

DEAR READERS,

Effective with today's issue, we've made improvements in the section front flags inside your Westland Observer.

We've designed a special typeface for the section front flags. It's distinctive and easier to read. Section front letters also are larger and easier to read.

At the bottom of the page you'll find the telephone number and internet addresses of the editor and the newsroom. We want to make it easy for you to reach us.

We've also changed the name of our Community Life section to HomeTown Life so that it more clearly reflects the hometown news - news about weddings, engagements, religion and births - contained in the section.

You will continue to see improvements in the way we package and present your hometown newspaper which is part of the HomeTown Communications Network.

Our aim is to make our newspapers the essential tool for our readers and their families to live the good life in their home towns. That's why we are making these changes, with others soon to come.

Tell me what you think. You can reach me at (734) 953-2100 or at srosiek@oe.homecomm.net.

Sincerely

Susan Rosiek
Susan Rosiek,
Publisher

IN THE PAPER TODAY

Deadline: The filing deadline for county elections later this year was Tuesday. We have a roundup of who filed. / A6

AT HOME

Flower power: Now's the time to plant those springtime flowers. If you plan right, you'll have a constant bloom throughout the summer. / D8

REAL ESTATE

Guidance for the newbie: Future owners can enroll in many classes to learn about buying a home. / F1

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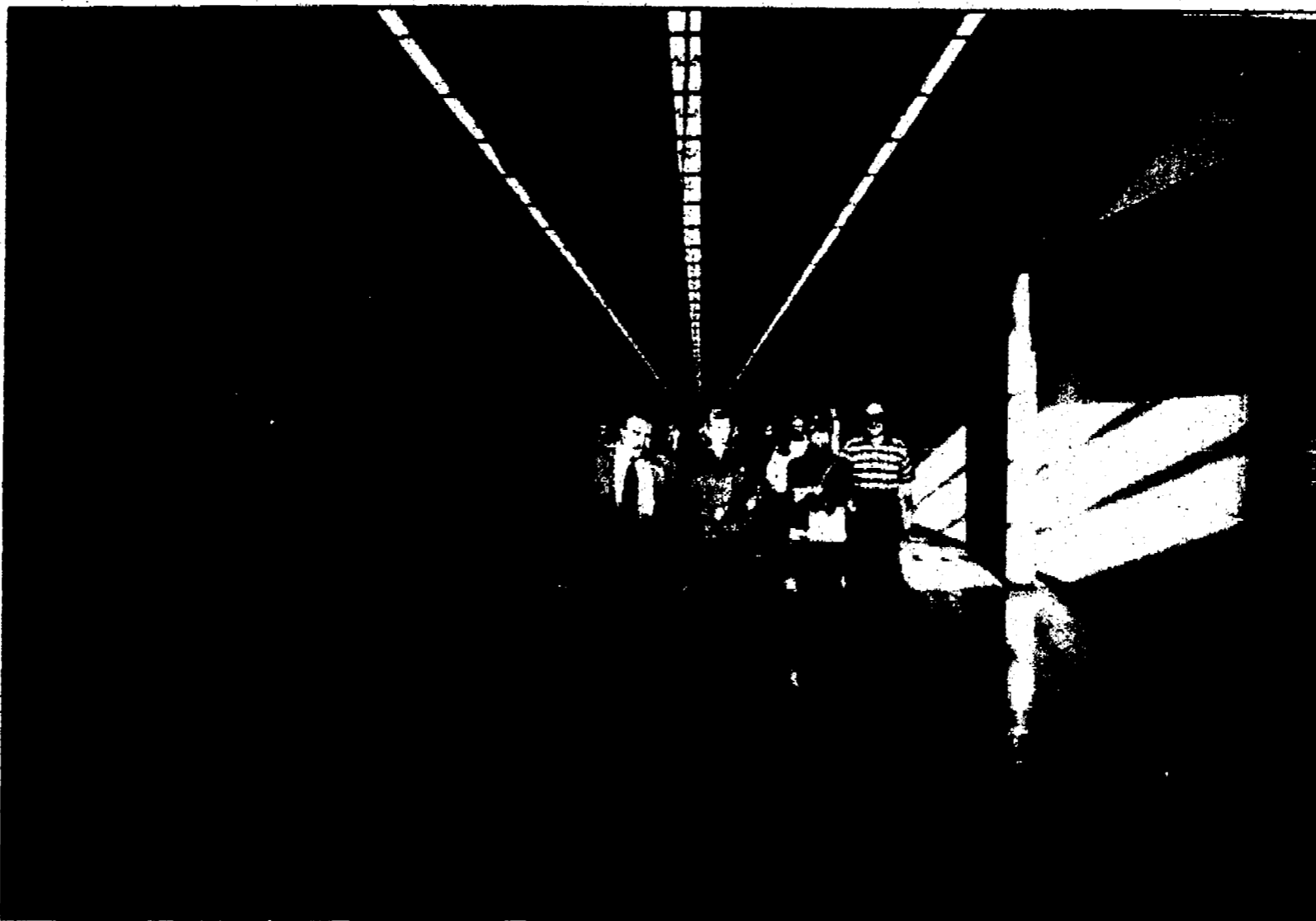
"I got great action from my Observer Eccentric classified ad. My play structure sold really fast."

—Arlene B. Franklin



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Spacious



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

On tour: School Superintendent Greg Baracy leads administrators and school board members on a tour of the district's \$108 million building and technology program Monday. This is the new entryway at Adams Middle School. Below, tour members exit the new Adams entryway.

Tour updates school board on technology, renovation projects

BY DOUG JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Wayne-Westland school board members and administrators toured their district via bus Monday evening for a close look at some of the construction and renovation projects currently under way.

The improvements are being paid for by a voter-approved 1998 bond issue that designated \$82 million for construction and \$26 million for technology upgrades.

Included in the tour were walk-throughs at the William D. Ford Career/Technical Center, Adams Middle School, Taft-Galloway Elementary School and Walker-Winter Elementary School.

School Superintendent Greg Baracy said the extensive projects will eventually touch every school in the district and the work is "on time and within budget."

Representatives of the construction management firm of McCarthy and Smith Inc. of Redford Township, and from the architects for the project, TMP Associates of Bloomfield Hills, also took part in the tour.



Some highlights:
■ At the Ford Center, tour members saw the new 90-
Please see TOUR, A2

Council member extends apology

In response to a request from Councilman David Cox, Councilman Richard LeBlanc offered the city council an apology for questioning four council members' ethics in relation to the January firing of Clerk Patricia Gibbons.

BY TRACEY BIRKENHAUER
STAFF WRITER

Councilman David Cox got his apology at Monday's Westland City Council meeting.

Unfortunately, he wasn't there to hear it. Council President Charles Griffin said Cox was ill and couldn't attend the session.

At the May 1 meeting, Cox demanded councilmen Richard LeBlanc and Glenn Anderson publicly apologize for accusing him of violating the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Cox also wanted LeBlanc and Anderson to help him pay more than \$1,000 in attorney's fees, but that's not likely to happen.

Anderson didn't comment on the fees at the meeting, but in the past he called Cox's request for monetary reimbursement "ridiculous."

LeBlanc didn't say he'd help defray the expenses, but offered to help Cox explore ways to pay his legal bills.

"I am told personal funds were expended to enable a response to the prosecutor for actions involving council members acting within their elected positions," LeBlanc said. "While others have suggested the advice of an attorney is viewed as a form of insurance, I would say that it would be difficult to consider those expenses normal. If council members believe they were responding to an inquiry involving their elected position, there might exist another method or methods by which repayment could be achieved."

"I am willing to assist in the exploration of those methods."

Please see APOLOGY, A5

Citizen pleads for decorum at council meetings

BY TRACEY BIRKENHAUER
STAFF WRITER

While the majority of residents at Monday's council meeting were vocally disgruntled, one man stood up and called for peace.

"I'm concerned about our community and the direction it's taking as far as the children and the role models that are being displayed right here at city council," said George Marvaso. "Here, as a silent majority, I say that I am in

favor of the institution. What is the institution? Whether it be a church, the YMCA, a manufacturing plant or our government, there must be a structure of authority in any institution or the institution will fail."

He doesn't support the effort to recall council members Sharon Scott, David Cox, David James and Charles Griffin, who voted to abruptly fire then-City Clerk Patricia Gibbons in January.

"If you have a government, you have

to support the government," Marvaso said. "The government is not always right, but we need to support the community. We don't need to overthrow the government."

Since Gibbons was fired, some Westland residents have shown mistrust for their city government. At the meeting, several citizens boasted of filing Freedom of Information Act requests regarding budget items and investigations into campaign funding histories.

Marvaso encouraged residents to voice their concerns but pleaded for decorum. He criticized residents who mock their elected officials, cursing and berating council members as they speak.

"I don't see a lot of good role models coming up here to voice their opinions," he said.

Residents probed the council for answers until after 11:30 p.m. Many

Please see HARMONY, A5

City OKs bids for new fire station

BY TRACEY BIRKENHAUER
STAFF WRITER

Residents on the south-east side will be a little safer after the construction of Fire Station 5.

Response times for Westland Fire Department fire trucks and ambulances should drop from about 6 to 9 minutes to about 2 minutes, said Fire Chief Mark Neal.

On Monday, the city council approved the low bid from EGH Contractor Inc. for \$895,991.

The station, to be located near Irene Street and Annapolis Road, has been a long time coming for Dorothy Smith, who has

ON SOUTH SIDE

lived in the neighborhood for 43 years.

"I can see it being really beneficial," said the Annapolis Park resident. "It's nice to see the city using tax dollars in my neighborhood. I suppose it should be beneficial to those people who live on the Inkster side, also."

Construction should start within six weeks and be completed six months after that.

"This is going to make a tremendous life-saving difference," Neal said. "In the

Please see FIRE, A3

New tradition

Crowned: Wayne Memorial prom queen Kelly Tyler (front left) and king Scott Teasdale (front right) pose behind the prom court (second row left to right) Alma Ibanez, Jenny Clark, Steve Fielhauer, Brandon Lewis; (back row left to right) Angela Bradford, Christina Gaines, Kevin Watson and Justin Smoes. No one can remember the last time the school elected a prom king and queen.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

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Westland Observer

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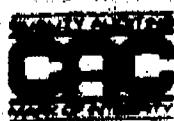
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Tour from page A1

seat lecture hall, and large additions to the auto body lab, construction trades room, CAD-CAM lab and welding labs.

They also toured video/media production labs and a new computer lab for graphic design courses. About two dozen computers will be installed there along with airbrush and sign-making equipment.

About \$5.5 million is being spent for construction at Ford and another \$2.1 million is set aside for equipment. Mechanical work is at about 95 percent complete at Ford; cement flooring is due to be poured in the auto shop lab in the next few days.

Lecture hall

The lecture hall will be available to the public for small groups to rent and the district can use it for staff in-service. Each seat will have a "drop" for such things as laptop computers and phone lines.

Most of the building's duct work is exposed, with ceiling tiles removed as the facility is being wired for technology.

At Adams the board saw new rooms for choir and instrumental music as well as new administrative offices.

About half the classrooms at Adams have been redone; the other half will be done this summer.

Most impressive at Adams is a new vaulted ceiling entryway with multi-colored geometric tile on the floor.

Taft-Galloway students moved into a new building just after Easter. Baracy said the move went smoothly. Students packed a grocery bag full of their stuff before spring break; they returned to their old classroom after break, found their things and went to their new rooms.

"It couldn't have gone better," Baracy said.

The two-story structure was dictated by the small site at Galloway as well as the need to keep the old school in place.

Assistant Superintendent Charlotte Sherman said the old Taft building, parts of it dating to the 1940s, will be torn down this month. Asbestos abatement in the old structure is under way now, but the building is sealed off from the new school.

The site at Taft is next to a city of Wayne park. "The city has been great," Baracy said. And temporary work road and other outside improvements will be done this summer.

Lots of light

Brick work on a stage addition to the multipurpose room was nearing completion as of Monday. Six big windows will bring lots of light into the new curved-wall instructional materials center. Dark green and dark blue



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Auto shop: Board members Teresa Robbins and Martha Pitsenbarger (left) look over renovations in the auto body classroom at the Ford Center. Assistant Superintendent Charlotte Sherman is in the back.

At Walker-Winter on Michigan Avenue in Canton, across from the Ford truck plant, board members saw an essentially completed renovation which includes refurbished classrooms and brand new classrooms. Some exterior surfaces will be finished as soon as the weather is warm enough.

ceramic tiles accent the hallways and doorways. The tiles' practical application: kids fingerprints and pencil marks come off easily.

At Walker-Winter on Michigan Avenue in Canton, across from the Ford truck plant, board members saw an essentially completed renovation which includes refurbished classrooms and brand new classrooms. Some exterior surfaces will be finished as soon as the weather is warm enough.

Baracy proudly pointed to an old fireplace from the original one-room school house on the site. It has become the focal point of the office renovation and includes low-slung wooden seats on either side just right for small children.

Board reaction

Board members Skip Monit, Martha Pitsenbarger and Teresa Robbins all offered comments:

"Based on the amount of work we have to do it is encouraging to see it is going so well. It is

good that the voters can see that what we promised has come to fruition. I'm looking forward to the next few years with all the buildings tied together (with technology and networks) and all the buildings renovated and revamped," Monit said.

"I think we have a superb record so far in completing our projects," Pitsenbarger said. "Things are running on time and it is because of quality people; the administration hired quality people and the result is work is being done in a timely manner."

"I'm very impressed with all the progress we've made; we are lucky to have fantastic consultants (McCarthy-Smith); everything they promised has come to pass. This project will allow our kids to compete with any other school district in the state and the country, with everything we are doing with technology," Robbins said. She also said the district has been lucky that, even with a robust economy, workers in the skilled trades have been

found for the district's projects. And many items have come in under bid.

"The flip side of that is that sometimes after renovation begins we find problems that couldn't be seen by the naked eye and they have to be fixed."

Five other schools are complete or near complete but were not part of the tour: Lincoln, Jefferson-Barns, Hoover, Kettering and Schweitzer.

This summer

Schools that will undergo construction this summer include Elliott, Hamilton, Vandenberg, Hicks, P.D. Graham, Madison and Patchin elementary schools.

Marshall Middle School on Bayview in Westland will have a new entryway built and classroom remodeled this summer.

During the 2001-02 school year Edison and Wildwood elementary will be renovated as will the Tinkham Center and the Stottlemeyer Early Childhood Center, and Franklin and Stevenson middle schools.

Improvements will be made at Wayne Memorial High, especially in the auditorium. Room renovations will be done in 9- and 10-room blocks.

Bids for renovations at John Glenn High School are due to the board in June.

"The redesigned all-glass front of the library (at Glenn) will make it roomier, lighter and more conducive to learning," Sherman said.

Fire from page A1

southeast portion of the city, it takes longer to get there than anywhere else in the city."

Neal plans to occupy the structure by the first of the year. The city will hire three new firefighters and redistribute some other firefighters

to staff the station.

"When it comes to someone having a heart attack or stroke, our medical service will be able to get there in a couple of minutes," Neal said. "That's going to make a difference in a lot of lives."

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan

Case #15792, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Woodworth Estates Condominiums, Lot #29 Folker's Venoy Road Subdivision No. 2, West Side of Venoy Road, South of Warren, NW-10, Young K. Park

Case #1768A, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Addition to Wayne Amvets Post 171, 1217 Merriman, Parcel #070-01-0010-001, East Side of Merriman, North of Palmer, SW-23, Robert Cook

Case #1861C, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Addition to Westland Car Care Collision, 6375 N. Dix, Parcels #027-02-0020-000, #018,000, #0-0007-000 and #0-0008-000, West Side of Dix, North of Ford, SW-7, Glenn Shaw

Case #1890A, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Wayne-Westland Credit Union, Parcels #057-00-0004-000 and #0005-000, West Side of Wayne, South of Cherry Hill, NE-20, David Schaff (Glean Shaw/Theama Deabo)

Case #1941D, Site Plan Approval for Proposed CVS Pharmacy with Drive-Thru, Parcels #034-00-0000-000 and #000-000, Northwest Corner of Wayne Road and Hunter Avenue, NW-9, Arthur Bille

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 56601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 6, 2000.

Written comments may be sent to the Westland Planning Department at 37095 Marquette Avenue, Westland, Michigan • 48185.

ROBERT C. BOWERS, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: May 18, 2000

Westland firm wins approval for training, apprenticeship

Intra Corp., 885 Manufacturers Drive in Westland, announced today approval from the U.S. Department of Labor of two certified apprenticeship programs.

Intra Corp. makes precision measurement instruments.

The firm designs and manufactures a wide variety of computerized gauges, masters and mea-

surement products for the auto industry and other users.

The difficulty of finding highly trained technicians to work at such tight tolerances required Intra to begin "growing its own talent."

In partnership with a related trade program at Schoolcraft College, the apprenticeship program is intended to develop the

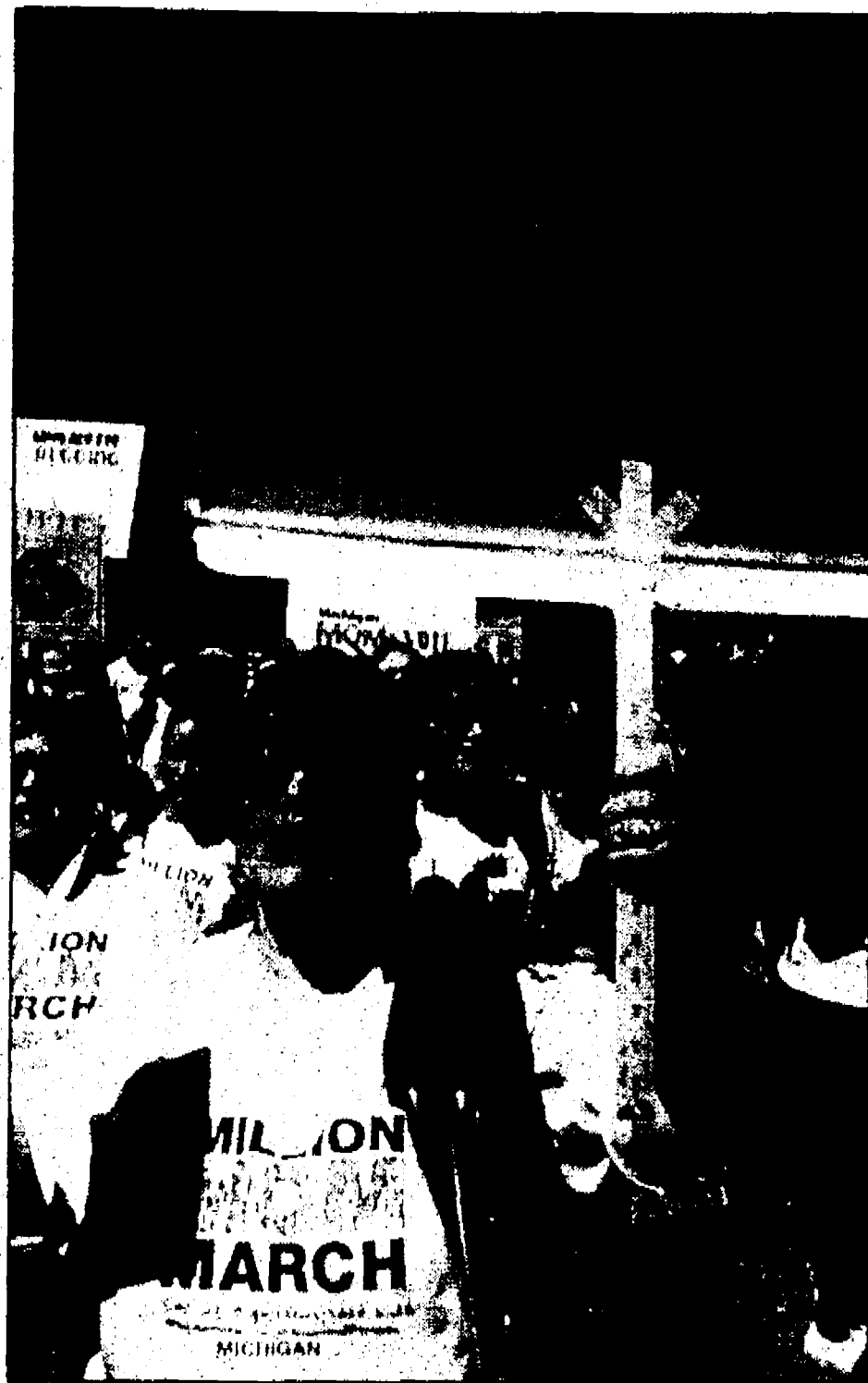
expertise necessary to acquire the skills for one of the most demanding trades in the business.

Such workers must use tolerances seldom seen by most skilled trades and must have knowledge of computers, mechanics, tooling techniques and geometric dimensioning and tolerancing.

The two programs are tool-maker (gauge) and machinist.

As a further development, an outreach program has been implemented to establish full access to the program from the high school level for students who may not be aware of the opportunities of the trades.

The company has about 125 employees.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRAD KADRICH

Sign of the times: Judy Baker of Westland holds up a sign showing some "new math" during Sunday's Million Mom March in Washington, D.C.

Westland mom part of march in D.C.

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

Judy Baker of Westland was in Dallas when the shootings occurred at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., in April 1999.

The events of that day were so terrifying to Baker that she wanted to pull her grandchildren in around her and keep them out of harm's way forever.

Knowing she couldn't do that, Baker did what she thought was the next best thing. She was one of an estimated 750,000 people on The Mall in Washington D.C. for Sunday's Million Mom March, the movement asking Congressional leaders for "reasonable gun control."

"When Columbine happened, I was so petrified I was ready to home-school my grandchildren," Baker said. "My husband told me, 'Why go to the march, what difference is one more woman going to make? Well, it might not make a difference (overall), but it makes a difference to me.'"

Baker was one of thousands of Michigan mothers who made the trek. Many left on buses from Livonia, making the 12-hour drive en masse in a show of solidarity and support for the mission, which grew out of the ashes of the April 1999 attack at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo.

Twelve students and a teacher were gunned down by students armed with weapons.

The Livonia bus contingent, which included women from Farmington Hills, Livonia, Plymouth, Troy, Auburn Hills, Dearborn and Royal Oak, was greeted by U.S. Rep. Debbie Stabenow, D-Lansing.

Stabenow, locked in what is by most accounts a bitter, hotly contested battle with Republican Sen. Spence Abraham, talked to the mothers individually, then addressed them as a group just before they left.

"This is one of those times when you're going to feel great about standing up and making a statement," she told them. "One day you'll look back on this and see it as a defining moment."

It was a theme carried on at the march, by speakers ranging from talk show host Rosie O'Donnell to Kerry Kennedy Cuomo, the daughter of Robert F. Kennedy, who told the group there "are more federally licensed gun dealers in this country than there are McDonald's franchises."

Other speakers included Jim Brady, Ronald Reagan's press secretary who was wounded in the attempted assassination of the president, and his wife, Sarah, actresses Susan Sarandon and Reese Witherspoon; several mothers of victims of gun violence, including Veronica McQueen, the mother of 6-year-old Kayla Rolland, shot by her 6-year-old Flint classmate; and Dawn Anna, the mother of Lauren Townsend, who died in the Columbine shootings.

All of them expressed gratitude and amazement at the turnout, which was much larger than expected, and urged the mothers to leave Washington and carry on the cause in their own communities.

While the turnout for the march was "incredible," that kind of continuing effort is critical to the mission, according to one of the local state coordinators.

"I was floored by the passion of those women, and astounded by the numbers," said Barb Case of Plymouth. "I found (the march) to be one of the most inspiring, awesome things I've ever seen. (But) from here we definitely have to work on educating people and identifying those (politicians) who support us and those who don't. I think we need to continue to recruit members and get our message out."

Board hopeful hosts open house

School board candidate Richard Eisinger will host an open house/fund-raiser on Friday, May 19, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at his home, 37155 Norene in Westland.

Eisinger, currently a school trustee, is one of four people seeking two seats on the board. He was appointed to the board to fill a vacancy last year so this is his first election.

He is a licensed real estate associate broker with Crossroads Realty (RE/MAX) in Canton.

His home is south of Palmer and east of Newburgh.

Happy 100th!

Celebration: Jean McSpadden (center) turns 100 years old Monday. Celebrating her birthday with her will be her sons Sam McSpadden (left) of Williamsburg Va., and Andy McSpadden of Livonia. She has four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. A resident of the Four Seasons Nursing Home in Westland, she is originally from Scotland and came to America in 1921. She has lived in West Virginia and has been in the Plymouth and Livonia area since the 1970s

STAFF PHOTO BY TONI RAWLEY

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Attentive: Keith Duncan (center), an eighth grader from Marshall Middle School, watches closely.



Her honor: Judge Gail McKnight holds her proceedings for Law Day at Adams Middle School.

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HANLEY

Students see first-hand how court system really works

The annual Law Day court proceedings were held at Adams Middle School last Friday.

Eighth graders from Adams, Stevenson, Marshall and Franklin attended the 18th District Court proceedings held by Judge Gail McKnight and Judge C. Charles Bokos.

The national program, instituted in 1958 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, offers children a realistic look at the criminal justice system.

Many of the cases before the judges are relevant to the students and help bring a touch of reality to their lives.

Law Day was designed to bring courts to the people and demonstrate how America's judicial system works.

The program has become increasingly popular in Westland since the mid-1980s.



Check it out: Erin Herbst (left) and Juliette Rattif, eighth graders at Adams Middle School, look at the court docket prior to the beginning of court.

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Apology from page A1

In January, LeBlanc and Anderson filed a complaint with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office accusing Cox and council colleagues Griffin, Sharon Scott and David James of violating the OMA by discussing the dismissal of then-City Clerk Patricia Gibbons behind closed doors.

An assistant prosecutor said there was insufficient evidence to pursue the complaint.

LeBlanc said he was satisfied with the prosecutor's finding and apologized to the four accused council members. Anderson, on the other hand, wasn't nearly as repentant.

Since Gibbons was fired in January, there has been a grassroots effort to recall the four council members - Cox, James, Scott and Griffin - who support-

ed her firing after a 23-year career with the city. About 10 recall supporters picketed and collected signatures in front of City Hall before the meeting.

Currently, only Scott is eligible for recall. To target the other three, recall supporters must wait until July to file petitions. The three have statutory protection from recall during the first six months of their terms in office.

The firing of Gibbons has "divided this town like no other issue," LeBlanc said.

That's the one issue on which council members agree. More than 100 residents

attended Monday's meeting, booing and hissing at Council President Griffin and Mayor Robert Thomas.

Reading from a lengthy statement, Councilman LeBlanc said "please consider these comments as a statement of retraction, apology and regret regarding the request of the Wayne County prosecutor."

"I acknowledge it had to be difficult for the council members and their families to endure questioning, skepticism and criticism regarding alleged conduct while the OMA question was being sorted out. Indeed, I do apologize for that."

LeBlanc knew his constituents would incense some constituents. Many shook their heads in disapproval during his statement.

"Many people have encouraged me to not apologize and may believe this statement is akin to kowtowing," LeBlanc said. "It is not. Failure to comply with certain requests based upon the advice of legal counsel can set the stage for something far more unappealing."

Council members and the mayor thanked LeBlanc for his statements.

"That makes me feel very good," Scott said. "This has been a long time coming."

"I'm ready to let it go," James said.

Clearly, Anderson isn't as willing to forgive and forget.

"I'm not offering a blanket apology," he boldly stated.

He said he still believes council members discussed Gibbons' firing outside of a public meeting.

"It's obvious that at least, at the very least, a poll was taken," he said. "I think that's unfortunate for her and for the city. I maintain that I believe the dismissal of the clerk was wrong. She should have been given an opportunity to defend herself."

In a later interview, Griffin

said he was surprised by Anderson's comments and lack of apology.

"An apology was in order," Griffin said. "He was wrong. It's clear and simple that he was wrong."

He said he encourages Anderson to follow LeBlanc's example.

"I hope we can work together to get past this," Griffin said. Anderson did offer one back-handed apology.

"If anyone was professionally or personally harmed by any statement I made, I regret that," he said. "Even though I don't believe I did that."

Harmony

from page A1

questions were answered while others were not.

Regarding those unanswered questions, Art O'Donohue offered the council an emotion-laded diatribe.

"Questions are answered for several reasons," he said. "When citizens did not ask questions, and let the government tell them it's all right, we had Germany, 1933."

He criticized Mayor Robert Thomas for refusing to answer some questions at the last meeting and demanded an apology from him.

Mario Gracin, a recall leader, said he agrees with Marvaso as far as demonstrating decorum, but he won't accept his government as it is.

"I disagree with some of the individuals who run the city," he said. "Under the present circumstances, when no answers are given, when no cooperation is given, I'll exercise my constitutional right by recalling them."

Summertime concert series starts June 4

Starting June 4, Westland continues its summer concert series.

The Cosmopolitan Band, with Ormond Angeloni, will kick off the season with big band music. The free shows start at 6 p.m. in the Westland Library Performance Pavilion, behind the library at 6123 Central City Parkway.

Bring your own chairs or blankets. If it rains, concerts may be held inside the Bailey Recreation Center. Call 722-7620 or 522-3918 for more information.

Concerts include:
Ramblin' Country, July 11;
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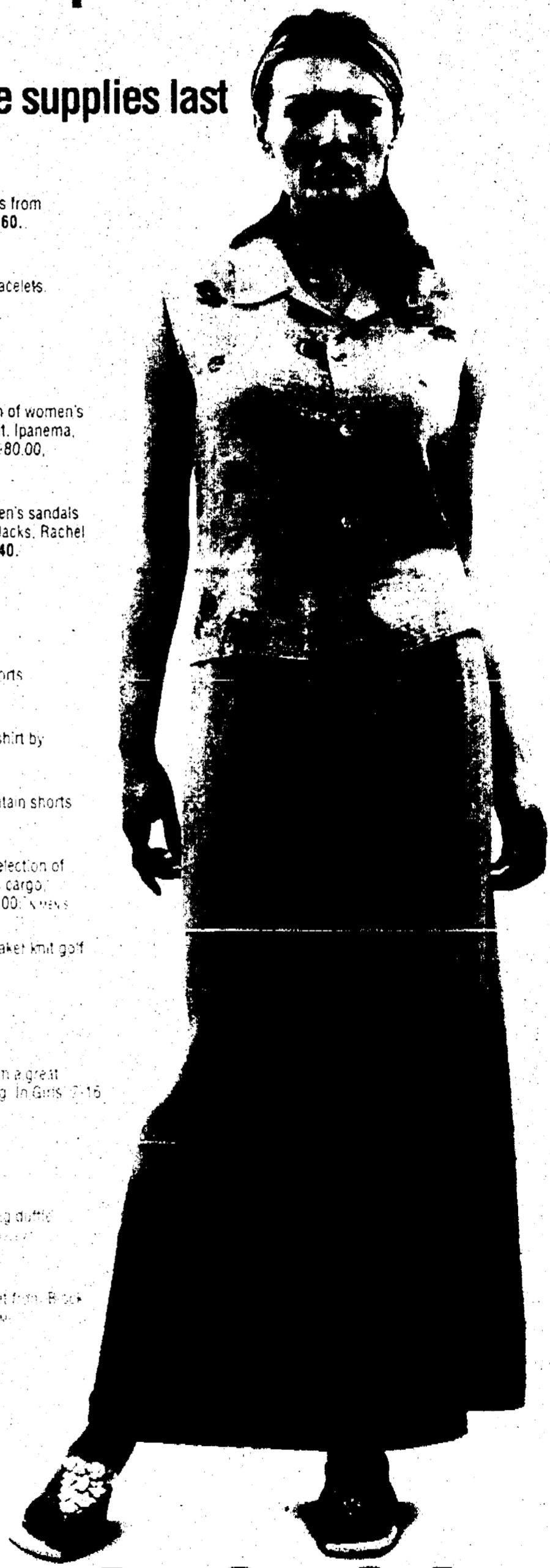
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Candidates file

McPhail joins prosecutor's race

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER
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A late filing as candidate for Wayne County prosecuting attorney grabbed the spotlight from other races as registration for the Aug. 4 primary election closed earlier this week.

Sharon McPhail, a Detroit attorney and former mayoral and county executive candidate, announced on Tuesday - the final day - and heated a simmering race to a near-boil.

Before, the race to succeed retiring prosecutor John O'Hair had been largely a three-way contest between Deputy County Executive Michael E. Duggan of Livonia, Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney George Ward of Plymouth and state Sen. Virgil A. Smith of Detroit, with Duggan seen as leading.

But the addition of four other Detroit-based candidates - in particular McPhail, who has a reputation for speaking her mind - overshadowed at least a couple of surprise candidacies in western Wayne County races.

One was the entry into the Democratic primary for county treasurer by longtime state Sen. George Hart, D-Dearborn Heights, who will be one of four opposing incumbent George Wojtowicz in the primary. No Republicans are running.

Hart, a former Wayne County commissioner who has less than three years left before being term-limited from office, said only that he has run for treasurer before. "I want to serve" and "improve efficiencies" in the treasurer's department, he said.

Treasurer pays about \$15,000 more per year than the \$55,000 he earns as state senator, Hart said.

Also filing on Tuesday was Philip M. Cavanagh, a son of the late Detroit mayor Jerome Cavanagh. Philip Cavanagh, of Dearborn Heights, is a Democratic candidate for the District 9 county commission seat held by Republican Kathleen Husk of



Sharon McPhail

appointed to the office to complete an unexpired term by County Executive Ed McNamara, said, "I'm proud of my record and will campaign on my vision and leadership."

A Youngblood - Bernard J. of Grosse Pointe Farms - was among the 15 Democrats filing for the primary in the Register of Deeds race, opened via the pending retirement of longtime registrar Forest A. Youngblood.

Outgoing state Rep. Thomas H. Kelly and Jim Netter, both of Wayne, were the only two western Wayne County candidates seeking the deeds position.

In the race for prosecutor, McPhail, who once worked under O'Hair as warrants division chief, said she knows the office "and would do very good."

The issue, she said, is "the independence of the prosecutor's office. You've got to have someone in that position who will not exercise a political vendetta against anyone," she said.

The concern is that Duggan is endorsed by his boss, McNamara, whom McPhail noted has two other proteges in high legal positions: Saul Green, U.S. district attorney for Detroit, and Jennifer Granholm, state attorney general. Both previously worked for McNamara.

"We don't need another county executive candidate running the last major legal criminal prosecutor's office in the state," she said.

Although George Ward is "a wonderful guy and a great candidate," McPhail said the results of a poll by Zogby International - which she said showed she had far greater name recognition (80 percent) - motivated her to run.

"Maybe the other races were not for me," she said.

She said she was "not going to allow" the other candidates "to turn this into a personal race."

"I'm tired of the divisiveness and tired of people hating each other."

O'Hair issued a statement emphasizing his support of Ward's candidacy.

Redford Township, who is seeking re-election.

Cavanagh, who resigned as a law clerk to federal judge Arthur Tarnow before filing, is the brother of District 1 commissioner Christopher F. Cavanagh, who is seeking re-election.

Cavanagh, who said "there needs to be more control" of county government by the commission, said as a Democrat, he would be more effective on the Democratic-controlled commission. "Husk doesn't have a big say. She can't get a lot done," he said.

At least four deputy sheriffs are among the seven candidates running in the Democratic primary against Sheriff Robert A. Ficano of Livonia, who was first elected in 1983.

A common thread from deputies Richard A. LeGreair, Darron McKinney and Marvin Taylor of Detroit and Brian Keating of Dearborn Heights is the desire to improve morale and gain higher visibility for the department.

"Sheriff Ficano is doing the best that he can," said McKinney. "I respect him as my sheriff."

Ficano, an attorney first

Madonna honors nurse students

Madonna University's Kappa Iota chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau, an international nursing honor society, recently inducted 47 students into their chapter. Kappa Iota chapter at Madonna University.

The following local Madonna University students and faculty are the new members of the prestigious group: Jeannine

Baughman, senior, of Garden City; Connie Mickelson, senior, of Livonia; Jennifer Morrisey, senior, Livonia; Shannon Ponagai, senior, Livonia; Maria Puscas, graduate student, Livonia; Sarah Goehmann, graduate, Wayne; Velda Coleman, nursing faculty, Westland; Marsha Potter, senior, Westland; and Kelly Provost, senior, Westland.

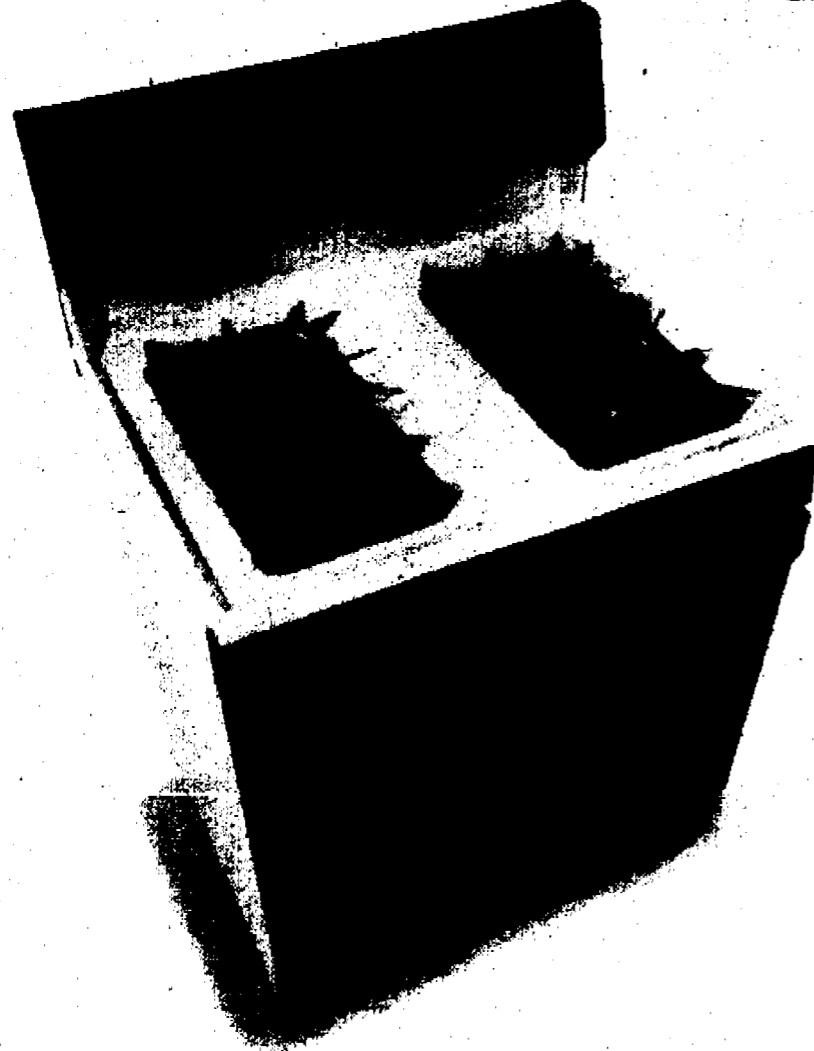
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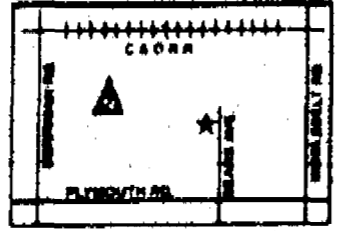
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Tougher recall standards may be revived

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
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'I want local voters to know that their vote during elections means something.'

State Rep. Charles LaSata
R-St. Joseph

Recall attempts can have a "chilling effect" on local government officials, according to State Rep. Charles LaSata, R-St. Joseph.

City Council members, township officials and school board members have told state lawmakers how recall threats have been used to intimidate them, often causing them to avoid making tough or controversial decisions, or putting off those decisions until they can no longer be subjected to an ouster attempt.

That's why LaSata sponsored legislation to tighten down on recalls. His House Bill 4221 would make it more difficult to recall local officials by raising the number of votes needed to be successful. The legislation would require that a local official must be recalled a number of votes equal to or higher than the number by which his or she was originally elected.

The legislation was set aside recently by the House Committee on Constitutional Law and Ethics, but may come back. According to LaSata, a number of committee members who would have voted in favor of the bill were not present for the meeting and it was voted down in the 4-1 ballot. LaSata said

three members, who would likely have voted yes, were absent.

The chairman of the committee, Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, has left the door open for reconsideration if LaSata feels he can get the votes.

Several committee members opposed the bill on the grounds it would be seen as protecting themselves from recall. State lawmakers can be recalled, although it is usually local officials who are the targets.

LaSata said he's willing to amend the bill to exclude state officeholders from the new vote standards. He wants the tougher recall law to apply only to local officials.

Recall attempts have long been the bane of local government officials. LaSata tells of recall attempts that have been highly disruptive to communities. One town on the west side of the state, Benton Harbor, saw 24 recall attempts against the mayor and city council members in a 12-month period. Oakland County likewise has seen a large

number of recalls in recent years, 68 in the last five, resulting in four elections and the ouster of one township official.

LaSata said lawmakers have heard from as many as 150 local government officials from across Michigan about how attempts to throw them and their colleagues out of office have disrupted the operations of municipal boards. He said the bill has the support of a long list of state organizations - including the Michigan Township Association, Michigan Municipal League and the Michigan Association of School Boards - as well as the Secretary of State.

LaSata cited one case in which a mayor was recalled after having been voted into office by 70 percent of the municipality's electorate. The recall election, held during the holidays, ousted that mayor with a turnout of less than 4 percent.

"I want local voters to know that their vote during elections means something," the representative said.

LaSata admits his proposal

won't do anything to eliminate the fact that local officials will have to go through the long process of defending themselves when they have become recall targets. His bill only changes the end of the recall process, when the vote is taken. But his original bill would have restricted recalls to those cases in which the reason for recall is "misfeasance, malfeasance and nonfeasance" - essentially doing the job in a wrongful or illegal manner, or not doing the job at all.

Only 33 states allow recalls of local elected officials, LaSata said, and roughly half of those restrict the use of recalls to instances of misfeasance or nonfeasance. According to the representative, that change would return Michigan to the standard used up until the adoption of the current state Constitution in 1963.

"Michigan is in the minority of states that allow recalls for just any reason," he said.

Local officials would still be held accountable by voters, he argued, but they would have to wait for regularly scheduled elections to make their views known. He noted that the longest term of office to which officials who can be recalled is four years, and most recallable offices carry only two year terms.

Schoolcraft may create two-tier business tuition

BY RICHARD FRANK
STAFF WRITER
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Schoolcraft College is considering revising its policy on tuition and fees for business, industry and government which send employees to the college for its various corporate training programs.

The revision, if approved by the college's board of trustees, would create a two-tier system of \$54 per credit hour for students from firms or governmental units located within the district and \$90 for those from firms outside the district.

That fee also would apply to employees working for Michigan entities with plants outside the state. The college's regular out-of-state tuition is \$119 per hour.

While the revision will increase school revenue some, it also is expected to reduce

enrollment proceeding with, according to George Adams, director of instruction. Adams sent the proposal to the board April 25.

"We now do more business with companies in Michigan," he said, many of which are based outside the district. In addition, through grants, many have plants outside the state from which they also send employees to Schoolcraft.

The revision would affect about 100 of the 1,287 businesses, industries and government bodies now utilizing the college's computer training and other corporate programs, according to Bruce Sweet, Schoolcraft director of business and industry services.

Of those 100, 49 are located in the district, he said. Overall, only 270 of the entities are based within the college district.

Rouge Fishing Derby set for Saturday

More than a thousand bluegill are expected to be reeled in when the fifth annual Wayne County Parks Fishing Derby takes place Saturday, May 20, in Northville.

The morning event at the Waterford Bend Picnic Area along the Rouge River is expected to draw fishermen of all ages for both the competition and the open fishing.

The 8-10 a.m. fishing derby and casting contest, limited to children age 12 and under, will be followed at 10:30 a.m. with prizes being awarded in several

age categories for catching largest fish, smallest fish and specially tagged fish.

The open fishing, for people of all ages, will run 10 a.m. to noon.

Registration for the derby, which is co-sponsored by the Plymouth/Canton Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 528 and the Northville Parks and Recreation Department, will be 7:30-8 a.m.

No fishing license is required, but participants must bring their own equipment.

Sam Minz, county parks recreation manager, said the state

Department of Natural Resources suspends the license requirement for the derby.

County Executive Edward H. McNamara noted that "Wayne County is making great strides in restoring the Rouge River."

"What better way for our visitors to enjoy it than a fishing derby?" he asked.

The Waterford Bend Picnic Area is located on Northville Road just north of Six Mile Road. Six Mile runs west from I-275 to Northville Road.

For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

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Michigan touts good boating safety record

LIVONIA, Mich., May 16 (PRNewswire) -- Michigan has more registered boaters than any other state in the country (980,378), and National Safe Boating Week, May 20 - 26, 2000, is a time for these boaters to celebrate their impressive safety record.

It is also a time for experienced boaters to review safety skills and for new boaters to learn how to boat safely before the start of the 2000 boating season.

Boating safety has been a priority for the industry for the past 30 years. The joint efforts between marine dealers, the Michigan DNR, Local Sheriff's Departments, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Power Squadron, other training groups, as well as responsible boaters has paid off.

"The Michigan DNR reports that through education and responsible operation, boating accidents and fatalities in Michigan have declined steadily as boat registrations in this state have increased dramatically," said Michigan Boating Industries Association President Van Snider.

Boating accidents in Michi-

gan dropped in 1999 to 430 from 514 in 1998. Boating related fatalities in Michigan for 1999 remained at a low of 28 (up only three compared to 25 in 1998).

Twenty-one of the 27 boats involved in fatal accidents in Michigan in 1999 were 16 feet or less in length. Ten of these 27 boats did not have a motor, and 14 of the 27 were kayaks, canoes, rowboats, paddleboats, and/or personal watercraft.

Nationally, seven out of ten people who die in boating related accidents drown. In Michigan, 23 of the 28 who died on the water in 1999 were not wearing a life jacket.

"If life jackets had been worn, it's possible that 23 of these Michigan boaters may still be alive today," said Snider. The theme of this year's National Safe Boating Week campaign focuses on the use of personal flotation devices (PFDs). "Wear Your Life Jacket - Boat Smart From the Start" is the slogan.

Michigan law mandates that all children under 6 must wear a life jacket while on the water.

For more information visit www.safeboatingcampaign.com

Cost of airport audit gets expensive

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
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Expenses of the Legislature's Detroit Metropolitan Airport Joint Select Committee may have reached the \$200,000, according to Rep. Raymond Basham, D-Taylor, well over the amount originally allocated for a review and audit of airport operations.

That price tag would include \$50,000 in direct costs and the rest in salary and other expenses incurred, for instance, when state staffers attend meetings about the issue, Basham estimated.

But according to Rep. James Koetje, R-Grandville, the costs aren't anywhere near that high. Yes, he admitted, the committee has exceeded the \$10,000 mentioned in the resolution creating the committee, but it had been expected to. The resolution allowed for additional costs with the approval of the Speaker of the House and the Senate Majority Leaders. So the Select Committee has not exceeded its original authorization, he said.

It's the latest round to be fired in the partisan battle over Metro Airport.

Last year, after a federal review of the snow-related delays that left passengers stranded on planes for hours in Detroit, state lawmakers



Dave Katz: Former airports director.

launched into an audit of airport operations of their own. Specifically of concern are 33 contracts for services to the airport including food concessions, construction, maintenance, parking and snow removal. Preliminary results indicate there are no records to show that 21 of those contracts were subjected to a competitive bid process.

Republicans defend the review as appropriate, considering the amount of state and federal money that flows to Metro.

Democrats say it is all politics, little more than a continuation of a feud between Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara and House Speaker Chuck Perricone, R-Kalamazoo.

In any case, the six members of the committee agreed to order up a report from the state Auditor General's office about the cost of the review itself, to be presented at every future meeting of the panel.

Democrats also allege that Republicans are dragging the audit out. State auditors would have already completed their work if the airport would turn over the documents they need, Koetje said. "If fact, they'd have been done months ago."

Delays criticized

Former airport director David Katz said he wanted information requests from the auditors to flow through his office so he could log them, to determine what records had been turned over and which had not. The practice initially continued under new director Lester Robinson.

But auditors complained that caused long delays in getting the necessary documents. Some requests for records remain unfilled three to four months after having first been made, Koetje said. It took more than 120 days to fill a request for a

copy of a county ordinance, he said.

"They say they are cooperating with us, but that kind of falls on deaf ears with me," Koetje said.

Rep. Mickey Mortimer, R-Hanover, said the purpose of the state review is to bring the airport operations into alignment with "generally accepted accounting practices." And he said he hopes the committee can make recommendations, when it's done with its work later this year, to assure taxpayers that public money is being spent wisely at the airport.

Mortimer said he believed the state has the authority to conduct the audit, because the airport receives some \$65 million from the state and federal governments each year. Basham questions the state's legal authority to conduct the audit. Normally, airport officials would report to the Wayne County Board of Commissioners, which would be the appropriate body to order up such a review, Basham argues.

Mortimer contends that Basham's criticisms of the committee are simply intended to diminish the impact of its work when the audit report is finally issued.

"I suspect he's just carrying the water for his party caucus," Mortimer said.

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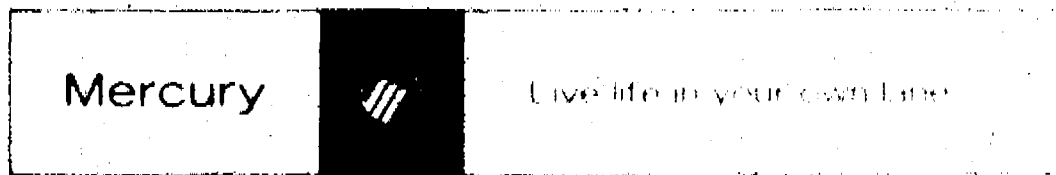
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Ringling the bell

Grandmother finds job she loves at Westland restaurant

By Margaret Clark
 Staff Writer
 margaret@observer.com

Bernice Slanaker stands out among her Taco Bell co-workers. "I'm the only one with white hair," the 76-year-old grandmother said.

This month marks Slanaker's 30th anniversary at the Taco Bell on Wayne Road just south of Hunter. She was hired as one of the original employees.

"I helped put up shelves and stock the place," she said. "I've been here since the beginning. I'm the only one left."

Slanaker works as a cashier four days a week, and she has seen some changes in the customers over the years.

"Kids who came in 20 years ago still come in, only now they're grown up and married," she said. "They bring their own kids in."

Slanaker has noticed changes in youngsters' appearance over the years, too.

"I've seen them go from long hair to short hair to no hair," she said, adding that youngsters wear earrings in many more places than they did two decades ago.

"That was a real trip when I started to see the kids wearing all the earrings everywhere," she said. "It has been an education."

Slanaker also knows senior citizens who regularly visit the Taco Bell, and many want to know why she has continued to work even after her husband, Gene, retired from his job designing car seats.

"I love my job," she said, sitting at a restaurant table before the opening of business. "I like the people I work with. They're very nice, and they've always respected me."

In addition to working as a cashier, Slanaker also cleans, plants flowers outside and decorates inside for special occasions like Halloween, high school graduations and Christmas.

"She's a great person," assistant manager April Roberson said. "She's real friendly and nice. Everybody loves Bernice - all the customers and the



Happy to help: Bernice Slanaker likes working at the Taco Bell on Wayne Road. She has seen young customers grow up and become adults, returning with their own children to the store.

employees."

Slanaker has noticed many menu changes over the years, such as the new gorditas and chalupas. She prefers the nacho bell grande, although she admits she's watching her weight.

Slanaker takes time off from her job so that she and her husband can spend time with their six children and eight grandchildren, some of whom live out

of state. But she always returns to work.

"I enjoy people, and it helps me to get out and get moving," she said. "No challenge is too big for me. I have a lot of patience."

Slanaker has no plans to quit her job anytime soon.

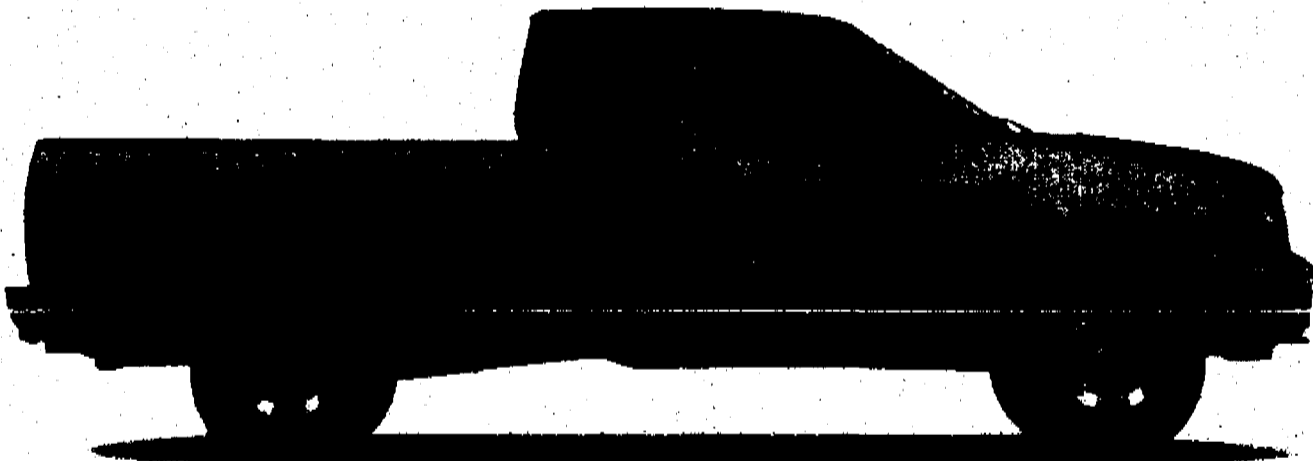
"I'm going to keep working until I can't work anymore," she said.

"I helped put up shelves and stock the place. I've been here since the beginning. I'm the only one left."

Bernice Slanaker
 Taco Bell veteran

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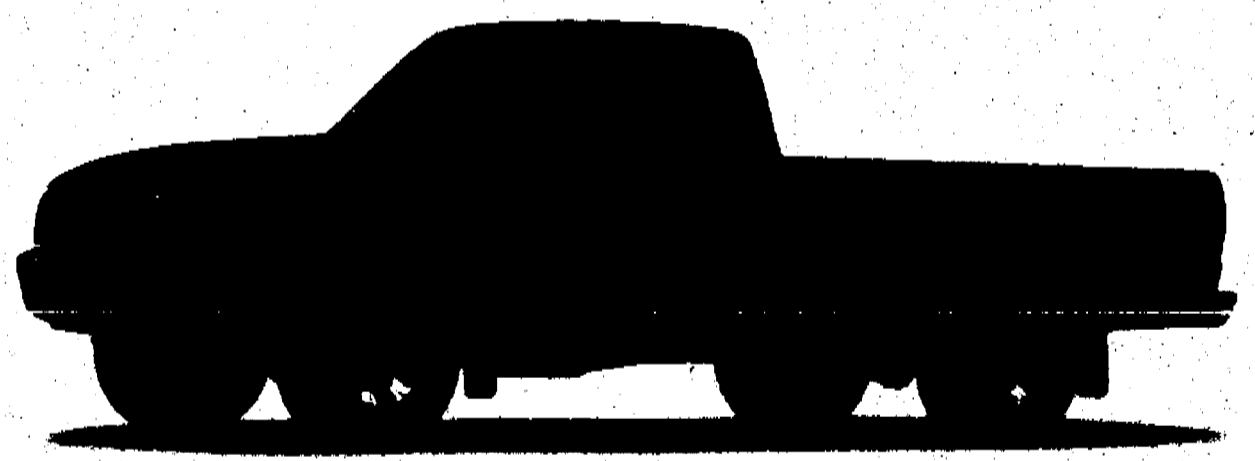
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JERRY E. MIKELL
Services for Jerry Mikell, 53, of Westland were May 13 in R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Garden City with burial at United Memorial Gardens. Officiating was the Rev. Frank Howard from the Living Rock Church.
Mr. Mikell was born March 4, 1947, in Waco, Texas, and died May 11, in Ann Arbor. He was a truck driver.
Surviving are his wife, Sandra; son, Dana (Stacy); parents, Ernest and Margaret; brother, Rick; sister, Connie Williams; and grandchildren, Andrew and Autumn.
Mr. Mikell was preceded in death by his sister, Cathy Rohloff.

member of First United Methodist Church, Northville.
Surviving are her husband, Theodore; sons, Robert (Angela) of Northville and Todd (Paige) of Westland; mother, Harriet Randolph of Florida; brother, Curt (Fran) Randolph of Florida; and four grandchildren. ●

ROGER D. LEE
Services for Roger Lee, 57, of Westland were May 16 in Gillies Funeral Home, Lincoln, Mich. with burial at Twin Lakes Cemetery, Lincoln. Officiating was the Rev. Ralph Anderson.
Mr. Lee was born Sept. 7, 1942, in Harrisville, and died May 12, in Westland. He was a carpenter and was a member of the Church of God.
Surviving are his wife, Charlotte; son, Roger Lee of Lincoln; daughters, Juanita (Jay) Orr of Maryland and Peggy (Dan) Rosochacki of Westland; mother, Ruth Lee of Livonia; brother, Kevin Lee of Plymouth; sister, Diane (John) Aton of Westland; and six grandchildren.
Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home.

West, Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Joe Jones.
Mr. Elkins was born May 8, 1919, and died May 10, in Wayne. He was a machinist at General Motors.
Surviving are his son, Bobby (Shirley) Elkins; daughter, Brenda (Ken) Boyd; brother, Lee Elkins; seven grandchildren, Lynn Hanson, Patty Elkins, Nichole Boyd, Charles Elkins, Dwayne Elkins, Ivan Boyd and Gabriel Boyd; and six great-grandchildren.
Mr. Elkins was preceded in death by his wife, Alene; brothers, Pallos, Everitt, Johnny and Benny; and sisters, Mary Royal, Emma Taylor and Ella Johnson.

Wayne/Westland School District
Westland, Michigan 48336
SECTION 00010
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for Bid Package #10: John Glenn High School Additions & Remodeling Project
Wayne-Westland Community Schools will be received until **1:30 P.M.** local time on **Thursday, June 18, 2000**, at which time they will be opened and read publicly at Wayne-Westland Community School Board of Education, 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan 48185. Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened. Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

This Bid Package will consist of a separate sealed bid for the following Bid Divisions:

Bid Division	Description
102	Asphalt
103	Selective Demolition
104	Concrete Footings & Foundations
105	Concrete Flatwork
106	Masonry
107	Steel
108	Carpentry & General Trades
109	Roofing/Sheetmetal
112	Caulking
113	Hollow Metal, Wood Doors & Finish Hardware (Supply)
114	Aluminum Windows, Entrances, Glass & Glazing
115	Metal Studs/Drywall/E.I.F.S.
116	Hard Tile
117	Acoustical Treatment
118	Carpet & Resilient Flooring
120	Painting
120A	Electrostatic painting
122	Signage
123	Operable Partitions
124	Wood Flooring
125	Toilet Partitions
126	Metal Lockers
127	Fixed Audience Seating
128	Prefabricated CaseWork & Countertops
129	Passenger Elevator Modifications (Alternate)
130	Window Treatments
136	Telescoping Bleachers
138	Stage Curtains, Rigging & Tracks
140	Plumbing
142	HVAC
143	Electrical
144	Auditorium Seating
148	Landscaping

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Associates, Inc.** will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, **McSEV**, 25950 West Five Mile Rd., Redford, MI 48239; the FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; and the Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit.

Bidders may obtain one (1) set of bidding documents by contacting the Construction Manager, **McSEV**, at (313) 535-6213. (Note: Bidders are issued 1/4 size plans. Plan scales are to be adjusted accordingly.) Additional plans may be ordered and purchased directly from Dunn Blue Reprographics Technology, (248) 353-2950. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, **McSEV**. The bid division(s) being bid is (are) to be identified on the outside of the envelope. There will be a Pre-Bid Meeting held on **Wednesday, May 31, 2000 @ 2:30 P.M. at the John Glenn High School cafeteria**. All bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond in the amount of at least five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Wayne-Westland Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Wayne-Westland Community Schools reserve the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

KENNETH F. MUGGELBERG SR.
Services for Kenneth Muggelberg Sr., 71, of Wayne were May 11 in Uht Funeral Home. Officiating was the Rev. Neil Cowling.
Mr. Muggelberg was born July 20, 1928, and died May 7, in Wayne. He was a fireman.
Surviving are his wife, May; sons, Kenneth, Jr. and William; daughters, Ilene Evans, Roberta Evans, Pamela Snyder and Lisa (Paul) Letts of Westland; brother, Archie Muggelberg; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

RUTH M. STARBUCK
Services for Ruth Starbuck, 80, of Westland were May 15 in Uht Funeral Home. Officiating was the Rev. Rob Joy.
Mrs. Starbuck was born Dec. 28, 1919, and died May 15, in Wayne. She was a food service manager.
Surviving are her daughters, Harriet (Harold) Buck and Cheryl Starbuck; sister, Irene Snodgrass; two grandchildren, Sandi (Roy) Moebis and Ron (Amy) Buck; and two great-granddaughters.

VALERY J. BUSSLER
Services for Valery Bussler, 43, of Wayne were May 13 in Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland with burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Denis Theroux.
Mrs. Bussler was born Nov. 22, 1956, in Detroit, and died May 10, in Farmington Hills. She was a homemaker. She was a member of St. Edith Catholic Church.
Surviving are her husband, Donn Bussler; mother, M. Carol Werabelski of Redford; sisters, Margaret Werabelski of Redford and Regina (Roger) Kersey of Westland; and grandfather, George Reiterman of Warren.

HARRIET E. WILEY
Services for Harriet Wiley, 75, of West Bloomfield were May 17 in A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, Troy.
Mrs. Wiley was born July 2, 1924, in Bedford, Ind., and died May 13, at her residence in West Bloomfield. She was a resident of West Bloomfield since 1971.
She was club manager for Village Woman's Club for 26 years, retiring in 1990. She was a graduate of Northern High School, Detroit. She loved traveling, playing cards, reading and cooking. Mrs. Wiley was a military wife for 22 years.
Surviving are her son, Christopher (Toni) Wiley of Rochester Hills; daughters, Cathleen (Michael) Fraga of Rochester Hills and Cynthia (Keith) Baker of Westland; and six grandchildren.
Memorial contributions may be made to American Heart Association.

JEAN M. WAGNER
Services for Jean Wagner, 77, of Westland were May 16 in Vermeulen Funeral Home, Westland with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens, West, Westland. Officiating was the Rev. Kenneth J. Belch.
Mr. Wagner was born April 23, 1923, in Detroit, and died May 12, in Wayne. He was employed as a general office worker. He was a veteran and served in the U.S. Navy.
Surviving are his wife, Dorothy; son Stephen (Coleen) Wagner of California; daughter, Janice (Dan) Partello of Romulus; brothers, Herbert (Dorothy) Wagner of Florida and Paul (Agnes) Wagner of Plymouth; and granddaughter, Patty Partello of Romulus.
Memorial contributions may be made to U.P. Bible Camp.

BERTHA J. MILLER
Services for Bertha Miller, 80, of Wayne were May 15 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Glenwood Cemetery in Wayne. Officiating was the Rev. Jack Baker.
Mrs. Miller was born April 30, 1920, and died May 11, in Ann Arbor. She was a homemaker.
Surviving are her daughter, Willamina (Terry) Petterson; brothers, Joseph of Westland and Paul of Livonia; and sister, Helen.
Mrs. Miller was preceded in death by her husband, Willard; son, Willard II; brother, John; and sister, Emily.
Memorial contributions may be made to Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor.

SONDRA L. PETTY
Services for former Westland resident, Sondra Petty, 62, were May 16 in First United Methodist Church, Northville with burial at Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Douglas W. Vernon.
Mrs. Petty was born Jan. 15, 1938, in McKeesport, Pa., and died May 12, 2000. She was a retired secretary for Wayne Westland Schools. She was a

CHARLES M. ELKINS
Services for Charles Elkins, 81, of Westland were May 13 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens

County exec chairs golf benefit on Friday

Less than a day remains before the New Morning School 5th Annual Golf Outing. Friends of the school, parents, community members and celebrity chairman, Wayne County Executive Edward H. McNamara, will tee off beginning at 8 a.m. Friday, May 19.

A non-profit, parent cooperative school located in Plymouth for children in grade pre-K through grade eight, New Morning School is hoping to attract dozens of foursomes and individuals interested in hitting the greens for a worthy cause.

According to George Davinich, NMS development director, the golf outing has progressively grown in appeal and attendance since 1995.

"This is a friendly outing that's very well attended," said Davinich. "We are honored to have Mr. McNamara chairing the event. He has been involved in a very hands-on capacity since the beginning."

Foursomes will tee off at 8 a.m. May 19 at the Warren Valley Golf Course in Dearborn Heights. A banquet is set for 2 p.m. to include a catered meal, trophies and prizes for those who participated. Central Distributors of Beer Inc. of Romulus is the corporate event sponsor and co-chairs include CDOB president Karen Wilson (NMS board member), Betty Jean Awrey of Awrey Bakeries and Wayne County Commissioner Lyn Bankes.

Players will also enjoy contests at various holes, such as closest to the pin and a hole-in-one challenge.

Proceeds from the event will support operating expenses and future expansions at the 8,500 square foot facility on Haggerty Road. Elaine Yagiela, executive director of New Morning School, said the school serves approximately 110 students (85 families) within a 20-mile radius of their location encompassing 15 communities.

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PSC wants return of authority over phone company

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Deregulation is working in Michigan, according to Ameritech Vice President Bob Cooper, "a little bit. It needs to be accelerated here."

"In New York and California, it's working a lot. What's the difference? The difference is regulation ... competition brings lower prices and more choices, but we can't get there through more rules and artificial price cuts. Price cuts and more regulation is not the answer," Cooper told members of the state House of Representatives last week.

Allowing Ameritech to enter the long-distance market and compete against companies like AT&T and MCI would force them to come in and compete against Ameritech, Cooper argued.

Repeated complaints

That won't happen, according to Rep. Marc Shulman, R-West Bloomfield, if Ameritech engages in anti-competitive practices. When a competitor moves into an "incumbent" phone company's territory it must connect to the wider phone network, to Ameritech.

But Shulman said lawmakers have heard repeated complaints that the connection can take up

■ 'In New York and California, it's working a lot. What's the difference? The difference is regulation ... competition brings lower prices and more choices, but we can't get there through more rules and artificial price cuts. Price cuts and more regulation is not the answer.'

Bob Cooper
Ameritech Vice President

to 53 days when Ameritech has to do the work. Few customers can wait that long, he noted. And Ameritech customers get hooked up in only a couple of days.

Cooper said that's the goal of a new center. Ameritech has opened in Grand Rapids, to provide competitor companies with same services needed to hook up customers that Ameritech provides for itself.

Still, the complaint of slow access to the network for competitors is the basis of a bill Shulman is sponsoring, HB 4804, now pending before the House Energy and Technology Committee. His proposal would give the PSC the ability to hear complaints from competitors when incumbents act in anti-competitive ways.

Along with HB 5721, by Rep.

Mary Ann Midaugh, the bills form a package that would count as the House's version of a needed rewrite of the Michigan Telecommunications Act. Passed in 1995 to deregulate the telephone industry, that law expires at the end of the year.

Competition 'anemic'

Cooper gave Ameritech's position on the bills in a hearing before the committee last week.

Public Service Commission member David Svanda would agree with Cooper on at least one issue, there is little competition in Michigan. He calls it "anemic."

Svanda, along with Public Service Commission chairman John Strand, were on hand to testify before the committee. Strand too agreed in part with Cooper and Ameritech.

"Regulation and delay are the enemies of competition. Competition can't wait," Strand said. He's looking for more authority for the PSC and the ability for it to reach quicker decisions.

Other states have given their utility oversight commissions a great deal more authority to manage deregulation and the initiation of competition than Michigan has given its Public Service Commission, Strand said. Every other state's commission has the authority to declare area code splits, but not the PSC. Other states have given their commissions the authority to "yank licenses" when telephone companies engage in anti-competitive practices.

Authority needed

Some states, like Texas, have given their commissions too much authority, Strand said. Still, Michigan needs more than it has.

Gov. John Engler's proposal for a 5 percent cut in telephone rates, part of Midaugh's bill, is a fine idea, Strand said. But true competition should be able to trim prices much further.

Long-distance service, Strand said, is the one area of the telephone industry where true competition does exist. As a result, rates in some areas have been slashed up to 90 percent. A dili-

gent shopper can find long distance service for as low as 5 cents a minute, he said.

It is local phone service where the state has been unable to spur competition. Strand said that five years after deregulation was called for in the telecommunications act, 98 percent of phone lines are still in the hands of the incumbent carrier, the original service provider. Most of those lines are in the hands of Ameritech. More than 100 licenses have been issued to competitor companies, Strand contended, but most remain unused.

Midaugh's bill also proposes, as Engler urged, giving additional authority to the PSC until it determines that true market competition has been achieved here. Committee members asked Strand to give his definition of competition, and Strand declined.

"I hate to give you a specific definition. Companies could go that far and, when that definition has been achieved, you could see things begin to tighten down again," he said.

Cooper defended his company before the committee. He said Ameritech has invested \$10 million in the state's telephone infrastructure. He said he believes the state now has a state of the art telephone system. And he noted that

Ameritech's 17,000 employees provide 25,000 hours of community service within the state in the course of each year.

But his main point was that the lack of competition is because some companies who have ability to enter the market have chosen not to. AT&T and MCI, for instance, would be quite able to begin competition against Ameritech for local service but have not entered the market in a significant way.

Long distance

Cooper argues that competition for local service could be spurred if Ameritech was able to enter the long distance market and compete with them there. They'd have to respond, Cooper argues, into that incursion into their market.

Committee members promised support of Ameritech in receiving approval from the Federal Communications Commission to enter the long distance arena. But according to Michigan Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications (MiACT), the FCC has turned Ameritech's application on the grounds the company has not done enough to spur competition in its own base market in Michigan.

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Two vie for GOP nomination to face Sullivan for commission

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

Two Canton Township residents are seeking the Republican nomination for the District 11 seat on the Wayne County Commission in the Aug. 8 primary.

The winner of the race between Fred A. Bolden, 45, a computer consultant, and Rob A. Bovitz, 39, a certified public accountant, will get the chance to unseat incumbent Democrat John J. Sullivan in the Nov. 7 general election.

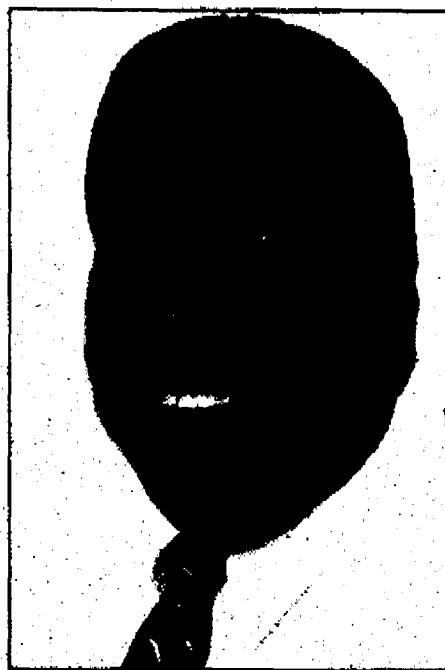
Sullivan, 29 of Wayne, was first elected in 1998 and is seeking re-election to the two-year post. The district includes the townships of Canton, Huron, Sumpter and Van Buren and the cities of Wayne, Belleville and Romulus.

Bolden, an eight-year Canton resident who ran for the commission seat in the '98 primary as a Democrat, switched parties this year because the Republicans "are more in line with my philosophy of lower taxes and tax reform," he said.

He also charged the Democrats had "pre-selected Sullivan" as their candidate and did not support his effort.

A former AT&T employee now under contract to Daimler-Chrysler, Bolden said Wayne County is "one of the highest-taxed counties in the state."

He seeks, among other things, accountability in government spending and improved efforts by Wayne County in securing new business development.



Fred A. Bolden

He favors public education and programs for "welfare recipients, displaced workers, the unemployed and under-employed (and) disadvantaged youth."

Bolden and his wife are expecting their third child in July. This is his second run for public office.

Bovitz, a first-time candidate, moved to Canton two years ago after spending his first 37 years in Trenton. He and his wife are building a house near Beck and Cherry Hill roads.

"We're not going to be carpetbaggers like Hillary," he said, referring to the New York U.S. Senate candidate and wife of President Clinton.

The son of former Trenton mayor and ex-Southeast Michigan Council of Governments



Rob A. Bovitz

(SEMCOG) chairman Bob Bovitz, Rob Bovitz said he supports "a lot of things" County Executive Ed McNamara, a Democrat, has done for the county.

"We're friends," said Bovitz. "I am not a McNamara patsy, but I will stand up for him."

Regarding Sullivan, Bovitz said the latter's weakness in the 188-square-mile 11th District is low visibility. "Sullivan has his name on the new Sumpter fire hall but they've never seen him," Bovitz stated.

Bovitz is president of the Trenton CPA firm founded by his father.

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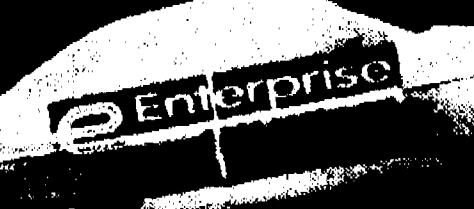
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Westland Observer

OPINION

A14(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN, 48150

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2000

Justifiably proud

School board tour is revealing

As the school year moves toward proms, graduations and end-of-year student awards programs, the Wayne-Westland school district can be justifiably proud of its current position.

Consider the following:

- The district's rainy day equity is up \$975,000 to about \$11 million.
- The district just honored its first National Merit Scholarship finalist in some years; she's Martina Moro, a senior at Wayne Memorial High School. She has a 4.0-plus grade point average and will go to UM-Dearborn to study computer science. She was also named an Observer Newspapers Academic All-Star.
- The school board toured the district Monday night to get an update on the district's \$108 million building bond issue. Approved early in 1998, the money is being used to renovate the schools, build new classrooms and upgrade equipment, especially for technology.

The district, the parents, staff and board of trustees can all be very happy with the progress the district is making.

The board, members of the original bond committee and representatives from the architects, construction company managers and central office administrators hopped on a school bus and hit some of the highlights Monday evening.

These included a big addition of floor space at William D. Ford Career/Technical Center, and fixups at Adams Middle School, Lincoln Elementary School, Taft-Galloway Elementary School and Walker-Winter Elementary School.

School chief Greg Baracy led the tour, pointing out improved classrooms and additional space for programs for kids.

Construction managers Doug Underwood

and Bill McCarthy from McCarthy and Smith Inc. of Redford Township answered questions as the tour progressed.

Board members were concerned with everything from the big changes for Taft students who moved into a new building to minor details like a tacky door at Walker-Winter that needs paint.

Trustee Skip Monit was even asking about better housekeeping for computer cables.

The Taft-Galloway project is dramatic; students at that site at the south end of the district moved into an attractive new two-story building just after Easter.

The admittedly ugly old Taft building, some parts of it dating back to the 1940s, is being torn down this month.

At Adams, the tour high spot was a spacious new entranceway with high ceilings and artistic use of colored floor tiles. Here visitors can see what a creative architect and building team can do on a limited budget.

At Ford board members learned more students can enter the programs there, programs that now have more students than the district can handle.

At Lincoln board members learned neighbors are proud of the improved look of the school and will call the school district if they see illegal or unusual activity at the building during off hours.

At Walker-Winter a fireplace from the original one-room school house has been preserved.

Work on the bond projects continues this summer, including renovations at the two high schools. Eventually every school in the district will be improved in some way.

New buildings, renovations, safer buses, balanced budgets, student successes: it's a case of promises being made and promises being kept.

Charities: look before giving

Donating money to charities used to be easy. You drop some cash in a red kettle at Christmas; put a few bucks in a plastic jug in exchange for a Tootsie Roll, bag of peanuts or a plastic poppy at a stop light; or write out a check to a major charity. You figured the money was going to do some good for the cause it was intended.

It's not so easy anymore. The number of new charities is growing yearly, and more and more they're dialing you up on the phone or sending you fliers asking for your money. One group, the National Charities Information Bureau, points out that "cause-related marketing" in our nation has increased 504 percent in the past decade, with spending hitting \$630 million in 1999.

A recent story in the Livonia Observer outlined the surprising findings of a woman who wanted to give money to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, but felt like she was nearly duped by a sound-alike non-profit group. She decided to investigate and found out the charity that solicited her was something different than the better-known Make-A-Wish; it was called Children's Wish Foundation.

The woman checked with the Michigan Attorney General's Office Charitable Trust Section which says the two groups are among more than 50 "wish-type" charities set up nationally to grant the wishes of terminally ill children. She also discovered that both charitable groups were among the many organizations that don't spend even most of their income on their announced goals.

In fact, many charities - including the

Michigan branches of those two wish groups - spend more of their income soliciting donations than actually helping the less fortunate, according to the Attorney General's Office.

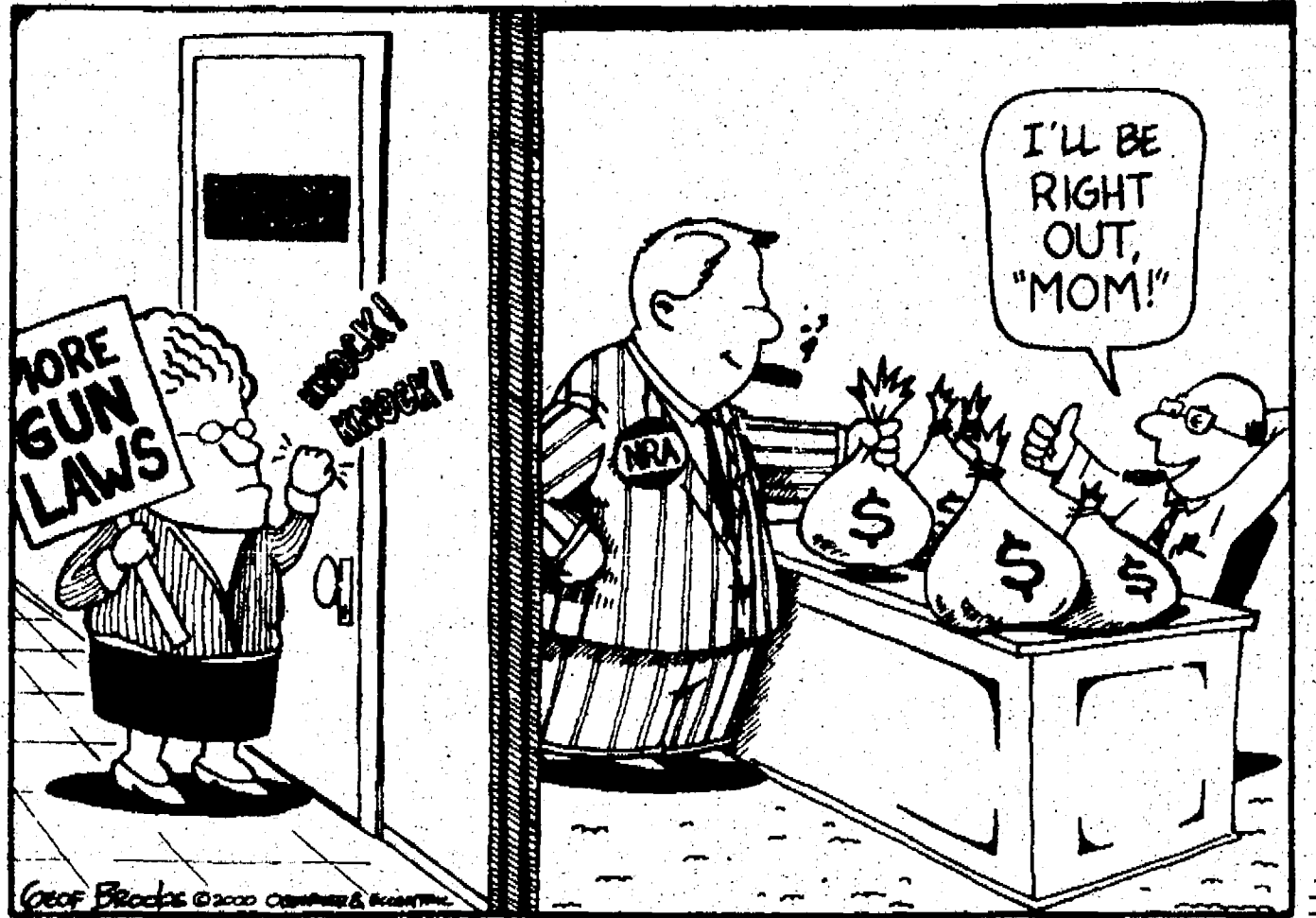
The non-profit National Charities Information Bureau (NCIB) supports "informed giving" and suggests spending at least 60 percent of income on programs. (The NCIB rates the national Make-A-Wish Foundation as "meets all standards," and the Children's Wish Foundation as "NCIB requests for information unanswered.")

At the Attorney General's Office, Charitable Trust Section Director Marion Gorton points out that the U.S. Supreme Court says they can't tell charities how much to spend on a cause - only that the group must file financial statements with the IRS.

Donors interested in finding out more about a charity are invited to call the Better Business Bureau, the Attorney General's Office or visit two Web sites that provide research on charities. The sites are www.ncib.org, which rates charities as meeting their standards or not (with some shades in between), and www.guidestar.org, which is called "the donor's guide to the charitable universe" and provides detailed financial reports on non-profit groups.

If you don't want to do the research, you can take your chances. Or, you could take the advice of Gorton of the Attorney General's Office: Just donate your money to local charity groups, since most of them are volunteer-oriented and spend no money on fund-raising, administration or employees.

GEORGE BROOKS



LETTERS

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

Tattered flags

This letter is in regards to a situation I have been bothered by for quite some time now. As I ride around Westland and other local cities I have noticed many business flying our symbol of freedom, the American flag. But, in many instances these flags are torn and weathered. They should be taken down and destroyed in the proper manner.

These business owners that fly Old Glory to exemplify their patriotism show they are Americans and attract new patrons. But when approached to make them aware of this existing problem and to suggest that they take down the old and put up the new, they give you double talk and excuses.

One particular place I used to frequent quite often is on Wayne Road in Westland. I told the management of this facility two months ago about their torn raggedy-looking flag. I suggested to them that with the weather breaking and Memorial Day rapidly approaching they should consider replacing this flag to show respect and to honor America's veterans.

They looked at me as if I were from Mars. The management blames their flag company, and no one has made a move to rectify this situation.

Perhaps other people need to be made aware of these people who don't think much of "Americans" but do enjoy the freedoms of America that give the right to earn a very good living.

Maybe vets should stop by these places and voice their opinions on the topic.

I'm sure they can afford to buy a new flag every six months or whenever needed. People should look around as they drive through our fair cities to notice what's going on around them.

Vince Berna

Open with prayer

We've been residents in Westland since 1956, and proud of it. We never ran for any political position, but watched the candidates and their views closely, and never were doubtful of our success as a city. We watch the council meetings, but never attended any.

Now we watch and are fearful for our city. We see division never before seen. How can this happen?

So it's suggested the meetings open with prayer. What can be so wrong with prayer? When something is wrong you ask for a mediator, and Christians ask their creator. That's attacked, too.

We can't get divine help unless we ask for it. We have to allow Him to come into our lives. When God is denied, anything can fall. Civilizations have.

There is a misconception about separation of church and state. It's in the communist constitution, not ours. We're not communists. But we open ourselves up to their doctrine. We, as a nation, believe in God; they don't.

There is nothing wrong with a prayer before a meeting. They do it in Congress. Why not here?

I'm sorry I wasn't there at city hall for the Day of Prayer; I wanted to be. I was there another time. We should all be there who believe in prayer. It is our right and privilege to attend. I'll be there next year, Mr. Mayor.

If we don't support our rights, we can lose them.

Donald and Edna Venturino
Westland

For rich, full curriculum

I'm supporting Alicia Douglas as our next trustee to the Livonia Board of Education because I feel we need her input. As a mother of three she realizes the needs of our future generation. She knows first hand of the importance of continuing excellence in our school programs to ensure that our students get the very best education. I strongly support Alicia's views for a rich and full curriculum for our children. This includes, music programs and physical education. A diverse and quality education is necessary for our students to succeed in the modern world. Alicia is an advocate of these standards.

Peggy Fisher
Livonia

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

Do you think police cars should be equipped with video cameras?



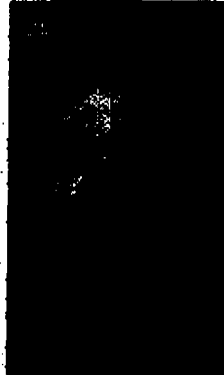
"I do, because it might help police do their work if someone is doing something wrong."

Kitty Miller



"Sure, I think it will protect the officers. I'm all for it, so there will be no questions in court."

Lela Behlman



"It will save the taxpayers money in the long run because trials won't be prolonged unnecessarily. The evidence will be right there."

Mark Behlman



"They will come in handy if there's a dispute over evidence."

Gary Gaughay

We asked this question at the Westland library; video cameras may be placed in Westland police cars.

Westland Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

State high court strikes blow against Miranda rights

A few weeks ago, I wrote about a case before the U.S. Supreme Court in which the police lobby, aided and abetted by Federalist Society lawyers, is trying to rip up the "Miranda rights" case — the one where police must advise you of your right to remain silent, to have counsel and to know that anything you say can be used against you.

I feared that the five "so-called Republicans" (Federalist Society adherents) on the Michigan Supreme Court may want to go the same route.

Well, the bad news is they already have, twice, on April 25. Justices Elizabeth Weaver, Clifford Taylor, Maïra Corrigan, Robert Young Jr. and Stephen Markman voted for the police lobby.

Justices Michael Cavanagh and Marilyn Kelly (Democratic nominees) dissented, arguing the defendants' Miranda rights were abused. Cavanagh even quoted retired Justice James Brickley, a real Republican, as

being concerned about the high court's direction. The battle has gone on for 600 years.

In an Oakland County shooting death, Corey Sexton was taken to the Hazel Park police station for questioning. And questioning. And more questioning. It started at 2:23 p.m. and ended at 11:35 p.m.

At 4:45 p.m. Sexton's father showed up, but police denied him permission to see his son. The father hired attorney Neil Miller of Troy. Miller contacted police, left a message for "whoever was holding" for Corey Sexton to call him, and demanded all questioning be stopped.

Police never forwarded the message to the interrogating officer and certainly never stopped the questioning. Sexton had no hint that a lawyer had been retained for him.

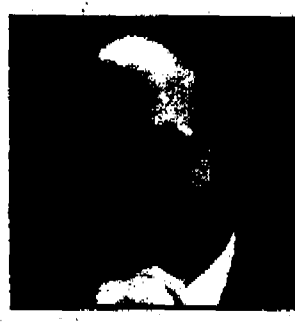
To make a long story short, Sexton made five statements — the final two admitting some culpability. In court, Miller moved to suppress the final

two statements as "not freely and voluntarily made." Judge Steven Andrews denied the motion, and that's what this case is about.

Charged with first-degree murder, Sexton pleaded guilty to second-degree. Judge Andrews gave him 20-40 years plus two years for use of a firearm in a felony.

Ultimately, the Supreme Court majority upheld Andrews, saying the trial judge who had weighed the "totality of the circumstances" shouldn't be second-guessed, even though Sexton had "an auditory processing disorder" and was of "below-average intelligence."

(Police had two eyewitnesses, so it was unlikely Sexton would have gone



TIM RICHARD

scot-free if his statements had been tossed out.)

Cavanagh dissented: "In the present (Sexton) case, the police kept an accused away from his attorney during an interrogation."

As I read the Federalist Society majority opinion, if the desk sergeant can keep the suspect's lawyer cooling his heels in the lobby, the inquisitor officer can take nine hours to squeeze out a confession. That's the kind of police power Chief Justice Earl Warren blistered in his 1966 Miranda decision.

The second case came from Saginaw County, where James M. Stevens sought to plea bargain a murder case. Again, the police had other sources. In negotiations, Stevens admitted guilt then changed his mind when he got to court. The prosecutor sought to admit Stevens' statements. The trial judge agreed, saying Stevens had waived his Miranda rights. The Federalist Five upheld the trial judge and police.

Justice Kelly, joined by Cavanagh,

dissented, saying the majority had started down a "slippery slope."

Kelly sounded like Earl Warren himself when she wrote:

"Something more than a Miranda warning is necessary for a court to find that a defendant waived his right to exclude from evidence statements made during plea negotiations. A waiver must be supported by a showing that the accused was aware of the rights being relinquished and the consequences that could result from relinquishing them."

So the police lobby and the Federalist Society are sliding us back to the days when an inquisition could use any trick in the police manual to extract a confession.

Repeating: If you want to read the police manual, forget it. It can be kept secret even under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act.

Tim Richard is retired from this newspaper. His e-mail address is: trichard@msd-net.com

Firm's bad behavior has GOP sounding like Ralph Nader

Remember Bob Gosselin? He's the state representative from Troy, a Republican who is so pro-business that he walked into a firestorm last year with his proposed House Bill 4777. A favorite issue of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Gosselin argued then that when business people go into a new community, they shouldn't have to deal with a lot of different and unusual local rules.

Municipal officials obviously saw it differently. And regardless of where you stand on that issue, let's just consider it evidence that Gosselin is pro-business.

So what has him talking like Ralph Nader these days? What business could behave so badly that Gosselin has begun referring to its business practices as "sleazy"? What business could incur his wrath to the degree he concludes it has become "belligerent" and "abusive" of its own customers.

Could it be the same company that caused another good Republican, Rep.

Patricia Birkholz, R-Saugatuck, to tell Ameritech Vice President Bob Cooper that when she is in her district, attending town hall meetings and church gatherings, she hears complaints from constituents about one thing and one thing only — the phone company?

Could it be the same company that caused a free-market governor like John Engler to propose more regulation and price controls? The same John Engler who has privatized and deregulated everything he could get his hands on over the last 10 years?

"I'm tired of waiting," he said when proposing a 5 percent immediate reduction in phone rates. "I want Michigan customers to get a rate cut now."

When Engler urged the Legislature to temporarily put Ameritech back under the control of the Public Service Commission, because five years of deregulation in this state have failed to produce any meaningful competition, it should be seen as rather



MIKE MALOTT

shocking. But if Ameritech has ticked off customers in Michigan, it is because of stories like the one coming out of Gosselin's office this week. His legislative aide, Kristina Pavelich, is an Ameritech customer and she has voice mail on her home phone. The charge for the service is \$4.95 per month, but without her consent, she says, Ameritech in April decided to improve the service to voice mail plus, costing \$9.95 per month. When she called to protest, she received another sales pitch. When she insisted her service be returned to basic, Ameritech said it would have to charge \$7.50 to "downgrade" the service.

That's right, Ameritech said it

would charge \$7.50 to take off a service enhancement she didn't ask for.

Ameritech officials say they are looking into the complaint, but could neither confirm nor deny that the company is using the practice, either upgrading services without permission or charging to downgrade them again. Incidentally, such aggressive sales pitches recently earned SBC, the company that just bought up Ameritech, a \$44 million fine in California for what were called "marketing abuses."

It is happening here because, five years after deregulation, no real competition for local phone service exists in Michigan. Ameritech continues to control the vast majority of phone lines. Ameritech has become, according to Rep. Mike Kowall, R-White Lake, is an "unregulated monopoly."

Back in 1995, when the state last addressed telecommunications law, it deregulated. The Public Service Commission lost authority over local phone companies. Even the creator of

that bill, Sen. Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion, according to his aides, admits deregulation here has been a failure.

Now Ameritech is pushing to have the state buy into Dunaskiss' latest incarnation, SB 1193, which would remove the last vestiges of state control over the phone company.

Engler and House Republicans prefer HB 5721, sponsored by Rep. Mary Anne Middaugh, R-Paw Paw, and HB 4804 by Rep. Marc Shulman, R-West Bloomfield. They would simply return local telephone service to the control of the PSC until it determines that true competition has been established here, or until the year 2003.

We've tried it Ameritech's way. More of the same won't likely work any better. Clearly it is time for another approach.

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (248) 634-8219 or by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net

System of electing justices is a fraud

Justices of the Michigan Supreme Court are elected statewide. Candidates are nominated respectively at the state Republican and Democratic conventions, but they appear on the November ballot as "non-partisan" judicial candidates.

Most voters have no idea who they're voting for, much less the qualifications and judicial philosophy of the candidates. Moreover, in recent years enormous amounts of money — as much as \$1 million for one campaign! — have been raised to finance these campaigns, giving the distinct impression that justice in Michigan's highest court is up for sale to the highest bidder/contributor. And, given the increasingly partisan cast the court and its decisions have demonstrated in recent years, it's not surprising the political rhetoric has become increasingly shrill and unseemly.

This is a terrible system. Consider but two current examples:

Last week, I received a visit from Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Edward Thomas, who almost certainly will be a Democratic Party nominee for Supreme Court justice. Judge Thomas, who worked his way through college and law school on the assembly line, has an excellent reputation as a thoughtful, balanced and thorough judge. In fact, he was ranked among the top 10 judges in the Detroit metro area in a 1991 article in *Detroit Monthly* magazine.

I asked Judge Thomas what the judicial canons of ethics allowed him to talk about while campaigning. Not much, it turns out. He can talk about decisions he has made, but only if the case is all over and not before an appellate court. He can discuss his judicial philosophy, but he can't talk about any matter of substance that might ever come before the Supreme Court.

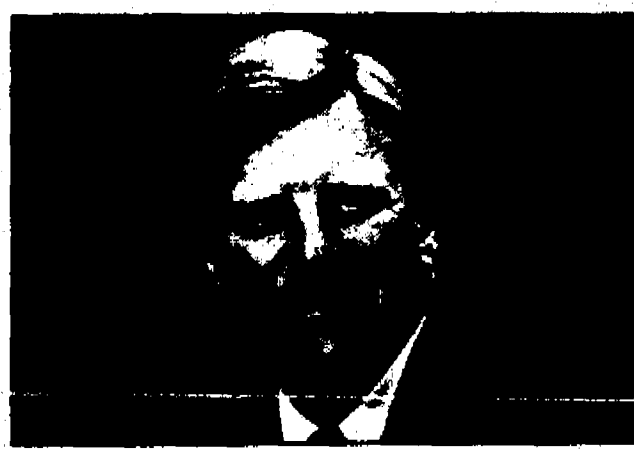
After our conversation, I made a note to myself: "Ed Thomas is real nice guy. He's smart, decent, thoughtful, down to earth. Too bad he's running for Supreme Court."

What I meant is that Judge Thomas is about to be caught in the maw of big-time judicial politics in Michigan. He'll have to raise tons of money, campaign day in and day out throughout the state, take lots of abuse from his opponents and suffer a gag rule that insures he talks in irrelevancies.

And when Election Day rolls around this November, it's a sure thing he will be nearly as unknown across the state as he is today.

So whether he wins or loses is little more than a crap shoot. That's a lousy way to pick a Supreme Court justice.

Example two has to do with the flap that arose last week surrounding Robert Young Jr., who was originally appointed to the Michigan Supreme Court by Gov. John Engler and who almost certainly will be a Republican Party nominee for election this fall.



PHIL POWER

Young, who is African American, was the target of a flier put out by the Michigan Democratic Party and distributed at the recent National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) dinner in Detroit. The flier asserted that Judge Young is a "staunch believer that Brown vs. Board of Education was wrong." ("Brown" is the landmark case outlawing racial segregation in schools.)

Young promptly wrote Mark Brewer, Democratic State chairman, saying that "this statement is a lie... an attempt to create an ugly, racist campaign to impugn me as Michigan's only sitting African American justice. Such virulent race-baiting has no place in our political discourse." Young pointed out that he is on the record (in an Aug. 22, 1999, editorial in the *Detroit News*) as being "a beneficiary (of Brown) — and I think society is a beneficiary — of ending segregation." He also demanded a retraction and a public apology, as well as threatened a lawsuit.

Brewer says Young told a group of lawyers last year that "Brown was wrongly decided." And, indeed, it's been a long line of argument among conservative jurists that lots of U.S. Supreme Court decisions are based on "sociology" rather than hard law. So it's entirely possible Young may agree with the substance of the Brown vs. Board of Education opinion while at the same time disagreeing with the juridical logic the Supreme Court used to reach its decision.

So what are we to make of the whole brouhaha? Just this. It's the most current example of how politicizing the selection of Michigan Supreme Court justices has resulted in partisan rhetoric that is shrill and unseemly.

Don't hold your breath, but wouldn't it be great if all the candidates, Democratic and Republican alike, actually said what they no doubt think and condemned our system of electing justices for the fraud it really is.

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

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Volunteers needed for Rouge Rescue/River Day 2000

By RICHARD PEARL
DEAFY WATERS
rppearl@mc.com

Sites have been announced and volunteers are being sought as Rouge Rescue/River Day 2000 draws near. The popular, annual community effort by the Friends of the Rouge to clean up the Rouge River and its tributaries, which flow through six Observer communities, is part of an effort to educate the public as to their importance. It is scheduled for 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 3.

Participants are advised to wear old clothing, including long pants and shirts with long sleeves. Bring gloves and head-covering and wear shoes to prevent puncture wounds.

Coordinators say there'll be plenty to do.

"We've got logjams and an array of man-made debris" in Botsford Park, said Sharon Sabat of the Livonia Community

Resources Department. Among the latter are shopping carts thrown into the water - likely by teenagers - and a wooden shed. "That was by an adult and he should know better," said Sabat.

She said over 100 people participated in last year's clean-up.

While some communities tie in River Day 2000 programs to help residents better understand what the river and its tributaries mean to the ecology, Livonia has

several programs offered at times other than the cleanup, said Sabat.

Among them are "Take Pride in Livonia," held May 6, when neighborhoods were cleaned and flowers planted; AWESOME Day on May 20; and Hazardous Waste Day on June 10.

Sabat explained that AWE-SOME stands for Aware of the World Ecology, Soil, Ozone, Mammals and Environment - which helps explain a lot of what

the Rouge recovery effort is all about.

The following list of sponsoring communities shows the type of activity, site for the activity and/or registration and person to contact when volunteering:

■ Canton Township - Storm-drain stenciling, "aesthetic" stream survey and stream cleanup; various sites; meet at township administration building, 1150 S. Canton Center

Road; contact Kelly Kelly, (734) 397-5405.

■ Farmington Hills - Stream cleanup; call Jean Barrett, (248) 473-9521 for site information.

■ Livonia - Stream cleanup, storm-drain stenciling; Botsford Park on Lathers north of Seven Mile Road; contact Sharon Sabat, (734) 466-2540.

■ Plymouth - Stream cleanup; corner of Harvey and Byron Streets; contact Linda Langmesser, (734) 453-1234.

■ Redford Township - Stream cleanup; register at northwest corner of Puritan and Pomona near Beech Daly; contact Walter or Joyce Bates, (313) 532-0250, or Ray Parsons, (313) 387-2890.

■ Westland - Cleanup of Tonquish Creek, woody debris management, storm-drain stenciling, nesting boxes; Holliday Nature Preserve; register at Hix Park, Hix and Warren Roads; contact Bob Patterson, (734) 595-0288, x-223.

Schoolcraft offers 15 new classes

Tour Detroit's Eastern Market with a Certified Master Chef, learn new strategies for coping with arthritis pain, increase your skills playing the guitar or speaking another language or enroll your child in a summer day camp focusing on the civilization of southwest Native Americans.

These choices and many more await you in Schoolcraft College Continuing Education Services' spring and summer program.

Among the 15 new classes offered are: Oh, For a Good Night's Sleep, with tips for improving sleep patterns; Windows 98 for Seniors, to learn to navigate in the Windows environment; Using Your Mind to Relieve Pain, to help reduce pain using a variety of exercises; and Cooking Basics with Machines and Gadgets, to reacquaint students with equipment they have in their kitchen but are not using.

The Kids on Campus summer session features summer day camps in history, medicine and space travel. Children ages 5 to 17 can choose from more than 100 other classes in computers, creative and performing arts, science, math and languages to keep challenged and learn new things.

A full physical education schedule ranges from aerobics to yoga, with dancing, swimming, ice skating, self defense and tennis among the offerings.

People may register at the registration office in McDowell Center or fax their registration at least one week before the class begins to 734-462-4572. Registration forms are available in the spring/summer class schedule.

Students age 60 or older may enroll in classes at reduced rates, with proof of age. For registration information or gift certificates, call 734-462-4448. Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty Road between Six and Seven Mile roads, just west of I-75.

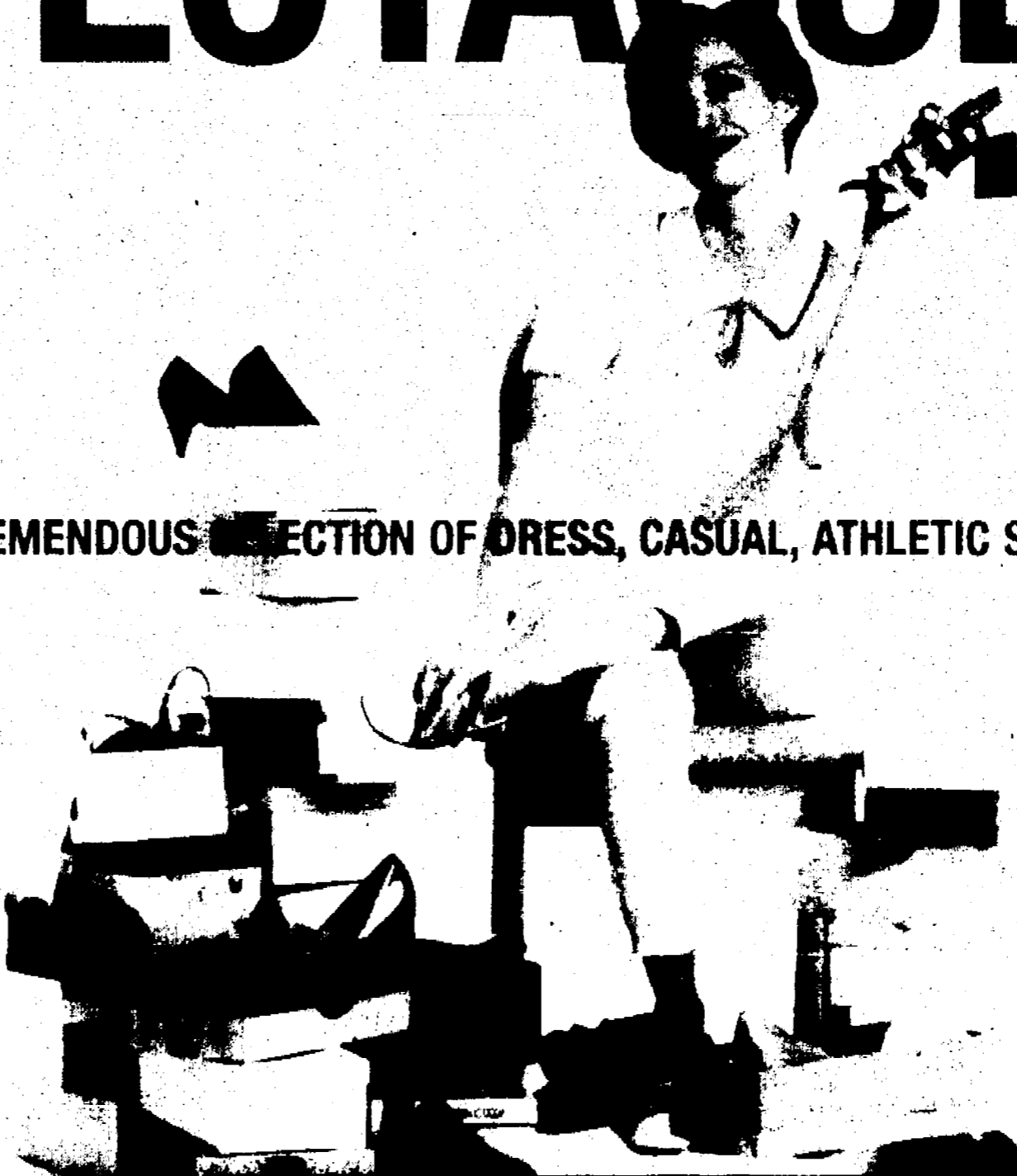
Honors given in education

On Thursday, April 27, Madonna University held its spring initiation ceremony for Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education. To be a member of this honor society, a student must have an overall grade point average of 3.0 or better; at least 12 semester hours of course work in education; and worthy education ideals, leadership potential, commitment to education and desirable personal qualities.

The following local students were inducted into Sigma Xi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi: Lindsay Barra, senior, of Canton; Kerry Conway, senior, of Plymouth; Karen Dillon, Livonia; Victoria Gascoles of Farmington Hills; Mary Ann Heathfield of Farmington Hills; Michele Kanclers of Westland; Melanie Ledasowski of Westland; Teresa Lewandowski of Westland; Erin Moorhouse of Plymouth; Tracy Newhard of Farmington Hills; Kristina Phillips of Livonia; and Carrie Smith of Livonia.

3 DAYS ONLY! THURSDAY, MAY 18 THROUGH SATURDAY, MAY 20

FAMILY SHOE SPECTACULAR



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<p>WOMEN'S</p> <p>WORTHINGTON® COLLECTION AEROSOLES® HUNT CLUB® 9-2-5 COLLECTION® CABIN CREEK® ARIZONA JEAN CO.® i.e.i.® EVAN-PICONE® MIXIT® KEDS® HUSH PUPPIES® DEXTER® SKECHERS® CRAZY HORSE® <i>St. John's Bay</i></p>	<p>EXTRA 10% OFF</p> <p>ALL SALE PRICED SANDALS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY</p> <p>EXTRA 10% OFF</p> <p>ALL SALE PRICED ATHLETIC FOOTWEAR</p> <p>20% OFF</p> <p>ALL CHILDREN'S DRESS & CASUAL SHOES AND SANDALS</p> <p>PLUS TAKE AN</p> <p>EXTRA 10% OFF</p> <p>EVAN-PICONE, CRAZY HORSE, AND <i>St. John's Bay</i> HANDBAGS ALREADY ON SALE!</p>	<p>ALL MEN'S</p> <p>STAFFORD® BOSTONIAN® FLORSHEIM® ROCKPORT® HUSH PUPPIES® DEXTER® SKECHERS® DOCKERS® TOWNCRAFT® GIORGIO BRUTINI® STACY ADAMS® ST. JOHN'S BAY® ARIZONA JEAN CO.® WOLVERINE® CATERPILLAR® ROCKY® BIG MAC®</p>
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Best prices effective May 18-20, 2000. Discount applies to regular-priced and sale-priced retail and catalog merchandise. "Regular" prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Discount does not apply to selected Easy Spirit, Kids and Accessories, Red Thread Clearance Value Right merchandise, 2-or-more price Internet and Outlet stores.



BRAD KADRICH

Moms have chance to make change

The idea didn't necessarily appeal to me when it was broached: a 12-hour bus ride on an estrogen-saturated Greyhound full of mothers headed to the Million Mom March Sunday.

(Gun rights activists alert: You might want to stop reading here.)

Boy, was I wrong. And I knew it as soon as they started going seat-by-seat, introducing themselves and explaining why they were there. My first inclination was that this was a "chick" thing, pouring their hearts out to a bunch of strangers. You'd never catch 50 guys doing that.

When they began this bonding experiment, I expected to hear sad stories about the manner in which each of them had been personally affected by gun violence, about their children or spouses killed by guns.

But nobody - not a single one of the 47 women on that bus - spoke about a tragedy affecting her personal life. Sure, a couple mentioned the Kayla Rolland shooting. And the Columbine massacre came up frequently. But none of them mentioned losing anyone to violence. None made the trip to avenge the loss of a child.

Mostly, they're frightened. Mostly, they don't think the mothers of murdered children should have to bear the brunt of the load. To a woman, they were there for one reason: They're committed to a cause. They're dedicated to a mission.

And they care.

In the end, that could be the greatest strength of the Million Mom March. Like MADD 20 years before, the MMM could end up being the kind of grass-roots, difference-making movement that finally makes people sit up and take notice.

"It gave me so many emotions my head is bursting," said Janice Harris of Livonia. "I found it wonderful to be with people who agree with me. I'm very encouraged, because I don't think this is going to die. I think we're going to change the world."

Any politician who doubted the determination of this group simply wasn't paying attention - or didn't want to see - what was going on on The Mall Sunday. Hundreds of thousands of women cheered and clapped and whistled for Kerry Kennedy Cuomo, the daughter of Robert F. Kennedy, who pointed out there are more licensed gun dealers in the U.S. than there are McDonald's franchises.

Hundreds of thousands cried at the story of Karen Scott, a Scottish mother who lost her daughter when a gunman opened fire at a Dunblane, Scotland school, snuffing the lives of 16 kindergartners in March 1996.

Want more evidence this movement holds the potential for great power? Try this: There were more than five million hits on the MMM Web site in the week leading up to the march. And where else could you get 750,000 mothers to drop deathly silent, as this group did while listening to Dawn Anna, the mother of Columbine victim Lauren Townsend?

Hundreds of thousands of mothers spoke in a single voice Sunday, proclaiming loudly, to paraphrase Peter Finch in the movie, Network, "We're mad as hell and we're not going to take it any more."

Supporters of the National Rifle Association have already begun claiming the moms are a misinformed, rag-tag group being led around by the nose by the media, a patently absurd notion. The NRA believes mothers will disappear now that the march is over.

If they do, the NRA is right: The march will have accomplished nothing. If these women come home from the march and do the things they're talking about doing, if they stay involved in the process and don't let discouragement or apathy set in, these mothers could be a viable force, whether their opponents want to believe it or not.

After riding to Washington and back with 47 of them, I would have this advice for any politician: Ignore them at your own peril.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth Observer. He wears his "Honorary Mom" status proudly. He can be reached at (734) 459-2700 or by e-mail at bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net

Moms with a Message

Marchers converge with one view: 'Enough is enough'

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

They came. They saw. They marched.

Well, congregated is probably a better word, but whatever term you want to apply, dozens of Western Wayne County mothers joined thousands of Michigan moms who were part of an estimated 750,000 women who converged on Washington, D.C., Sunday for the Million Mom March for reasonable gun control.

They rode in Greyhound buses, interrupting the 12-hour odyssey by eating meals in terminal cafeterias.

And they came all with the same mission: Join others like them in asking politicians and Congressional leaders for what they call "reasonable gun control."

Some of them were surprised to find so many of a like mind.

"I'm a retired teacher and I love kids, and I don't want to see them go to school in fear," said Janice Harris of Livonia, who taught in the Dearborn Heights school district. "It felt good to be with so many people on the same side of the issue."



Monumental march: With the Washington Monument in the background, Michigan participants in the Million Mom March tried to spread one message: "Moms vote."

The Michigan contingent was one of the largest, drawing compliments from moms from other states.

Michigan moms met Saturday night in a pre-march reception that drew many guest speakers, including Sen. Carl Levin, D-Michigan.

"I don't know of a greater cause than the one to which you are committed," Levin told the cheering throng. "I promise you, you will make a difference."

"They say the NRA is a powerful lobby, and it is. But they're not nearly as powerful as you."

Sally Rowley of Redford is a grandma four times over. She hopes Levin turns out to be prophetic.

"I want the world to be safe for my grandchildren," Rowley said. "It was good to know there were so many more women interested in gun safety. I hope it does some good, but even if it doesn't, we had to come."

"We had to make it clear we are for different measures."



For the cause: Jennifer Scarbrough of Livonia (front) and Barb Case of Plymouth (back left) were among the Michigan moms marching Sunday.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRAD KADRICH

Missing her sister: Maureen Prest of Farmington Hills shows a sign dedicated to her sister, who lost her life to gun violence. Prest was one of thousands of Michigan women on hand for Sunday's Million Mom March in Washington, D.C.

Zak Morgan to perform at Trinity House Theatre

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

Zak Morgan believes he became a musician by default. But his career seems to make perfect sense for someone who began writing and playing music at the tender age of 13.

Now all grown up, Morgan keeps in touch with his inner child and reaches out to children across the country through his music. Following the 1999 release of his first album geared toward children, Morgan is touring with long-time friend and guitarist Steve Davis. They'll visit Livonia's Trinity House Theatre May 20.

Parents and children can enjoy the shows together. And it's interactive. Children will dress up and be invited to play percussion. Morgan is even bringing along props to enhance the fantasy world he's created on Bloom.

books. That's about the time he dove back into children's literature and into music.

"My sense of humor has always been kind of goofy," he added. "I didn't really say, 'I'm writing songs kids will like.' I came up with the plots and thought they were funny. I figured I'd see what happens."

Finished product

The result is Bloom, a collection of 10 songs and stories reflective of childhood experience and evolving from the fantasy realm to personal experience. Morgan tells honest stories of the circle of life, coming-of-age songs like *Hide My Muscles Well* and tall



CD: The "Bloom" cover and illustrations of a 32-page book complete with lyrics were drawn by C.F. Payne.

tales like the one that stars Bill Fisher, a boy who picks his nose so much it runs away.

"My music is not written down to kids," said Morgan. For that reason, he uses sophisticated language which is defined in easy-to-understand, humorous definitions on the CD's booklet.

Bill Keith of WSDP 88.1 FM at Plymouth Salem High School appreciates the humor in Morgan's writing. "The first thing I noticed about Zak's music is that it doesn't speak down to kids," he said. "So much children's music has a condescending tone to it. I really enjoy the Shel Silverstein/Dr. Seuss feel to the lyrics. I hear something new each time that makes me laugh. His songwriting, both lyrically and musically, can be enjoyed by adults as well as kids."

To accompany his infectious funny words and melodies, Morgan got a few friends involved. Ric Hordinski, well-known guitarist, songwriter and

record producer in Cincinnati, produced Bloom. C.F. Payne illustrated the 32-page booklet and Michael Wilson contributed photography. The project took a year and a half to complete.

"The music has a very sophisticated pop sound," said Keith. "I can hear Beatlesque influences in some of the songs. Ric Hordinski from Over the Rhine and Monk produced the disc and his musical influence can be heard throughout it."

All his work shows in a live performance. Parents and children can enjoy the shows together. "The parents seem to have as much fun as the kids." And it's interactive. Children will dress up and be invited to play percussion. Morgan is even bringing along props to enhance the fantasy world he's created on Bloom.

He prompts the children to look for subtle messages in his songs. Crowd involvement is a major part of his performance.

Keith is looking forward to Morgan's first appearance at Trinity House Theatre. "I hope a wide variety of people come out for the show. I'm sure there will be kids and parents. But I have no kids and this would be the kind of show I would love to attend."

Performing for youngsters, Morgan has learned he has some of the most honest audiences around. "There's a purity to kids," he said. "They respond to being treated with respect. They're not afraid to laugh."

CONCERT

What: Zak Morgan and Steve Davis perform for children of all ages

When: 2 p.m. Saturday, May 20

Where: Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile Road, between I 275 and Haggerty Road, Livonia.

Tickets: \$8 theater members, \$10 general, call (734) 464-6302. To hear the music, learn more about the CD or play a few fun games, log on to www.zakmorgan.com

SINGLES MINGLE

Letters for the Singles Calendar should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2331 or e-mail kmortson@oe.hnecomm.net

WEDNESDAY METRO SINGLES
Wednesday Metro Singles Dance begins at 8 p.m. and concludes at 1 a.m. Free swing dance lessons offered from 8-9 p.m. DJ, budget bar, refreshments, 21 and over, dress attire please. Roma's Banquet Hall, 32550 Cherry Hill Road (east of Venoy) in Garden City. Call (313) 869-1900/(313) 438-6258.

DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP
Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Center has a Divorce Support Group that meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month in the McDowell Center (Room 225) from 7-9 p.m. No fee is required. Call (734) 462-4443. A schedule from May to August follows:
May 23, Dealing with Anger, Guilt and Depression. Ms. Koppin will help you to recognize and understand these emotions and explore ways to work through them.
June 13, group discussion.

Facilitated by Cynthia Koppin. June 27, Legal aspects of divorce. Learn about the legal proceeds of divorce, including information on property settlement, custody, child support, visitation, alimony and more from Attorney at Law, Laura Reyes Kopack.
July 11, group discussion. Facilitated by Cynthia Koppin.
July 25, no meeting.

Aug. 8, group discussion. Facilitated by Cynthia Koppin.
Aug. 22, Coping with Divorce. Florine Bond will discuss strategies for coping with the stress of divorce.

PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS
Parents without Partners, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the single-parent family. We offer educational, social, and recreational activities for single parents and their children. Dues \$30 per year. For membership information in the Ann Arbor Chapter #38 call (734) 973-1933 or visit the webpage at www.aapwp.org. Visit www.aapwp.org or (734) 973-1933. Cost \$2/person. Upcoming schedule includes:
June 4, "Steps in Recovering from Divorce." Jay J. Radin, PhD, Licensed Clinical Psychologist, returns to talk about this "hot" topic. 6-8 p.m. www.aapwp.org or 973-1933.

Karmanos Institute raises money for research

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

While Huey Lewis and The News made *The Power of Love* a hit song in 1985 for the film *Back To The Future*, the idea holds true and takes on more profound meaning in the eyes of those who attended the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute's annual dinner on May 6.

The power of love was the notion that drew together this year's Phantom Of The Opera-inspired theme and the quest for a cure for cancer. That power is the driving force behind raising awareness and funds for the institute on its mission to stop this devastating disease.

The institute raised more than \$700,000 toward cancer research and a cure at the annual benefit, which is one of the area's largest charitable events. Held at Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth, more than 1,200 supporters attended for the cause.

"The Phantom of the Institute" incorporated the moody, festive atmosphere of a French opera house complete with candelabras at every table, plush velvet curtains and, of course, the famous chandelier from *Phantom of the Opera*.

To make the evening a smashing success, Broadway stars of the long-running musical *Sandra Joseph* (Christine) and *Ron Bohmer* (Phantom) and Lawrence Anderson (Raoul) performed songs like *Masquerade*, *Angel of Music* and *The Phantom of The Opera* on stage.

Between songs, video footage from the history of the institute to personal battles with cancer and even recent footage of the *Race For The Cure* at the Detroit Zoo told another story of love and loss. The lyrics "Wishing you were somehow here again" took on new meaning.

Dick and JoAnn Puritan hosted the evening as masters of ceremony, and awarded the institute's prestigious Leonard



Phantom fever: Karmanos Cancer Institute hosted a gala benefit May 6 at Plymouth's Compuware Sports Arena. "Phantom of The Institute" drew a packed house to raise money and awareness toward a cure for cancer.

Simons Award to Bernice Gershenson and her sister Sylvia Gershenson-Sloman.

Lavish meal

The feast fit for a hungry phantom began with hors d'oeuvres like shrimp cocktail and spinach pies and was followed by an elegant dinner including a fresh salad, twice-baked potato, asparagus, prime rib and a choice of red or white wine.

Attendees came dressed in classic black tuxedos and evening dresses accented in bright spring colors like lavender and green. The little black dress was just as appropriate and timeless as ever when coupled with delicate beading; but it sparkled when adorned with vintage jewelry.

Men carried Phantom masks and women were given sparkling and feathered masks

to shade their eyes Mardi Gras-style. The evening offered glamour fit for a real opera house, thanks to Events and Entertainment of Michigan Inc., the Southfield-based production company that transformed the arena into a fantasy land.

"I think it's a great fund-raiser," said Susan Reesman, who was surprised of the sports arena location. She was accompanied by her husband, Jon. The Rochester Hills couple attended the event in past years.

Irene and Martin Bader of Orchard Lake noted the importance of the annual benefit. "They've gotta find a cure," said Irene Bader. "It's just insane what's happening to our friends and family. People are dying needlessly."

Lisa Gilpin of Berkley attended the event with fellow

General Motors employees, but had personal reasons as well. She lost a 33-year-old friend to cancer, after a 7-month battle. "Seeing her life is done, I know a lot more needs to be done," she said.

Gilpin's friend Anne Marie Schultz of West Bloomfield was a first-time attendee to the benefit. But Gilpin recalled the 1998 benefit with a Beach Boys theme. "It was the best event I'd ever gone to."

That confidence may have been what led Rochester Hills couple Larry and Joann Yost to co-chair the annual event. Larry D. Yost, CEO and chairman of Troy-based automotive supplier Meritor Automotive Inc., echoed what much of the crowd before him reflected on: "I do not know of a family that has not been touched by cancer."

**CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**

On Tuesday, May 23, 2000 the Westland Police Dept. will conduct Public Auctions of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00 AM at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
1988	FORD	RANGER/PKUP	RED/BLK	1FTCR14TXJPA87105
1984	LINC	CONTINA/DR	SILVER	1MRBP97F1EY686381
	FORD	F-600 DUMP	BLUE	NONE
1986	CHEV	MTECARLO/2 DR	WHITE	1G1GZ37H1GR187247
1988	PLY	GR FURY/2DR	GRAY	1P3BB26P8JW105645
1979	FORD	F-350/PICKUP	COPPER	X35JKDG0588

The second auction will begin promptly at 11:00 AM at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
1981	OLDS	DELTA/2DR	BROWN	1G3AY37Y4BM294783
1987	PONT	GRAND AM/4 DR	RED	1G2NV54U9HC879255
1985	MERC	COUGAR/2 DR	RED	1MEBP9233FH685331
1993	MERC	TOPAZ/2 DR	BLACK	1MEPM31X0PK641002
1977	CHEV	CAPRICE/4 DR	RED	1N69U7J311610
1984	FORD	CROWN VIC/4 DR	BLUE	1FABP43F4E2126513
1992	FORD	TAURUS/4 DR	RED	1FACF50U4NG1151727
1987	BUICK	SOMERS/2 DR	MAROON	1G4NJ14L9HM063384
1987	CHEV	MTECARLO/2 DR	BLACK	1G1GZ11G7HP145604

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: May 18, 2000

You could be a winner!

We will put the name of everyone* placing an ad for a garage, yard, or porch sale into a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate at Meijer!

There'll be a winner every week through September 28. Not only will you earn money from your sale, you'll have a chance at our Meijer gift certificate give-away.

So, now is the time to grab a pencil and make a list of all the things you want to put in your sale. Place your ad for as low as \$22.50* and who knows?— you could be one of our weekly winners!

Oakland County: 248-644-1199
Wayne County: 734-591-0900
Rochester/Rochester Hills: 248-852-3222
Charlton, Lake Orion
Oakland, Waterford: 248-475-4595

Salons host 'Locks of Love' donation program

Your Hair and Us and Maria Cisar Salons and Spa will be hosting a "Locks of Love" hair donation program from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, June 5.

Hair will be used to make wigs for children 18 years and younger who are undergoing cancer treatments. According to the organization it takes

between 10 and 12 ponytails to make one wig.

"Locks of Love" is a non-profit organization, helping children throughout the United States. Donors who participate will get a free haircut and styling when donating their own hair.

To be eligible hair must be clean, at minimum of 10 inches

in length, not chemically treated or damaged and all types of hair/colors are welcome.

Children who receive wigs can have them styled to their wishes and are typically free or charge or nominally priced.

To make an appointment or for questions call the location of your choice.

Maria Cisar, 35857 Ford Road, Westland (734) 595-3288; or Your Hair and Us, 43536 West Oaks Dr., Novi (248) 348-3544.

**LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
15126 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154**

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for:

MISCELLANEOUS "AS NEEDED" BASIS GLASS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 2000-2001 SCHOOL YEAR

Bids will be received until 3:00 P.M. on the 25th day of May, 2000 at the office of the Board of Education Purchasing Department, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI. At this time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read. Vendors are encouraged to attend.

Bid specifications and forms are available in the Purchasing Department, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part in the interests of uniformity, design, equipment, delivery time or preference, to waive any informalities and to award to other than low bidder, with rationale to support such a decision.

Any bid submitted will be binding for (90) days subsequent to the date of bid opening.

Any questions regarding this bid may be directed to Timothy Kohut, Maintenance Supervisor at 734-523-9160.

Publish: May 14 and 15, 2000

**LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
15125 FARMINGTON ROAD
LIVONIA, MI 48154**

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for:

**CAFETERIA TABLE REPLACEMENT AT FIVE (5) SCHOOLS
LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Bids will be received until 10:00 A.M. on the 30th day of May, 2000 at the Board of Education Maintenance Department, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI. At this time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read. Vendors are encouraged to attend.

Bid forms and specifications are available in the Purchasing Department, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI.

Bid security in the amount of 5% of the total proposal, in the form of Bid Bond or Certified Check must accompany each bid. Performance bond and payment bond may be required of the successful bidders.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part in the interests of uniformity, design, equipment, delivery time or preference, to waive any informalities and to award to other than the low bidder, with rationale to support such a decision.

All questions regarding this bid may be directed to Ray Irvine, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor at (734) 523-9160.

Publish: May 11 & 15, 2000

**CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF MEETING**

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1685A, Public Hearing for Proposed Rezoning from R-3 to CB-3 (Single Family Residential to General Commercial Business), Moody's Nursery, 2545 Newburgh Road, Parcel# 9048-01-0014-002, 9014-004, 9015-004, and 9016-001, West Side of Newburgh, South of Ford Road, NE-18, Donald E. Thompson (Dave C. Moody)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 6, 2000.

Written comments may be sent to the Westland Planning Department at 27085 Marquette Avenue, Westland, Michigan - 48155.

ROBERT C. BOWERS, Chairman
Westland Planning Commission

Publish: May 16, 2000

WEST VILLAGE ACADEMY
Located at 3530 Westwood in West Dearborn
Announces...

Open Registration
May 1- 31, 2000 • Grades K-7th

West Village Academy is a charter school which offers an enriched curriculum including foreign languages, and culture. Character Education, Art, Music, Physical Education and Computers are integral parts of our program. Block scheduling allows immersion in critical learning areas. Full day Kindergarten available.

For more information call:
(313) 274-9200

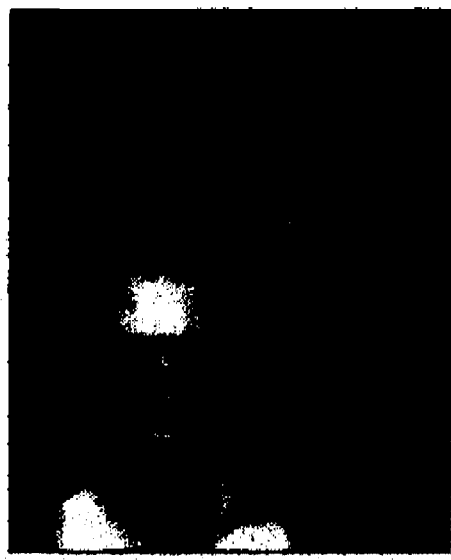
ENGAGEMENTS & WEDDINGS

Hausch-Poshadlo

Mark and Julie Hausch of West Unity, Ohio, announce the engagement of their daughter, Jama Lynn, to Michael Lawrence Poshadlo of Garden City.

The bride-to-be is a 1998 graduate of Mill Creek West Unity Schools and is currently employed at Dearborn Heights Montessori Center in Dearborn Heights.

Her fiancé, son of Lawrence and Judith Poshadlo, is a 1995 graduate of Garden City High School and earned a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan - Dearborn in April. He works as a software design engineer at



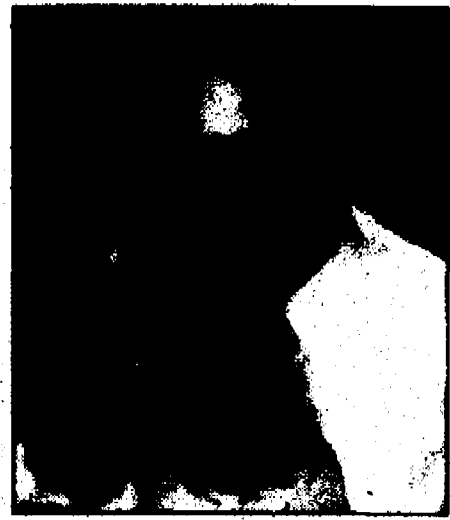
Motorola in Rochester Hills. An August wedding is planned at Solid Rock Church in West Unity, Ohio.

David-Kummer

Ray and Barbara Schiller of Temple, Texas, and Allen Ray David of Taylor, Texas announce the engagement of their daughter, Nicole LeAnne David to Robert Francis Kummer of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Texas A&M University and is employed by the university's athletic department where she serves as assistant athletic director for Olympic sports.

Her fiancé, son of Frank and Christine Kummer of Livonia, is a 1992 graduate of Redford Catholic Central and a 1996 graduate of the University of North Carolina - Charlotte. He is employed by Texas A & M University's athletic department



as assistant basketball coach. A May wedding is planned at St. Luke's Catholic Church in Temple, Texas and the groom's parents will host a reception in Michigan in August.

DiGasbarro-Rhein

David and Cindy DiGasbarro of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly, to Kevin Rhein of Memphis.

The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School and a 1999 graduate of Grand Valley State University. She works as a case worker for Lutheran Adoption Services.

Her fiancé, son of Art and Ellie Rhein of Memphis, is a 1994 graduate of Memphis High School and a 1998 graduate of Grand Valley State University.

He works as a history teacher at Lamphere High School in Madison Heights.

An August wedding is planned



in Canton.

Flagg-Gitlin

Harry and Elaine Flagg of Livonia announce the marriage of their daughter, Carol Lynn, to Blake Michael Gitlin of West Bloomfield Feb. 5 at Hyatt Regency, in Dearborn.

The bride is a Livonia Stevenson graduate and earned her bachelor's degree in merchandising management from Madonna University.

Her husband, son of Janice and (the late) Arlen Gitlin of Delray Beach, Fla., is a graduate of West Bloomfield High School and graduated from Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in marketing management.

The couple wed before Rabbi Joshua Bennett. The bride was attended by sisters and matrons of honor Karen Rysztaun and Cathy Mueller, and bridesmaids Terri Novell, Jamie Oldfield, Sherry Jordan, Lisa Markwardt and Marie Kiehl. The flower girls were Kelsey and Taylor Gitlin, the groom's nieces.



The groom was attended by his brothers, best men Jeff and Scott Gitlin and groomsmen Andy Grodman, Jeff Barker, Mike Bayoff, Lou Ferris III and Craig Lin. His nephew, Andrew Gitlin was the ring-bearer. And Elaine Lifton, the groom's grandmother played a special part in the ceremony. The couple took a wedding trip to Hawaii and plan to make their home in West Bloomfield.

Probst-Broccardo

Nick and Barbara Weber of Royal Oak and Steve and Glenda Probst of Florida announce the engagement of their daughter, Angela E. Probst, to Erik Michael Broccardo of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a freelance court reporter. Her fiancé, son of Cherie and (the late) Harry Broccardo of Livonia, works as a builder.

A June 2001 wedding is planned at Our Lady of La Salette in Berkley. A reception at Glen Oaks Country Club in



Farmington Hills will follow.

Perry-Hughey

Homer Perry and Shirley Perry of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Brenda Gail, to Michael Thomas Hughey of Warren.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School and Central Michigan University and is employed as a manager at McLaren Health Care Corporation in Flint.

Her fiancé, son of Allan and Kathy Ladson of Chesterfield and Jack and Eileen Hughey of Trenton, is a graduate of Lutheran High School East and Oakland University.

He is an engineer at Behr America in Walled Lake.



A July wedding is planned at Addison Oaks.

Smith-Ibbotson

Donald and Dorothy Smith of Warren announce the engagement of their daughter, Khathee Sue, to Scott Ronald Ibbotson of Sterling Heights.

The bride-to-be is a Madonna University graduate and is employed as a registered nurse for the Macomb County Health Department.

Her fiancé, son of Gary and Sarah Bowers, of Warren and Ronald Ibbotson of Shelby Township, works for Tucker Induction Systems in Shelby Township.

An October wedding is



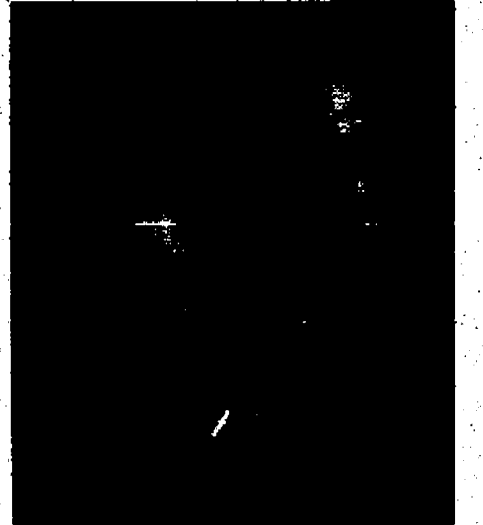
planned in Eastpointe.

Mitchell-Padgett

Barbara Wenner of Livonia and Steve Mitchell of Oxford announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Lynne Mitchell, to Daniel Eric Padgett, son of Mary Dean of Cape Coral, Fla. and Dennis Padgett of Traverse City.

The bride-to-be and her fiancé are restaurant managers in the downriver area.

A May wedding is planned at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth. The couple plan to honeymoon in St. Petersburg, Fla.



Burman-Thompson

Karen and Bill Lange of Nashville and Ken and Barbara Burman of Livonia announce the marriage of their daughter, Kristen Ann, to Keith Thompson of Nashville. The couple wed May 8, 1999, at Otter Creek Church of Christ in Nashville, Tenn.

The bride is a graduate of Plymouth Christian Academy and Grosse Ile High School. She attended David Lipscomb University and now works as a marketing manager in Nashville.

Her husband, son of James and Peggy Thompson of Manchester, Tenn., is a graduate of David Lipscomb University and the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in Memphis. He is a pediatrician at Rivergate Pediatric in Tennessee.

The couple were married by Tim Woodruff. The bride was attended by maid of honor Jana Ross and bridesmaid Kelly Ingram. Abby and Cliff Thompson were flower girl and ring-bearer at the ceremony.

The groom was attended by his twin brother and best man



Brian Thompson and groomsmen Tim Mangrum. Ushers were Brian Randolph, Russ Palmer and Matthew West all of Nashville.

In attendance were grandparents Grace Wheeler of Westland and Russ and Hazel Burman of Morris Plains, New Jersey.

The couple received guests at Vanderbilt University Club and took a wedding trip to the British Virgin Islands. They have made their home in Nashville.

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Ehrstine

Ellis Duane and Joan Yvonne (Armstrong) Ehrstine celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this month.

The couple wed May 20, 1950 in Detroit and have lived in Plymouth nearly all of their lives. The Ehrstine's have two children, Linda and Glenn and will celebrate the occasion at a party at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland.

Ellis Ehrstine retired from his position as special projects manager at General Motors in 1984. His wife, Joan, retired from her work as a church organist in 1992.

Both are members of the Livonia Historical Society, and currently hold positions as president and program chair of the society. The Ehrstine's are mem-



bers of Newburg Methodist Church, The Yankee Air Force Blackhawk's Division Association, The Plymouth Association, Plymouth Historical Association and Livonia Artists Club.

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Marathoner to hold skating benefit

As a member of the "Team In Training" program, Rebecca Graff of Farmington Hills has agreed to train for and run a marathon to raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America. All the money raised is used for patient aid and research in Michigan.

Graff will be running with a team from Michigan in the San Diego Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, June 4. The team will be participating in honor of a 4-year-old

boy from southeastern Michigan who is suffering from leukemia.

"The people who run in the San Diego Marathon are responsible for raising \$3,600," said Graff who will be hosting a skating party Saturday, May 20, and Sunday, May 21, at the Bonaventure Skating Center in Farmington Hills.

Skate sessions and ticket prices are as follows:

- Saturday matinee skate from 1-4 p.m., \$6
- Saturday family skate from 5-7:30 p.m. \$5 (ticket price includes standard skate rental).
- Sunday matinee skate from 1-4 p.m., \$6

Two dollars from each ticket sold is donated to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America. Bonaventure Skating Center is located near the corner of Grand River Avenue and Halsted Road in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-2201 for more information.

NEW ARRIVALS

■ **Rebecka Lawriski and Christopher Flounoy** of Canton announce the birth of their son **Erik Christopher Lawriski** born May 5 at Botsford Hospital.

Grandparents are Michael and Norma Shuttleworth of East Tawas, Clarence Clement of Westland, and Mildred Pariseau of California. Great-grandfather is Thomas Steer of East Tawas.

tal in Livonia.

Grandparents are Vic and Narcisa Deogracias of Westland and Raymond and Linda Pietryka of Livonia. Mildred Johnson of Wayne is his great-grandmother.

Grandparents are Kathy Lawriski-Sorrell of Livonia, Lewis M. Lawriski of Livonia and Mr. and Mrs. Flounoy of Detroit. Great-grandparents are Eleanor Lawriski of Ft. Myers, Fla. and Josephine Pepper of Livonia.

■ **Andrew and Kristin Gagnon** of Canton announce the birth of **Morgan Edith**, born March 14 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

■ **David and Laurie Kowalski** of Canton announce the birth of **Jena Elisa** May 3 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. She joins sister Haley Noelle, 3.

Grandparents are Bob and Carrie Luckey of Milford, Joe and Val Gagnon of Northville and Judy Gagnon of Westland.

■ **Steven and Joann Pietryka** announce the birth of their son, **Ryan Deogracias**, born April 16 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia.

Grandparents are Bill and Carol Brown of Plymouth and Bob Kowalski and Nancy Bilyk of Canton. Great-grandparents are LaVerne and Dwight Padlock of Livonia and Alberta Anthony of Plymouth.

CRAFTS CALENDAR

If you would like to announce an upcoming craft show, bazaar, or arts boutique — items can be sent to: **Crafts Calendar, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI, 48150** or e-mail kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

The Women of Bloomfield — 16th Annual Juried Arts and Crafts Show is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday June 14th, First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple (south side of Maple between Pleasant and Southfield Rd.) Birmingham. Eighty juried arts/crafters (wearable arts, jewelry, photography, baskets, dried and silk flowers, paintings and prints, watercolors, acrylics and oils, ceramics, glass, beads, crystal jewelry, wood furniture, garden statuary, metal sculpture, and handmade doll furniture, doll clothes, dolls, puppets and teddy bears, watercolor decorated stationery). Other features include white elephant booth, bake sale, food booth, raffle (over 70 prizes donated by artists). Donation only \$1.00. All proceeds to Scamp and Care House. Free parking.

sought for arts and crafts vendors at the Chelsea Summer Fest, July 28 and 29. Booth hours are Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you are interested in obtaining a booth, contact Penny (734) 433-0354 or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 580, Chelsea, MI 48118.

CRAFTERS SOUGHT
The Belleville Central Business Community has extended its deadline for crafters in the downtown area during the Belleville National Strawberry Festival scheduled for June 16, 17 and 18. This is a juried craft show open only to creators of fine arts and quality crafts. All interested artisans should contact the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce (734) 697-7151.

FALL CRAFT SHOW
The Memorial Elementary School "Garden Gala" craft show, with an emphasis on yard and garden related crafts, will be May 20.

FALL CRAFT SHOW
Crafters sought to apply for a spot in the 2000 Fall Craft Show at Schoolcraft College Nov. 11 and 12. To obtain an application, contact (734) 462-4417.

GARDEN GALA CRAFT SHOW
The Memorial Elementary School "Garden Gala" craft show, with an emphasis on yard and garden related crafts, will be May 20.

CHELSEA SUMMER FEST
Applications are currently being

JURIED ART SHOW

Fishing derby

County hosts contest for kids

Young fisherman will have the opportunity to reel in over 1,000 bluegills from the Waterford Bend Picnic Area at the 5th Annual Wayne County Parks Fishing Derby May 20.

The fun begins with a fishing derby and casting contest for children ages 12 and under. A variety of prizes will be awarded in several age categories for largest fish, smallest fish and specially tagged fish. Following the derby, angles of all ages are welcome to join in.

A fishing license is not required for this event but

■ **A variety of prizes will be awarded.**

The schedule of activities include:

- 7:30-9 a.m. registration
- 8-10 a.m. fishing derby/casting contest (12 and under)
- 10 a.m. to noon fishing for all ages
- 10:30 a.m. presentation of prizes for children

participants must bring their own equipment. The co-sponsors of the derby are the Vietnam Veterans of America Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528 and the Northville Parks & Recreation Department.

"Wayne County is making great strides in restoring the Rouge River," said Wayne County Executive Edward H. McNamara. "What better way for our visitors to enjoy it, than a fishing derby."

The Waterford Bend Picnic Area is located on Northville Road, just north of Six Mile Road in Northville. Take I-275 to the Six Mile Road exit and take Six Mile west to Northville Road. Call (734) 261-1990 for information.

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It happens

The Annual Glen Eden Memorial Day Observance

Sunday, May 21, 2000

3:00 pm

Please join us for an afternoon of remembrance, reflection, song and prayer - as we honor the lives of our loved ones who sacrificed so much for their country and its hallowed tradition of liberty.

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NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago Livonia 48150 • 421-5406

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (248) 661-9191

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 18380 Hubbard Road Livonia, Michigan 48154

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Timothy Lutheran Church 6820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2280



CHRISTADELPHIANS Sunday Memorial Service 10:00 A.M. Sunday School 11:30 A.M.

Meeting at Bird Elementary School 220 N. Sheldon Road • Plymouth, MI

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ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH, USA 16700 Newburgh Road Livonia • 734-464-8844

GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) 5635 Sheldon Rd., Canton (734) 459-0613

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Main & Church • (734) 453-6464 PLYMOUTH

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI

COMMUNITY CHURCHES

Cross Winds Sunday Worship Celebration: 10:00 a.m.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 43801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 463-1828

Orchard Grove Community Church Sunday, 10:30 A.M. Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.

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ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST 30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Meridian & Woodlee) Livonia 48150 • 421-5406

Clarenceville United Methodist 20100 Middlebelt Rd • Livonia 474-3444

"Building Healthy Families..." 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship 4:30 p.m. - "Connections"

Catch the Spirit at Aldergate United Methodist Church 10000 Beech Daly, Redford

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Stephen Ministry Congregation 38500 Ann Arbor Trail

May 21 "Covenant Players" Religious Drama Group



REUNIONS

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include the date of the reunion and the first and last name of at least one contact person, and a telephone number.

MERCY HIGH
Class of 1950
June 10 at the Novi Hilton Hotel in Novi.
(248) 851-7620.
Class of 1968
A reunion is planned for Oct. 21. (313) 972-3707
Class of 1980
Sept. 7 at Mercy High School. (248) 476-3270
Class of 1990
Nov. 24 at the Novi Hilton Hotel in Novi.
(248) 888-8090
Class of 1995
Nov. 25 at Vladimir's in Farmington Hills.
(248) 668-1535

MELVINDALE
Class of 1970
Nov. 4 at Park Place in Dearborn.
(313) 295-2311 or by e-mail at jerryb@gateway.net

MUMFORD HIGH
Class of 1960
Saturday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. Detroit Golf Club.
Call (248) 616-9438 or e-mail mumfordreunion@mail.com

NOVI
Class of 1980
June 24 at the Holiday Inn West-Livonia.
(248) 366-9493, press #1

OAK PARK
Class of 1970
Thirty year reunion Aug. 5 at the Northfield Hilton in Troy. Call (248) 851-4938 or e-mail ophs70@speedchoice.com

OSCAR A. CARLSON
Class of 1990
Class of 1990 is planning their 10 year reunion. It will be held Saturday, Aug. 19 at the Holiday Inn - Southgate Heritage Center. Contact Kristen (Williams) Robbins, (734) 676-2624; Tracy (Watson) Thompson, (734) 955-2868 or Danette (Wilson) Terzano (906) 935-7405.

PLYMOUTH CANTON
Class of 1980
Aug. 12 at the Double Tree Guest Suites in Southfield.
(248) 366-9193, press #6 or by e-mail reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

PLYMOUTH SALEM
Class of 1980
20 year reunion on Saturday,

Sept. 2 at the Holiday Inn, Livonia.
Call Reunions Made Easy at (248) 360-7004 or e-mail reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

PONTIAC
January and June classes of 1940
Sept. 8-9 at the Holiday Inn in Auburn Hills.
(248) 682-3719

PONTIAC HIGH
Class of 1950
50th reunion for February, June and August classes.
Call (248) 625-8830 or (248) 682-4797.

PONTIAC HIGH
Class of 1945
55th reunion Saturday, June 17 at Mitch's II in Waterford.
If you would like information write: Pontiac High Reunion Committee, P.O. Box 431815, Pontiac, MI 48345-1815.

PONTIAC CENTRAL
Class of 1960
Reunion is scheduled for Aug. 19 at the Northfield Hilton in Troy. Call (248) 391-4347 for information.

REDFORD HIGH
Class of 1979
Invites you to celebrate our 20th (plus 5 months) anniversary reunion with a gala party May 27 at the Holiday Inn - Fairlane (5801 Southfield Road in Detroit). Registration begins at 7 p.m. with a cash bar; dinner at 8:15 p.m. and dancing at 9:30 p.m. Holiday Inn reservations can be made (313) 336-3340 (mention the Redford 1979 reunion).
Call Class Reunions Plus (810) 446-9636.

ROCHESTER ADAMS
Class of 1980
A reunion is planned for Nov. 25. Contact (313) 768-0656 or e-mail leannaroberts@cs.com

ROMEO HIGH
Class of 1980
20 year reunion, Nov. 25 at Elly's Banquet Hall in Washington, Mich. Call Reunions Made Easy at (248) 360-7004.

ROMULUS HIGH
Class of 1970
A 30-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Aug. 26.
For further information contact Gail (Howie) Curaba (734) 697-1763; Roy and Cathy (Miank) Szyndlar (734) 699-3139 or Jim Wagner at (734) 699-9050.

ROMULUS HIGH
Class of 1990
10 year reunion Saturday, Oct. 14 at the Marriott Hotel, Romulus.
Call Reunions Made Easy at (248) 360-7004 or e-mail

reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

ROSELLE BRADLEY
Class of 1975
There will be a dinner dance Saturday, Aug. 26 at Ernie's Kings Mill Inn in Clinton Township and a picnic Sunday, Aug. 27 at Stony Creek Metropark (North Dale Picnic Pavilion) in Shelby Township.
Call Mark Garagiola (248) 681-2345.

ROYAL OAK HIGH
Class of 1950
A 50th reunion is planned for Sept. 16 at the MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road in Troy.
Call Dick Beer, (248) 391-1549; Chuck Kirkpatrick, (248) 549-5726; Bev (Sharp) Gibbs, (248) 391-2532; or Helen (Vandall) Dusenburg, (248) 549-5205.

ROYAL OAK KIMBALL
Class of 1970
A 30-year reunion is planned for Saturday, Nov. 11 at the Vintage House in Fraser. The cost is \$39 per person and includes buffet dinner, dancing and open bar. Tickets must be purchased in advance.
For ticket information call Wendy Snow Mitchell at (248) 618-8384, e-mail beardiedog618@aol.com or Cheryl Pruden Wagner at b2andcherylwagner@juno.com
The reunion committee also has a Web site at www.kimball70.yearbookhigh.com

SACRED HEART
Class of 1960
Sept. 9 at Dearborn Hills Golf Course in Dearborn.
(248) 414-3220 or (248) 879-8024

SHRINE HIGH
Class of 1950
50 year reunion Saturday, Sept. 9 at the Birmingham Community Center.
Contact Janet Seery Harper (248) 548-6591 or Dick Gadoua (248) 546-5088.
Class of 1955
45 year reunion Saturday, Sept. 23. Location TBA.
Contact Bill Devine (248) 628-1845.
Class of 1960
Planning a millennium reunion on Aug. 12.
Contact Richard Widgren at (313) 886-5072 or Phil & Carole Schummer (248) 828-8516.
Class of 1965
35 year reunion Saturday, Sept. 30 at the Mirage Banquet Hall in Clinton Township.
Contact Janice McLaughlin Peardon (810) 731-6347 or Linda DeVander Cunningham (248) 528-0192.
Class of 1970
30 year reunion Saturday, Nov.

25 at Shrine High School.
Contact Michelle Surace Martin (248) 645-0746 or Barbara Joseph Jones (248) 656-4820.

Class of 1975
25 year reunion Saturday, Sept. 2 at Omni Hotel in Detroit.
Call Jeff Walker at (313) 231-5322.
Class of 1980
20 year reunion. Date and location to be announced.
Contact Tim Scollin at (248) 814-0832.

SOUTHFIELD LATHROP
Class of 1980
20 year reunion Friday, Nov. 24 at the Marriott Hotel, Troy.
Call Reunions Made Easy at (248) 360-7004 or e-mail reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net

SOUTHFIELD HIGH
Classes of 1963, 1964, 1965 and 1966
Reunion August 18.
For more information call (734) 692-9970.

SOUTHFIELD
Class of 1974
A reunion is planned for July 8 from noon to 10 p.m. at Kensington Metro Park.
Contact Bruce Johnson (248) 363-9774 or Suzi Thompson (248) 540-4607.

SOUTHFIELD
Class of 1990
The class of 1990 will host a reunion Aug. 4-6 at the Westin (Southfield) on Aug. 4; banquet at the Westin on Aug. 5; and picnic on Aug. 6 (TBA).
Call Crystal Towns at (810) 662-5557 or e-mail Cat2504@aol.com

SOUTHWESTERN (DETROIT)
Class of 1950
The class of 1950 (January and June) is planning a millennium reunion in October.
Call Virginia, (313) 383-2734 or Margaret, (734) 946-5591.

ST. AGATHA HIGH
Class of 1975
25th year reunion is scheduled for June 24 at Monaghan's

Knights of Columbus Hall in Farmington.
Call JuAnne Clements, (248) 437-7193.

ST. MARY'S
Class of 1965
A reunion is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 16.
(734) 675-8244 or (313) 295-2373

ST. JUDE ELEMENTARY
Class of 1965
Is planning a reunion.
(810) 254-3498

ST. MARY OF REDFORD
Class of 1950
50 year class reunion is scheduled for Oct. 14 at Laurel Manor in Livonia.
Contact Gene Start at (734) 261-6496 or e-mail genestart@aol.com

STEVENSON
Class of 1980
A 20-year reunion is planned for Livonia Steven High School alumni Friday, Nov. 24 at Barns Stormers (9411 East M-36) in Whitmore Lake.
Call Rob Cortis (734) 449-0048 or Rene Wingwood (810) 231-6881.

TAYLOR CENTER
Class of 1990
Sept. 20 at the Grecian Center in Southgate.
(248) 360-7004, press #2 or by e-mail at reunionsmadeeasy@ameritech.net
Classes of 1960-61
Oct. 6 at the Grosse Ile Country Club in Grosse Ile.
(313) 386-6587 (1960) or (734) 671-5278 (1961)

TAYLOR TRUMAN
Class of 1980
Oct. 7 at the Holiday Inn in Livonia.
(248) 360-7004.

THURSTON
Class of 1995 - five-year reunion.
Contact Jessica (Merritt) Corbery with names and addresses of classmates. Call (313) 541-7745 or e-mail jcorbery@aol.com

THURSTON

Class of 1980
Looking for classmates from the Class of 1980. 20 year reunion scheduled for Friday, Nov. 24. Contact Thurston High School or Patti, (313) 534-7971 or pmsablacan@edbiz.net or Chris, (248) 288-2214
hcrest4fun@aol.com

TRENTON
Class of 1990
Sept. 9 at the Grecian Center in Southgate.
(248) 366-9493, press #3

TROY HIGH
Class of 1975
A 25th year reunion has been planned for Friday, June 16, at the San Marino Club in Troy. For information contact Richard (248) 627-4829 or Linda (248) 585-4392.

WATERFORD
Class of 1975
July 8 at the Holiday Inn Select in Auburn Hills.
(248) 634-0773, (248) 391-3703 or (248) 969-2755

WALLED LAKE
Class of 1960
Reunion of class of 1960 will be held Oct. 7 at Multi Lakes Conservation Club. Classmates and interested parties contact: Karen Allen (248) 366-2085; Beverly Hughes, (248) 363-4952 of Juliet Hoult, (248) 363-4514. Visit http://www.reunion.org/wl1960

WALLED LAKE WESTERN
Class of 1975
A 25-year reunion is planned from 6:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 24 at Penna's of Sterling (38400 Van Dyke Ave.) Event includes family style dinner, late night pizza, open bar, dancing to DJ music and book of classmate information. Cost is \$60 per person through June 30; \$65 per person through Aug. 15 and \$75 per person through Oct. 15.
Call Terie Spencer at (248) 624-1692 or e-mail u1u1975@yahoo.com. Register free at www.classmates.com

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71
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on U.S. stock exchanges

55
Managed by Technion graduates

Which country, after the United States and Canada, has the most high-tech listings on American stock exchanges? Israel.

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Don't take a chance, put your faith in God

More and more people are gambling, either for the thrill of it or to escape their problems, or to get money. Sometimes it seems like an innocent method of raising funds. Yet increasingly, news reports talk about how harmful it is. Aren't there safer, more reliable ways to have adventure and fulfill our desires?

Even those few people who win big through gambling often find that it can bring more problems. The satisfaction they had hoped for evades them. What can we turn to that would satisfy our needs and not result in greater losses and frustration? Many people have found that the Bible is a great source for guidance during a time of need and in just plain, every day living.

In Matthew (21:22) we read, "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." Some may question, then, why don't we always receive what we ask for in prayer? A passage from James in the Bible (4:3) gives us a hint: "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss." This suggests that we need to think deeply about the right thing to pray for.

For instance, if we are having financial problems we might be tempted to pray for money, or a good job, or even to win the lottery. If so, we might be asking amiss. But if we pray for wisdom, understanding, and direction, and do not doubt, we would certainly receive an answer to our prayer.

There was a time when our family was about to lose our source of income and we had nearly depleted our savings just to make ends meet. We had a house with a mortgage and two young children to support. So we turned to God for guidance knowing we would receive an answer and that He would guide us to take the steps that would meet our needs. As a result, my husband soon got an idea to contact someone he hadn't talked to in almost two years. That call resulted in a new job which solved our financial problems and provided new and exciting opportunities.

We have found that turning to God regularly like this is very reliable, effective, safe, and often leads to exciting and fulfilling activities.

Mary Baker Eddy, who spent a lifetime studying and living by the Bible wrote, "God gives you His spiritual ideas, and in turn, they give you daily supplies. Never ask for tomorrow; it is enough that divine love is an ever-present help; and if you wait, never doubting, you will have all you need every moment" (*Miscellaneous Writings*).

We can each begin, step by step, to trust in God, and see our needs be met. So let's stop taking chances and experience the excitement of trusting in God!

Nancy Sebring is a fifth generation Christian Scientist, mother of two children in elementary school, and an active member of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth.

RELIGION CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Registration for 2000-2001 Sunday School is being accepted for Congregation Beit Kodesh (31840 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia). Affordable tuition. Tuition assistance available to those who qualify. Call (248) 477-8974 for information.

SUMMER CAMP
Registration has begun at Christ Our Savior in Livonia for summer camp and fall classes. The church offers Christian programs for children ages 18 months to kindergarten during the school year and up through age 8 during the summer. Call Wendy at (734) 513-8413.

SCRIPTURE SERIES
A Scripture Series is being offered at Saint Colette Church (Newburgh Road between Six and Seven Mile roads) from 7-9 p.m. Thursday evenings. May 18: "Get into the act and take a letter," will be the topic discussed in the activities center. What is the Acts of the Apostles? What does it tell us about the early church? May 25: "Revelations about the Book of Revelation," Why is the Book of Revelation so frequently misinterpreted? How do Catholics understand this last book of the Bible? Sr. Ginny Silvestri, OSM, will be the guest speaker. She is a member of the Order of Servants of Mary. She is currently a consultant for the Office for Leadership Formation in the Archdiocese of Detroit. Pre-register by calling (734) 464-4435. Walk-ins are welcome.

KITCHEN KAPERS
A salad buffet luncheon will be presented by the Mother Cabrini Guild of St. Simon and Jude Church (32500 Palmer Road) of Westland from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 18. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Call (734) 722-1343 for tickets. \$6 per person. Raffle, 50/50, and prizes. No smoking please.

ADOPTION SEMINAR

Interested in domestic or international adoption? Please join us for an informational seminar, free of charge, the First Church of the Nazarene in Novi at 10 a.m. May 20. Call Adoption Associates at (248) 474-0990 for directions.

HOME RUN DERBY
Ward Church will host a home-run derby at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 20 for t-ball through adult at the Ward Church South diamond. Cost is \$1 per child; \$2 per adult. RSVP by May 19. For information call (248) 374-5937.

YOUNG ADULTS OF UNITY
Young Adults of Unity is a spiritual group for singles, couples and all young adults ages 18-35 seeking fellowship and fun. This group is open to high school graduates, college students and young couples seeking spiritual support. Young Adults of Unity will be having a spaghetti social at 6 p.m. May 20 at Unity of Livonia (28660 Middlebelt Road). Young Adults of Unity also has a Bible study the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. at the church.

STORY OF GOD/HIS PEOPLE
Covenant Community Church (25800 Student St. in Redford) presents Savior... the story of God's passion for his people. A musical production done in the spirit of the Messiah and the style of Les Miserables. Begins at 11 a.m. Sunday, May 21. Free admission. Nursery provided.

SPIRITUALITY AND HEALTH
First Church of Christ, Scientist in Wayne, will be the setting for a talk on spirituality and healing by Meryl F. Walters of Missouri. Come explore the spiritual dimension of health at 7 p.m. Monday, May 22 (36671 Michigan Ave. West) in Wayne. Walters will discuss the best-seller "Science and health with key to the scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy. This was recently named as one of 75 books by women

"whose words have changed the world." The event is free of charge.

WORLD HEALING SERVICE
On Mon., May 22 and Mon. June 19 a World Healing Service will take place at 7 p.m. facilitated by Barbara Wade, licensed Unity Teacher at Unity of Livonia (28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads). Come and pray for healing of Mother Earth, your loved ones, mankind, the world and yourself. Call (734) 421-1760.

LIVONIA PRAYER BREAKFAST
The 26th Annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast will be held from 7:15-9 a.m. Tuesday, May 23 at St. Mary's Cultural Center (18100 Merriman Road) in Livonia between Six and Seven Miles roads. The theme of this year's event is "Think Globally, Act Locally." Richard E. Stearns, president of World Vision United States, will be the guest speaker. World Vision was founded in 1950 and is the largest privately funded Christian relief and development organization in the world. Part of the proceeds from this year's Prayer Breakfast will be used for local and global charities through World Vision U.S. For tickets call Sally Butler, (248) 476-9427.

BARBARA KEEFE CONCERT
Barbara Keefe, spiritual teacher and new thought vocalist, will be performing and hosting a workshop at 2 p.m. May 28 called "Playing with God," at Unity of Livonia (28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads). The program will be offered on a love offering basis. Keefe tours extensively in the U.S. performing concerts for spiritual and private groups. For information call (734) 421-1760.

WOMEN'S RETREAT
Come and experience a weekend of praise and worship through the Women of Greater Grace

Temple - Taylor will gather at the Marriott Hotel (1275 W. Huron St. of Ypsilanti for the May 19-20 14th annual Women's Retreat. Reservations can be made by calling (800) 228-9290. This year's theme is "Women of Praise Worshipping the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness: The Power of Prayer and Fasting." Keynote speaker is Evangelist Connie Hightower of Mt. Calvary Apostolic Church, Ohio. 2

UUCF SUNDAY PROGRAM
Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington Sunday Program for May 21: Rev. Bob Renjilian presents "A Doctrinal God is Dead, Long Live the Metaphor." The old descriptions of God, in an academic sense, died long ago. There are new, more meaningful and empowering ways to approach "the mystery, the divine." Services and Sunday School at 9 and 11 a.m. 25301 Halsted Road (north of Grand River). For information call (248) 478-7272 or www.wwnet.com/~uucf/

FINANCIAL SEMINAR
A financial seminar will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, June 3 at United Assembly of God, 46500 North Territorial Road in Plymouth. Free of charge. Continental breakfast offered. Must register to attend. Call (734) 453-4530.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Trinity Presbyterian Church (10101 W. Ann Arbor Road) of Plymouth invites children to come to Vacation Bible School June 19-23 from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. daily. VBS is open to children entering kindergarten through six grade in the fall. This year's program is SonZone Discovery Center, a week of adventure is a fantastic inventor's museum designed for kids including lively songs, crafts, games, hands-on experiments, Bible study and snacks. Registration begins May 21. Call (734) 459-9550.

HIGH SCHOOL FUND-RAISER

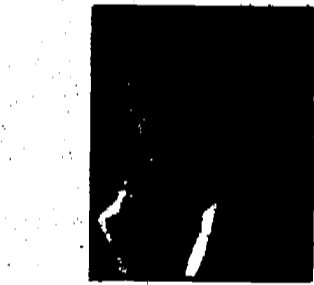
The Plymouth-Salem High School Cheerleading Team is having a fund-raising car wash from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, May 21, 2000 at Lighthouse Car Wash, 41869

Ford Rd, Canton. Proceeds of the car wash will help support the Plymouth-Salem High School cheerleading program.

Do Social Situations Make You Nervous?

Do you experience extreme anxiety?

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The Institute for Health Studies is now enrolling for a research study of an investigational medication that may improve the symptoms of social phobia. Participation is free to those who qualify. Individuals experiencing alcohol or drug abuse, or poorly controlled medical problems cannot be accepted for this research study.

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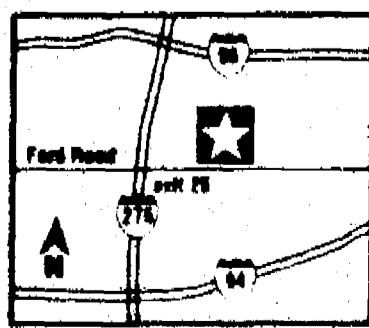
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Information & Press Conference
10am - 11:30am on stage in the Food Court.

WONDERLAND

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OBSERVER
SPORTS
SCENE

Besco promoted

Former Westland John Glenn star Derek Besco was recently promoted to the Detroit Tigers' Triple-A farm club, the Toledo Mud Hens.

Besco hit .316 in his first five games with the Mud Hens, serving as the designated hitter. He had one RBI.

Injuries and recent promotions to the Detroit Tigers prompted the organization to send Toledo some hitting help.

The former University of Michigan star has batted in the .280-.300 range since being selected by Detroit. This is his first shot at Triple-A pitching.

Besco was in his second season with the Class A Lakeland Tigers and was hitting .299 with one home run and 25 RBI at the time of his promotion.

Lutheran High camps

Lutheran High School Westland is offering summer camps and classes for basketball and volleyball at a cost of \$40 per session. Cost includes a T-shirt and daily treat.

Camps/classes depend upon the number of enrollees.

Boys basketball camps for grades 3-5 are from July 10-14 from 8:30-10 a.m. Boys basketball for grades 6-8 are also July 10-14, from 10:15 a.m.-noon.

Girls basketball camps for grades 3-5 are from July 17-21 from 8:30-10 a.m. and for grades 6-8 on July 17-21 from 10:15 a.m.-noon.

Girls volleyball camps for players in grades 6-8 will be July 31-Aug. 4 from 9-11 a.m.

Send checks payable to Lutheran Westland to Lutheran High School Westland, Attn: Dan Ramthun, 33300 Cowan Road, Westland, MI 48185.

Indicate name, grade, home phone and T-shirt size (adult).

Call (734) 422-2090 for more information.

St. Edith's volleyball

St. Edith is expanding its fall CYO girl's volleyball program from two teams to four — half junior varsity (grades 4-6) and the other half varsity (grades 7-8).

Eligible participants must be parish members of St. Edith, St. Kenneth, St. Aidan, St. Collette and St. Maurice.

For signup or other information, call Gary Smart at (734) 432-5959.

UDM baseball

Junior David Wampler (Livonia Franklin) pitched six innings of five-hit ball for the University of Detroit-Mercy as the Titans defeated Eastern Michigan, 6-5, last week in the second night game ever played at Oestrike Stadium.

Wampler fanned three, didn't walk a batter and allowed no earned runs.

Senior Ron Blackmore (Livonia Churchill) scored a run in Detroit's 8-7 loss at Illinois-Chicago. The tying run was thrown out at the plate on a double by senior Mike Daguanno (Farmington/Catholic Central).

Senior Chris Karney (Catholic Central) led off another game against Illinois-Chicago with a home run but the Flames won, 8-4.

In the finale of a weekend series, Daguanno hit his second home run of the game and 11th of the season, a three-run shot, to break a 5-5 tie in the top of the fourth.

Blackmore's sacrifice fly scored freshman Justin Fendelet (Canton/Westland John Glenn) to give the Titans a 9-5 lead. Wampler came on to choke off a Flames rally in the final inning to preserve Detroit's 9-8 win.

Lightning flashy

The Livonia Lightning's U-10 girls AAU basketball team closed its season with a fifth-place finish in the weekend 16-team state tournament.

Team members included Allie Dibella, Amber Drabicki, Lauren Goyette, Kailee Hobbs, Lauren Lewis, Kristen Lowney, Andrea McCall, Haley Michalsen, Katie Mitchell, Kelly Thomas plus Courtney and Robyn and Teresa Whalen.

Girls interested in playing for the U-10 Lightning team next year should call Dale Brabicki at (734) 464-8280, Tony Drabczyk (813) 381-6359 or Patrick Cannon (734) 953-0664.

To submit items to the Sports Scene, write 36251 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, MI 48150, or send via fax to (734) 461-7970.

Misiak says 'No' to Patriot bats



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

No you don't: Sophomore Meghan Misiak of Livonia Churchill winds up to fire one of the pitches Livonia Franklin batters didn't hit Monday, hurling her second no-hitter of the season.

Santi new Pats' hoop coach

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

John Santi wants to give the kids at Livonia Franklin the same thing he had — a good basketball experience at Livonia Franklin.

Santi has been hired to succeed Dan Robinson as boys varsity basketball coach at Livonia Franklin, it was announced Tuesday.

Santi, 28, is a 1990 graduate of Franklin who played two seasons of varsity basketball. For the past seven seasons he has coached the Patriots' freshman and junior varsity teams.

"To go back there, to be able give some of the young kids that same experience I went through (is great)."

BASKETBALL

Santi said, "I take a lot of pride in graduating from Franklin and coaching there."

"I'm sure that was factor in the decision."

"It was great being able to go back to Franklin, where I received a real good education and a great experience athletically. Especially as far as learning how to compete and the challenges you face."

Franklin's new basketball coach teaches fifth grade — "everything but science" — at Hayes Elementary.

He has spent the last five

seasons as junior varsity coach.

"He's worked his way up through the program," Athletic Director Dan Freeman said. "He has gone to and worked a lot of summer basketball camps."

"He has put himself into the position of being a bona fide basketball coach. We're excited, not only about his basketball skills, but about the way he communicates and deals with kids."

"With his knowledge of basketball and ability to communicate with players and parents, he's an excellent role model."

Santi spent two seasons on the Franklin varsity as a player when Larry Jackson

was coaching. He went to Wayne State, not to play basketball, which he didn't, but to get a degree in elementary education, which he did.

He still plays a little basketball, though. He went up to Traverse City last weekend for a 3-on-3 tournament — and came back with a severe ankle sprain.

When Jackson retired, Santi applied for his post even though he was so green he still had grass behind his ears.

"I don't know if I was quite ready," Santi said. "I was student teaching at the time. I had only been coach-

Please see SANTI, C8

Whalers 'Barried' in Game 7 of finals

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Skeptics predicted before the season that an over-abundance of young players and a noticeable lack of depth would lead to the demise of the Plymouth Whalers during the 1999-2000 campaign.

Undaunted, the over-achieving Whalers proved their critics wrong the entire year — that is, until Tuesday night in Game 7 of the Ontario Hockey League Championship Series when the more-seasoned Barrie Colts jolted the Whalers 4-2 in front of 4,426 fans at Compuware Arena.

The standing room-only crowd watched Barrie forward Tim Verbeek

HOCKEY

do an uncanny impression of his older brother — Detroit Red Wing Pat Verbeek — by scoring two clutch third-period goals to complement the solid play of Colt goaltender Brian Finley, who stopped 25 Whaler shots.

Finley's sterling play throughout the series earned him the Wayne Gretzky trophy, which is presented annually to the MVP of the OHL playoffs.

Finley's biggest save came with 2:40 left in the game and his team up 3-2. Whaler defenseman Shaun Fisher found an open area about 20 feet in

front of the net and unleashed a scorching slapshot that Finley managed to deflect high off the glass behind the net.

It turned out to be the Whalers' last gasp as just over a minute later Verbeek stole a clearing pass at the blue-line and rocketed a shot past defenseless Plymouth goalie Rob Zepp to make it 4-2.

"Brian Finley was outstanding tonight," Whaler coach Pete DeBoer said. "He showed tonight why he was the fifth overall selection in the NHL draft (by Nashville) last year. There's a kid you're going to see playing in the NHL for 15 years. He's that good."

DeBoer's praise shifted quickly from

A no-no was not a no-no for sophomore Meghan Misiak.

'No-no' is baseball parlance for a no-hitter and Livonia Churchill's pitcher was not to be denied Monday in the Chargers' 4-0 victory over host Livonia Franklin.

Misiak fired her second no-hitter of the season, walking four and striking out six as Churchill (12-3) raised its Western Lakes Activities Association Western Division record to 5-1. Franklin (7-9) is 1-6 in the division.

Tara Muchow took the loss despite striking out a dozen batters. She walked three and gave up five hits.

The Chargers produced three of their four runs in the top of the third.

Singles by Misiak, Kelly Stahley and Carly George mixed in with two errors were enough to give Churchill a 3-0 lead.

With one out in the fifth, Christine Fones walked and scored on a triple by Sheila Gillies.

Falcons trip Spartans

Kelsey Guisbert scattered 10 hits Monday but didn't walk a batter as Farmington knocked off Livonia Stevenson, 9-5.

Kelley Hutchins took the loss for host Livonia Stevenson (5-11). She allowed 11 hits, walked two and struck out five. The Spartans are now 1-7 in league play.

Guisbert struck out two for the Falcons.

Amy Hollandsworth went 3-for-4 with a double and scored twice. Katie King scored two runs, went 3-for-4, drove in two runs and hit a triple, scoring on an error. Amanda Jankowski went 1-for-3 with two RBI.

Danielle Lewis had a 4-for-4 game for Farmington, driving in two runs, while Becky DePotter had a two-run triple.

Rose is sweet

Heather Rose twirled a three-hitter in the mercy shortened four-inning Lutheran High Westland 18-3 victory over Lutheran East.

Rose walked three and struck out five.

Heather Haller had three hits for the host Warriors (7-10-1), including a triple, and drove in three runs. Sarah Marody also had two hits and two RBI.

A dozen walks helped Lutheran High Westland square its Metro Conference mark at 4-4. Harper Woods Lutheran East (8-10) is 3-6 in the league.

On Saturday, host Lutheran Westland took a doubleheader from Dearborn Heights Annapolis, 12-9 and 12-7.

Lutheran Westland had a 13-10 edge in hits and survived committing five errors.

Marody drove in two runs with three singles, Rose had two hits and two RBI and Liz Unger also had a pair of hits and two RBI.

Please see SOFTBALL, C3

Moving on



Time's up: Redford's Bob Miller points out it's time for him to leave as the U-Detroit Mercy baseball coach. Please see Page C5.

Please see SANTI, C8

Friday, May 19	Saturday, May 20	Sunday, May 21	Monday, May 22	Tuesday, May 23	Wednesday, May 24	Thursday, May 25
Senior Softball Thursday, May 18 Grand at Taylor, 4 p.m. Franklin vs. at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 19 Churchill vs. W.L. Western, 4 p.m. North Farmington vs. Franklin, 4 p.m. W.L. Central vs. N. Farmington, 4 p.m. W.L. Central at John Glenn, 4 p.m.	Saturday, May 20 Taylor Kennedy Invitational, 10 a.m. Huron Valley at Fairless, noon (L.A. City Team) at Ford Field Churchill vs. Stearns, 10 a.m. Franklin vs. C.Ville, 1 p.m. Championship final, 3:30 p.m. Consolation at Franklin, 3:30 p.m. GIRLS SOFTBALL	Sunday, May 21 Trenton at West, 4 p.m. County Day at Carroll (2), 4 p.m. Franklin vs. at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m. Monday, May 22 W.L. Western at Carroll, 4 p.m. Franklin at Westville, 4 p.m. N. Farmington at Stearns, 4 p.m. John Glenn at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.	Tuesday, May 23 P.O. at Huron Valley, 10 a.m. John Glenn at Carroll (2), 11 a.m. Michigan Invitational at Carroll (2) at 11 a.m. (L.A. City Team) at Ford Field Churchill vs. Stearns, 10 a.m. Franklin vs. C.Ville, 1 p.m. Championship final, 3:30 p.m.	Wednesday, May 24 Division II regional at Stearns, 10 a.m. Division III regional at Stearns, 10 a.m.	Thursday, May 25 Division II regional at Stearns, 10 a.m. Division III regional at Stearns, 10 a.m.	Friday, May 26 Division II regional at Stearns, 10 a.m. Division III regional at Stearns, 10 a.m.

Rockets overpower Raiders; Chargers get a shutout

If you can't outpitch them, outslug them.

That formula worked Monday for Coach Todd Duffield's Westland John Glenn baseball team as it gave up five runs in the top of the seventh then scored six in the bottom half of the inning to take a 13-12 victory from North Farmington.

After one was out, winning relief pitcher Tom Howard walked to start the rally. Mike Grant singled, then Jeff Koslowski reached on an error that let in the first run.

Another run scored on an error permitting Dave Mijal to reach first. Chad Sansom then singled in the third run of the inning and Josh Day doubled home the fourth.

Mark Wacker was walked intentionally to load the bases with two out but Dave Holloway spoiled the strategy with a

BASEBALL

game-winning two-run single.

Howard pitched to two batters to gain the win, walking one and seeing the second line into a 6-4 double play. He is now 1-0.

North Farmington pounded out 10 hits but made four errors while John Glenn got its 13 runs on 13 hits. The Rockets made three errors.

Westland overcame a 3-1 deficit with three runs in the fourth and took tacked on three more in the fifth before North Farmington made its bid.

Sansom went 4-for-5 for the day while Day had a single, double and triple good for three RBI. Holloway collected a pair of singles plus a double for five RBI and Mike Grant had two hits and an RBI.

Brian Lafer had two hits for

the Raiders, with Mike Livernois pounding two doubles, and Ethan Goodman and Zach Lessway getting two hits each.

Pat O'Connell, who came on in relief in the fifth, took the loss for North Farmington.

John Glenn (6-14) is now 2-9 in the WLAA and 1-6 in its division.

CHURCHILL 8, FRANKLIN 0: Brad Bescoe tossed a three-hitter Monday and the Chargers scored three runs in the second and fifth innings.

Bescoe (3-2) struck out eight and walked only two batters.

Joe Ruggiero took the loss for the visiting Patriots, allowing seven hits and seven runs in five innings. Jim Priebe had two hits for Franklin (5-12).

Marshall Tucker had an RBI double for Churchill (10-11). Jason Dominas had two hits plus an RBI and scored twice while Rory Cesarz had two hits. The Chargers are 3-4 in WLAA divisional play.

On Saturday, Churchill took a doubleheader from visiting Redford Thurston, 13-8 and 16-6.

Tucker had five RBI, facing two doubles in the first game while Rob Wilson had three hits including a double and drove in three runs.

Ricky Strain hit a two-run single and added a sacrifice fly. Bescoe won the game, pitching two innings of relief.

Churchill outhit Thurston, 13-10. Each team made two errors.

Jared Kazmierczak collected two doubles for the Eagles while Eric Carlson and Greg McClain each had two hits. Travis Farkas took the loss.

Churchill pounded out 15 hits in the second game mercy win. Wilson went six innings to get the win, striking out six and walking three.

Cesarz went 4-for-4 and had two RBI. Wilson had three hits and drove in two runs. Josh Odom drove in a run with two hits and Dominas had three hits good for two RBI.

Kazmierczak had two hits for

Thurston while Jim Melvin had two of the Eagles' eight hits, including a solo home run. Isaac Sudet took the loss, working the first three innings.

CC 5-3-6, BROTHER RICE 10-1-10: Winning two of three games against Birmingham Brother Rice on Saturday would have clinched a spot in the Catholic League playoffs for Catholic Central.

Instead, the Shamrocks lost the completion of a previously suspended game against the Warriors, then split the regularly scheduled doubleheader to force a one-game playoff Wednesday to determine the final berth in the DCL postseason.

"We have a chance to redeem ourselves," said CC coach John Salter. "If he had won outright, we would have been there."

The Shamrocks dropped the suspended game 10-5 after resuming it, trailing 9-4 in the bottom of the fourth. CC won the opener of the doubleheader, 3-1, but lost the second game, 10-6, to tie the Warriors with a 9-7 record and share second place in the Central Division.

In the suspended game, Matt Loidas wound up, 2-for-4 with two runs scored and Ryan Rogowski was 1-for-1 with a walk and a run scored.

CC (16-8) shut down Rice in the opener, on a combined three-hitter by Adam Klire and eventual winner Adam Smith (2-1).

"Relief pitching was the story," said Salter. "Adam came in in relief and pretty much shut them down."

Brian Williams and Charlie Haeger led

the way at the plate as they both went 2-for-3.

Rice earned revenge in the second game, paced by a five-run fifth and a three-run seventh. Kevin Entsminger (2-4) suffered the loss. Williams and John Hill both had a pair of hits and an RBI.

ALLEN PARK 8, WAYNE 2: A few more timely hits Monday would have helped visiting Wayne Memorial.

Starter Matt Mackiewicz gave up just three hits in his four innings but his teammates only had a couple. Mackiewicz walked four, struck out one and was charged with six runs.

The Zebras (5-7) dropped to 4-3 in the Michigan Mega Conference's White Division.

LUTH. NORTH 9, CLARENCEVILLE 8: A fifth-inning rally fell short Monday and the Trojans couldn't score again in dropping the Metro Conference decision.

Macomb Lutheran North (6-12-1) scored in each of the first five innings, then staved off Livonia Clarenceville's late rallies to keep the Trojans winless in eight Metro games. Lutheran North is 3-5 in league play.

Kevin Siley gave up all nine Lutheran North runs in the five innings he worked. Tim Redi pitched scoreless ball over the final two frames.

Clarenceville (3-9) got a 3-for-5 game from Ray Gutierrez, who drove in a run, while Joe Keough, Scott Carr and Eric Elmore each went 2-for-4 to pace the Trojans' 14-hit attack. Carr also had an RBI.

Gutierrez, Keough and Elmore each scored twice.

Softball from page C1



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Handle this: Livonia Franklin's Tara Muchow suffered a 4-0 loss to Churchill despite pitching a five-hitter and striking out 12 in a Monday softball game.

Rose was the winning pitcher, walking four and striking out three, with four of the nine runs allowed being earned.

In the second game, Annapolis outhit Lutheran Westland, 10-8 but freshman shortstop Jenny Glenn drove in five runs with a single and two doubles.

Christina Tilden earned the win despite issuing seven walks. She struck out two and allowed six earned runs.

On Friday at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, the Warriors recorded a 19-6 mercy victory.

Rose earned the win with four earned runs. She pitched a five-hitter, striking out five and walking four. She helped herself with the bat, driving in five runs with a single, double and triple.

Hawks swamp foes

Huron Valley Lutheran crushed Warren Bethesda Christian in a doubleheader Monday, 20-0 and 15-0.

The first game was called after two innings while the second lasted just three as the Hawks kept their perfect season going.

Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (12-0) has a 9-0 Michigan Independent Athletic Association record.

Rachel Zahn went 3-for-3 and scored three times in the opener, driving in five runs and legging out a double plus a triple. Gretchen Grosinske went 2-for-2 with a double and three RBI. All nine starters hit.

Zahn didn't allow a hit in her two innings, striking out two.

Zahn raised her record to 10-0 with three innings of hitless ball in the second game, another mercy. She struck out four and walked one.

Sam Pelligrino went 2-for-3 with a double plus a triple. Jessica Whitaker drove in two runs and went 2-for-2 and Stacie Graves went 2-for-3 with an RBI.

The Hawks had 25 hits in the two games combined to clinch at least a tie for first place in the MIAC.

On Saturday, Huron Valley outslugged another foe.

Huron Valley took a doubleheader from Warren Zoe Christian, 13-11 and 21-13, in what looked more like a volleyball match than a pair of softball games.

Rachel Zahn earned the first-game victory with an eight-hitter, striking out 12 and giving up four walks. Four of the runs she allowed were unearned.

Jessica Whitaker went 3-for-4, with three RBI and three stolen bases while Sam Pelligrino was 2-for-4 with a double and two RBI.

Mandy Cherundolo earned the win in the second game despite giving up 14 hits. Her teammates helped her out with some strong defense as she walked four and struck out one.

All 17 of Westland Huron Valley Lutheran's players got into the second game, which did not count in the MIAC. Kelly Kovach led the way with three RBI in a 2-for-3 game.

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Whalers from page C1

defenseman Libor Ustrnul, who suffered a game-ending injury just seconds after the opening face-off.

Barrie took advantage of their second power-play opportunity of the game at the 6:36 mark of the first period when winger Sheldon Keefe -- the OHL's leading scorer during the regular season -- broke free and back-handed a shot past a sprawling Zeppp to put the Colts up 1-0.

Plymouth tied the game at 1-1 four minutes later when -- just

six seconds into its first power-play of the night -- Damian Surma fired a slapshot from just inside the blue-line that eluded Finley. The Colts' net-minder was screened from the shot by a pair of Whalers in front of the net. Surma's goal was assisted by Justin Williams and Stephen Weiss.

Barrie regained the lead four minutes into the second period when Mike Henderson slid the puck under Zeppp's pads from short range to make it 2-1.

Six minutes later, Zeppp redeemed himself by stoning a

shot from Verbeek, who had skated behind the Whalers' defenders.

Verbeek tallied the first of his two goals seven minutes into the third period when he took a pass from Henderson on a two-on-one break and beat Zeppp with a high screamer to make it 3-1.

The Whalers were re-energized at the 10:32 mark of the third period when winger George Nistas stuffed a shot through Finley's five hole. Nistas' assisted goal came on the Whalers' first shot of the third period.

It was the last mistake Finley

would make. Plymouth outshot Barrie 26-24.

"We had an outstanding year," DeBoer reflected. "This is a great group of hard-working, over-achieving kids who surprised a lot of people this year."

Colts forced Game 7

There were some elements the Plymouth Whalers could neutralize when they visited Barrie Sunday for Game Six in their best-of-seven series for the Ontario Hockey League championship.

Sheldon Keefe and Denis Shvidki, the Colts' top two scorers during the regular season, were kept scoreless, giving them a total of just three goals (one an empty-netter) in six games.

However, the Whalers couldn't combat the raucous sellout crowd of 4,250.

Nor could they do anything to disrupt the play of Barrie goalie Brian Finley, who stopped all 26 Whaler shots in posting a 3-0 shutout win that forced a Game Seven Tuesday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.

The game was fairly even

through the first two periods, with Barrie scoring at 6:13 of the first on a goal by Mike Jefferson, his seventh of the playoffs.

Ryan Barnes and Erik Reitz -- a Plymouth native -- earned assists.

The Colts had a 23-22 advantage in shots on goal through two periods. But in the third, they scored twice more while outshooting Plymouth 9-4. Both goals were scored by Mike Heinrich, with Mike Christian assisting on both.

Rob Zeppp made 29 saves in goal for the Whalers.

Reitz a force for Barrie

BY C.J. RISAK STAFF WRITER

There were plenty of happy people in the Compuware Arena stands Tuesday when the Barrie Colts held off the Plymouth Whalers to win the J. Ross Robertson Cup and the Ontario Hockey League championship that goes with it.

All of them were from Barrie -- or at least most of them were.

There were a bunch of Plymouth natives cheering for those enemies from abroad, and with good reason: a native son was playing for the Colts.

And that made this homecoming a particularly sweet one for Erik Reitz, a 17-year-old defenseman in his first year with Barrie.

"This," the former Plymouth Salem student (graduating class of 2001) said happily, "is the biggest game of my life, by far."

It should have been. The best-of-seven series figured to be a struggle all the way, and it was, but when Plymouth took a 3-2 advantage in games Barrie's back was up against the proverbial wall.

Enter the defense.

After giving up 19 goals in the first five games, the Colts allowed just two in the last two.

"This is all about character, emotion, intensity," said Reitz. He tried to downplay his coming home for the deciding seventh game. "It was never really (a factor),"

he said. "But it does make you play a bit harder."

"Yeah," he added, after a bit more reflection. "To win it at home was great. I would have liked to win it in Barrie because of all the fans, but this was special."

With one of the largest crowds in Whaler history in attendance -- a standing-room only assemblage of 4,426 -- it was nice to know a few of them were family.

And it was also nice to know the defense was the difference down the stretch.

"They did a good job clearing us out in front of the net," said Whaler coach Pete DeBoer. "They took away all the rebounds, and they have a world-class goalie."

That would be Brian Finley, who appreciated all the work his defensemen did.

Including Reitz. His 6-foot-1, 195-pound bulk helped keep the goal area void of Whalers. Coming into the game, he totaled five assists in 22 playoff games and was tied for the team lead in plus/minus with a plus-10 rating.

Barrie's first-round pick (19th overall) in the 1999 OHL priority selection draft, Reitz was never really an offensive force as a defenseman, collecting two goals and 10 assists in 63 games. He also had a plus-20 rating.

Good numbers for a first-year player in the OHL. But Reitz now has something even more special: a league championship and a chance to play for the Memorial Cup, a quest that begins Saturday.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSHMAN

Native son: Plymouth native Erik Reitz was a force on defense for the Barrie Colts, who knocked the Plymouth Whalers out of the OHL playoffs in Game 7 of the finals.

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Miller steps down from UDM baseball job

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER
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Having to raise money for his program for the last 38 years grew old for University of Detroit Mercy baseball coach Bob Miller.

So after this season is done, so is Miller.

The Redford Township resident — who has been part of Titan athletics as a player, booster, assistant coach or head coach in one way, shape or form since the 1940s — announced he's stepping down as coach effective the end of the season.

"I had a great career there," said Miller. "It was a wonderful career. From my mother and father going to every game when they were alive, God rest their souls, to my kids, to my grandkids... But this is not the way I wanted to go out."

Miller decided to quit when assistant coach Lee Bjerke said that he would resign if he wasn't

paid by the school. Miller told Bjerke that "If you leave, I'm leaving."

"I've been a part-time coach for 38 years at U-D," Miller said. "I've got no pension from them, no nothing, I tried to get money for (Lee). He's done a helluva good job for this program."

"I got no money from U-D," said Bjerke, who went to Miller's staff after a short stint at Henry Ford Community College and several years at Willow Run High School. "My salary was fund-raised for four years and it got to the point where I was no longer going to be an assistant for no salary. Bob gave the ultimatum that the school was going to pay his assistants or he was not going to be back."

UDM athletic director Brad Kinsman said he took the issue up with school president Sr. Maureen Fay, but the answer was no.

"All teams have to fund-raise

to a certain extent," said Kinsman, who added that Miller's replacement will also have to raise funds to pay for coaching salaries. "I think Bob got tired of it and felt the school should do ABC and D and decided to step down. The issue of the school paying for assistants was taken forward and declined."

"He's a legend. He's worked tirelessly on behalf of our student-athletes and we're indebted to him. Everything Titan baseball has become over the years is a credit to Bob and his staff. He is remarkable."

Miller was outstanding at raising money for his program — guessing he raised about \$1 million over the years.

He held banquets and parties with such sports stars as Sparky Anderson, Tommy Lasorda, Brooks Robinson and Bill Freehan. He accepted gifts from people like Jim Campbell, Remo Viello and Ken Elliott, along

with average donors from people who wanted to help the program.

The money funded things like dugouts, spring trips, salaries.

"They've been fantastic over the years," Miller said. "Remo gave money to pay for the assistant coaches and the southern trip. Mr. Campbell gave fantastic donations for the scoreboard and fence. He was my man."

Miller was unquestionably an area baseball legend. He played two years for the Titans, then signed a contract with the Philadelphia Phillies, helping the club to a National League pennant in 1950 as a rookie pitcher. He made 261 appearances before retiring in 1958.

In 1963, he returned to U-D as an assistant coach under Lloyd Brazil, before becoming head coach in 1965. As a head coach, he's compiled an 896-751-2 record and had 28 20-win seasons. This year, the Titans are 15-26 and 4-14 in the league

heading into this weekend's Midwestern Collegiate Conference tournament in Dayton.

And the memories acquired in that time have been plentiful.

"I've been able to coach my sons (Tom, Bob and Pat) and that was a thrill," Miller said. "My team in 1965 came within a game of going to Omaha (for the College World Series) and the teams in the 1970s were as good as any around. But the one thing I always told my players and recruits is that they were going to get their education and play for a helluva baseball program. That was my philosophy. They were going to play ball, but they were also going to get a degree."

Miller knows he'll miss coaching and UDM. In addition to coaching, he also takes care of the Campbell Athletic Complex as if it were his own house — and in a sense, it is. He cuts the grass and edges it, builds and rebuilds the mounds.

For most of his years as a baseball coach, he also sold insurance for lifelong friend Chuck Davie, who was paralyzed in a freak accident in Puerto Rico.

"I started to work for him, and I told him that I had the chance to become baseball coach at U-D," Miller said. "He told me to do it. Just don't spend all your time coaching, sell some insurance too."

He'll still be dealing with grass in retirement, but most of it will be on a golf course. He's had several old friends begging him to play for years — now he'll have the chance to do it.

And baseball won't be out of his system entirely.

"I'll still go to high school games, Connie Mack games, Ford Field in Livonia," mused Miller. "I'm still going to go out and do it even though I'm not recruiting. I enjoy the game. "It's in my soul now."

Crusaders eliminated

At least Madonna University's baseball team reached the second day of the NAIA Region VIII Tournament. Two days and one inning, to be precise.

The Crusaders surrendered eight runs in the opening inning of their game against Indiana Tech Saturday, eventually falling 17-3.

They finished with a season record of 29-25-1.

Indiana Tech, the regular-season champ in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, ended up claiming the Region VIII title by beating Marian College twice, 11-4 Saturday and 8-4 Monday to improve to 41-19.

It advanced to the NAIA Sectional that starts today in Joliet, Ill., playing a best-of-three-games series against St. Francis (Ill.), with a trip to the NAIA World Series at stake.

Dale Hayes (Westland John Glenn HS) started for Madonna against Tech, but he lasted just 1/3 of an inning, giving up seven runs.

The score reached 10-0 by the end of two innings, as five Crusaders went to the mound and were tagged for 12 earned runs on 22 hits. Hayes took the loss.

Madonna did manage 10 hits in the game, with Eric Lightle (Livonia Churchill) getting three of them, one a double. Chris Woodruff had a pinch-hit double and an RBI and Mark Cole had a single and an RBI.

Adam Ward and Jeremiah Deakins each had four hits for Tech, while Casey Reid had three hits and four RBI and Ryan Campbell contributed two hits, including a homer, and four RBI.

BASEBALL

Brad Sparks went the distance to earn the pitching win for Tech.

All-Region players

Two Madonna baseball players and two more softball players were selected to the NAIA All-Region VIII team, which was released Monday.

Seniors Derick Wolfe and Todd Miller were named to the all-region baseball squad. Wolfe, an outfielder, led the Crusaders in virtually every offensive category, batting .395 with a team-best .704 slugging percentage, eight home runs, 16 doubles and five triples. He and Miller were both named to the all-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference team.

Miller, a shortstop from Farmington Hills (Birmingham Brother Rice HS), was second on Madonna in batting with a .378 average. He also had a team-high 36 runs batted in.

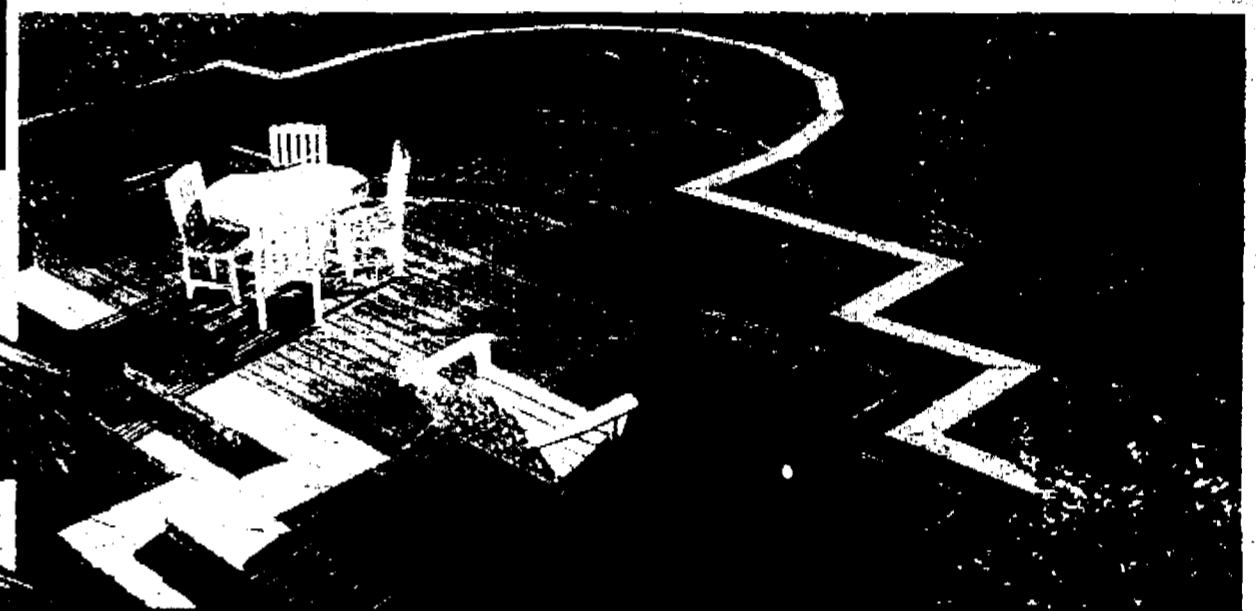
Softball all-region choices were senior catcher Vicki Malkowski and junior shortstop Kristy McDonald. Malkowski paced Madonna with a .339 batting average, 19 doubles and 34 RBI; she also committed just three errors in 55 games, posting a .984 fielding percentage.

McDonald, from Redford (Thurston HS), was second on the team in batting with a .335 average and in RBI with 32. Her .532 slugging percentage and five homers led Madonna, which finished 31-24 overall.

Both players were all-WHAC picks.



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Spartans doing some fine-tuning for impending playoffs

Livonia Stevenson is getting ready to get serious about the Western Lakes Activities Association and Michigan High School Athletic Association playoffs.

The regular season is winding down and the playoffs right around the corner and the Spartans are getting ready.

Stevenson went to Farmington on Monday and came home with a 5-0 WLAA win after losing their first two games of the season.

The Spartans imported two out-of-state powerhouses, however, to get a gauge on what needs to be done before the playoffs.

It lost both, dropping the second of the two games Saturday, 2-1 to Catholic Memorial in Milwaukee (Wis.) in a game played

at Notre Dame Prep in Harper Woods.

On Friday, Stevenson dropped a 1-0 decision to the four-time defending state champions from Illinois, St. Charles.

"Player for player they're a better team," Coach Jim Kimble said of his Saturday opponent. "We hung with them a lot of the time. They deserved the win."

Coaches often schedule over their heads for a couple of primary reasons, friendships aside.

Just because an opponent is better doesn't mean it can't be beaten. Even losing, though, can raise a team's level of play.

"We wanted to find out where we're at and where we need to go," Kimble said. "Playing them

made us better. It raises the level of our game."

Stevenson piled up a 4-0 half-time lead over Farmington in cruising to the WLAA win.

Lindsay Gusick had two goals plus an assist, Megan Urbats scored a goal and added an assist while Katie Beaudoin and Deanna McGrath each notched a goal. Andi Sied registered three assists.

Leslie Hooker and Katherine Koch split time in goal for the Spartans, with Koch turning aside a Falcons' breakaway.

The Spartans (9-2-2) are now 8-0-2 in the WLAA.

Gusick scored three minutes into the first half Saturday against Catholic Memorial,

which promptly retaliated with its two goals. The game was scoreless in the second half.

CHURCHILL 6, WL WESTERN 0: Jennifer Gacon only had to make two saves Monday to get the shutout for the Chargers.

Six different players scored for host Livonia Churchill: Michelle Smith had one, so did Aimee Quinkert, Sarah Phillips and Karen Kramer.

Renee Kashawic had a goal plus two assists while Deanna DeRoo scored a goal and added an assist.

The Chargers (8-4-1) are now 8-2 in the WLAA.

WAYNE 1, SOUTHGATE 1: The match between both undefeated Michigan Mega Conference Blue Division teams left both still unbeaten.

Both goals came in the final four min-

utes of the match, held at Southgate.

Southgate scored with 3:40 to play to break the scoreless tie.

However Wayne Coach Larry Brenner moved Toni Watson from defense to midfield in an effort to gain some scoring punch and the move paid off when Watson scored with 1:20 to play.

LUTHER WESTLAND 6, HARPER WOODS 0: Angie Matthews and Kelly Buczek each had three goals Monday to help visiting Lutheran High Westland lift its record to 6-5-2.

Jan Belcher and Amy Kamrath each scored while Stephanie Erickson and Lindsey Bowman split halves in goal.

Chiefs deny Rocks berth in title match

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER

cjrisk@oe.homecom.net

The difference between winning and losing: opportunities.

Plymouth Canton got the better of Plymouth Salem Monday in a cross-campus girls soccer match that had major implications in deciding opponents in the Western Lakes Activities Association title match.

The Chiefs had more scoring chances than Salem and, thanks in large part to Anne Morrell, cashed in more of them — two more, to be precise, making the final 2-0 Monday at CEP.

The win boosted Canton's overall record to 13-1-1; Salem,

which lost 3-0 last Friday to second-ranked Troy Athens, slipped to 12-2-1.

The loss ruined the Rocks' hopes for playing in the WLAA title match. Going into the game, Salem and Livonia Stevenson were tied at 3-0-1 in the WLAA's Lakes Division. Since they tied against each other and beat everyone else in the division, the tiebreaker formula came down to who did what against the best teams in the Western Division.

Enter Canton, the top team in the Western. Stevenson and the Chiefs played to a 1-1 tie; since Canton beat Salem, Stevenson will get the nod as the Lakes representative in the WLAA title match, and will host it as well.

Canton's Morrell scored her first goal of the game four minutes in when she took a pass from Melanie Dunn and dribbled past a Salem defender to a spot just a few yards inside the end line — between the goal's near post and sideline.

Such an extreme angle would not be considered a likely scoring position, but Morrell left-footed a shot over Salem keeper Jenny Fitchett that hit the far post and banked into the net.

The Rocks fired some hard shots on goal in the opening half, but Canton keeper Amy Dorogi snagged them all.

But with 13:15 left, Jami Coyle's corner kick went into the box and Dorogi couldn't field it.

For several seconds, the ball bounced free a few yards in front of the Canton goal. The Rocks couldn't finish, and the ball was finally cleared.

"I think there were a lot of opportunities we had," said Salem coach Joe Nora. "In past games we put those away. Tonight, we didn't."

The Chiefs pressured for the remainder of the game, Dombrowski diving to deflect one shot wide and leaping to knock another just over the crossbar.

"They couldn't just concentrate on Anne," Coach Don Smith said. "A lot of other people had scoring chances. I thought everybody contributed."

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TENNIS RESULTS

LIVONIA STEVENSON 7
WESTLAND JOHN OLIVER 1
 May 15 at Stevenson
 No. 1 singles: Brady Crosby (LS) def. Anthony Lambert, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Brendon Cornelissen (LS) def. Pat Sorak, 6-2, 6-2; No. 3: Bryan Budd (LS) won by default; No. 4: Jeff Sutton (JG) def. Matt Demgen, 6-1, 6-1; No. 1 doubles: Andrew Byberg-Justin Bookmeier (LS) won by default; No. 2: Mike Horback-Eric Lammers (LS) def. Ousman Atfal-Chris McFar-

land, 6-1, 6-2; No. 3: Nick Reese-Andy Millon (LS) def. Glen Oliver-Michael Vacca, 6-4, 7-6 (8-2); No. 4: Steve Chernerkoff-Scott Ramsden (LS) def. Corey Collins-Mike Slomczak, 6-3, 6-1.

WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 5

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 3

May 12 at WL Central

No. 1 singles: Brian Gray (WLC) def. Matt Clearman, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3; No. 2: Jeff Beydoun (LF) def. Sean Newson, 6-3, 6-4; No. 3: Adam

Brown (WLC) def. Vimesh Shukla, 6-4, 4-6, 6-1; No. 4: Corey Clearman (LF) def. Mike Milva, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2; No. 1 doubles: Alex Shulman-Dave Brown (WLC) def. Scott Gomez-Adam Koppin, 7-5, 6-0; No. 2: R. J. McNab-Justin Bertley (WLC) def. Chris Harris-Chris Don, 6-2, 6-3; No. 3: Mike Caran-Slava Lesh-chowski (WLC) def. Rob Shaffer-Mike Dumouchelle, 6-1, 6-3; No. 4: Grant Marquardt-Jamie Kuras (LF) def. Eric Conforto-Chris King, 6-1, 7-6 (7-5).
 Franklin's record: 4-7-1, overall, 2-7-1.

WAAA.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 4

FARMINGTON 4

May 12 at Farmington

No. 1 singles: Brady Crosby (LS) def. Max Moore, 6-2, 6-0; No. 2: Chris Hall (F) def. Brendon Cornelissen, 6-3, 6-2; No. 3: Shamik Trivedi (F) def. Bryan Budd, 6-3, 6-4; No. 4: Dan Turkovich (F) def. Matt Demgen, 6-0, 6-1; No. 1 doubles: Hemavth Srinivas-Rajbir Bedi (F) def. Justin Bookmeier-Andy Byberg, 6-2, 4-6,

6-4; No. 2: Eric Laromers-Mike Horack (LS) def. Harvadar Gill-Brian Atkins, 1-6, 6-4, 6-4; No. 3: Andy Gill-Nick Reels (LS) def. Milan Ckipeski-Martin Ckipeski, 6-4, 6-1; No. 4: Hannes Klein-Cory Shedd (LS) def. Aaron Munchy-Nate Meyers, 6-4, 6-4.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 5

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 3

May 9 at Stevenson

No. 1 singles: Brady Crosby (LS) def. Matt Clearman, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Jeff Beydoun (LF)

def. Brandon Cornelissen, 6-4, 6-2; No. 3: Bryan Budd (LS) def. Vimesh Shukla, 6-6, 6-4, 6-2; No. 4: Corey Clearman (LF) def. Matt Demgen, 6-2, 6-2; No. 1 doubles: Scott Gomez-Adam Koppin (LF) def. Andrew Byberg-Justin Bookmeier, 5-7, 6-2, 6-2; No. 2: Mike Horback-Eric Lammers (LS) def. Chris Don-Chris Harris, 6-1, 4-6, 7-6 (8-6); No. 3: Brian Curd-Cory Shedd (LS) def. Rob Shaffer-Mike Dumouchelle, 5-7, 6-2, 6-3; No. 4: Hannes Klein-Corror Good (LS) def. Matt Nelson-Jason Hudy, 6-3, 6-4.

GOLF RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 216
PLYMOUTH CANTON 236
 May 15 at Whispering Willows
 Churchill scorers: Ashley Johnson, 49 (medalist); Kelly Polce, 54;

Katy Reck, 55; Gina Polce, 57; Erin Klebba, 58; Kari Herron, 61.
 Canton scorers: Christina Slupek, 50; Megan Depp, 59; Julie Dziekan, 60; Meghan Stewart, 67; Jessica Pondell,

71; Katie Herbeck, 72.
 Churchill's record: 9-2, overall, 7-1, WAAA; 3-1, Western Division.
LIVONIA STEVENSON 190
WALLED LAKE WESTERN 213

May 15 at Idyl Wyld
 Stevenson's scorers: Kristen Polanski, 40 (medalist); Katie Carlson, 44; Laura Haddock, 49; Teresa Layman, 57; Leah Winiesdorffer, 57.
 Stevenson's record: 8-1, overall; 7-1 WAAA.

NORTHVILLE 185
LIVONIA FRANKLIN 241
 May 15 at Fox Creek
 Franklin scorers: Amanda Szabelski, 56; Erin Gavle, 57; Nikie Niles, 62; Stephanie Polkowski, 66; Melinda Szabelski, 84; Rachel Sharpe, 85.

Northville scorers: Pam Mouradi-ao, 43 (medalist); Kate McDonald, 44; Jessie Mills, 49; Heather Rudy, 49; Kate Sekerko, 56; Georgie Walsh, 58.
 Franklin's record: 1-7.
 Northville's record: 8-0.

Santi from page C1

ing maybe three years at the time. And I got married in the fall of that year. Dan (Robinson) was the more qualified at the time."
 He cites Jackson as a chief coaching influence, along with Robinson.
 Franklin's 2000-2001 team has

seven players returning from this season's squad, including three-year members Joe Ruggiero, a shooting guard, center Mike Copeland and point guard Chris Patterson.
 Santi is hopeful his team can play summer ball as an aid to getting ready for next season.

"I love working with kids," Santi said. "I'm lucky enough to get elementary kids during the day, then high school kids in the athletic arena."
 "I love the challenge of coaching basketball. And all that goes into it."
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SATURDAY



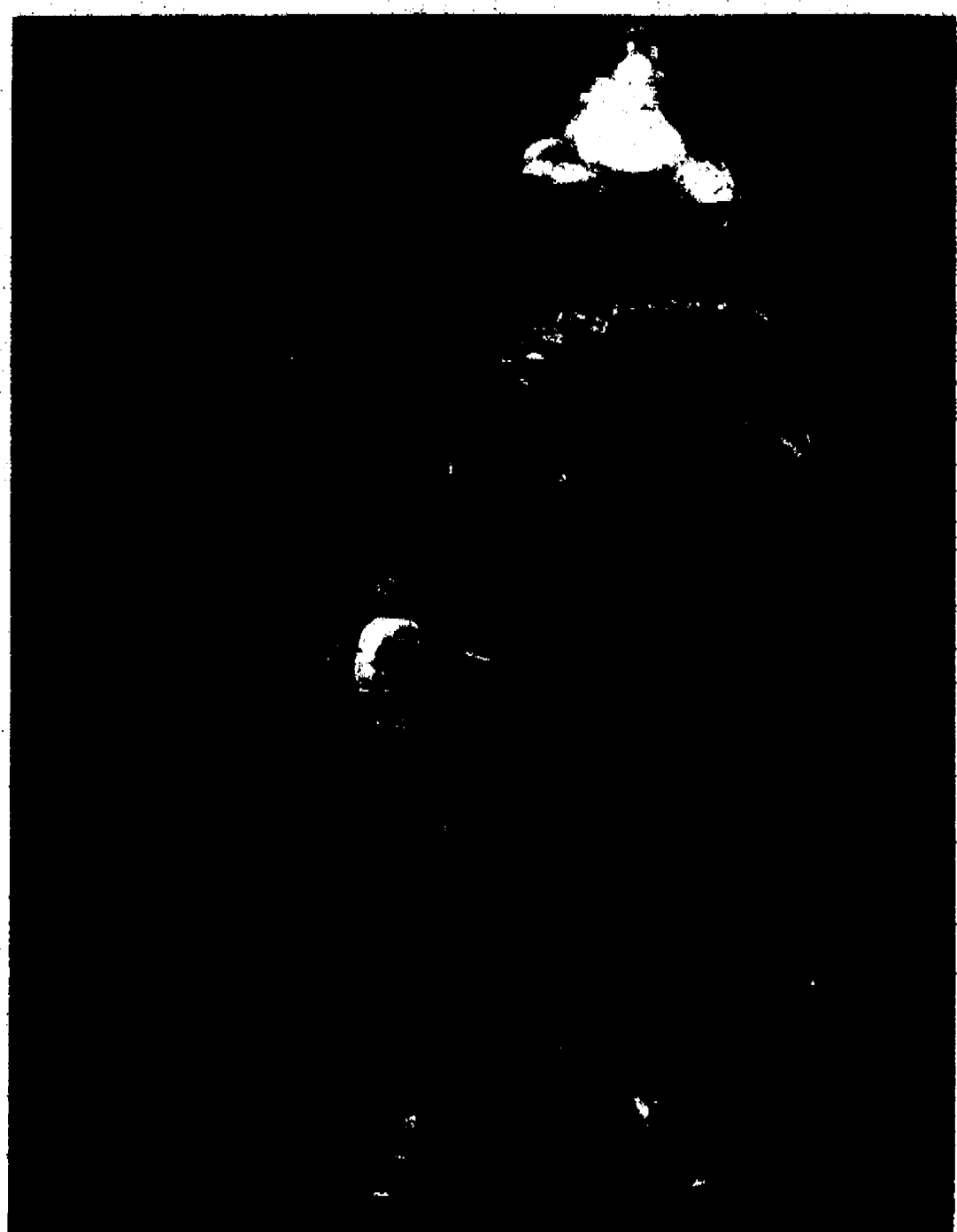
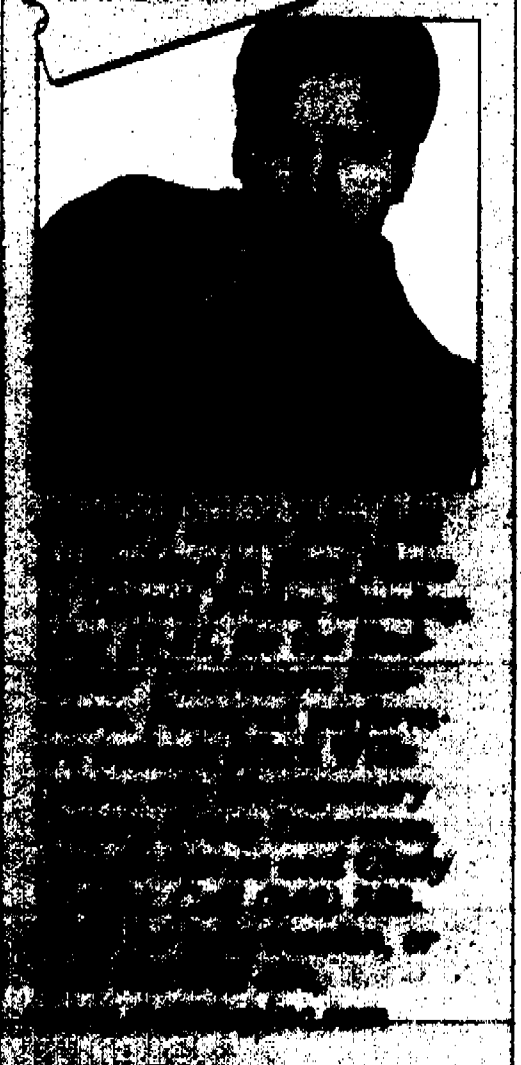
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SUNDAY



More than 100,000 flats of plants will be offered for sale at the 34th Annual Flower Day 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Eastern Market in Detroit. Performances by local musicians 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., mini art fair. Shuttle service available from the Detroit Institute of Arts 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (313) 833-1560 for details.

HOT



Whimsical work: Steven Dark created this "Chicken as Waiter" pot in clay.

GREEKTOWN ART FEST

SIGHTS, SOUNDS, FOOD WILL DAZZLE CROWDS FOR 10TH YEAR

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
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Blues, baklava and art works – the Greektown Arts Festival brings out the best in all three, so it's no wonder crowds continue to flock to the historic area year after year in search of a good time.

The long and steady parade of visitors appeals to top artists from across the country and makes for a strong show of talent.

Presented by the Greektown Merchants Association and the Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans, this year's festival features 128 exhibitors working in media ranging from painting to photography, sculpture, glass, clay, fiber and jewelry.

Friday-Sunday, May 19-21. "It's the intimate setting of Greektown. It's a special place with all the great restaurants, bakeries and fine shops," said Dave Roberts, festival coordinator. "It is the only art festival held on the streets of downtown Detroit with historic buildings from the 19th century."

It's no coincidence that visitors will find artists demonstrating their craft just as they do at the Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair because the Michigan Guild's been putting on

that show for 30 years. Now in its 10th year, the Greektown Arts Festival showcases many popular elements of the Ann Arbor fair. The Guild's Imagination Station is always a hit with children who enjoy making art and then taking it home.

The Festival Stage brings talented musicians to the streets and tours give a glimpse inside the historic Greektown buildings. The Laikon Cafe, Fishbone's, the Old Shillelagh and the Music Menu Showcase Bar & Grill offer a variety of ways for fair goers to rest and refresh.

"There's new artists, a lot of exciting new media and a lot of really great entertainment with Larry McCray and the phenomenal gospel group The Mighty Royal Lights of the Tru Light Temple," said Roberts. "Over the years, we've improved on the stage area and entertainment. In the early years there were no headliners or big name draws."

Wearable art

Celia Block looks forward to returning to the Greektown Arts Festival because of the atmosphere. The West Bloomfield artist began bringing her painted silk jackets, scarves and shawls to the show in 1995. Block designs, paints and sews every garment she sells.

"I grew up in Detroit and have been going to Greektown since I was a child," said Block. "I love the area. I like the restaurants, the street ambiance. My whole family wants to visit me during the festival because it's in Greektown."

Whimsical wonders

The Greektown Arts Festival is giving Steven Dark a chance to visit his family in Livonia. The Alabama potter hasn't been back for a few years so he's hoping to see some old friends and make new ones at the festival. A graduate of Clarenceville High School in Livonia, Dark primarily sells his stoneware vessels and table top fountains at shows in the south where he's won several

Please see GREEKTOWN, C7



On the prowl: Edward Andrzejewski of Calumet painted this work titled "Chavez."

Bluesman's new material 'rocks harder'

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
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Nearly a decade since the release of *Ambition*, an album that launched Larry McCray's musical career, the Arkansas-born and Saginaw-bred guitarist confirms his status as one of the most powerful bluesman around as he prepares to kick out new tunes at the 2000 Greektown Arts Festival.

With a new album in the works, the man who last declared he was *Born To Play The Blues* (1998) returns to Detroit to celebrate the 10th year of the festival. McCray is more than ready to showcase new songs like *Blues Is My Business*, *Love Gone Bad* and the tentative title track *Believe It*. While he said the music he's been playing for years hasn't changed much, it has shifted focus "in terms of what people are into at the time." Today, blues has to appeal to rock, reggae, soul and R&B audiences.

"People are into very rhythmic music," said McCray, in a telephone interview on May 9. "You have to do these things to continue to survive."

McCray's new material "rocks harder," contains a wide array of rhythms and strong vocals, but never strays from its bluesy origins. "I came from a history of it," said McCray. "My family were blues listeners and musicians before me. I always needed music with more of an inner soul."



Larry McCray

Influences

Influenced by greats Jimi Hendrix, George Benson and Wes Montgomery, McCray will be featured as the opening night headliner for the Greektown festival. "We're just gonna try to have an intense show," he said. "I'm really anxious and happy to have new music available for the people. I think the time is right for the band."

The time is right in Detroit to celebrate spring and the beginning of outdoor festivals as well. As the Greektown Arts Festival begins to heat up, the musical line up is sure to emit sounds of cool blues and steamy funk. To kick off the festival Friday night, The Brothers Groove start their engines at 6 p.m. blending funk, jazz, rock and blues into something undefinably delicious. While singer/keyboardist Chris Codish has played the festival with the likes of Johnnie Bassett and Thornetta Davis – who also return this year – it's a first for The Brothers

Please see BLUESMAN, C7

SPECIAL EVENT

Comic book convention more than kids' stuff

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
SPECIAL EDITOR
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The silver age of comic books may have passed long ago – thanks to video games and computers – but the genre is far from dead.

In reality, it's branched out, creating new categories and targeting different audiences, particularly older readers.

Otherwise, attracting more than 300 comic artists from across the country to participate in an event like Motor City Comic Con, Friday-Sunday, May 19-21 at the Novi Expo Center, would be impossible.

"There are quite a few comic books written for the mature reader today," said Michael Goldman of Farmington Hills, president of Motor City Conventions and the founder of Comic Con. "One of the biggest stereotypes about comic books is that they're for little kids. There are comic books for 6-year-olds and 60-year-olds."

In its 11th year, Comic Con focuses on two aspects of popular culture: comic books and television and film with a science-fiction angle. The event began as a comic art convention and gradually grew to encompass other areas of pop culture.

Cult favorites

So, in addition to the hundreds of comic illustrators and writers who come to talk about their craft or sell and promote their work, Goldman tries to bring in stars from cult favorites like *Star Wars* and *Star Trek*.

What: Motor City Comic Con featuring hundreds of comic creators and collectors, an appearance by actor Jonathan Frakes, who plays Commander William Riker on *Star Trek: New Generation*, pop culture collectibles and more. When: Friday-Sunday, May 19-21. Where: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Drive. Tickets: \$15 per day with three day and children's passes available at a discount. Call (248) 645-6666.

Jonathan Frakes, who plays Commander William Riker on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, is this year's featured celebrity guest.

Surely, avid readers and collectors of comic books, budding strip illustrators and sci-fi fanatics have been anticipating Comic Con for months.

However, the general public may find the event of interest, too.

To begin with, there's a hodge-podge of pop culture merchandise and activities at Comic Con.

Film scripts, both signed originals and reproductions, are available for purchase. Other finds include Pokemon

games, toys, action figures and other collectibles.

The Anime Club of Michigan (Anime refers to Japanese animation) will run features of the form in a private screening room.

Once more, the show may even convert a few non-believers into comic book lovers. The Friends of Lulu, a group of comic book fans who promote the form to women, plan to attend.

Others may simply discover how the form has evolved, according to Goldman.

"The stories are really written for adults," he said. "There's been a big place in the market for comics that are intelligently written. They're not just about the guy in spandex flying off to save someone. They're comics for thinking."

Entertainment experience

Besides, comic books offer a unique entertainment experience, said Goldman.

"When you take great art and great storytelling and put it together, there's nothing like it. Not even television. For me, comics have always allowed me to use my imagination. It's not like television, which is kind of mindless. Comics still require you to think."

Greektown from page E1

awards. "I'm excited and a little nervous, but I'm looking forward to coming home and bringing my new work," said Dark, owner of Pottery Central in Gulf Shores. "I call them my chicken pots. They're quite whimsical and storytelling. I'm a frustrated writer that uses his three-dimensional

work to put down what he can't say." Dark, who earned his bachelor of fine arts degree in ceramics from the University of South Alabama and a master of fine arts from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, does about 10 shows a years.

Fine jewelry

Michael MacManus returns to the Greektown Arts Festival for a third year. A Bloomfield Hills jeweler, MacManus creates silver jewelry with and without semi-precious stones. He describes the work as "contemporary with simplicity in design and style."

"It's fun and people getting together," said MacManus. "I used to do sculpture but I switched to jewelry because I wanted to work in a smaller scale making adornments for people. "Jewelry shows self-expression."

Bluesman from page E1

original set that's bound to include the crowd favorite "Pressure Cooker." Bassist Jim Simonson, a Clarkston native, said the festival is neither too big or too small, but offers a great reason for people to visit the city. Drummer Michael Caskey looked forward to the outdoor festival as well: "Playing bars all the time

can be pretty one-dimensional." "It's always a cool festival," said Codish, who performed with McCray in 1995-1997. Here's the line-up:
Friday, May 19
6 p.m. The Brothers Groove
7:15 p.m. Big Al and the Heavyweights

8:30 p.m. Larry McCray
Saturday, May 20
2 p.m. Chef Chris Blues Band
3:15 p.m. Al Hill and The Blues Insurgents with friend George Friend
4:30 p.m. The Sun Messengers
6 p.m. Catfish Hodge with Mystery Train featuring Jim McCarty

8 p.m. Sir Mack Rice
Sunday, May 21
1 p.m. Mighty Royal Lights of the Tru Light Temple
2:30 p.m. Thornetta Davis
5 p.m. Johnny Bassett's Detroit Blues Review, featuring Joe Weaver and Alberta Adams

Techno artists master building a loyal audience

As someone who has been on the receiving end of voluminous recording industry hype, I've always been intrigued by artists who reach their audience in a direct, non-mainstream way. There may be no greater example of media-resistant artists than those who create the Detroit area's biggest musical export — techno music. You may not be familiar with names like Carl Craig, Richie Hawtin, and Derrick May, but they have an incredible following in places like London, Belgium, and Amsterdam.

"Detroit's techno artists are big in Europe because radio stations in the United Kingdom and other European cities are given the freedom to play what their listeners want to hear. In London in particular, musical trends are created by the feedback from the clubs where techno music rules," said Ron Pangborn, music producer for Detroit Public TV's Backstage Pass.

Although it may seem on the surface that techno producers revel in their anonymity, they are masters at building a loyal audience. Derrick May, along with former Belleville High classmates Juan Atkins and Kevin Saunderson, is credited with originating the "techno" form. As an international DJ, electronic music producer and

founder of Transmat Records, he has total control in the creation and distribution of his music. While that may seem like a unique arrangement in the mainstream recording industry, it is not unusual in techno. Car Craig is CEO of Planet E Records, and has created music under various guises including Paperclip People, Innerzone Orchestra and his own name. Hawtin helped to establish Plus 8 Records and now records under his Minus label. There are signs that techno artists are making themselves more accessible to those that aren't necessarily "plugged in." Craig will serve as artistic director for the Detroit Electronic Music Festival noon to midnight, Saturday-Monday, May 27-29 at Detroit's Hart Plaza. "Techno music really needs

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

these type of events if the artists want to broaden their visibility. They've been very successful in using the club scene to mobilize their audiences, and it seems like it is just a matter of time before major record companies realize their potential," said Pangborn. A rare, if not unprecedented, television gathering of Detroit's techno artists will take place on the next edition of Detroit Public TV's Backstage Pass airing 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 21. Carl Craig, Richie Hawtin and Derrick May will make appearances to reveal the ins and outs of their under-publicized segment of the music industry. Hart Plaza, festivals? TV appearances? It appears the elusive days of techno music are over.

Female comics stand up to be counted

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
SPECIAL EDITOR
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When Connie Ettinger and D'Anne Witkowski do stand-up, and a male heckler blurts out

opinions and mean sentiments, the female comics don't usually try to get the last laugh. That is, shoot back a witty, embarrassing comeback with shut-them-up impact. Neither local comic is "there yet," they say of their development in stage comedy. "I'm a 120-pound demeanor and female. I don't feel I can cut down some drunk guy and make it to my car that night," jokes Witkowski, whose "day job" is studying English at the University of Detroit-Mercy. Anyway, embarrassing the heck out of a heckler may not be their comedic style. Though, Witkowski, a Clarkston native who now lives in Royal Oak, may be well on her way. When a heckler recently yelled out "take off your shirt," the 22-year-old comic came back with, "Settle down, Dad," and got a few laughs. Witkowski and Ettinger are two of six women comics in *Sorry About the Apple*, an all-female showcase of stand-up acts on Sunday, May 21 at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak. The program deviates from stand-up's standard format — an MC warm-up followed by a 25-

minute feature performer and headliner, a model created by Mark Ridley. There's no hierarchy of performance in *Sorry About the Apple*. Once more, it's all women, so the audience gets "a concentrated dose of women comics," says Ettinger, who came up with the format and pitched it to Ridley. "And, I think they'll be delightfully surprised at the caliber of humor that they're going to see," says the Franklin resident, a "recovering" attorney. Under the standard format, audiences rarely see more than one comedienne, if even one female comic, leaving many comedy-goers with the impression women aren't as funny as men. There's a stereotype about female comics, says Witkowski. "It's believed that men are fun-

nier, are more capable of handling a crowd and so forth.... Male comics have to prove that they're not funny. Females have to prove that they are." Audiences are also quick to conclude female comics only joke about menstrual cycles, pregnancy, relationships and housewifery. "I suspect that when people see a lineup of six women performing, they expect a night of man-bashing, and nothing could be further from the truth," says Ettinger. "While we all work, I don't think there have been many forums for women comics to showcase their talents. It is a male-dominated industry, not to say that we've been held back because of that. I've been treated very well. But it is a little bit harder. The networking is more difficult." While Ettinger and company aren't really "Sorry About the Apple" their acts are far from Judy Tenuta-style stand-up. And, as a group of performers, their subject matter runs the gambit. "It's well-balanced," says Ettinger. "There's a mix of humor directed at both women and men."

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Memorable 'Kiss Me, Kate' sparked with fun

Farmington Players presents "Kiss Me, Kate," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, May 18-20, and 2 p.m. Sunday, May 21 and May 27, at the barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. Tickets \$15; call (248) 553-2955.

BY VICTORIA DIAZ
SPECIAL WRITER

Cole Porter's *Kiss Me, Kate* has been selected by the Farmington Players as their final production at the aging barn theater on Twelve Mile Road, which they have occupied for 48 years. The musical comedy, directed by Emily McSweeney with musical direction by James Morisi, couldn't be more fitting. Much of the time, it's sparked with fun. Some of the time, it's downright memorable.

First staged in 1952, *Kiss Me, Kate* may not be exactly politically correct these days (especially in the matter of wifely obedi-

ence), but surely most of its musical numbers are no less tuneful or engaging than they were when the house lights dimmed and the curtain went up for the first time on the production 48 years ago.

Due to some frail voices and a rather shaky start to this version of *Kate*, playgoers may initially wonder if the music is going to be given short shrift. Not to worry, though. Eventually, everything seems to get better, and some of it morphs into sheer delight.

Kiss Me, Kate is a show within a show. That is, it is the story of a group of 20th-century troupers putting together a musical version of William Shakespeare's early comedy, *The Taming of the Shrew*.

If you're confused, you're probably not alone. Just remember that the point here is fun, not logic.

■ Almost from the moment Nate Kaufman appears on stage as Fred/Petruchio, we just know we are in for some theatrical fun.

Center of action

At the center of all the action are Lilli Vanessi and Fred Graham, two actors who play the willful Kate and the mercenary Petruchio in the adaptation of Shakespeare's *Shrew*. Both are "celebrating" the first anniversary of their divorce from each other, but it's soon apparent that these two still have eyes for each other.

Almost from the moment Nate Kaufman appears on stage as Fred/Petruchio, we just know we are in for some theatrical fun. He seems to be having so much of it himself in this role, and he has a way of milking every moment for all it's worth without

ever going quite over the top. While you may not catch him at the Met, he really does know a lot about putting across a song, and playgoers may especially enjoy his *Where Is the Life That Late I Led?* Besides all that, he cuts a dashing figure in tights. Leading lady Angie Tyburski in the role of Lillie/Kate starts out a little shakily, but gradually seems to really warm to her part. She's especially effective as the forever-frustrated, object-hurling Kate. Her body language and facial expressions lend a touch of the cartoonish to her "shrew," and sometimes you may imagine you can see little puffs of steam emerging from her pretty ears.

As Lois/Bianca, Lisa Muscio has her moments, especially when she croons *Always True To You In My Fashion*, clad in a black lace concoction, to her guy, Bill, played by Eric Henriksson.

Jack Grulke makes his mark as the rich Republican in Lillie's future.

Special mention

Special mention should be made of Craig Forhan and Chuck Fisher who play a couple of gangster-geons who think they are looking for Fred, when who they are really looking for is Bill. Somehow, these two wind up in the cast of the Shakespearean musical, also, playing (rightfully) a couple of coxcombed fools. Their frolicsome *Brush Up Your Shakespeare* ("If she says your behavior is heinous - kick her right in the Coriolanus") is definitely one of the high spots of the evening.

A large supporting cast is a bit

uneven, but ultimately most contribute toward making this *Shrew* a happy occasion.

Costumes are as bright, be-ribboned, and be-feathered as a Venetian carnival, and really add to the eye appeal of the musical. In fact, they're an essential part of the fun, cleverly complementing all the dazzling hullabaloo.

Next season

The Farmington Players will perform at a theater facility in the Barnes and Noble building at 6800 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield Township during their 2000-01 season. They plan to open the 2001-02 season at their completely refurbished theater on the same site where the old barn is now located.

Victoria Diaz is a Livonia resident and writes about theater, books and movies for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

'The Marriage of Figaro' at the Hilberry invites laughter

The Hilberry, Wayne State University's graduate theater company, presents *The Marriage of Figaro* which runs through Sunday, May 21. The Hilberry is at Forest and Cass on the Wayne State campus in Detroit. For tickets and show times, call (313) 577-2972.

BY SUE SUCHTA
SPECIAL WRITER

The Hilberry Theatre closes its 1999-2000 season with the non-musical version of the comedy, *The Marriage of Figaro*. Ironically, the popular opera is better known than the play upon which it was based. French playwright Pierre Augustin de Beaumarchais also wrote *The Barber of Seville*.

Both plays are full of clever dialogue that satirize the privileges and foibles of the upper

class. At one point Louis XVI was so incensed by the potency of the satire that he banned *The Marriage of Figaro* from the French stage. However, the sheer comedy and verbal audacity of the play ensured its survival to the present day.

Beaumarchais, who was also a songwriter and musician, left a legacy even more profound than his plays - a glance at your wrist will likely reveal another of his clever machinations, for he developed a precise clock system that we now refer to as the wristwatch.

The Marriage of Figaro is a "bawdy farce of marital mishap and romantic intrigue." Two wise servants, Figaro and Suzanne, want to wed, but they have to prevent a randy Count from stealing the maiden's virtue. The Count, who seeks

the pleasure of his wife's maid, Suzanne, before her wedding to Figaro, must do so without inciting his wife's vociferous wrath. The Countess, not one to sit idly by in the face of her husband's dalliances, is encouraging a besotted pursuit by her husband's page. Amidst much contriving, lying, hiding and diving from windows, the clever Figaro and Suzanne find a way to keep the romantic wolves at bay and return the royals to their rightful bedchambers.

Professor Anthony Schmitt, the show's director, delivered a fast paced, tightly woven performance. Dallas Henry, as Figaro, and Emily Miller, as Suzanne, were well-matched. Fred Shahadi is a standout as the self-centered Count Almaviva. His movements were those of both a pampered prince and a devious

snake. Heidi Olson, as the Countess, was a strong foil to the Count, and kept the humor in the character well.

Orestes Arcuni, the fall guy, is delightfully funny as the Cherubin, the page courting the Countess. His long suffering looks and puppy dog affections were funny. However, his attempt to disguise

himself as a bridesmaid was what caused the house to roar with unrestrained mirth. Quite simply, Arcuni's face is handsome on a man, but he was one ugly maiden!

Charles Moser's set design is elegant and versatile, with modular pieces easily rearranged for each of the three acts. He effectively used the ostentatious gilt

of the French aristocracy. Mary Leyendecker's costumes were richly appointed and appealing. The gowns were striking, and the colors accented the boldness and audacious of the show and its characters.

Sue Suchta is a Dearborn resident who writes about theater for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

JET presents six one-act plays

The Day We Met, an evening of six one-act plays by award-winning playwright Kitty Dubin, will open for previews Wednesday, May 24, and continues through Sunday, June 25 at the Aaron DeRoy Theatre at the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield. Performances 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and Sunday; 8 p.m. Saturday; and 2 p.m. Sunday and Wednesday. Opening night is Sunday, May 28. Tickets \$15-\$25; call (248) 788-2900.

Presented by the Jewish Ensemble Theatre, *The Day We Met* will be directed by Geoffrey Sherman and features Henrietta Hermelin, Scott Crowner, Chris Howe, Chris Ann Voudoukis, Harold Hogan and Robert Lewis.

Three of the plays are about single people and the issues that

currently confront them.

Strictly Personal focuses on two people who meet through a personal ad. *Blockbuster* centers on a man and woman with radically different tastes in films who meet at a video store. *Tough as Nails* depicts a single woman who gets a manicure in an effort to pamper herself. She ends up pouring her heart out to the manicurist about the dead-end relationship she's been in for seven years, but is too afraid to leave.

The Joy of Sex and *Let Him In* are about people looking for ways to solve family problems. A troubled young couple, married less than a year, seek help from a marriage counselor in *The Joy of Sex*. Like many couples, they have difficulties expressing their needs to each other. A first meeting with a marriage counselor,

clearly in over his head, dramatically changes all that.

In *Let Him In*, a divorcee who is in the midst of a family crisis receives an unexpected visit from a mysterious stranger offering spiritual enlightenment.

The last play, *Mimi and Me* is about a perky young volunteer at a nursing home who meets her match when she tries to cheer up a 90 year old woman.

This play, like the others, involves a first-time meeting which results in unexpected consequences when two people interact with each other in a meaningful way.

Hudson's Project Imagine is sponsoring *The Day We Met*. JET was selected as one of six metro Detroit arts and cultural organizations to receive a 2000 Hudson's Project Imagine grant.

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Local bands compete for dream gig

It's a dream most musicians in the metro area share - walking out under the smoky lights, beyond the velvety curtains and onto the stage battered from a long history of rock legends and up-and-comers to look out into a sea of people filling every last pavilion seat and spot on the hill at Pine Knob Music Theatre.

What musician doesn't strive for the level of success that could only be contained by the largest entertainment venues in the area? In an effort to make those dreams reality for local bands, The Palace Sports and Entertainment Inc. organized its Opening Act Contest.

In its second year, the contest offers some of the best local bands an opportunity for exposure unlike any other. "Because Meadow Brook, Pine Knob and The Palace are such large venues in comparison with most other venues and clubs in the area, we have the opportunity to showcase local artists on a larger scale," said Amy Bryson, publicity manager for PS&E. "This contest allows us to give talented local musicians the experience and exposure of performing in front thousands of people they may otherwise not get to do."

Out of 251 submissions from area bands, eight finalists were chosen by a panel of judges who book and promote the events for the three venues. The judges considered all genres of music and asked for feedback from local media to narrow down their choices. Only three will win opening spots for artists performing at Pine Knob Music Theatre in Independence Township this summer and Meadowbrook Music Festival in Rochester

■ What musician doesn't strive for the level of success that could only be contained by the largest entertainment venues in the area?

Hills. The finalists in this year's competition are Blue Dahlia, Domestic Problems, Scott Fab, Kingsnakes, Knee Deep Shag, Molly, Rooster and Southfield.

Ten judges (including myself) have been chosen based on their knowledge of and interest in the local scene, to narrow down the group to three lucky winners. Finalists will be judged on their overall performance and stage presence. Each band is allowed 10 minutes of stage time to perform about two original songs.

Ken Karasek, drummer of Rooster and a former Rochester resident, said he's "extremely thrilled." "We all are. It's always been a dream of ours to play the Palace, Pine Knob or Meadowbrook."

Together since 1997 and based in Lake Orion, Rooster's twangy Americana rock sound has catapulted the band from the local scene to performing regular gigs across the Midwest and recording in Nashville. The band's debut, *Solid State*, has been followed up by recent recordings with producer Clark Hagen (Chet Atkins, Ray Stevens). "We're gonna do the best we can," said Karasek. "We're completely prepared."

The Kingsnakes entered the contest last year, but didn't make it to the finals. The blues-rock quintet based in Westland will rely on sheer musical ability to be a worthy competitor. Bassist Tom Diaz said he doesn't think of the show as a competition. "It's just gonna be fun to go," he said of Meadowbrook, the biggest venue the 3-year-old band has ever played.

They'll be up against the power-pop of Grosse Pointe-

based quartet called Southfield - a band that got its start after singer-songwriter J.T. Harding won prize money on VH-1's *Rock and Roll Jeopardy* and used it to record a CD. Ferndale's Scott Fab will draw on his soulful sound and past performances with the likes of Sheryl Crow to compete in the competition.

From the Kalamazoo scene, Blue Dahlia and Knee Deep Shag are ready to battle it out. Blue Dahlia gained national radio airplay with three singles from the band's self-titled 1997 debut, and has recently released a 4-song EP, *Estival*. Guitarist Becky Pingston is a Clarkston native and vocalist Leslie Boughton is a Plymouth native.

Knee Deep Shag will prove to be a worthy contender, holding such accolades as the 1999 Detroit Music Award for Best Urban/Funk Artist. On the heels of the band's latest and most profound album to date, *Good Disguise*, Knee Deep Shag can pack a house.

Then, of course, you've got the Grand Rapids set, Domestic Problems and Molly. Together since 1993, Domestic Problems is a virtual party onstage, six members strong. Capturing the comical mayhem of a DP show, the band released *Live* last October and has shared the stage with heavyweights like the Dave Matthews Band, Morphine and Ben Folds Five.

With half as many members, G.R.'s punk-pop trio, Molly, relies on three-part harmonies and songs chock-full of hooks. Citing influences from the Sex Pistols to Poison, band members have said they try their hardest to make the songs come alive.



Rooster



J.T. Harding of Southfield



The Kingsnakes



Knee Deep Shag

Armed with guitars and some good old rock 'n' roll know-how, these finalists will follow in the footsteps of last year's winners, including The Atomic Numbers and Sister Seed.

Bryson noted that the Opening Act Contest is a beneficial opportunity for all musicians involved, win or lose. "Performing in front of thousands of unfamiliar faces can also serve as a huge confidence builder for the artists," she said. "The contest itself is a perfect forum for artists to get direct feedback from music writ-

ers, promoters and other people in the entertainment industry. And being able to say 'performed at Pine Knob or Meadow Brook' certainly can't hurt!"

Support local music and check out the Opening Act Contest Finals: 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 23,

Meadowbrook Music Festival, Rochester Hills. Free admission and parking. (248) 377-0100.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola writes about popular music for the Observer & Eccentric newspapers. She can be reached at (734) 953-2130.

Travis from page E6

it as simple as possible. "The vocals are most important," said Dunlop. "You can smother a song."

One song on the album, *Slide Show*, went through many incarnations before reaching its final form. "We wanted the sound of a car behind it," recalled Dunlop. "We tried recording it in a car. After 'too much noise and bumping about,' producer Nigel Godrich (Radiohead, Beck, Pavement) opted for a backdrop of recorded street sounds. "Nigel is very much a perfectionist," said Dunlop. But it worked.

The band even went so far as to start the engines of several cars in a parking lot. "I think it's incredible," said Dunlop of the album critics call a must-have. "It was the first time we sounded like we sounded in our heads."

Four years after the band began, four friends solidified a space in the current wave of pop music trends. They're not so schizophrenic after all. "We got to know each other after playing so many live shows," he reasoned.

Touring steadily since last spring, the band will head back to London after the next round of shows. But they still insist Glasgow is home. "We moved to London to get a deal in the first place as a band," said Dunlop. "There was more of a chance in London."

Dunlop's musical roots trace back to his early teens. "I used to play piano when I was younger," he said. "I got into guitar. It was easier to carry about with you."

Having parents who listened to Scottish country music and developing an early obsession with metal - of the AC/DC and Kiss variety - Dunlop's early influences were scattered somewhere between the two. He picked up a guitar at age 13 and hasn't turned back.

Dunlop, now 28, said he doesn't notice much difference between touring in the States and touring in Britain. "I think people are people no matter where you go." It's that sweet sincerity that's gained Travis a sterling reputation in pop music.

While *The Man Who* spins its web around new American fans, Travis has already written enough material for a third album and plans to go back into the studio by the end of summer. Travis hopes to team up with Godrich again and record in

sunny Los Angeles. Expect the new material to reflect the sounds of a more optimistic British quartet, without abandoning the drifting melancholy beauty of *The Man Who*.

Perhaps the band's been too long away from the rainy Scotland days they remember. To borrow from another British foursome, where Travis is concerned, "Here Comes The Sun."

See Travis with guest Leona Naess, 6 p.m. Friday, May 19, St. Andrew's Hall, Detroit. All ages. \$13. (248) 645-6666.



Travis

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Sweet Lorraine's brings comfort, joy to Marriott

By Keely Wygonik
STAFF WRITER

kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

Laurel Park Place shopper wanders into the newly opened Sweet Lorraine's at the Livonia Marriott and asks, "Are you open yet?"

Shhh... don't tell anyone. They've been open nearly a month, and it's the best kept secret in Livonia.

Guests at the hotel have been "Sweet" on "Lorraine" since the restaurant opened in April. It's become their home away from home and a surprise discovery for shoppers, office workers, and people in the neighborhood who didn't know it moved in.

Lorraine Platman is meeting in a corner booth with her kitchen staff. Suddenly, she jumps up and goes to the kitchen. She emerges minutes later apologizing and explaining that she had to talk to one of the staff about the way a sandwich was served.

"It's a grilled sandwich. It's supposed to be golden brown and the cheese melted," she said.

Platman cares about food. That's one of the ingredients of her success. She's very hands-on, and she pushes her staff to excel.

"The people knew how to cook, but they're working triple harder. They're working with fresh ingredients, and they're enthused," she said.

Executive Chef Clark DeKett, who grew up in Redford Township and studied culinary arts at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills, agrees.

"We're working harder, but we're considerably more satisfied," he said. "We enjoy the food. It's challenging and satisfying. It has a global perspective. It's a very large menu. There are new recipes to learn. They're all complicated, but all are wonderful."

DeKett, who has worked for the Marriott for 10 years, com-

Sweet Lorraine's Café

Where: Marriott Hotel, 17100 N. Laurel Park Drive, off Six Mile Road next to Laurel Park Place, Livonia, (734) 953-7480.

Open: 6:30-11 a.m. breakfast menu and buffet; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. lunch; 4-11 p.m. dinner, lounge open to midnight, Monday-Thursday; 4 p.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday, dinner; lounge open to 1 a.m. Weekend breakfast buffet 8 a.m. to noon Saturday; 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday.

Menu: World-beat cuisine with emphasis on fresh, seasonal ingredients from local purveyors Children's menu available.

Cost: Breakfast \$5-\$15, Lunch \$6-\$12; Dinner \$7-\$19.

Reservations: Recommended for parties of 6 or more; call ahead seating available.

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pare the orchestration of a meal to playing the piano. "You can play notes and read music, but you've got to get the melody down. It's the nuances, the taste, that make a product wonderful."

Consistency is also important. Repeat performances have to be as good as the first. Platman's recipes include notes on presentation, and she's a stickler for detail. "I want to be able to reproduce the same dish next year," she said.

Everything, even the bread and desserts, is made fresh daily. The menu reflects what's in season and changes accordingly. Duck was added as a regular item, along with "French Onion Steak Tenderloin - Angus beef tenderloins served over garlic toasted croutons, caramelized onions and a French onion sauce, topped with melted mozzarella cheese.

You can get a sandwich, burger, main-dish salad, pasta, seafood or chicken. There are a number of vegetarian items, including the new Brie Portabello Melt. Specials and soups change daily. Cream of tomato soup is offered daily because customers requested it.

The lunch menu is lighter with fewer side dishes. "It's for people who are on a time, dollar and calorie budget," said Gary Sussman, Platman's husband and business partner.

Desserts are comforting and reassuring, ones Platman remembers from her childhood in England - Apple Brown Betty, Blueberry Bread Pudding and Strawberry Rhubarb Crisp. They're warm desserts served with a dollop of Ray's ice cream.

There's a premium bar, 25 wines by the glass and 40 international and domestic beers,



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Be our guest: Lorraine Platman and Gary Sussman welcome guests to the new Sweet Lorraine's in the Livonia Marriott Hotel. For lunch or dinner, they recommend Hot Yellowfin Tuna "Nicoise" (pictured), sautéed with Yukon gold potatoes, plum tomatoes, green beans, capers and fresh herbs over organic greens with Dijon vinaigrette, a colorful and satisfying main dish salad.

including one produced by Local Color Brewery in Novi. The lemonade is always freshly squeezed, and you can get an espresso, a cappuccino or smoothie.

Diners eat in an open, colorful and comfortable setting. "We wanted something curvy to bring the ceiling down to make it more intimate," explained Sussman, pointing to shapes that resemble clouds. "We wanted it to be fun but comfortable."

Dennis Larsson of Northville painted the murals and designed the ceramic tile mosaic bar. Light fixtures are made from Italian glass. Stephen Sussman and Howard Ellman of Birmingham were the restaurant's architects.

Bringing Sweet Lorraine's to the Livonia Marriott took nearly two years. Both the hotel and the restaurant had reservations. Haydn Kramer, general manager of the Livonia Marriott, has been a fan of Sweet Lorraine's for about 10 years.

"Whenever I had special friends in town that's where I took them," said Kramer, who lives in Plymouth. "They have great food, cool music, and I

thought, 'Why can't I have this at my hotel?'"

One day when he was dining at Sweet Lorraine's in Southfield, Kramer wrote his idea to bring Sweet Lorraine's to the Livonia Marriott on a business card and gave it to Platman. However, she and Sussman weren't the only people to whom Kramer had to sell the idea.

"It was a long, steady battle of convincing a lot of people on both sides," he said. "I had to propose it to people at all different levels of the company. It's a great product. It's that special place where you feel special. It even sounded special."

With Kramer as the catalyst, the Marriott and Sweet Lorraine's began collaborating on a

restaurant. "Their strength is that they're innkeepers. We're restaurateurs. It's a win-win deal," said Sussman.

All of the staff is employed by the Marriott, but the recipes and concepts are Sweet Lorraine's.

Bill Marriott, chief executive officer of the hotels that bear his family's name, recently had dinner at Sweet Lorraine's. "He was enchanted with it," said Kramer. "He loved it and thought the food was wonderful."

Platman is working on the breakfast menu and introducing some of Sweet Lorraine's popular brunch items. Making her guests feel special is a priority. "We get lots of special requests," she said. "And we bend over backwards to fill them."

Home away from home: Colorful and comfortable Sweet Lorraine's at the Livonia Marriott has become a popular dining spot for hotel guests, Laurel Park Place shoppers, and people who work or live nearby.



EATING OUT

Send dinner specials, menu changes, restaurant renovations, and other items to Keely Wygonik, Assistant Managing Editor Features Group, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. To fax, (734) 591-7279 or e-mail kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net.

We're putting together a list of steakhouses for Father's Day and outdoor dining destinations. If you want to be included, send, fax or e-mail restaurant locations, hours and menus to Wygonik as soon as possible.

DINNER DATES

■ The Lark - Annual Italian

theme dinner 7 p.m. Monday or Tuesday, May 22 or 23. Cost \$90 per person, not including tax or gratuity. The restaurant is at 6430 Farmington Road, north of Maple, West Bloomfield. Call (248) 861-4466 for reservations/information.

■ **Too Chez** - Executive Chef Greg Upshur will prepare his prix fixe Organic Vegetarian Feast 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 23. The cost is \$28 per person at Too Chez Restaurant, 27155 Sheraton Drive, Novi. A selection of organic wines will also be available for purchase with the meal. For reservations/information call (248) 348-5555. Too Chez is open

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday for lunch, and 5:30-10 p.m. for dinner. Closed Sunday.

NEW RESTAURANT

■ **Quizno's** - Announces the opening of a new Quizno's Classic Subs restaurant in Farmington Hills in American Plaza, 32515 Northwestern Highway. Quizno's Classic Subs are served on a soft baguette, baked espe-

cially for the restaurant chain. The subs are prepared and then run open-faced through an oven to melt the cheese and toast the bread before being served. The Farmington Hills Quizno's is open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday. Customers can order to take out or to eat in the dining room. Call (248) 626-QUIZ to place your carryout order.

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