting center at Iowa; 6-6 Tony Goins, Wayne State's all-time leading scorer; Brent Washington, who earned a football scholarship at Michigan; and Albert Jones, who played at Oakland Community College.

"They not only had the most talent, as good of talent as I've had, but they were also very

focused," Schuette said. Never short on athletes, Schuette had six winning seasons with the Rockets.

"Mike is the only coach ever to get us to the quarterfinals," said Szukaitis, who indicated the vacant position will be posted soon within the Wayne-Westland Schools.

Lloyd, Glenn's JV boys coach, and entering his third year as the varsity girls coach, appears to be the leading candidate.

"It's only my editorial comment, but Joel has probably been ready the last two years," Schuette said.

Hockey coaches

from page B1

uation. Hatley was 126-51-17 in eight seasons and 16-6-2 last year, winning the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"And in the long run I think it's a better move for me," Mazzoni said. "They have a good talent pool and a lot of people coming back next year. They have a veteran squad."

The 31-year-old Mazzoni currently teaches computers and business at Redford Union High School. He is a 1991 graduate of Adrian College where he excelled as a quarterback. Mazzoni also coached football at Defiance

(Ohio) and Adrian before coming to the RU School District.

He also has an interest in coaching high school football.

"I miss it and I wouldn't mind getting back into it," he said.

Redford Unified is a cooperative hockey program between the high schools of two separate districts, RU and Thurston.

"There are some things you give up, but I'm not going to miss dealing with the Unified situation every two years," said Mazzoni, referring to the MHSAA's sanctioning of the program. "We had a good group of

kids and we got real close the last couple of years."

RU athletic director Jim Gibbons said Mazzoni will be missed.

"We'll be posting the job shortly and I'd like to hire somebody within a month," Gibbons said. "He helped our program immensely and did a great job with it, but I understand why he left."

Meanwhile, the resignation of Harris did not come unexpected.

"Mike has resigned for personal and professional reasons," outgoing Stevenson athletic director Roger Frayer said. "For 11 years he did an outstanding job and kept our program at a very competitive level."

Harris recently took a new job as a sales representative in the systems software division of the Farmington Hills-based Compuware Corp.

The former Northern Michigan player (1976-77) and Marine Corps helicopter pilot spent three years as an assistant under Paul Ferguson and two more under Matt Mulcahy.

In six varsity seasons, Harris posted an overall record of 96-34-9, including a record of 76-6-5 in both the Suburban High School Hockey League and WLAA. He guided the Spartans to four SHSL titles and one WLAA-Lakes Division crown.

But his final two seasons were marred by three separate incidents — an ugly finish to a 1999 district tournament game with state champion Redford Catholic Central; a confrontation during a game against Churchill resulting mounted speaker being tipped over in the official scoring area; and a post-game brawl between Stevenson and Churchill. The final episode resulted in Stevenson forfeiting its final five regular season games and Churchill its final four.

"I hope my program was based on dedication, commitment and discipline," Harris said. "I'd like to thank the former players and to those with whom I worked with over the years that added immense meaning to my life. I felt blessed that the experience I received was greater than anything I may have given out."

"I want to extend my wishes to the student-athletes and best success in their future endeavors."

Harris, who was a part of seven Stevenson titles in 11 years, felt the time was right to step down.

"Right now I'm pursuing other personal and professional goals," he said. "The program is at a point, and I'm at a point, where it's time for a change and it's best for the team to have a new coach."

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Spring Blast champions



United dominates: The Livonia United U-13 girls team captured first place in the Gold Division March 24-25 in the Middletown (Ohio) Spring Blast. United defeated SC Extreme in the finals, 2-0. United also beat the Northmont Vipers (3-2), Worthington United (5-0) and the Fairfield Heat (3-0). Members of United include (bottom row, from left): Caitlin Boyak, Devon Rupley, Anna Albulov, Kaitlin Howe, Beth Prost, Dina Allie; (top row, from left) Danica Rodriguez, Andrea Muscat, Deb Prost, Whitney Olivier, Laura Jetke, Catie Bou-Maroun, Rachel Rondy, Diana Fedrigo, Tracey Guerin and coach Frank Guerin. Deb Prost is the team manager. Not pictured is Anna MacLeod.

Clarenceville finishers place high in state championships

Courtney Green, a student at Power Middle School in Farmington, captured a bronze medal in the 50-yard breaststroke for Girls 11-12 with a time of 33.81 at the Michigan Short Course Swimming Championships held recently in Rockford Michigan.

Green, who swims for Clarenceville Swim Club, also finished fourth in the 100 breaststroke (1:14.49).

Green also teamed up with Mara Loniewski, Monica Pauza and Kathryn Kusuplos for a fifth place in the 200 medley relay (2:05.5). This same foursome also took 11th in the 200 freestyle relay.

Kusuplos added an 11th in the 50 backstroke with a personal best of 31.43 and 14th in the 100 backstroke (1:09.68).

Another top performer for Clarenceville was Jeffery Pauza, who finished sixth in the 50 backstroke (34.74) and 13th in the 50 freestyle (30.71) for Boys 9-10.

Clark leads way in 13-and-over meet

Katie Clark led the way with an outstanding performance for Clarenceville Swim Club at the 13 and over Michigan State Swimming Championships held recently at Eastern Michigan University.

Clark, competing in the Girls 15-19 age division,

AGE-GROUP SWIMMING

captured silver medal in 100 and 200-yard butterfly events, posting personal bests of 59.01 and 2:10.24, respectively.

Clark also finished sixth in the 100 Freestyle (55.16); seventh, 200 freestyle (2:00.04); ninth in the 200 individual medley (2:11.54); 50 freestyle (25.14).

OTHER CLARENCEVILLE INDIVIDUAL FINISHERS

Boys 15-19: Brett McConis, 11th, 100 yard butterfly (54.21); 12th, 200 butterfly (1:59.73); Michael Nemer, ninth, 100 breaststroke (1:00.69); Ryan Pretzer, 12th, 100 breaststroke (1:02.83); 12th, 200 breaststroke (2:18.71).

Girls 15-19: Lindsay Dohm, 14th place, 100 yard backstroke (1:03.31).

Girls 13-14: Ashley Eilers, 13th, 500 freestyle (5:27.51).

CLARENCEVILLE RELAY EVENT FINISHERS

Girls 15-19: Katie Clark, Anna Loniewski, Jessica Marcast, Lisa Lis, 11th, 200 freestyle (4:48.09); 8th, 400 freestyle (10:00.00); Lindsay Dohm, Monica Pauza, Kathryn Kusuplos, and Dana Fedrigo, 13th, 400 medley (4:29.70).

Boys 15-19: Jeffery Pauza, Brett McConis, Michael Nemer, Michael Pretzer, 10th, 200 freestyle (4:00.00); Ryan Pretzer, 12th, 200 freestyle (4:00.00); Ryan Pretzer, 12th, 200 freestyle (4:00.00).

Boys 13-14: Brett McConis, Michael Nemer, Michael Pretzer, 10th, 200 freestyle (4:00.00); Ryan Pretzer, 12th, 200 freestyle (4:00.00).

Boys 11-12: Courtney Green, 13th, 50 breaststroke (33.81); 14th, 100 breaststroke (1:14.49).

PREP BOYS TRACK DUAL MEET RESULTS

LIVONIA STEVENSON 94
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 42

April 6 at Franklin

Shot put: Nate Hensman (LF), 45 feet, 2 1/2 inches; discus: Hensman (LF), 131.2; high jump: Dave Painter (LF), 5'6"; long jump: John Moore (LF), 17'8"; pole vault: Bryan Dery (LS), 9'0"; 110-meter hurdles: Brian Jones (LS), 15.8; 300 hurdles: Jones (LS), 43.3; 100 dash: Mike Lenardon (LS), 11.9; 200: Lenardon (LS), 23.8; 400: Kevin Schneider (LF), 51.9; 800: Brad Carroll (LS), 2:08.5; 1,600: Brian Klottz (LF), 4:44.0; 3,200: Matt Isner (LS), 10:21.0; 400 relay: Stevenson (Dan Howery, James Bartshe, Joe Lubinski, Lenardon), 47.2; 800 relay: Stevenson (Howery, Bartshe, Lubinski, Lenardon), 1:35.0; 1,600 relay: Stevenson (Nick Soper, Carroll, Lubinski, Steve Keckskemeti), 3:39.0; 3,200 relay: Stevenson (Dave Novara, Carroll, Isner, Keckskemeti), 9:47.0.

Dual meet records: Stevenson, 2-0; Franklin, 0-1.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 105
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 32

April 6 at John Glenn

Shot put: Mike Gaura (LC), 49 feet, 9 1/2 inches; discus: Gaura (LC), 129.9; high jump: Paul Karolak (LC), 5'8"; long jump: Eric Scott (LC), 20'9"; pole vault: Joe Reilly (WJG), 9'6"; 110-meter hurdles: Brant Hauck (LC), 16.2; 300 hurdles: Hauck (LC), 44.5; 100 dash: Scott (LC), 11.5; 200: Scott (LC), 24.3; 400: Oliphant (WJG), 56.9; 800: Ryan Gall (LC), 2:08.7; 1,600: Jason Richmond (LC), 4:43.0; 3,200: Richmond (LC), 10:19.4; 400 relay: Churchill (Paul Perez, Nate Picklehaupt, Karolak, Scott), 46.3; 800 relay: Churchill (Andrew Ribar, Scott McKee, Derek Wurlinger, Picklehaupt), 1:43.6; 1,600 relay: Churchill (Hauck, Matt Buddenberg, Gall, Patrick Cannon), 3:50.3; 3,200 relay: Churchill (Gall, Phil Johnson, Logan Schlutz, Aaron Whitworth), 9:04.7.

Dual meet records: Churchill, 1-0; John Glenn, 0-2.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIAN MITCHELL

Hurdling snowflakes: Stevenson's Brian Jones, shown here in Tuesday's 100-41 win against Redford Union, won both hurdles events Thursday against Franklin.

PREP GIRLS TRACK DUAL MEET RESULTS

LIVONIA STEVENSON 114
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 23

April 6 at Stevenson

Shot put: Lisa Barke (LF), 33 feet, 6 1/2 inches (personal best); discus: Julie Yambasky (LS), 91.5; high jump: Andrea Polasky (LS), 4'10"; long jump: Leyna Kasparek (LS), 14'6"; pole vault: Andrea McMillan (LF), 9'2" (breaks school record of 9'1" set by Shiloh Witt in 1999); 100-meter hurdles: Cassie Ehlerdt (LS), 17.1; 300 hurdles: Ehlerdt (LS), 50.1; 100 dash: Angela Mikkelsen (LS), 13.6; 200: Kristin Kuzychik (LS), 29.2; 400: Erin Mazzoni (LS), 1:04.3; 800: Tessa Tarele (LS), 2:35.0; 1,600: Andrea Parker (LS), 5:34.0; 3,200: Heather VanDette (LS), 12:20.6; 400 relay: Stevenson (Kuzychik, Mikkelsen, Theresa Cherenkoff, Kasparek), 55.3; 800 relay: Kuzychik, Angela Alfonsi, Katelyn Edwards, Ehlerdt, 1:53.0; 1,600 relay: Stevenson (Mazzoni, Alfonsi, Parker, Ehlerdt), 4:35.8; 3,200 relay: Stevenson (Tarele, VanDette, Sarah Keasford, Parker), 10:26.4.

Franklin, second places: Daniela Gapp, discus (90-10); Rita Malec, 400 (1:05.0); Erica Johnson, 800 (2:41.0).

Dual meet records: Stevenson, 1-0; Franklin, 0-1

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 87;
WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 49;

April 6 at John Glenn

Shot put: Marj Jacoby (LC), 31'11"; discus: Jenni Heiter (LC), 102.9; high jump: Angela Adams (WJG), 4'8"; long jump: Stephanie Dean (LC), 14'6"; pole vault: Kim Cerat (LC), 9'0"; 100-meter hurdles: LaTasha Chandler (WJG), 15.4; 300 hurdles: LaTasha Chandler (WJG), 55.9; 100 dash: Felicia Barrett (WJG), 13.1; 200: Sherele Brown (WJG), 28.7; 400: Kristen Fischer (WJG), 1:06.5; 800: Susan Durbin (LC), 2:38.0; 1,600: Dyanne (LC), 5:54.0; 3,200: Diana Lepaskas (LC), 13:03.0; 400 relay: John Glenn (Chandler, Elizabeth Easter, Barrett, Brown), 53.0; 800 relay: John Glenn (Chandler, Easter, Barrett, Brown), 1:53.6; 1,600 relay: Church (Mandy Heit, Dean, Heather Newkirk, Sarah Westcott), 4:39.4; 3,200 relay: Church (Michele Franks, Sarah Frangoskou, Rachel Wojcik, Westcott), 11:04.0.

Dual meet records: Churchill, 1-0; John Glenn, 0-2.

Opening Day

at the **HOCKEYTOWN** cafe

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

WDRQ Broadcasting live from the 5-Hole all day

- Jay Towers & The Morning Revolution 6AM-10AM
- Jamie Reasa 10AM-1PM
- Dave Fuller 1PM-3PM
- Lisa Lisa 3PM-7PM
- Tic Tak 7PM-MIDNIGHT

WJR Broadcasting live from the Hockeytown Cafe Patio!

- Paul W. Smith 5:30AM-9:00AM
- Ken Calvert 9:00AM-noon
- Mitch Albom after the game

• Inside Hockeytown with Mickey Redmond and Ken Kai 8:00PM-9:00PM

Don't have tickets?

Watch the game from the Hockeytown Cafe!
The place to watch Red Wings Hockey and Tigers Baseball

HOCKEYTOWN CAFE
2301 Woodward Ave. Detroit, MI 48201 • 313-965-9500
Next to the Fox Theatre

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WJR AM 760

PRESENT

High School

ATHLETE of the WEEK

sponsored by

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Home Town News... it's all about you!

★ **LAST WEEK'S WINNER**
Katie Leshinsky
Dearborn
Dearborn High School

Presented by
Village Ford

Tune in WJR 760 AM each Friday at 7:40 a.m. and hear the Athlete of the Week announced on Paul W. Smith's morning show.

To submit your nomination for the High School Athlete of the Week:

- Send us up to one page of information about the athlete's involvement in sports, community, academic achievements and any awards he/she has received. Include the name of the high school and a picture of the athlete.
- Include your name and daytime phone number.
- Send your nomination to:

WJR 760 AM
2100 Fisher Building, Detroit, MI 48202
Attention: Athlete of the Week
or
FAX to: 313-875-1988

Tune in to WJR 760 AM Friday morning to hear the winner announced!

Comerica passes inspection



C.J. RISAK



PAUL BEAUDRY

Define ballpark junkie. Is it someone who tries to go to every park or someone who just enjoys going to them?

In any case, we figure we've been to roughly 18 between us.

We've been to the old (Tiger Stadium, Fenway Park, Wrigley Field, old Comiskey Park), the new (SkyDome, Turner Field), the good (County Stadium), the bad (Metrodome) and the ugly

(Riverfront Stadium, Veterans Stadium, Three Rivers Stadium).

Last week, we went to one more - Comerica Park. You'll love it, you'll hate it, but you'll go to it. Occasionally, you may even go to watch the Detroit Tigers.

We went with one thing in mind - helping you know what to look for and what to look out for. OK. And there was free food. But we only ate in the name of helping you, the consumer.

We've reviewed many different parts of the park - some good, some bad and all with Comerica's predecessor in mind. Hey, you can't forget about the past. In the end, you'll have to make up your own mind if you go.

Think of this as Siskel and Ebert go to the ball park. We'll grade the items as Bats Up, Bats Down, or a Checked Swing. Ready? Let's go to the ball park.

ACCESS

CJ: Just 35 minutes. That's all it took to drive from our office (Levan and Schoolcraft in Livonia) to the new ballpark - and on opening day! OK, so the Tigers opened in Oakland. Still, the drive wasn't all that different. Took I-96 to I-94 east to the Chrysler south and got off at the first exit - Mack. Took that to Woodward, turned left and voila! We were there. Signs leading you to the park all the way. Access is possible, but easy? Ah - doubtful. Have to wait and see. **CHECKED SWING.**

PAUL: There's an old saying about how you can't get there from here. Its latest installment is Comerica Park. While there are signs everywhere on how to find the park, you might want to bring a book, a good tape or maybe a hand-held video game while waiting for traffic to move. One of the advantages of Tiger Stadium was the ballpark came first, the freeways were built around it and Michigan Avenue had three lanes of traffic in both directions. Comerica Park doesn't have that luxury. Woodward is narrow and the freeways are close, but with no immediate access. Be prepared to use a lot of sidestreets and to

TICKETS: You'll be able to get them, but probably not for Tuesday's opener. Tickets will run from \$90 from the infield box seats to \$8 for the Pepsi Family Section in right field. Best seats for the back might be the pavilion seats in left field for \$14 a throw. For information and availability, call (248) 25-TIGER.

GETTING THERE AND PARKING: It's going to be tough. The signs are well marked on all major freeways and surface streets. But it's going to be crowded. Parking is the same boat. Best bet from the Observersland might be to take the Lodge to Bagley exit and finding parking in the Washington Blvd.-Grand Circus Park area. Or you can park near the Renaissance Center and either take a cab or jump on the People Mover to the Grand Circus Park stop. Until people get into a routine, be prepared to leave early.

POINTS OF INTEREST: Go early anyway and check the place out. The statues in left-center field of Tiger greets are outstanding and the architecture alone is worth a long look. And yes, the Ferris wheel and carousel can hold adults. Even overweight sports writers.

— Paul Beaudry

be creative. **BATS DOWN.**

PARKING

Paul: Parking? There's parking? I'd like to say I'm kidding, but I'm not. At Tiger Stadium, you usually went to the same lot for every game because you always went there. At Comerica, you may eventually find that type of lot. Unfortunately, it might be the same one you parked at going to Tiger Stadium. Good luck. Be prepared to walk. And if there's an event at the Fox or State Theater or Second City, well, *May the Force Be With You*. The parking gods won't. Two words of advice: People Mover. **BATS DOWN.**

CJ: According to material provided by the Tigers' PR department, there are "approximately 2,000 parking spaces" that were created during park construction, with 1,000 in an adjacent parking structure and a total of 16,700 within 15 minutes of the park. Or, as my cohort advised, you can park at that same space near Tiger Stadium and take a bus to the new park. My advice: That apparently empty lot outside the leftfield fence (furthest from the Fox) isn't for parking. Only go in there if you have one helluva SUV - that's where they're building Ford Field. **BATS DOWN.**

STADIUM EXTERIOR

CJ: OK, it doesn't have that lush, white aluminum siding that made Tiger Stadium so special. But it does have a lot of really neat Tiger stuff, like sculptures of Tigers with balls in the mouths on the outside walls. And there's a lot of brickwork that looks good now and will probably look even better when the park is finished - which, by the way, it isn't. There's a lot that needs to be done before this park is 100 percent open, and it won't reach that level by Tuesday. Three of the four streets surrounding Comerica were still under construction when we were there. But it does look good. **BATS UP.**

PAUL: Tiger Stadium is an old ballpark that looks like a warehouse in the middle of a historic

district. Comerica Park is a new ballpark that looks like an old ballpark in the shadow of the old Hudson's warehouse. When it gets finished it will be wonderful. Right now, it's still pretty impressive. My two favorites are the statues at the main ballpark entrances and the Pewabic tile around some of the building entrances. I like, I like, I like. **BATS UP.**

CONCOURSES

PAUL: One of the nice things about Tiger Stadium was the interior concourses. True, they were small and cramped. But that was part of the charm. You walked into the stadium and you were hit with the smells of cooking onions and hot dogs. The CoPa has large, wide, roomy concourses, which in one sense is a good thing. But you lose the perspective of being inside a building. And with no overhangs and no true enclosed area, good luck on a rainy day. I like the fact there is more space, but it's too open, if that's possible. **CHECKED SWING.**

CJ: Yeah, I'll miss that Tiger Stadium charm - the smell of the cooking hot dogs (or whatever it was), the enclosed, dark, almost claustrophobic feeling it left you with. And although it did protect you from the rain, I always wondered what was dripping on my head while walking through those lower concourses on a sunny day. I like the CoPa. The airiness, the wideness, the easy access - heck, we could walk around the entire perimeter of the park! Couldn't do that at the Corner. **BATS UP.**

SEATING

CJ: There are, according to the Tigers' PR department, 30,000 chair seats, 3,000 club seats, 2,000 suite seats and 5,000 bleacher seats (total of 40,000), ranging in price from \$8 to \$75. There's no overhang to block views, there are no poles to block views, and you can actually see buildings outside the park from the lower deck. There are even (get this) cup holders at every

seat (except the bleachers). And a guy can stand at a railing in center field and actually watch the game. And you can see most of the park from the lower-deck concourse. I like it. **BATS UP.**

PAUL: We made the trek to section 210, row 22, seat 1 - the furthest seat in the last row down the upper deck in right field. The last time I sat in such a seat was in new Comiskey Park and the concessionaire sold binoculars and oxygen bottles. Don't need 'em here. The climb isn't as high as it looks and the sight line was much better than the worst seat in Tiger Stadium (throwing seats behind the poles out of the mix.) Wider seats (perfect for wider posteriors) and better sight lines make the grade here, but the best ones are the Tiger Den seats with actual padded, wooden, movable chairs (of course, at \$75 a pop and only available to season ticket holders, they should be Barcelongers). Tiger Stadium seats were closer to the action, but this works well. **BATS UP.**

FOOD

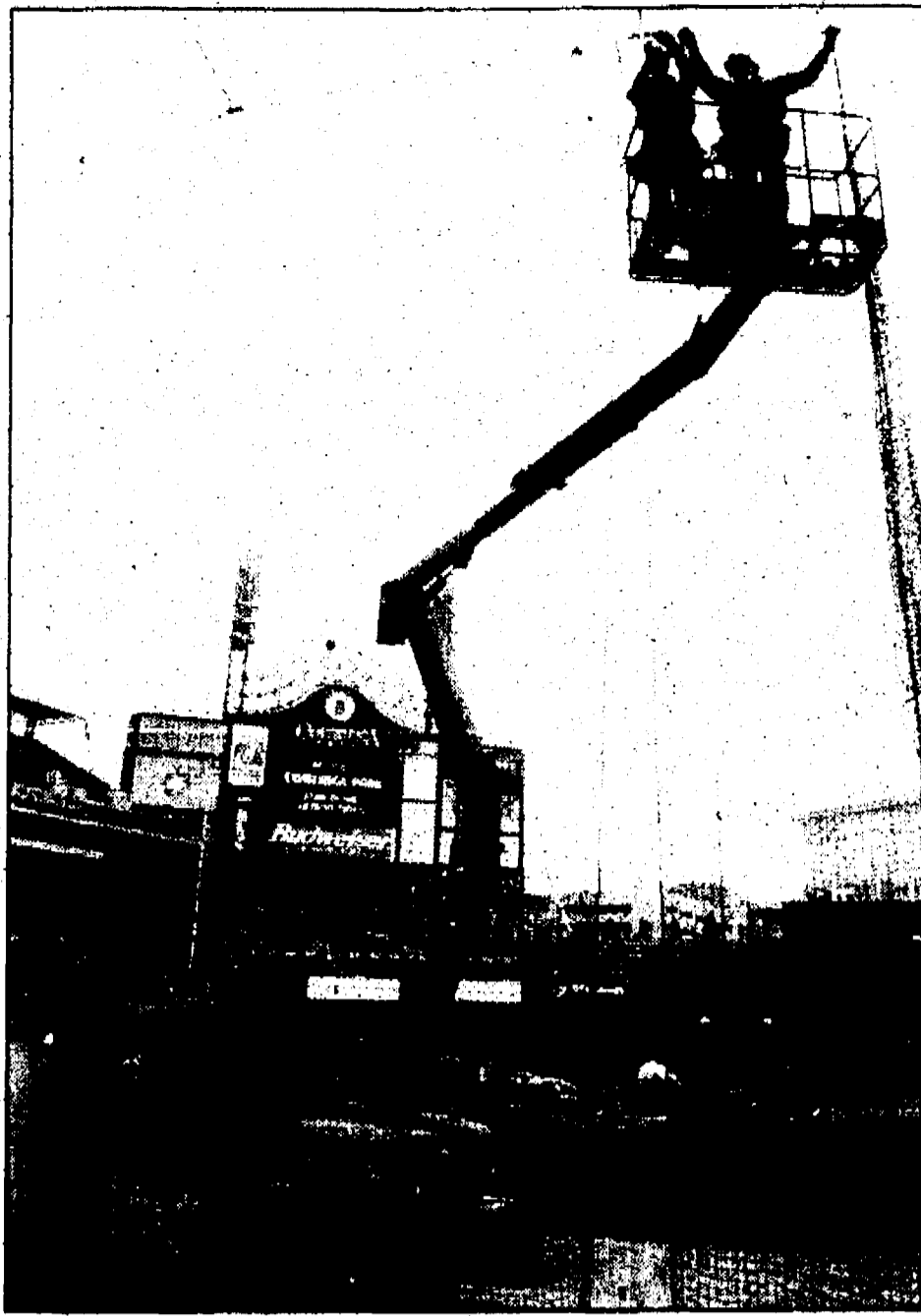
PAUL: A \$7.25 beer and a Ball Park Frank for \$2.75? It makes Metro Airport food prices seem like Rally's. I know they have to pay for the stadium somehow, but geez. The food at the food court was OK (it's a ballpark, not East Side Mario's), but more dough in the buns shouldn't mean less dough in the wallet. **BATS DOWN.**

CJ: I'm a beer and a dog kinda guy, and I always treasured those served at the Corner. But times change and, know what? CoPa's weren't bad. It's just that there's so much to choose from - chicken sandwiches, fish sandwiches, gyros, subs, french fries, etc. The dogs they serve are thick-skinned, authentic coneys, which is great. And you certainly get a lot of bun for the buck - they're huge. There are all sorts of different restaurants, including a McDonald's in right field. We ate in the Big Cat Food Court. It's good, but pricey - sandwiches are all \$6, beers range from \$4.50 to \$7.25, dogs are \$2.75 to \$3.50. **BATS UP.**

BATHROOMS

CJ: I remember going to see Mark Fidrych pitch in front of a packed house at Tiger Stadium. Went to the men's room, waited in a line outside to get to one of those troughs inside, then wondered why since all these guys were just going wherever they wanted to. By the time I got back to my seat, I'd missed two innings. My sister was with me; the line for her was 3 1/2 innings. There are more bathrooms, so there will be fewer missed pitches at CoPa. **BATS UP.**

PAUL: No matter how hard you tried to forget, 87 years of ballpark memories had to include the sights, sounds and smells of Tiger Stadium bathrooms. The dung of your ancestors are a thing of the past. There are 462 of American



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Preparation: Workers hang the backstop behind home plate with the giant scoreboard in the background.

Standard's finest at 35 locations around the park. This is not to say that people aren't going to have to wait. But it's going to be a lot easier. **BATS UP.**

DISTRACTIONS

PAUL: A carousel? A ferris wheel? In a ball park? Yup, and it works too. It's out of the way, unobtrusive and blends in very nicely. Scoreboard is big. Real big, so big that the upperdeck of the left field stands blocks out the Channel 50 ad because someone designed the board to go 30 feet too close to the stands (word is the Mike Iltch ain't too happy about it). And there's an out-of-town scoreboard, too, for the first time in years. Lot of places to buy souvenirs and lots of room to roam, if you don't like the fact there's a carousel, then don't use it. **BATS UP.**

CJ: Let's face facts here. This park cost \$300 million, so it better have plenty to offer. Since it appears the Tigers won't have an awful lot to show, distractions like carousels (in the Big Cat Food Court) and Ferris wheels (with baseballs as gondolas) may come in handy. There are restaurants to sit in and eat, decorative pillars featuring Tiger greets, shops to spend all sorts of money in (yes, there are ATMs), and sometime soon a waterfall in center field and fireworks for home runs over a scoreboard bigger than any in America. Unless the product on the field is better than anticipated, all of it will be needed. **BATS UP.**

OVERALL

CJ: I'm not going to dwell on the past, on knowing all the special places to park, on the smell of the hot dogs, the feel one got walking up the grandstand ramp to the stands and seeing the field ... Well, anyway, I'm not going to dwell on it. I like CoPa. It'll work well, once everything opens and parking spots are located somewhere within city limits. You can sit and watch the game, you can stand and watch it, you can go to a restaurant and sit and watch it. And hopefully, someday soon, the Tigers will be worth watching. The price will be steep, to be sure. Outside the Pepsi Family Section, which is bleacher seating, look to spend about \$80 for four tickets, four plain hot dogs and Cokes, a program and parking. **BATS UP.**

PAUL: Comerica Park is not Tiger Stadium. Nor was it meant to be. And in today's time of big-money ballparks and bigger contracts for less talented players, someone's got to pay for it - although I do have a problem with the fact that two Chicago-style hot dogs and two medium beers cost the same amount as tuition did per credit hour my freshman year in college. It's fun, it can be exciting and it is very expensive. Go early, go often (check to see if you're eligible for a second mortgage), but above all go. Once you find a place to park, you'll have fun. **BATS UP.**

Freshman Polanski bolsters Stevenson

The weather was frightening Friday in the Livonia Public Schools girls golf tournament at Ivy Wild.

But Stevenson freshman Kristen Polanski was undaunted by the wet and cool conditions, earning medalist honors with a 41 to lead Stevenson to the team title.

Stevenson shot 180 followed by defending champion Churchill with 200. Franklin was third with 205.

Polanski is the youngest daughter of 1996 state champion Steve Polanski, who won the 1996 Livonia Public Schools tournament.

GIRLS GOLF

stroke on everyone's score. We had wind and hail, it was very slow, very nasty, but we made it and that's what counts.

"We were very excited about being that trophy hauler and winner."

Other Churchill players included Julia Meloni (17), Sarah Lane (18), Kayla Kook (18).

Stevenson was the defending champion with 180. Stevenson's Polanski was the 1996 state champion.

Emons column from page B1

the man who oversees athletics, health and physical education in this district, about how our athletic programs are perceived inside and outside of this school system.

I have maintained for quite some time that the middle school athletic program is not aggressive or comprehensive enough to attract quality, as well as highly competitive student-athletes in our district.

Too many times AAU-type clubs and CYO programs often fill that void and channel those students to surrounding parochial schools.

We lose over 200 Livonia students each year to one surrounding parochial school. Figure it out, that costs the district \$7,300 per pupil a year in state aid.

Price and Watson maintain their middle school philosophy suits the needs of LPS students.

"We expect and welcome changes as long as the kids benefit," Watson said. "One of the reasons we want to expand our facilities is to

increase the quality and quantity of participation."

I have argued that LPS middle school students need to compete outside their district to measure their quality, just as area districts compare their MEAP scores.

Watson, once again, assured me that "we are not unwilling to look, or are we not open to any idea."

I would like the LPS, once they build these facilities, to reach out within the 12-school Western Lakes Activities Association and form a competitive middle school league for seventh and eighth graders.

With the added gym and track space, Livonia could have the best of both worlds, a competitive program along with a thorough intramural middle school program.

Of course, there are many variables which lead to the success of high school athletic teams.

Coaching is a big factor, along administrators embracing these programs at each indi-

vidual school.

Coaches need to be heard, athletic directors need to be heard, as well as the parents.

Watson talks of a "partnership" with local parishes and congregations who have helped support the millage.

The students-athletes have passed out flyers and canvassed the community, and if the three proposals pass on Tuesday, I expect them to receive something in return from Watson and the seven-member school board.

This middle school athletic philosophy needs to be thoroughly reviewed.

Yes, we should build our fieldhouses of dreams, but not isolate ourselves like we're in some Iowa cornfield.

They need to know we have a real athletic program to go along with our "state of the art" facilities.

Then, they may be inclined to stay.

SPRING FORWARD 5-KILOMETER RUN RESULTS

SPRING FORWARD 5K RACE RESULTS	
April 2 at Running PR (West Bloomfield Store)	
Female champion: Ann Stewart	36:19.01
Female master: Maggie Zidar	50:23.09
Female Age Group 1-15	
57	Kristin Jarrell 14:23.17
84	Jessica Szampok 15:26.11
101	Michelle Lorefan 15:26.17
137	Natalie Hecht 13:29.39
Female Age Group 16-19	
85	Merry Gavin 16:25.12
120	Danielle Tanner 16:26.11
Female Age Group 20-24	
20	Cheryl Klotkowski 24:19.47
26	Jenny Hampton 20:21.40
83	Suzanne Labadie 22:25.04
Female Age Group 25-29	
75	Susan Cruz 25:24.40
97	Stannan Neisen 29:25.58
107	Jennifer Dressler 25:26.56
Female Age Group 30-34	
40	Amy Goss 34:22.00

43	Karen Hugley 34:22.12
59	Denise Cuoper 32:23.18
Female Age Group 35-39	
47	Lisa Portt 39:22.36
71	Julie Richmond 39:23.52
98	Dia Mason 39:26.02
Female Age Group 40-44	
54	Sandy Smith 40:23.11
70	Kristi Pryomak 43:23.48
78	Jarvis Gillow 43:24.37
Female Age Group 45-49	
62	Kathy Maliszewski 45:23.24
114	Teresa Fitzpatrick 45:27.54
115	Barbara West 45:28.00
Female Age Group 50-54	
55	Donna Olson 50:23.11
94	Cindy Goodhue 53:25.47
120	Dorrie McCutcheon 54:28.31
Female Age Group 55-59	
119	Nancy Teel 57:28.09
124	Kathleen Wood 55:28.50
143	Ann MacArthur 87:29.44
Female Age Group 60-64	
140	Roberta Anderson 63:50.37

MALE RESULTS	
1	Thomas Press 30:17.05
Male Master champion	
2	Jeff Martin 42:17.18
Male Age Group 1-15	
7	Donald Richmond 14:18.17
16	Paul Mines 15:19.21
26	Zack Foster 14:20.39
Male Age Group 16-19	
9	Kevin Naughton 16:18.21
13	Steve Aspinell 16:18.54
106	Jon Nason 18:26.48
Male Age Group 20-24	
18	Brian Kissen 23:19.42
19	Adam Farrell 23:21.50
112	Luke Sassi 24:27.41
Male Age Group 25-29	
11	Matt West 25:18.47
17	Craig Doleck 26:19.29
30	James Duran 26:26.47
Male Age Group 30-34	
3	Herman Smith 31:17.45
10	Sam Quirana 31:18.48
42	Doug Longsmith 31:20.27

Male Age Group 35-39	
4	Johnny Startley 35:17.48
5	Took Kelly 38:18.05
21	Kevin Sheppard 48:26.45
Male Age Group 40-44	
6	Tom Emmett 44:18.11
19	Gary Duke 42:19.47
24	Larry Barnett 44:20.20
Male Age Group 45-49	
8	Nan Potkowski 47:18.18
12	John Tarkowski 47:18.53
23	Robert Klemann 46:20.23
Male Age Group 50-54	
21	Dale Yagelski 50:20.03
28	George Oels 51:20.48
29	Tom Hendersen 51:21.40
Male Age Group 55-59	
14	James Cantor 51:18.14
68	Emmett Bradley 50:19.17
80	Rob Baker 50:20.17
Male Age Group 60-64	
24	Harvey Robinson 61:24.23
11	Sam Quirana 61:25.22
131	Bill Jones 61:25.23

WEEK AHEAD

LIVONIA-WESTLAND SCHEDULE
PREP BASEBALL
Monday, April 10
 Canton at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Franklin at W.L. Western, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.
 Farmington at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 11
 Churchill at Garden City, 4 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Macomb, 4:30 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Shrine, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 12
 Churchill at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
 Franklin at N. Farmington, 4 p.m.
 Harrison at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
 Wayne at Redford Union, 4 p.m.
 CC at Notre Dame (2), 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 13
 Churchill at W. Bloomfield, 4 p.m.
 Stevenson at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
 Redford CC at G.P. South, 4 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Agape, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 14
 Liggett at Luth. Westland, 3:30 p.m.
 Northville at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Franklin at Harrison, 4 p.m.
 Wayne at Ypsilanti, 4 p.m.
Saturday, April 15
 Huron Tournament, 9 a.m.
 (all double-headers)
 Stevenson at Redford Union, 11 a.m.
 John Glenn at Belleville, 11 a.m.
 Redford CC at Salem, noon.
 Churchill at Crestwood, noon
GIRLS SOFTBALL
Monday, April 10
 Churchill at Canton, 4 p.m.
 W.L. Western at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 Salem at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
 John Glenn at Farmington, 4 p.m.
 Ypsilanti at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 Pky. Christian at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 11
 Garden City at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Macomb, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 12
 Stevenson at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 N. Farmington at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 John Glenn at Harrison, 4 p.m.
 Redford Union at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 Riv. Richard at Ladywood (2), 4 p.m.
Thursday, April 13
 John Glenn at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Agape, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 14
 Churchill at Northville, 4 p.m.
 Harrison at Franklin, 4 p.m.
 Mercy at Ladywood (2), 4 p.m.
 Liggett at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 15
 Taylor Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Huron Tournament, TBA.
 (all double-headers)
 Country Day at Churchill, 11 a.m.
 Stevenson at Redford Union, 11 a.m.
BOYS TRACK
Monday, April 10
 Redford CC at U-D Jesuit, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 11
 Livonia Public Schools meet
 at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.
 Country Day, S'field Christian
 at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 13
 Churchill at Franklin, 3:30 p.m.
 Stevenson at Farmington, 3:30 p.m.
 W.L. Central at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.
 Wyandotte at Wayne, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 15
 Novi Relays, 10 a.m.
 Belleville Relays, 9:30 a.m.
 Dearborn Elks Relays, 11 a.m.
 Jefferson Invitational, TBA
GIRLS TRACK
Tuesday, April 11
 Country Day, S'field Christian
 at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 13
 Franklin at Churchill, 3:30 p.m.
 Farmington at Stevenson, 3:30 p.m.
 John Glenn at W.L. Central, 3:30 p.m.
 Trenton at Wayne, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 15
 Belleville Relays, 9:30 a.m.
 Lady Chief Relays, 9:30 a.m.
 Novi Relays, 10 a.m.
 Jefferson Invitational, TBA
GIRLS SOCCER
Monday, April 10
 Wayne at Romulus, 4 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Luth. North, 4:30 p.m.
 Churchill at Harrison, 7 p.m.
 Farmington at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 Canton at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Salem, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 11
 Borgess at Ladywood, 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 12
 Lincoln Park at Wayne, 4 p.m.
 W.L. Central at John Glenn, 5:30 p.m.
 Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 N. Farmington at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Thursday, April 13
 Ladywood at Mercy, 5:30 p.m.
Friday, April 14
 Wayne at Garden City, 4 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Luth. Westland, 4 p.m.
 N.D. Prep at Ladywood, 5:30 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL
 (all double-headers)
Sunday, April 9
 Indiana Tech at Madonna, 1 p.m.
Tuesday, April 11
 Madonna at Tri State (Ind.), 2 p.m.
Friday, April 14
 Madonna at Tiffin (Ohio), 1 p.m.
Saturday, April 15
 Madonna at Concordia, 1 p.m.
Sunday, April 16
 Tri State (Ind.) at Madonna, 1 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL
 (all double-headers)
Sunday, April 9
 Madonna at St. Francis (Ind.), TBA.
Tuesday, April 11
 Madonna vs. Spring Arbor
 at Liv. Ladywood H.S., 4 p.m.
Wednesday, April 12
 Madonna at Spring Arbor, 4 p.m.
Friday, April 14
 Madonna at Siena Heights, 4 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday, April 15-16
 St. Francis (Ill.) Tourney, TBA
 TBA — time to be announced

GC's Ockerman handcuffs John Glenn

Justin Ockerman proved to be an imposing figure on Wednesday.

The 6-foot-9 junior right-hander from Garden City tossed a two-hitter over six innings and struck out 11 as the Cougars won their season baseball opener at Westland John Glenn, 8-2.

"He couldn't get his curveball over, but he (Ockerman) did a nice job of changing speeds," Glenn coach Todd Duffield said. "And he definitely threw harder than last year when we faced him in the district (tournament). I'd say he was throwing around 85 or 86 MPH."

Ockerman issued just two walks during his six-inning stint before giving way to Dan Childs.

Ockerman also had an RBI double, while teammate Rob Hudson contributed two hits, including a two-run triple. Pinch-hitter Kyle Fuller added a two-run double in the sixth.

Glenn starter Jeff Mitchell, who gave up five runs on three hits over 2 1/3 innings, was the losing pitcher. Brian Toth pitched the next two innings, allowing three runs on four hits. Dave Mijal finished up and held GC scoreless.

•STEVENSON 7, S'FIELD CHRISTIAN 4: Centerfielder Dan Wilson went 3-for-3 with an RBI and shortstop Pete Pinto added two hits and one RBI as Livonia Stevenson opened its season successfully Thursday at home against Southfield Christian.

Catcher Brian Campbell added a two-run triple for the Spartans, who broke open the game with a four-run, fourth inning.

Stevenson won despite making four errors.

Mike Byberg, the Spartans' starter, was the winning pitcher. Reliever Gary Zielke struck out three and held Southfield Christian scoreless

PREP BASEBALL WRAP

over the final two innings to pick up the save. All four Southfield Christian runs were unearned.

"I guess it was first game jitters," Stevenson coach Harv Weingarden said of the four mis-cues. "But we hit the ball real well. We tried and did get everyone in, which I was happy about. Byberg and Zielke did a great job on the mound."

•REDFORD CC 6, U-D JESUIT 4: Redford Catholic Central came up with two runs in the top of the ninth inning to stop University of Detroit-Jesuit, 6-4, in the first game of a doubleheader on Wednesday. CC led the second game, 5-3, in the third inning before it was postponed by darkness.

"I was happy that we battled back in the seventh inning (from a 3-2 deficit) to get the lead," said CC coach John Salter. "But errors made this game closer. Saturday, it was baserunning mistakes. (Wednesday) we were shaky defensively."

The Shamrocks took the lead in the ninth when a bases-loaded walk to Andy Smith scored Matt Lof-das. CC got an insurance run when Adam Kline's fielder's choice scored Mike Wadowski.

Wadowski also had a two-run homer in the fourth inning to tie the game at 2-2, while Dave Tovey was 2-for-4 with a double and two runs scored.

Charlie Haeger started for CC and went four innings before being pulled with a sore shoulder. He had eight strikeouts and have up just two hits, before being relieved by Smith (2-0).

•W. BLOOMFIELD 8, WAYNE 6: Wayne Memorial dropped its third straight of the young season Thursday against West Bloomfield despite three hits and two RBI by Jon Judd.

Wayne led 2-0 until the bottom of the fourth when the Zebras gave up seven runs thanks to

five errors. Chris Montoya was the losing pitcher, while Eric Morris, son of former Tiger hurler Jack Morris, got the win in relief.

Adam See also had two hits for Wayne, which out-hit the Lakers, 10-5.

•REDFORD UNION 10, FRANKLIN 2: If the first game was any indication, Mike Macek's recovery from elbow problems has gone nicely, thank you.

Macek struck out five of the six batters he faced and went 3-for-4 at the plate to lead Redford Union past Livonia Franklin in baseball on Thursday, 10-2.

"After not pitching for a whole season, I thought he did a nice job," said RU coach Rick Berryman. "All of our pitchers did. Brad Michaels threw three scoreless innings in the middle and Mike Hayes gave up two unearned runs."

Mike Hayes was 2-for-3 for the Panthers, while Joe Ruggiero was 2-for-3 with a run scored to lead Franklin. Chris Hall and Andy Kelly also collected hits for the Pats.

Don Horning took the loss for Franklin, going four innings and giving up a walk, nine hits and six runs with four strikeouts.

•PCA 2, LUTHERAN WESTLAND 1: On Thursday, Plymouth Christian Academy (3-0) dropped Lutheran High Westland (0-2) at Canton's Griffin Park.

Sophomore infielder Brian Carnavale broke a 1-1 tie by knocking in the game-winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning for PCA, which captured its third straight.

"Lutheran Westland beat us up pretty bad last year, so this win is quite fulfilling," said PCA coach Sam Gaines.

Senior Deric Isensee (4-for-4) led the Eagles at the plate, getting half of the team's eight hits. He scored the winning run on Carnavale's

hit, and had one RBI.

The game also marked the first career appearance for PCA freshman starting pitcher Clay Welton (1-0). In an impressive debut, he pitched a complete game, striking out 14 batters and only giving up only four hits and no earned runs.

The Eagles did commit four errors, including an overthrown ball that allowed the Warriors to score their run.

Brad Nollar had two hits and a stolen base for the Warriors (0-2), and Luke Kasten added an RBI single.

Starter Brent Habitz took the loss, going five innings and giving up three hits.

•KENNEDY 12, CLARENCEVILLE 2: The Steve Gentilia era got off to a rough start, as the first-year Livonia Clarenceville baseball coach lost his debut Thursday at Taylor Kentwood.

While giving up only six hits, Clarenceville hurt itself with five walks and four errors, which accounted for most of Kennedy's runs.

"We made a lot of first game mistakes," Gentilia said. "Kennedy was just a little more prepared than we were."

Scott Carr and Kevin Silye led Clarenceville at the plate, each getting one hit.

Silye was also the starting pitcher for the Trojans. He lasted four innings, giving up five earned runs and taking the loss.

"We played pretty well," said Gentilia. "We haven't gotten outside much because of the weather, so the guys played about as good as could be expected."

"We made some mental mistakes but no physical mistakes, and I'm happy about that."

•DETROIT URBAN 16, HURON VALLEY 5: Thirteen walks and seven errors cost Westland Huron Valley Lutheran dearly in Thursday's non-leaguer at Detroit Urban Lutheran.

Alan Kienke was the losing pitcher. Jeremy Husby went 2-for-3 in a losing cause.

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RECREATION & BOWLING

Westland's preserve: Holliday hidden gem

BY KURT KUBAN STAFF WRITER

Westland resident Bob Duda led a small group of hikers along a narrow path that wound its way through the shadows of magnificent, towering beech trees, some of the defining features of the William P. Holliday Nature Preserve.

"Some of these beech trees can be traced back a thousand years," Duda explained to the ten members of the hiking troop.

As they made their way through the surrounding woodland on a lovely spring morning, with temperatures in the mid-60s, winter and the bustle of civilization faded away.

As the group was listening to a chorus of songbirds, the unmistakable roar of a train suddenly thundered out, quickly making everyone realize they were not in some remote northern wilderness, but smack dab in the middle of urban Wayne County.

The hike, organized by the South East Michigan Group (SEMG) of the Sierra Club, took place on the first weekend of spring at Holliday, a 500-acre swath of woods that runs through Westland.

It was just one in a series of outings SEMG organizes during the year at various parks and preserves throughout the five-county area surrounding Detroit.

"We try to do one hike every weekend, 52 a year," said Duda, calling this hike "a kind of spring wakeup tour."

Duda, who has been a SEMG member for 12 years, arranged the hike and acted as leader for the group, which consisted of both members and non-members.

While the group weaved its way through the preserve at a leisurely pace, Duda and fellow hikers Marty Johnson and Phil Crookshank took time to speak to each of the hikers. They described the various attributes of the nearly 40-year-old park, including the wildlife that lives there and the forces that threaten it.

"It is really interesting when

you realize that in the middle of an urban area we have a natural area like this that is home to many deer and even some coyotes," said Johnson, who is not affiliated with SEMG, but is a member of the Holliday Nature Preserve Association (HNPA), a group of volunteers who care for the park.

While most of the park is comprised of deciduous forest, Duda led the hikers to a majestic stand of red and white pines, which was one of the highlights of the outing.

After about an hour of walking, the hikers came to a small bridge that skirts Tonquish Creek, the main waterway of the preserve and a vital component of the Rouge River watershed. They rested on the bridge, and discussed the storied history of the park, including tales of buried Indians within its borders.

"This is a nice place to get away," Johnson said. "It kind of gives you an idea of what this area looked like years ago, before they homogenized it, drained it, and threw concrete over it."

Holliday is a particularly special place for Duda, who has become an active environmentalist over the course of the last decade.

About 12 years ago, Duda got involved with both the Sierra Club and the HNPA when he heard Westland officials were considering building a golf course through the preserve, which at the time was neglected and rundown.

"This was my first battle," Duda said. "I knew it was time to get off of my butt and get involved, rather than just saying I was for the environment. Since then, this has become my favorite place."

The Sierra Club and the HNPA actively campaigned against the golf course, and their efforts helped keep the preserve intact. They also drew awareness to the plight of the preserve, which is one of the main reasons for outings such as the spring hike.

"We're trying to accomplish



Hiking: Bob Duda (right) of the Sierra Club discusses some of the features of the Holliday Nature Preserve.

two things with these hikes," Duda said. "First, we love to get outside and enjoy the outdoors, and Holliday is a great place to do that. Secondly, we are trying to introduce other people to the natural beauty of the area, and hopefully they will want to get involved to save it."

Other areas where SEMG has planned upcoming outings include Pontiac Lake Recreation Area (April 16), Maybury State Park (April 22), Proud Lake Recreation Area (April 30), and a wildflower hike through Sharon Hollow (May 7). Anyone with an interest in the outdoors is invited.

Crookshank will be conducting a wildflower walk at Holliday on Mothers Day, which is another way SEMG and the HNPA are able to showcase the preserve.

"We don't want to love it to death, but we want to raise awareness and appreciation of

this place," Johnson said. "The preserve is special, but a very vulnerable piece of property."

After the break at the bridge, the group made its way back along the same path. Once in the parking area, it was clear the participants in the hike were impressed with the experience.

"This place is a real gem," said Southfield resident Dan Kolton, who read about the hike in the Observer. Kolton came along with his fiancée Mary Christner. Neither are members of the Sierra Club, but they try to get outdoors as much as possible.

"Places like this are important because you don't have to go very far to be able to do something like this," said Kolton, who is retired. "I always feel so much better afterwards."

For more information about Sierra Club outings or membership, call (810) 632-6309.

Crickets find underground

Fossorial is a word not often used by non biologists.

It does not have anything to do with fossils, actually it refers to animals that spend most of their time

burrowing underground.

Maybe we don't use fossorial very much because we don't often think about those animals that are out of sight.

My neighbor, Bernadette Flanigan, recently brought me an insect she came upon at a local nursery.

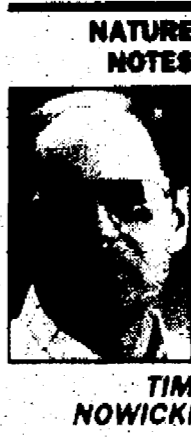
She brought is to me in a tall potato chip can because it was able to run very fast. It never attempted to fly, but its back legs were cricket like.

Extending from both the front and the back were two thin extensions. One set were antennae, the other set were abdominal extensions. Overall length was about an inch. Color was a medium brown.

After transferring it to a glass jar so we could see it better, more of its features became apparent. Those hind legs were large, but not as large as those of a cricket we see in late summer.

The eyes were just tiny dark brown dots not much bigger than a 7-millimeter pencil lead. But most importantly we could see the first pair of legs.

At the end of each swollen front leg were black finger-like projections similar to those found on a garden rake. Those projections were part of a flat, widened section of the foot. The whole structure looked like a garden trowel with rake-like projections.



TIM NOWICKI

After we saw these distinctive front feet, it was easy to identify the insect as a mole cricket.

The northern mole cricket is the most common species in our area, although we have a pygmy mole cricket in the state too. Like the name mole suggests, this cricket spends most of its time burrowing in moist soils. If they do come to the surface, its generally at night.

It's interesting to compare the features of this mole cricket with the black field cricket which is not fossorial. Large jumping legs would be impractical while burrowing, so they are greatly reduced in the mole cricket compared to the field cricket.

Eyes on the mole cricket are much smaller than on the field cricket because they cannot see while underground. Actually the entire head of the mole cricket is large and rounded off by burrowing through soil.

And of course the spade like front legs of the mole cricket are designed for pushing soil while digging underground, a habit the field cricket does not exhibit.

Both the eastern and star-nosed mole, part of the mammal group, have similar fossorial features. They too have small eyes and paddle shaped front feet for burrowing.

Interesting how two very different groups of animals have developed similar features to burrow in soil. Now that you know mole crickets look like moles, can you guess why a camel cricket is so named? It has a humped back.

Keep your eyes open for either of these two unusual crickets this summer.

Salem, Canton shine

How do you get from ground zero to a state championship in just one full season?

That is exactly what Cliff Richards accomplished as the coach of both Plymouth Salem Canton high schools.

Richards brings more to the table than most bowling coaches, however, as he is certified as a Silver Level coach by Bowling USA and a Level 3 coach in the Dick Ritger Bowling Camps.

Canton won the Southeastern Conference title by beating Salem for the title, but Salem came back and beat Canton for the chance to go to the state high school finals last month at Century Bowl in Waterford.

Salem captured the state title, led by their own version of Mateen Cleaves in Pat Brown, who demonstrated the leadership and ability of a true champion.

As for the Canton boys, the team was comprised of Alan Florka at leadoff, along with Ken Bazman, Brian Kaufman, Keith Moore and Tony Vitali at anchor, along with Keith Kingsbury.

Drew Barth, Brett Moore and Jon Robison rounded out the squad.

"We were unable to field any girls teams as only two from each school signed up and that is not enough," Richards said. "We will make every possible to get up girls teams this next season."

The girls competition was every bit as good as the boys.

"I was fortunate to have the talented kids to work with, and the parents were more than enthusiastic in their support all the way through to the state finals," Richards said. "The Bowling Proprietors organiza-

tion (B.C.A.M.) was the key to getting us started.

The management of Super Bowl was very helpful, placing the ads in the Observer for our tryouts, along with their continued support.

"Next year we hope to continue in our successful ways. We will be announcing the tryouts again and the Spring Break Bowling Camp, 9 a.m. until noon Tuesday through Friday, April 25-28, at Super Bowl.

"The program is designed for the beginner as well as the advanced player and anyone can come in."

The cost is \$95 for the complete course. For more information call (734) 459-6070.

Country Lanes, located on Nine Mile Road between Middlebelt and Grand River in Farmington will be running a single 9-pin no-top as a Leukemia Fund Raiser on Sunday, April 16.

The special sponsor child is Matthew.

There will be four bowlers to a lane, Door Prizes and Cash Prizes. Check in is at noon with a 12:30 start.

Call Diana Herman at (734) 427-8702 or sign up at the counter.

On Saturday, April 15, the final scratch tournament of this season for the Bacardi-Brunswick Blue Ribbon Group will be at Roosevelt Lanes in Allen Park, off Allen Road, just west of Southfield.

First prize is \$1,000 guaranteed and \$500 is also guaranteed for second. One of every two entrants will cash in.

It is open to any bowlers with averages of 217 and under. For more information, call Roosevelt Lanes at (313) 381-0222.

The score may look odd, but Dave Silverman had two 300 games in separate series the same day at the Lost Weekenders League at Mayflower Lanes.

They had a make up from the earlier schedule and his first 300 was in a 814 series, then he bowled another 300 in the following make-up set.

See bowling honor roll.

BOWLING HONOR ROLL

A large table listing bowling scores and names across various leagues and locations, including Mayflower Lanes, Thursday Nite Mixed, St. Aidan's Men, and others.

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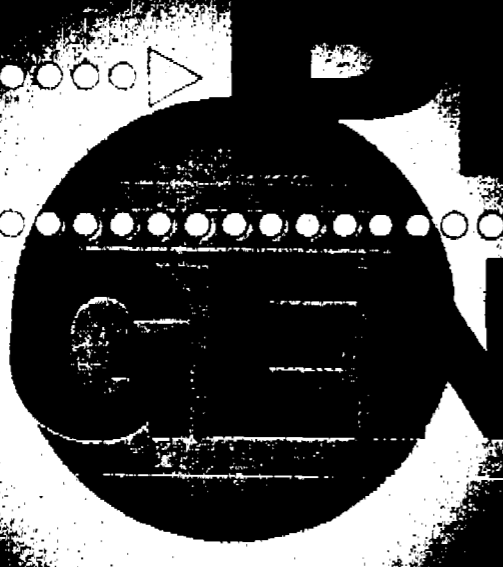
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ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS



LINDA ANN CHOMIN

Angelic choir takes wing after revival

There were only three members of the Livonia Youth Choir singing, but their voices sounded like a choir of angels.

The mini-performance of "Amani Utupe," an African song, followed an interview with choir members Rachel Bhagwat, and Sarah and Emma Stitt and their moms. They'll sing the entire program Sunday, April 16, at Newburg United Methodist Church, Churchill High School Choralation, a show choir under the direction of Pat Hutchison, will perform.

"It's an innocence and joy that you hear in their voices," said Haika Gay, Rachel's mother. "It's a bunch of kids who want to be there. Rachel loves to sing and she's found a place where she can sing in a secular situation. It gives her this broad experience. It's a cooperative effort to sing together as a unit."

If it hadn't been for Hutchison, though, Rachel would still be looking for a children's choir with which she could hone her singing skills. Until January when Hutchison resurrected the Livonia Youth Choir, local children could sing as a group only if they joined a church choir.

"It was a friendly atmosphere at the audition," said Bhagwat, a 9-year-old student at Webster Elementary. "I like singing together with different harmonies. And I like that we don't just stick to American music but have songs from different places."

Hutchison revived the choir because of children like Rachel, Sarah and Emma. Her own son sang in the Livonia Youth Choir 15 years ago. Shortly after, the group was disbanded.

"He made some lifelong friends," said Hutchison, chairman of the music department at Churchill High School in Livonia. "Even though today

he's a builder and no longer involved with music, it was a good experience socially and musically. I believe the arts are so important. The kids are sitting in front of computers all day, and the choir gives them the opportunity to get out and participate. It fosters teamwork like athletics does. I encourage people to support it."

Hutchison had another reason for reviving the choir in addition to encouraging children to develop social and musical skills. When instrumental instruction was restored in Livonia elementary schools last September, fifth- and sixth-grade vocal music classes were eliminated.

"When the Livonia Public Schools changed the program by offering a little less vocal and more instrumental for elementary students, we wanted to supplement by giving them another opportunity to sing," said Hutchison. "It's a good feeder program for high schools."

Auditions for the choir were held in January. A \$3,000 grant from the Livonia Arts Commission got the project off the ground by providing funding for sheet music, rehearsal space, and director Leigh Emmett, a graduate of Churchill High School and former Livonia Youth Choir accompanist. Students rehearse 4:30-6 p.m. Sundays. The cost for 12 weeks

Please see EXPRESSIONS, C2



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HARLEY

Solemn sounds: Dave Wagner leads the Madonna University Chorale in a rehearsal of Durufle's "Requiem."



Holy Week tradition: Chorale members Ellen Oliver Smith of Canton (left), Larry Banas, Howell and Ted Grabarczyk, Farmington Hills prepare for their annual performance with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra.

olodymyr Schesiuk remembers Palm Sunday as a solemn time when the priest would bless pussy willow branches before passing them out to parishioners at his church in Ukraine. The ceremony marked the beginning of Holy Week services and the retelling of events leading up to the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

So it's fitting that this Palm Sunday, the Livonia Symphony Orchestra conductor will keep the day sacred by playing Maurice Durufle's "Requiem" at St. Edith Church in Livonia. A French composer who lived from 1902 to 1986, Durufle wrote the music to celebrate the repose of souls of the dead. Schesiuk and the orchestra join together with the Madonna University Chorale and conductor/organist David Wagner to present the work.

"It's very nice music written shortly after the Second World War in 1947," said Schesiuk, a Garden City resident who immigrated to the U.S. in 1991. "It's not an easy piece of music. As compared to Mozart, it's a Gregorian chant, but everything is a little softer but very emotional."

Program

In addition to the "Requiem," the program reflects on life and death with Handel's "Concerto for Organ & Orchestra," Grieg's "Death of Ase"

MUSICIANS REFLECT ON

LIFE DEATH

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN

- **What:** A Palm Sunday concert by the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, Madonna University Chorale and organist Dave Wagner.
- **When:** 3 p.m. Sunday, April 16
- **Where:** St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, south of Five Mile, Livonia
- **Tickets:** \$15, \$10 students/children. Call (248) 645-6666 or (734) 464-2741

from "Peer Gynt Suite," Chadwick's "Serenade for Strings," Dvorak's "Largo" from the "New World Symphony," and Sibelius' "Valse Triste."

"We selected these for what will be good for acoustics in church," Schesiuk said. "The concerto is really church music. The 'Requiem' is played before each Easter. It's a question of life and death. Music is like life. It must be used in the right place and time."

Schesiuk is looking forward to performing with Wagner and the chorale again. In January, they presented Beethoven's "Ninth Symphony" at Livonia's Churchill High School Auditorium.

In 1998 and 1999 the orchestra and chorale joined the St. Genevieve Interdenominational Choir to perform Requiems by Rutter and Faure on Good Friday. St. Genevieve choir director Laverne Lieberknecht ini-

tially came up with the idea for a joint concert with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra during Holy Week. Due to illness, Lieberknecht and her choir will be unable to perform this year.

The chorale and Wagner, now in his second season as conductor, began working on the "Requiem" in January.

"It's one of the great masterpieces of 20th century choral music," said Wagner. "Throughout the ages, composers have set these texts for the Mass of the Dead or Mass of Resurrection. It has ancient chant melodies with impressionistic sort of harmony. I don't want to people to be scared off because it's 20th century music. This is very accessible, a beautiful, lush work."

An accomplished organist, Wagner leads off the program as soloist for the Handel concerto. Wagner won Best Classical Recording of a solo artist at the 1998 Motor City Music Awards for his CD "Bright and Clear." Previous to becoming a full-time music professor at Madonna University two years ago, he was program director of classical music station WQRS for 18 years before it switched formats.

"The concerto Handel wrote was to be performed as intermission music for one of his oratorios," Wagner said. "During Lenten season, opera and theater performances

Please see LIFE, C2

University Musical Society resurrects Bach masterwork

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

Conductor Thomas Sheets believes that if not for Felix Mendelssohn, the University Musical Society Choral Union might not be performing Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" on Palm Sunday.

By the time Mendelssohn rediscovered the masterwork a little more than 100 years after it was written, the Passion and its composer had fallen out of favor and nearly been forgotten. Mendelssohn revived the large-scale oratorio in 1829. In so doing, the young conductor initiated the modern era of Bach scholarship and helped bring his music into the mainstream of performance repertoire.

Soloists

Sheets and the Choral Union together with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and Ann Arbor Youth Chorale will perform Bach's masterwork with soloists on Sunday, April 16. Thanks to the generosity of Carl and Isabelle Brauer, the University Musical Society was able to engage soloists with international reputations to sing the elaborate and lengthy production requiring an adult attention span. Joining them will be Russell Braun, a baritone regularly appearing with the Metropolitan Opera, singing the role of Jesus; soprano Maya Boog, alto Susan Platts, tenor Steven Tharp, and bass-baritone Clayton Brainerd with Edward Parmentier on harpsichord/organ. Tenor Hans Peter Blochwitz is the Evangelist, a narrative character complemented by arias, choruses and chorales.

"Mendelssohn at the tender age of 19 came across the score of this work and was fascinated," said Sheets. "He single-handedly wrote out the parts and

Please see BACH C2



Thomas Sheets

"St. Matthew Passion"

- **What:** University Musical Society Choral Union, Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and Ann Arbor Youth Chorale perform Bach's masterwork
- **When:** 4 p.m. Sunday, April 16
- **Where:** Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor
- **Tickets:** \$10-\$22, call (734) 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229

CONCERT

Pianist spices concert with Latin American fare

Pianist: Dimas Caraballo rehearses for his "Music Through the Ages" concert.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HERRINGTON

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

While Latin American music is all the rage right now little is known about classical works written by composers from Argentina and Spain. Dimas Caraballo thinks that's a shame. The Cuban-born pianist plans to change that by giving two concerts at the Plymouth Community Arts Council on Saturday, April 15.

The "Music Through the Ages" program features works ranging from baroque to contemporary with a little Latin thrown in for spice.

"Classical is the foundation of all music," said Caraballo. "It's master music that's 200 years old. Some people think you put it on and fall asleep. It has some life, vitality. It's not boring."

"In Spanish culture European music is part of the culture, part of education," continued Caraballo.

"The program has my Spanish roots. I wanted to give people a flavor of Latin American music and how it was influenced by classical music but retains folk themes."

Caraballo began playing piano shortly after coming to the U.S. in 1967. His mother instilled a love of music in him early. She was his first piano teacher when he was 5. Caraballo's talent and hard work won him full scholarships to the University of Michigan School of Music in 1986. Now the award-winning pianist is sharing them in a high-energy program of music by Bach, Beethoven, Liszt, Enrique Granados, Louis Gottschalk, Ernesto Lecuona, and Alberto Ginastera. Caraballo is playing the same recital at the University of Miami in August.

The Granados has a flavor of Spanish dancers with castanets and Gottschalk was influenced by Latin

Please see CONCERT, C2

Life from page C1

weren't allowed, so Handel would put on the oratorios."

Intermission

During intermission, the audience will be able to support the chorale by purchasing a T-shirt touting their upcoming concert tour of Ireland. Before leaving though, they'll perform their Irish concert program 4 p.m. Sunday, June 18, at St. Paul's Church, 157 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe Farms. That concert is free but donations are gratefully accepted to help defray the cost

of the tour. Schemiuk is busy as well. He's nearly completed a recording of the Mass by Ukrainian composers dating as far back as the 17th century with his choir at St. Josephat Church in Warren. It will be released later this year. Wagner's CD will be available at the concert.

To purchase a T-shirt or support the Madonna University Chorale, call (734) 432-5708 or send e-mail to wagner@smtp.munet.edu

Concert from page C1

American music," said Caraballo. "Gottschalk is a lot of fun, very rhythmic. Lecuona's 'Malaguena' is a famous piece. They used a lot of his music in Hollywood. Liszt was responsible for changing the piano. His music was so technically difficult they restructured the piano."

Memories

Ginastera's sonata brings back special memories for Caraballo. The Canton pianist attended a master class and played for the Argentine composer while a student at the University of Miami.

"I played his 'Argentinian Dances,'" Caraballo said. "It was nerve wracking but he gave me insight that he didn't write in his music. He told me ways to make it more exciting. In the sonata, he did the same things as Bartok and Prokofiev. He

used a lot of tone cluster and loud tone. He explores the whole sonority of the keyboard."

Beginning in the fall, Caraballo and his wife Maria will be teaching a salsa class at the arts council. A visiting associate professor of dance at the University of Michigan two years ago, Caraballo taught music history to dancers and collaborated with companies such as the Dance Theatre of Harlem, the American Ballet Theatre and the Gyori Ballet of Hungary.

Salsa

"Salsa is a term from New York in the 1960s," said Caraballo. "But the dance 'Guaraja' goes back to pre-Castro times in Cuba. It's the type of dance where there's a good relationship between man and woman."

Bach from page C1

score. He had turned 20 by the time it was performed.

"Bach's 'St. Matthew Passion' is the sublime choral work of all time, a marathon work, the apex of choral music in intellectual and musical content. At every level there's nothing on the same plane."

The Passion

The Passion uses Biblical text from the Gospel according to St. Matthew to relay the story of Christ's crucifixion. To supplement the account of Matthew, one of Christ's 12 apostles, Bach enlisted the help of librettist C.F. Henrich. The Leipzig poet, who used the pseudonym Picander, wrote several poetic passages to accompany the text traditionally read in churches on Palm Sunday. First performed on Good Friday in 1727, the large scale oratorio features

'The thing about Bach is he was very much a perfecter of many of the different styles. Passions had been written for 150 years before this but he took it to the greatest heights. "St. Matthew" represents the summit.'

Thomas Sheets
Conductor

soloists, choruses and instrumental interludes by weeping violins.

"I have taken to thinking of this piece as the opera that Bach never wrote," said Sheets. "The drama is at the same level although it's a sacred work but that same character breadth. His style was influenced by Baroque opera. He incorporated elements of Baroque opera and used them in novel ways in this piece."

This is first time the Choral

Union is performing Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" although Sheets has conducted it once before and sung it many times. Now in his seventh year of leading the 150-voice Choral Union, Sheets is well-versed when it comes to Bach. He teaches graduate choral music studies at Wayne State University.

"The thing about Bach is he was very much a perfecter of many of the different styles," said Sheets. "Passions had been

written for 150 years before this but he took it to the greatest heights. 'St. Matthew' represents the summit."

End of celebration

The performance marks the end of the University Musical Society's celebration of Bach on the 250th anniversary of his death. To mark the occasion the audience is being invited to sing along on 11 of the 12 chorales. Text and music will be provided.

"This is not a marketing ploy," said Sheets, who also conducts the Oakland Community College Choir in Farmington Hills. "In Bach's time, the congregation would have known all these tunes and words from memory so he incorporated them into the chorales that serves the function of a Greek chorus and comments on the drama of the arias."

Expressions from page C1

is \$60. Especially needed are boys whose voices haven't changed.

"We decided on a 12-week workshop to see how it would work," said Hutchison. "In fall, we'll be looking for singers from fifth to eighth graders."

Hutchison hopes to expand membership to singers in Westland and Redford, although the choir is now composed primarily of Livonia children from fourth to seventh grade.

As Sarah Stitt sees it, a lack of members is the only problem facing the choir. She and the others would like to have more children join their 23 voices.

"I think the choir would be better if more kids would join," said the 9-year Webster Elementary student. "I like the choir because

I get to be with other kids. We get to sing a lot of fun songs and get to practice singing in different languages. I like the versatility of the repertoire because my private voice classes are in Italian."

Sarah's older sister, Emma, enjoys singing songs such as the Hebrew "Al Shlosha D'Varim" as well. Emma, now 11, used to leave singing messages on her grandparents' answering machine when she was younger.

"I like singing in foreign lan-

guages and learning how much I can do."

Mother Susan Stitt can't believe the progress the choir's made since rehearsals began in January. In fact, they're so good Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey has invited them to perform at the city's 50th anniversary celebration Sunday, May 21, at city hall.

"Leigh's instilled a discipline," said Susan. "I remember her telling them that if you can hear yourself singing, you're singing

too loud, so they're learning to sing together. I really believe music is a lifelong skill."

Churchill's Choralation performs a concert of music ranging from classical to jazz 8 p.m. Friday, June 2. Tickets are \$5, \$3. Call (734) 523-9230.

Have an interesting idea for a story? Call arts reporter Linda Ann Chomin at (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to lchomin@oe.homecomm.net

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sale of Plymouth Canton
Community Crier, Inc. as a going concern

The Plymouth Canton Community Crier, Inc., Debtor-in-Possession in U.S. Bankruptcy Case No. 99-56542, has received an offer from Willow Media, L.L.C. for the purchase of substantially all of its assets, including accounts receivable, inventory, work-in-process, customer lists, copyrights, corporate names, certain office equipment and other assets for the sum of \$340,000 plus assumption of the Debtor's post-petition trade payables. The exact terms and conditions of the current offer are available by contacting the Debtor's attorney listed below.

The Debtor is accepting higher and better offers for the purchase as a going concern, and interested parties should contact the Debtor's attorney, Willard E. Hawley, 30150 Telegraph Rd., Suite 263, Bingham Farms, MI 48025, (248) 646-5070. Potential purchasers will be required to submit a \$10,000 good faith deposit with Debtor's attorney and enter into a confidentiality agreement prior to commencing due diligence, the terms of which are available upon request. Bids will be accepted in \$5,000 increments. Potential purchasers must be available for an auction which will be held at Debtor's counsel's office on Wednesday, April 19, 2000 at 2:00 p.m.

Publish: April 9, 13 and 18, 2000

Tinderbox Productions
 presents



A Little Princess
 The Musical

If you enjoyed our production of Annie you'll love A Little Princess!

Tickets: \$7, \$10, \$12
 Reserved Seating Section Call: (313) 535-8962

Coming to
The Masonic Temple Cathedral Theatre
 500 Temple Detroit, MI 48201
 April 9, 16 at 2:00 p.m.
 April 14, 15 at 7:00 p.m.



Easter Sundae
 Join us for a fabulous
 Easter Brunch, Sunday,
 April 23rd
 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Adults Seniors Children
\$17.95 \$15.95 \$9.95

\$99 Easter Room Package
 includes overnite stay
 Brunch for 2
 Keepsake basket
 Reservations Necessary
 (734) 464-1300

Holiday Inn
 LEXINGTON WEST
 I-275 & 6 Mile

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
 STAFF WRITER
 sprovenzano@oe.homecomm.net
 Don't expect David DiChiera to gloat. It's not his style.

ROBERT C. HALL, Attorney, 24500 Ford Road, Dearborn Heights, Michigan 48127
 STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT
 COUNTY OF WAYNE File Number 2000-018942-15

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
 Independent Probate

Estate of PETER DONAWICK, Deceased: Social Security Number 075-01-0946 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following: The decedent, whose last known address was 2250 North Canton Center Road, Apt. 116, Canton, Michigan 48107, died January 4, 2000. An instrument dated April 5, 1995 has been admitted as the will of the decedent.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, Peter Michael Donawick, 11319 Springfield Drive, Frederickburg, VA 22408-1151 or to both the independent personal representative and the Wayne County Probate Court, Detroit, Michigan 48226, within 3 months of the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the estate will be inventoried, appraised and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Attorney Robert C. Hall, P.34400, 24500 Ford Road, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127; Telephone 313-274-4064
 Publish April 9, 2000

But forgive him, if he manages even the slightest smug expression.

This Saturday, DiChiera will once again stretch the notion of what is possible when the Michigan Opera Theatre presents *Der Rosenkavalier*, a lushly orchestrated opera by Richard Strauss. It is the first-ever performance of the early 20th-century opera at the acoustical gem located in downtown Detroit's theater district.

Since it was first performed in 1911, *Der Rosenkavalier* is considered one of the most performed German operas written in the 20th century. Among Strauss other popular operas are *Salome* and *Electra*.

Der Rosenkavalier is filled with waltz-rhythms that require an enormous orchestra. More than 100 instruments are used. In addition to traditional instruments, the orchestra requires harps, Glockenspiel, tenor drum, bells and castanets.

"With the Opera House, we can now perform all the magnificent works," said DiChiera, founder and general director of MOT.

While Strauss' poem works portrayed emotion with a thorough orchestration, his palette is much broader with the characterizations and melodrama of opera, said DiChiera.

On Stage

What: "Der Rosenkavalier," an opera by Richard Strauss
 When: Opening -- 8 p.m. Saturday, April 15; performance times -- 2 p.m. Sunday, April 16, and April 30; 8 p.m. Saturday, April 16, and April 22
 Where: Detroit Opera House, at the corner of Madison Avenue and Broadway, Detroit
 Tickets: \$18-\$98; call (313) 237-3429 or (248) 645-6666.

"With Strauss, the orchestration is an equal partner with the operatic singing and story," he said. "The eroticism of the sound is overwhelming."

While the waltz was a 19th-century development, *Der Rosenkavalier* blends the social sensibilities of the 18th century with the romantic music inspired by Mozart. In opera, anachronisms are hardly a concern.

The MOT production features one of the few family acts in opera. Helen Donath will sing the role of Marschallin. Meanwhile, her husband, Klaus Donath conducts the orchestra and her son, Alexander Donath directs the production.

While *Der Rosenkavalier* is a

Please See MOT, C5

WAYNE COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. PUBLIC NOTICE

The Wayne County Department of Public Health announces that family planning services only will no longer be available at their health centers effective May 1, 2000.

All other services and programs continue to be provided at those locations. If you have any questions regarding family planning services, your medical records, or access to alternate providers, please call the health center where you received services or our Administrative Offices at (734) 727-7000.

Wayne County Department of Public Health
 Publish April 9, 2000

JOB SEARCH
Tip Of The Day

with
Job Coach
 Larry Goldsmith
 on the net at
www.WPON.com
 or turn your radio dial to
WPON AM Radio 1460
 Monday - Friday at 5:45 p.m.

bestjobsecurity.com
 Job Coach Larry Goldsmith
 (248) 569 5377

THE
Plymouth
Job Fair

May 3, 2000
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
 at the
Hilton Garden Inn
 (Northeast Corner of Exit M-14 and Sheldon Rd.)
 14600 Sheldon Road
 Plymouth, MI 48170

Brought to you by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce and our sponsors, **The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, WD Channel 28, and the Plymouth Hilton Garden Inn**

Please join us at Plymouth's **Job Fair. It's Free!**

There will be a variety of employers at the Fair looking for full and part time employees.

Positions employers are looking to fill include:

- Engineers • Manufacturing
- Teachers • IT • Retail • Drivers
- General Labor • Administrative
- plus many more

Please call the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce for details
 734/453-1540

Spring
OPEN HOUSE
 April 15th & 16th

Organic Seed • Seed Potatoes • Summer Bulbs • Garden Sets

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 One Gallon Pot
 Hundreds of Varieties to Choose

Easter Plants!

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FRUIT TREES
 2 1/2 Gallon Pot \$24.99

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 (586) 251-1111

Noteworthy

Gallery exhibits, art shows, classical concerts

MAKING CONTACT: Please submit items for publication, at least two weeks in advance to the event, to Noteworthy, The Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 or fax (248) 644-1314

ART SHOWS

DTE ENERGY BLOOMFEST
Detroit's annual flower show featuring an art exhibit is at Cobo Convention Center April 9.

DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY FLEA MARKET
Antiques, collectibles and contemporary treasures are available 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at Historic Fort Wayne in Detroit. (313) 821-7795.

DETROIT ARTISTS MARKET
An open house of the new home on Woodward is 4-6 p.m. Wednesday, April 12 at 4719 Woodward (at Forest), Detroit. (313) 393-1770.

AUDITION S & CALL FOR ARTISTS

ART IN THE VILLAGE
Artists are needed to exhibit their work at the fourth annual fine arts exhibit June 10-11 at Livonia's Historic Greenmead Village. Applications must be in by April 15. Applications and information may be obtained by calling Debbie Dufour at (734) 466-2540.

HUDSON'S ART PARK
Michigan artists are welcome to submit proposals for Hudson's Art Park, which will be located in Detroit's Cultural Center. Deadline for proposals is Monday, April 24. Artists must submit no more than 10 slides, a list of works, resume and cover letter to Hudson's Art Park, DAM-Detroit Artists Market, 300 River Place, Suite 1650, Detroit.

LIBERTY FEST 2000
Call for artists for the ninth annual fine art and fine craft show on June 24 and 25 in Canton Township. Application deadline is April 15. (734) 453-3710.

BENEFITS

ART FOR A CAUSE
A benefit for FAR conservatory is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at the Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham. The event features Alexander Zonjic and a live auction. Reservation — \$50 per person. (248) 540-4755.

EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE
The annual benefit *Celebrate the Dance* is at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 14 at the Community House, 380 Bates, Birmingham. The evening includes a live dance performance, dinner and a live auction. Tickets \$75-\$200. For reservations, call (248) 362-9329.

PEACE BENEFIT
Performances by Mary Callaghan Lynch, Ursula Walker and Buddy Budson and others at this benefit for the Center for Peace & Conflict Studies is 2 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at the Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington. (313) 577-3453.

SFLF BENEFIT CONCERT
The Stewart Francke Leukemia Foundation's Celebration of Life, a concert featuring Francke, Marshall Crenshaw and Commissioned is at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 314 Fourth, Royal Oak. For ticket info call (248) 828-2865.

CLASSES

ART CLASSES
D & M studios offers fine art classes for preschoolers through adult. Classes held at three locations: #691 N. Lilley Road, Canton; 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton; 525 Farmer, Plymouth. (734) 453-3710.

DETROIT BALLET
Classes in child and adult classical ballet, tap and jazz. Adult beginners welcomed. Classes offered at the Betty Johnston Dance Studio in Farmington Hills at Folsom and Nine Mile. (248) 474-3174.

EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE
All levels of classes for recreational and professional students, including modern, ballet, pointe, tap and jazz for children ages 3 and older. 1541 W. Hamk, between Crooks and Liverock, Rochester Hills. (248) 852-5810.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
Adult art classes 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Woodward. Classes at 9 a.m. Monday-Friday, 11-12:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. (248) 961-4036.

KAMMUELLER DANCE CLASSES
Advanced and professional classical ballet program, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10-11:30 a.m. West Woodward, West Bloomfield. (248) 666-0090.

VISUAL ART ASSOCIATION OF LIVONIA
Classes in drawing, painting,

drawing and painting; workshops in batik and watercolor monotypes at the Jefferson Center, Room 16, 9501 Henry Ruff, Livonia. (734) 455-9517.

CONCERTS

BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE
Benefit concert featuring Flavio Varani, Nadine Deleury and Velda Kelly is 7 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at Verner Recital Hall on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester. (248) 626-2820. The Musical will feature the winners of scholarship auditions at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 13 at the Birmingham Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham.

CATHEDRAL CULTURAL SERIES
A performance of Requiem by Giuseppe Verdi is 3 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 865-6300.

DETROIT CHAMBER WINDS & STRINGS
Performs Stravinsky at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Birmingham Unitarian Church, Woodward and Lone Pine in Birmingham. (248) 362-9329.

p.m. Sunday, April 9 at the Best Western Sterling Inn at Van Dyke and 15 Mile in Sterling Heights. (248) 645-9705.

STRING CHEESE INCIDENT
The musicians perform at 9 p.m. Saturday, April 15 at the Majestic Theatre, 4140 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 561-2299.

TOMMY FLANAGAN
The jazz piano legend performs at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. (313) 576-5111.

UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY
Susanne Mentzer and Sharon Isbin perform at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University, Ann Arbor. The Australian Chamber Orchestra performs at 8 p.m. Friday, April 14 at Rackham Auditorium, 915 East Washington, Ann Arbor; and the UMS Choral Union and the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra perform Bach's St. Matthew Passion at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Hill Auditorium, 825 North University, Ann Arbor. 1-800-221-1229.

Woodward, Detroit.

HILL GALLERY
Through April 15 — recent works by Melba Price and Richard DeVore: *Black Vessels*. 407 W. Brown, Birmingham. (248) 540-9288.

JANICE CHARACH EPSTEIN GALLERY
Through May 4 — Glass artist Jon Kuhn, 6600 West Maple, West Bloomfield. (248) 661-7641.

FORD GALLERY
Through April 14 — The annual student show. 114 Ford Hall, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. (734) 487-1268.

GALERIE BLU
Kaiser Sudan: *Evolution*. 7 N. Saginaw (2nd floor), Pontiac. (248) 454-7797.

HABATAT GALLERIES
Through May 14 — The 28th annual International Glass Invitational. 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 333-2060.

Woodward, Detroit.

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Through May 14 — The 28th annual International Glass Invitational. 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 333-2060.

be on display through April 30. 26000 Evergreen, Southfield. (248) 948-0460.

SOUTHFIELD CENTER FOR THE ARTS
Through April 28 — The Waterford Friends of the Arts presents *Spectrum*, a multi-media exhibit. Opening reception is 6-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 6. 24350 Southfield, Southfield. (248) 424-9022.

UZELAC GALLERY
Through May 12 — *Interpretations in Glass*. 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 332-5257.

WASHINGTON STREET GALLERY
Through May 6 — Janet Kellman's *For the Love of Glass*. Opening reception 2-4 p.m. Sunday, April 9. 215 E. Washington, Ann Arbor. (734) 761-2287.

ZEITGEIST GALLERY
Through May — *Altered Landscapes* (three Canadian perspectives) James Gordaneer, Jeremy Gordaneer and John Clemenhage. 2661 Michigan, Detroit.

LECTURES

AFRICAN AMERICAN LECTURE SERIES
The Wayne State University Department of Art and Art History present Tyree Guyton, creator of Detroit's Heidelberg Project at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 12 at the DeRoy Auditorium on the campus of WSU. (313) 577-2980.

FARMINGTON ARTISTS CLUB
Guest lecturer is photographer Balthazar Korab at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 12 at the Farmington Library on 12 Mile in Farmington.

PONTIAC-OAKLAND TOWN HALL
Sally Ann Howes presents a Broadway musical program at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 12. 1515 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 625-3117.

LITERARY

BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
Writers Live with Elmar Lipman author of *The Ladies' Man* meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at the library, 300 Merrill, Birmingham. (248) 647-1700.

SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
In celebration of National Poetry Month, the library will have poetry readings daily at 11:30 a.m., 4:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Monday, April 10 through Friday, April 14. 26000 Evergreen, Southfield. (248) 948-0460.

WEST BLOOMFIELD POETRY
The Greater West Bloomfield Arts Council presents an open mike reading of your favorite poems at 3 p.m. Saturday, April 15 at Barnes & Noble, 6600 Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield.

MUSEUMS

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Sunday, brunch lecture at 11 a.m. April 9 is on facial reconstruction in forensic science, 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 645-3210.

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Cynthia Clark, from WNCN FM 100.3 — the celebrity tour guide to the City of the Architect from 1890-1990. Sunday, April 9. The exhibit runs through April 30 at the museum, 150 Woodward and Hill. Detroit. (313) 833-1805.

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS
Book Sunday, April 16 — Detroit's Second Student Exhibition, through May 21. Through June 3 — *Masterpieces of the Renaissance*. March 10 through June 3, 2000. *Classical Glass* from the Renaissance through June 4 — *Masterpieces of the Renaissance*. Through June 4 — *Masterpieces of the Renaissance*. Through June 4 — *Masterpieces of the Renaissance*. Through June 4 — *Masterpieces of the Renaissance*.

THEATER

GEM THEATER
Ensemble in the Spotlight — Family Theater Series. *Remember Me*. Through April 16. *Remember Me*. Through April 16. *Remember Me*. Through April 16. *Remember Me*. Through April 16.

PEWABIC POTTERY
Through April 15 — *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15.

REVOLUTION
Through April 15 — *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15.

SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
Through April 15 — *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15.

THE KING KORN TRIO
A new book by the author presents the story of the King Korn Trio. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15.

Howes this?



On stage: Sally Ann Howes presents a Broadway musical program at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 22, at the Pontiac-Oakland Town Hall, 1515 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 625-3117.

DINNER THEATER

BACI THEATRE
Tony in Tina's Wedding. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays, 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays; and 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sundays. 40 W. Pike, Pontiac. (248) 745-8669; (248) 645-6666.

FOR KIDS

KINDERMUSIK
Enroll anytime for classes for new babies to age 7. Parents participate in classes for children under 3. Classes are held at the First Baptist Church of Plymouth, 47000 N. Terminal, Plymouth. Call for info. (313) 394-2309.

WEST BLOOMFIELD COMMUNITY EDUCATION
Rita's songs and nursery rhymes for tots to 4 years. Classes are at the Sports Club, Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield. Register at (248) 359-1290.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT
Feature's a wild west theme with Rogers's William Tell Overture and Copland's Rodeo. The concert is 11 a.m. Saturday, April 15 at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. (313) 576-5111.

GALLERY EXHIBITS (OPENING)

BIRMINGHAM-BLOOMFIELD ART CENTER
Opens Friday, April 14 — *Art Awards 2000* (EBAE Best of Show Competition) through May 5. Reception is 4-7:30 p.m. Friday, April 14. Opens Friday, April 14 — *Art Awards 2000* (EBAE Best of Show Competition) through May 5. Reception is 4-7:30 p.m. Friday, April 14. Opens Friday, April 14 — *Art Awards 2000* (EBAE Best of Show Competition) through May 5. Reception is 4-7:30 p.m. Friday, April 14.

SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES GALLERY

Opens April 14 — *Hot Gun Art: Artful Weapons for Peace*. Opening is 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 14. 33 E. Adams, Detroit. (313) 963-7575.

WILD WINGS GALLERY
A Master Highlighter event is scheduled April 14-16 at the Wild Wings Gallery, Main Street at Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth. (800) 755-3401.

GALLERY EXHIBITS (ON-GOING)

A.C.T. GALLERY
Through May 19 — *Go:Figure*. 35 East Grand River, Detroit. (313) 961-4336.

ALFRED BERKOWITZ GALLERY
Through April 30 — Richard Ritter *Suspended Expressions: Visions in Glass*. The gallery is on the third floor of the Mordigan Library at the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus. (313) 593-5400.

ART LEADERS GALLERY
Through April 15 — *Experience Europe*, a group exhibition, Celebrate Glass Month with a group glass art show through April 30. 33216 W. 14 Mile, West Bloomfield. (248) 539-0262.

ART CORRIDOR GALLERIES
Through May 31 — *The Work of Donna Vogetheim* in the second floor of the Farmington City Hall. 23600 Liberty, Farmington.

BOOKBEAT
Through April 30 — Jeffrey Silverthorn *Letters Home*. 2610 Greenfield, Oak Park. (248) 968-1190.

BREAKFAST CLUB
Through April 30 — Myth paintings by Brian Taylor. 234 E. Main, Clawson. (248) 288-9966.

CARIBBEAN COLORS
Through May 21 — *Island Life* by Lee Kroff. 2966 Bidde, Wyandotte. (734) 285-6544.

CARY GALLERY
Through April 25 — Group exhibit with Olga Pawlowski and gallery artists. 226 Walnut, Rochester. (248) 651-3656.

CASS CAFE
Through June — Paintings by Diana Alva and James Puntigam. 4620 Cass, Detroit. (313) 831-1400.

CENTER GALLERIES
Through April 29 — *Dani* Ben-El-Mechaieck. 301 Frederick Douglass, Detroit. (313) 594-7800.

COMMUNITY ARTS GALLERY
Through May 14 — 2000 Undergraduate Exhibition. 3400 Green Mall on the campus of Wayne State University, Detroit. (313) 577-2423.

JOHANSON CHARLES GALLERY
Through May 6 — *Heroes*. Theme show. 1345 Dyck, Detroit. (313) 967-9638.

CREATIVE ARTS CENTER
Through April 25 — *Stories of Expression*. 1000 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 244-1244.

DAVID KLEIN GALLERY
Through April 30 — *New*. Photography by photographer David Klein from around the world. 14400 Woodward, Birmingham. (248) 443-0704.

DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY
Through April 15 — *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15.



Now appearing: "Modernism and Post-Modernism: Russian Art at the End of the Millennium" is showing at the Elaine Jacob Gallery.

ELAINE JACOB GALLERY
Through May 19 — *Modernism and Post-Modernism: Russian Art at the End of the Millennium*. 480 W. Hancock, Wayne State University. (313) 993-7813.

ROBERT KIDD GALLERY
Through May 13 — Exhibition of paintings by Bob Nugent, sculpture by Christine Hagedorn and a group show of Sculptural Glass. 107 Townsend, Birmingham. (248) 642-3909.

LAWRENCE STREET GALLERY
Through April 29 — *Clay from the Soul II*. 6 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 334-6716.

LEMBERG GALLERY
Through May 6 — Books by Susan Goethel Campbell. 535 N. Old Woodward, Birmingham. (248) 642-6023.

LIVONIA ARTS COMMISSION
Through April 19 — The Livonia Public Schools student art exhibit at the Livonia Civic Center Library. 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. (734) 466-2490. Through April 26 — *Remember Me*. Exhibition by 200 Artistic Club of Livonia members at the Livonia City Hall Library. 32700 Civic Center Drive, Livonia. (734) 466-2540.

MANISCALCO GALLERY
Through June 4 — *Remember Me*. Reception at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13. 12200 West Woodward, West Bloomfield. (248) 358-2900.

OAKLAND COUNTY GALLERIA
Through April 28 — *Remember Me*. Through April 28 — *Remember Me*. Through April 28 — *Remember Me*. Through April 28 — *Remember Me*.

PALETTE AND BRUSH CLUB
Through April 15 — *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15.

PEWABIC POTTERY
Through April 15 — *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15.

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Through April 15 — *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15.

SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
Through April 15 — *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15. *Remember Me*. Through April 15.

ART BEAT

Art Beat features various happenings in the suburban art world. Send Wayne County arts news leads to Art Beat, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

LOCAL SINGER PERFORMS TODAY

Tenor Michael Parr of Livonia will sing a duet with Danica Randall in a concert by the Memorial Church Festival Choir 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 9 at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Tickets are \$15, \$10 students/seniors. Call (313) 882-5330.

The "For the Love of Music" concert features the sacred music of Maurice Durufle, Benjamin Britten, Maurice Ravel, and Ernest Bloch. It celebrates Randall's 20th anniversary as alto soloist and section leader with the Memorial Church Choir. She and Parr sing in Britten's "Canticle II," a duet setting the story of Abraham and Issac.

ART FOR A CAUSE

If you love art and want to help a good cause, plan on attending an auction 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13 at The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham.

Art for a Cause is sponsoring the event to benefit FAR Conservatory of Therapeutic and Performing Arts. The Birmingham-based organization provides creative arts therapy and recreation services for children and adults

with mental, physical and emotional impairments.

On the auction block will be an original Erte print, Fred Bear painting from the Fred Bear Museum in Florida, fine jewelry from Joseph DuMouchelle Fine & Estate Jewelers, a Harbor Springs vacation including Boyne golf, and whimsical hand-painted furniture by Birmingham artist Lisa Knoppe-Reed. DuMouchelle conducts the live auction. Music is by flutist Alexander Zonjic.

Art for a Cause is a nonprofit dedicated to raising funds for local charities and at the same time providing functional works by local artists.

Tickets are \$50, reservations necessary. Call (248) 540-4755.

TRUNK SHOW

Plymouth quilt artist Meena Schaldenbrand will be guest speaker for the Needlework and Textile Guild of Michigan 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 11 at First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple Road, Birmingham.

The event is open to the public for a guest fee of \$5. For information, call (734) 475-5851 or (248) 363-5697.

The program will include a trunk show reflecting 20 years of Schaldenbrand's work - personal story quilts, computer-generated quilts, group quilts, three-dimensional landscape, portraiture, Internet swaps, and quilted clothing. Schaldenbrand was the grand prize winner in the national Kaye Wood competition



Whimsical: This hand-painted chair is one of the items in an auction sponsored by Art for a Cause.

in 1997.

HIGH-ENERGY YOUTH MUSICAL

The 41-member New Generation Youth Choir presents IMAGE, a high-energy musical featuring toe-tapping music and humorous dialog, 7 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29877 W. 11 Mile, west of Middlebelt, Farmington Hills.

Admission is free, although a free-will offering will be taken to help offset the cost of the group's

spring break tour in Ohio and Pennsylvania. During the tour 24 members of the choir will present IMAGE to three congregations. Church families in each will host the youth after performances.

For more information, call (248) 476-8860.

GLASS BLOWING DEMONSTRATIONS

Erin Gross of Farmington Hills is one of the students displaying work in "A Glass Passport 2000," a group exhibit continuing through April 20 at Center for Creative Studies, 201 E. Kirby, Detroit.

The school will host a "Hot Glass Bonanza" featuring ongoing glass blowing demonstrations by CCS students, faculty and alumni noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 16 in the hot glass studio in the Yamasaki Building. Works created at the "Bonanza" will be available for sale to the public. The event is free. Call (313) 664-7560.

ART EXHIBIT

Artifacts Art Club members will exhibit their work through Friday, April 28 at Livonia City Hall.

The multi-media show

includes pastel, colored pencil, watercolor, photography, oil, and sculpture.

Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 7-9 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

AWARD WINNING SINGERS

students at Central and Pioneer Middle Schools, and Plymouth-Salem High School are celebrating their victories in the District Festival at Chelsea in mid-March. Central's eighth grade band received a Superior performance rating, as did all four of Plymouth-Salem's choirs.

On Saturday, April 1, the choirs from Central and Pioneer received Superior ratings in the Middle School Choir Festival in Ypsilanti.

District Festivals are hosted by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association and the Michigan School Vocal Music Association. Several of the choirs will go on to participate in state and competitive festivals this spring for fun.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Farmington Community Band will award a \$500 scholarship to a student (from one of the three Farmington High Schools) who demonstrates a proficiency

as an instrumentalist in woodwind, brass or percussion.

Deadline for application is May 1. Entrants will compete in the scholarship audition during the Farmington Arts Festival April 30 to May 7 at the William Costick Center. For more information, call (248) 926-8438.

The Barbara Hughes Memorial Scholarship is named after the Farmington Hills resident and former band member.

ART EXHIBIT

Farmington Hills artist Eder Joppich is one of 13 artists exhibiting work in "Pieces" April 14 to May 20 at Paint Creek Center for the Arts, 407 Pine Street, Rochester.

An opening reception takes place 6-8 p.m. Friday, April 14. The exhibit looks at how materials, influences by American culture, are used by artists to construct objects which document the world around them. A total of 25 collage and assemblage works will be exhibited.

Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, except for Friday-Saturday, April 21-22.

For information, call (248) 651-4110.

MOT from page C2

fairly story about a woman who faces the middle-age realities of being stuck in an arranged marriage, the theme of longing for passionate love is unmistakably universal.

In the melodramatic tradition, the opera follows the 32-year old Princess Marchallin, who fears growing old, and the lover's triangle among her, her 17-year old lover and the young girl who falls in love with him.

Long before the Detroit Opera House opened at the corner of

Madison and Broadway in 1996, DiChiera was considered either a visionary for his promising talk about the future of the downtown theater district.

Then again, to some DiChiera was thought to be a modern-day Don Quixote.

Several months after last fall's sold-out performances for Andrea Bocelli's operatic debut in Werther at the Detroit Opera House, DiChiera's vision is an unquestionable reality.

Perhaps the best indication of

the fledgling cultural area and MOT's success are increased ticket sales and the lack of parking.

The two Sunday matinee performances fall on the same dates as Detroit Tigers' afternoon home games. With Comerica Park located across from the Opera House, patrons and baseball fans will compete for parking.

All in all, an enviable problem. And maybe a reason to gloat.

SUMMER 2000

MAY

- 23 Meadow Brook Music Festival & Pine Knob Music Theatre Opening Act Contest Finals. Watch tomorrow's stars compete for the chance to perform at an event this summer. Free Admission & Parking.
- 25 Trisha Yearwood w/Jessica Andrews. \$30 pav / \$15.50 lawn.
- 27 André Rieu & The Johann Strauss Orchestra. \$56.50 pav / \$22.50 lawn.

JUNE

- 21 Franklin The Turtle & The Magic Fiddle w/Joanie Bartels. 3 Shows • 11am & 7pm. \$12.50 pav / \$6 lawn.
- 23 Pure Prairie League/Poco. \$25.50 pav / \$15.50 lawn.
- 25 The Chieftains/Los Lobos. \$35 pav / \$20 lawn.
- 26 Michigan Professional Firefighters Union Presents B.J. Thomas w/Billy Joe Royal. Tickets on sale June 12. \$15 pav and lawn.
- 30 Weird Al Yankovic. \$24.50 pav / \$12.50 lawn.

JULY

- 1 Martina McBride. \$32.50 pav / \$22.50 lawn.
- 2 Get Back! The Cast of Beatlemania. \$17.50 pav / \$10 lawn.
- 3 Todd Rundgren w/Special Guest to be announced. \$25.50 pav / \$12.50 lawn.
- 12 Maurice Sendak's Little Bear w/3rd Grades. 2 Shows • 11am & 7pm. \$12.50 pav / \$6 lawn.
- 18 "Grease" featuring 4th, 5th & 6th Grades. Non-Overnight Shows. \$25.50 pav / \$15 lawn.
- 26 Scholastic's The Magic School Bus Live! w/Norman Macle. 2 Shows • 11am & 7pm. \$12.50 pav / \$6 lawn.

AUGUST

- 10 John Berry/Suzy Bogguss/Billy Dean. \$25 pav / \$15 lawn.
- 12 Rick Springfield. \$27.50 pav / \$17.50 lawn.
- 13 Peter, Paul & Mary. 40th Anniversary. \$32.50 pav / \$14.50 lawn. Kids 12 & Under FREE on the lawn.
- 19 Alison Krauss & Union Station. \$24.50 pav / \$12.50 lawn.
- 24 Wimzie's House w/Linda Arnold. 2 Shows • 11am & 7pm. \$12.50 pav / \$6 lawn.
- 25 Trinity Irish Dance Company. \$35 pav / \$15 lawn.
- 27 Terri Clark. \$20 pav / \$15 lawn.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Lonestar. \$24.50 pav / \$12.50 lawn.

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SHOP TALK



NICOLE STAFFORD

Enough now. We've all heard the fashion reports for spring and summer.

And, since the season has officially arrived, we're probably ready to make a few purchases. Yes, that's what I said - a few purchases.

Though retailers and designers would like to think differently, most of us have a

limit on the number of times we'll turn over our credit cards for an addition to the wardrobe, especially when the new piece falls under the category "trendy." In my opinion, that's particularly the case in the Midwest. We don't necessarily salivate over the so-called hottest and latest fashion.

We're more conservative than that. We sit back and wait like scientists. How long will the trend survive? If I wait a few months, will I be able to take advantage of the trend more inexpensively? Is that trend really for me?

Besides, most of us don't spend thousands of dollars overhauling our wardrobes simply because they're not brimming with certain colors, fabrics and patterns. We take stock of our choices and make purchases in light of our needs and budget.

With that in mind, I decided to weigh in on some of the trends we've been hearing so much about.

COLORS

While vibrant, bright colors like hot pink, turquoise and orange are being touted as the shades of the season, neutral tones like black, Navy, white and tan are being ignored.

On the one hand, I do believe beautiful colors should be cherished and experienced, especially when they positively affect our mood and appearance. However, I don't believe we should abandon our black separates in favor of an all-color wardrobe. Not only does that fly in the face of building a wardrobe, but also many of us simply don't feel comfortable and at our best in such bold colors.

More importantly, not every color complements every person. In other words, don't feel pressured to inject loads of color into your wardrobe. Buy a few pieces - a top and a skirt - in your favorite bright tone and wear it with the neutral items you already have. Or, purchase an inexpensive hat, pair of shoes or handbag in a bright tone that you know you'll wear.

REPTILE PATTERNS

If you especially like reptile patterns, and they suit you to a tee, by all means buy as much as you'd like. You'll probably wear your purchases next year, whether they're still in style or not. But, that's because they suit you.

Otherwise, I'd cross reptile, both faux and real, off your shopping list. Obviously, the real deal can be expensive. More importantly, reptile prints have a very particular sensibility. They're sexy, yes, but they're tough and bold, too. And, if that isn't your style, why dilute the look you have.

While a pair of shoes or a handbag in a reptile pattern wouldn't strain the budget, I'm not convinced a small dose would have much impact, not anymore than, for example, a high-quality, leather bag you'll use for years to come.

LOGOS

Personally, I detest logos and, except for jeans, won't purchase clothing embellished by them. To me, they are the antithesis of style, a substitute for interesting details and good design.

Once more, they seem to suggest the wearer lacks his or her own sense of style and must rely on others for guidance.

POLKA DOTS AND GINGHAM

Like plaid, these prints don't really go out of style. Gingham, in particular, always looks appealing and comfortable in the summer. And, a small polka dot print on a lightweight skirt or dress is a classic summer look.

As with all prints, the issues are personal preference, size and proportion. If you like either of these prints, find one that works for you.

CHIFFON

I think the chiffon dresses we're seeing are beautiful. My only recommendation - find one that you can wear in both casual and formal settings. Look for a chiffon dress you could wear to a wedding with fine jewelry and slip on with a pair of sandals for an afternoon picnic.

All in the family Retailer offers way to celebrate puppy love during Easter



PHOTO COURTESY OF RICK DUPLER

Easter puppy: We take our children for Easter and other holiday portraits, so it only makes sense we want to do the same for the canine members of the family.

freshly baked, nutritious dog treats, offered photos with Santa Claus during the Christmas season and as a result received numerous requests for similar photo opportunities from customers.

Slated noon-4 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at the Rochester store and 5-9 p.m. Thursday, April 20 at the Birmingham store, the sittings will be similar to those held by the retailer in December.

While walk-ins will be accepted, appointments are encouraged. The cost, \$12 per sheet of photos, will benefit local animal welfare efforts.

Rick Dupler, the photographer hired by Potthoff and her business partner for the sittings, will use a digital camera, so

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
SPECIAL EDITOR
nstafford@oe.homecomm.net

A bag of gourmet dog bones from a bakery.

A cozy set of knit booties to protect the paws.

A leather collar in pooch's favorite color.

Dogs have long been members of the family. It's how we're confirming their status that's changed, making for big business in retail.

Indeed, anything we might purchase or do for our children, we want for Spot, too, especially if we have the disposable income.

That's why the owners of Three Dog Bakery, one at 223 E. Maple in downtown Birmingham and the other at 413 Main Street in downtown Rochester, decided to hire a pet photographer, arm an actor in a bunny suit with a load of dog treats and offer Easter portrait sittings in April.

"It was kind of a supply and demand thing," said Nora Potthoff, co-owner of the two specialty stores, part of a chain that started 10 years ago as one bakery in Kansas. The local stores, which primarily sell

dog before making a selection for print. He'll also offer a variety of photo sizes, including the kind that fits into your wallet, and several holiday borders commemorating Easter.

"We treat animals much like we treat our children," said Potthoff of the current demand for pet products and services.

While many shoppers scoff at the sight of some of Three Dog Bakery's merchandise - decorated birthday cakes for dogs, baby books for puppies and an assortment of freshly prepared dog treats, from "Pet-It Fours" to "Pawlines" - most end up making a purchase.

"Something just clicks, and it makes them laugh and feel good. ... And, there's not a lot out there that makes us feel good," said Potthoff, adding that her stores will begin selling cat treats similar to what they have for dogs this month.

For those couples and individuals who don't have children, patronizing Three Dog Bakery is an outlet for maternal and paternal feelings, said Potthoff. "And, there are a lot of couples who are choosing not to have children."

Besides, pets, especially dogs, are



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLINSKY

Dog days: Nora Potthoff (left), co-owner of Three Dog Bakery in Birmingham and Rochester where Easter dog portraits will be offered later this month; and store associate Audrey Metro tempt Rowdy, the Birmingham store's resident dog, with a homemade treat.

more amenable than children when it comes to acts of bonding and association.

"We give (children) toys, we dress them, but dogs tend to be much more compliant," Potthoff joked, explaining that pets almost always serve as an extension for our personalities.

That's why, in truth, most of the merchandise and services we purchase for our pets we're actually buying for ourselves, she said.

"So, though Spot may seem overjoyed when you walk in the door with a new box of dog treats, that's probably your perception. After all, until he tastes his new treats, he can't really appreciate them. Not to mention, only dogs know how they feel about collar scarves, winter booties and portrait sittings.

"It just makes you feel good," said Potthoff. "And, you want to indulge (your pets) as much as you can because they give you so much."

PHOTO COURTESY OF RICK DUPLER

Tricks and toys: Photographer Rick Dupler will offer several photo sizes and different holiday borders to customers who bring their dogs to Three Dog Bakery for Easter portraits. And, he'll have a supply of dog treats and toys on hand to coax his subjects. Cost of the photos, \$12 per sheet, will benefit local animal welfare efforts.



Retail, style and special store events are listed in this calendar. Please send information to: Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax: (248) 644-1314. Information must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for publication the following Sunday.

MONDAY, APRIL 10

KNITTING TRUNK SHOW

The Knitting Room, 251 Merrill Street in Birmingham, hosts a Berroco Yarns trunk show through April 11, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call (248) 540-3623.

HEALTH SERVICES

Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield hosts Health-O-Rama, free and low-cost health screening and services sponsored by the United Health Organization through April 11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. For details, call (248) 353-4111.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

ELLEN TRACY ON RUNWAY

Ellen Tracy's spring collection comes down the runway and the Matilda R. Wilson Award is presented at Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy to benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs of South-eastern Michigan, 11 a.m., Ellen Tracy Boutique, second floor. Tickets are \$35, include brunch and require reservation by April 10. To attend, call (248) 203-1260.

HEALTH EVENT

Wonderland Mall in Livonia hosts a Project Healthy

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

Living event through April 13, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Food Court. For more information, call (734) 522-4100.

CHANEL MAKEOVERS

Receive a makeover by a Chanel national makeup artist at Jacobson's, Laurel Park Place in Livonia through April 12, noon-7 p.m., Cosmetics department. To make an appointment, call (734) 591-7696.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

JONES NEW YORK EVENT

Hudson's, Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi, hosts a wardrobe seminar featuring spring pieces by Jones New York, 7 p.m. To make a reservation, call (248) 344-6800.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

AUSTIN REED WORKSHOP

Jacobson's stores offers wardrobe seminars featuring clothing by Austin Reed through April 15, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Dates and locations are as follows: April 13 at Rochester Hills store; April 14 at Birmingham store and April 15 at Laurel Park Place store in Livonia. For more information, call (800) 837-5227.

USED BOOK SALE

The League of Women Voters holds a used book sale at Wonderland Mall in Livonia through April 16, near Dunham's. For details, call (734) 522-4100.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

MOONLIGHT MADNESS SALE

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce sponsors Moonlight Madness in downtown Plymouth, 7-11 p.m. For details, call (734) 453-1540.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

PROM DAY

Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy, presents Prom 2000 Focus Day a showcase of evening wear, complimentary makeovers by Stila, and a drawing for prom services and merchandise. Evening Collections, second floor. For details, call (248) 614-3385.

FASHION DAY AT HUDSON'S

Hudson's, Somerset Collection in Troy, presents three fashion shows: looks from the Women's Way Department at 11 a.m., a rundown of spring trends at 2 p.m. and the Ralph Lauren collection for juniors at 4 p.m. Reservations are required. Please call (248) 816-4605.

HANDBAG DESIGNER VISITS

Handbag designer Maya Evangelista and a trunk show of her collection come to Jacobson's in downtown Birmingham, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Handbags department. For more information, call (248) 644-6900.

SWING THE NIGHT AWAY

Wonderland Mall in Livonia offers free swing dance lessons, 6-9 p.m., Food Court. For additional information, call (734) 522-4100.

WHERE CAN I FIND?

This interactive feature is dedicated to helping readers locate merchandise that's difficult to find through reader feedback. If you've seen or are looking for an item, call (248) 901-2555 and leave a message with your name and phone number. We publish readers' requests for merchandise twice. If you don't hear from us or see information about the item within a few weeks, we were unable to locate it. When we find an item owned by another reader, rather than for sale at a store, we will call you. But, please, be patient; we handle an overwhelming number of requests each week.

WHAT WE FOUND:

- Wicked Wahini perfume can be purchased for \$9.99 (item BVK) by calling (800) 676-2772.
- To recycle plastic bags, call the **Enviro Bag Company**, (800) 866-3954. The company can give you a list of schools in your area that accept plastic bags for fund-raising events.
- For the reader looking for a small piano for a child, another reader suggested buying an inexpensive keyboard.
- For a pet portrait, readers suggested **Jill Andra-Young** in Plymouth, (734) 455-7787, and **Portraits by Sayles** in Birmingham.
- **Miniature Red Wings** pennants may be available at **The Sports Gallery** on Woodward Avenue in Birmingham. The store carries Red Wings memorabilia.
- For the reader looking for copies of "Life" magazine, a reader suggested calling **Hitching Post Antiques Mall**, (517) 423-8277.
- For readers looking for various brands of designer perfume, try **www.eve.com** on the Internet.
- **Pete and Hank's in Windsor** offers fish dinners like **Sutherland's**.
- Tea bag tags can be donated to the **Redford Suburban League**. The group meets 11 a.m.-2 p.m. every second Wednesday at the Antiochian Orthodox Church on Merriman.
- **Memorabilia** for a 50th anniversary of **Stuckey Elementary School** in Redford.

FIND & SEARCH NOTES:

- We had many responses to requests for Party Lite consultants and Amway Distributors and no longer need additional information.
 - "Life" magazine did not publish an August 8, 1955 issue.
- WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:**
- **Noritake china serving pieces and place settings in the Polonaise pattern (#2045)** for Peggy.
 - **A store that sells Faygo "Diet Sensation" soda pop.**
 - **A porcelain doll set called "Rosie & Rags,"** by Marie Osmond, for Carole of Livonia.
 - **An item from Paintings by Peg called "A Special Event for Baby's 1st Year"** for Tina.
 - **The book "Proud Breed,"** by Celeste DeBlassis.
 - **A store in the Livonia/Northville/Novi area that sells extra backings for pierced earrings** for Sally.
 - **My Sin perfume made by Lanvin,** either new or used, for Karen.
 - **A store that sells Little Tyke's outdoor houses** for Catherine.
 - **A store that sells soft-sole house slippers in a size 12** for Mrs. Amato.
 - **A Polly Pockets toy in a bag** for Barbara, who lives in Livonia.
 - **A business or crafts person who will make a quilt that is already designed** for Stephanie.
 - **A store where Howard Johnson's frozen clam strips can be bought** for Donna of Redford.
 - **The children's book "Flip-ity Jebbit"** for Winifred.
 - **A store that sells 100-percent petroleum jelly lip treatment** for Anne of Redford.
 - **A store where Chicklets chewing gum is sold** for Ron of Troy.
 - **A videocassette tape of "Mickey Goes to a Circus"** for Dee.
 - **A store in the Canton area that sells mother-of-the-bride dresses.**
 - **A store where a cover for an ironrite mangle can be bought** for Eleanor.
 - **A store where a silver shower curtain can be bought** for Naomi.

- **An arts and crafts store that sells 14-inch, flat, round wicker circles with a lace design** for Ethel of Redford.
 - **A craft store that sells directions for making copper sprinklers** for Karen of Garden City.
 - **A store that sells the birthstone "Baby Bleeze"** for Lou.
 - **A grocery store where Pillsbury Grand Sweet caramel sweet rolls can be bought** for Jean.
 - **Videocassette tapes of the television show "My Little Margie"** for Kertia of Southfield.
 - **A store where potato chips that are sliced and made in the microwave at home are sold** for Gail.
 - **A large poster from the musical "Showboat"** for Dolores of Livonia.
 - **The game "Bubble & Squeak"** for Nancy of Commerce.
 - **The Henry Mancini Orchestra's romantic piano CD, formerly sold by "Reader's Digest,"**
 - **A store where a calf-length, beach cover-up in white cotton can be bought** for Virginia of Waterford.
 - **A 1977 Mumford High School yearbook** for Pamela of Canton.
 - **A 1966 Cooley High School jacket and letter sweater** for Roger of Redford.
- Compiled by *Sandi Jarackas*



Easter Events will keep you informed about Easter Bunny appearances and other activities for children and families being offered by local retailers and shopping malls in April.

EASTER MUSICAL AT TEL-TWELVE

"Wake Up Spring," a family musical to commemorate the season is presented at 1 p.m. **Saturday, April 15** on the center court stage at Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield. For more information, call (248) 353-4111.

EASTER PARTY AT WONDERLAND

Wonderland Mall in Livonia hosts an Easter party featuring an egg hunt, bonnet parade, magic shows, crafts and other entertainment for kids, 2-6 p.m. **Saturday, April 15** in the center's food court. For additional information, call (734) 522-4100.

LIVONIA MALL'S BUNNY

The Easter Bunny has taken residence in Value City Court at the Livonia Mall to visit with children and sit for photos, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. **Wednesday-Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, now through Easter.** For more information, call (248) 476-1160.

EASTER BUNNY PHOTOS AT WESTLAND

The Easter Bunny visits with children and sits for portraits at Westland Shopping Center in Westland 11 a.m.-8 p.m. **Monday through Saturday and noon-6 p.m. Sunday, now through Easter.** The Easter Bunny sets up residence in the mall's East Court. For details, call (734) 425-5001.

PETER RABBIT AT TWELVE OAKS

Peter Rabbit and Mr. McGregor's Storybook Garden, as well as, other displays of Beatrix Potter

characters await young visitors at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi. Dozens of spring flowers are on display for shoppers of all ages. More importantly, Peter Rabbit visits with children and sits for portraits during the event, which runs 10 a.m.-9 p.m. **Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, now through April 22,** in the mall's Center Court. For details, call (248) 348-9411.

BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

Hudson's popular Easter Bunny breakfasts for children returns. All breakfasts start at 9:15 a.m. and are held in the retailer's store restaurants. Tickets are \$10. Please call ahead for reservations, (800) 246-6648. Breakfast dates and locations are as follows: **Saturday, April 15 at Oakland Mall in Troy, Lakeside Mall in Sterling Heights and Westland Shopping Center in Westland; April 16 at the Somerset Collection in Troy and Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.**

EASTER BUNNY AT TEL-TWELVE

The Easter Bunny sits for photos and visits with children at Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield. The bunny will wait for visitors in the mall's Center Court **noon-8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday, now through April 22.** Photo packages and a free gift for children are available. Also, shoppers can enter to win a giant

Easter basket filled with toys and candy. For details, call (248) 353-4111.

BUNNY AND TREATS AT ART VAN

The Easter Bunny will visit with children and hand out Easter treats 2-4 p.m. **Saturday, April 15 at Art Van Furniture in Livonia.** Call (734) 478-8870.

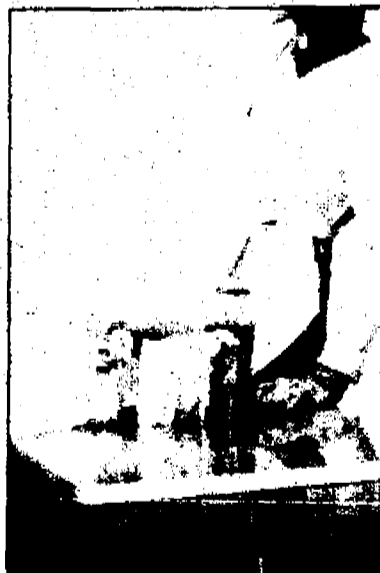
PETER RABBIT AT FAIRLANE

Peter Rabbit springs into Dearborn's Fairlane Town Center to visit with children.


Children sit for portraits and pass out small Easter gifts 10 a.m.-9 p.m. **Monday-Saturday and 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday, now through April 22.** Peter Rabbit will inhabit a recreated version of Beatrix Potter's garden complete with oversized flowers and vegetables and giant pop-up storybooks in the mall's Fountain Court. Several photo packages are available. For details, call (313) 593-1370.



a la carte
STUFF WE CRAVE



Cosmic pink: Nars "Galaxy Girl" lip-stick has a soft gold shimmer and is so sheer, making it a perfect pink lipstick to wear now and through summer, about \$19 at department stores.



Flower frenzy: Intricately embroidered flowers on girls' dresses, tanks and Capri pants are signs of the season and give more casual styles a dressy touch, by Mon keywear, \$56-109, at Jacobson's stores.

Think you've got all the answers? Then enter our

Battle of the Sexes Trivia Challenge

with the **WNIC 100.3 FM** Detroit's Nicest Rock

Breakfast Club

Saturday, April 29. Noon-2 pm
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Cruise from New Orleans to Mexico

BY NORMA AND WENDY SCHONWETTER
SPECIAL WRITERS

Do you want to take a cruise, see the world, eat exotic foods, drink, shop, and soak up the rays... and you're on a budget? New Orleans is just the place for you.

New Orleans is a lively port city with fascinating history, culture, architecture, food, music, steamboats, and oh yeah...cruise ships. Done right, you can do everything you want and not break the bank.

Value

Commodore Cruise's motto is "The best value in the Caribbean," and they mean it. Rates for the 5-day cruise start at \$359 (plus port charges of \$90); the 7-day cruise starts at \$479 (plus port charges of \$120). Shore excursions are not included in the price of the cruise. Tours range from \$28 to \$79. We cruised from New Orleans to Mexico on the Enchanted Capri - ate, gambled, played, shopped, and sunned for 5 days. The Enchanted Capri is half-owned by the Isle of Capri casino chain, located in Southern states, which means that the casino is sizable compared to other ships. Drinks are on-the-house while gambling. Dress is casual on Commodore.

Excursions

We stopped at Playa del Carmen to discharge passengers for shore excursion to an EcoPark at Xcaret. Then on to Cozumel and Progreso (the port for Merida). Most shore excursions on Cozumel involved snorkeling and visiting pristine white sand beaches; at Progreso the choices included visits to either of two important archeological sites (Mayan ruins) at Uxmal and Chichen-Itza.

Commodore has three small ships, carrying only 500 to 750 passengers each, with one crew member for every two passengers. The result - great service. Cruises are from five to seven days with itineraries to the Caribbean and a combination of Caribbean and Mexico, Key West or Central America (Belize and Honduras). Cabins are small and not very glamorous - but remember, you spend little time there and this is a bargain cruise. Inside cabins are more spacious but are without portholes. The few bedroom suites, the lounge, and movie theater are glitzier. For a budget cruise, the variety and excellent quality

If you go

- For information and reservations on any Commodore Cruise Ship, call (800) 237-5361 or visit their Web site, www.commodorecruise.com
- A passport or birth certificate is required as proof of U.S. citizenship.
- Opt for the shore excursion to the Tulum Ruins, and snorkeling at Playa Del Carmen instead of Cozumel.
- Commodore's Enchanted Isle offers youth programs for three different age groups of children at no extra charge. Plan a wedding and reception while the vessel is docked in New Orleans.
- Call (800) 584-3183 for a "Free Good Times Guide to New Orleans," with over \$2,500 in coupons or visit their Web site, www.neworleansonline.com
- Check out Preservation Hall in the French Quarter where \$4 gets you some of the best jazz in the city.
- Public transportation (buses and trolleys) save money. The St. Charles Avenue Trolley is one of the oldest continuously operating street railroads offering a view of beautiful mansions of the Garden District and Carrollton Avenue.
- Your best bet is to stay in hotels/motels on the perimeter of the French Quarter. They are quieter and reasonably priced; most include a continental breakfast. Check rates at the Ambassador Hotel, Comfort Suites, Best Western Parc St. Charles, and Chateau Dupre. Motels in the suburb of Metairie offer free shuttle service to the French Quarter.



Jazzy: Musicians perform in front of a boat on the Mississippi River.

of the meals surprised us. Diner entrees included filet mignon, prime rib and lobster tails. You can literally eat from 6 a.m. until midnight.

This is a fun ship with great group games and first class entertainment in the lounge. You can spend your casino winnings overseas in upscale shops geared to American tastes and expectations, or wait to treat yourself in New Orleans.

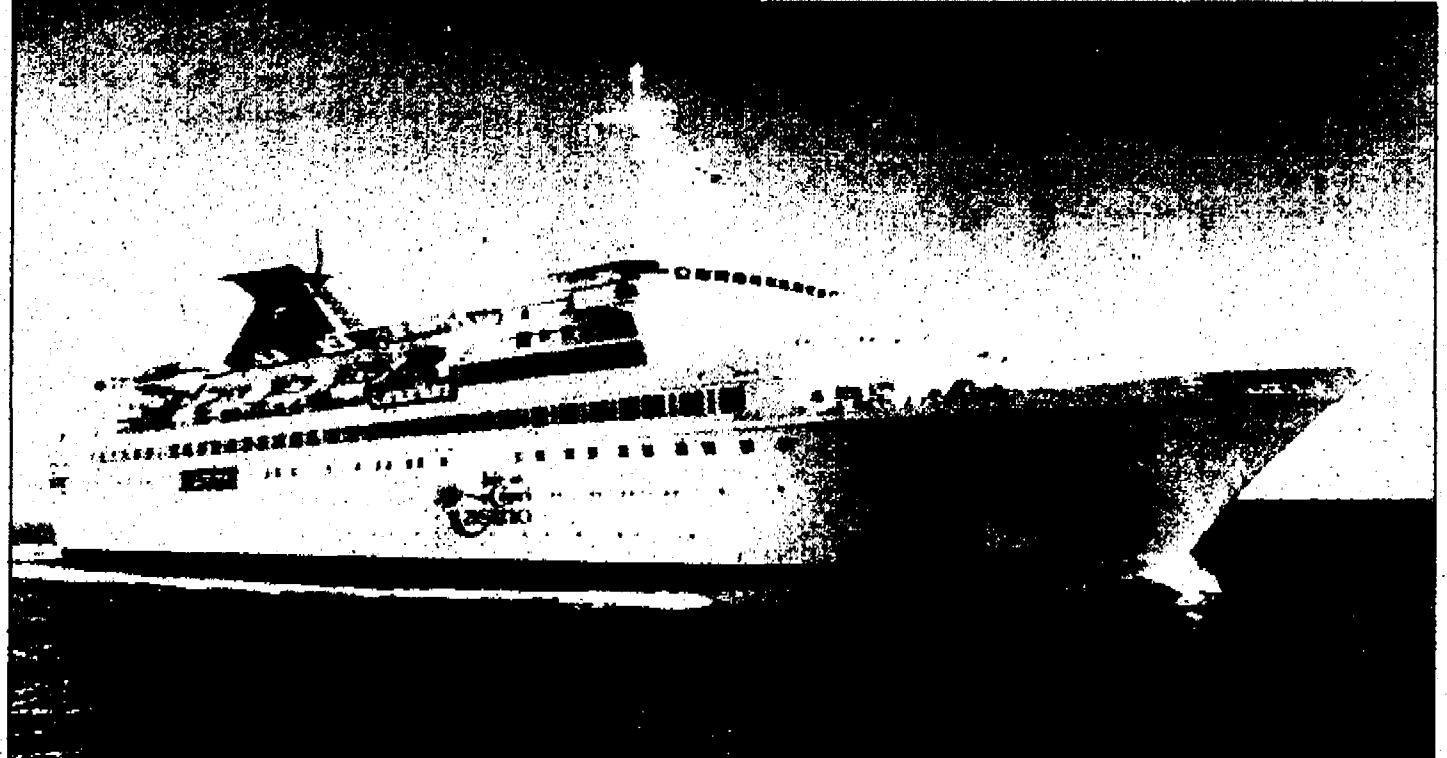
Extraordinary experience

Leave the ship by 9 a.m. when the cruise ship docks in New Orleans and you are ready to start on another extraordinary experience. New Orleans is geared to tourists. There's something for everybody. The French Quarter is an area of about 90 square blocks. It contains many historical buildings, such as The Cabildo (the Louisiana State Museum), the Presbytere, and the Old U.S. Mint. These buildings house exhibits like the History of Jazz and Mardi Gras. Walk the narrow streets and enjoy the variety of enchanting 1800s architecture, charming courtyards and elegant antique shops. Delight in the music that

abounds on the streets, luxuriate in cafe au lait and beignets at the Cafe du Monde or gamble at Harrah's. New Orleans is famous for its eateries and unique foods, jazz, riverboats. Mardi Gras, art galleries, elegant antique shops with fine silver jewelry and trendy boutiques. For a taste of New Orleans try Arnaud's, Tujaques, Court of Two Sisters, Gallatoire's, The Gumbo Shop, and Ralph &

Music: Preservation Hall in the French Quarter where traditional jazz is presented every night.

Historical: Buildings on Bourbon Street in the French Quarter have ornamental wrought iron railings.



Cruising: Enchanted Capri is one of Commodore Cruise Line's ships.

Kacoos.

There's a first class, easy-to-get-around aquarium with many huge floor-to-ceiling tanks and adjacent IMAX Theater. The Audubon Zoo is easy to cover without too much walking. The exhibits are unusual and the grounds are imaginative, particularly the Louisiana Swamp and white alligators.

A short free ferry ride takes you to Mardi Gras World where you get insights into how those fabulous parade floats are made, as well as seeing completed floats. You can also try on flamboyant headdresses and costumes, so bring your camera.

The New Orleans Art Museum in City Park deserves the attention of art lovers. It has one of the finest collections of French painting, American artists, decorative artists and a Faberge collection.

Unique, food, family fun, tours, nightlife, and inescapable history emanating from most every street and shop - New Orleans has it all. Visit, and join the ranks of people who rave about this most unusual port city.

Norma and Wendy Schonwetter are Farmington residents. Tell us about your trip. Send stories, with photographs, for consideration on our Travel page to [KevlyWygonik, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150](mailto:KevlyWygonik@observer.com) or e-mail stories to kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net.

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MAIN DISH MIRACLE



MURIEL WAGNER

Tofu soaks up flavors in stir-fry

Tofu (bean curd) was always something I'd rather not eat, until my friend on the next treadmill at the gym suggested marinating it in black bean sauce with dry sherry. Tofu is bland but chameleon-like, taking up the flavor of its surroundings.

It's perishable and should be kept refrigerated. I bought mine in a sealed package with an expiration date. After opening I discarded the water. (It will stay fresh for a week after opening with a daily change of water.) I found the black bean sauce on the supermarket shelf.

The stir-fry vegetables in this recipe are most delicious and best in the spring - asparagus and sugar snap peas. After tasting the recipe, I not only became an ex-tofu avoider, but a charter member of the tofu booster club as well.

TOFU-VEGETABLE STIR-FRY

- 1 tablespoon black bean sauce
- 1 tablespoon dry sherry
- 1/4 teaspoon sugar
- 1 pound firm tofu, cubed
- 2 teaspoons, canola oil
- 1/2 cup, sodium-reduced nonfat chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons, sodium-reduced soy sauce
- 2 teaspoons, minced ginger
- 1 teaspoon, minced garlic
- 1 red bell pepper, washed and cut into strips
- 1/2 pound, fresh asparagus, washed and broken into 2-inch pieces
- 1/2 pound, sugar snap peas, washed...
- 2 cups bok choy, washed and sliced
- 4 green onions, peeled and silvered
- 2 plum tomatoes, washed and quartered
- 2 cups cooked rice or Chinese noodles

Mix the black bean sauce, sherry and sugar. Add the cubed tofu. Toss. Set aside to marinate for 15 minutes.

Heat the oil in a heavy nonstick skillet or wok. Add the soy sauce, ginger and garlic. Stir to combine. Add all the vegetables except the tomatoes. Stir-fry until tender crisp, adding broth as needed. Add tomatoes. Stir-fry for one minute. Add tofu and marinade. Toss the ingredients to heat through. Serve with cooked rice or noodles. Serves 4.

Nutritional information per serving with 1/2 cup rice:

- Calories, 205
- Total fat, 2.5 grams
- Saturated fat, 1.8 grams
- Cholesterol, 0
- Sodium, 600 mg

Food exchanges:

- 1 medium fat meat
- 1 bread
- 2 vegetables

Look for Main Dish Miracle on the second Sunday of the month in Taste. Muriel G. Wagner is a registered dietitian and nutrition therapist with an office in Southfield. She publishes "Eating Younger," a quarterly newsletter with recipes and nutrition tips. To subscribe, send a check for \$13.50 to "Eating Younger," P.O. Box 69021, Pleasant Ridge, MI 48069.

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Taste next week:

- Spring holiday food traditions
- Focus on Wine

STADIUM FARE

TOUCHES ALL THE BASES

STORIES BY RENEE SKOGLUND • PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL



Four reporters who never met before gathered around a table in the Big Cat Court and rated the food. (It was a difficult task, but somebody had to do it.) Here are our comments and ratings (from one to four tiger heads, with four being best):

- **Chicago-style hot dog**
 - "Tasty, but cold"
 - "Nicely grilled, not boiled"
 - "Too much bread"
 - "Loved the dill pickle"
- **Marinated chicken breast sandwich**
 - "Needs something"
 - "Too bland - needs some kicky mustard"
 - "Nice size"
 - "Good taste, but where's the sauce? Could've been warmer"
- **Philly-style steak sandwich**
 - "Bland - no seasoning"
 - "Ditto"
 - "Needs something"
 - "It's just beefy, you know what I mean?"
- **Corn dog**
 - "Tasty"
 - "Better than the Philly"
 - "Good whatever kind of sauce"
 - "It's OK"
- **Hand-rolled pretzels**
 - "To die for"
 - "On, my God!"
 - "Mmmm, mmmm"
 - "I wish I could take a bunch home"
- **Elephant ears**
 - "Very good"
 - "Fluffy, light, delicate"
 - "Big!"
 - "Not too greasy"
- **Dippin' Dots**
 - "Unique"
 - "The pink, white and brown ones are the best"
 - "I like the banana split flavor"
 - "Kids will love it"
- **Stuffed baked potato**
 - "Ooh, this is good"
 - "Fun to eat"
 - "Not dry"
 - "Nice meal"
- **Catfish sandwich**
 - "Too much bread"
 - "Doesn't taste like anything"
 - "The only way it was Cajun is if the catfish could spell Louisiana"
 - "Needs spices"
- **Corn dog**
 - "Big"
 - "This is my first corn dog - not bad"
 - "Corn bread and a hot dog?"
 - "Nice taste, but could've been hotter"
- **Ball Park Frank**
 - "Good, as usual"
 - "Can't screw up a Ball Park Frank"
 - "Got to have a real ballpark hot dog"
 - "I love these things"

A little hotdog trivia:

Fans attending Los Angeles Dodgers games hold the record for hot dog consumption among the major league teams. An estimated 2.2 million are consumed each year. Overall, Americans will eat 26 million hot dogs in major league ballparks throughout the country, enough to stretch from Yankee Stadium in New York to Dodgers Stadium in Los Angeles.

Source: National Hot Dog & Sausage Council, www.hotdog.org

Take me out to the ball game. Take me out to the crowd. Buy me some peanuts and ... gyros, corn dogs, corned beef, barbecued pork, Cajun catfish, Caesar salads, and lots of luscious golden fries.

Whew! Did I miss anything? Of course, hot dogs! Comerica Park serves them Chicago-style with tomatoes, onions and a dill pickle; Coney-style with chili; and your basic, no-nonsense, got-to-have-one Ball Park Frank.

Press Day at Comerica Park earlier this week was a grand slam assignment for any reporter. Not only did we tour the new ballpark, we sampled all the food, from frozen yogurt pellets to sugar-dusted elephant ears big as a catcher's mitt.

"We added lots of new items, new to the baseball market in Detroit," said Steve Facione of Clarkston, group vice president for Olympia Entertainment Inc. "But we have the same hot dog, the same great ballpark hot dog."

Foodwise, attending a ball game at Comerica Park is like a day at the state fair. Walk into the Big Cat Court and your eyes sweep a semi-circle of eight eateries, including Lots O' Knots, which makes wonderfully tender and buttery hand-rolled pretzels for \$2.75. Add a side of hot cheese for 75 cents and you've reached pretzel perfection.

"That pretzel is to die for," said Connie Kline, executive assistant and office manager for WDWB-TV (Channel 20) in Southfield. "Simply to die for."

"Something different"

Measuring 100 feet in diameter, Big Cat Court is behind Section 119 on the first-base side of the main concourse. After you've polished off the pretzel, you might try a stuffed baked potato and some chicken fingers from Side Kicks. Or a Philly-style steak hoagie with mushrooms, cheese and sweet peppers from Subs & Hoagies. Or a bat-sized corn dog never to be served at a cardiology convention.

In other words, come hungry and bring money. Leave your will power at home.

"We wanted to do something different," said John Baaki of Farmington Hills, director of



All tied up: Blair Woods hand-rolls a pretzel at Lots O' Knots in the new Comerica Park. A Chicago-style hot dog is pictured below.

concessions for Olympia Entertainment, Inc. "We wanted to create two concepts in the court: the sandwich foods and the state fair type of food - the corn dogs, elephant ears and pretzels. It's a very family-oriented area with the carousel."

Yup, and it's a beauty. Said to be the pride of Tigers owner Mike Ilic, the carousel is the focal point of Big Cat Court. Riders can take a spin on one of 30 brightly painted, handcrafted tigers or ride in one of two wheelchairs accessible. Suggestion: Don't eat before you ride.

If you're in the mood for some grilled goodies, head to the Brushfire Grill, a 16,000-square-foot open-air garden area with wood picnic tables



and a fountain with a giant floating baseball. The barbecued sandwiches - roast beef, smoked turkey and pulled pork - are the size of first base. Well, maybe I exaggerate ... but they are baseball big.

A regular-size sandwich at the Brushfire Grill sells for \$7.50, while the deluxe version (why not, your diet already struck out!) goes for \$8.50 and comes with cole slaw and baked beans. And if you feel like "vegging out," try the grilled portobello mushroom sandwich with roasted red peppers and pesto mayonnaise at \$7.50.

Belly up to this bar

We all know rooting for the Tigers is hard work. So why not

Please see FARE, D2



FAMILY FEED

Going to Comerica Park with some family or friends? Bring your wallet and you can try the variety of foods the stadium offers. For a family of four, you can expect to pay about \$28 for four hot dogs, four bags of potato chips and four medium soft drinks.

A sampling of food and beverage prices:

- Hot dogs - \$2.75
- Kielbasa and smoked sausage - \$3.75
- Large popcorn - \$3.25
- Peanuts - \$3.50
- Pizza slice - \$2.50
- Corned beef, turkey or steak sandwich - \$6
- Chicken Caesar salad - \$6
- Chicken fingers - \$3.25
- Super pretzel - \$2.50
- Nacho grande - \$6
- Large french fry - \$3
- Ice cream sandwich - \$1.50
- Pop - \$2 - \$3.75
- Beer - \$4.50 - \$7.25
- Bottled water - \$2.75



TAKE ME OUT...

Supposedly Jack Norworth, who wrote the words to "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" in 1908, had never seen a major league baseball game and after his song was published, maybe he was too busy getting married five times. Albert Von Tilzer wrote the music. Tiger fans have long substituted "peanuts" for "popcorn" in the original lyrics and it has become the official Michigan version. In case you want to sing along on opening day, here's it:

Take me out to the ballgame,
take me out to the crowd.

Buy me some popcorn and Cracker Jack,
I don't care if we never get back.

So it's root, root, root for the home team,
If they don't win it's a shame.

For it's one, two, three strikes you're out
at the old ball game!

Apple-cranberry sauce sweetens baked German puffed pancake

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

German pancakes should be served directly from the oven or, like souffles, they will fall. But this Puffed Pancake With Apple-Cranberry Sauce is worth the risk. It is low in calories, fat and cholesterol and can be put high on the list for a healthy brunch.

The recipe is in the newly released "American Heart Association Around the World Cookbook" (Times Books, \$17). According to the authors, among the best cooking apples are Rome Beauty, Golden Delicious, Granny Smith, Jonathan and Winesap.

The apple-cranberry sauce can be made ahead and refrigerated. Reheat it in a small saucepan over low heat, stirring occasionally. Or place it in a microwave-safe cup or bowl, cover loosely with plastic wrap or waxed paper and put it in the microwave on 100 percent power (HIGH) for 1 to 2 minutes, stirring twice.

PUFFED PANCAKE WITH APPLE-CRANBERRY SAUCE

- Vegetable oil spray
- 2 teaspoons margarine
- Egg substitute equivalent to 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup skim milk
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 2 large cooking apples, peeled, cored, and thinly sliced
- 3/4 cup unsweetened apple juice
- 1/2 cup fresh or frozen cranberries

- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened apple juice or water
- Sifted powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 400 F. Spray a 10-inch ovenproof skillet with vegetable oil spray. Add margarine. Place skillet in oven for 3 minutes, or until margarine is melted.

In a medium mixing bowl, combine egg substitute, flour, milk and salt. Beat with an electric mixer or wire whisk until smooth. Immediately pour egg mixture into the hot skillet and bake, uncovered, for about 25 minutes, or until puffed and well browned.

Meanwhile, in a medium skillet, combine apples, 3/4 cup apple juice, berries, sugar and cinnamon. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat, cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, for about 10 minutes, or until fruit is tender. Place cornstarch in a small bowl. Stir in 2 tablespoons apple juice or water. Add to the apple-cranberry mixture. Cook for about 2 minutes, until thickened and bubbly, stirring often.

To serve, sprinkle pancake with powdered sugar, cut it into wedges and spoon warm sauce over each serving.

Nutrition information per serving: 166 cal, 5 g pro, 34 g carbo, 0 mg chol, 119 mg sodium, 2 g fat (1 g polyunsaturated, 1 g monounsaturated).

Contest promotes fruits and vegetables

Consumers can celebrate the season of healthy eating by entering the fresh fruit and vegetable recipe contest at Kroger.

One grand prize winner will receive \$750 in Kroger gift certificates and three runner-up contestants will each receive \$250 in Kroger gift certificates. The contest emphasizes the use of fresh vegetables and fruits in entree; dessert or side dish recipe.

Contest organizers want to encourage Michigan residents to get back into the kitchen and be creative and promote consumption of vegetables and fruit. The average adult Michigan resident consumes 3.7 servings of vegetables and fruits each day, which falls far below the recommended five to nine servings.

Recipes must feature fresh fruits and vegetables. Canned fruits, frozen, dried and juice fruit and vegetable products may

be present in the recipe as minor ingredients.

Recipes for appetizers, entrees, side dishes, soups and desserts are acceptable. Vegetables and fruits can be combined with other food groups such as grains/pasta, eggs or meat. All entree recipes must provide two servings (1 cup cooked) of vegetables or fruits. For example, a serving from a recipe may contain 1/2 cup of fresh sugar snap peas and 1/2 cup fresh raspberries or an entree recipe may provide 1 cup cooked broccoli per serving (1/2 cup cooked) vegetable or fruit.

Recipes must contain no more than 30 percent of the total calories from fat, as determined by recipe analysis. Recipes will be judged based on creativity, presentation, nutritional value, taste and overall appeal. All recipes become the property of the Kroger Company of Michigan.

Finalists will be required to bring one prepared dish of their submitted recipe to the Orion Township Kroger, 3097 Baldwin Road at 10 a.m. Sunday, May 21, for judging. A panel of judges will sample the prepared recipes and select one grand prize winner.

Send your favorite, original fresh fruit or vegetable recipe to: Kroger Nutrition Center, Make Mine Fresh Recipe Contest, The Kroger Company of Michigan, P.O. Box 4444, Livonia, MI, 48151-3084. Recipes must be postmarked by Saturday, April 15.

Anyone with questions can call Kroger's registered dietitians Diane Reynolds and Tina Miller at 1-800-KROGERS (select 3 twice on the automated phone menu) or e-mail them at mnutritionist@kroger.com

Fare from page D1

quench your thirst and fill your belly at the same time? The Downtown Detroit Beer Hall, located across from the Brushfire Grill, sports an impressive 70-foot bar and offers a variety of beers and mixed drinks. It also has a buffet featuring Italian sausage, corn-on-the-cob, honey-mustard chicken, fish and chips and more.

If you're worried about missing the game while you're doing a little elbow bending at the Beer Hall, forget it. A built-in radio broadcast booth will keep you on top of the action.

Speaking of action, hold the brew and bratwurst until after your ride on the 50-foot-high Fly Ball Ferris Wheel, which is near the third-base side of the main concourse (near both the Brushfire Grill and the Beer Hall). The 12 wheelchair-accessible cars shaped are shaped like - what else? - baseballs.

The new food concepts and restaurants at Comerica Park are great, but what about a bag of peanuts, a plain hot dog or an ice cream bar? They're still available. "Even though we have added a lot of exciting new con-

cessions, we've kept the old favorites around," assured Facione.

The main concourse boasts 11 Big League Grill stands that offer hot dogs, peanuts, smoked kielbasa, bottled water, beer, and ice-cream bars. The upper concourse has six Big League Grills and the lower concourse has five. Like they say, don't mess with tradition. At least not too much.

See hot dog recipes inside Taste.

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Rice and beans: Try this flavorful, fiber-rich dish of red beans and rice salad for a quick, nutritious lunch.

Red beans, rice pack a lunch salad with fiber, flavor and very little fat

Fiber's reputation in terms of cancer prevention has had its ups and downs in recent years. Initially, fabulous claims were made.

Later, ongoing research began to cast doubt on fiber as a magic bullet against cancer. Regardless, health studies continue to suggest that fiber contributes to overall good health and probably plays a role in the prevention of a variety of diseases, including cancer.

Fiber is the indigestible part of plant foods and exists in two forms: water-soluble and water-insoluble. Soluble fiber is found in foods such as fruit, barley, oatmeal, oat bran and legumes. Insoluble fiber is highest in whole grain breads and cereals, vegetables and seeds.

A number of population studies link high-fiber diets to reduced incidence of colon cancer, although fiber's exact role in prevention remains unclear. Claims that fiber protects against breast cancer are more controversial, but continue to be studied. Scientists still aren't sure which type of fiber may cut cancer risk, since high-fiber foods usually contain both forms. Plant foods also contain other protective substances, such as antioxidants and phytochemicals, so it's difficult to determine which factors are most beneficial.

Health experts suggest that consumption of 25 to 35 grams of fiber each day is a healthy goal. We can get this fiber from fruits, vegetables, whole grains and beans. Most Americans consume only about 15 grams of fiber, so we have lots of room for improvement. Remember to increase your fiber intake slowly, and always drink lots of fluids.

You can begin to add more fiber to your daily diet by eating whole-grain cereal for breakfast. Look for brands that contain at least five grams of fiber per serving. Then look for ways to include more fiber-rich foods in your snacks and other meals.

Raw, cut up vegetables are generally high in fiber and are a perfect side-item for lunch. Instead

of satisfying your late-afternoon munchies with potato chips or pretzels, reach for a piece of fresh or dried fruit, or a whole-grain treat like a currant bran muffin.

When possible, avoid peeling fruits such as apples and pears or vegetables, because much of the fiber is found in the skin. Boost the fiber in soups, stews and salads by adding beans.

Try this flavorful, fiber-rich dish for a quick, nutritious lunch:

RED BEAN AND RICE SALAD

- 2 cups cooked brown rice, such as basmati or Texmati
- 15-ounce can red kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 3/4 cup finely chopped green bell pepper
- 1/2 cup fresh mango, cut in 1/2-inch cubes
- 1/2 cup finely chopped red onion
- 1/2 cup salsa
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons, chopped cilantro

In a large bowl, use a fork to combine the rice, beans, pepper, mango and onion. Drain the salsa well and mix it into the salad.

Season to taste with salt and freshly ground pepper.

Just before serving, sprinkle with the cilantro. This salad keeps 2 to 3 days, but the rice gets hard when refrigerated.

Each of the 4 servings contains 230 calories and 1 gram of fat.

Recipe courtesy of the American Institute for Cancer Research. AICR offers the AICR Nutrition Hotline (1-800-843-8114, Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, this free service allows you to ask a registered dietitian your questions regarding diet, nutrition and cancer. AICR's Internet Web address is www.aicr.org.

Like a utility infielder, hot dogs are versatile

Try these recipes on your Opening Day

All recipes compliments of the National Hot Dog & Sausage Council. See related story on Taste front.

CHEESY HOT DOG POCKETS

- 1/2 pound hot dogs, cubed
- 1/2 pound sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- 2-ounce jar stuffed green olives, chopped
- 1/2 cup frozen diced onions
- 1/2 cup chili sauce
- 1 teaspoon mustard
- 2 hard boiled eggs, chopped
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 4 pita rounds
- Heavy duty aluminum foil

Cut hot dogs into fourths lengthwise, then slice into 1/4-inch cubes. Combine with olives, eggs, mustard, mayonnaise, chili sauce and cheese, mixing well. Cut pita rounds in half. Open pocket and fill with approximately 1/3 cup filling - be generous. Wrap individually in foil and refrigerate.

When grill is hot, place foil-wrapped sandwiches on grill and heat for 10 minutes. Uncover and continue heating until pita bread is crisp and filling is hot - 10-15 minutes more, depending on desired crispness.

POLYNESIAN KABOBS ON RICE

- 2 Polish sausages (or any other pre-cooked sausage)
- 4 green peppers
- 2 cups pineapple, cubed
- 1 cup sweet and sour sauce
- 4 servings rice

Cut sausages into eighths. On a skewer alternate chunks of pineapple and green peppers with the sausage. Place on grill four to six inches from coals from flame until heated thoroughly. Baste with the sweet and sour sauce. Serve over rice. Serves 4.

SAUSAGE STIR FRY

- 1/2 pound Polish sausage or your favorite type
- 2 cups broccoli, chopped
- 2 cups carrots (sliced)
- 3 cups cooked rice

Slice sausage, carrots and broccoli. Cook rice according to package, making enough for three cups. Spray pan with cooking spray, add sausage and saute. Add vegetables, stir and cover to let simmer for five to seven minutes until vegetables are tender. Serve over a generous portion of cooked rice and enjoy.

FRANKLY THE BEST BAKED BEANS

- 1 1/2 tablespoons, yellow mustard
- 1/3 cup ketchup (For spicier beans, use barbecue sauce.)
- 1/4 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon, onion powder
- 2 (16 ounce) cans of baked beans (dark brown, small beans work best)
- 1 package hot dogs

Mix all ingredients together in an oven-proof, 2 quart casserole dish. Bake at 350° F for 20-25 minutes. Serves 8-10.

SAUSAGE AND BLACK BEAN TAMALE PIE WITH CHEDDAR CRUST

- 1 pound pork sausage links, casings removed
- 2/3 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper
- 1 15-ounce can black beans, drained
- 1 1/2 cups medium hot picante sauce
- 1 8 1/2 ounce package corn muffin mix
- 2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese, divided
- 1/4 cup half and half
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 pint sour cream
- 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/4 cup sliced black olives

Heat oven to 375° F. Grease 10-inch glass pie plate. In a large, 12-inch skillet, crumble the pork sausage and brown. Drain excess fat. Add onions and green pepper and continue cooking until vegetables are crisp-tender. Stir in drained black beans and the picante sauce. Set aside. In a medium bowl, combine corn muffin mix, one cup of the cheddar cheese, the half and half and the egg. Stir just until moistened. Press mixture on bottom and up sides of the greased pie plate. Spoon sausage mixture into crust. Bake 25 minutes or until mixture is set.

Remove from oven; sprinkle with remaining cup of cheddar cheese. Bake five minutes or until cheese is melted. Allow to stand five minutes. Cut into six wedges and serve with a dollop of sour cream and a sprinkle of fresh cilantro and black olives. Makes six servings.

Council hint: Recipe also would work well with cajun style bratwurst and chorizo.

This recipe from Eleanor Fraulich of Rochester won third place in the 1996 National Sausage Month Award-Winning Recipes.

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Couscous doubles as Tunisian dessert with dates

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cookbook author Martha Rose Shulman says when she was in Tunisia, "some of the most delightful dishes we were served were desserts made with couscous."

Most American cooks are just waking up to the versatility of the North African starch, tiny granules of pasta made from semolina wheat. In U.S. homes, the quick-cooking couscous is most often served as a side dish, sometimes fluffed with chopped vegetables but more often fluffed up with a little butter stirred in.

Shulman includes Dessert Couscous With Oranges and Dates (recipe follows) in "The Light Basics Cookbook" (William Morrow & Co.), because it fits her idea of good food: "food that is delicious and that makes you feel good, food that is vibrant and light but by no means aesthetic."

A similar recipe, Sweet Orange Couscous With Dried Fruit (recipe follows), appears in the April

issue of Cooking Light magazine.

DESSERT COUSCOUS WITH ORANGES AND DATES

- 2 1/4 cups water
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons orange flower water, if available
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 1/2 cups instant couscous
- 1/4 cup dried currants or golden raisins
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Generous pinch of salt
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped orange zest (from 2 oranges)
- 3 seedless navel oranges
- 10 dates, quartered lengthwise and seeds removed

In a 2-quart saucepan, combine water and sugar and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium and boil

slowly until the mixture thickens slightly, about 10 minutes. Stir in the orange flower water and remove from the heat. Stir in the butter and allow it to melt.

Place couscous in a bowl. Stir in currants or raisins, cinnamon, salt and orange zest. Pour the syrup over the mixture. Let sit for 20 minutes, stirring from time to time with a wooden spoon to break up any lumps. Line a steamer, the top part of a couscoussiere, a strainer or a colander with a clean kitchen towel and place the couscous in the towel. Cover and steam for 15 minutes above boiling water, making sure that the water is well below the couscous. Turn into a bowl.

Peel oranges, holding the orange above the couscous so that any juice that escapes will go into the couscous. Remove the skin and pith at the same time by holding the knife against the orange at a slight angle and turning the orange against the knife so that the skin comes off in a spiral. Squeeze the skin

over the couscous to obtain any juice from the pulp you may have cut off with the skin. Cut 2 of the oranges in half crosswise, then into small sections. Section the third orange for decorating the top of the couscous. Toss the steamed couscous with the chopped oranges. Transfer to the serving dish and shape the couscous into a cone-shaped mound. Decorate the top with the remaining orange slices and the dates.

Serve warm or at room temperature.
Makes 8 to 8 servings.

Note: Orange flower water is widely used in North African and Middle Eastern cooking. It has a perfumed, subtle flavor. You can find it at Middle Eastern groceries. If not, the dessert will still be good.

Nutritional information per serving: 314 calories; 2.5 g fat (1.3 g saturated), 67.5 carbo, 7.2 g protein.

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in Cooking Class Calendar to Ken Abramczyk, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150, or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net

Vegetarian Cooking - Lenore Yalisove Baum, author of "Lenore's Natural Cuisine, Your Essential Guide to Wholesome Vegetarian Cooking," conducts vegetarian cooking classes at Lenore's Natural Cuisine, 22899 Inkster, Farmington Hills. Baum has scheduled a session on tofu for 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 12, and pressure cooking, 6-9 p.m. Monday, April 17. Baum also teaches a beginning cooking series each week from 6-9 p.m. on Wednesdays in May. Call (248) 478-4455.

Wines of Livermore - The Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn will host a wine-maker dinner featuring the wines of Livermore Valley in central California on Wednesday, April 12. A reception begins at 6:30 p.m. featuring hors d'oeuvres and wines. A three-course dinner begins at 7 p.m. The cost is \$89 per person inclusive of tax

and gratuity. Call (313) 441-2120.

Live Longer - The Tree House, 22906 Mooney, in Farmington, has Wednesday classes at 7-9 p.m. about how to live longer and get well through nutrition and

Schoolcraft College: Outdoor Grilling and Entertaining, 5-10 p.m. Mondays, April 17 and 24; and Buffet and Hors D'oeuvres - Hands On!, 5:30-9:30 p.m., April 20 and 21. For information about Schoolcraft's courses, call (734) 462-4448.

Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn Heights Center: High Tea the British Way, 7-9 p.m. Monday, April 10, and 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 15; New Orleans Brunch, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Friday, April 14, and Cool Stuff for Sizzling Days, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, May 20. For more information about these HFCC continuing learning courses, call (877) 855-5252 or visit HFCC at www.hfcc.net

Kitchen Glamor features Signature Recipes of Michigan Five-Star Chefs at Kitchen Glamor, Orchard Mall, northeast corner of Maple and Orchard Lake

roads in West Bloomfield. All celebrity chef sessions on Sundays begin at 12:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, April 12, chef Giuliano Hazan will demonstrate Italian recipes of porcini mushroom soup with chick peas, fennel gratineed with parmesan cheese, veal braised with peppers and tomatoes, and chocolate amaretto custard. On Thursday, April 13, Hazan will prepare risotto with shrimp and asparagus, chicken breast filets with red, green and yellow peppers, zucchini sautéed with mint and Sicilian orange tart. Hazan's sessions begin at 6:30 p.m.

On Monday, May 1, Tim McGrath will demonstrate baked fillet of Lake Superior whitefish on a bed of julienned leeks, carrots and celery en papillote with chardon-nay-tarragon sauce, spicy sautéed catfish filets with onion gravy and cheese grits, grilled lake trout with caramelized red onion sauce and black barley risotto, and profiteroles with praline mousse and caramel chocolate sauce. On Tuesday, May 2, McGrath will prepare grilled vegetables with balsamic-herbes de

Provence garlic basting; oven-roasted tomato fennel soup with pesto cream; grilled bourbon-molasses marinated rib eye steaks with smoked corn and andouille sauce; grilled jumbo shrimps with citrus ginger sauce and vegetable griddle cakes and strawberry-amaretto tiramisu. Sessions start at 6:30 p.m. Call (800) 641-1252.

Appetizers - Mary Spencer will instruct a session on how to prepare a wild mushroom enchilada, curried pates and Thai spring rolls. Sessions at Kitchen Glamor stores are 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 2, at the Novi Town Center; and Wednesday, May 3, at the Redford store, 26770 Grand River. Call (800) 641-1252.

Rich Brioche Desserts - Dolly Matolan will teach the techniques of creating light French brioche, including pecan sticky buns, a brioche chocolate bread pudding and an almond-brown sugar coffee cake. Sessions at Kitchen Glamor stores are 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, at the Novi Town Center; Wednesday, May 10, at the Redford store, 26770 Grand River. Call (800) 641-1252.

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Consumers can call state for food inspection reports

People who want read food safety inspection reports or want to report food safety concerns can use a new toll-free number. Michigan's 22,000 retail food establishments and food processing facilities were sent blue-and-white decals bearing the toll-free number, (800) 292-3939, with their February license renewal applications.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture set up the telephone number so consumers have better access to food safety information, said Keith Creagh, MDA's deputy director. "This new toll-free number and decal should help alert consumers to the fact that this information is readily available and accessible to Michigan shoppers."

Food inspection reports have been available to the public for some time, but the toll-free number is new. People calling will be routed through an automated branching system to MDA's Food and Dairy Division, which is responsible for inspecting all licensed retail food establishments statewide from supermarkets to convenience stores to food processing operations.

Calls received after hours and on weekends go to an answering machine and are recorded the next business day. Single inspection reports are mailed to individuals, free of charge, within five working days, or faxed upon request.

All complaints received on the toll-free line are forwarded to the regional office with jurisdiction over the particular retail food establishment.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture is the official state agency charged with serving, promoting and protecting the food, agriculture and agricultural economic interests.

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Enjoy working out but find walking the treadmill a real grind? Well, say good-bye to those boring workouts.

Livonia-Body Rocks Fitness & Racquet announces the addition of Cardio Theater to their fitness facility at 36600 Plymouth Road. Members can use a variety of cardiovascular equipment, such as treadmills, stationary bikes and stair-climbers, while being entertained by six big screen televisions and music sources.

Using headphones, members plug into a remote control attached to each cardio piece, push a button and tune into the entertainment selection of their choice. Options include television, radio, audiotape or CD selections.

For more information, contact Karen Mattson at (734) 591-1212.

Parkinson's expert

"Aspects of Parkinson's Disease" will be addressed by Dr. Lawrence Elmer, a movement disorder specialist from the Medical College of Ohio, at a lecture at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 15, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road.

Dr. Elmer, director of the Movement Disorders Center in Toledo, will speak about the five stages of Parkinson's disease and its non-motor complications, including dementia and depression.

The event is sponsored by the Westside Parkinson Support Groups. There is no charge, but reservations are necessary. Call (734) 421-4208 or (734) 261-1781.

Successful prostate screening

The 5th annual Prostate Screening Day at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia on March 4 drew over 600 men for the free exam and blood test to detect prostate cancer. This event, one of the highest attended health screenings in the area, was sponsored by the Radiation Oncology and Community Outreach departments.

Of the over 600 participants, about 12 percent were referred for further follow-up testing with a physician. "This screening is an excellent, convenient way for men to maintain their prostate health," said Marianne Simanek, R.N., director of Community Outreach.

Over 50 physicians and staff at St. Mary Hospital volunteer their time and services to the screening day. "This is one of the most efficient and well-attended community prostate screenings in the area," said John Harb, M.D., urologist at St. Mary. Harb oversees St. Mary Hospital's prostate brachytherapy program, an outpatient surgical procedure for prostate cancer.

For more information on prostate health, contact St. Mary Hospital Community Outreach, 734 655-8940, www.stmary-hospital.org or www.PROSEDSERVICE.com. For a physician on staff at St. Mary, call 1-888-464-WELL.

We want your health news

There are several ways you can reach the Observer Health & Fitness staff. The Sunday section provides numerous venues for you to offer newsworthy information including Medical Databook (upcoming calendar events), Medical Newsmakers (appointments/new hires in the medical field), and Medical Briefs (medical advances, short news items from hospitals, physicians, companies).

We also welcome newsworthy ideas for health and fitness related stories. To submit an item to our newspaper you can call, write, fax or e-mail us.

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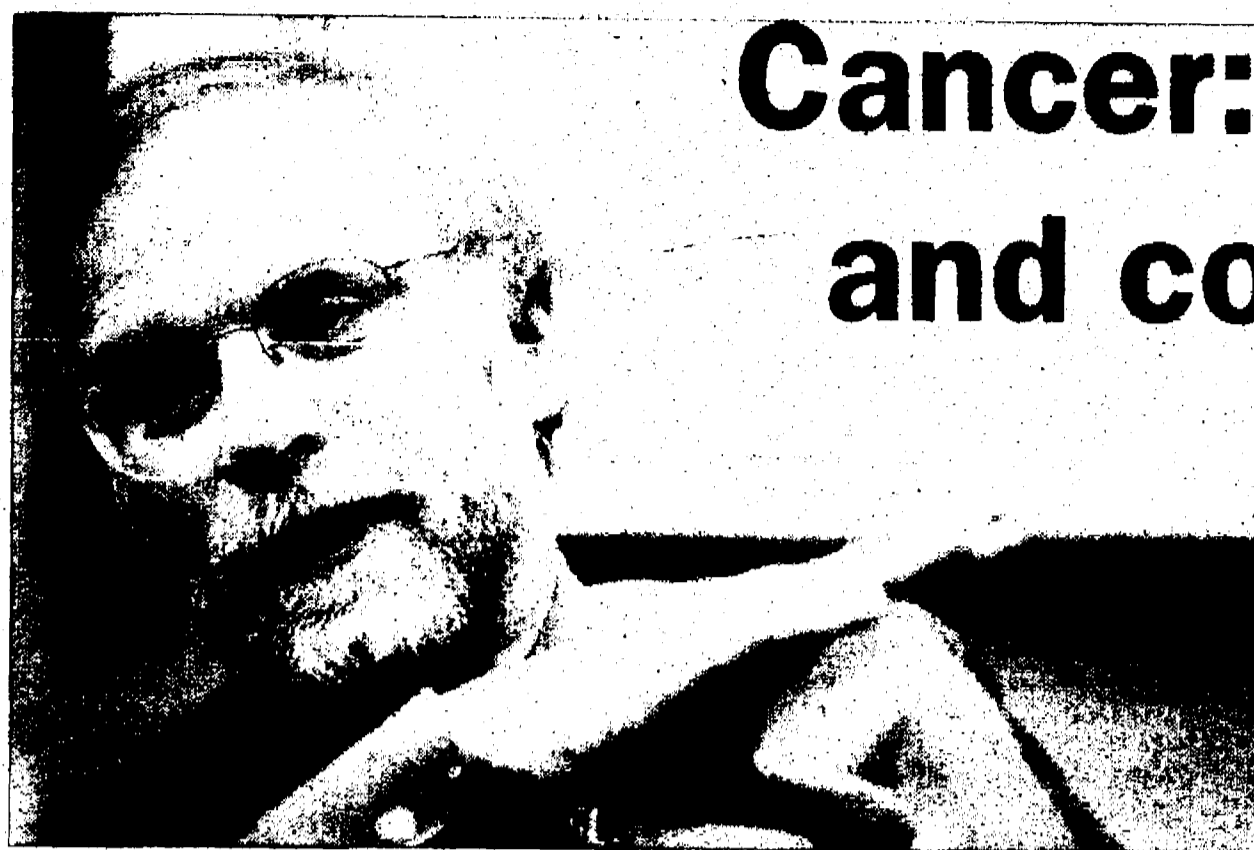
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STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMAN

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER
rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net

A small, smartly dressed woman in her sixties walks briskly across the lobby of the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center in Ann Arbor then pauses in front of the revolving doors.

"Well, I'm done for another four weeks," she says before exiting. "And you know, I feel great. I don't even feel sick."

In a way, this woman, who was wearing a wig and most likely undergoing chemotherapy personifies the center's mission to treat the body, mind and soul of every cancer patient seeking treatment. At the center, healing comes through many avenues.

"The real hope is already happening in the clinic," said Dr. Max Wicha, director of the center and a distinguished professor in oncology.

But hope, truly viable hope, must translate into living life to the fullest, refocusing goals, and making cancer just a part of your life, not all of it. Four of Dr. Wicha's breast cancer patients share their stories:

Alice Campbell, 62

Campbell was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 1983. There was no history of the disease in her family. Following a mastectomy of her left breast, she underwent one year of chemotherapy. Everything was fine until 1997.

"I was diagnosed with the same breast cancer, which had gone to the bone. I was unaware of it until I went to reach for a lamp and I felt this pain. I had broken my collar bone."

Campbell went on tamoxifen for a year and a half until she developed a blood clot in her leg. She now takes arimidex, which also suppresses estrogen, and receives pamidronate, a bone strengthener, intravenously. "The combination of arimidex and pamidronate has allowed me to be really active," she says.

Campbell continues to work as an administrative manager at the Family Independence Agency office in Jackson, Mich., where she's worked for 32 years. She also gardens, volunteers and tutors in math a young woman who experienced a head injury.

She did not have breast reconstruction. "I didn't want to spend any more time with hospitals. I just wanted to go on living." Neither did she join a support group. "I have to be living and active."

Campbell's support comes from the cancer center's staff, her 86-year-old mother ("my cheerleader") and her six brothers and sisters. Campbell provides hope for women with metastasized breast cancer. "I think one of the reasons I coped so well is that I had an outside focus, goals to achieve."

Karen Hamer, 50

Breast cancer is in Hamer's family. Her grandmother, mother and sister had it. However, they all had different breast cancers and don't share the common breast cancer gene. The environment may have played a role, says Hamer. Her family lived in Long Island, N.Y., where they sprayed heavily with DDT during the summer.

Hamer, who now lives in Holland, Ohio, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1985. She detected it herself just weeks after her mammogram came back negative. "I felt it in the shower. When I laid down on the bed I definitely felt it," she says.

She did not return to her gynecologist, whom she felt patronized her.

Cancer: Care, cure and compassion

Breast cancer survivors share stories of hope

Healer: Dr. Max Wicha, director of the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center, believes within 10 years breast cancer treatments will be customized for particular cancers.

'First you are so scared, and you don't believe it. I think you are in denial a long, long time. I think I still am.'

—Jane Zhang

Instead, she went to her family doctor. "He said I had the cancer for five years."

In the mid-80s, breast cancer patients often woke up with a mastectomy if their biopsies came back positive. Hamer sought other options. A friend told her about U-M Hospital. Within weeks, Hamer had a lumpectomy and began radiation treatments and seven months of chemotherapy. After a recurrence in 1993, she had a bi-lateral mastectomy (both breasts) with reconstruction.

"By coming here I gained eight years, and by then the reconstruction process was more sophisticated."

Hamer's cancer experience has receded into the shadows. "I don't always think about it because it has been so long. But every time I drive up ... when my 50th birthday came ... a lot of people are so depressed - but I was so thankful to be alive. Nothing to be depressed about."

Margaret Smith, 70

Smith was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1988, the year she retired as an elementary school teacher. The cancer was discovered during a routine exam. Smith had never had a mammogram.

"The doctor called and said you have an abnormality and you should see a surgeon."

Smith, who lives in Battle Creek, Mich., immediately took her X-rays to a local surgeon. "He said, 'Mrs. Smith, there's nothing wrong with you.' He had the wrong X-rays."

A good friend suggested Smith come to U-M Hospital. "I called on a Thursday, and they saw me the following Monday and scheduled a biopsy."

Smith had a lumpectomy.

my and radiation. She took tamoxifen for a number of years until a spot showed up on her rib. She was put on megace, and after other spots formed, she received gemcitabine. She has undergone several different chemotherapy and radiation therapies. "I have a lot of cancer in the spine," she says.

Although she uses a wheelchair, Smith's appearance defies her medical history. Her complexion is clear and bright, and she is eager to talk. She praises her radiation doctor, Dr. Allen Lichter, whom she refers to as "amazing." When her radiation implants were due to come out late at night, "he was right there," she says.

And she has more praise for the cancer center. "I can't say enough about Dr. Wicha's nurses."

Jane Zhang, 42

Zhang, of Ann Arbor, an aerospace engineer with Ford Motor Co., was on assignment in Japan when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in September 1998. "I found it myself because of an abnormal feeling in the night. The breast felt more swollen."

She had a needle aspiration and a mammogram, but the doctor would not confirm his findings. "I kept asking him. He said it's possible. In Japan, they think it's better for the patient not to know."

Zhang, originally from China, returned to the United States and contacted the Breast Cancer Clinic at U-M Hospital. The clinic scheduled more tests. "I pushed them for surgery," she said. Zhang had her breast removed followed by six months of chemotherapy.

Her cancer experience is still new. "First you are so scared, and you don't believe it. I think you are in denial a long, long time. I think I still am."

Cancer has dramatically affected Zhang's approach to life. "Since then, I have forced myself to slow down and prioritize. I have to do that." She now works part-time at Ford and no longer has a nanny to watch over her children, ages 5 and 10.

"The other time I reserve for myself, I should have done this many years ago. I appreciate I was diagnosed with this cancer, but I survived. That woke me up. Work is not all of your life."



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMAN

Concern: Dr. Max Wicha listens to patient Alice Campbell of Jackson, who is in remission following a second bout with breast cancer.

An exciting time of discovery

BY RENÉE SKOGLUND
STAFF WRITER
rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net

In terms of breast cancer research, it is a very exciting time at the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center, said Dr. Max Wicha, director. "Now we understand for the first time what cancer is. It is a disease of the genes, we are certain."

In other words, researchers have met the enemy and it is theirs - almost. The goal of U-M researchers is to develop a technology that will enable them to analyze all 100,000 genes in each cell. "Our vision is to have a day when we can customize treatments and design treatments that target particular defects in a patient's cancer," said Wicha.

Muhammad Al-Hajj is a post-doctoral research fellow involved in breast cancer research. He meets weekly with Wicha and other research team members. Currently, the team is involved in a grant competition for the state's tobacco settlement dollars. The question is, should they apply?

"When it works out, it's awesome," said Al-Hajj about the team's antibody research.

Scientists already have developed

an antibody for the HER-2 protein associated with more aggressive breast cancers. The antibody helps shrink cancer cells, which makes chemotherapy work better. But while there are many successes, said Wicha, "it's still not enough."

Top ten

The U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center, established in 1986, is one of just 37 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive centers in the nation. It was ranked among the top 10 best cancer centers in U.S. News & World Report's recent annual survey. Last year, the center served 88,000 outpatients.

The five top cancer centers are treated at U-M are melanoma, breast, prostate, and bladder. Wicha, Al-Hajj and lung. Patients treated by multidisciplinary teams that provide all the services of a major medical oncology center, including diagnosis, and support staff. "We're fortunate. They don't get the opportunity to work with many of the best research workers in the world."

A vibrant, interdisciplinary approach is the key to the center's success, said Wicha.

The multidisciplinary approach is the following: blood and marrow

transplantation, bone metastasis, breast care, gastrointestinal cancer, head and neck cancer, lung cancer, lymphoma, leukemia, melanoma, sarcoma and urologic cancers.

In addition, the center offers a number of specialized clinics, including breast, brain, endocrine, lung, cancer genetics, oncology surgery and oncology, experimental cancer, pathology, medical oncology, neurology, cancer, orthopedic oncology, pediatric hematology oncology, radiation oncology, surgery oncology, and thoracic cancer.

It is a benefit of being the center's 260 physicians and scientists have striven to make use of interdisciplinary thinking from the center's interdisciplinary research. "I've been here for 10 years," Wicha said. "With its world-renowned faculty, state-of-the-art and central location, the center is like a magnet for researchers."

After the death of Jackson, Mich., has been a part of the center since before it opened. She chose U-M because of its top in the field of interdisciplinary thinking, and procedures and it has access to any new discovery.

However, when you're dealing with cancer, the odds are never in your favor. The treatment, the staff



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMAN

Exciting times: Dr. Wicha and Muhammad Al-Hajj, a post-doctoral research fellow, discuss the latest advance in an ongoing research project on breast cancer cells.

was very supportive, and we were not alone. It was a problem, but we were not alone. It was a problem, but we were not alone. It was a problem, but we were not alone.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

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

ONGOING

OVEREATERS

Overeater Anonymous will meet every Sunday 7-8:30 p.m. April-June in the St. Mary Hospital Pavilion, Conference Room A, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. Another group meets every Thursday evening 7:30-9 p.m. in Unity Church, 28660 Five Mile. Call Kathleen at (734) 427-8612.

AA & ALANON

Alcoholics Anonymous & Alanon meet Wednesdays and Sundays from 8:30-9:30 p.m. at Garden City Hospital North Entrance (5254 Inkster Road) at Garden City. Contact (248) 541-6565 or (734) 776-3415. Everyone's welcome. Alanon meeting Sunday only.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Marquette House, a residential assisted living facility in Westland, will hold blood pressure screenings every fourth Tuesday. Screenings are open to the public from 11 a.m. to noon at the Marquette House, 36000 Campus Drive (across from John Glenn High School). Call (734) 326-6537.

WEIGHT LOSS CLUB

The Merry Bowl Trimmers Club, a weight loss support group, meets at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Livonia Senior Civic Center, 16218 Farmington Road. The program is open to both men and women. The cost is \$4 a month. Call (734) 425-5675.

THROUGH MAY 2

FOOD FOR HOLISTIC HEALTH

The Tree House in Farmington, 22906 Mooney Street, offers a seven-week class 7-9 p.m. every Wednesday. Learn the five rites of Tibetan exercise and why Jack LaLane is still strong at age 85.

Cost: \$95 (paid at first class). Call (248) 473-0624 to register.

TUE, APRIL 11 & 18

SHIATSU

Learn the traditional Japanese method of balancing body energy. Done on the floor over the clothing, this energizing treatment promotes health and well-being. Bring a mat and dress comfortably. Class runs Tuesday, April 11 and 18, from 6-9 p.m. Cost is \$75. The Healing Arts Clinic is located at 340 N. Main Street No. 205 in Plymouth. Call (734) 207-0557 to register.

TUE, APRIL 11

HORMONE REPLACEMENT

The Henry Ford Medical Center-Fairlane will sponsor a lecture on "Hormone Replacement Therapy and Natural Hormones" 7 p.m. at the medical center, 19401 Hubbard Drive at Evergreen, Dearborn. Call (313) 982-8384.

WED, APRIL 12

STROKE SCREENING

Life Line Screening will conduct stroke and vascular disease tests - carotid artery, abdominal aortic aneurysm and ankle brachial index - at the Marquette House, 36000 Campus Drive, Westland. Bone density testing also available. Must register at least 24 hours in advance. Call 1-800-407-4557 to schedule an appointment.

FRI, APRIL 14

STRESS MANAGEMENT

Madonna University in Livonia will host a stress management lecture featuring John M. Cotter, Ph.D., a staff psychologist in Botsford Hospital's Department of Neurology and certified hypnotherapist. He works with issues of anxiety, memory and concentration, study habits and relaxation therapy. Admission is \$5. Contact Madonna University's Psychology Department at (734) 432-5734.

SAT, APRIL 15

FOOD FOR HOLISTIC HEALTH

The Tree House in Farmington, 22906 Mooney Street, presents a "Health Starts with Food" class 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Learn about foods your body needs to avoid and eat a gourmet meal free of allergy-causing foods. Presenter Monica Levin is a registered holistic nutritionist. Cost is \$20. Call (248) 473-0624 for reservations.

TUES, APRIL 18

BONE DENSITY

Alterra-Clare Bridge of Livonia, 32500 Seven Mile, will feature a discussion on "Osteoporosis and Bone Density," 6-7:30 p.m. in the community center. Bone density screen available. Call Nanette Cooper or Denise Manion for reservations at (248) 428-7055.

LYME DISEASE

The Lyme Disease Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 3 Towne Square, Wayne. Call Connie, (734) 362-3502 for more information.

THUR, APRIL 20

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Providence Mission Health Medical Center-Livonia will host an immunization event from 4-7 p.m. at 37595 Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Cost is \$5 per child and includes all vaccines your child needs except chicken pox. Don't forget to bring immunization records. Call (877) 345-5500 for information.

MANIC DEPRESSIVE

The Manic Depressive and Depressive Association of Metro Detroit will hold a "dual diagnosis" meeting 7-9:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month. Call Gary at (313) 532-4217 or Mary Ann at (734) 284-5563.

SCLERODERMA MEETING

The Livonia Scleroderma Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. in the first-floor classroom at St. Mary Hospital, 36575 West Five Mile Road. Call Barbara Case, (734) 464-3644. For information

on the Scleroderma Foundation-Michigan Chapter, call (248) 349-2899.

WED, APRIL 26

ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION

Free community outreach program on "erectile dysfunction" (impotence) presented by Dr. John Frederick Harb 7 p.m., St. Mary Hospital, Marion Professional Bldg., 14555 Levan Road, Livonia. Call (734) 462-5858.

TUE, MAY 2-16

BIOKINESIOLOGY

Learn to use muscle testing techniques to determine which vitamins, herbs, and foods are best for you. Cost is \$115. Class runs Tuesday, May 2-16, from 6-9 p.m. The Healing Arts Clinic is located at 340 N. Main Street No. 205 in Plymouth. Call (734) 207-0557 to register.

MON, MAY 8

THYROID DISORDERS

The Michigan Thyroid Disorder Support Group will meet at 6:30 in the Plymouth Library, 223 S. Main Street. For more information, call Tracy Green at (734) 453-7945. Web site <http://community.mlive.com/cc/thyroid>

TUES, MAY 9

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

Heartland Home Health Care & Hospice will present "Advance Directives: When and how soon should they be in place," 6-7:30 p.m. in the community center of Alterra-Clare Bridge of Livonia, 32500 Seven Mile. Call Nanette Cooper or Denise Mannion for reservations.

TUES, MAY 16

LYME DISEASE

The Lyme Disease Support Group will sponsor a "Lyme Disease Education Night" at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, Wayne. Call Connie at (734) 326-3502 for more information.

THUR, MAY 18

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Providence Mission Health Medical Center-Livonia will host an immunization event from 4-7 p.m. at 37595 Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Cost is \$5 per child and includes all vaccines your child needs except chicken pox. Don't forget to bring immunization records. Call (877) 345-5500 for information.

TUE, MAY 23

RESTLESS LEG SYNDROME

Do you or someone you know suffer from restless leg syndrome? There is support available and a wealth of new information. A Restless Leg Support Group meets every other month at OptimEyes in Westland (across from Westland Shopping Center) on Central City Parkway. A registered nurse will be the guest speaker. Meet at 2 p.m. in the OptimEyes community meeting room. For information call Jan Prentice at (734) 453-4847.

SAT, JUNE 10

CARDIAC LIFE SUPPORT

Prerequisite for initial training: proof of current Health Care Provider BLS card. Retraining: proof of current Health Care Provider BLS card and current ACLS certification. Class is offered Saturday and Sunday, June 10 and 11, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital/Michigan Heart & Vascular Institute (734) 712-2948.

MON, JUNE 12

THYROID DISORDERS

The Michigan Thyroid Disorder Support Group will meet at 6:30 in the Plymouth Library, 223 S. Main Street. For more information, call Tracy Green at (734) 453-7945. Web site <http://community.mlive.com/cc/thyroid>

TUE, JUNE 13

TOUCH FOR HEALTH

Learn to use muscle testing techniques, neurolymphatic massage, acupressure to strengthen weaknesses, relieve pain, and improve posture. Bring a "Touch for Health," book, available at book stores. Class runs Tuesday, June 13-July 25, from 6-9 p.m. Cost is \$225. The Healing Arts Clinic is located at 340 N. Main Street No. 205 in Plymouth. Call (734) 207-0557 to register.

CAREGIVING STRESS

Alterra-Clare Bridge of Livonia, 32500 Seven Mile, will present a discussion on "Stress Management: Emotions of Caregiving," 6-7:30 p.m. in the community center. Call Nanette Cooper or Denise Mannion for reservations (248) 428-7055.

THUR, JUNE 15

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Providence Mission Health Medical Center-Livonia will host an immunization event from 4-7 p.m. at 37595 Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Cost is \$5 per child and includes all vaccines your child needs except chicken pox. Don't forget to bring immunization records. Call (877) 345-5500 for information.

THUR, JULY 20

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Providence Mission Health Medical Center-Livonia will host an immunization event from 4-7 p.m. at 37595 Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Cost is \$5 per child and includes all vaccines your child needs except chicken pox. Don't forget to bring immunization records. Call (877) 345-5500 for information.

MON, SEPT. 11

THYROID DISORDERS

The Michigan Thyroid Disorder Support Group will meet at 6:30 in the Plymouth Library, 223 S. Main Street. For more information, call Tracy Green at (734) 453-7945. Web site <http://community.mlive.com/cc/thyroid>

Tobacco

Consequences of smoking outlined

SURVEY

The following are the results of a behavior risk study from EPIC-MRA on behalf of a coalition of prominent hospitals:

Until smoking impacts your health, wealth, looks or unless your family has influence over you - smoking will remain a habit.

Higher education and age seem the only other influences to stop smoking and even though smoking may be down overall, young people continue to smoke at almost the same levels as their parents.

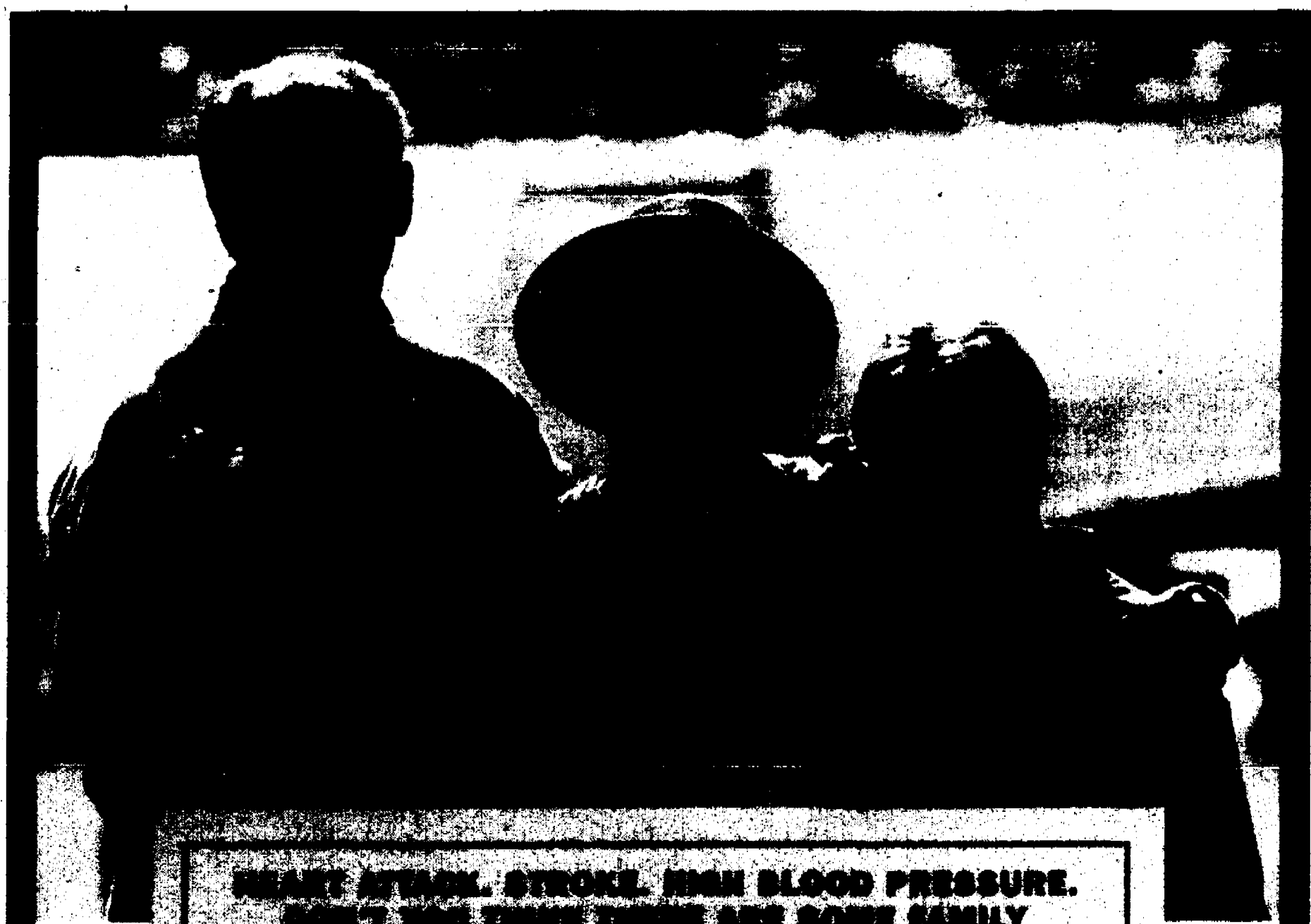
Other results that were

revealed included there are 1,525,860 smokers in Michigan, representing 21% of adults. Some 884,999 smoke at work and they take an average three trips daily outside their workplace to smoke.

Each trip averages 12 minutes, for a total of 36 minutes per day Michigan employees spend 138,059,844 hours smoking at work each year.

"Tobacco & Its Consequences - Its Prevalence and Impact on Health and Work Results" is the result of an EPIC-MRA statewide survey of 1,800 Michigan adults; random stratified sample survey; margin of error plus/minus 2 percentage points.

Read the Community Life section every Thursday



HEART ATTACK. STROKE. HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE.
DON'T LET THESE THINGS BE SOME FAMILY
MEMBERS YOU COULD DO WITHOUT

Families share a lot more than a last name. However, the things they have in common aren't always that obvious. Like their blood pressure. High blood pressure has been strongly linked to heredity, so it tends to run in families. There are no symptoms, so it can easily go unnoticed. And, left untreated high blood pressure can lead to a heart attack, stroke, or kidney failure. But the good news is that it's easily checked and readily treated. So maybe it's time to start a new family tradition. Call for an appointment to get your blood pressure checked today. To find a University of Michigan physician near you, simply call 1-800-211-8181. We accept a variety of health care plans, including **MCARE**™.

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Are You Depressed?

Answer the following questions based on the last 2 weeks or more.

- YES NO
1. I feel sad, unhappy, self critical
2. I feel tired and have little energy
3. I have trouble sleeping or eating (either too much or too little)
4. I don't enjoy activities that I used to
5. I feel uneasy, restless, irritable or guilty
6. I have trouble concentrating, remembering things or making decisions

If you answered "yes" to 3 or more statements, you may be suffering from depression, a serious condition affecting millions of Americans. The Institute for Health Studies is currently looking for individuals experiencing the above symptoms to participate in a research study of investigational medication for depression. If you are selected, all research related care and study medication are provided at no cost. Get answers and information about depression.

INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH STUDIES
(517) 349-5505 1 (800) 682-6663

Robert J. Bielski, M.D.

Will time tell how low-tech stocks will go?



PC MIKE
MIKE WENDLAND

Good-bye new economy. Hello old economy. The bubble has indeed burst.

Individual investors by the millions are cashing in and taking their dwindling high-tech fortunes out of the tech-heavy Nasdaq and shoveling it into the old economy blue chip stocks on the Dow.

The recent antitrust guilty verdict against Microsoft is being blamed for the current bloodbath, but really, it's just the latest of a series of warnings, misfortunes and dubiously financed high-tech disasters that have plagued a host of technology stocks for more than two weeks now.

What all the analysts are missing, I believe, is the ominous story of failure that hangs over the head of hundreds of new dot-

com firms. Dozens of these heavily hyped firms have burned through hundreds of millions of dollars in financing and venture capital and are now on the verge of going belly up.

Watch what happens the rest of this quarter and next. There's a rout coming, a huge collapse of the entire dot-com industry.

Very few of them, maybe a handful, are making money. The vast majority are smoke and mirrors. It's time to face reality for many. They have yet to turn a profit and show absolutely no sign that they will be able to do so in the foreseeable future. Even with the huge sell-off on the Nasdaq in recent days, most of the tech companies are still ridiculously overvalued.

The reason is two-fold: Greed and ignorance.

New individual investors have flocked to the market and greedily flooded the Nasdaq with their self-managed 401K savings and \$9 Datek and Ameritrade "buys," pretending to be "big-time investors in a lust to get rich

quick. And many did. For awhile.

But their ignorance in buying stock symbols and trendy tech stocks that have no earnings history has caught up with them. Now, as their bubble has burst, they're panicking. Expect a slight bounce back in the Nasdaq. That's the pattern. And there are some good buys out there that the big institutional firms can't snap up.

But the free ride is just about over, replaced by a free fall.

Net execs dump stocks

If anybody had been looking, maybe this week's crash of the tech market could have been foreseen in the way a lot of top tech execs have been handling their stock holdings in recent days.

A number of key Internet execs unloaded massive amounts of stock, perhaps a clear indication that things weren't as rosy as their public relations flacks were telling the rest of us.

Usually, insider sales of stock by key tech execs collectively average between \$1 and \$3 bil-

lion a month, according to the First Call/Thompson Financial company, which tracks insider sales. Last month, those sales totaled \$12 billion, with the huge surge attributed to technology execs unloading their shares.

There's a great Web site you can use to watch insider stock sales. It's called the 10K Wizard (<http://www.10kwizard.com>) and it makes all official corporate filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission available online. Click on the INSIDER TRADING button to snoop around. And if you really want to have fun, type in the company name or stock symbol or the chief exec's name and look at the DEF 14 (for definitive proxy) filings to see the salaries paid to the heads of some of these overvalued dot-com companies.

No confidence

Attorney General Janet Reno held a cyber crime summit meeting this past week with top execs from Silicon Valley tech firms. But she didn't get the reception the government hoped.

Instead of enthusiastic sup-

port, Reno's attempt to get tech firms to cooperate with the Justice Department by providing greater access to their networks was met with barely disguised skepticism.

Tech companies simply don't trust the government enough to let them snoop around their systems. And there's a lot of doubt about the expertise of government cyber cops.

Most of the companies indicated they prefer investigating cyber attacks themselves, or contracting out with highly specialized and discreet private firms that really know what they're doing.

The biggest reason for the

skepticism and distrust? The massive denial-of-service attack on the nation's biggest Web portal sites last February is still unsolved, despite the FBI's bluster and promise to catch those responsible.

Mike Wendland reports about computers and the Internet for NBC television stations coast-to-coast. His "Net News Daily" Internet reports are on WWJ, NewsRadio 950 Monday-Friday at 6:26 p.m., and his "PC Talk" call-in radio show is heard every weekend on TalkRadio 1270, WXYT. You can reach Mike through his Web site at www.pcmike.com

BUSINESS CALENDAR

Items from the Observerland area for the Business Calendar can be sent to: Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150 attention: Business Calendar.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

BUSINESS IN CHINA
Oakland University's Professional Development and Education Outreach, School of Education and Human Services (SEHS) will present "Opening Doors in the 21st Century. Creating Business Opportunities in China after WTO." The seminar will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 14 in Oakland Univer-

sity's Meadow Brook Ballroom. Co-sponsors include: The Detroit Regional Chamber, Pontiac Export Assistance Center - U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, and Leonard Woodcock Legacy. The seminar is an introductory course for individuals and organizations interested in developing or expanding markets in China. Jerome D. Hill, J.D., Ph.D. and Ledong Li will share their expertise on expanding interests and overcoming the challenges of doing business in China. Cost is \$295 and includes a Chinese luncheon and handout material. The registration deadline is Wednesday, April 5. Enrollment

is limited. Contact the Professional Development office at (248) 370-3033 for a brochure or to register for the seminar. Fax registration with VISA or MasterCard payment is accepted at (248) 370-3137.

SECRETARIES WEEK

The Tri-County Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals will present a business seminar titled "Assistants and Executives Working in Partnership" 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Athenaeum Hotel in Detroit. Seminar/luncheon tickets are \$35 for IAAP members and \$40 for non-members. For more information, call (313) 235-9232 or fax (313) 235-0188.

FRI, MAY 12

FIESTA HISPANA BALL
The Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce hosts its 11th Anniversary Fiesta Hispana Ball at the Ritz Carlton in Dearborn. The VIP reception begins at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Bo Andersson, executive in charge of worldwide purchasing for General Motors Corp., is event chairman. The ball provides an opportunity to network with business representatives and meet corporate sponsors. For tickets, contact MHC at (248) 208-9915.

BUSINESS MARKETPLACE

Items for Business Marketplace are welcome from all companies and residents active in the Observer-area business community. Items should be typed or legibly written and sent to: Business Marketplace, c/o The Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150.

large, diversified market and show you how to win the many contracts available to small businesses. Learn how technological advances have streamlined the dynamics of doing business with

the government. Topics include: government registrations, regulations, electronic commerce, electronic funds transfer, available markets and resources, and the services and training programs available at Schoolcraft

College's Business Development Center.

The cost is \$25 per person. To register, call the Business Development Center at (734) 462-4438.

CORRECTION NOTICE

In our April 9 insert, we advertised 2 CDs as available Tuesday, April 11. The release dates for both *Outta My Way* by the Flys and the *American Psycho* Soundtrack have been delayed. Both titles are expected to be available soon. We will be offering rainchecks for these titles. We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.



THUR, APRIL 20

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS
"How to Become a Government Contractor," a seminar sponsored by Schoolcraft College, will be held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20. The half-day seminar will afford you greater insight into this

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6.75% APY



Meijer collaborates to provide medical equipment discounts

A Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan program called BlueSafe, which offers discounts on injury prevention equipment, has been expanded to offer savings on 19 health and safety items at all 63 Michigan Meijer locations.

Meijer's participation means that Blues members and the public can redeem special coupons at all Michigan Meijer stores for savings from \$1 to \$20 on certain health and safety products.

"This arrangement allows us to expand the availability of discounts on a number of safety products to Blues members and the public," said Dale Robertson,

Blues vice president of West Michigan. "This is a great idea for a partnership between Meijer and the Blues and we're hoping that the coupons will be an added incentive for the citizens throughout Michigan to purchase items that can prevent serious injuries."

"This project has the potential to impact lives in a very positive way," said John Zimmerman, director of consumer affairs for Meijer Stores. "Blue Cross and Meijer Stores have teamed up to help prevent injuries to our customers and to people in the community. We think that's pretty special."

Blues members and the public

can use the Meijer coupons for discounts on the following items:

- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Bicycle/in-line skating helmets and padding
- Child car seats and boosters
- Baby gates and portable bed rails
- Fire extinguishers and escape ladders
- First aid kits
- Roadside emergency kits
- Treadmills and exercise bikes

Damman Hardware is the only other participant in the BlueSafe program to offer redeemable coupons. Blues members and the public can use the coupons at

all 17 southeast Michigan Damman stores for discounts on smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and fire escape ladders.

The BlueSafe program also has an arrangement with Wright & Filippis, Dunham's Sports and MC Sports to provide savings to Blues members when they present their Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan or Blue Care Network membership cards at the checkout.

Wright & Filippis' participation provides Blues members with 20-percent discounts on all home health aids at its 23 stores located throughout Michigan.

Some discounted home health

items include:

- bathroom railings, grab bars, safety seats and scales
- maternity and breastfeeding products
- blood pressure kits
- diabetes supplies
- first aid kits, heating pads, hot/cold packs
- athletic braces and support pillows
- thermoscan instant thermometers

Blues members also can present their membership cards and

save 20 percent on the following safety equipment and products at Dunham's Sports and MC Sports stores in Michigan: bicycle/in-line skating helmets and pads; athletic braces and supports; life jackets and vests; trigger locks for firearms (only at Dunham's).

The booklet of coupons may be obtained by calling the toll-free BlueSafe hotline, 877-BLUE-SAFE (258-3723).

Learn to garden without the worry of back pain, injury

You can follow some easy steps to reduce the chances of injuring your back while gardening, says Thomas Simmer, M.D., Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan vice president and corporate medical director.

"Back injuries are frequently preventable," says Simmer. "Too often, gardeners jump right into yard work in the spring without taking precautions."

To help you take care of your back, Simmer advises that you treat gardening like any other exercise. Warm up before and after to keep your muscles loose. A few lower-back stretches will prepare your muscles for the lifts, bends and lurches that are to follow.

Back injuries frequently occur when people try to lift things without being in the proper position, or when people stay in the same position for an extended time period. Once you begin gardening, make a point of changing positions every 10 to 15 minutes. Stand up, and walk around for a minute or two. This will help keep the back muscles loose. If you are going to be on your

knees for long stretches of time, use a cushion, keep your back straight, and don't sit on your heels.

When you need to lift anything, make sure to follow proper technique:

- Stand close to the object you are going to lift.
- Keep your feet about one foot apart.
- Squat down, and grab the object you will be lifting.
- Rise up, using your leg muscles, keeping your back straight.
- Pivot with your feet to turn. Do not twist your back.
- To put the object down, squat and keep your back straight.
- If you catch yourself improperly twisting or bending your back, try a few standing back bends, arching your back backwards. If you don't feel any pain, correct your positioning or posture, and continue your activity.
- In addition to maintaining a healthy posture, buying the right gardening equipment can make a difference. Choose lightweight, long-handled gardening tools. That will keep

To help you take care of your back, you treat gardening like any other exercise. Warm up before and after to keep your muscles loose.

you from bending over and straining your back. While you are working, make sure to keep your back straight while lifting soil, digging small amounts at a time.

If your back is sore, there are some things you can do about it. Stay off your feet, and apply heat to the area where you are feeling pain. If your back muscles are stiff and sore, apply a hot pack or head for the nearest hot tub. Liniments rubbed over the area of pain can often provide some relief. See a doctor if pain spreads away from your back, to your sides or legs; comes on suddenly and is coupled with weakness or numbness; or increases in its severity over time. Your doctor may prescribe medication if the pain is chronic.

If you do suffer from chronic back problems, but still love to garden, you can reduce the pain by decreasing the amount time you spend gardening. For example, you can spend less time pulling weeds by applying a weed control product in the spring, putting mulch in your flowerbeds and choosing ground cover plants where possible. You also can plant low-maintenance shrubs and perennials to cut down on the time you spend on your knees.

Raised garden beds are an excellent idea for those with chronic back problems. The recommended height for a raised garden bed is 2-3 feet tall, so you can sit in a chair or bench while gardening.

Most Blues members can obtain health education guidelines on back health by calling the company's nurse counseling line, called Blue HealthLine, at 800-811-1764.

To hear tips on saving your back, press "1379" on the telephone keypad. For information on slipped disk, press "1527," and for back pain punch in "1568."

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 27, 2000
REGULAR MEETING**

Present were Mayor Showalter, Councilmembers Kaledas, Wiacek, Dodge, Lynch, Briscoe and Gora. Absent none.

Also present were City Manager Kocsis, Treasurer/City Clerk Bettis, City Attorney Salomone, Community Center Supervisor McKarge and Youth Assistance Coordinator Fulton.

The Mayor announced it was time for Public Discussion for items not on the agenda.

- Harold Borwicki, of Garden City, concerned with the possible disintegration of Garden City service groups.
- Bob Gilbert, of Garden City, discussed his opposition to the building of a modular home in his neighborhood, Kathryn and Garden.
- Theresa Stevens, of Garden City, is opposed to the modular home being built next to her home.
- Richard Pickens, of Garden City, feels future ordinances should be passed to prevent non-conforming homes.
- Catherine Hamill, of Garden City, unhappy with the modular home.
- Troy Leonard, of Garden City, opposed to the modular home.
- Sylvia Defoe, of Garden City, a near neighbor, wonders what permissions were given to property owner on Kathryn.

There being no further comments, Council recessed in order for the public to disperse. Council then returned from recess and the following motion was offered.

♦ **Item 03-00-098**
Moved by Lynch, supported by Dodge: RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2000. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

♦ **Item 03-00-099**
Moved by Briscoe, supported by Wiacek: RESOLVED: To approve the Accounts Payable, as listed. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

The Mayor announced it was time to receive communications from Boards and/or Commissions.

- Ed Kane, Chair of the Planning Commission, discussed the Master Plan and its development.

♦ **Item 03-00-100**
Moved by Lynch, supported by Kaledas: RESOLVED: To grant permission to the Knights of Columbus, Immaculate Conception Council, No. 4513 to solicit in Garden City, April 14th and 15th, 2000, subject to receipt of a valid hold harmless agreement by each participant. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

♦ **Item 03-00-101**
Moved by Wiacek, supported by Dodge: RESOLVED: To grant permission to the Garden City Rotary Club to hold their annual Easter Flower Sale on the weekend of April 21st, 22nd and 23rd, 2000, subject to receipt of a valid hold harmless agreement by each participant and also notification of which corners they will appear on. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

♦ **Item 03-00-102**
Moved by Kaledas, supported by Gora: RESOLVED: To re-appoint to the Parks & Recreation Commission

- a. Diana Ronchetto, for a 3-year term to expire on March 31, 2003
- b. Theresa Strehl, for a 3-year term to expire on March 31, 2003
- c. Ellen Kane, for a 3-year term to expire on March 31, 2003.

AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

♦ **Item 03-00-103**
Moved by Dodge, supported by Lynch: RESOLVED: To re-appoint W. Paul Werhane to the Library Board with term to expire February 15, 2005. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

♦ **Item 03-00-104**
Moved by Lynch, supported by Kaledas: RESOLVED: To appoint to the Commission on Aging

- a. Evelyn Polkoffe with term to expire December 31, 2003
- b. Dorothy Dalapa with term to expire December 31, 2003

AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

The Council as a Whole discussed the following items.

1. GCYAA Festival Agreement
2. Federal Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Grant Funds
3. Confirmation of Special Assessment Roll No. 4207.
4. Confirmation of Special Assessment Roll No. 4208.
5. Marquette Park Boundaries

♦ **Item 03-00-105**
Moved by Kaledas, supported by Lynch: RESOLVED: To approve the GCYAA Festival Agreement for the dates of April 30, 2000 - May 9, 2000. Carnival opening May 4, 2000 through May 7, 2000. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

♦ **Item 03-00-106**
Moved by Dodge, supported by Lynch: RESOLVED: To approve the agreement for Use of Federal Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Grant funds between City of Garden City and the Michigan Family Independence Agency. AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

♦ **Item 03-00-107**
Moved by Kaledas, supported by Lynch: RESOLVED: To confirm Special Assessment Roll No. 4207 as follows:

WHEREAS, at a Regular Meeting of the Council, the public hearing having taken place before this Council on March 20, 2000, on the 1997 Sidewalk Repair Program Special Assessment Roll Number 4207 and said roll having been duly presented to this Council by the City Assessor, objections were duly called for, and

WHEREAS, after hearing all persons presenting themselves, it is determined that the roll as filed be approved, and

WHEREAS, the Council does hereby estimate that the period of usefulness of said project improvements is not less than five (5) years;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 1997 Sidewalk Repair Program Improvement Special Assessment Roll No. 4207, as filed with the City Clerk, be and the same is hereby approved and confirmed; said Special Assessment Roll No. 4207 to be applicable to and affecting the properties listed on the attached Roll.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the assessment shown on said roll be divided into five (5) annual installments, payable on the 31st day of March each year from 2000 to 2004, inclusive; and that the City Clerk transmit said roll to the City Treasurer with his warrant for collection accordingly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the installments of said Special Assessment Roll shall bear interest at the rate of six (6) percent per annum; commencing March 31, 2000, said interest to be paid annually on the due dates of the principal installments of said Special Assessment Roll.

All Resolutions and parts of Resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this Resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

♦ **Item 03-00-108**
Moved by Lynch, supported by Briscoe: RESOLVED: To confirm Special Assessment Roll No. 4208 as follows:

WHEREAS, at a Regular Meeting of the Council, the public hearing having taken place before this Council on March 20, 2000, on the 1997 Approach Paving Program Special Assessment Roll Number 4208 and said roll having been duly presented to this Council by the City Assessor, objections were duly called for, and

WHEREAS, after hearing all persons presenting themselves, it is determined that the roll as filed be approved, and

WHEREAS, this Council does hereby estimate that the period of usefulness of said project improvements is not less than five (5) years;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 1997 Approach Paving Program Improvement Special Assessment Roll No. 4208, as filed with the City Clerk, be and the same is hereby approved and confirmed; said Special Assessment Roll No. 4208 to be applicable to and affecting the properties listed on the attached Roll.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the assessment shown on said roll be divided into five (5) annual installments, payable on the 31st day of March each year from 2000 to 2004, inclusive; and that the City Clerk transmit said roll to the City Treasurer with his warrant for collection accordingly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the installments of said Special Assessment Roll shall bear interest at the rate of six (6) percent per annum; commencing March 31, 2000, said interest to be paid annually on the due dates of the principal installments of said Special Assessment Roll.

All Resolutions and parts of Resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this Resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

AYES: Unanimous ABSENT: None.

The meeting was then adjourned.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS, Treasurer/City Clerk
Published April 9, 2000

***SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
March 21, 2000**

*The following is a summary, in synopsis form, of the Board of Education's regular meeting of March 21, 2000; the full text of the minutes is on file in the office of the superintendent, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, and in the principal's office of each school, and is available on request.

President Timmons convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia. Present: Kirsten Galka, Frank Kokenakes (left after 7:15 p.m.), Daniel Lessard, Joanne Morgan, Kenneth Timmons. Absent: Patrick Nalley and Dianne Nay.

Team Effort Award: Trustee Lessard presented the Team Effort Award to Nancy Begley, Sandy Christofferson, Sue Higgins, Lauren Preston, and Carol Tinney for their willingness to work with staff, administration, and other support staff to support technology users in the district.

Recess: President Timmons recessed the meeting at 7:10 p.m. to congratulate the recipients of the Team Effort Award and reconvened the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

National Arts Month Resolution: Fred Price, assistant director of instruction, introduced Sally Diakin, arts facilitator, and Margaret Babineau, music facilitator, who gave a brief background of the Livonia Fine Arts festival and the teaching of art and music in the Livonia Public Schools. They spoke in support of the Board's resolution declaring March as Fine Arts Month in Livonia schools.

Motion by Galka and Morgan that the Board pass a resolution recognizing March as National Arts Month in the Livonia Public Schools School District. Ayes: Galka, Kokenakes, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

Audience Communications: Ryan Tracey and John Hicks from Franklin High School addressed the Board regarding the need for new sports facilities for the three area high schools. Larry Naer, 31014 Mackenzie, addressed the Board regarding the need for all three proposals to pass on April 10, 2000 and asked for the support of the people. He also asked that the Board look into supporting children wearing helmets while on field trips that could be injurious to their heads.

Consent Agenda: Motion by Lessard and Galka that the Board approve the following consent agenda items as recommended by the superintendent: IV Minutes and Synopsis of the Regular Board Meeting of March 6, 2000. VIA Move that general fund check nos. 332496 through 333178 in the amount of \$3,849,050.50 be approved for payment. Also, move that general fund wire transfers in the amount of \$1,698,745.69 be approved. VIB Move that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the low bid of \$139,470 from Aristo Construction Company of Livonia for the construction of a salt storage facility. VIC Move that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution appointing election inspectors for the special school election on Monday, April 10, 2000. Ayes: Galka, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

Gift-Washington PTA: Motion by Morgan and Galka that the Board accept the generous gift of \$3,000 from the Washington Elementary School PTA for the purchase of a cordless microphone and amplification system valued at \$1,800, as well as \$1,200 to help pay for school assemblies. Ayes: Galka, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

Gift-Riley PTSA: Motion by Galka and Morgan that the Board accept the generous gift of \$5,305.03 from the Riley Middle School PTSA for books, equipment, and materials to enrich the educational programs of the students at Riley. Ayes: Galka, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

Gift-Jackson Center PTA: Motion by Morgan and Lessard that the Board accept the gracious gift of \$6,526.39 from the Jackson Center PTA for the purchase of playground and gross motor room equipment. Ayes: Galka, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

Presentation-Livonia Career/Technical Center's SIP: Dr. Janet Haas, principal, along with Jack Bauman, assistant principal, presented the center's school improvement plan through an excellent videotape presentation explaining the varied career preparation courses and learning opportunities available to students throughout the district at the Livonia Career/Technical Center.

Purchase of Boilers: Motion by Lessard and Morgan that the Board authorize the purchase of 19 Lochinvar Copperfin II boilers to be installed at Bryant, Clay, Wilson, Dickinson, and two maintenance buildings from Dixon Supply Company for the low bid of \$201,535.04. Ayes: Galka, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

1999-00 Budget Amendment: Motion by Galka and Morgan that the Board adopt amended budgets for the 1999-00 school year: General Operating, Special Education, Milk and Lunch, Health and Welfare Fund, Athletic, and Capital Projects-Sinking Fund, and Funded Projects. Ayes: Galka, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

Teachers for Approval: Motion by Morgan and Lessard that the Board accept the recommendation of the superintendent and offer employment for the 2000-01 school year to the following teachers: Peggy Agusti, Elizabeth Cosenza, and Sherrie Schuck. Ayes: Galka, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

Retirements: The Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District unanimously adopted resolutions of appreciation for Anthony Aquino, Joan Bahl, Joanne Blunt, Kenneth Borsio, Carol Brammer, Margaret Brandies, Mary Lou Brandon, Barbara Broadley, David Brown, Daniel Collins, Barbara Connelly, Erma Cook, Tony Corrie, Corinne Cronenwett, Diana Curcione, Douglas Curry, Michael Daily, Dolores Dean, Donald DeGrazia, Larry Dove, Robert Drapal, Michael Dudley, Allan Edwards, Gail Ellenbogen, Milan Emanuele, Marcia Endo, Michael Fenebel, Sandra Feuerstein, Keith Fogel, Douglas Forbes, Roger Foss, Roger Frayer, Warner Frazer, Margaret Gage, J. Michael Garvey, Sheila Garvey, Joanne Glance, David Granstin, William Green, Candace Greene, Mary Haines, Russell Haines, Janice Humbree, Mary Handrien, Carol Hillard, Clara Howell, Carole Hunter, Steven Huth, Kathryn Kangas, Emily Kirshner, Dennis Knittel, Sharron Laing, Bruce Larson, Cheryl Lips, Marilyn Lombardi, Darvin Long, Mary Ann Marks, Verneva McPike, Paul McWilliams, Margaret Meagher, Barbara Morgan, Robert Morris, M. Jeanne Murphy, Edward Navoy, Harry Nickels, Terry Noelke, Raymond O'Donnell, Susan Oliver, Marilyn Pobanz, Carolyn Potts, Linda Price, Lester Prieskorn, James Probelaki, Geraldine Przeslawski, James Reeves, Linda Schardt, Nancy Sekulich, Frank Shinkonis, Adele Sobania, Nancy Soderholm, Nancy Spence, Mary Sponberg, Geraldine Stone, Marilyn Strandt, Sara Thomas, Dolores Titus, Dorothy Trosko, Kathleen Uhlig, Rita Urot, Gary Vance, David Walicki, and Rosita White.

Leaves: Motion by Galka and Lessard that the Board accept the recommendation of the superintendent and approve the requests for leaves of absence for the 2000-01 school year for Karyn Anderson, extension of personal leave, Doris DeMarco, extension of child care leave, and Michael Inquaniello, personal leave. Ayes: Galka, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

Resignations: The Board accepted the resignations for Judith Bayer effective 3/1/2000, Mary Ellen Moore, effective 3/7/2000, and June Quatrine, effective 3/10/2000.

Reports from the Superintendent: Dr. Watson indicated he enjoyed reading a book at Coolidge during March as Reading Month, commended Dr. Lynn Babcock on her ascension to the Presidency of the National Association of Elementary School Principals, recognized Kathy McInnis learning specialist at Frost for an article in the Free Press regarding good study habits, and introduced the video of the Cass VIP Day celebration and the photo of Larry Winger receiving his 30th year pin from the superintendent.

Hearing from Board Members: The Board discussed the NAESP Convention with our principal, Dr. Lynn Babcock, as the National President, the school improvement presentation by Dr. Timmons, the Fine Arts Month celebration, and the MASH Legislative Relations Network in Lansing.

Adjournment: Motion by Morgan and Lessard that the regular meeting of Tuesday, March 21, 2000 be adjourned. Ayes: Galka, Lessard, Morgan, Timmons. Nays: None.

President Timmons adjourned the meeting at 10:02 p.m.