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Holiday baking for gift-giving, 1B

# Westland Observer

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Westland, Michigan

48 Pages

Fifty Cents

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## No contest plea closes fraud case

By Todd Schneider  
staff writer

Kathleen (Kay) Lyons pleaded no contest Thursday to reduced misdemeanor charges stemming from the Wayne-Westland Community Schools adult education enrollment fraud case, effectively ending a mess that has dogged the school district for six years.

form 50 hours of community service "if medically able" to do so.

The maximum possible sentence was 90 days in jail and/or a \$500 fine.

Lyons' plea was made to a reduced charge of "knowingly permitting or consenting to" a violation of the state school aid act.

Defendants Holbert (Rick) Hamrick Jr. and Barbara Blanton, both district employees, and former employee Phyllis (Rode) Roderick pleaded no contest to the same charge in April. McKnight will review their cases and could expunge their records next April.

RICHARD SHEIKO, assistant Wayne County prosecutor, was satisfied with the outcome of the case, he said Thursday.

"In my book, this is a victory for the people," Sheiko said. "We made the district publicly accountable for its records."

Thomas Svitkovich, associate superintendent for communications and finance for the district, declined to comment on the specifics of the case.

"I guess you could say we're satisfied that it's finally come to this point," Svitkovich said. Lyons chose not to speak during Thursday's 35-minute hearing, which was attended by sev-

eral school officials and former school board member Fred Warmbler. Warmbler is one of the residents who in 1983 pushed for the original investigation into the district's adult/community education records.

The sentence handed Lyons is similar to that given the three other defendants last April.

LYONS, WHO was diagnosed with bone cancer last spring, is on medical leave from her job as director of special projects for the district and executive director of the Tinkham Center.

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### places and faces

CALLING ALL boys and girls.

Send your requests to Santa Claus through the Westland Observer and we'll forward them to the North Pole.

They'll also appear in the paper on Dec. 21.

You can make your pitch for gifts, explain how you really weren't that naughty, give Santa some advice or let him know what your thoughts are about the holiday.

We can't guarantee that every letter will be printed, but we'll try.

Once we're done, we'll fax everything to Santa Central in time for the gifts to be delivered on Christmas morning.

In order to be considered for publication, we must receive letters by Dec. 14.

Send your letters to the editor, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

### WANTED: HOLIDAY memories.

When Bing Crosby sang "I'll Be Home for Christmas" in 1943, he was singing it for the hundreds of thousands of GIs who were away from home yet another year.

Christmas is a time when nostalgia is a way of life. Fond memories and dreams mingle with the aromas of holiday foods to create Christmas traditions.

Do you have a cherished memory of Christmas? Was it the Christmas Santa came through with the gift you wanted more than anything in the world? Or maybe the yearly trip downtown on a Sunday night to see the Christmas displays in Hudson's windows?

Feel like sharing your memories?

We at the Westland Observer would like you, our readers, to tell the story of Christmas Past. On Thursday, Dec. 21, we will publish the two best Christmas stories we receive from readers in Westland.

All you need do is jot down — typewritten or printed — your recollections of your favorite Christmas in 100 words or less. Send it to Sue Mason, Suburban Life editor, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. The deadline for entering is noon, Tuesday, Dec. 12.

Be sure to include your name, address and a phone number at which you can be reached during the day. The winners will be notified of their selection and their photographs will be taken to accompany their stories.

And as a thank you, winners will receive two of the official Observer & Eccentric Newspapers ceramic coffee mugs with matching coasters.

SPEAKING OF holiday traditions, Santa Claus will be putting in a special appearance at the Wayne-Westland YMCA Saturday.

There will be two seatings for a hot dog lunch and visit with Santa, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. A holiday sing-a-long and picture taking session will be part of the festivities.

Tickets are \$4 for Y members and \$6 for non-members. Parents may purchase lunch for an additional \$2.

For more information, call the Y, 771-7844.

CAST MEMBERS from the hit musical "Les Miserables" will provide the entertainment Wednesday, Dec. 13, at the 12th annual Wayne-Westland Chamber of Commerce Christmas Luncheon.

The luncheon is slated for 11:30 a.m. at the Wayne Community Center, 10000 W. 15th St., Livonia 48150. Reservations may be made by calling the Chamber at 771-7844.

## Showtime

### 6-screen Showcase plans grand opening for Friday

By Todd Schneider  
staff writer

It's showtime at the Showcase. Following an invitation-only party Thursday, the first new movie theater built in Westland in nearly 25 years will open to the public Friday.

And we're not just talking plain popcorn here. We're talking about a glitzy, state-of-the-art celluloid palace on Wayne Road north of Hunter that will feature:

- Eight handicapped-accessible theaters seating 200-300 moviegoers each (total capacity 2,100)
- 70 mm projection and Dolby THX stereo sound
- Rocking chair-style seating two or three inches wider and deeper than seats in older movie theaters
- A 7,000 square-foot lobby with a multi-sided concessionaire and a contemporary art gallery
- Employees who have attended a special, customer service training session.

"You have to do these kinds of things in order to be able to compete in the current marketplace," said Carole R. Boole, film productions manager for National Amusements Inc., the Dedham, Mass.-based company which owns the Showcase chain and also the Quo Vadis theater just up Wayne Road.

A RENOVATION to update the six-screen Quo Vadis — built in the mid-1960s as one of the first multi-screen theaters in metropolitan Detroit — is still in the planning stages, Boole said Thursday.

Although the two complexes are only a half-mile apart, company officials believe a city the size of Westland (population 81,180, according to

*'You have to do these kinds of things in order to be able to compete in the current marketplace.'*

— Carole R. Boole  
National Amusements

1985 census figures) should be able to support 14 screens — even with the boom in home video rentals.

In addition to multiple theaters, air conditioning, lighted parking and other typical 1980s movie complex amenities, the Showcase will feature custom-designed seats, Boole said.

The seats were designed by National Amusements and are built by Hussey Seating Co. of North Berwick, Maine.

"They're a few inches wider and have higher backs than standard movie theater seating," Boole said.

"We think people will definitely feel the difference."

Cost for the seats is \$150 each, about three times the industry average, Boole said.

Also gone — thanks to increased and varied competition for the entertainment dollar — are the days of just hiring ticket takers and hoping they show up, Boole said.

USHERS, CASHIERS and concessionaires hired to work at the new Westland theater attended a four-hour training program Saturday afternoon. The program featured role playing and other exercises to teach customer relations.

"You're dealing with a young

Please turn to Page 2



Carol Kellog (left) and Gilbert Rodriguez install two custom-designed seats in one of the eight theaters at Showcase, the first new movie theater to be built in the city in nearly 25 years. It will open to the public Friday.

ART EMANUELE/staff photographer

## New films to open movie house

Movie-goers will have six films to choose from on opening weekend at the new Showcase Cinemas. Some movies will be shown in more than one theater.

For showtimes and ticket prices call 729-1080.

Here's the premier line-up:

"She Devil" — black comedy starring Meryl Streep as a romance novelist and Roseanne Barr as the downtrodden housewife of a husband Streep captivates.

"War of the Roses" — Michael

Douglas, Kathleen Turner and Danny DeVito team for a comedy about power people, divorce and revenge.

"Last Warrior" — An action-packed, romantic adventure that puts two adversaries on a deserted Pacific Island during World War II. Stars Gary Graham and Maria Holve.

"Steel Magnolias" — Sally Field, Shirley MacLaine, Olympia Dukakis and Daryl Hannah share life, love,

laughter and tears in Dolly Parton's beauty salon.

"The Bear" — Director Jean Jacques Annaud ("Quest for Fire") provides a bear's-eye view of life, love and companionship in the wilderness.

"Dad" — Jack Lemmon, Olympia Dukakis and Ted Danson in a bittersweet comedy/drama about relationships between three generations of sons.

## Mayor-elect finds road to City Hall rocky

□ Related story, 2A

By Leonard Poger  
editor

Mayor-elect Robert Thomas is filling out his administrative team, but the transition of power isn't as smooth as he would like it.

Mayor Charles Griffin, who lost to Thomas Nov. 7 by 200 votes, is upset that a Thomas representative placed a help wanted ad in the Detroit News for two positions, one of which is occupied by a department head who

*'It is hard for me to believe that (Griffin) is still upset about the (election) loss and the ads in the paper.'*

— mayor-elect Robert Thomas

hasn't been notified whether she will be retained.

It was "cruel and inhumane" to advertise for the position of senior resources department director when the current director, Sylvia Kozorowsky-Wiacek, is still serving, said Griffin, whose term ends Dec. 31.

The help wanted ad placement is

unconscionable, deputy mayor Andrew Spisak said.

LEGALLY, THOMAS doesn't have the authority to spend city money before his term starts Jan. 1, Griffin said. But Thomas said the money for

the help wanted ad isn't a problem since the invoice and payment probably will be received next month, when he becomes mayor.

"It is hard for me to believe that he (Griffin) is still upset about the (election) loss and the ads (being placed) in the paper," Thomas said.

The actions of Griffin show that the outgoing mayor is vindictive and sour about the Nov. 7 defeat, the mayor-elect said.

THOMAS EXPECTS to fill the re-

maining five department head positions by Tuesday, he said. The only appointment announced so far has been Edward Gunther, longtime city employee and Thomas' campaign manager, as deputy mayor.

All appointments will be effective Jan. 1.

The mayor-elect declined to identify the upcoming directors before the formal announcements, but most

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Entertainment . . . . .	5D
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Sports . . . . .	10
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NEWSLINE . . . 501-2300  
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Quick, Easy  
**Winner Dinner Recipes**  
Every Monday  
Inside TASTE!

### Paper sale

Mack Mayfield hands a Westland Goodfellows newspaper to Mike Holloway on Ford Road Friday. The annual Goodfellows newspaper drive, which finances many of the civic organization's charitable activities, closed Saturday.



GUY WARREN/staff photographer

# Mayor, city employee feud over job status

Nora Herbert and Mayor Charles Griffin are embroiled in a post-election dispute which led to her dismissal as a mayoral appointment.

But the 14-year city employee isn't out of a job. Under the contract with the union which represents most municipal workers she is returning to work as a secretary-II in the city clerk's department.

Mrs. Herbert spent the nearly four years as the administrative secretary to the city's labor relations director as a mayoral appointment.

Sarcastically, she claimed in a statement that her Nov. 27 firing "is yet another display of how 'cooperation works' with Mayor Griffin firing one of two members of the mayor-elect Robert Thomas transition team.

The comment was a dig at Griffin's motto of "government by cooperation."

She was dismissed as an administrative secretary after placing a help wanted ad for two management positions to be filled by Thomas.

Griffin said he fired her from that post "for cause — being grossly insubordinate."

**'Mayor Griffin now insists that Mr. Thomas check with him on all matters, including the receipt of ALL income resumes.'**

— Nora Herbert

"No one had permission to use city dollars, particularly on advertising," Griffin said.

As a mayoral appointee, Mrs. Herbert said she campaigned for Griffin in the primary election and nearly all of the general election, which ended with Robert Thomas winning an upset victory by 200 votes.

Mrs. Herbert's husband, Kent, supported Thomas' mayoral campaign after the primary.

AS ONE of two members of Thomas' transition team, Mrs. Herbert said Griffin assured everyone that "he would do what is necessary to see that city functions aren't in-

terrupted and that the transition is a smooth one."

She claimed that when Griffin was elected in the fall of 1985, he had \$5,000 for transitional expenses.

But Griffin denies that. "If the money was budgeted, I didn't use it," the mayor said.

When it came to interviewing candidates for administrative posts, Griffin said he used his own or a restaurant, not city offices.

Mrs. Herbert said she helped write ads in the Detroit News which prompted Griffin firing as a mayoral appointment for \$466, far less than what the mayor spent on attorney

## Thomas finds transition rocky

Continued from Page 1

of them have "familiar names," he said.

ON THE transition, "I don't remember discussing (with Griffin) anything about city funds," Thomas said.

He quoted the mayor as saying that "if you need anything, call me and I'll take care of it. But let my people (administrative appointees) know as soon as possible if they are not going to be reappointed."

Thomas notified the six department heads for whom he has exclusive appointment authority that they will not be retained in their posts, he said. They are Spisak, Al Gais, labor relations director; Robert Matzo, public services director; Robert Fritz, building director; Ellen Court, purchasing agent; and Lorrie Eggers, executive secretary to the mayor.

THE MAYOR-ELECT is undecided about whether to retain Kozoroski-Wiacek, head of the senior re-

sources department, he said.

"There is a good chance she will stay," Thomas said.

He placed the help wanted ad to "find out what else is out there," he said, referring to other potential candidates.

"I may also fill the post from within."

Under the city charter, Thomas' nominations for parks and recreation director, planning director and city attorney are subject to city council confirmation.

# Stottlemeyer principal to leave school district

By Todd Schneider, staff writer

Stottlemeyer Elementary School students will have a new principal when they return after the winter holidays.

Susan Johnson, Stottlemeyer principal for two years, is leaving for a job in the Farmington Public Schools.

"I'm really leaving with mixed emotions," Johnson said Thursday. "It's been good being here (at Stottlemeyer) and (Wayne-Westland) has been an excellent district to work in that

has provided me with a lot of opportunities." Stottlemeyer is on Marquette, between Wayne Road and Wildwood.

Johnson said she will become principal at Eagle Elementary School in West Bloomfield.

Thomas Svitkovich, associate superintendent for communications and finance, said Friday the Stottlemeyer job has been posted and will be filled "hopefully within a couple of weeks" by the school board.

Svitkovich said he expected applicants from inside and outside the district.

The Wayne-Westland school board voted 5-1 Monday to approve a leave of absence for Johnson beginning Jan. 2.

BOARD MEMBER Mathew McCusker, who voted against the leave, said his vote was a symbolic gesture "I've made in the past when we are about to lose good people (from the district)."

School officials praised Johnson for her work during her 20 years in the district.

"She's been an outstanding principal and

we're sorry to see her go, but we wish her the best of luck," Svitkovich said.

"Sue Johnson, in her roles as principal, teacher and administrator in this district, did a magnificent job," said trustee Kathleen Chorbagan.

Johnson said she decided to seek the change for personal and professional reasons.

Her new job will provide the challenge of "working with computers and other new technology" that her current one didn't have, Johnson said. Also, the new school is about

10 miles closer to her home in Brighton.

"I feel a little like a kid just out of college getting a fresh start," she said.

Before taking the Stottlemeyer job, Johnson was principal and assistant principal at Franklin Junior High School between 1980 and 1987. She has also been a teacher, department head and counselor since joining the district right out of college.

Johnson earned her bachelor's degree at Western Michigan University and a master's degree from Eastern Michigan University.

# No contest plea closes fraud case

Continued from Page 1

The case against Lyons was adjourned for seven months due to her failing health.

McKnight will review the case and could dismiss the charges and expunge Lyons' record in 10 months, sooner if Lyons' condition worsens, the judge said.

"(Not) this person, nor any other, should die with this hanging over them," McKnight said.

THE FOUR defendants were indicted by a Wayne County citizens grand jury in November 1988 on charges of falsifying school records and conspiracy to falsify school records.

Those charges carried a maximum prison sentence of two years and/or a fine of up to \$2,500. Also, state teaching certificates of the

**'In my book, this is a victory for the people. We made the district publicly accountable for its records.'**

— Prosecutor Richard Sheiko

four could have been revoked under the original charges.

The charges covered adult/community education attendance records for the 1982-83 and 1983-84 school years.

HAD THE case continued to the circuit court level, Sheiko was confident there would have been a guilty verdict, he said. But jail sentences for the defendants would have been an unrealistic expectation, he said.

"You're talking about judges who

routinely give probation to car thieves and violent criminals," Sheiko said.

Sheiko credited the group of residents who brought the issue to the attention of the public and law enforcement officials. The ongoing investigation spurred a number of changes within the district and at the state level concerning adult education, he said.

The enrollment fraud case has been a "black eye" for the district.

Svitkovich said, but he mentioned the clean record of the current administration.

"You have to look at what we've accomplished in the last couple of years," he said.

THE YEARLONG grand jury probe into the district's adult education records was initiated following an investigation by the prosecutor's office and Michigan State Police.

An audit by the Michigan Department of Education resulted in the disqualification of more than 300 listed full-time equivalent students and a loss of more than \$1 million in state aid to the school district.

The district appealed the decision and eventually won back approximately \$400,000 of the disqualified amount. The balance was deducted from state aid payments over a three-year period.



Kathleen Lyons (seated) talking with her attorneys following Bursoy's hearing.

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## Yule decorating contest opens

Is the string of colored lights around your gutters almost as impressive as Tom Monaghan's display at Domino Farms?

Is the wreath on your front door a Bronner's "special?"

Is your home the shining beacon in your neighborhood this time of year?

If so, the Westland City Council has a contest just for you.

For the third straight year, the council is sponsoring a residential Christmas decorating contest.

First, second and third place winners will receive plaques and other prizes.

The program has been hailed by the Keep Michigan Beautiful Foundation as "one of the best ways to keep an interest" in community

pride during the winter season, said Ken Mehl, council president.

Deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. Friday.

The awards will be presented at the Dec. 18 council meeting in City Hall.

Nominations may be made by calling the city clerk's office, 467-3185 or 467-3191.

## Swanky new theater to open Friday

Continued from Page 1

workforce, for many of our kids it's their first job," she said. "They might not realize that the way they deal with customers might be a major determining factor when it comes to repeat business."

National Amusements has been in the movie theater business since the 1930s and has 600 theaters nationwide.

In Michigan, the company operates the Quo Vadis and the Showcase chain — which has multi-screen the-

aters in Auburn Hills (also opening this week) Ann Arbor, Pontiac, Sterling Heights, Flint and Grand Rapids.

There are also company-owned movie houses in Dearborn, Harper Woods and Burton, Mich.

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**Come Join Us... for your FREE\* Birthday Dinner!**  
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**DISCOVERY MAY END OBESITY**

National Dietary Research, an organization committed to the research and development of nutritional solutions to world-wide health problems, reported in a Washington, D.C. press release, "Obesity may be controlled naturally with a new type of pill, discovered by accident. In studies with potential cholesterol lowering agents, scientists noted an unusual side effect. Patients receiving an ingredient in what is now being called FS-1 all lost weight in spite of being instructed not to alter normal eating patterns, while body weight in control groups remained constant." Scientists say the mechanism behind the weight reduction is partially due to a decrease in the intestinal absorption of calorie rich dietary fats.

In a comparative study by NDR whose research topics have been the subject of articles published in recent medical and nutritional journals, FS-1 was found to be most effective for weight loss and most acceptable to patients, because Food-Souroe-One contains only natural ingredients recognized as safe, it is available to the public immediately.

FS-1 is currently available in chocolate, vanilla or strawberry flavors, from select physicians and pharmacies for \$24.99 per 100 tablets with instructions for proper use and optimum results, also available by mail, add \$2.00 shipping/handling to Nutra Health Co., 41630 Garfield, Suite 567, Mt. Clemens, MI 48044.

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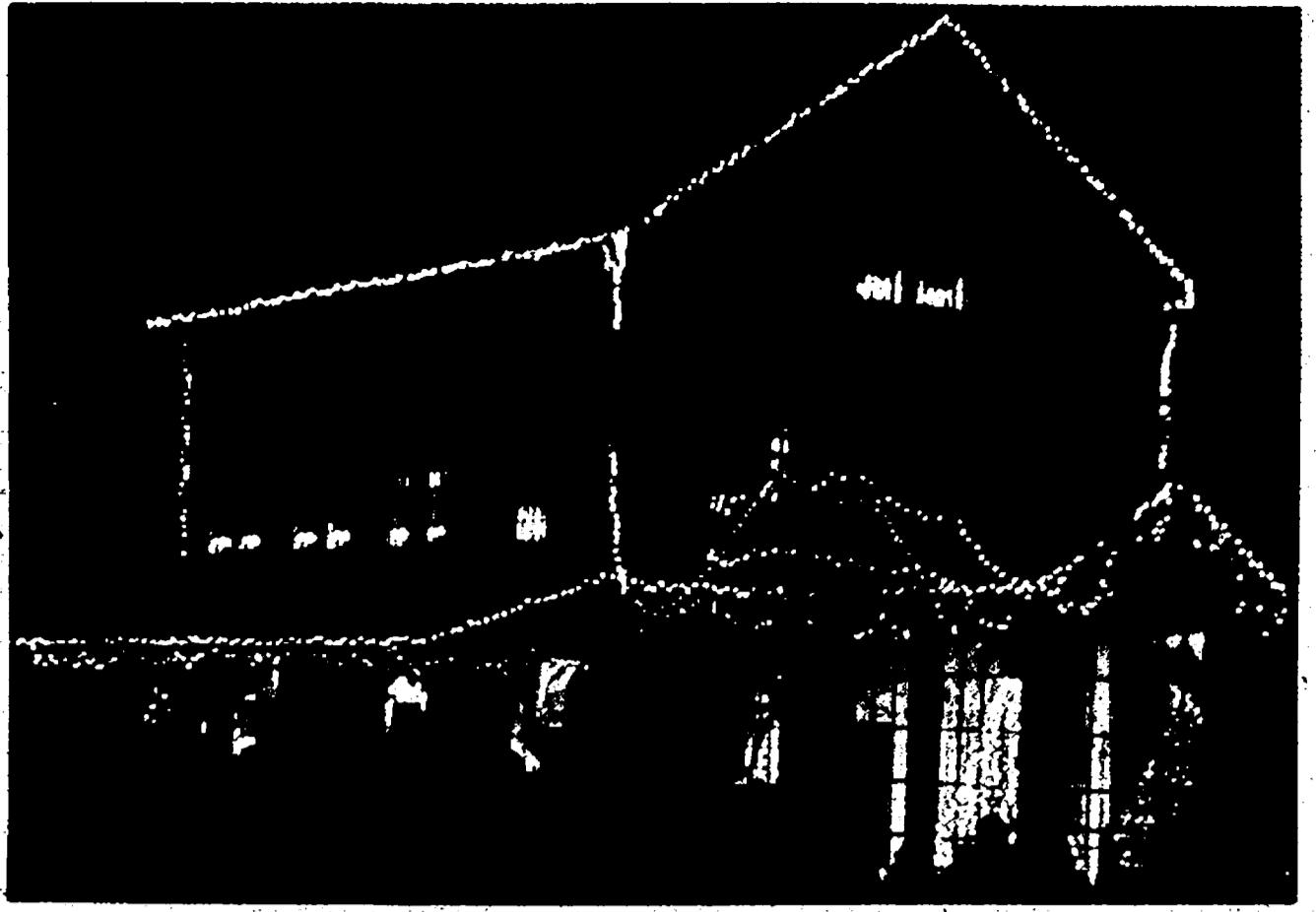
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photos by ART EMANUELE/staff photographer

WKBD-TV news anchorman Roger McCoy pulls the switch (above) . . . and lights outline the historic Nankin Mill (at right). Several hundred people, including city and county officials, gathered in the chilly air Friday night for the event, the second annual Christmas lighting ceremony.



## Yuletide spirit glows in ceremony at mill

**S**EVERAL HUNDRED youngsters, parents and history buffs huddled in the chilly night air Friday to enjoy a second annual Christmas lighting ceremony and a visit by Santa Claus.

The scene was the historic Nankin Mill, built in 1863 to provide water power for what was then Nankin Township.

Today, it is the Wayne County parks division's headquarters.

The ceremony was planned by the Friends of the Mill, a private support group formed in 1988 to raise money and help restore the building on Ann Arbor Trail near Farmington Road to its former glory.

The crowd standing on the front lawn of the building was there "because of the love of the (Hines) park and Nankin Mill" and the quality of life they represent, McNamara said.

**Two-year-old Heather Piotrowski gets a hug from Santa.**

Christmas is a time for families, Coleman said. The mill will be a credit to the county and the city when the restoration is completed.

McCoy, pinch-hitting for co-anchor Amyre Makupson, threw the switch to turn on the lights at the mill and nearby house when the mill's caretaker used to live.

Denise Mehelich of the Friends' group led the sing-along with Otto Stout, who along with Mehelich are members of the mill's decorating committee. They presented awards to students at the nearby Nankin Mills Elementary School for their winning essay and art contest entries.

**IN THE** art competition, Jeff Thomas was first, followed by Courtney Geiger, second, and Scott Arnold. John Webster won a first place ribbon for his essay, followed by Adam Kolinski, second, and David Metcalfe, third.

Fifth and sixth grade student writers depicted the type of Christmas that Henry Ford, who owned the mill for about 30 years, may have brought to the building in the early 1900s.

Emcee for the ceremony was Joseph Benyo, assistant to the mayor and Westland Historical Commission member.

Illness forced Friends' president Beverly Melasi to miss the ceremony.

On the mill's decorating committee were Jamie Burton, Ray and Terri Cleis, Dan Mehelich, Don and Barbara Polich, Jennifer Speir, Gary Stone, Otto Stout, Melanie Odum and Charity Collins.

Businesses providing support for the ceremony were Norm's Market, Mr. Bulky's, ACO Hardware, Danny's Foods, Dunkin' Donuts, Garden City Bake Shop, Great Scott Supermarket, Forest City Hardware, Hardee's, Leright's Catering, Sid's Office Supply, and Vince's Christmas Trees, located at the Warren Valley Golf Course.

Also helping out were Girl Scouts of Neighborhood 62, who provided most of the voice power in the sing-a-long, Jamie Burton, Ernie and Letha Shantz, Betsy Conway and her fifth grade class at Hayes Elementary School, and Florence Kolpacke.



ART EMANUELE/staff photographer

### Doors opened

The doors were opened last week for a new F&M health and beauty aids store, a 28,000-square-foot facility in the WestRidge plaza,

on Warren Road west of Wayne Road. Sue Briggs is store manager.

### cop calls

**A BOMB** scare at LeRight's restaurant Wednesday didn't disrupt regular lunch-hour customers, police said.

That's because an unidentified caller told a restaurant cook that a bomb was planted outside the building. A search of the immediate outside area turned up negative, police said.

The cook told police a caller with a white, male voice telephoned the restaurant at 1:50 p.m. and said "there's a bomb outside" before

quickly hanging up. The caller may have been disguising his voice, the cook said.

**AN EMPLOYEE** at Hamilton Elementary School, on Schuman south of Cherry Hill, told police someone stole her car from the school parking lot Wednesday afternoon.

The 1985 bright yellow Chevrolet Camaro IROC Z-28 was stolen between 1 and 3:30 p.m., the employee said. The car was locked

at the time.

**THE MANAGER** of the Mr. Store-It miniwarehouse at 5215 Merriman reported that someone cut through an eight-foot chain-link fence surrounding the facility early Tuesday.

Nothing was taken from the property, the manager said. Police said the hole was made in an inconspicuous area and whoever made it might have been planning to return to the warehouse later.

### Cookbook sale helps children's hospital

The Westland Jaycees are cooking up a recipe for health this holiday season.

The Jaycees have pledged their support to raise funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis after the United States

Jaycees designated the hospital as one of its major charities.

Local Jaycees hope to raise \$600 for the hospital, founded to aid child victims of cancer and other catastrophic diseases.

Jaycee fund-raising efforts began

with a cookbook sale. The hard-bound book with a variety of recipes is available for \$5 by calling 729-5083.

Contributions can also be made to the Westland Jaycees for St. Jude Children's Hospital.



### MEET ARTIST FLEUR COWLES

Friday, December 8, Noon to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. in Livonia

Saturday, December 9, Noon-5 p.m.

Store for the Home, Birmingham

See her imagined world of endless harmony and beauty expressed in exquisite bone china jungle cats and exotic oversize flowers. The collection, inspired by her original works on canvas, are crafted at Border Fine Arts' Finesse Studio in Worcester, England. Each flower and individual petal is modeled and applied by hand. Ms. Cowles will be here to sign your purchases and autograph her most recent book, *An Artist's Journey*.

## Jacobson's

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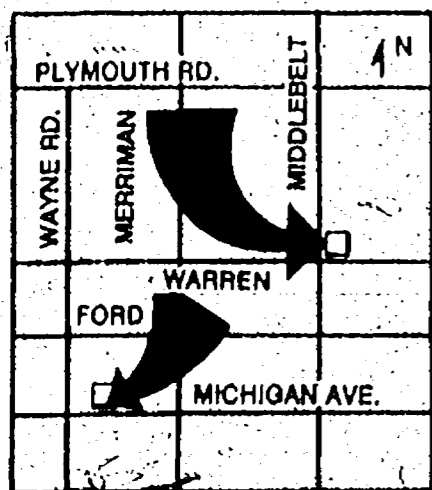
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# Jail pact formalizes management plan

By Wayne Peal  
staff writer

Months of wrangling — and an 18-year-old lawsuit — appeared ended last week with a new agreement on Wayne County Jail management.

Under a consent order issued Thursday, former county youth home director Peter Wilson was formally appointed director of jail operations and ordered to report to both County Executive Edward McNamara and Sheriff Robert Ficano.

Both officials spent much of this year wrangling over jail control.

Wilson, who has filled the position for the past three months under an informal agreement between both men, had his duties clarified under Thursday's agreement.

He will now report to the county executive on budget matters and to the sheriff on matters concerning jail security and operations.

Future conflicts between the executive and sheriff will be decided by chief Wayne County Circuit Judge Richard Kaufman, who is overseeing jail improvements under terms of the 1971 inmate lawsuit.

ATTORNEYS FOR all three parties were expected to sign the agreement, as was an attorney representing the inmates.

County commissioners unanimously approved the consent order in a special session Thursday afternoon.

Both Ficano and McNamara appeared pleased with the agreement.

"The essence of good government is cooperation, and I think that's what will happen," Ficano said.

The agreement takes responsibility for prisoner medical and psychiatric care out of the sheriff's hands but leaves him in control of jail staffing.

Medical and food service operations will now be administered by the county Department of Health and Community Services, a division of the executive's office.

McNamara, in a prepared statement, said the consent order "just formalizes the arrangement we have had for the last three months."

Arguing he could do a better job managing the jail budget and bringing the jail in compliance with terms of the inmate lawsuit, McNamara filed for control of the jail in August 1988.

The issue came to a head in February, when Kaufman appointed the executive jail administrator. Immediately, Ficano appealed the ruling.

UNRESOLVED, for now, is the matter of Ficano's legal fees. The sheriff hired Detroit attorney Joseph A. Sullivan to represent him in court. Commissioners are expected to discuss the matter Dec. 5.

Ficano declined to comment on how large a payment would be sought.

Kaufman will continue to monitor jail conditions, receiving quarterly reports both from Wilson and from the health and community services officials.

The issue dates back to a class ac-



*'The essence of good government is cooperation, and I think that's what will happen.'*

— Robert Ficano  
sheriff



*'The consent order "just formalizes the arrangement we have had for the last three months.'*

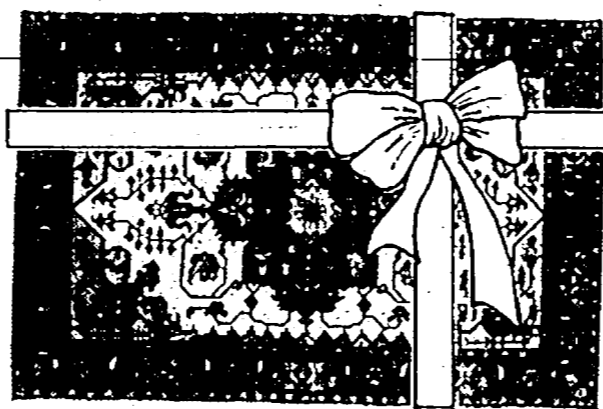
— Ed McNamara  
county exec

tion suit filed on behalf of six Wayne County Jail inmates, alleging their civil rights were violated due to crowded and unsanitary conditions at the jail as well as inadequate medical care and inadequate protection against attack from fellow in-

mates. Though a three-judge panel ruled in favor of the inmates in May 1971, and ordered a corrections plan within 30 days, a series of subsequent legal and budgetary disputes kept the issue alive to the present time.

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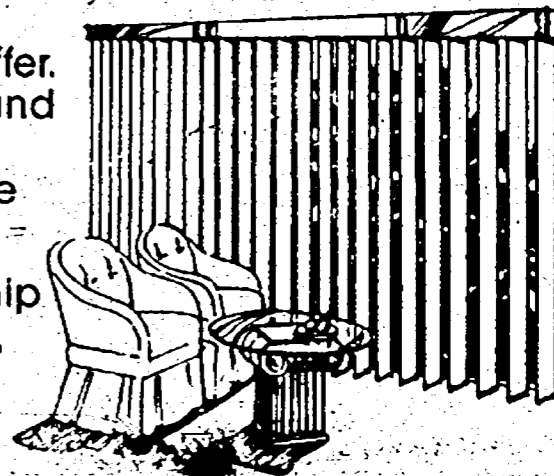
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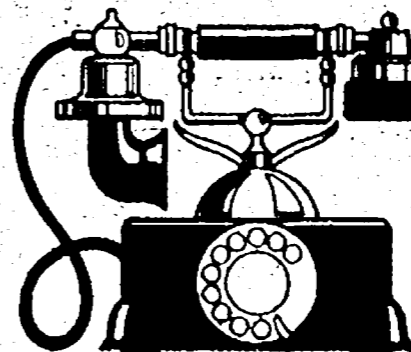


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## ART SHOW

Monday, Dec. 4 — Garden City Fine Arts Association will hold its art exhibit and sale at 7 p.m. in Sheridan Square Mall, 30000 Ford Road, Garden City.

## FRANKLIN MUSIC

Tuesday, Dec. 5 — Franklin High School Vocal Music Boosters will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Franklin High School's room 508, 31000 Joy.

## WESTLAND GOP

Wednesday, Dec. 6 — Westland Republicans will hold their Christmas social and meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Green Room of Hawthorne Valley, 7300 Merriman, just north of Warren. For more information, call 427-1056.

## DESSERT SOCIAL

Wednesday, Dec. 6 — The Garden City Fine Arts Association will hold a dessert social and Christmas card demonstration at 7 p.m. at Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, one block west of Merriman.

## JAYCEES

Thursday, Dec. 7 — Garden City Jaycees will meet at 8 p.m. in the banquet room of the Silver Saloon, 5651 Middlebelt, north of Ford. For more information, call Tim at 721-3544.

## YULE PARTY

Thursday, Dec. 7 — The Garden City Business and Professional Women will hold its Christmas Party at 8 p.m. at DePalma Restaurant, 31735 Plymouth Road near Hubbard, Livonia. The family style Italian din-

ner will cost \$15 per person. Persons attending are asked to bring a gift or donation for First Step. For reservations, call Barbara White at 422-6845.

## YULE PARTY

Friday, Dec. 8 — Wayne Westland School District Senior Adults will hold its Christmas Party at 12:30 p.m. in the Dyer Senior Center, 36745 Marquette, near Carlson. Cost is \$7. The party will include dinner, entertainment, dancing, and favors.

## AARP PARTY

Wednesday, Dec. 13 — The Dearborn Heights-Westland Chapter 1642 of American Association for Retired Persons will hold its Christmas Party Meeting at 12:30 p.m. in Stefan's Restaurant, Warren and Telegraph roads. The Eton Senior Singers will provide entertainment. Admission is \$8/members and \$11.75/guests. For reservations, call Marion Hornyak at 562-3208.

## CHRISTMAS PAST

Saturday, Dec. 16 — Memories of Christmas Past will be from 9 a.m. to noon in the Westland Helen C. Brown Historical Museum, 857 N. Wayne Road. Magician, Chris Moss will entertain the children. Photos with Santa will be available. There will be fresh evergreen wreaths, arrangements and hand-crafted items.

## GED TESTS

Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 18-19 — Livonia Public Schools will offer GED tests 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bentley Center, 15100 Hubbard. For more information, call 523-9294.

## community calendar

Non-profit groups should mail items for the calendar to the Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The date, time and place of the event should be included, along with the name and phone number of someone who can be reached during business hours to clarify information.

## PINOCHLE

Mondays and Tuesdays — Wayne Westland School District Senior Adults will hold Progressive Pinochle will be held in the Dyer Senior Center, 36745 Marquette, near Carlson. Mondays at 1:30 p.m. and Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

## CONCERT BAND

Wednesdays — The Westland Concert Band meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Marshall Junior High, 35100 Bayview, south of Cherry Hill east of Wayne Road. Musicians are sought for the newly formed band. Call Jim Frobe at 729-7386.

## BASKETBALL

The Wayne-Westland YMCA is now taking basketball registrations for a league in which boys and girls in grades 3 through 6 will compete. Practice begins Dec. 4 at John Marshall Junior High. For more information, call the YMCA at 721-7044.

## SWIM CLASSES

Wayne-Westland schools leisure program will offer late fall swim classes including aquatic exercise, arthritis aquatic, family swim and tot swim. Also offered are two fit-

ness classes and preschool art and story hour. Classes start in late November. For information, call 728-0100.

## OPEN SWIM

The Wayne-Westland YMCA has daily open swim available 7-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 1-3 p.m. Saturday. Family Swim is 8-8:45 p.m. Friday and 3-4 p.m. Saturday. The YMCA is at 827 South Wayne Road, Westland. For more information, call 721-7044.

## CO-OP

Little People's Co-op Nursery is accepting applications for the new school year for 3- and 4-year-olds. Classes will be in Cleveland Elementary School, 28030 Cathedral, west of Inkster and south of West Chicago. For information, call Lois at 937-3174 or Yvonne at 422-8939.

## CO-OP NURSERY

Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery is accepting applications for a 3-year-old morning class. The class is on Monday and Thursday 9:15-11:15 a.m. at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. For more information, call Donna Kuhn 981-0277.

## MORE CO-OP

Garden City Co-op Nursery is accepting applications for a 3-year-old morning class. The class is on Mondays and Thursdays 9:15-11:15 a.m. at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt near Ford Road. For more information, call Sue Reed at 261-3732.

## KARATE

Karate classes Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Wayne-Westland Family YMCA, 827 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Bob Preville will teach children's classes 8:30-7:45 p.m. and adults 7:30-9 p.m. For more information, call the Y at 721-7044.

## ALZHEIMER'S

An Alzheimer's support group will meet at 2 p.m. at the Westland Convalescent Center, 36137 Warren, west of Wayne. The group meets the fourth Thursday of every month. For more information, call Nancy Martindale, at 728-6100.

## ANAMILO CLUB

The Anamillo (which means "to speak again") Club meets on the third Wednesday of every month, 2-4 p.m. at the Garden City Education Center, 6701 Harrison. The club is a support group offering assistance, encouragement, companionship and mutual support to people who have lost their larynx to cancer and their families.

## DIABETES

A "Diabetes Support Group" for diabetics and their families meets 7-8 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month at the Garden City Hospital Health and Education Center, 6701

Harrison. The Diabetes Outpatient Education Department sponsors this program.

## TELE CARE

Telephone Reassurance Program, city of Westland's Department On Aging is reaching out to seniors who are shut-ins, lonely or sick. The Tele-care women make 250 calls daily to seniors. For more information, call 722-7660 or 722-2661.

## HYPERTENSION

Mondays, Thursdays — Blood pressure tests are provided by Annapolis Hospital and Westland Medical Center Mondays 10 a.m. to noon and by Home Health Care on Thursdays 9-10 a.m. at the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh at Marquette.

## FIRST STEP

First Step, the Western Wayne County Project on Domestic Violence, is planning a fall volunteer training program. This intensive 40-hour training will cover these major topics related to the issues of domestic violence: empathy, assertiveness, dynamics of domestic violence, effects of family violence on children, crisis line skills, suicide assessment and intervention, problem solving, housing issues and legal information. Upon completion of this training, volunteers will be asked to commit to working four hours a week for First Step. To schedule an interview appointment and for more information on training dates, call Maxine Baughman, community services coordinator, weekdays at 459-4300.

## obituaries

### NANCY D. PETERSON

Services for Mrs. Peterson, 47, of Dearborn Heights were Nov. 27 at the Atonement Lutheran Church with Rev. Kenton Gottschalk officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

Mrs. Peterson died Nov. 28 in her home after a three-year battle with cancer. She was a tax return processor for Nationwide Tax Service and was an Atonement Lutheran Church member.

Survivors are her husband, Charles; two sons, Charles, Jr., and Kevin, both of Dearborn Heights;

two daughters, Valinda Lyndrup of Westland and Laura of Dearborn Heights; two sisters, Alma Mahar of Lake, Mich., and Judy Gronda of Dearborn Heights; and a brother, Ronald Kimbro of Southfield.

Services were arranged by the Harry J. Will Funeral Home.

### JUANITA GAMBREL

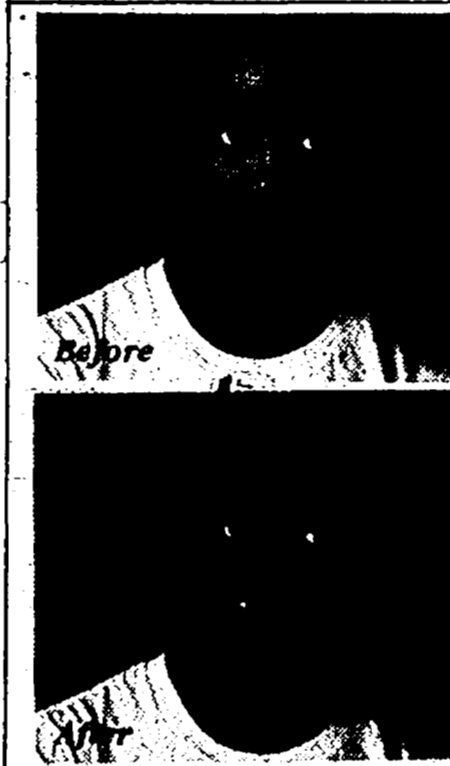
Services for Mrs. Gambrel, 62, of Garden City were Nov. 28 from the Harry J. Will Funeral Home with Rev. Joe Wade of Temple Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in Acacia Park Cemetery, Birmingham.

Mrs. Gambrel died Nov. 25 in

Sinai Hospital, Detroit, after a two-year battle with cancer.

She lived in the area for nearly 30 years, working for Sanders Confections for 28 years and later as a secretary for Metro Wood Products, Co., Detroit. She was a Temple Baptist Church member.

Survivors are her husband, Sonny; son, Donnie Ray Peace of Westland; two grandchildren; two brothers, Melvin Simpson of Largo, Fla., and Bill Janeway of Richmond, Ky.; and seven sisters, Jane Hinel of Dandridge, Tenn.; Haley Janeway of Lexington, Ky.; Jean Fox, Elsie Givens, Lucille Money, Marie Atkins, and Bea Roberts, all of Lima, Ohio.



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Fine, upstanding individual. Tired of single's scene. Wants long-term relationship.



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But if you're already spoken for, there is another way you can help. Your donation to the MHS, no matter how big or small, will help us give these animals the best care possible and the chance for us to find them a proper home.

So, share your love with those who need it most: the bachelors and bachelorettes at the Michigan Humane Society.

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The Michigan Humane Society is a non-profit organization, funded by private contributions. All contributions are tax deductible. MICS-2284.

# DNR rules need more input — public

By Tim Richard  
staff writer

Two people who live near toxic sites say the state Department of Natural Resources' proposed rules give administrators too much discretion and homeowners too little voice in cleaning up chemical spills.

"The DNR seems to be happy with these rules. We're not," said Hans Posselt, an environmental scientist from Augusta Township in Washtenaw County who advises the United Auto Workers union on toxics.

They found a friendly ear in state Sen. Edgar Fredricks, R-Holland, chair of the Michigan Legislature's Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. Fredricks' 12-member panel must approve administrative rules before they can take effect.

"I would like specificity," said Fredricks, signalling he will agree only to tightly written rules. Fredricks and Rep. Michael Griffin, D-Jackson, held a public hearing Friday at Schoolcraft College

in Livonia. Several dozen people attended, but only a handful spoke.

FREDRICKS SAID his panel will conduct one last hearing at 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 11, in the Law Building in Lansing and spend much of the day Dec. 13 in working on details.

The rules would govern how DNR enforces the Michigan Environmental Response Act (PA 307 of 1982). DNR lost one lawsuit because it lacked such rules, and until February it is operating under "emergency" rules.

Posselt and Gisela Lendle King of Holly saw two big flaws in the rules as promulgated by DNR:

• The director has wide discretion in deciding whether to seek a Plan A, B or C level of cleanup. Plan A, the most expensive, calls for no "detectable hazardous substance other than 'background.'" Plan B sets standards for permissible levels of the substance. Plan C contemplates re-use of the contaminated site, allows site-specific standards and requires that cost-eff-

fectiveness be considered.

• People who live near contaminated sites should be allowed to do more than "spout off at a public hearing," said King. They should serve on tri-party committees, with DNR and offending company officials, to set cleanup standards.

They were supported by Harold Stokes, a Livonia resident who said, "We can't have decisions made entirely by industries trying to protect their profits."

POSSELT, WHO grew up in Germany during World War II, said that nation learned to recycle everything, and that Michigan law was too tolerant of landfills.

"You could have level B and C cleanups and still have an arsenal of chemicals," he told lawmakers.

"The costs and risks of environmental pollution are socialized (borne by society) and hit poor people hardest. But the profits are privatized," he said, urging a Plan A approach to nearly all problems.

Posselt, who dealt with industrial pollution problems in the Huron Valley, also asked that DNR speci-

fy neutral laboratories for testing contaminated sites. "We've had cases where the waste industry specified a lab owned by another waste firm," he said.

KING, WHO lives in Rose Township of northern Oakland County near two federal "superfund" sites and two PA 307 site, asked "a constant flow of information" from DNR, even at the expense of slowing down the enforcement process.

But a DNR spokesman, Andy Hogarth, said citizen participation on three-party enforcement committees isn't always necessary.

"It would bog down. It isn't really necessary. We have created citizen information committees where we see there is controversy," Hogarth said, saying they cost too much staff time to be used on every case.

But Posselt and King united in saying that since the public must live with the effects of environmental pollution, it should have as much direct input as the companies which profited from it.

# SC band holds auditions

The Schoolcraft College Wind Ensemble is open to adults and students who play flute, clarinet, alto sax, French horn, bassoon or percussion. The ensemble is a 45-member concert band which performs the best in band literature both on and off the college campus.

If you play one of the above in-

struments and can attend weekly rehearsals, call band director Victor Bordo at 879-6346 or Cathy Klurski at 462-4435 for additional information and an audition date.

Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia.

# Job search skills discussed

Looking for a job is often a frustrating process, but you can simplify your search by attending a workshop offered by Schoolcraft College's career planning and placement center.

Resume writing, job hunting skills and interviewing techniques will be

covered in "Job Hunting Strategies" 6-8 p.m. Tuesday in the liberal arts building, Room 200.

Schoolcraft is at 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia. For more information, call 462-4400, Ext. 5035.

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# SC dean heads national group

Marvin Gans, assistant dean of Continuing Education Services at Schoolcraft College, was recently appointed chairman of the College and University Physical Education Department Administrators Council.

lege representative to receive this honor.

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# Anti-racketeering bill sails through Senate

State Sen. Rudy Nichols spent months shepherding his anti-racketeering bill through the state Senate. His SB 124 is aimed at seizing the assets of businesses which are used for criminal purposes.

Now Nichols, R-Waterford, chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, expects to wait a year for House action on Rep. Perry Bullard's rival bill.

"I have my own proposal, which is considerably different," said Bullard, D-Ann Arbor, chair of the House Judiciary Committee. "Mine lists more offenses — environmental crimes and consumer fraud.

"It has greater safeguards. Instead of two prior offenses (for a racketeering conviction), you will need at least three," Bullard said in a stairwell interview last week. He plans to start hearings in mid-January or early February.

NICHOLS' BILL generated a lot of detailed argument over the summer and fall, but last week it sailed through the Senate 34-0.

All area senators voted for it except Doug Cruce, R-Troy, who had an excused absence. Gov. James J. Blanchard also supports it.

"We call it the Continuing Criminal Enterprise bill. The CCE bill promises to take us to the 21st century," Nichols said outside the Senate chamber after his bill passed without debate.

"A minimum startup time would be six months. Law enforcement agencies will need to be educated. It's aimed at highly sophisticated crime. It's not a Mafia bill."

SB 124, if the Senate form becomes law, would allow prosecutors and the attorney general to seek seizure of a CCE's property and profits where an individual, business or group is convicted twice within 10 years of any of 28 listed crimes.

Nichols' bill would allow only criminal actions by prosecutors — not civil actions, and not actions by private parties. He argues that a criminal action requires a higher standard of proof — "beyond a reasonable doubt."

**SB 124, if the Senate form becomes law, would allow prosecutors and the attorney general to seek seizure of a CCE's (Continuing Criminal Enterprise) property and profits where an individual, business or group is convicted twice within 10 years of any of 28 listed crimes.**

THE LIST of crimes includes drugs, arson, bribery, embezzlement, extortion, forgery, gambling, counterfeiting, securities fraud, murder, kidnapping, prostitution and dealing in stolen property.

Bullard's plan to add polluting and consumer fraud to the list would give a different flavor to the bill.

Nichols' bill would allow only criminal actions by prosecutors — not civil actions, and not actions by private parties. He argues that a criminal action requires a higher standard of proof — "beyond a reasonable doubt."

Bullard's bill would allow civil actions but require the criminal standard of proof.

THE NICHOLS bill is modeled after the federal RICO (racketeering influenced and corrupt organizations) act.

But the two-term senator says his bill is better and could be used as the basis for improving the RICO act.

One reason is that RICO allows private civil suits and has fewer protections for those charged.

"People are being brought into court for abortion protests, and newspapers are accused of extortion under our current federal RICO laws," he said.

Another protection under the CCE bill, he said, is that prosecutors who fail to prove their cases would have to pay the defendant actual damages — such as attorney fees and storage costs.

Police officials who testified at Nichols' hearings indicated they could use the law against a string of motorcycle gangs, which harbor criminals, deal in drugs and deal in stolen vehicles, as well as against suburban doctors who own barns housing auto "chop shops."

## Pastor to address prayer breakfast

Wyatt Tee Walker, author, lecturer and former chief of staff to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., will be the featured guest speaker at the fourth annual Wayne County Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, Jan. 6.

Walker, senior pastor of Canaan Baptist Church of Christ in New York City, will address leaders of the clergy, business, labor and the community at 8 a.m. in the River-view Ballroom of the Cobo Exhibition and Convention Center in downtown Detroit.

"We are honored and very pleased to have as keynote speaker to our prayer breakfast the notable Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker," said Wayne County Executive Edward H. McNamara, who added that the purpose of the breakfast is to bring together community leaders in a religious atmosphere to make a commitment to conduct business and community affairs in a spiritual way.

Author of nine books and over 100 published articles, Walker has lectured in more than 100 colleges and universities across the nation and has traveled to 71 countries.



Wyatt Tee Walker breakfast speaker

He has been the special assistant and chief adviser to Jesse Jackson since 1983. He was also responsible for writing many of King's speeches during the early '60s.

County officials expect that the fourth annual breakfast will exceed last year's attendance of more than 1,800 people.

Tickets are \$15 per person. For tickets or more information, call Virgie Rollins, director of public affairs, Wayne County Executive's Office, 224-0852 or 224-0286.

### Observer & Eccentric

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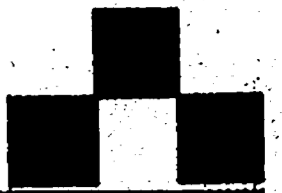
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## taste buds

**chef Larry Janes**

### Forget calories for now

Have you ever started your holiday baking and ended up eating more than you give?

If pre-holiday dieting has control of your destiny, be forewarned. This column is not for the weak-willed. As a matter of fact, it's guaranteed to add a few pounds to both the maker and the recipient.

I'll be the first to admit that when I make cookies, the need to sample each batch has been written in stone. Never mind the cookies. Here's a holiday primer on the things to make in your kitchen that are loaded with sugar, chocolate and all those other things diet mavens have warned us about. I'm talking about popcorn balls, turtles, truffles, sugared nuts and mouth-watering holiday mints that have us joining diet groups and health clubs for our New Year's resolutions. Just about anyone can make cookies but it takes a strong-willed culinary aficionado with a cupboard filled with candy thermometers, marble slabs and asbestos fingertips to make succulent holiday treats. It also takes a guiltless conscience and a certain amount of willpower to put out bowls of popcorn balls, trays of truffles and finger-lickin' good batches of fudge without first having it go literally to your waist, thighs, hips and chin.

WHEN IT COMES to equipment, you can purchase anything and everything at most local gourmet shoppes and houseware departments in major stores. But is a \$10 candy thermometer really necessary to turn out a \$6 batch of holiday candy? Can you justify its purchase when you know it will be used for only 20 minutes out of the year?

Momma explained the difference between a hardball candy stage and a softball stage by showing how the boiling sugar felt when dropped into ice water. If it sank immediately taking no known structure, it wasn't boiled long enough. If it felt "soft" and squishy in the ice water, it was considered to be in its softball stage (approximately 235 degrees). If it landed in the water and immediately turned into teeth-crunching hardness, it was in its hardball stage (approximately 300 degrees).

Unfortunately, for too many of us novice candy makers, an additional 30 seconds on the stove was all it took to transform something sweet and gooey into a rock-solid ball of hard candy. To answer the above question, yes. Rely on a candy thermometer for optimum results.

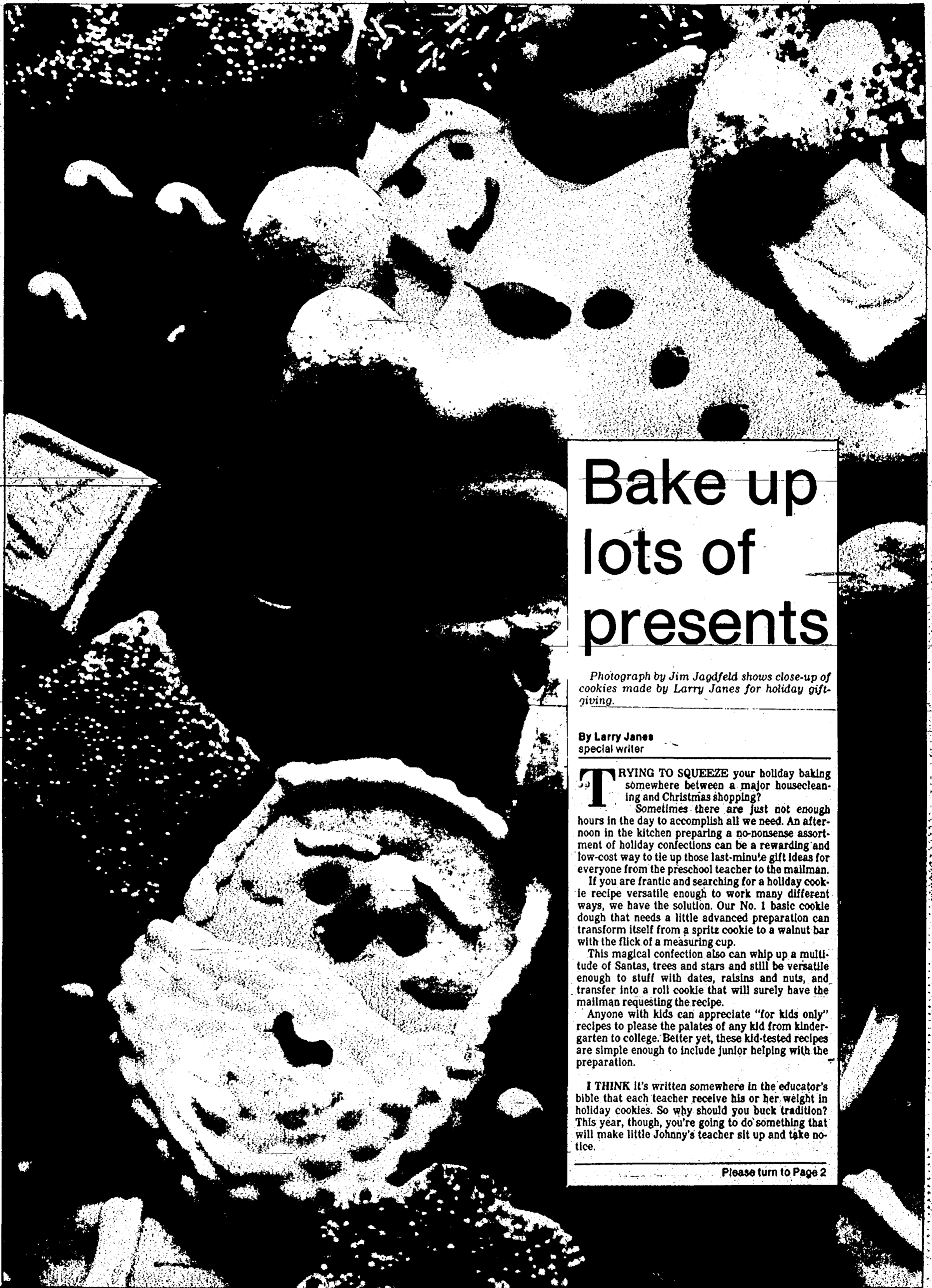
Even more important when preparing holiday candies, however, is the need to use long-handled wooden spoons that don't reek of garlic from last night's stir fry and, more importantly, to have measuring cups and spoons. Always use cookware that is at least four times the volume of the ingredients or a 3-quart capacity for each 1 1/2 pounds of candy being made.

ANYONE WHO has ever made stovetop candy can attest to this reasoning, especially after the first pot boils over and you spend the remainder of the holidays scraping caramelized sugar from the reflector pans and stovetops.

Candymaking in the home kitchen is an art with its secrets lying in following the recipe closely, using the correct equipment, measuring carefully and accurately and making accurate tests for the "doneness" of holiday candies. No "fingerfuls" or "handfuls" are allowed.

Take it from a pro, if you're interested in pursuing the recipes provided for the best holiday candies, farm the kids out for a few hours, turn on the answering machine and get ready to do nothing more than make candy.

You won't be disappointed in the results, but then again, your stick-skinny friends and relatives who are concerned about their avoirdupois might be. Bon Appetit!



## Bake up lots of presents

Photograph by Jim Jagdfeld shows close-up of cookies made by Larry Janes for holiday gift-giving.

By Larry Janes  
special writer

TRYING TO SQUEEZE your holiday baking somewhere between a major housecleaning and Christmas shopping?

Sometimes there are just not enough hours in the day to accomplish all we need. An afternoon in the kitchen preparing a no-nonsense assortment of holiday confections can be a rewarding and low-cost way to tie up those last-minute gift ideas for everyone from the preschool teacher to the mailman.

If you are frantic and searching for a holiday cookie recipe versatile enough to work many different ways, we have the solution. Our No. 1 basic cookie dough that needs a little advanced preparation can transform itself from a spritz cookie to a walnut bar with the flick of a measuring cup.

This magical confection also can whip up a multitude of Santas, trees and stars and still be versatile enough to stuff with dates, raisins and nuts, and transfer into a roll cookie that will surely have the mailman requesting the recipe.

Anyone with kids can appreciate "for kids only" recipes to please the palates of any kid from kindergarten to college. Better yet, these kid-tested recipes are simple enough to include junior helping with the preparation.

I THINK it's written somewhere in the educator's bible that each teacher receive his or her weight in holiday cookies. So why should you buck tradition? This year, though, you're going to do something that will make little Johnny's teacher sit up and take notice.

Please turn to Page 2

## Homemade baby foods provide fresh start

By Ariene Funke  
staff writer

Fresh Start Foods are packed with love — not preservatives — and delivered to the homes of hungry babies.

Kyle Sipple, a 32-year-old Birmingham native, launched Fresh Start to sell fresh-frozen baby foods without salt, sugar or preservatives. She delivers her products to her customers' homes at the same cost as supermarket baby food.

"A lot of people are looking for this kind of food," said Sipple, a 1976 graduate of Detroit Country Day High School.

The seeds for her company were planted some 15 months ago, when she gave birth to her daughter, Claire. Sipple had spent the last several years working as a television producer-director in several cities, most recently Grand Rapids.

and quality, she began making baby food in her home blender. "I was concerned about nutrition and taste," she said. Sipple explained she had been picking fruits and vegetables at the Eastern Market. Friends began asking her to make baby food for them because they wanted the kinds of food Claire was eating.

Sipple, now living in Dearborn, became convinced there was a market for additive-free baby foods. She and many of her friends were concerned about pesticides, particularly Alar. "It was what I wanted and what my friends wanted," she said. "I felt there must be other people who feel the same way."

Fresh Start Foods has been in operation for about six months, and Sipple has been making deliveries since September. She has consulted with nutritionists and home economists. She has read books and baby manuals to obtain information about food preparation.

Sipple had hoped to sell her prod-

ucts through supermarket freezers. But she scrapped the plan because of requirements for prolonging the shelf life of the baby foods. "Home delivery isn't a convenient system for me," she said. "The way I'm doing it now I can be pretty sure it will be used quickly."

An admittedly fussy one-woman operation, she personally cooks, packages and delivers each food order in her Westland preparation facility.

IF SHE IS fixing applesauce, Sipple peels, steam-cooks and mashes the fruit in small batches so she won't have to add lemon juice to keep the mixture from turning brown before it can be packaged. No salt, sugar or preservatives — even lemon juice — are added.

Sipple also demands that her supplier show affidavits indicating the apples are Alar-free.



ART EMANUELE/staff photographer

At kitchen space she uses in Westland, Kyle Sipple prepares vegetables for Fresh Start baby foods.

CONCERNED ABOUT freshness

Please turn to Page 4





family-tested winner dinner

**Betsy Brethen**

# Minestrone Soup great for dinner in a hurry

Now that Thanksgiving is under our belts, so to speak, the race is really on for the holiday season.

As if we women were racehorses. Nary an old nag among us. We burst out of the starting gate and make tracks around town with lists clutched tightly in hand. There are plans to make, presents to buy and wrap, cookies to bake, holiday trimmings to put around, cards to send, parties to attend, and all this in addition to everything else we do the other 11 months of the year. Whew, it's almost enough to make one cry out, "Bah, humbug!" and pull up lame.

But that is not the spirit of the season. Lyn Bell, our Winner Dinner Winner of the week, has submitted a recipe for Minestrone Soup that may be just the kind of thing you would like to serve your family during the hectic month of December. This recipe makes a lot of soup and a lot of sense because what is left over from dinner can be frozen into plastic containers or zip-seal pouches.

You will find that at a moment's notice you will be able to have dinner ready, a comforting insurance policy to have on those days when you return home sway-backed from shopping.

BELL OFTEN cooks two or three different meals on days when she has the time and then freezes them in individual serving-sized containers. This system cuts down on her daily cooking time in the kitchen and also provides her teen-age son with a

**Bell often cooks two or three different meals on days when she has the time and then freezes them in individual serving-size containers.**



STEPHEN CANTRELL/staff photographer

Lyn Bell of Bloomfield Hills prepares minestrone soup served with salad and rolls. Leftover soup can be frozen and reheated when needed.

quick and nutritious meal before he goes off to participate in the many different sports he is involved in throughout the year.

Thank you, Lyn Bell, for sharing your family's favorite dinner menu with us, and congratulations on being a Winner Dinner Winner.

Readers, I know this is such a busy time of the year, but if you have a special dinner you like to serve your family at this festive time, please jot it down and send it in. Until next week, take care. Here's hoping this week's Winner Dinner will put you in your family's winner's circle.

Submit your recipes, to be considered for publication in this column or elsewhere, to: Winner Dinner, P.O. Box 3503, Birmingham 48012. All submissions become the property of the publisher.

Each week's recipes are printed the same size, so that you may clip and save them in a three-ring binder. Use a paper punch to make holes in the clipping or paste the clipping on a blank sheet of three-ring notebook paper. Another option is to simply file the clippings in a folder with pockets that will hold them.

Observer & Eccentric

## Winner Dinner

### Menu

- MINISTRONE SOUP
- TOSSED GREEN SALAD
- TANGY TARRAGON SALAD DRESSING
- WHOLE WHEAT ROLLS

### Recipes

#### MINISTRONE SOUP

This recipe makes 18-20 servings. It can be frozen in small containers, defrosted and used for quick, individual meals.

Soak 1 pound of white beans in water for a day and a half. Drain and rinse the beans and cook in 10 cups of fresh water for 1 1/2 hours with 1 bay leaf and 1/4 cup unsalted vegetable broth powder. Or, if there is no time to prepare the dry beans, use 3-4 cups of pre-soaked bottled northern white beans and cook them and the vegetables listed below in 10 cups of fresh water.

Saute in 2-3 tablespoons of safflower oil in a large, heavy soup kettle:

- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 4 medium onions, chopped
- 4 stalks celery, chopped
- 4 carrots, chopped

- Add to the saute:
- 2 teaspoons basil
  - 1 teaspoon oregano
  - 1 teaspoon pepper
  - 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
  - 1 28-ounce can of tomatoes, cut up
  - 4 boiling potatoes, peeled and sliced
  - 2 zucchini, chopped
  - 2 cups cabbage, chopped coarsely
  - 2 cups green beans, cut into 1-inch pieces
  - 1 cup okra, chopped

Add beans and water and cook for 45 minutes to 1 hour. Add a handful of broken spaghetti or, for fun, pasta alphabet letters, and cook for 1/2 hour.

Add juice of one lemon and correct seasoning to taste.

#### TOSSED GREEN SALAD

One of the secrets to making a great-tasting salad is the way in which the greens are prepared. Of course, we all wash the greens before they are torn or sliced, but drying them well, either by spinning them in a salad spinner or with a clean, dry dish-towel, is a very important part of the salad-making process. Once dried, the greens should be wrapped in another clean towel and chilled in the refrigerator, even if only for 10 minutes, although the longer they "chill out," as the boys would say, the crisper they will be.

- 1 head red leaf lettuce
- 1 head romaine lettuce
- 2 carrots, scrapped and sliced
- 1/2 cucumber, sliced
- 1 tomato, sliced
- 1 handful alfalfa sprouts
- 1/4 cup toasted sunflower seeds
- 1 avocado, sliced

#### TANGY TARRAGON SALAD DRESSING

This recipe can be made in a food processor or blender or mixed by hand with a wire whisk or fork.

- 2-3 cloves of garlic, mashed
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup vinegar
- 1/4 cup dijon mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 16 grinds of pepper mill or 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon dry tarragon

## Shopping List

- 1 pound dry white beans or 1 (48-ounce) jar northern white beans
- 1 box vegetable broth powder spaghetti or pasta alphabet letters
- one 28-ounce can tomatoes
- garlic
- onions
- celery
- carrots
- boiling potatoes
- zucchini
- cabbage
- green beans
- okra
- cucumber
- tomato
- avocado
- red leaf lettuce
- romaine lettuce
- parsley
- alfalfa sprouts
- tarragon (dry or fresh)
- basil
- oregano
- salt
- pepper
- vegetable oil
- vinegar
- dijon mustard
- sunflower seeds
- whole wheat rolls

## Notes

# Forget about calories, make 'pounds-on' treats

See Larry Jones' Tastebuds column on 1B.

**HOMEMADE BUTTER-BRICKLE**  
1 cup butter  
1 1/2 cup sugar  
3 teaspoons water  
12 ounces semi-sweet chocolate chips, melted  
1 cup nuts

Mix butter, sugar and water in a saucepan; cook until soft crack stage or 283 degrees. Pour into a well-greased pan. Spread with melted chocolate while still warm. Sprinkle with nuts. When cool, crack into pieces.

**CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES**  
2 tablespoons butter  
1 egg yolk  
1 cup powdered sugar  
8 ounces sweet cooking chocolate, grated

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1 tablespoon rum (optional)  
1 cup cocoa

Cream butter until softened. Blend in egg yolk, then sugar. Add grated chocolate and rum. Mix well. Form into 1/2-inch balls. Roll in cocoa. Chill on waxed paper.

**OLD-FASHIONED HARD CANDY**  
2 cups sugar  
1 cup water  
3/4 cup light corn syrup  
food coloring, if desired  
1/2 teaspoon oil of cinnamon, winter-

green or peppermint powdered sugar

Mix together sugar, water and syrup; cook to 300 degrees on a candy thermometer. Remove from heat; add coloring and flavorings. Mix well. Pour into a well-greased pan or marble slab. Cool candy until warm enough to touch. Cut into 1/2-inch strips and then into small chunks. Drop onto greased cookie sheet. Sprinkle with powdered sugar. Makes 1 pound.

**POPCORN BALLS**

1 cup sugar  
1 cup light corn syrup  
1 tablespoon vinegar  
1 tablespoon butter  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
6 quarts popped popcorn

Boil sugar, syrup, vinegar and butter until a drop crackles when dropped into cold water (about 300 degrees). Stir in baking soda. Pour over popcorn, stirring well. Grease fingers with more butter and shape

into balls. Wrap each ball individually in plastic.

**PEANUT BRITTLE**

1/2 cup water  
1 cup sugar  
1 cup light corn syrup  
1 pound raw peanuts  
1 tablespoon butter  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2 teaspoons baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla

Heat water in a heavy frypan. Add sugar and syrup; stirring until sugar dissolves. Cover; cool for 3 minutes. Uncover; cook to soft ball stage or 236 degrees on a candy thermometer. Add peanuts, butter and salt. Cook to 300 degrees on a candy thermometer or until golden brown, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat, add soda and vanilla; stir in quickly. Pour onto a large buttered cookie sheet or marble slab. Cool. Break into pieces.

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# Cookies, fruitcake, dog bones are gifts from heart of home

Continued from Page 2

- 1 tablespoon grated orange rind
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1 cup grape jelly
- 1 1/2 cup shortening
- 2 1/2 cups brown sugar, firmly packed
- 5 eggs

Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Line 2 loaf pans with greased waxed paper. Set aside. Sift together flour, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, cloves. Set aside. Combine raisins with nuts and all candied fruit. Set aside. Beat orange rind with orange juice, jelly and mix well. Set aside. Beat shortening and sugar until

creamy. Add eggs. Mix well. Add flour mixture alternately with orange mixture, beginning and ending with flour. Stir in candied fruit mix. Turn batter into prepared pans. Bake 2 1/2 to 3 hours for loaf pans and test with tooth pick or tester for doneness. Cover with paper the last hour to prevent over browning on top. Cool. Remove from pan. Store in tightly covered container for 1 week to mellow flavors. During this time, the cake can be doused daily with a brandy or rum mixture for added moistness.

**HOMEMADE DOGGIE BISCUITS**  
1 1/2 cups beef bouillon, hot

- 1 cup uncooked oatmeal
- 1/4 cup meat drippings
- 1/4 cup nonfat dry milk powder
- 1/4 cup cornmeal
- 1 egg, beaten
- 3 cups whole wheat flour

In a large bowl, pour hot bouillon over oatmeal and drippings. Let stand 5 minutes. Stir in powdered milk, cornmeal and egg. Mix well. Add flour 1/2 cup at a time until a stiff dough is made. Roll into 1/2 inch thickness and cut into "dogbone" shapes. Bake at 350 degrees for 50 minutes. Turn oven off and leave biscuits in oven overnight to dry out.

Continued from Page 1

The cooked applesauce is immediately popped into four-ounce plastic pouches and stored in the freezer. A sample portion tasted sweet with a delicate apple flavor. "These products taste like they are supposed to," she said. "I'm sure it is very exciting for the babies."

Currently she offers apples and pears in her pureed fruit line. She stopped selling bananas because they turn brown very quickly and she refused to use any kind of preservative.

Sipple maintains that her quick-steamed foods are nutritionally superior to jarred baby foods, which undergo long processing times. All the Fresh Start products are packaged in individual plastic pouches, which can be stored in the freezer up to two months and warmed in hot water or the microwave.

**VEGETABLES**, including carrots, peas, green beans and squash, also receive careful scrutiny. The sample Fresh Start sweet potatoes were smooth and flavorful. Baby dinners include chicken or beef stew, meatless spaghetti, chicken or rice with carrots, and spinach with pasta and veggies.

Sipple has adopted some of her family recipes and developed others, which must meet her guidelines. No eggs or dairy products are used because many toddlers are allergic or sensitive to them.

The stews are prepared from scratch. While the chicken simmers, Sipple steams the carrots, peas and potatoes. When all the ingredients

*'These products taste like they are supposed to. I'm sure it is very exciting for the babies.'*

— Kyle Sipple

are cooked they are pureed and packaged.

"When you look at a jar of baby food the first ingredient is water and the second is flour," she said. "Mine have no fillers, no extras and no silly calories. I use brown rice in my chicken-and-rice dinner because it's more nutritious."

The second-step dinners have more texture and are geared to toddlers with teeth.

Currently Sipple has 20 regular customers in Franklin, Southfield, Livonia, Westland and Plymouth. They include both women who work outside the home and busy, full-time homemakers who are active in volunteer activities. Some are people who used to make their own baby food but no longer have time to do so.

**MARY BETH RYAN** of Plymouth Township likes the fact that Fresh Start Foods are free of salt and Alar. She buys several varieties for her 10-month-old son Nicholas, who enjoys them.

"This seems the healthy way to go," said Ryan, 32, who saw Fresh Start Foods advertised in a newspaper. "They are fresh and convenient and don't cost any more than the supermarket (jarred baby foods)."

According to Sipple's price list, the pureed fruits and vegetables cost

33 cents per 2 1/2-ounce serving. Beef and chicken are priced at 60 cents per 2 1/2-ounce serving. And dinners cost 55 cents for a 4-ounce portion.

Second-step foods, with a little more texture, cost 55 cents for a 4-ounce portion. All orders are home-delivered, with a \$10 minimum order. Sales tax and a \$1 delivery charge also apply.

A typical \$10 order would be 30 pouches of various fruits and vegetables, or 12 stews and six non-meat dinners. "I prefer to deliver not more than a two-week supply because of freshness, and in order to be able to address any problems," Sipple said.

**CURRENTLY SHE** is working on new products, such as a teething biscuit sweetened with fruit juice. She also hopes to develop new marketing strategies, including hiring more delivery people, or selling her products in gourmet or health-food stores.

Some people have suggested that Sipple sponsor parties, where guests could try the products and place their orders directly. "But everything I would do would have to work into my philosophy," she said.

For more information about Fresh Start Foods, write P.O. Box 2181, Dearborn 48123.

# Chocolate, peppermint combine

This recipe is from the article "Chocolate Deluxe" in the December issue of Bon Appetit magazine.

## CHOCOLATE MINT CHEESECAKE

- Crust:**
- 1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
  - 3 tablespoons sugar
  - 1/4 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted

### Filling:

- three 8-ounce packages cream cheese, room temperature
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract
- 6 ounces semisweet chocolate, melted, lukewarm

**For crust:** Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Combine crumbs and sugar in medium bowl. Mix in butter. Press crumb mixture into bottom and 1 inch up sides of 9-inch diameter springform cake pan.

**For filling:** Using electric mixer, beat cream cheese in large bowl until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in sugar. Beat in eggs, butter and extract.

Pour filling into crust. Spoon melted chocolate over by tablespoons. Swirl mixtures together using tip of knife, forming marbled design. Bake until cake puffs and center 6 inches move only slightly when pan is gently shaken, about 20 minutes. (Cheesecake will not appear set.) Cool cheesecake completely in pan on rack. Cover and refrigerate overnight. (Cheesecake can be prepared two days ahead.)

# Weight loss program introduced to area women

DETROIT—Area women are invited to try a new program to help them lose weight through a new method using videotapes at home.

In Control — A Home Video Weight Loss Program is used by the American Heart Association in its health promotion program, Heart at Work.

People interested in using the In Control program in their own home, may now call the distributor, Health Products Marketing, toll free at 1-800-225-7580. A Program Director will call you back with information and cost.

Call today, between 9 and 6, to start the program by December 14th.

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95¢ package of six

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**ALL WEEK!**  
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We're accepting applications at our Redford Store.

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( ) Instant Potatoes	\$11.20 case
( ) Chicken Noodle Soup	\$8.00 case
( ) Corn Muffin Mix	\$6.00 case
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( ) Pineapple Cuts	\$15.20 case
( ) Peas and Carrots	\$12.00 case
( ) Peanut Butter	\$13.20 case
( ) Green Beans	\$9.00 case
( ) Tuna	\$32.40 case
( ) Peaches	\$14.00 case
( ) Chili	\$15.40 case
( ) Beef Stew	\$13.20 case

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ case(s) of food as a tax deductible contribution to Gleaners Community Food Bank to help feed the hungry.

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Make checks payable to Gleaners Community Food Bank and mail to: 2131 Beaufait, Detroit, Michigan 48207.

For more information call (313) 923-3535.

# Save Like the Dickens!

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**CANDIED CASHEWS**

- 1 Lb. cashews
- 1 Egg white
- 1 Tbs. water
- 1 Cup sugar
- 1 Tsp. cinnamon
- 1 Tsp. salt

Beat egg white and water until frothy. Add nuts, stir together. Mix cinnamon and salt. Combine the two mixtures. Spread on cookie sheet. Bake at 300° for 30-45 minutes. Stir every 15 minutes. Cool.

—Debbie Barson  
Barson's Greenhouse

**HUMMOS  
(Tahini Dip)**

- 1 Lb. Can Garbanzo beans (chick peas)
- 3 Tbs. Tahini sauce (Sesame sauce)\*
- Lemon juice to taste (approx. 1 lemon)
- 1 clove garlic (pressed)
- Salt to taste

Boil beans in own juice for 5 minutes. Drain beans and blend. Add liquid from beans as necessary. Add other ingredients. Blend to make an almost smooth thick paste. Place on plate and garnish with paprika, parsley and olive oil. Use as a dip with pita bread, crackers or raw vegetables. Serve at room temperature or chilled.

—Tony & Vivian Andrews  
Andrew's Drugs

\*Sold at Mid-Eastern or Oriental Stores

**RUTH OLSON'S  
-- CARMEL CHEWIES --**

- 1 1/2 Cup Quaker oats (quick or old fashioned uncooked)
- 1 1/2 Cup flour
- 3/4 Cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 Tsp. baking soda
- 1/4 Tsp. salt
- 3/4 Cup margarine melted
- 1-6 Oz. Pkg. chocolate chips
- 1-14 Oz. Bag vanilla caramel
- 1/4 Cup water

Heat oven to 350°, grease 13 x 9 pan. Combine first 5 ingredients, add margarine, mix until crumbly reserve 1 cup for topping. Press remaining mixture onto the bottom of the pan, bake 10 minutes, cool, top with nuts add chocolate pieces. In medium sauce pan melt caramel with water over low heat stir until smooth. Drizzle over chocolate pieces within 1/4 inch of pan edges sprinkle with reserved mixture continue baking for 15 to 18 minutes, cool, chill until chocolate is set. Cut into bars.

—Ruth Olson  
Olson's Photography

**PINEAPPLE  
-- CHEESECAKE SQUARES --**

- FILLING**
- 2 8 Oz. Pkgs. cream cheese, softened
  - 1/2 Cup sugar
  - 2 Eggs
  - 3/4 Cup unsweetened pineapple juice
  - 1/4 Cup all-purpose flour
  - 1/4 Cup sugar
  - 1 20 Oz. can crushed pineapple, well drained (reserve 1 cup juice)
  - 1/2 Cup whipping cream

Heat oven to 350°. Bake crust. Beat cream cheese in medium bowl until smooth and fluffy. beat in 1/2 cup sugar and the eggs. Stir in 1/2 cup pineapple juice. Pour cream cheese mixture over hot crust. Bake just until center is set, about 20 minutes. Cool completely. Mix flour and 1/4 cup sugar in 2-quart saucepan. Stir in 1 cup reserved pineapple juice. Heat to boiling over medium heat, stirring constantly. Boil and stir 1 minute. Remove from heat, fold in pineapple. Cool completely. Beat whipping cream in chilled bowl until stiff. Fold into pineapple mixture. Spread carefully over dessert. Cover loosely and refrigerate until firm, about 4 hours. Cut into about 3-inch squares.

- CRUST**
- 2 C flour
  - 3/4 C margarine or butter, softened
  - 1/2 C powdered sugar
  - 1/2 C almonds, finely chopped and toasted
- Mix all ingredients in medium bowl with fork until crumbly. Press firmly and evenly in bottom of ungreased rectangular pan, 13x9x2. Bake until set, 15 to 20 minutes.



—Jane and Pete Tavormina  
Misty's Cards and Gifts

**CHERRY DELIGHTS**

- 1 Cup oleo
- 1/2 Cup sugar
- 1/2 Cup Karo light corn syrup
- 2 Egg yolks
- 2 1/2 Cups flour

Mix, roll into 1 inch balls. Dip into slightly beaten egg whites. Then roll in 2 Cups finely chopped nuts. Place on greased cookie sheet. Press 1/2 candied cherry into center of cookie dough. Bake in 375° oven for 20 minutes. ENJOY!

S&R Office Supplies  
S&R Wildlife Gallery



**Good Holiday  
Cooking  
in Garden City**



**NUTMEG LOGS**

- 1 Cup Butter, softened
- 2 tsp. Vanilla
- 1 tsp. Brandy flavoring
- 3/4 Cup Sugar
- 1 egg
- 3 Cup flour
- 1 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/4 tsp. salt

Cream butter with flavorings, gradually beat in sugars, then blend in eggs. Mix together flour, nutmeg and salt, add to butter mixture and mix well. Divide into 14 equal portions. On sugared board, shape each piece in roll 12 in. long and 1/2 in. in diameter. Cut in 2 in. lengths and put on greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350° for 12 min. Cool on racks, spread with frosting and sugar.

- FROSTING**
- 1/3 C Butter
  - 1 tsp. Vanilla
  - 2 tsp. Brandy flavoring
  - Blend in 2 C Confectioners sugar and 2 T light cream. Beat till light and creamy.



—Del Broquet  
Your Travel Planner

**APPLE CAKE WITH  
-- CREAM-CHEESE FROSTING --**

- CAKE MIX**
- 2 Eggs
  - 2 Cups sugar
  - 1/2 Cup vegetable oil
  - 1 tsp. vanilla extract
  - 2 Cups all-purpose flour
  - 1/2 tsp. salt
  - 1 tsp. cinnamon
  - 1/4 tsp. nutmeg
  - 4 Cups diced peeled apples
  - 1 Cup chopped walnuts

Beat eggs until light and fluffy. Gradually add sugar, oil, and vanilla. Sift together next 5 ingredients and add to first mixture. Stir in apples and walnuts. Put in greased 13" x 9" x 2" pan and bake in preheated 350°F, oven about 45 minutes. Let cool in pan on rack 10 to 15 minutes, then spread with frosting.

- CREAM-CHEESE FROSTING**
- 1 Pkg. (3 oz.) cream cheese, at room temperature
  - 3 tbs. butter or margarine, softened
  - Pinch of salt
  - 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
  - 1 1/2 Cups confectioners' sugar
- Mix all ingredients together until smooth.



—Joanne Scott  
Century 21, J. Scott, Inc.  
30104 Ford Rd.  
Garden City, Mi. 48135  
522-3200

**MILLION DOLLAR  
FUDGE**

- 4 1/2 Cups sugar
- 1 2/3 Cups evaporated milk undiluted
- 2 Tbs. butter, pinch-of salt
- Combine in sauce pan and boil for 6 minutes.
- 2 (6 ounce) packages semisweet chocolate pieces
- 3 bars (4 ounces) German sweet chocolate
- 2 Jars (8 ounces) marshmallow cream
- Combine in large bowl.

Gradually pour boiling sugar mixture over the chocolate marshmallow mixture, beat until chocolate is melted. Stir in 2 cups chopped pecans. Spread in 10x13 pan and let cool.

—Dee  
Eva's Fashions and  
Penny Rich Bras

**OATMEAL CAKE**

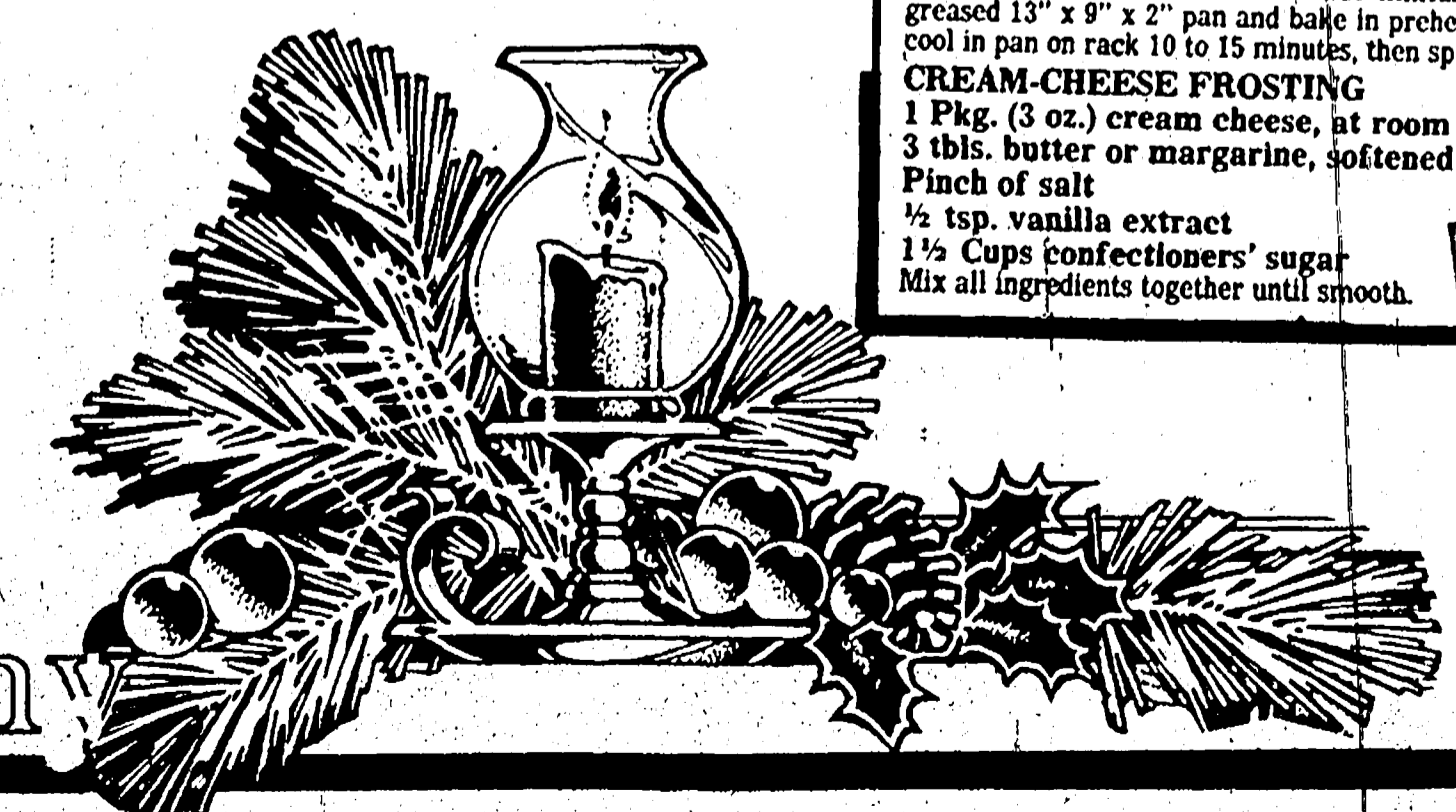
1 1/2 Cups boiling water. Combine 1 Cup oatmeal and 1 Tsp. baking soda, mix well and set aside. Cream 1/2 stick of oleo, 1 Cup brown sugar, 1 Cup white sugar, 1/2 Cup oil, 2 eggs, 1/4 Tsp. salt, 2 Tsp. cinnamon, add oatmeal, now add 2 Cups flour and mix well. Pour into oblong pan and bake for 30 minutes at 350°. Remove cake, spread cake with frosting, continue baking 15 minutes longer.

Frosting: In a sauce pan over low heat, blend 1 stick oleo, 1/2 cup brown sugar, 1/4 cup milk, 1 cup coconut, 1 cup chopped nuts, 1 Tsp. vanilla and cook to boiling point stirring constantly.

I always double this. It's great!

—Kristen Stigall  
STUDIO ONE

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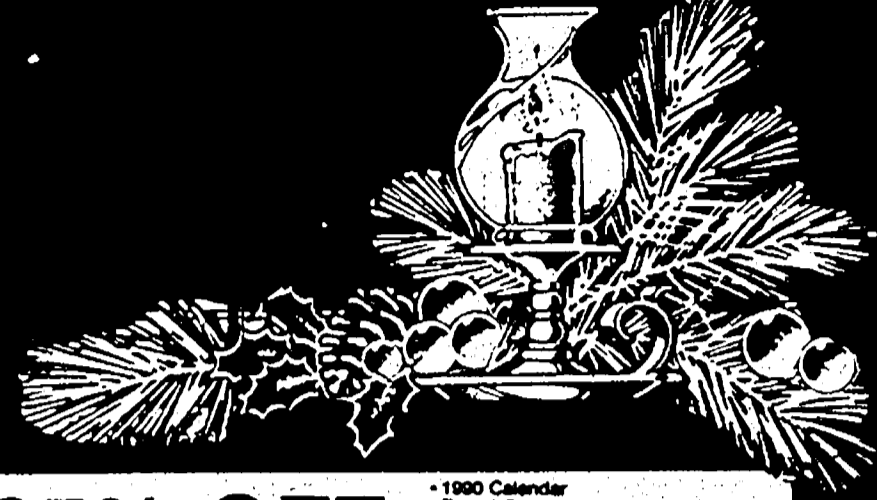
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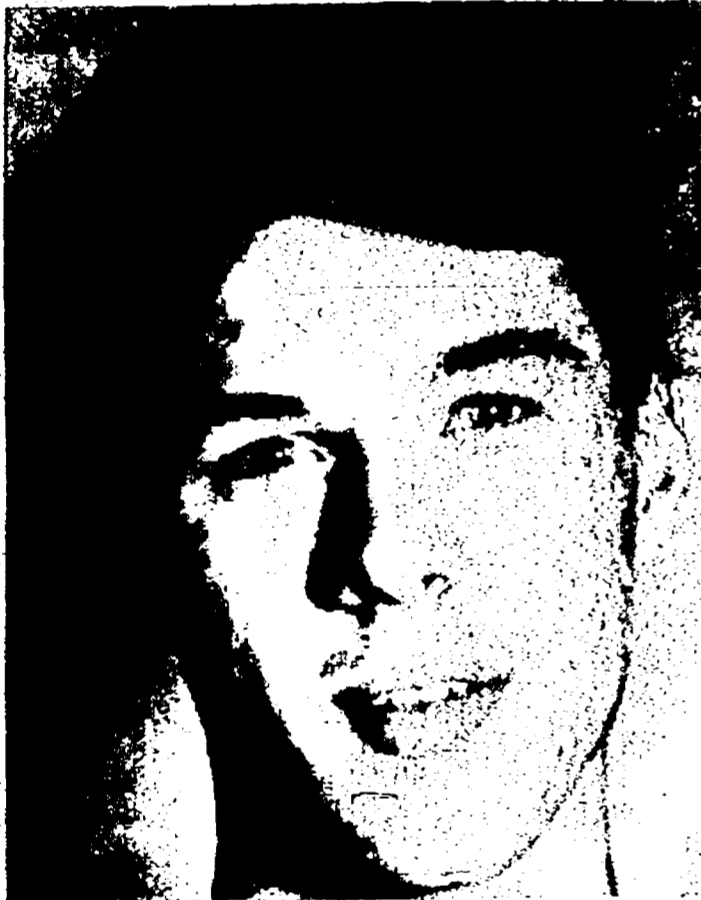




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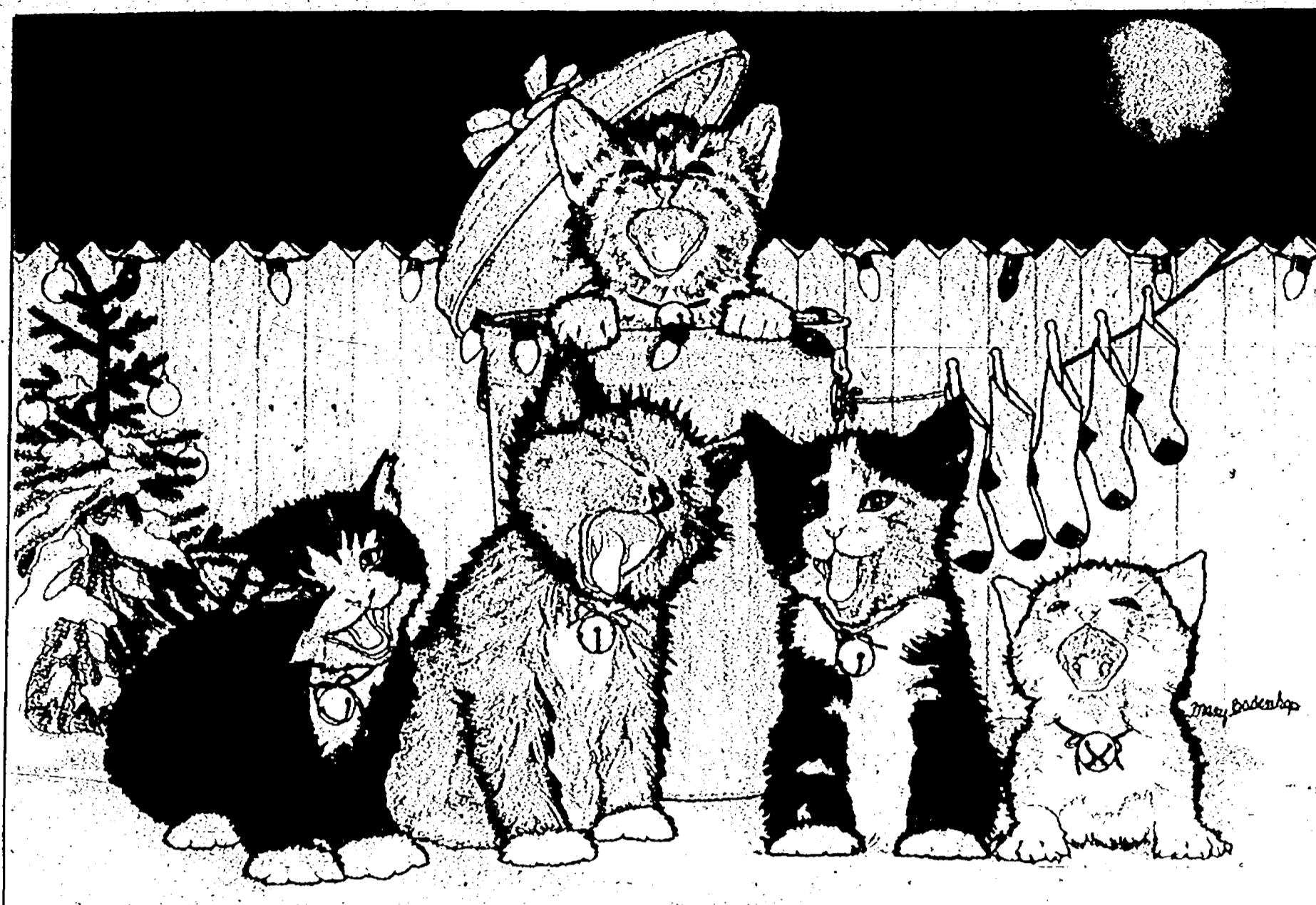
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## Michigan Animal Rescue League

Fa la la la la la meowl Happy Holidays!

# Season's Greetings help to protect animals

## Charity cards give all year

**A**S A PUBLIC SERVICE, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers annually publishes samplers of greeting cards sold by charity organizations. These cards, which help support the research and programs of the organizations, are greetings that continue to give all year.

In addition, scrapbooks of the cards are maintained at the five Observer & Eccentric offices — 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia; 33203 Grand River, Farmington; 410 N. Main, Rochester; 744 Wing, Plymouth; and 805 E. Maple, Birmingham.

In many cases, cards can be picked up at the office of the charitable organization. In other cases, it may be necessary to write or call to order or to get an order blank. Once you've made your choice, the sooner you buy the cards the better. As the holidays near, selections are apt to dwindle.

Personalized printing may be available, and generally takes two weeks. Some groups also have catalogs of holiday cards, all-purpose notecards and other items.

The cards featured today are those of area organizations dedicated to the protection of animals. Holiday cards featured on this page can be ordered as follows:

- Michigan Animal Rescue League, 790 Featherstone, Pontiac, sells boxes of dog and cat Christmas cards, each with 12 cards, for

- \$6. They can be bought at the shelter during regular business hours, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. They can also be bought by mail at \$7.85 a box, which includes postage. Write to the league at P.O. Box 923, Sterling Heights 48311. Order forms are also available at this address. Call the shelter at 335-9290 during business hours.

- Michigan Humane Society, 3600 Auburn Road, Auburn Hills, has holiday cards available for Christmas and Hanukkah. They can be bought at the shelter during regular business hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Call the shelter at 852-7420 during those hours.

- The National Society for Animal Protection, 100 North Crooks Road, Suite 102, Clawson, has two holiday greeting card designs available at their offices. They can also be ordered by mail. 20 cards sell for \$10. For more information, call 435-6655.

- Anti-Cruelty Association, 13569 Jos. Campau, Detroit 48212, has Christmas cards available at the shelter and pickup stations in the metropolitan Detroit area. Boxes of 25 cards sell for \$7, plus \$2 postage if ordered through the mail. For more information, call the shelter from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.



## Michigan Humane Society

Wishing you a Merry Christmas from the bottom of my heart



## The National Society for Animal Protection

Have an Otterly Wonderful Holiday!  
Proceeds from this card will benefit the otters in Alaska



## Anti-Cruelty Association

Friends . . . are the special joys of Christmas

# Save Like the Dickens!



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\$105 White  
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Melody Prestige  
**Eggnog 89¢ qt.**

**Holiday Gift Baskets**  
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presents

FRIDAY NIGHT SINGLES NO-TAP TOURNAMENT  
Friday, Dec. 8 • 9:30 P.M.  
COST - \$10.00

**Pizza • Munchies • Mystery**  
WIN RHINO BALL & LIND SHOES

CHRISTMAS MIXED DOUBLES "MOONLIGHT" NO-TAP TOURNAMENT  
\$500.00 First Prize  
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Two \$50.00 Mystery Games  
WIN A FUN BASKET OR GIFT BOOK  
Saturday, Dec. 16 • 11:30 P.M.  
(Check-In at 11:00 P.M.)

Make your reservations now!  
CALL 427-2900  
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Already tired and grumpy from too much holiday shopping? Well just plod down on the couch and let us throw a tape into the VCR for you. Several comedians have released live performances on videocassette. For more information, please turn to Video Viewing on 2D.

# STREET SCENE

## Trends have us seein' European

By Debbie Sklar  
special writer

Europe (yoor'ep) — Continent between Asia & Atlantic Ocean; the Ural Mountains are generally considered the E boundary; c. 3,750,000 sq. mi.; pop. c. 620,000,000.

Webster's definition of Europe may be bland, but if you're one of the lucky ones to have vacationed there than you already know how magical a place it is. And did you know that many of the things that you loved about Europe can be found right here in America?

True, we may love to slip into faded Levis and an oversized sweatshirt at the end of a long workday, but when it comes to real fashion, we Americans "live" for European designs.

"What's coming out of Europe are jeans, but the more holes, rips and shreds they have the better," said Lois Levenson, owner of Guys 'n Dolls in West Bloomfield's Orchard Lake Mall. "Designers are dubbing it the street look and it's the hottest thing to hit America."

When it comes to designing clothing, American fashion designers "borrow" their ideas from their colleagues across the sea, she said.

"When American designers design their own fashions, they study European ones before they start," she said. "They may copy the sleeve of one blouse, the lapel of another and the buttons of yet another."

"What makes European designs so exciting is the fact that they are so far advanced. They're always a couple of years ahead; they're so much more fashion forward."

LEVENSON, WHOSE store is decorated a la New York City warehouse style and caters to "ageless" fashion connoisseurs, has noticed a change in many of her customers' color choices for the fall.

"There used to be a time when my customers wouldn't even look at Kelly green; they turned their noses up," she said. "But this season, the deep brown and green tones directly from Europe are the biggest sellers and so is Kelly green — it's rather amazing."

Other hot items with a European flair are loose fitting women's blouses laden with baroque and other antique-like buttons, hair ornaments in gold and black and turtlenecks for men and boys.

Sure, Gucci, Pucci and Fiorucci have influenced our way of dress, but haute couture isn't the only influence Europe has brought to America — how about art.

According to Linda Hayman, owner of the new Linda Hayman Gallery/Art Poster Co. in Farmington Hills Americans are changing their life styles.

"There used to be a time when contemporary was the biggest thing in home decor, but now people are getting back to their roots," she said. "They want something a little bit more homey and that's where European influence in decor comes in."

Hayman's gallery, which has hundreds of frames ranging from ultra-modern to the very elaborate and or-



Linda Hayman of the Linda Hayman Gallery/Art Poster Co. in Farmington Hills can see the European influence showing up in home decorating as people move away from modern designs and back to their "roots."

photos by BILL HANSEN

nate, caters to a diverse crowd.

"MANY OF my customers are realizing that it's all right to mix contemporary with traditional," she said. "That's how many of the homes in Europe are decorated — very eclectic."

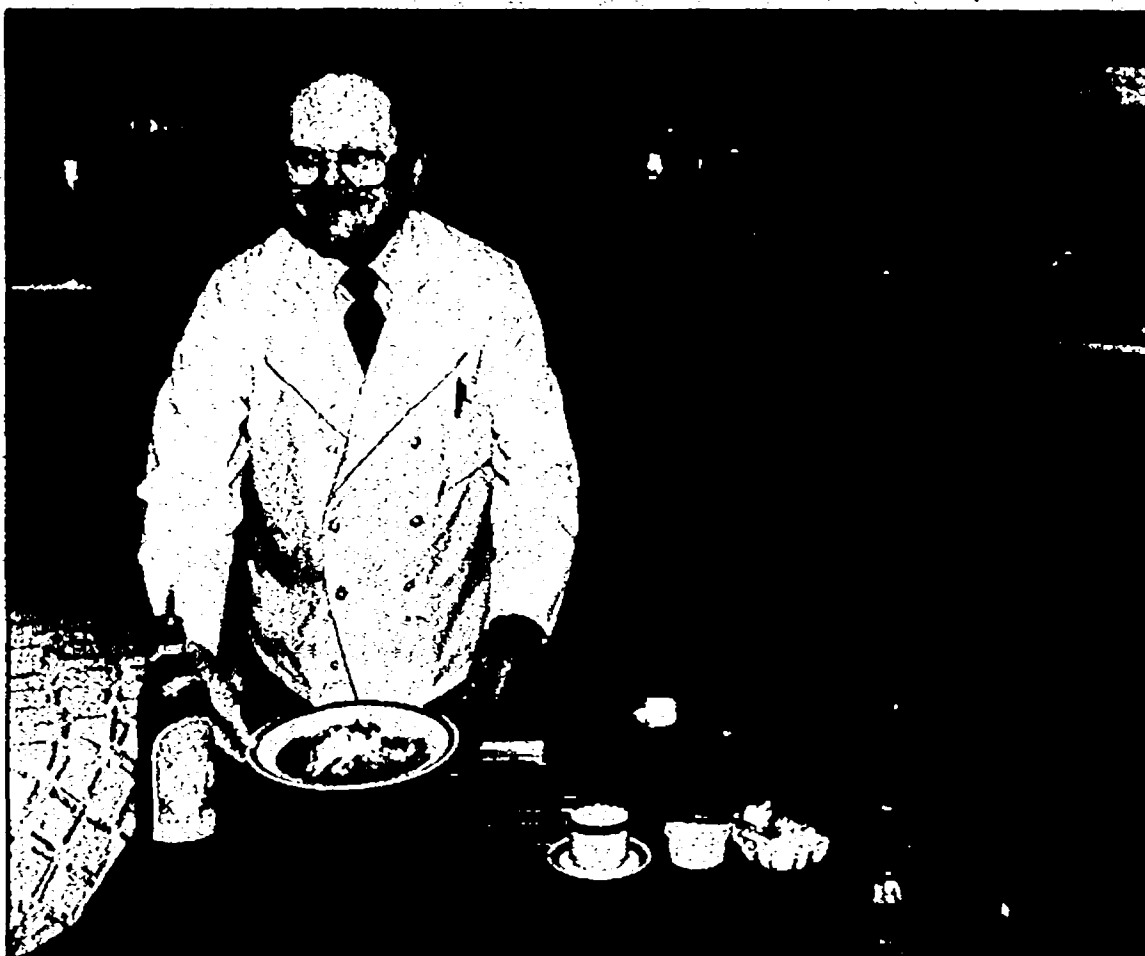
At first glance, you feel the boundless energy of art when you enter the gallery. The expanse of the new gallery — it recently moved from the La Mirage Mall in Southfield to The Courtyard in Farmington Hills — offers unlimited choices for the novice to the eclectic art collector.

The gallery offers an extensive line of fine art, including a wide selection of lithographs and oils. Artists represented include Neil Loeb, Tom Wesselman plus many others. They also carry an array of posters, including museum posters for Monet, Picasso, Renoir and many 20th century artists.

Hayman agrees that the gallery itself has somewhat of an European flair to it.

"The ceilings are very high and there is a wide range of art on all of the walls," she said. "We sell mostly posters, but I'm trying to incorporate more art into the inventory."

Please turn to Page 6

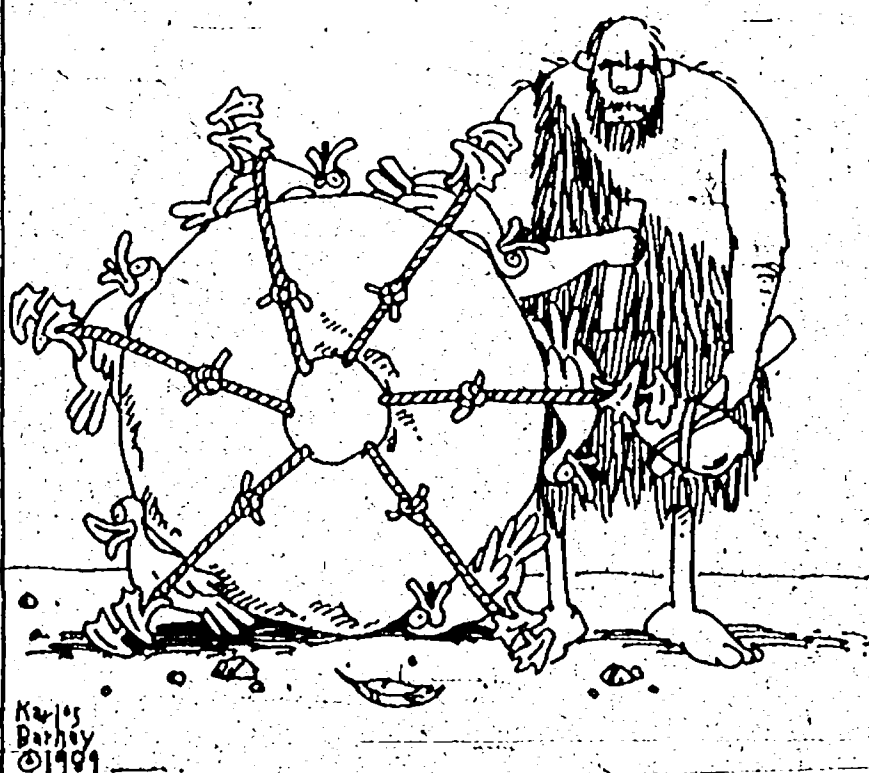


Walter Maeder, owner and general manager of the Bijou Restaurant in Southfield, offers up a French dessert crepe, prepared at the table.

### Warp Factor

Karlos Barney

#### Evolution of the Wheel Part VII



Early Rain Tire.

## Places that have the holiday spirit

I'm a sucker for sentimental stories, the kind that bring tears to your eyes.

I love hearing once again about Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates. I like to watch people make Christmas wreaths and cut their own trees.

And if that isn't enough to attract me to the Christmas Tree Festival in west Michigan, all I have to do is think about Bill Stryk of radio station WGHN in Grand Haven and his Christmas project, "Trees for Troops."

The Ottawa County Christmas Tree Festival will be celebrated through Sunday, Dec. 16, in the towns of Grand Haven, Holland and Zeeland, as well as other communities throughout the Lake Michigan county.

Michigan's Christmas tree industry began and grew in Ottawa County. The Scotch pine was planted to stabilize the shifting sandy soils along the Lake Michigan shore line, but it didn't take long for local families to start using the pines as Christmas trees.

Give a tree farmer a few customers, and the next thing you know he



Sleigh rides are always enjoyable this time of year.

MICKY JONES

Hayman said Europeans have "a wonderful way of incorporating art into their lives."

"I've noticed that Americans are starting to catch on to that concept as well," she said. "It's definitely true that Europeans have influenced

America when it comes to art."

YES, THEY MAY have influenced our clothing and the design of our living quarters, but nothing has had more influence than their cuisine. Sure, hamburgers, hot dogs and

potato salad are all right for those good old American holidays like Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, but what about intimate dinners? One certainly doesn't serve hot dogs with mustard and relish for a romantic candlelight dinner.

According to Walter Maeder, general manager and proprietor of the Bijou, one of the Detroit area's most touted restaurants, "Americans love European cuisine no matter how you look at it."

Maeder, a native of Switzerland, has been in the United States since the 1950s and said his clients (who range from high powered CEOs to radio disc jockeys) particularly like European cuisine because many of them have been there and feel they can regain that European flavor by "dining on a wonderful meal."

"I think by dining at the Bijou, they feel that magic once again that they experience while in Europe," he said.

Maeder has owned the Bijou (that's French for a jewel) since 1981. The restaurant serves conti-

Please turn to Page 4.







# FEAR & LOAFING

## 'Deck' the mall

Armchair quarterbacks complain that our Detroit Lions lack the winning attitude — the "eye of the tiger" — it takes to be champs. I say they just lack the proper incentive.

Instead of motivating players with huge earnings, maybe we should try huge savings — like a flashing blue light special on house slippers. After all, as any holiday shopper knows, the most vicious blocking and aggressive tackling don't occur at stadiums but at the clearance sales.

Talk about action! Nothing is more exciting than watching a 90-pound homemaker emerge from beneath a pile of shoppers, triumphantly clutching the last nose warmer in stock. Couch potatoes would turn their backs on televised football if they ever witnessed the bone-crunching mayhem of a final mark-down.

To see a dozen yuppies fighting over a single mountain bike is to see raw energy and stamina that pro athletes reserve only for contract negotiations. To see a grandfathered kirk kick another shopper into the pet department is to see the last real bare-knuckle sporting event left in America.

Let's face it. Pro wrestling is fake and boxing is rigged. Baseball's a yawn. Hockey and football players wear so much protective padding you can't tell who's inside until they retire and do beer commercials. In a day when professional sports are ruled by lawyers and accountants, big-time bargain hunting is still played without helmets, without sponsors and without rules.

**BUT NOT FOR** long. Some of the larger chains are starting to realize the entertainment value of consumer violence. To attract sport fans, one Rochester store is broadcasting blow-by-blow descriptions of key play over the intercom: "Attention, shoppers. Great scuffling at register five. A young mom just fumbled her frozen turkey. It's recovered by a stock boy. Oooh, a flag is down! Illegal ramming with a shopping cart."

During the summer months, free-agent shoppers engage in just enough rudeness and hair pulling to stay in shape. These off-season skirmishes are like spring training for baseball players. But the real championship — the world series of greed — occurs between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Faced with product shortages, sticker shock and overcrowded



Karl Nilsson

stores, holiday buyers can turn nasty at the drop of a hat... especially, if the hat goes on sale.

Granted, the minor delays caused by punching the customers used to be irritating. But now, with holiday kickboxing to pass the time, I'm never in a hurry to leave the stores. In fact, yesterday I skipped the "express lane" and lined up behind a guy using traveler's checks from Sri Lanka just to get the best view.

Anyway, the longer wait at the checkout counter gave me time to scan the gossip tabloids for the big news — news like "Slap Happy Zsa-Zsa Begs for Help!"

"IT'S NOT JUST cops anymore," sobbed the star. "Now, I slap everyone, dahling. People on the street. People in stores. I even slapped my Rolls Royce."

According to the article, Zsa-Zsa blames her recent behavior on the Three Stooges. Apparently, the National Pork Council kidnapped the Gabor sisters and forced them to watch a Moe Howard film festival in retaliation for Eva's treatment of Arnold the pig on "Green Acres."

As I read on, festive shoppers all around me leaped over counters and began pulling merchandise down onto the floor. Others smashed stemware to the tune of "Silent Night." While rescue workers tunneled through an avalanche of Nintendo games, I turned the page to another important story — "Posh Cafe Serves Freeze-Dried Poodle to Diners."

"It wasn't my fault," claimed the chef. "It was one of those television taste tests. They wanted to see if my customers could tell the difference between our fresh ground poodle."

As wave after wave of humanity pushed me along against my will, I stopped resisting and sank beneath the shoppers, pausing only to read the headline that would give hope to millions this season — "Elvis to Sing at Bigfoot Wedding."

# STREET SENSE

## Tough love really is tough

Dear Barbara,  
My daughter is 16. She has quit school and is working at Wendy's. She has her GED. My ex-husband, her stepfather, was emotionally abusive to her when we all lived together. She blames me for this. She refuses to follow house rules as to curfew and chores. She is paying me \$12.50 a week in rent. We don't get along. She is driving me crazy.  
Driving Me Crazy

Dear Driving Me Crazy,  
I can appreciate your dilemma. An outstanding child analyst from Vienna once said you cannot tell if an adolescent is crazy or not until they have passed the age. When I give Rorschach (ink blot) tests, it is often difficult to tell if the adolescent is schizophrenic or normal.

There seems to be one consolation in your story. Your daughter is only 16 and maybe she will change by the time she is 20. Also, optimistically, she's almost at the age when she can move out and take care of herself, if she doesn't like living with you.

Not so optimistically, sometimes girls get married in order to get out

of the house and then they bring a baby home after a divorce. I do not mean to depress you. Please accept my apologies. I feel guilty bringing such a scenario up. But for the sake of all the readers, I felt I had to give more than the optimistic response.

Many readers will side with you. Tough love is hard or even impossible to give.

Barbara

Dear Barbara,  
I have been married two years. I love my husband and feel happy with my marriage. The area that my husband and I are having the most difficulty working out is the responsibility we both feel to our respective families.

I continue to see my parents a lot (we live quite near them). Especially, I spend a lot of time with my mother. We both enjoy playing cards and play together. My parents also like to have my husband and me over for dinner at least once a week. I don't like to disappoint them, but my husband seems to resent some of these visits.

I have a large, extended family as



Barbara Schiff

well and there are many family reunions and gatherings. Sometimes, trips together. My husband would like us to spend a little more time with his family, but with all this family time, we have very little time alone or for our own friends.

This is a really difficult question for me. I feel so torn and confused. I

hate the thought of anyone being angry at me.

Torn Apart by Divided Loyalties

Dear "Torn,"  
Your signature was excellent and gave me the clue to the right answer. When you get married, the primary relationship is between husband and wife. Their families of origin must take a lower place in their hierarchy of values.

The aim of a woman in growing up is to separate from her mother and become independent in her own right. Your mother may be a charming woman, but an attraction to her will not make you a charming wife.

If you follow this advice, your parents may become angry with you. The meaning of independence is being able to grow and expand oneself, even if you must then tolerate censure from others.

Barbara

If you have a question or comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street Sense, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.



Bronner's in Frankenmuth is a favorite stop during the holiday season.

# STREET SEEN

Our intrepid Street Scene reporter is always looking for the unusual and welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and entrepreneurs. Send those to this column in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 313.

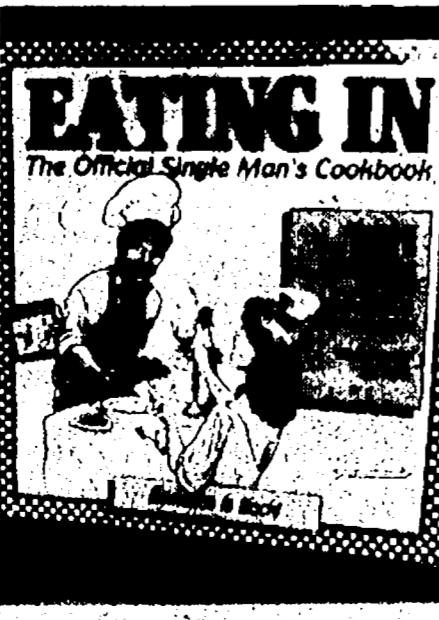


## Pint-sized pinups

They're called Emily Pins — after the artist's young daughter, but they can be of any youngster. All it takes is a photograph sent to former Bloomfield Hills artist Amy Miller Weinstein. She does the rest — and the result is a lapel pin costing \$25. The photo is returned with the pin. Send the photo with check to the Emily Pin, 508 Broadway, New York, N.Y., 10012. For more information, call the artist at (212) 925-2156.

## Everything mom forgot to mention

Everything a man needs to know about the kitchen, but Mum's forgot to tell him. "Eating in Cookbook" by Rich Lippman and Joe Maldonado includes entertainment advice, menu planning, step-by-step recipes and the Heimlich maneuver. Only \$9.95 at the Male Room on the Boardwalk in West Bloomfield.



## Some holiday cheer

Continued from Page 1

is planting them in rows. Now they plant two-year-old seedlings, let them grow for several years and ship a million Christmas trees, six to eight feet high, around the country every yuletide season.

You can cut your own and drag it home, or you can watch them demonstrate the art of wreath making and tree flocking. Grand Haven has a classic homes tour, complete with flickering candle lights, frosted window panes and Christmas carols.

Holland stages the centerpiece activity, a Christmas pageant production of "Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates" this weekend at Evergreen Commons Auditorium. The play was a logical choice, given the town's Dutch heritage.

The pageant costs \$5 for Thursday, Friday and Saturday night performances, or Saturday matinee the weekends of Dec. 2 and 9.

Meanwhile, back at radio station WGHN in Grand Haven, station president and general manager Bill Struyk is really pulling the heart strings with his project, Trees for Troops. This is the third year that Christmas trees have been sent to servicemen around the world.

Bill starts campaigning over the air in September, asking listeners to send in the names and military addresses of local service men who won't be home for Christmas.

This list includes soldiers, sailors and Marines in Germany, England,

Italy, Japan, Guam, Hawaii, Alaska and aboard ships at sea.

"We have to clear the project with agriculture departments of various countries before start shipping," Bill said. "This is live plant material, and every country has its own rules. Some won't allow Scotch pines or cedar or Douglas fir. We pick whatever can be sent, treat and spray it, and pack the tree in a box."

Meanwhile, school children from two dozen area schools are making paper Christmas decorations and practicing their Christmas songs. WGHN produces a cassette of the Christmas music and packs it, along with the hand-made decorations, in the box that holds the Christmas tree. The station also plays the cassette on the air throughout the season.

"We send about 50 trees a year. We get letters and pictures back that bring tears to your eyes. Some rough-and-tumble Marine in Guam will take a Polaroid picture of the tree with all his buddies standing beside it. The letter will say 'This guy is Charlie from New York and this is Joe from Alaska.'"

HENRY FORD Estate at Fairlane in Dearborn is also offering tours 1-4:30 p.m. Sundays through Dec. 23. Special activities will be available during the week between Christmas and New Years. Tours are \$8, \$5 for senior citizens and students.

You can also have a breakfast with Santa, while his helpers tell

Christmas tales Dec. 2 for \$6. Or visit Santa's workshop Dec. 5-17 for \$3. There is a holiday feast for \$35 Dec. 15, luncheon concerts for \$15 Dec. 12, 14, 19. Contact Henry Ford Estate-Fair Lane at 593-5590.

Kids of any age shouldn't miss the Saturday performances of the Detroit Youththeatre at the Detroit Institute of Arts. A classic musical called the Secret Garden Dec. 2; a puppet show, Santa's Christmas Party Dec. 9; Tom Chapin's Holiday Wish, Dec 16; and an adorable elf in "A Holly Folly Christmas" Dec. 23.

The shows are for youngsters 3 years and older (except Dec. 2, when you must be 5.) Tickets are \$4 each, and show times are 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The Prince Street Players will do a musical version of the "Wizard of Oz" Dec. 26-30, \$5 a ticket, for youngsters 5 and older.

Santa and his helpers are hosting breakfast with Santa at 9:45 a.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays in the Kresge Court. Weekend visitors have snacks with Santa, and he listens to wishes noon to 3 p.m. The DIA also hosts the Wassall Feast Dec. 7-9 or 12-16, and Noel Night Dec. 6. Call 833-2323 for more information.

THE CHRISTMAS CAROL is back for its annual stage run at Meadow Brook Theater through Dec. 31. If you haven't seen it, you should go and take the kids. Meadow Brook Hall also has its annual Christmas walk through Dec. 10.

Other local Christmas activities include the holiday exhibit through Dec. 10 at Detroit Artist Market, and the annual exhibit and sale through Dec. 30 at Pewabic Pottery.

through Dec. 31 you can see "Children Around the World" at the General Motors Building, go ice skating on Hart Plaza, see outdoor holiday exhibits at New Center, enjoy an exhibit of icons and frescoes from Greece at the DIA, or see the Wilkinson Toy Collection exhibited at the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House.

Christmas will be celebrated as usual at Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

A Christmas Flower Show Display is held at the Belle Isle Conservatory through Jan. 14.

You can do a Goodfellows Sing-along at the New Center Dec. 4, or join the noontime caroling there Dec. 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15. They also carol at noon in the Fisher building Dec. 5, 7, 12, 14 and hold the 17th annual Noel Night at the University Cultural Center Dec. 6.

(Don't go away, we're not through the first week of December yet!)

There's the Christmas Carnival Dec. 6-17 at Cobo Hall and the Victorian Christmas Tea and open House at the Detroit Historical Museum Dec. 8. Not to mention the Winter Wonderland with Santa and elves Dec. 9-23 at the Detroit Zoo.

Call the Metro Detroit Convention and Visitors Bureau at 567-11170 before I run out of breath.

# STREET CRACKS

## COMEDY CLUBS

Here are some listings of comedy clubs in our area. To let us know who is appearing at your club, send the information to: *Comedy Listings, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.*

### ● BEA'S COMEDY KITCHEN

Tim Allen, Tim Lilly and Downtown Tony Brown will perform Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8-9, at Bea's Comedy Kitchen, 541 Larned, Detroit. Show times are 8:30 and 11 p.m. For information, call 961-2581.

### ● MAINSTREET

Tim Lilly will perform Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 6-7, and Ken Savara will perform Friday-Saturday, Dec. 8-9, at Mainstreet Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. For information, call 996-9080.

### ● JOEY'S LIVONIA

Joey Cola will perform Wednesday through Saturday, Dec. 6-9, at Joey's Comedy Club, 36071 Plymouth, east of Levan, Livonia. Show times are 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. Saturday. For reservations, call 261-0555.

### ● HOLLY HOTEL

Soupy Sales will perform a special show with guest, Jill Washburn Friday-Sunday, Dec. 8-10, at Holly Hotel, 110 Battle Alley, Holly. Show times are 8:30 p.m. with additional 10:30 p.m. shows Friday and Saturday. For information, call 634-1891.

### ● JOEY'S ALLEN PARK

Lowell Sanders will appear Wednesday through Saturday, Dec. 6-9, at Joey's Allen Park, Southfield Road. Show times are 8:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday and 8 and 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For information, call 382-7041.

### ● MISS KITTY'S

Craig McCart and Bruce Murray will perform Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 7-9, at Miss Kitty's Comedy Club, Long Branch Restaurant, 595 N. Lapeer Road, Oxford. Show times are 8 p.m. Thursday, 8 and 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For information, call 628-6500.

### ● LOONEY BIN TOO

Peter Berman will perform Friday-Saturday, Dec. 8-9, at the Looney Bin Too at the Roxy, 1-94 and Haggerty, Belleville. For reservations, call 699-1829.

# Family man makes them laugh

## Marriage has him settled down

By Rebecca Haynes  
staff writer

Livonia native Jerry Elliott has held jobs from pumping gas to delivering pizza, but the 29-year-old seems to have found his niche in the world of stand-up comedy.

He began performing in 1979, while a senior at Churchill High School.

"I used to go to the Comedy Castle on new talent night," he said. "I worked locally for about a year and a half. My first job on the road was at the Cleveland Comedy Club, and my \$200 paycheck bounced."

Elliott has been on the road a lot since then, but admitted that his wife Lynn of 15 months and his new baby son Nicholas have settled him down a lot.

"I met my wife at the comedy club in Columbus (Ohio)," he said. "She sent me a drink after the show and I turned it down."

Lynn didn't take no for an answer, however, but Elliott didn't seem to mind.

"I knew I was going to marry her the first time I met her," he said. "(Marriage) has definitely settled me down, and I'm limiting my time on the road to the first and third weeks of the month. It might not be the best for my career, but at this point in my life I'm much more interested in my wife and baby than I am about being on the Tonight Show."

ELLIOTT ALSO admitted that having a wife and son have given him a lot of ideas for his act.

"I get kidded that I needed new material so I got married," he said. "I do talk a lot about family experiences."

"I use a basic straight style of stand-up," he said. "So many comics use gimmicks. I don't use any props or do any magic."

Elliott also said he doesn't use language or stories that are that are

overly offensive.

"My act usually lasts 45 minutes to an hour and I'd say the last 10 or 15 minutes I do tend to get a little dirtier, but it's at the end of the show and it's there because it gets the most laughs," he said. "It's the old adage of give the audience what they want."

"A lot of comedians talk about their work like it's an art form," he said. "I'm just up there to make people laugh."

Breaking in new material can sometimes be difficult.

"Right now I probably have two or three pages of new stuff written, but it's hard to justify trying it out when you're making big bucks as the headliner," he said. "I like to go into a club on open mike nights to try the new stuff. For me, it's sort of like going to the gym and working out."

Although he lived and worked in Los Angeles for about five years, Elliott recently relocated to the Columbus, Ohio area.

"I WASN'T real keen on raising the baby in L.A.," he said. "And my wife has family here, so I didn't think it was fair to ask her to move to California when I'm on the road so much anyway."

Elliott has performed at both The Improv and The Laugh Factory in Los Angeles. Several years ago he finished second in "The Hottest New Comic in L.A." contest. He's opened for Dionne Warwick, the Pointer Sisters and Kenny G. and performed all over the country.

His favorite city to perform in is Atlanta, Ga., but he said he enjoys coming home to Detroit.

"It's pretty hard to beat the Punchline in Atlanta. It's one of the top clubs in the country and you can go in on a Tuesday night and they've got 350 people there," he said. "I do have a lot of fun in Detroit, but there's a little extra pressure when you know your family and friends are in the audience."

Elliott remembered a few performances that were a little out of the ordinary.

"The South is hard," he said. "Once I got heckled in South Carolina with someone saying 'I hope you die, Yankee.'"

"What do you say to that?" he said. "Usually you have a comeback and the audience is behind you."



Jerry Elliott, a Livonia Churchill High School graduate, appears to have found his niche in comedy.

There they were backing the heckler.

"One of the strangest things that happened to me was at the Comedy Castle," he said. "It was a long time ago, but a guy in the audience pulled out a big knife, and while I was up on stage the police came to take him away."

Jerry Elliott will return to the Detroit area with performances at Chaplin's Comedy Club West and Ann Arbor's Mainstreet Comedy Showcase.

He'll be at Chaplin's, 16890 Telegraph, one block south of Six Mile

Road, Tuesday, Dec. 5 through Saturday, Dec. 9. Showtimes are 8:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and tickets are \$5. On Friday and Saturday, performances are set for 8 and 10:30 p.m. with tickets at \$8. Call 533-8866 for reservations.

The following weekend, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 15 and 16, Elliott will perform at Mainstreet, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Shows are scheduled for 8:30 and 11 p.m. Friday and 7, 9 and 11 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$12. Call 996-9080 for reservations.



Soupy Sales appears Friday through Sunday, Dec. 8-10, at the Holly Hotel.

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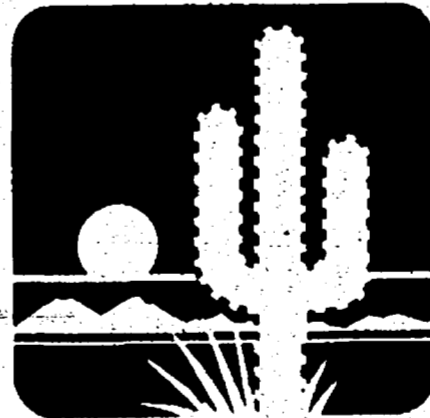
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Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans



photos by JERRY ZOLYNSKY/staff photographer

Facing off, but just for a passing instant, are Roxanne Allen of Rochester Hills, left, and Gary Kleinhenn of Plymouth. Others shown in the photo doing their own thing at Improv Playshop are, Tom York of Livonia, back center, playshop creator and director Ann Holdreith of Royal Oak, and Bonnie Snyder of Rochester Hills.

## No work, all play makes class A-OK

**The primary goal of the classes is to help serious-minded, inhibited, reserved persons become freer, more spontaneous in their lives.**

By Alice Collins  
staff writer

EEEEKKKK . . . caa, caa, caa . . . rum, rum, rum . . . tum, tum, tum . . . slam bam!!!

"Push your foot straight down on the floor, down to the center of the Earth. Let the energy come up through your legs. Make your eyes squinty. Release the tension through your feet."

"Play with your timing. Pick up the pace, make eye contact, disconnect, make eye contact."

"Watch out, don't bump into each other."

They talk to each other in grunts, shouts, mumbles, sometimes words.

They play an original version of 'London Bridge Is Falling Down.'

They're monkeys or chickens or tigers.

They're 6-month-old babies crawling across the floor.

They're toddlers, wobbling in circles.

Then they're — heaven knows what!

What they are at any given moment is in the minds of the participants, or maybe they don't know either.

An observer can only guess.

The time is Wednesday evening, the place the Paradigm Center for the Arts in downtown Detroit, the characters are men and women, most of them over 30 and the activity — Improv Playshop.

**THE CREATOR**, teacher, coach or to use her word — facilitator — of this group is Ann Holdreith, former public school teacher, painter and performer in experimental theater, who has been a strong participant in the human growth movement for 15 years.



Playshop creator Ann Holdreith works out a loose structure for her students.

Holdreith conducts series of playshops at the Paradigm Center and at the Birmingham Unitarian Church in Bloomfield Hills.

The primary goal of the classes is to help serious-minded, inhibited, reserved persons become freer, more spontaneous in their lives.

Generally, those who take the class have no theater background. If mostly draws people, many of them professionals, who are interested in their personal growth, she said.

"The focus is to create an environ-

ment and dynamics for people that allows them to feel very safe and gives them permission," Holdreith said. "I do some planning but there's lots of room for spontaneity within the structure."

"They feel the safety from me, then they give it to each other and then to themselves. Everything they do is improvised within the structure I give."

In the words of this observer, the participants get together in a room, move around and do whatever

comes into their minds, getting ideas from each other. They use their voices as part of the creative performance.

**PLAYSHOP PARTICIPANT** Tom York of Livonia, who heads the finance department for a real estate developer, took the class to "get rid of my inhibitions."

"I come here on Wednesday nights and we giggle and play just like high school kids," he said. "Some people might think it's kind of weird. I used to be too self-conscious to dance at a wedding. I always liked to watch other people acting crazy. Now, I can do it, too."

Bonnie Snyder of Rochester Hills is a trainer and course developer for Michigan Bell.

"I was looking for a class to help me with my work," she said. "I love it because it gets me in touch with myself. Now I'm more open in the classroom. I used to be prim and proper up there, now I'm more alive with my students. I can drag in on Wednesday, but when I leave I'm energized."

Roxanne Allen of Rochester Hills, a university instructor and free lance consultant and counseling therapist, teaches group dynamics.

"This gets you out of being into your head too much and back into your body and feelings," she said. "I'm much looser in the classroom now. Taking this class is really an opportunity to go play."

For more information about the Improv Playshop, call Ann Holdreith at 583-7765.



BILL HANSEN

The latest European influence in fashions can be seen in the cut, style and detailing of the suits worn by Julie Levenson (standing) and Sheri Levenson of "Guys N' Gals."

## European style becomes big here

Continued from Page 1

mental/international cuisine, incorporating a number of dishes from a variety of countries into its menu.

"PERSONALLY, I think the Europeans are much more experienced when it comes to cooking and waiting on people in a restaurant," he said. "I think we tend to be more organized and cleanliness is the key element to success according to Europeans in this business."

Maeder began his restaurant career as a waiter nearly 50 years ago, but unlike waiters in the U.S., in Europe he apprenticed before becoming one.

The Bijou prepares such European delicacies as Dover Sole (Great Britain), Veal Zurek (Switzerland) and Chateau Briand (France) to name a few. It's famous for its fresh crusty rolls, which Maeder said "reminds customers of the wonderful breads they receive in Europe."

In addition to fine cuisine, the Europeans are also making headway in the medical field said one local dentist who uses one of Switzerland's top methods for filling cavities.

Dr. Mitch Milan, a Birmingham dentist, said the Swiss were the first ones to introduce white fillings instead of the traditional silver toned ones used in the U.S.

"Europe is also ahead of America when it comes to dental equipment," he said. "Their products are much more stream-lined and much more slick than what we produce here in the United States."

Milan added that Europeans are much more advanced in cosmetic implants and other oral implants.

**MOREOVER**, IT appears the Europeans are slightly ahead of America in hair fashion as well.

If you've ever heard of or been lucky enough to stroll down London's famous King's Row, then you're well aware of the crazy hairstyles that

dot the congested street corners.

According to Neal Leve, stylist and owner of Bellissima Too in West Bloomfield Township, "those punked-out looks that came from England a few years ago were the big thing, but now anything that comes over from Europe is softer."

Flatter looks with less hairspray and spritz is what's in for hair fashion.

"This winter, styles promise to be shorter and the color is going to be more along the deeper golds and burgundy tones," he said.

He said most of the hair cut designs still come from London, while actual styling and haircare products come from France.

"The products that come from Europe can't be compared with the stuff we have in America," he said. "The products that come from Europe are so advanced that they make American products look terrible."

**LEVE SAID** Americans seem to

look up to Europeans for the latest in hairstyles and fashion because "we think that they're so ahead of the game, and in essence, they are."

"But on the other hand, they look to us for some of the same things, so we all borrow from one another at one point in time," he said.

Leve's salon performs such services as coloring with special European products, spiral rod permanents done with round, soft tubing versus long rods, a method directly from Europe, and precision cutting and styling among other services. He also has a special European wash system at the salon.

So, if you've never had the opportunity to visit Europe, there's really no need to sulk. Take yourself almost anywhere in the metro area — whether it's an art gallery in Farmington Hills or a clothing store in West Bloomfield. You should be able to experience a little bit of Europe first hand.

# Creative Living



Monday, December 4, 1989 O&E

\*1E



organizing  
**Dorothy Lehmkuhl**

## Peaks, valleys of energy keyed to bio-rhythms

**Q.** As a salesman, I try to make my calls in the morning and do my paperwork in the afternoon. I'm always sluggish after lunch, though, and have a tough time wading through forms and mail. Any suggestions?

**A.** Everyone has biological rhythms which cause peaks and valleys of energy at about the same time each day. The rule for good time management is to tackle your difficult work during your high energy periods and do your easier tasks when your energy is running low.

Try reversing your pattern and do your paper work in the mornings, while you are crisp and thinking more clearly. Since you are a salesman, you are no doubt an outgoing person who enjoys people, and working with clients in the afternoon will stimulate you to be more alert.

The only exceptions to this plan would be particularly difficult sales where you must be at your very best. Schedule those for mornings.

I applaud your overall plan of blocking out time for both categories of work. People who create rhythms in their life are not only more successful but realize more satisfaction.

Eating, sleeping and exercising at the same times are important, too, even if weekend schedules differ from week days. Not only can you count on getting things done at certain times, others can count on you, too.

Weekly, monthly or even annual rhythms are also important. A pastor reports that two hours of working on a sermon early in the week is practically useless, but one hour on a Friday is highly fruitful. He therefore schedules his counseling appointments Monday through Wednesday and purposely saves developing his sermons for later in the week.

This same pastor found that people need more counselling at the end of long winters, so he devotes more time to people during that period and takes advantage of summer to catch up on his personal writing, etc.

Particularly intense work periods should also be balanced with time off. The time right after a hard day of work at the office, of caring for toddlers, or after presenting hours of material at a seminar is no time for other work requiring great concentration.

Taking a short rest period and then getting some stress-relieving physical exercise would be more productive. Conversely, the best time to tackle a tough project may be after a restful vacation.

By following the above suggestions, I'll bet your paperwork will get done more easily and your life will be less frustrating.

*Dorothy Lehmkuhl is owner of Organizing Techniques in Birmingham. She does In-House Seminars, speaking and consulting on all aspects of time management and organizing.*

# Let there be light

## Reusable luminaries add spark to tradition

By Arlene Funke  
special writer

**H**UNDREDS, perhaps thousands, of lighted candles brighten the inky blackness of a cold December night.

"Unique and appealing" is how 59-year old Tom Carmody describes the annual ritual in his Plymouth Township subdivision known as luminaria, or luminary — light.

The luminary is a popular Hispanic tradition that has won converts. Each Christmas Eve, candles are placed in paper bags, filled with sand and lined up in rows. According to tradition, the candles light the way for the newborn Christ Child.

"It's a variation of the Wise Men following the star to Bethlehem," Carmody said.

**RECENTLY CARMODY**, president of C.F. Sales Co., a Plymouth packaging firm, developed a reusable plastic decorative luminary called Magic Glo. Carmody believes his product is a convenient, safe alternative to the paper bag-sand-candle format.

"December weather isn't conducive to the paper bag," Carmody said. "Wind can blow the bag into the candle, causing a burst of light before extinguishing. If it rains, it makes a mess of the bag."

The luminaria, as we know it now, originated in New Mexico. According to historical accounts, Spanish settlers brought to North America their custom of lighting bonfires on Christmas Eve. The practice evolved to its present form and spread widely.

Carmody's product is sold in selected stores and has been widely promoted through the Jaycees service clubs.

Magic Glo is a black-and-gold canister containing sturdy vinyl plastic sheets which can be rolled into scrolls and stuffed into a 3-mil plastic bag. Each kit contains six sheets of vinyl, six white plastic bags and six votive candles.

"When the bag is released the scroll pops open, filling the bag and enabling it to stand up correctly," Carmody said. "It has what we call a 'memory,' in that it will return from whence it came."

The kit, with a suggested retail price of \$13, also contains, as a special promotion, three red and three green fold-up ribbons which can be fashioned into bows to decorate the luminary. All the parts may be rolled or folded and stored in the canister.

**CARMODY INSISTS** that the Magic Glo plastic bags are safer than paper bags.

"The plastic will melt if exposed to heat, but it won't burn."

Carmody worked on Magic Glo for

almost a year before he was satisfied. His first challenge was to develop a plastic bag that was opaque enough to show the glow, while concealing the candle. He also tried several ideas before hitting on the vinyl sheet with the 'memory.'

Currently, Magic Glo kits are available in several gift and card shops. Next year they will be stocked by Sears.

In the meantime, Carmody has been busy contacting homeowners groups, subdivision associations and civic groups in Plymouth, Ann Arbor and other communities.

"When you see the whole neighborhood do it, it's beautiful," said Carmody, who lives in the Trailwood subdivision west of Sheldon between Ann Arbor Trail and Ann Arbor Road.

**THE PROMOTION** of the luminaries received a big boost when the Plymouth Jaycees sold numerous kits during that city's annual Fall Festival. Proceeds from the sales are used for community and charitable projects.

Carmody also has worked with Jaycees groups in Westland, Novi, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and the Grosse Pointes.

For groups wanting to purchase luminaries this season, Carmody has set a deadline of Dec. 10. Large groups could buy in bulk, at a reduced price, and the luminaries could be delivered to a designated person for distribution.

For information, call C.F. Sales Company's toll-free number at 1-800-447-3849.

Carmody sees possibilities for other holidays and special occasions (he had a Halloween luminary, featuring an orange bag emblazoned with a witch). He also would like to develop a red-bagged safety luminary, which could be stored in the trunk of the car and used to summon help in case of emergency.

Currently the kits are produced in Carmody's Plymouth plant. But if the concept really takes off he'd like to contract the business to a sheltered workshop employing mentally impaired people.

The following is a partial list of the stores where the Magic Glo luminary may be purchased.

- Bev's Hallmark, locations in Troy, Sterling Heights, Madison Heights, Fraser and Warren.
- Cornwall Pool and Patio, 874 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.
- Jill's Affair, Cards and Gifts, Belleville Square, Belleville.
- Luci's Locket, 30973 Five Mile, Livonia.
- Party Supplies and Gags, 41744 W. 10 Mile, Novi
- Toss A Party, 28948 Orchard Lake, Farmington Hills.



Tom Carmody displays the reusable plastic decorative luminaries that come six to a kit he calls Magic Glo. All the

parts come rolled in the canister. For ballast, Carmody suggests bird seed instead of the traditional sand.

BILL BRESLER/staff photographer

## Special 'Moments'



Amy Ureel (left), Tina Habel and Anne Marie Galacz will be part of the Rose Marie Floyd Ballet Company performing sequences from the "Nutcracker" at the Livonia Symphony's "Magical Moments of Christmas" at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, in Churchill High School, Newburgh and Joy roads, Livonia. Tickets at \$9 and \$5 will be available at the door.

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Ara Berberian in benefit concert

## Ara Berberian, symphony, in holiday "Pops"

Metropolitan opera basso Ara Berberian will be the featured soloist at the Southfield Symphony Orchestra's "Holiday Pops" concert at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17, at the Southfield Pavilion.

The concert will benefit the Ronald MacDonald House in Detroit which serves parents of hospitalized children.

Berberian, a renowned operatic and concert artist, will perform works from Mozart operas and popular holiday melodies. He is presently in his 12th season with the Metropolitan Opera.

In his career, he has performed in more than 140 operas ranging from "The Barber of Seville" to "Rigoletto."

**BEFORE HIS** affiliation with the Metropolitan Opera, Berberian was a leading member of the New York City Opera and also spent six full seasons as the leading resident bass

of the San Francisco orchestras worldwide.

The Southfield Symphony is proud to have him as their featured soloist in this gala cabaret concert.

The orchestra, under the baton of Douglas Bianchi, will also perform works which range from a Hanukkah Sulte by Adler to the classical "Capriccio Espagnol" by Rimsky-Korsakoff.

The concert will conclude with a sing-a-long of popular Christmas carols led by Berberian.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$4 for children under 12 and may be purchased at the Mary Thompson Cultural Center, 25630 Evergreen Road or call 354-4717.

The concert is made possible by a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts, Macabees Life Insurance Co. and the Southfield Cultural Arts Division of the Parks and Recreation Department.

<p><b>STATELY TRADITIONAL</b> Lovely home with new large family room addition. Front and back stairways; family room with full wall fireplace, large wall of patio doors to tiered deck, beamed ceiling. Beautiful lot! \$157,500 H-55006</p>	<p><b>PRIVACY PLUS</b> Natural wooded setting for this outstanding contemporary. Flexible open design for versatile use of areas. Lots of windows, spectacular decking with hot tub. Sophisticated. \$164,900 H-55585</p>
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THE  
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 NEWSPAPERS



# Building Scene

Marilyn Fitchett editor/591-2300



Monday, December 4, 1989 O&E

★ 1F



Bashar Kallabat (standing) and Kennice Hoffmann see their salon's decor as a statement against the "cut and go" style that they say characterizes many salons.

## Updated classical for salon

By Janice Brunson  
staff writer

For Kennice Hoffmann, 29, and Bashar Kallabat, 25, a vision of nearly five years assumed life earlier this fall when the Birmingham couple launched their much ballyhooed Salon Kennice Bashar on Northwestern in Farmington Hills.

Graceful swirls of drapery in earth tones, splashes of brilliant sea-colored flooring, faux cobblestone walls and cool slate work tables combine to achieve the classical look they sought.

"We're satisfied," the couple agreed simply. Hoffmann is a Redford Township native, and Kallabat, born in Iraq, was reared in Farmington Hills. They take obvious pride in their creation, particularly since the salon's decor is their own, based on extensive research and visits to other establishments.

"THEY'RE BOTH very artistic. They knew what they wanted. I helped them find it," said West Bloomfield decorator Hilary Bell, who coordinated the couple's efforts.

"We wanted to make the salon look different, classical but different," Hoffman said.

IN ACHIEVING their look, high-tech assumes a comfortable position with ancient Greece.

Salon patrons eye videos of the latest styles from Paris and Milan, while hairdressers fashion tresses at nearby work stations that have been outfitted in faux stone and walls painted with cracks, tears and rips that are meant to duplicate ruins from a thousand years before.

Eleven work stations, eight for styling and three for technical work, are placed for easy access to other areas and to utilize best the 1,700 square feet of the salon.

Brilliant turquoise and emerald tiles, imported from Italy and dubbed Thames River Green, complement urns and faux marble that has been applied to the reception area by craftsmen employing ancient techniques.

Oxidized metal rods, barely visible under yards of upholstery fabric, add to an overall ancient, neoclassical feel.

The entire effect is encased in incandescent lighting with halogen bulbs, the closest thing possible to natural lighting.

## Advise ex-wife of condo rules

My ex-wife is continuing to maintain a residence with a live-in contributing to her rent and other expenses. I continue to have an ownership interest in the house and am concerned about my children and whether she is going to get in trouble with her homeowner association regarding a violation of the restrictions. She has threatened to rent it to others if I force the issue with respect to her live-in. Can I get rid of the live-in and protect my investment in the home, which is to be sold when our children reach 18?



condo queries  
**Robert M. Meisner**

the association help, and should I bother going to them?

My experience has been that the community association can assist a co-owner under certain circumstances in remedying this problem. Most condominium documents provide that no immoral or illegal activity may take place in the condominium unit. The condominium association can try to evoke the services of the local police department and retain the services of a private investigation force to rid the condominium of prostitution, drugs and the like. You should attempt to contact the association, but be prepared to assist it, including testifying, if necessary, should the association be willing to help you in regard to your particular problem.

Approximately one year ago I purchased a new lower unit condominium and was assured by builder's sales representative that the builder used adequate sound conditioning materials during construction. In addition, the sales brochure included a statement mentioning "sound conditioning in walls and ceilings." Once the upper unit was completed, sold and occupied, I found the overhead noise to be excessive. Other lower unit owners have also complained about the noise levels. I did some investigation and discovered that the builder had eliminated the sound conditioning materials specified in the original design. When confronted

with this finding, the builder said that the sound conditioning was removed because the materials proposed did not meet city fire code regulations. Other condominium complexes in the same city have sound conditioning materials included during their construction that obviously were not deleted due to fire code violations. My question is, what possible recourse is available to an owner in this situation?

I would first check with the city to ascertain whether the excuse provided by the developer has any reasonable basis. Even if it does, presumably there are other sound conditioning materials that could have been used in order to substitute for the original sound conditioning material set forth in the specifications. Your problem is becoming more frequently a complaint, which may ultimately be the responsibility of the association if the developer is not held to account for the situation. You should first advise your association of the problem, assuming that the developer is not in control of the association and to also advise the developer of the problem in writing. Failure of the developer to meet his responsibilities should result in your seeking legal counsel to pursue the developer or the association, if necessary, depending upon the condominium documents and other agreements. You do have recourse.

Robert M. Meisner is a Birmingham attorney specializing in condominiums, real estate and corporate law. You are invited to submit topics for this column by writing Robert M. Meisner, 30200 Telegraph Road, Suite 467, Birmingham 48010. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.

## Retail design moves toward specialty look

By Janice Brunson  
staff writer

Subtle yet sizzling, natural but noticeable — these will be the design trends in retail decor for the 1990s.

That's according to area designers, who also say "visual communication" is the key to commercial success in an increasingly competitive market.

Natural sizzle is exemplified on a terra cotta wall in a fashionable area boutique. Reminiscent of an ancient era, the wall is complete with a painted break of stone that is gingerly touched by shoppers who are momentarily transfixed by the realistic crack.

"The retail environment has to communicate with the customer. It has to talk directly to their interests, to their tastes, whether they are shopping for clothes, furniture, gifts or business supplies," said Tony Camilletti of Jon Greenberg and Associates in Berkley. The firm has specialized in retail decor since 1971.

CURRENT TRENDS, according to Camilletti, reflect a return to the "specialty atmosphere" of yesteryear, when the individual taste of shop owners dictated decor.

Such trends are in direct contrast with the "generic decor" of the past 20 years, described by Camilletti as the "homogenization of retail space."

"Today's shopping ambience is more upscale and opulent. It's a more beautiful environment, and there's a lot more excitement in merchandise representation, the A-1 star of any store," Camilletti said.

DISTINCTIVE window fronts in an area mall are geometrically angled and filled with mannequins, attired in readywear womens clothing and positioned in unusual poses.

The prototype, designed by Greenberg and Associates for T. Edwards, is intended to set the chain apart from other mall retailers by fashioning a distinctive and memorable entrance.

Such window treatment exemplifies "visual communication" with a flair, according to Marc Bear, a Troy-based retail consultant who last year launched The D'Bear Group after nearly 20 years of display work for Hudson's and Crowley's.

BEAR SPECIALIZES in merchandise representation or display, now known in the trade as visual communication, a retailing specialty that emerged earlier this decade.

"As we roll into the last decade of this century, packaging is the name of the game. Today's shopper is very sophisticated. Image is a very special component in appealing to them," Bear said.

"Visual communication is expected to assume even greater importance as retailers vie for customers from a glut of shops facing look-alike competition or stores offering similar merchandise.

The boom is witnessed by the significant increase in "neighborhood shopping" or strip malls that have been constructed at nearly every suburban intersection.

"It's very difficult being unique. How are retailers

going to stand out? By offering an identifiable product," Bear said, citing a holiday marketing package he recently coordinated for The Coffee Beanery, a Michigan-based firm with 30 shops nationally.

The package contains a distinctive "signature," a holiday ornament attached to a single pine bough that is included in such store decor as tablecloths, in a brochure on various holiday gift packages and on a limited edition of coffee mugs.

THE KEY TO SUCCESSFUL retail decor is its compatibility with the product to be sold, according to Hilary Bell, a free-lance interior decorator from West Bloomfield who specializes in store and space planning.

"Decorators aren't selling decor. They're helping retailers sell merchandise. Decor can't fight what is being sold," she said.

A recent project of Bell's is a Farmington Hills hair salon whose decor is the talk of the town. (See accompanying story.)

THE LOOK of the future, according to Bell, is a "natural look" achieved by a profusion of stone, oxidized metal, pickled wood and speckled paint.

"We're moving away from the heavy Deco look of chrome and lacquer, and moving into natural finishes, a tasteful atmosphere of subtle elegance that is welcoming, comfortable and relaxed."

She particularly likes the use of Zolatone, a high-tech paint pioneered in the 1950s. The speckled finish is especially suited to speckled Formicas and marbles, according to Bell, who prefers sparse furnishings in a retail setting, she said.

RON REA, CO-OWNER of Peterhansrea interior design in Birmingham, also favors simplicity, "the simple white store with high tech lighting and rich wood tones inspired by the European and Japanese models, or the traditional American image like Polo or Jacobson's that is very rich in feeling," he said.

"Tradition with a flair."  
Individuality also rates high with Rea.

"The most exciting shopping in the world is street shopping, street after street of individual shops, neighborhood pockets like in New York, Chicago and San Francisco. The sights and sounds of the street set the shopping ambience."

Birmingham, Royal Oak and Grosse Pointe exemplify Rea's concept of street shopping, "individually owned and operated shops that are creatively presented. Decor is approached as a vehicle for sales," he said.

SUCH SHOPPING "appeals to the shopper in the know, the more seasoned shopper," he said.

This shopper is also demanding better service. "Service, service and more service," Bear said. "There is a tremendous amount of effort on a return to craftsmanship and the return to service."

"Architecture and decor will play a pivotal role in providing good service."

## Decor complements menu

By Janice Brunson  
staff writer

When Richard Guyn and Kim Robertson purchased a small 54-seat restaurant in Farmington Hills a year ago, their first priority was redecorating the diner into a "new-age" establishment worthy of chef Guyn's French-style cuisine.

"We needed a new look to match the type of food we serve," said Guyn.

The result is Pot Pourri. Guyn turned to Robertson, an artist who dabbles in pottery and oils, to translate paper napkins, plastic

table cloths and feminine decor in varying shades of pink and green into a sleek, modern setting befitting of bordelaise sauce with Madeira wine and hollandaise flavored with Apple Jack brandy or Dijon mustard.

Working within a limited budget, Robertson had one week during a slow period in August to affect the transformation. She quickly learned it was precious little time for such an ambitious project.

"YOU CAN ONLY do so much in a week," Robertson said, adding she experienced several false starts af-

ter learning certain fabrics and fixtures originally selected were impossible to obtain in the short time frame.

She envisioned a white interior, seat cushions covered with zebra print and elongated, fluted light fixtures.

The white interior ultimately gave way to a soft gray, and cushions were upholstered in contrasting patterns of gray, black and white after a zebra pattern proved impossible to find. An antique oak table, originally a floral frenzy, was repainted black with matching chairs.

White wire shelves lining the walls were ripped out, but glass block dividers were left in tact, made more interesting with the addition of live green plants that also decorate slender windows. Fresh flowers and linen adorn each table.

Most notable are hanging light fixtures, delicate "space ships" imported from Italy that are mounted to slender chords. Neon L's, complete with dimmer switches, punctuate walls.

Equal attention also has been paid to china service. Each entree is served on a plate of black amethyst, green fiesta or heavy dark plates speckled with lighter colors.

"I match the china with the food. It's art," Guyn said, citing such examples as baked brie that is served on a plate of deep green or salmon served on black amethyst.

FUTURE PLANS include fabric swags to provide diners more privacy and wall art to flesh out the single modern work of colorful oil splatterings by Robertson.

"We've got the base. Now we'll keep adding and accumulating until we've got it all just right," she said.

Guyn muses aloud, "Maybe we could knock out the wall and take over the store next door."

Pot Pourri, 34637 Grand River, is open 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5 to 11 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. Menus change daily. For more information, call 478-8484.



Kim Robertson's place settings at Pot Pourri are coordinated by color with the entree.









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