

# Westland Observer

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## Letters to Santa

Attention, girls and boys! Christmas is almost here and you know what that means. Santa Claus is up at the North Pole waiting for letters and double checking his list to find who's been naughty or nice. The Westland Observer is asking children to send us their letters to Santa Claus, along with their school picture. The deadline is Dec. 11. The letters and photos will be printed in the Dec. 24th issue, having forwarded the letters to Santa in plenty of time. Children of all ages are encouraged to send their letters to:

Letters to Santa  
Westland Observer  
36251 Schoolcraft  
Livonia, MI 48151

## IN THE PAPER TODAY

### COMMUNITY LIFE

**A little bit:** It was meant as something for Richard Shebib to do when he retires, but his Pascha Books and Gifts is serving another purpose — bringing a little bit of Eastern Orthodoxy to the public. /B1

### AT HOME

**Where the heart is:** Home entertaining is just the thing this season. /D6

### ENTERTAINMENT

**Noel:** "Noel Night," Dec. 5 in Detroit's Cultural Center, offers holiday fun for everyone. /E1

**Theater:** Talented cast steps up to the challenge of "A Chorus Line," on stage now at the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford playhouse in Redford. /E3

### REAL ESTATE

**Busman's holiday:** What do people who sell houses for a living demand in their own homes? /F1

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## Labor of love



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

**A time to listen:** John Glenn High School English teacher Kristie Carr listens to her students read their creative writing papers.

## New teachers are a class act

BY BETH SUNDRLA JACHMAN  
STAFF WRITER  
[bjachman@oe.hometown.net](mailto:bjachman@oe.hometown.net)

Teaching can be an interesting job — and that's especially true when you're a new teacher.

"Every day is different. Each day has its ups and downs," said Kristie Carr, a new English teacher at John Glenn High School.

She is one of many new teachers in Wayne-Westland. The district is teaming with new teachers this school year with 93 new hires. Five

new teachers have been hired in the John Glenn English department.

There are highlights every day, Carr said. Sometimes it's a student understanding something that he or she didn't understand the day before.

Carolyn Bacon, a 1995 graduate of the University of Michigan, is also new to the district.

"I did not know very much about the district," she said, adding it has been a "really good experience."

"I have gotten really positive feed-

Please see **TEACHERS**, A3



**Challenge:** English teacher Carolyn Bacon reads to her mythological students.

## Message on drunken driving hits home

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER  
[dclem@oe.hometown.net](mailto:dclem@oe.hometown.net)

Staring soberly at the mutilated bodies of teenagers and the mangled cars they died in, Lutheran High School Westland students sat in silence.

Inside one car, a teenage boy who chose to drink alcohol and drive could be seen slumped over a steering wheel — his chest crushed during a horrific death.

On the hood of another car, a single shoe served as a grim reminder of a teenager who didn't wear a seat belt and was thrown from a back seat through a windshield.

Inside these cars, students saw empty beer bottles and cans, tree limbs, twisted metal, blood and more blood — the remains of death.

As 310 students watched, former helicopter flight nurse Barbara Babb guided them through a grisly slide pre-

sensation showing what can happen when teenagers drink and drive.

"This is really heavy stuff," she told them. "But I want you to be on the outside looking in, instead of on the inside."

Babb brought her "Make The Right Call" program to Lutheran High on Tuesday, continuing her nationwide crusade to help teenagers make life-saving decisions not to drive if they drink. She visited several local schools

this week, and the tab was paid by Central Distributors, local Anheuser Busch wholesaler for western Wayne County.

Lutheran students seemed impressed by Babb, who tried to educate them with stories of victims who died or suffered lifelong injuries.

### Thoughtful words

"I think it helps us to understand

Please see **MESSAGE**, A3

## Foundation to offer lots of yuletide fun Dec. 10

Westland residents and the business community are invited to attend the Westland Community Foundation's holiday event featuring Victorian Carolers, scheduled for 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Hellenic Cultural Center on Joy Road.

The carolers will provide holiday music, and refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Admission is donation of an unwrapped toy for chil-

dren to be helped by The Salvation Army. Canned or boxed food also may be brought for the Army's food pantry.

Those planning to attend are asked to call (734) 695-7727.

The foundation also is getting help this season from youngsters who created their own holiday cards for the foundation's annual card mailing. Children from the following elementaries helped: Patchin, Edison, Cooper, Nankin Mills,

P.D. Graham, Hayes and Johnson.

In turn, the foundation will donate its holiday card budget to charities designated by the children.

The Westland Community Foundation in 1998 has:

- Hosted its fourth Christmas in July event and raised more than \$27,000 to help The Salvation Army.

- Donated \$12,000 in scholarships to 14 Westland students.

- Sponsored two Westland students to attend the Blue Lake Music Camp.

- Gave \$5,000 to the Westland YMCA summer camp program.

- Donated \$15,000 to The Salvation Army for summer camp programs.

- Donated \$5,000 to John Glenn High School's instrumental music program for band uniform replacement.

Please see **FOUNDATION**, A2

## Glenn students provide 'pennies from heaven'

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER  
[dclem@oe.hometown.net](mailto:dclem@oe.hometown.net)

By placing plastic milk jugs in their classrooms, John Glenn High School students have raised \$2,294 for two charities.

Sponsored by Glenn's student council, the "Jar Wars" project raised money by urging students to place their pennies in milk jugs during their sixth-hour classes.

"Some people were putting in \$20 bills," Steven Tamaroglio, a sophomore class student council representative and Jar Wars co-chair, said. "It's amazing the heart these people have."

Students raised the money on Nov. 16-17 to help The Salvation Army in Westland and the Wayne Civilians. The

Please see **PENNIES**, A2



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

**Team effort:** Maria Baldysz (left to right), Steven Tamaroglio, and Brian DeGiorio, 10th-graders at John Glenn High School, are the chairs of the Jar Wars effort. They are shown with some of the money collected.



## Public Library of Westland

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## Home intruder

A Westland man who lost hundreds of dollars to a home intruder is warning other homeowners not to make the same mistake he did. The man, who lives near Joy and Farmington roads, left his kitchen window unlocked, making it easier for an intruder to slip in between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m. Friday while he, his wife and two guests slept.

"That's the scary part, that we were actually in the house," he said.

The intruder took the man's wallet, his wife's purse, keys and several other items. In all, the intruder got away with about \$1,700, most of which the man had received from selling a snowmobile.

"I've lived there for 20 years and I didn't lock anything," he said. "I've learned a lot from this one happening. Maybe I can help other people and keep the same thing from happening to them."

The man also told police that the intruder apparently went inside his car, unlocked in his driveway, but didn't take anything.

## Shotgun stolen

A Westland man told police that someone stole a 20-gauge shotgun from his pickup truck bed while he was shopping at the Westland Meijer at Warren and Newburgh roads between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. Nov. 23. The truck bed has a cover, but the man said someone lifted it and took the gun, valued at \$300.

## Car break-in

A woman told police that her 1999 Volkswagen was broken into between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Nov. 23 while it was parked outside of Joy Manor, a banquet-type facility on Joy Road. The driver's side window had been smashed out. Items reported missing included a purse containing a makeup bag and sunglasses; a school bag containing a calculator, tape recorder and school work; and a cell phone. Estimated value: \$200.

## Garage break-in

A resident of South Hubbard filed a police report saying that someone entered his garage between 10:30 p.m. Nov. 22 and 6:30 a.m. Nov. 23 and took three

hunting bows valued at \$2,000. Also missing were \$700 in items that included hunting clothing, a duffel bag, assorted tools and hunting knives. The man told police the intruder forced open a door of the garage.

## Car invaded

A Westland man told police that his car was burglarized between 7 a.m. and noon Nov. 19 after he left it in a parking lot south of Quo Vadis Theater on Wayne Road north of Warren. Stolen items included a \$100 cell phone, \$30 in quarters and a \$50 Sony headset. He told police his passenger-side rear window had been broken out, among other vehicular vandalism totaling \$1,000.

## Foundation from page A1

■ Gave \$5,000 to Taylor Towers senior citizen housing for a computer lab.

■ Donated \$6,000 to an Oakwood Health Center based at Lincoln Elementary School. The clinic also serves Jefferson-

Barns Elementary.

■ Donated \$500 to Jefferson-Barns for a school playground renovation project.

■ Sponsored a dinner dance with Tony Russo's Big Band, drawing more than 300 business

leaders and residents.

■ Sponsored a Westland Chamber of Commerce luncheon with a motivational speaker, and sponsored 25 high school students to attend.

■ Co-sponsored a children's summer concert series at the Westland public library.

■ Sponsored an adult coffee house concert series at the library.

## Pennies from page A1

money will be divided between the two organizations.

"This says that these students are caring and giving, and it says something about the staff that they would spend time to promote this kind of activity to help others," Glenn assistant principal Michael Downs said.

Students turned in their pennies during their sixth-hour classes, accumulating one point for every penny to see which class could earn the most points.

To make the project more competitive, students from one class could cause another class to lose points by placing nickels, dimes, quarters and bills in the jugs, Tamaroglio said.

Sixth-hour classes lost 10 points for each time and 25 points for each quarter, for

example.

Interestingly, social studies classes seemed to be the most generous. In that one subject area, teacher R. Gordon's class raised the largest amount of money and teacher Wayne Cummins' class accumulated the most pennies, Tamaroglio said.

As a reward, those two classes won a submarine sandwich party courtesy of the student council.

Tamaroglio coordinated the project with help from two other sophomore student council representatives, Brian DeGiorgio and Maria Baldys.

According to project rules, students were to place their money in milk jugs before school started in the morning, after it ended in the afternoon, or between classes. Orga-

nizers didn't want classes to be disturbed by the fund-raising effort.

Jugs filled with money were taken to the office in exchange for empty ones, and office administrators locked up the money.

Several companies helped out with Jar Wars. Donating 100 milk jugs each were Melody Farms Dairy, Michigan Dairy Inc. and Embest Inc.

NBD Bank's Wayne-Cowan branch in Westland donated 25 canvass bags to hold the change. The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' circulation department allowed students to use a machine that sorts coins.

Downs said the project is expected to become an annual event.

"That's what we're hoping," he said.

## Assistance is offered for needy families

Local families who need help during the holiday season are urged to contact The Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Community Center, 2300 Venoy.

The Salvation Army has an adopt-a-family program in which some of the community's more

fortunate residents agree to provide holiday gifts for the needy.

Generally, those who qualify for help include low-income families who meet federal government guidelines for food stamps and similar forms of assistance. Lt. Charles Yockey of the Westland-based center said.

Proof of income is required. To apply, visit The Salvation Army at 2300 Venoy between 9 a.m. and noon or between 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call The Salvation Army at (734) 722-3660.

■ To apply, visit The Salvation Army at 2300 Venoy between 9 a.m. and noon or between 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## Helpers from page A1

ed at area major department stores that allow the fund-raising effort, Yockey said he still needs people to work at sites such as grocery stores.

"All I've been able to cover is my major department stores," he said.

Salvation Army officials checked with temporary employment agencies as a possible way of finding bell-ringers.

"The employment agencies want to charge me an arm and a leg," Yockey said.

Bell-ringers hired to work need to arrive by 9:15 a.m. at The Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy

Road south of Palmer.

From there, they are dropped off at kettle sites between 9:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. and picked up between 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Holiday fund-raisers have become more difficult in recent years as some businesses initiated new policies prohibiting collection efforts on their property.

With a bell-ringer shortage, officials are even more concerned about not raising enough money to help the community's needy families.

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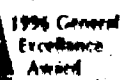
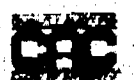
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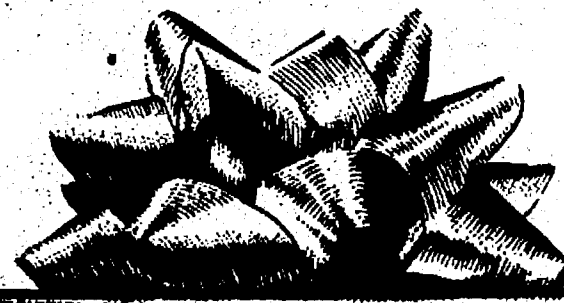


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STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

**Listening time:** Barbara Babb speaks to the Lutheran Westland students about drinking and driving. Students listen carefully.

## Message

from page A1

that we only have one chance. If we screw up, it could be a fatal mistake," 17-year-old senior Gordie Engel said. "It was eye-opening to see what really goes on."

Student Amy Tanner, 18, said some students – but not all – likely learned from Babb's account of her years as a flight nurse in St. Louis.

"Some people will think about it, but they'll probably just forget about it the day they want to go to a party," Tanner said. "But some people might take it in and understand it, and it could change their lives."

Babb told gruesome tales of accident scenes – the decapitated bodies, the flesh, the blood, the broken glass, the smell of battery acid and gasoline.

She warned that teenagers who don't wear their seat belts are much more likely to die in crashes, although some hopelessly try to avoid injuries by bracing themselves with their arms extended.

"That's like bench-pressing 3,500 pounds," she said.

Babb also warned that backseat passengers too often die because they don't believe seat belts are needed in rear seats.

Not only do they often die, she said, but their bodies hurl forward "and kill people in the front as well."

She warned that teenagers who try to help injured friends by pulling them from a car often hurt them, instead. She told of one teen who was paralyzed for life from the neck down after he was moved before medical help arrived.

### Family grief

Babb also told of a father who fought a legal battle all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court to have his comatose daughter's feeding tubes removed. The father believed that five years of watching his daughter exist in diapers was enough.

Babb told of one paramedic who arrived at a drunken driving fatality only to find his own daughter in a heap of four dead high school students.

Babb warned students that, until they are in their early 20s, their bodies can't even begin to effectively process alcohol. And she urged them never to leave alone a drunken friend who has passed out, because that friend could drown in his or her own vomit.

Babb also told tragic stories of having to tell parents that their children have died in alcohol-related accidents. Emergency room workers also have to wash off necklaces, rings, watches and other personal belongings to give them to families, along with blood-stained, torn clothing.

"Families always want the clothes because that's the last thing their kids wore," she said.

Donna Strang, a Lutheran High English teacher and adviser to SADD (Students Against Driving Drunk), said she hopes that Tuesday's lesson had an impact on students.

"We all know that some teenagers drink," she said. "But I hope they learn to be responsible with their actions and not get behind the wheel of a car."

## Teens and booze

The number of teenagers killed while driving under the influence of alcohol is continuing to decrease. Various study results show:

- The percentage of high school seniors who reported having a drink in the past 30 days was 8 percent lower in 1997 than in 1990 and down 24 percent since 1982.
- The percentage of high school

seniors who reported having five or more drinks in a row in the past two weeks was 3 percent lower in 1997 than in 1990 and down 23 percent since 1982.

- The percentage of college freshmen who say they drink beer frequently or occasionally was 10 percent lower in 1996 than in 1990 and down 30 percent since 1982.
- The number of people killed in

drunken driving crashes in the United States has declined 26 percent since 1990 and 36 percent since 1982, going from 18,444 in 1982 to 11,773 in 1996.

- The number of people killed in teenage drunken driving crashes in the United States has declined 40 percent since 1990 and 64 percent since 1982, going from 3,597 in 1982 to 1,309 in 1996.

## Corporal gets plaudits from state MADD

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

A Westland man, praised for saving lives by combating drunken driving, has gained statewide attention.

Brian Ferris, a Wayne County Sheriff's Department corporal, has received the 1998 Life Saver Award from the state Mothers Against Drunk Driving organization.

"It's a great honor," he said.

Ferris, 44, was one of nine Michigan road patrol officers honored last week during a Lansing ceremony kicking off MADD's 13th annual "Tie One On For Safety" campaign.

The campaign encourages drivers to tie red ribbons on their cars – particularly during the holiday season – to show support for anti-drunken driving efforts.

Ferris, a sheriff's department employee for 20 years, was nominated by department Executive Director Maggie Ciesnick.

MADD cited the following reasons why Ferris, a native of Detroit, was chosen to receive a Life Saver Award:

- During a one-year period ending Sept. 30, he made 142 traffic arrests involving alcohol.
- He volunteered to become co-director of MADD's first Wayne County golf outing in 1998.

- He made a presentation against drunken driving during Livonia Ladywood High School's Alcohol Awareness Week.
- He has addressed the Detroit Firefighters Academy Junior Program on alcohol awareness.

- He has assisted during St. Patrick's Day week with Smart Ride, a program that allows potential drunken drivers to call for a ride.
- He participated in the Buckle Up program, which encourages safety by urging drivers to



Brian Ferris

## AWARDS

wear seat belts.

"Cpl. Ferris is always willing, on or off duty, to participate in any program or activity that will educate the public about drunk driving and to do what it takes to stop drunk drivers," MADD said in a statement.

Diane Page, MADD public relations director, said the statewide group each year selects nine road patrol officers for the Life Saver Award. Winners include three patrol officers from sheriff's departments, three from local municipal departments and three from Michigan State Police.

About 60,000 drivers are arrested for alcohol offenses during a typical year in Michigan, MADD said.

In 1997 alone, 544 people died in alcohol-related accidents, totaling a total of 1,446 traffic fatalities, the group said.

Another 13,461 people suffered injuries in alcohol-related collisions.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

**Food for thought:** Carolyn Bacon, English teacher at John Glenn High School, has group discussions with her students in mythology.

## Teachers

from page A1

back," she said. She teaches about 140 ninth- and 10th-graders in core classes and mythology.

Bacon, 25, says the students appreciate the energy and vibrancy of a younger teacher.

They may be a "little wilder" while not taking advantage, she said.

As time goes by the students

are "getting to be more rowdy," Carr said.

It's nice to be younger, Carr, 25, said. "They feel they can relate to me better," she said.

Carr, who graduated from Western Michigan University and received her teaching certificate from Eastern Michigan University, likes Wayne-Westland schools. She teaches about 150

students in core classes, creative writing and expository writing.

There has been a lot of interacting with families, she said. "I like it a lot here."

Bacon also likes it. "It's fun to go to sporting events," she said. It was also fun to be at John Glenn when John Glenn went into space this fall, she said.

**Travelling woman:** First-year teacher Kristie Carr waits to enter her classroom. She has to travel from different classrooms to teach her English classes at John Glenn High School.



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## OBITUARIES

**SHIRLEY F. WOOD**

Funeral services for Shirley Wood, 79, of Canton were Nov. 24 in Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth Township with burial at United Memorial Gardens near Plymouth. Officiating was the Rev. James F. Andrews.

Mrs. Wood, who died Nov. 20 in Ypsilanti, was born in South Lyon. She was a homemaker. She was a member of the Full Salvation Union Church of Northville.

Surviving are: sons, David (Vickie) of Westland, Mark

(Dorothy) of Jackson, Tenn., and Philip (Diana) of Chelsea; daughters, Lois (Charles) Long of Foxport, Ky., Joy (Leroy) Simchak of Canton, Hope (James) Shuler of Gastonia, N.C., and Paula (Dannie) Mullins of Carleton; brothers, David Tapp and Keith Tapp; sisters, Lillian Ellenwood, Lorraine Fadiga and Beverly Valentine.

Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 17220 W. 12 Mile, Suite 100, Southfield, MI 48078 or Mott Children's Hospital in Ann

Arbor.

**CATHERINE M. JANIGA**

Funeral services for Catherine Janiga, 86, of Westland were today, Dec. 3, in L.J. Griffin Funeral Home with burial at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. Officiating was the Rev. Stan Tokarski.

Miss Janiga, who died Nov. 30 in Livonia, was born in Yonkers, N.Y. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are: brother, Edward Kloc; and sisters, Louise

Lark and Rose Perry.

**JAMES H. KRIST**

Funeral services for James Krist, 74, of Westland were Dec. 1 in L.J. Griffin Funeral Home with burial at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. Officiating was the Rev. Leonard Partensky.

Mr. Krist, who died Nov. 28 in Wayne, was born in Madison, Wis. He was an emission control employee in the automotive industry.

Surviving are: wife, Frances; sons, Keith (Camille) and Kevin; and daughter, Stephanie (William) Anders.

Funeral services for George Loucks, 69, of Westland were Dec. 1 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

Mr. Loucks, who died Nov. 28 in Wayne, was born in Tarentum, Pa. He was a supervisor in the steel industry.

Surviving are: wife, Douisea; sons, Larry (Sue) and Jim (Kathy); daughter, Terry; mother, Regina DeMilt; brothers, Charles (Judy) and Thomas (Audrey); sister, Jeannine (George) Platt; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Loucks was preceded in death by his father, George.

**PATRICIA A. CAMPBELL**

Funeral services for Patricia Campbell, 66, of Wayne were Nov. 30 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Westland. Special services were held by Lodge VFW Post 3323 Ladies Auxiliary.

Mrs. Campbell, who died Nov. 25 in Wayne, was born in Detroit. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are: husband, Robert; sons, Stephen, Santo, Donald, Robert and Donald Campbell; daughters, Victoria and Mary; mother, Mary Jackson; and 12 grandchildren. Mrs. Campbell's children live in Westland and Canton.

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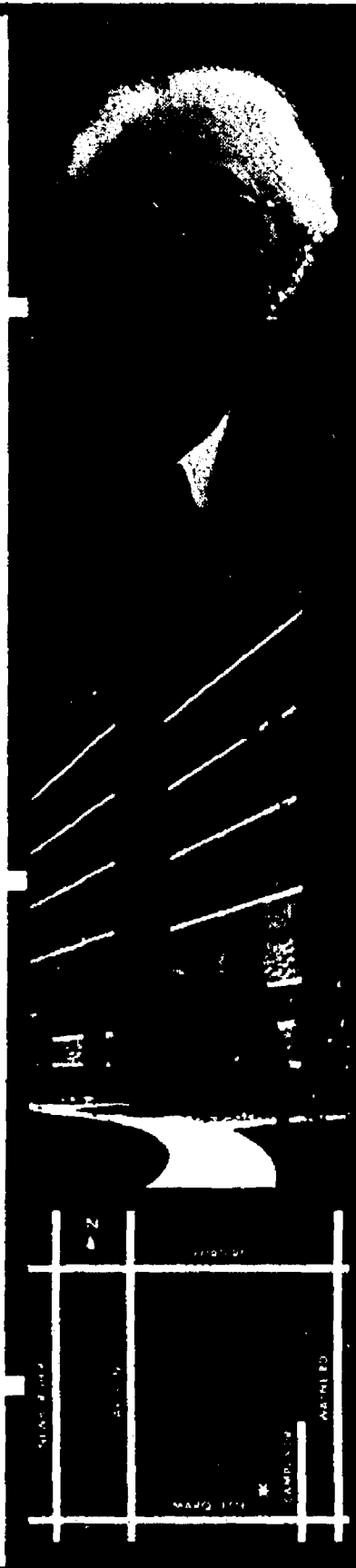
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## PLACES AND FACES

**Chamber fun**

The traditional joint Holiday Party of the Westland Chamber of Commerce and Wayne Chamber of Commerce will feature a gift exchange. Attendees are asked to bring a gift advertising their business. Gifts should be valued at \$10 or under.

The event will be 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, at Jay Manor. Entertainment will be provided and Salvation Army bells will be tolling to remind those present of the true meaning of the season. Price is \$15 for the luncheon. A 24-hour cancellation notice is required. For reservations, call 326-7222.

**Raffle drawing**

Raffle tickets to benefit the Joseph F. Benyo scholarship are available through the Westland Chamber of Commerce. A variety of Beanie Babies and \$500 will be the options in the Winner's Circle drawing 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at Farwell and Friends, 8063 Middlebelt. The sing-along event will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Proceeds will go toward funding the scholarship and the chamber's small business programs. To buy tickets or for information, call 326-7222.

**DDA chief**

On Nov. 13, Steve Guile, the Downtown Development Authority director for the city of Westland, was re-elected as treasurer of the Michigan Downtown and Financing Association. The MDFA, an organization of DDAs, municipalities, financial advisers and consulting firms, has existed since 1992. It promotes development of communities throughout the state with emphasis on downtown areas. The MDFA also provides quarterly seminars on current topics of concern, publishes a quarterly newsletter and aids in addressing members' legislative issues.

**On the road**

James Jennings, Ph.D., has been elected national secretary of the Family Motor Coach Association. The international association is for people who own and enjoy the recreational use of motorhomes.

Jennings lived in Westland for 25 years and was a Wayne-Westland school principal. He served as state president of Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association in 1981. Jennings and wife Shirley are retired and live full time in their motorhome.

**Coffee's on**

U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor, will hold a coffee hour 8:30-10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, at the Westland Family Diner, 8301 N. Wayne Road. All constituents of the 13th Congressional District are encouraged to stop by. For information, call Rivers' district office at (734) 741-4210 in Ann Arbor or (734) 722-1411 in Wayne.

**Decorating contest**

City Council President Sandra Cicirelli has announced the 12th annual Christmas Decorating Contest, sponsored by the city council. Cicirelli will chair the event.

Residential displays will be judged by members of the council. Plaques will be awarded to the winners at a regular meeting Tuesday, Jan. 19. There will be first-, second- and third-place winners. Council members will look at all nominations Wednesday, Dec. 16.

Those wishing to nominate themselves or someone else for the award may write to the Westland City Clerk's Office, 36601 Ford Road, or call Clerk Patricia A. Gibbons at 467-3185 or 467-3191.

Deadline for nominations will be 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14. Those selected for the awards for be notified by the city clerk.

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## MET open for new applications

The Michigan Education Trust (MET) will accept new applicants Dec. 1, 1998 to Feb. 1, 1999. The MET program provides an opportunity to pay future college tuition costs for a Michigan child.

Acting state Treasurer and MET Board Chair Madhu Anderson said full, limited, or community college contracts will be offered with two purchase options: lump sum and monthly purchase.

"Ten years ago the average

cost of one year's tuition at a four-year public university in Michigan was \$2,302. This year the average is \$4,385," said Anderson.

MET contract price is exempt from state income tax and the increase in value of the original contract price is tax deferred. The increased value is then taxed at the students' tax rate over the time he or she attends college. MET is not guaranteed by the state of Michigan. It is secured by the assets of the

trust.

Applications are available at banks, grocery stores, day care facilities, hospitals, Rite Aid stores, Secretary of State branch offices, libraries and Treasury offices.

A nonrefundable \$25 fee is required when submitting an application.

For more information call 1-800-MET-4-KID (1-800-638-4543). Information also is available on the Web site at: [www.treas.state.mi.us](http://www.treas.state.mi.us)

## 'Friends' hosts family holiday event

Join the Friends of Nankin Mills and Wayne County parks staff for holiday festivities 3-6 p.m. Saturday at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland.

Families can expect a visit from Santa Claus, seasonal games and stories, old-fashioned holiday crafts, refreshments and a tree-lighting ceremony. The craft and game

portion of the program takes place 3-4:30 p.m. Cost is \$2 per person and pre-registration is required.

For families attending after 4:30 p.m. to visit with Santa Claus and to view the tree lighting ceremony, there is no need to pre-register and no fee. All children should be accompanied by an adult.

This event has been made

possible through parks mileage funds. In the event of inclement weather, the tree-lighting ceremony will be held indoors.

The Nankin Mills Interpretive Center is located on Hines Drive just east of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland. For information on this or any other Wayne County parks event, call (734) 261-1990.



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- B. Hinged ceramic figures filled with delicious chocolate balls. From Galerie Au Chocolat. \$25 each. Fancy Foods.
- C. Silver plated holiday spreaders from Wallace. Set of four. \$20. China, Crystal, Silver.
- D. Choose from an assortment of holiday platters, including this delightful snowman handpainted on a cut glass plate. \$18. Kitchen Shop.
- E. Give a gift of home fragrance from ScentAtons. Cinnamon-scented pine cones in a holiday gift box. \$10. Bath Shop.
- F. Carols of Christmas clock plays 30 seconds of music as each hour strikes. Twelve carols in all. Quartz battery operated. Light sensor lowers volume during the night. \$29.95. Home.

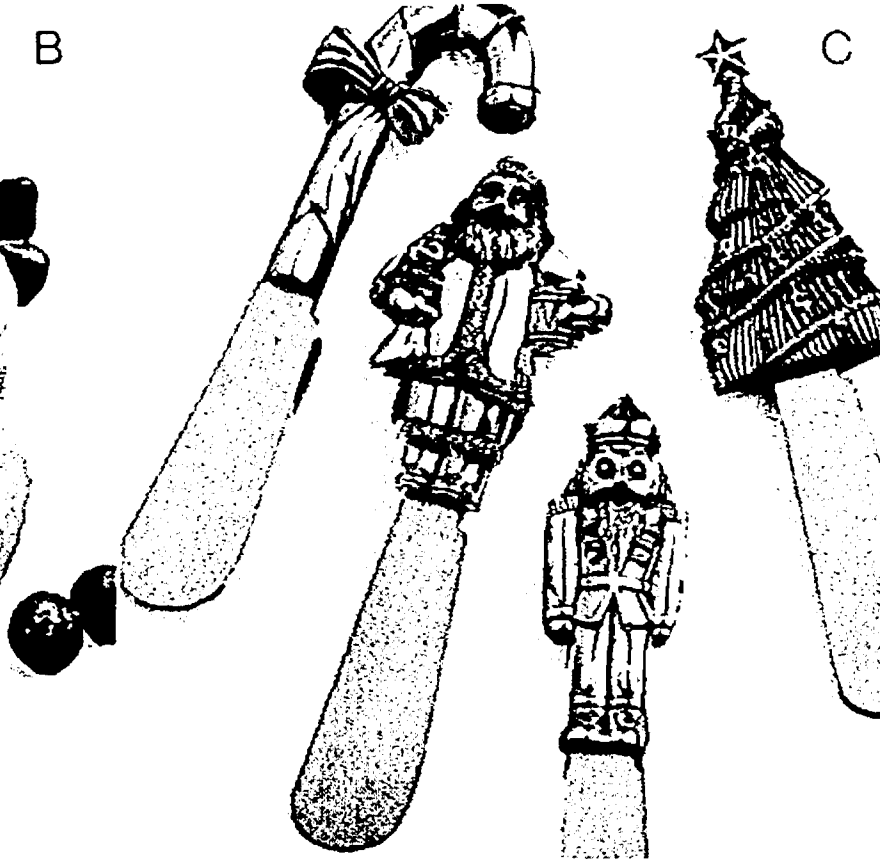
a gift from Jacobson's means more



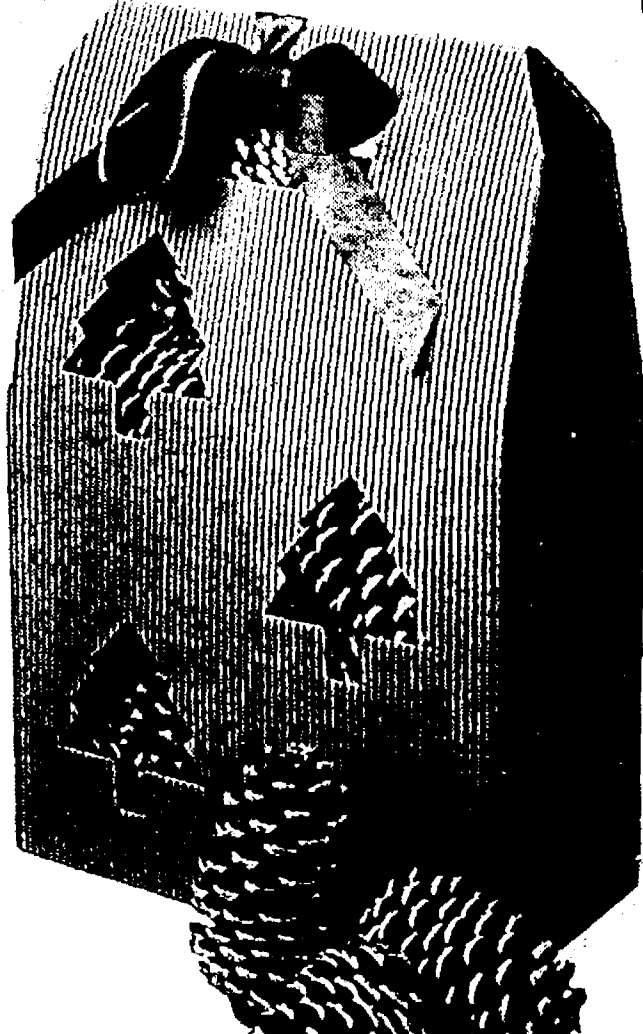
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# Experts warn area officials of Y2K problems

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER  
trichard@oe.homecomm.net

City hall will hesitate when you ask if it's ready for the Y2K problem.

That's on the advice of attorneys. They don't want mayors, city managers and public safety directors to make promises they may be unable to keep on Jan. 1, 2000 — the date their computers might, perhaps, crash.

"Attorneys advise us to be wary of the statements we make. The city is exempt from suits (under an ancient legal doctrine), but personal suits can be filed against you for misleading statements," James Amin advised a roomful of municipal and university officials.

Amin is director of administrative services for the city of Ann Arbor. He was among a panel of speakers at the University of Michigan's Nov. 30 outreach program with the Michigan Municipal League.

"Even the director of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department says to keep a water supply on hand," Amin added.

No one predicted western civilization will grind to a halt. But many computers are programmed to read a two-digit number for the year and can't tell the difference between 1900 and 2000. So even where changes are being made, everyone needs to be prepared.

U-M is urging municipalities to make all employees aware of

the situation, list all possible problems, design and test solutions. A consulting firm said that as of Nov. 17, some 35 percent of all institutions and 29 percent of governments hadn't started preparations. A mere 7-10 percent had tested their equipment.

Wayne County, for example, reported it has "an aggressive schedule" but is a year behind that schedule. Likely to be affected: traffic lights, pension payments.

Those preparations involve asking vendors and repair companies tough questions — which they will evade answering — about whether the equipment they're selling and repairing is Y2K compatible.

"There are days when I feel my

neck is stretched to the other end of campus. I will not be celebrating 2000," confessed Jose-Marie Griffiths, U-M's chief information officer and executive director of information technology.

Griffiths' special problem will be the \$1 billion medical center on U-M's North Campus — power supplies, insurance records, laboratory specimens, payrolls, logistics for medical students.

"We have lots of biomedical specimens stored in controlled environments," she said. "We're looking at survival systems."

"It takes three months to get people to do the assessment," she added, advising officials that they already should have started preparations.

Griffiths had a taste of the problem last September when the Northwest Airlines strike prevented many faculty and students from returning to campus.

Officials from the Conference of Western Wayne, Livonia, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Oakland University, Pontiac, Detroit, Western Michigan University and several outstate cities fired questions and war stories at the speakers.

"In Washington, D.C., there were claims that over half their fire engines wouldn't start."

"Now we have to ask our vendors who repair our radios, is your repair service Y2K compliant?"

"Many vendors absolutely

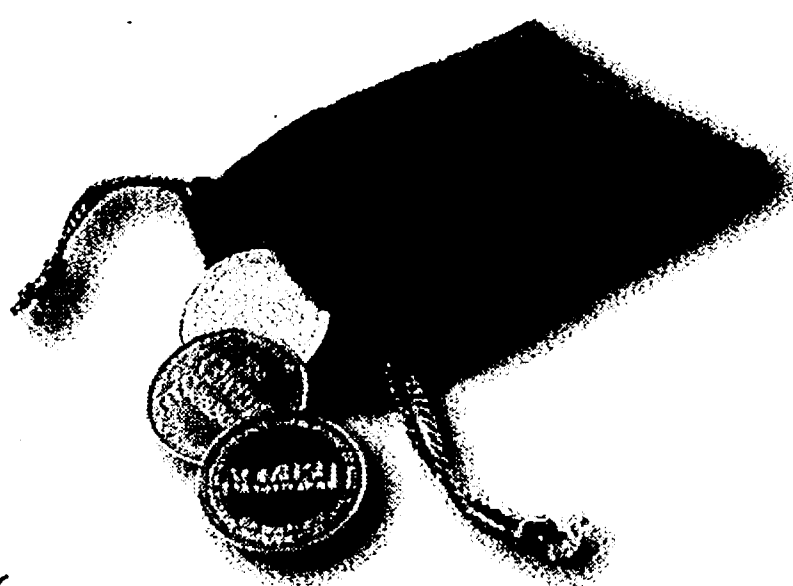
refuse to make any kind of assurance of Y2K compliance. Many will tell you to buy \$600,000 or \$700,000 of new equipment."

■ How do you test embedded chips? A lot of utilities have embedded chips in heating and cooling equipment, elevators and escalators. Answer: About 5 percent of chips will go bad.

■ After a power failure, stores in Australia were out of food in two days.

■ "I never thought of the possibility that my car wouldn't start because of an embedded chip in the car key." Reply: Any car built since 1997 by the Big Three is supposed to be Y2K

Please see Y2K, A7



## FOR THE CHILDREN, FROM SANTA

Santa will be at Somerset North every day 'til closing. And for each child who visits, he has a special gift. A velvet pouch for three golden coins from Santa's treasure chest.

Children can use the coins for purchases at participating stores.  
Or tuck them away as mementos.

While you're waiting to visit Santa, the characters from "The Giving Season" will be on hand for rollicking entertainment, amusement and storytelling. If you wish, you can even join them for Saturday breakfast. (Reservations can be made at the castle.)

And for your entertainment, we've arranged daily performances at 1, 3 and 5 pm of "A Most Unusual Gift," a musical staged by The Children's Theatre of Michigan.

The Holidays at the Somerset Collection. Something for everyone.

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## Practical tips for homeowners getting ready for year 2000

Get ready for a one-week camping trip on Jan. 1, 2000.

Don't plan an airline flight that day. And if you happen to be in eastern Europe, Latin America or a Third World country, your campout may last longer.

The reason is Y2K — the widespread expectation that computers will malfunction because they record the year by the last two digits and can't tell the difference between 1900 and 2000.

For example, a person born in 1944 may be told by a computer he is 44 years old, not 56. Credit card bills could be shown as not having been paid for 100 years.

The solution is to write com-

puter programs so that they record all years with four digits.

But that might involve changing programs written in computer "languages" that are rarely used any more.

The GartnerGroup, which specializes in research, suggests what the average homeowner should — and shouldn't — do as the year 2000 approaches. Excerpts from its report "Year 2000 Risk Assessment and Planning for Individuals":

■ "A 'bomb shelter' mentality is not called for." Don't withdraw all your money from banks or liquidate investments.

■ Prepare for localized failures for a limited time — think in terms of a snowstorm of several days. Have two weeks' salary in

cash.

■ Have up to five days supplies of key consumer items — medications, non-perishable food, household supplies, batteries for lights and radios. If you depend on food stamps or the Women-Infant-Children federal program, you should be especially cautious. The old propane gas stove may come in handy.

■ Don't count on your grocery store being open more than a couple of days if there's a crash. The food industry is among the worst prepared for Y2K.

■ Stock jugs of water.  
■ Fuel your vehicle. Have an adequate supply of home-heat.

Please see TIPS, A7

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Sunday, December 13th at Noon

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Ferdinand Victor Leon Bayet, (French 1840-1920), oil on canvas, 57" x 47", Sunday #2006

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Items removed from Rose Terrace including an 18th c. pastel portrait and an 18th c. French oil on canvas. Architectural elements removed from a Grosse Pointe, MI home and selected items from a Bloomfield Hills private collection. John and Joseph Meeks "Stanton Hall" rosewood furniture.



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Saturday, December 5th ..... 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Monday, December 7th ..... 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, December 8th ..... 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, December 9th ..... 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Thursday, December 10th ..... 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Free Parking Wednesday Evening Exhibition

A 15% Buyer's Premium is added to each lot sold up to and including \$50,000 and 10% over \$50,000 and is subject to 6% Michigan Sales Tax. Illustrated catalogs available at the Gallery for \$20.00, postpaid \$25.00 Express Mail and Overseas \$33.00. Annual subscriptions \$75.00. International subscriptions \$135.00.

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# Safety experts stress precaution this shopping season

The holiday season may be the busiest shopping time of the year, but it's also a prime season for criminals to prey on shoppers burdened by packages and often too preoccupied to take parking lot safety precautions.

Officials from a statewide auto theft prevention program say safety should top holiday shoppers' list this season.

"People have a lot on their minds during the holidays and often do things for the sake of expediency they might not otherwise do, like leaving their car running or open to make a quick stop for some item or leaving

packages in plain view," said Bill Liddane, director of Help Eliminate Auto Thefts, a program which operates a toll-free tip reward line.

"Unfortunately, this carelessness is precisely what criminals are counting on during the holiday season. These HEAT holiday safety tips are offered to remind people to stay alert and not forget about safety concerns, so that everyone has a happy and safe holiday."

HEAT offers the following tips for shoppers:

Park in well-lighted areas, near sidewalks or walkways.

Avoid parking near dumpsters or large vans or trucks. (These obstacles decrease your ability to see the space around your vehicle, where carjackers could be hiding.)

Consider using the valet service if you are shopping alone at night at a mall. Leave only the ignition key with the valet. (Keep your registration and proof of insurance in your wallet.)

If shopping late at night, ask the store clerk if it is possible to get store security to escort you to your car. If you leave purchases or wrapped gifts in the car, place

them in the trunk and out of sight.

Try to keep one hand free with the ignition key in hand. Look around and inside car before getting in.

If you are threatened by a carjacker with a gun or other weapon, give up your car. Don't argue. A life is more important than any car.

When driving in traffic, always leave room between you and the car in front, so that if you sense trouble, you can maneuver quickly and get away easily.

If you are carjacked or witness a carjacking, try to remember

what the carjacker looked like — sex, height, build, race, age, hair and eye color and special features.

Once you are in a safe location, report the crime by calling 9-1-1 or the police. Also report your information to HEAT's toll free tip reward line at (800) 242-HEAT whether you are a carjacking victim or witness a carjacking. Your confidential information could be worth up to \$10,000.

HEAT is funded by Michigan auto insurance companies and rewards tip line callers up to

\$1,000 if their tip leads to the arrest and binding over for trial of a suspected car thief; up to \$10,000 if the tip results in the arrest and binding over for trial of suspected theft ring members and/or chop shop operators. HEAT also rewards \$2,000 for information leading to the issuance of a warrant for a carjacking suspect.

Since its inception in 1985, HEAT has awarded \$1.7 million to tip callers and recovered 2,575 vehicles valued at \$28.8 million. The HEAT tip line has received 5,246 calls leading to the arrests of 1,960 suspects.

## Santa's coming to Rite Aid

Santa Claus is coming to town and to Rite Aid stores in western Wayne County.

Santa will be on hand to visit with children and hear their wish lists at Rite Aid stores in Canton, Garden City, Livonia and Redford.

Rite Aid will provide children with a complimentary photograph of their visit with Santa. Children can meet with Santa from 5-8 p.m. on Fridays and 1-5 p.m. Saturdays.

Here is the schedule of appearances:

Friday, Dec. 4 and Saturday, Dec. 5 — Rite Aid stores at 180 S. Lilley, Canton; 37355 Eight Mile, Livonia, and 25790 Joy Road, Redford.

Friday, Dec. 11 and Saturday, Dec. 12 — 5736 Middlebelt, Garden City, and 31245 Eight Mile, Livonia.

Friday, Dec. 18 and Saturday, Dec. 19 — 15181 Telegraph, Redford.

Rite Aid operates about 4,000 stores in 30 states with annual revenue of \$12 billion. In Michigan the chain operates 381 stores.

## Tips

from page A6

ing fuel delivered in late 1999.

■ Retrieve all your e-mail messages.

■ Send your mail and packages early.

■ Obtain hard (paper) copies of your Social Security records, pension and savings plans.

■ Avoid air travel around Jan. 1, 2000. If air traffic control systems fail, an airport's ability to handle flights could be reduced by 80 percent.

■ Have your medical and dental checkups in advance.

■ Ask your local city, township or village if it has made preparations. You may have to hound them. For example, do they have cellular phones and mobile radio backups for emergency services?

GartnerGroup has surveyed thousands of enterprises and generally finds that large companies are preparing, but smaller companies and many governments are not. In general, the U.S., Canada, Australia and the northern European countries will be in better shape than Mexico, Central America, South America, eastern Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

## Y2K

from page A6

compliant. But the Big Three Web sites are pretty much ignoring Y2K problems.

City officials have further advice from the federal General Accounting Office about other possible malfunctions:

■ Traffic signals that are date-dependent could break down.

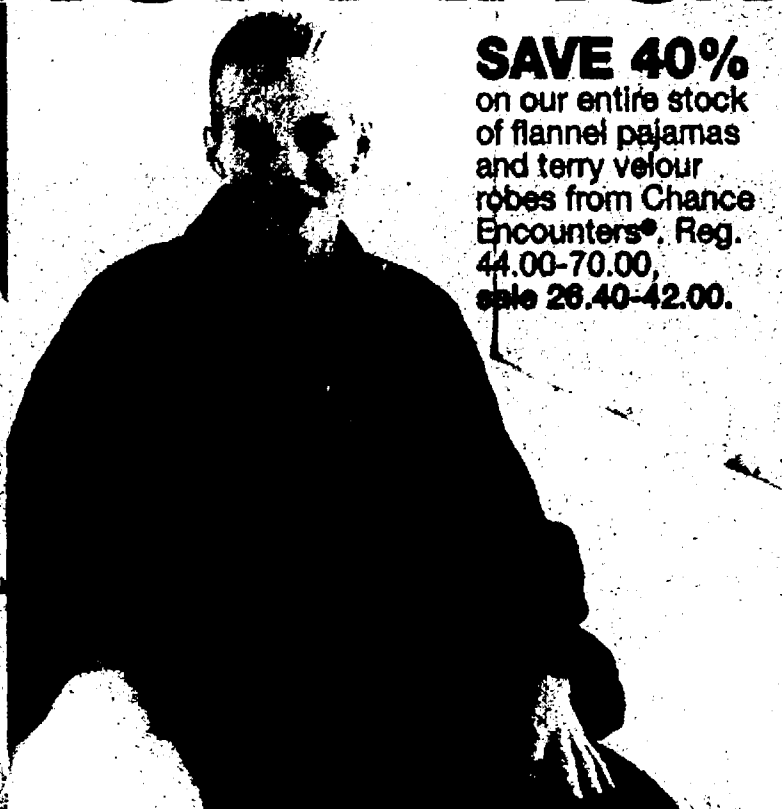
■ Criminal records may be adversely affected — for example, prisoner release or parole eligibility dates.

■ The Social Security Administration exchanges data files with states to determine the eligibility of disabled persons for benefits — "a monumental issue," according to GAO testimony before Congress.

# PARISIAN POWERSHOPPINGWEEKEND



**SALE 14.99-19.99** Last Clothes fleece for misses and petites. Reg. 22.00-24.00. AVAILABLE AT ALL STORES EXCEPT THE SUMMIT, NORTH POINT MALL, KENWOOD TOWNE CENTER AND PHIPPS PLAZA.



**SAVE 40%** on our entire stock of flannel pajamas and terry velour robes from Chance Encounters®. Reg. 44.00-70.00, sale 26.40-42.00.



**SALE 29.99** Large selection of misses' sweaters from Warnetta, Jeanne Phipps, Last Clothes, At Ease and By Design. Reg. 34.00-54.00.



**SAVE 40%** on a large selection of women's boots from Timberland, Enzo, Aigner, Unisa, Prima Royale and more. Reg. 37.00-120.00, sale 22.20-80.00.



**SAVE 40%** on a large selection of women's shoes from Timberland, Enzo, Aigner, Unisa, Prima Royale and more. Reg. 37.00-120.00, sale 22.20-80.00.



**SAVE 25-40%** on designer handbags. Reg. 124.00-268.00, sale 93.00-201.00.

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**SAVE 25-50%** on new reductions on selected fall and holiday career collections from famous New York designers. Reg. 58.00-152.00, sale 29.00-114.00. IN MISSES' SPORTSWEAR, DRESSES.

**SAVE 40%** on our large selection of Parisian Signature two-ply cashmere sweaters, mock necks, turtlenecks and cardigans. Reg. 138.00-148.00, sale 82.80-88.80. IN MISSES' SWEATERS.

**SAVE 25-50%** on our large selection of sweaters. Reg. 24.00-54.00, sale 12.00-27.00. IN MISSES' AND JUNIORS' SWEATERS.

**SAVE 25-50%** on famous maker collections for Parisian Woman. Reg. 28.00-180.00, sale 20.99-89.99.

**SAVE 25-50%** on juniors' knit and woven tops and bottoms from Palmello's, Reference Point and more. Reg. 18.00-38.00, sale 13.50-28.50. IN JUNIORS.

**SAVE 25-50%** on juniors' dresses and collections from XOXO, Ecu, Byer and more. Orig. 18.00-69.00, sale 13.50-34.50. IN JUNIORS.

**SAVE 25-50%** on our entire stock of misses' wool coats and leather jackets from Jones New York® and more. Reg. 250.00-650.00, sale 125.00-487.50. IN MISSES' COATS.

**SAVE 25%** on Tomorrow's Mother maternity apparel. Reg. 24.00-148.00, sale 18.00-111.00. IN MATERNITY EXCLUDES DENIM AND LINGERIE.

## INTIMATE APPAREL

**SAVE 40%** on our entire stock of Chance Encounters® satin sleepwear. Reg. 42.00-58.00, sale 25.20-34.80. IN INTIMATE APPAREL.

**SALE 12.99-14.99** Entire stock of Warner's®, Olga® and Vanity Fair® bras. Reg. 19.00-27.00. IN INTIMATE APPAREL.

## JEWELRY

**SALE 29.99** Cubic zirconia bracelets set in 18K gold-over-sterling silver. Reg. 60.00. IN ACCESSORIES.

**SAVE 40%** on a large selection of boxed Parisian jewelry. Reg. 15.00-20.00, sale 9.00-12.00. IN ACCESSORIES.

## ACCESSORIES

**SAVE 25%** on winter gloves, mufflers and hats from Fownes, Ben Berger and more. Reg. 8.00-75.00, sale 6.00-56.25. IN ACCESSORIES.

**SAVE 50%** on our large selection of social occasion handbags. Reg. 28.00-60.00, sale 14.00-30.00. IN ACCESSORIES.

## SHOES

**SAVE 40%** on our large selection of women's dress and casual shoes from Timberland, Enzo, Van Eli, Aigner® and more. Reg. 37.00-90.00, sale 22.20-54.00. IN WOMEN'S SHOES.

**SAVE AN EXTRA 40%** on already-reduced selected children's shoes and boots from Stride Rite, Jumping Jacks, Esprit® and Candle's. Orig. 25.00-52.00, sale 17.99-38.99, now 10.79-23.99. IN CHILDREN'S SHOES.

**SAVE AN EXTRA 25%** on women's red-lined fall dress shoes, casual shoes and boots from Enzo, Nine West®, Van Eli and more. Orig. 37.00-90.00, sale 27.75-67.50, now 20.81-50.62. IN WOMEN'S SHOES.

**SAVE AN EXTRA 25%** on men's red-lined shoes and boots. Orig. 100.00-135.00, sale 74.99-99.99, now 56.24-74.99. IN MEN'S SHOES.

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**SALE 199.99** Bill Blass® solid camel hair sport coat. Reg. 345.00. IN MEN'S.

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**SAVE AN EXTRA 25%** on selected men's already-reduced collections. Reg. 24.00-250.00, sale 9.00-90.00. IN MEN'S NOT AT DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM.

**SAVE 40%** on Roed leather outerwear. Reg. 250.00-340.00, sale 149.99-203.99. IN MEN'S OUTERWEAR NOT AT DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM.

**SAVE 40%** on Architect® and Blue Company flannels. Reg. 28.00-36.00, sale 16.80-21.60. IN MEN'S, NOT AT DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM. BLUE COMPANY ALSO NOT AT PHIPPS PLAZA, THE SUMMIT OR NORTH POINT MALL.

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# SEMCOG: State economy is 'envy of nation'

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER  
richard@oe.homecomm.net

A decade ago, southeastern Michigan was the economic sick man of the Midwest, the epitome of what scoffers called "the Rust Belt."

Today the auto capital outperforms the nation and even the more diversified outstate regions.

Why? How? Who did it?

The Engler administration, says Gov. John Engler.

"Consumer sentiment" and the many initiatives undertaken by the U.S. motor vehicle industry, coupled with the fact that this region hasn't been hurt by "military base closings and defense industry cutbacks," says a report by SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Government. Economists Jeffrey W. Jones and Abel Feinstein don't even mention Engler's name, though they gave some slight credit to his property tax cuts.

Engler, re-elected Nov. 3 in a landslide, had his budget director put forth his case for a medal in the opening of his fiscal 1999

budget message.

"Since taking office in January 1991, Gov. John Engler has fundamentally transformed the fiscal and economic landscape of the State of Michigan. For years, Michigan lagged behind the nation in nearly every economic indicator."

"Today, after cutting taxes 24 times, stopping wasteful government spending and reducing both welfare caseloads and unemployment to record-low levels, Michigan drives America's renaissance."

"Michigan's economy is the envy of the nation. Our successful efforts to reduce regulations and taxation have freed businesses, entrepreneurs and workers to create jobs, grow and prosper." (Italics added.)

## SEMCOG's case

SEMCOG, in its October "Profile of the Southeast Michigan Region's Economy and Labor Market," agreed it has been "one of the great regional economic success stories of the 1990s ... a superlative ... a significant

reversal of fortune" for a region which "in the 1970s and 1980s often trailed the national economy, sometimes by a wide margin."

SEMCOG's analysis concentrates on the national market and behavior of the auto companies. Items:

■ "Consumer sentiment has, on the whole, been quite bullish" since 1990. The U.S. economy has grown at a moderate 2.8 percent annual average.

■ The motor vehicle industry "has increased output per hour by 34 percent."

■ Consumer concerns about the low quality of U.S. vehicles versus foreign cars are largely resolved. The Big Three "spent more than \$117 billion worldwide on research and development work."

■ American manufacturers targeted the light truck, van and sport utility vehicle market, "the fastest-growing segment of the overall vehicle market." By 1997 U.S. companies had captured 82 percent of the sport-ute market compared to 61 percent of the auto market.

■ Michigan doubled its exports from \$79.5 billion in 1990 to nearly \$98 billion in 1997, with "a significant share" coming from southeastern Michigan.

■ This region has been "insulated from the negative economic effects of the 1990s. Military base closings, defense industry cutbacks and the collapse of over-built commercial real estate markets hurt the economies of many metropolitan statistical areas. Defense spending does not play a large role in the region's economy, and commercial real estate was not subject to the degree of speculative excess evident in other cities."

■ Manufacturing used to be unstable. In the decade of 1979-89, southeastern Michigan lost 144,000 manufacturing jobs. In the 1990s, however, manufacturing added stability, inching up from 493,000 to 498,000 by 1997. Manufacturing work weeks rose from 42.9 hours in 1990 to 45.6 in 1997.

■ Construction has generated 20,000 jobs in the 1990s, a gain of 29 percent and triple the national average. The boom has

covered residential, commercial and industrial markets. SEMCOG credits "low mortgage interest rates, reductions in property tax rates and higher levels of transportation and infrastructure spending." (Italics added.)

■ Services added 185,000 jobs, up 15 percent during the 1990s. "Business/management/engineering services, health and miscellaneous services were the leaders in job creation. Wholesale and retail trade also recorded sizable gains."

■ Banking lost jobs with multi-state mergers, but real estate and insurance made up for it.

## Buoyant forecast

SEMCOG's forecast was much the same as the University of Michigan economic forecast of Nov. 19-20. The southeastern corner will lead the state, although overall growth will slow.

Has the region succeeded in stabilizing and diversifying? Short answer: yes.

SEMCOG used a mathemati-

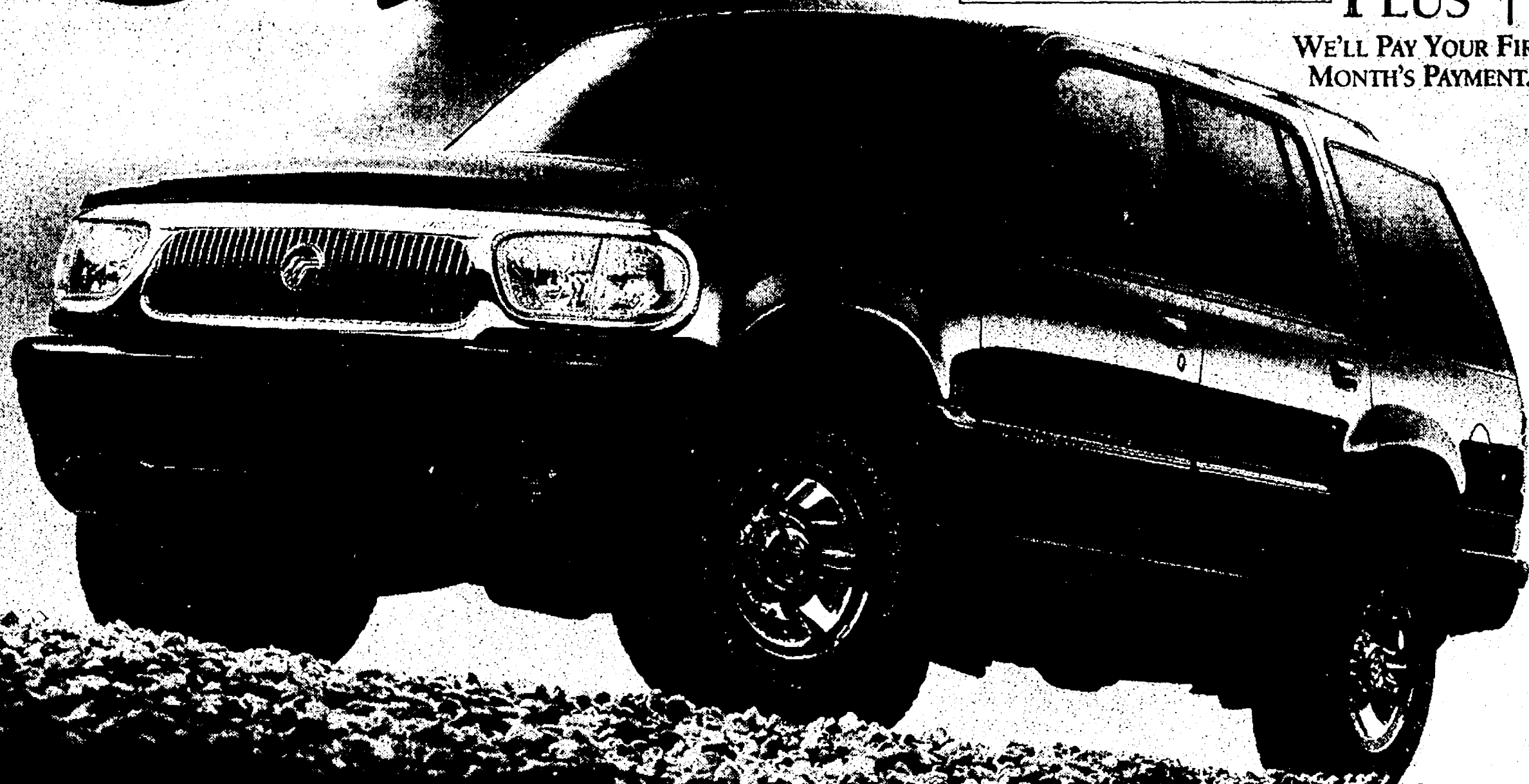
cal formula to produce a "volatility index." A high number is bad; a low number is good. The region reduced its 1990 index for executives and managers from 3.1 to 1.7; for precision production craft and repair, from 8.7 to 3.5.

Nationally, the index for executives and managers moved from 2.3 (lower than SE Michigan) to 2.0 (higher); for precision production, craft and repair from 5.8 (lower than SE Michigan) to 6.5 (higher).

SEMCOG predicts that any downturn will be less severe than those of the 1970s and 1980s. The region will face labor shortages. "The region will need to retain workers, attract needed workers with specialized skills, and encourage higher labor force participation."

SEMCOG's report is entitled "Profile of the Southeast Michigan Region's Economy and Labor Market 1997." Copies are available from SEMCOG Information Services, 660 Plaza Drive, Suite 1900, Detroit 48226; phone (313) 96104266. Web site: [www.semcog.org](http://www.semcog.org)

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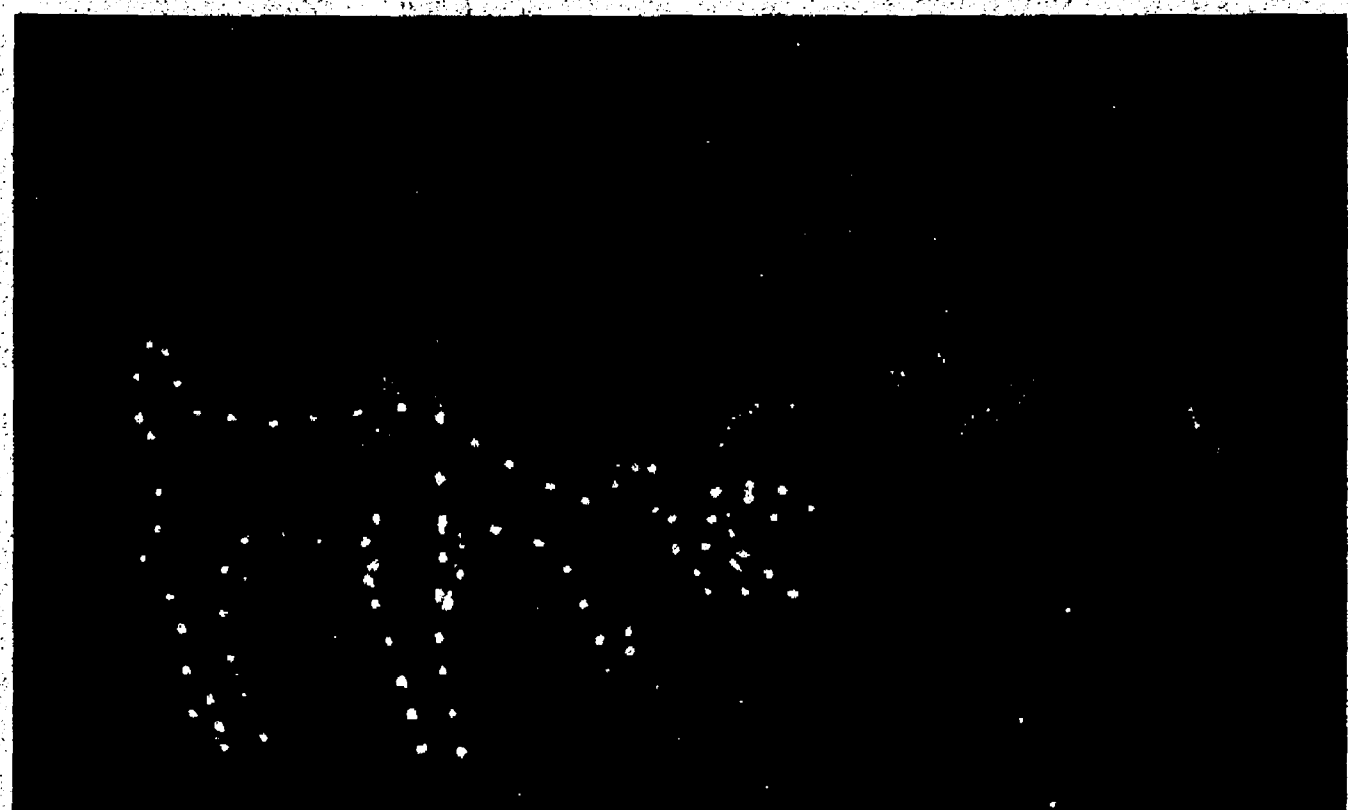
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## LightFest



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

**Aglow:** Wayne County LightFest is now open with what county officials call "the Midwest's largest holiday show," featuring 39 giant displays and nearly a million lights. Four new displays are featured along the 4.5 miles of Hines Drive. LightFest runs nightly from 7-10 p.m., through Jan. 1, except Christmas Day. At the end of the drive, visitors can stop by Santa's Shelter at the Warrendale Picnic Area for refreshments and gift shopping, and they can get a picture taken with Santa Claus. A \$5-per-car donation helps keep LightFest operating. Hines Drive is closed to traffic at 5:45 p.m. Traffic enters the LightFest at Hines Drive and Merriman. For more information call (734) 261-1990.

## Madonna evaluation nets NCA re-accreditation through 2008

Madonna University has received formal notification from the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) that it has approved continued accreditation at the undergraduate and master's levels through 2007-2008.

Madonna College was first accredited by NCA in 1959.

Last January, a team representing the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools visited the University and conducted a comprehensive evaluation.

In its official report, the eight-member team unanimously recommended continuing the institutional accreditation of Madonna University.

Among the strengths of the University, as reported by the team, is "the rare spirit of collegiality approximating an extended family shared by students, faculty, staff, administration and the board."

Other strengths highlighted were: the talent and enthusiasm of the students and their appreciation of the programs, faculty and staff; the support of the faculty and staff for the institution's efforts to respond to new challenges in creative ways such as evidenced by distance learning and serving new student populations; the effectiveness of the University in forging mutually beneficial relationships with

other educational institutions, business and governmental agencies to serve community and student needs; the "attractive and well-maintained" physical plant; positive operating budgets coupled with fiscal responsibility and effective fund-raising strategies.

The team commented on the continued implementation of approved assessment plans for student outcomes and provided consultation in the area of international education.

"Our university is most grateful for the thoroughness in which the team members evaluated Madonna and appreciate NCA's recognition of our institutional commitment to academic excellence," said Sister Mary Francilene, president.

## Livonia officials join suit to open primary election

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
STAFF WRITER  
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Two elected officials in Livonia support a legal challenge to "open" primary elections in Wayne County and allow voters to select candidates from Democratic and Republican parties without spoiling ballots.

Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey and City Council President Jack Engbretson filed a brief about a week ago with the Michigan Court of Appeals supporting four Wayne County residents who want to open primaries.

Currently voters are not permitted to cross over between parties in primary elections. For example, voters marking ballots in support of County Executive Edward McNamara — a Democrat — in this year's August primary election could not vote in any Republican race — whether it was the contested state Senate race with Thaddeus McCotter, James Ryan and Debbie Whyman, or the gubernatorial race, won handily by John Engler.

John Hand, a Dearborn attorney and a former Wayne County charter commissioner, originally challenged the state law in March, asking the Wayne County Circuit Court to declare that the state's Ballot-Voiding Rule, which prevents split-ticket voting in primary elections, does not apply in Wayne County's "home rule" elections.

The plaintiffs include Patrick O'Hara of Detroit, Joseph Turinsky of Lincoln Park and Anthony and Jane Ruggiero of Plymouth. The suit names Wayne County Clerk Teola Hunter, the Wayne County Election Commission and the Board of Canvassers as defendants.

About three months ago Hand appealed a circuit court ruling that went against the plaintiffs.

Mary Nasser, attorney with Wayne County's corporation counsel, could not be reached for comment on the appeal.

### Closing the primary

In their brief, Kirksey and Engbretson cite statistics from the August primary showing that 15,935 Livonia residents

### LAWSUIT TO 'OPEN' PRIMARY ELECTIONS

voted for governor, including Democrat and Republican candidates, while 7,377 voted for either McNamara or challenger Sharon McPhail, the Democratic candidates for Wayne County executive on the same ballot.

The brief states 8,558 Livonia voters or 53.6 percent "were disenfranchised, right in the polling place, as only 7,377 voted in the primary which is tantamount to election for the Office of County Executive." (Wayne County's electorate is largely Democrat.) The state and county primary elections are "two primaries, not one," the brief states.

"The state's (ballot) voiding penalty, if it applies to more than the state primary itself, must be applied individually to the ballot for each primary, not collectively to the ballots for both primaries," the brief states.

### Charter lacking

Since the Wayne County charter lacks the ballot-voiding provision, each Wayne County primary voter should be permitted to vote to nominate one candidate for each office to be filled, regardless of party affiliation, the brief concludes.

Kirksey said he has heard complaints from residents about the closed primary while in office as mayor and in previous years as a state representative.

"We just felt it was a situation where the Livonia voters were being disenfranchised," said Kirksey. When Kirksey heard about the lawsuit, he thought "it was important to add input to that concept," he said.

"It is important to look out for the best interests of Livonia. By and large, it's been an ongoing concern."

Engbretson wants an open primary to "broaden people's choices."

"Voters in an open primary could have the opportunity to vote for candidates when they want to support people of both

parties. Not that they have to, but it at least gives them the opportunity," Engbretson said.

Hand said the problem stems from a 1954 state statute that does not name the Wayne County executive or county commissioners, and applied only to nominations for offices listed at that time in the Primary Election Law.

The county executive's position was created in the Wayne County charter, which was approved by county voters in 1981, nearly 30 years after the state statute was passed.

Wayne County is the only chartered county out of Michigan's 83 counties and the 1954 statute shouldn't apply to Wayne County, Hand said.

Kirksey and Engbretson's motion of support is important to the case, Hand said. "I think it brings across to the Court of Appeals that (the case) isn't just a couple of 'good government' types arguing this case," Hand said. "It shows that communities and voters see that the ballot voiding rule disenfranchises voters."

"It's not just a question of good government. I think the franchise isn't worth much if your vote isn't counted."

### Commissioners opposed

Hand asked Wayne County commissioners last year to place a proposal before voters asking whether they wanted open primaries, but it was resoundingly rejected by commissioners.

Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland; Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia; Commissioner Bruce Patterson, R-Canton; and former commissioner Edward Plawewski Sr., D-Dearborn Heights, opposed it.

At that time, Beard called the request an "exercise in futility."

"Wayne County cannot make a change in this, because it violates state law," Beard said. Patterson said Democrats would cross over into Republican races, and Republicans would vote in races for Democrats, "just to be mischievous."

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# OCC academy trains dogs for police work

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER  
trichard@ecce.com

Livonia is adding a new cop who may turn out to be a real money-maker.

His name is Haro, and he's a German shepherd dog being trained at the Oakland Police Academy by Officer John Walker.

"We've had a K-9 unit for eight years," said Walker, "but one of the dogs is retiring. This is the replacement."

A five-year veteran of the department, Walker qualified for the K-9 unit through an interview process. He hasn't handled a police dog previously, though he owns a 7-year-old shepherd-Labrador mix.

Over five weeks in November and December, they'll train for 200 hours, sometimes putting in 12-hour days. More precisely, the academy will teach Walker to train Haro.

Tuition is steep, but one police department made its money back 24 hours after the dog started work.

"That dog found a car with

drugs and \$4,000 cash," said Gary Godlewski, a Bloomfield Township police officer who doubles as K-9 coordinator for the Oakland Police Academy.

"Because of the drug forfeiture laws, these dogs pay for themselves. That dog (in Bloomfield Hills) made \$20,000 in six months. Most departments that send officers here pay for it by forfeiture money," Godlewski said.

The police academy is headquartered on the Auburn Hills Campus of Oakland Community College. It's a rarity in Michigan — the only academy that trains dogs for police work. OCC has completed two classes and currently is running third, said Dr. Joseph Macri, dean of public services at the campus.

"We have a waiting list for next spring," Godlewski said. "The response from the public has been overwhelming. And the students on campus (OCC and nearby Oakland University) love us."

## Two kinds

There are two kinds of classes:

- Narcotic dog academy — two

weeks at 40 hours per week. Donated Labrador retrievers are used. "Labs have a good nose, they don't bite, they can track, and they're natural hunters," he said. Price is \$3,500, and next class starts in January.

■ Patrol dog academy — five weeks at 40 hours per week in both classroom and field training. It covers narcotics detection, tracking, building searches, article searches and aggression control. The \$7,400 price includes an imported, \$3,000 German shepherd dog that has been pre-trained.

American-bred dogs show a lot of hip dysplasia, Godlewski said, and the imports from Germany, the former Czechoslovakia and Belgium have "an all-around better temperament."

Dogs are matched to handlers and their homes. The handler boards the dog with his family. Iams donates food.

"The last week of class, we'll do drug raids with the Detroit Police Department," Godlewski said. "We try to expose them to stuff they'll face down the street."

Police departments asked OCC

to do training when they became dissatisfied with private training schools, Godlewski said. Oakland's course is certified by the Commission on Law Enforcement Standards.

Detroit and Michigan State Police offer costlier 14-week academies where the dog is trained from scratch. Oakland finds it's cheaper to give dogs some pretraining to tie up less of the handler's time.

Chief of instruction is John Skalski, an officer with 27 years experience in the K-9 unit in Detroit and head trainer there since 1976. "He's the best in the state," Godlewski declared.

Five assistants work with Skalski, one to each of the five students. They teach the student to train the dog. The current class includes officers from the Livonia and Sterling Heights police departments and the Ing-ham (two deputies) and Lenawee counties sheriff's departments.

In the first week, handler and dog follow a trail made by dragging tripe from the stomach of a cow. To make the work more rewarding, bits of hot dogs are added as bait. At the end of the trail is the dog's ball.

## Speaking English

"It's a big game for them," Godlewski said, referring to the dogs. "We look for a dog with a strong ball drive and strong retrieve drive." In the past, some handlers gave commands in German, but today the handlers stick to American English.

"My first dog was from Belgium and was trained in Dutch. Then I trained him in German and later used English — a trilingual dog." That dog was retired at age 9.

One difficult kind of training is building search. "When we do a search, it's safer and quicker to send a dog in. The dog uses its



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN STORMZAND

**Field training:** An unidentified officer and dog wrap up a busy day of training at the OCC Auburn Hills Campus dog training academy. It's a rarity in Michigan — the only academy that trains dogs for police work.

nose, not a light, and is faster than a couple of officers. All the people I've caught over the years will surrender when you announce you have a dog that will bite," Godlewski said.

Use of K-9 units tapered off about 10 years ago when the federal government ruled that handlers had to be compensated for the time caring for the dog at home. But new forfeiture drug laws enable the dogs to pay for their keep, and then some.

Sgt. Jim Morrall of the Ing-ham sheriff's department has two deputies in the academy.

One dog will be a replacement for a retiree, and the second will be an addition, bringing the K-9 unit to four.

Besides police work and revenue, the dogs are loved by members of the public who sometimes get nervous when a human officer comes around. "Great public relations," said Morrall.

Godlewski now works with Storm, a 75-pound male now 6 years old.

At the bottom of Godlewski's business card is this line: "Storm says 'Say NO to Drugs.'"

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# Westland Observer OPINION

A12(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1998

## Saving lives Follow child restraint laws

**W**estland police joined recently with other police agencies in cracking down on violations of the state's child restraint laws.

It's part of a nationwide program called Operation ABC Mobilization: America Buckles Up Children. Some 5,000 agencies are participating. The crackdown will continue periodically during the next year.

A leading cause of death among children is car crashes. In fact, six of 10 fatally injured children are unbelted, and three of those killed would be alive today if they had been in child restraints.

Following child restraint laws is an important way to protect children in an accident.

Whenever we see someone on the road and it's apparent that their children are not properly restrained because they are standing up looking out the back window, we wonder what those parents could possibly be thinking. But, then again, they must not be thinking.

There's really no excuse, except laziness, for

not making sure children are properly secured in the car. It's better to take precautions before a crash than live with a fatal mistake afterward.

The state has laws designed to help protect children. Here is a recap of our laws concerning child restraints:

■ Children age 1 or younger must be restrained in a child safety seat facing backward, regardless of where they are riding.

■ Children 1 to 4 have to be in a child safety seat if they are riding in the front seat. If riding in a back seat, they must either ride in a safety seat or wear a seat belt.

■ Children 4 to 16 have to wear a seat belt regardless of where they are riding.

■ Anyone 16 or older must wear a seat belt if riding in the front.

We hope the police crackdown helps in saving lives. After all, it's up to parents and guardians to protect their children, and if they don't, they need a firm reminder of their responsibilities.

## MEAP: District sets example

**G**ame time is over. Enough 11th-graders have skipped the state tests. They've acted out their rebelliousness and thumbed their noses at the principal. Now it's time for state and local officials, parents and students to get serious.

The Michigan Educational Assessment Program high school proficiency tests have a serious purpose. It is to make sure kids do more than sit in a classroom X number of hours; it's to make sure they learn what they need to function after graduation as college students, as workers and as citizens.

It's no secret that some high schools in Michigan have been diploma mills. That's why the state designed proficiency tests in math, reading, writing and science. Setting the standards, during years of work, were employers, college admissions people, school officials and parents.

Instead, only 16 percent of Farmington students, 24 percent of Clarenceville students and 40 percent of Plymouth-Canton students took the tests last spring. That's compared to less than 50 percent of students in Livonia and 80 percent in Garden City. In Wayne-Westland, nearly all juniors took the tests.

The tests are here to stay. Michigan is not going back to the days of local standards. Michigan's tests have won high praise both from Michigan's educators as well as Dr. Willard Daggett, the New York State internationally known guru of teaching for real-world employability. Daggett warns against "naysayers" who would sabotage state testing.

Daggett notes that a major goal of MEAP high school tests has been to emphasize multi-step problem solving rather than one-step calculations and memorization. Another goal has been to integrate academic disciplines rather than test them in isolation.

In particular, Daggett praised the communications tests (reading and writing) for "requiring the complex cognitive skills of analysis, synthesis and evaluation within real-world problem situations."

So why doesn't the state just pass a law requiring able-bodied kids to take the MEAP? In part it has to do with the Headlee amendment to the state constitution that requires the state to pay for anything it mandates. In part it has to do with right-wing paranoia about any kind of state requirements.

What can everyone do to make sure kids take the proficiency tests?

■ The state should provide timely feedback. Tests are taken in the spring and results should be available the first week of school. Local school districts have their final shot at helping students in the senior year. This year, test results weren't released until after the November election.

■ Ensure that individual results are being shared with parents.

■ Although the test is still too long and more work must be done, we hesitate to suggest any major overhaul. There must be some continuity of results, so districts can have useful longitudinal data for North Central Accreditation and for state mandated school improvement process.

■ The state must do a better job explaining the test. The booklet currently used to interpret the results is very confusing to even experts in testing.

■ The state and local districts should deal with parents' - yes, parents' - fear of this test. Parents fear that it will hurt kids for jobs and for college.

■ The Legislature could adopt the House bill, languishing on the agenda, to require college officials to consider an applicant's MEAP test scores.

■ The Legislature could have adopted the amendment, rejected by the Senate, requiring that a high school senior wishing to take vocational courses in a voc-tech academy or community college, to have at least minimal passing scores (level 3) on MEAP tests.

■ School boards could exercise their "local control" by printing test scores on diplomas.

■ At graduation time, school boards could award colored tassels on mortarboards or colored stoles to graduates who passed MEAP tests.

■ Parents could and should refuse to let kids "opt out" of MEAP tests. They need to make kids realize that the educational system can't function unless there is accountability; that the schools themselves can't evaluate their own effectiveness without accountability; that meeting and, hopefully, exceeding state standards should be a source of personal satisfaction.

Game time is over. MEAP high school proficiency tests are here to stay.

## Taking it easy



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

**What's the news?** A Westland man reads a newspaper last Friday, the kickoff day of the holiday shopping season. Area merchants are counting on people to come out shopping this season, to boost retail sales in Westland and nearby communities.

## LETTERS

### Chaperone or bartender

**T**he Federal Reserve has been lowering interest rates because it fears a "credit crunch" for big corporations.

Faced with massive global production overcapacity, many big banks and institutional investors now prefer safe government bonds over risky corporate bonds.

Why? Because corporations have to actually earn their money in the nasty real world. Whereas governments can just print it.

But, is this Fed policy right?

Big corporations quit building factories in the United States a long time ago. Lately, extra corporate cash has been going for things like stock buy-backs, acquiring other companies, expanding foreign capacity and stock market speculation. Dividends have become almost extinct.

So, the question is: More credit for what? To keep Wall Street's eternal bubble growing? Has our economy become the bubble?

Has Chairman Alan Greenspan been reduced from his roles of market chaperone to being Wall Street's bartender simply serving up liquidity on demand?

Walter Warren  
Westland

### Thank you, thank you

**F**rom all of us here at American Power Wash Inc., we would like to thank all of our friends, family and all the local business owners here in Westland for their great concern and support, in light of our lesson in business ownership, so far. And, a very special thank you to Sam Corrado for his great wisdom and support.

Having something as major as a fire at your place of business can sure take the wind right out of your sails, but, having the support of your family, friends and neighbors sure helps keep that boat afloat until the wind decides to blow your way again, and, for that, we thank you.

So, keep a close eye out for us at 1251 S. Wayne Road. We will be back soon. And, please, give us a call with any questions or concerns at (734) 722-7276.

Julie Hahn  
American Power Wash

### Take care

**T**he holiday season is always portrayed as a time of joy, love, togetherness and happiness. But often, it is a very difficult time for many people; and it is definitely a busier and more stressful time for all of us.

Loneliness, illness, divorce and death don't take a vacation during this time. And because of the focus on cheer and excitement, people dealing with personal problems feel more out of sync with the world than ever.

There are no easy answers for those of you who will find the holidays difficult this year. But two things might help.

Reach out to people. Often times, your friends are afraid to bring up a subject that is painful to you because they are afraid of upsetting you. Let them know that you need to talk, cry, or just be with someone. Make the first move, your friends will be there for you.

Be good to yourself. Don't feel bound to do things that you "always do" on holidays. If you don't feel like baking cookies, don't. If you can't face shopping alone, order from a catalog, or ask someone to shop for you. If you don't want to be alone on New Year's Eve, ask someone to be with you. Start new traditions. Remember, family and friends are just waiting for you to let them know how to help.

In addition, all of you probably know someone who will have a difficult time coping during the holiday season. Reach out to them, find ways to include them even if it's just spending an hour talking with them. Acknowledge their grief and loneliness. Help them realize that these feelings are OK during the holiday season. Volunteer to help with shopping, cooking or decorating.

Time does not heal all wounds, but it does ease the pain. Take the time that you need and realize that the holidays are a time of joy, excitement, wonder, and, most of all, friendship.

Elaine Koons  
Parent Outreach coordinator  
Livonia Public Schools

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"I come here because my mother makes me."

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## Westland Observer

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— Philip Power



## POINTS OF VIEW

## Area woman makes girl's Red Wing dream come true

## GUEST COLUMNIST



GWEN DIETRICH

**F**ew of us realize the positive impact we are capable of making on others' lives. Recently, I was reminded of that when I won four tickets to the Detroit Red Wings training camp in Traverse City. I couldn't believe my luck to have won the complimentary package provided by Sugar Loaf resort, the Detroit Red Wings and WNIC radio.

But why me?

I am an avid hockey fan but there had to be something more to this — a reason I had won. Something even more special had to come out of my winning.

I've been very fortunate in my life. I am blessed with talent as an artist and have the physical and emotional ability to pursue what I love.

Suddenly, I knew. I would give two of the tickets to someone less fortunate.

I contacted Kevin Vaughn, marketing manager of the Detroit Red Wings, to discuss my plan to find a child, a little boy or girl, who has great love for the Wings and who has either a terminal illness or a life-threatening medical condition.

Kevin loved the idea, although he cautioned that a child with such a condition would probably not be able to travel to Traverse City. If that were the case, he said the Wings would donate a couple of sets of tickets to home games.

But I had hope. I knew it would work out.

Days later, Kevin called with good

news.

"You're not going to believe this," he said, "but we just received a fax about a 4-year-old Traverse City girl, Courtney Bailey, who has cerebral palsy and is confined to a wheelchair. Courtney loves the Wings and would like to meet them."

I was overjoyed, I could be instrumental in granting this little girl's wish.

Not only would Courtney meet the Wings, but mom Dawn and dad Don would be along to experience Courtney's joy.

The plan was set. We met Kevin at the arena shortly before game time.

Tomas Holmstrom and Anders Eriksson were the first to emerge from the locker room and greet Courtney.

Imagine the excitement of a little girl who watches every game and wants to skate like the Wings do, especially Steve Yzerman.

Courtney is unable to take part in many activities, but she is able to enjoy horseback riding as part of the physical and occupational therapy she receives five days a week.

Doug Brown was the next Wing to make Courtney's dream come true. At first, she didn't recognize him because he wasn't wearing the red and white uniform, so Brown went to the locker room to put on his jersey. He returned with Sergei Fedorov and a hockey stick as a souvenir.

Next, Joe Kocur stopped to say hello to Courtney. He left briefly only to return with a hockey stick, which he autographed for her.

Wait, it gets even better. Who should be next out of the locker room bearing a hockey stick he would autograph for Courtney but Kris Draper?

The Red Wings and I and Kevin Vaughn had succeeded in creating magic for this little girl who couldn't stop smiling as she looked down at the three hockey sticks placed across



**Wish fulfilled:** Courtney Bailey, a 4-year-old Traverse City girl with cerebral palsy, got a free trip to the Red Wings training camp, thanks to Canton resident Gwen Dietrich. Here Courtney gets friendly with Joe Kocur.

the arms of her wheelchair.

We all enjoyed the rest of the evening watching the Wings, but the game could not compare to being a part of making this child's dream come true to meet her Red Winged heroes.

Shortly after returning home, Dawn sent me photographs of our eventful evening and a mug I will

cherish forever. It read:

"A hundred years from now, it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in ... but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."

I cherish Dawn's note to me even more.

"Thanks for coming into our lives," she wrote. "Courtney is still talking

about the players."

Courtney underwent surgery in October to lengthen the muscles in her hips. Her right hip is almost dislocated.

I am grateful to have been given the chance to brighten the life of this child.

Gwen Dietrich lives in Canton Township.

## Public service really meant something to Don Thurber

**D**on Thurber's funeral last Saturday was at old Christ Church, on East Jefferson Avenue in Detroit, close by the Renaissance Center.

As an Episcopalian and a sucker for ritual, I was deeply moved by the traditional, rolling liturgy and by the concrete symbols of faith so deftly melded together: The hymns, the stained glass shining in the warm sun, the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's "Messiah," the bagpiper playing "Amazing Grace." Ritual, I think, provides the emotional content that separates everyday events from significant acts.

Funerals, certainly, are significant acts, bittersweet rituals designed to promote a healthy grieving and to stimulate the celebration of a worthy life. And nobody I know had a more worthy life than Donald M. D. Thurber.

Descendent of a family that lived in America since the 17th century and in Michigan since 1825, Don Thurber was truly a blueblood from a distinguished family. He attended Detroit University School and graduated from Harvard, where he forged friendships with John F. Kennedy, his classmate, and Sargent Shriver, his roommate, who would go on to marry a Kennedy sister and be the first director of the Peace Corps.

Don's career was in public relations and fund-raising. His firm, PR Counselors, was one of the best. After he retired, he was chairman of the board of directors of Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

But his love was public service, a blazing commitment that lasted his entire life.

When President Kennedy asked him to raise money for the National Park Service, he established the National Park Foundation that recently raised more than \$1 million to refurbish Isle Royal National Park. He was a key fund-raiser for the restoration of Orchestra Hall and the building of the Center for Creative Studies. He was executive assistant to U. S. Sen. Blair Moody, a consultant to Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall and an adviser to Secretary of Commerce Elliot Richardson. He was a regent of the University of Michigan.

I remember years ago going to his home in Grosse Pointe — elegant, tasteful, discreet — for a party to introduce Richardson (then considering a run for president) to the movers and shakers of the Michigan Democratic Party. It seemed as though everybody who was anybody was there, drawn by Don's infectious enthusiasm and prodigious web of acquaintances.

Don was a member of a remarkable and



PHILIP POWER

small group, mostly men, members of distinguished families who felt to their bones the obligation to use their talents in disinterested, valuable public service. It seems as though their stature and standing freed them from the ego needs that cheapen the careers of so many, liberating them to devote their talents to benefit their entire society.

National examples abound, beginning with John Kennedy and Elliot Richardson, both Don Thurber's friends.

Two Michigan models come quickly to mind: G. Mennen Williams, six times elected governor and the founder of the modern Democratic Party, was a blueblood, an heir to the Mennen toiletries company fortune. William G. Milliken, the sort of a distinguished Traverse City retailing family (Milliken's Stores), is still revered to this day for his sane, thoughtful moderation.

In a famous passage from "The History of the Peloponnesian War," Thucydides, the ancient Greek historian, relates Pericles' Funeral Oration: "We are lovers of beauty without extravagance, and lovers of wisdom without unmanliness. Wealth to us is not mere material for vain-glory but an opportunity for achievement."

Don Thurber did not quote Pericles in the funeral service he designed in the few weeks after he came home from the hospital to die. But he would have recognized it as a touchstone of his own life and philosophy.

I grieve Don's passing, not just because I was lucky enough to be a friend but also because his death diminishes yet again a small group of valiant, productive citizens of our state.

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

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## Former Livonia educator will head Madonna international study program

The former director of global education at Livonia Stevenson High School has been named as the new director of international studies at Madonna University.

Jonathan Swift of Bloomfield Hills recently retired from Livonia Public Schools after 25 years of teaching, but now he will bring his world knowledge to Madonna.

Educated in Great Britain, France and the United States, Swift holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Wayne State University, a doctorate from Michigan State University and a certificate of music from the Paris Conservatory of Music.

Swift has covered the globe as a singer and television personality, and is an author of several articles and reviews.

"It is a great honor for Madonna University to have a man of such extensive experience on board," said Ernest Nolan, vice president for academic affairs at Madonna University. "His many travels abroad will continue to expand our international studies program."

Swift hopes to create a brochure describing international programs and activities, work with Madonna's international students to recruit more individuals from their home countries, and design a faculty newsletter.

Swift would like to see more faculty, staff and students visit other countries.

"Our ideal would be to have everyone on campus have an overseas experience," Swift said.



Jonathan Swift

## Marines launch toy drive

Fantastic Sams family hair salons are drop-off locations for the Toys for Tots campaign spearheaded by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Each year, thousands of Metro Detroit children have a happier Christmas as the result of the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program and the hundreds of area businesses and organizations that help collect and distribute the new, unwrapped toys.

The Marine Corps Reserve and other volunteers hope to better last year's total of 350,000 toys.

To help launch this year's campaign, several of "the few and the proud" visited local Fantastic Sams to help publicize the 51st annual toy drive for needy children. They also took the opportunity to get their trademark "high and tight" haircuts trimmed up.

Many of the Fantastic Sams franchisees will be displaying in their salon the names of those who donate toys and have drawings for gifts and prizes.

Fantastic Sams are located in Livonia, Canton, Plymouth, Westland, Garden City and Redford.

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# Community Life

The Observer

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Bridal Registry  
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LRWG Page 1, Section B

Sue Mason, Editor 734 953 2111

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Thursday, December 3, 1998



JACK GLADDEN

## Child's play: Who's got right stuff?

It's an American tradition and it starts the day after Thanksgiving. Shoppers hit the malls, looking for bargains, and the women of WAND station themselves outside the Toys 'R' Us store in Southfield, protesting Power Rangers, GI Joes and other toys that they claim promote violence among children.

Animal rights activists stage demonstrations in front of fur stores, participating in what the activists have labeled "Fur Free Friday." Attorneys general and other law enforcement officers issue their annual warnings about scams for bogus charities, a campaign the Oklahoma attorney general calls "Operation Santa Fraud."

And a variety of "public interest" groups issue dire warnings about toys that they claim are designed to cause damage to both body and soul. Welcome to the beginning of the Christmas season in America.

Most of these campaigns are well-intentioned (or at least they started out that way), but after a time they begin to get a bit tiresome. And sometime it's difficult to distinguish between looking out for "the public interest" and just being a group of organized busybodies.

Please see GLADDEN, B2

## Shop mixes gifts and evangelism

■ It was meant as something for Richard Shebib to do when he retires, but his Pascha Books and Gifts is serving another purpose — bringing a little bit of Eastern Orthodoxy to the general public.

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

"Do you know where I can buy a wedding crown?" the woman on the telephone asked.

Quite by chance the person on the other end of the line had the answer: Pascha Books and Gifts, a small "bit Eastern Orthodoxy" store in Livonia.

The store is an eclectic collection of religious icons, books and tapes, keepsake boxes, trinkets, matrioshka (nesting) dolls and, yes, staphantheke (wedding) crowns.

"Most everyone thought I was crazy to open Pascha," said Richard Shebib of Farmington Hills. "But part of my motive is that you won't find this particular kind of store in the Midwest. In fact, there's only three in the U.S."

Getting close to retiring from the Ford Motor Company, Shebib knew he couldn't live without doing something useful. The store, opened in November 1997, is his transition. He works for the automaker during the day, then comes to the shop in the afternoon, to work with store manager JoAnn Asfour of Belleville.

"I believe in what he's doing," said Asfour. "When he said he was going to do this, I said, 'Yep, I'll help you.'"

Orthodox churches have their own gift shops and what Shebib has done is make Pascha an extension of those shops. And being an independent of a church, he has been able to open it to the public.

"It's a personal thing from my youth; I didn't have the opportunity to get information about my faith," said She-



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

What's your pleasure? JoAnn Asfour (right), manager of Pascha Books and Gifts in Livonia, shares information about the crosses and matrioshka dolls with Sharon Gomulka.

bib.

A focal point of the shop is the religious icons. Ornatly decorated, the icons can depict feast days like the Nativity and Last Supper, the saints, the Mother of God, Christ or a particular aspect of orthodox theology or imagery.

Some are made of wood and prints in this country, others come from Russia where they are painted on wooden eggs and signed by the artist or have etched gold and silver metal overlaying the prints.

"We had a man come in and buy three icons, not because he's orthodox, but because he liked the art," said Asfour.

There's icons of angels, Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, the creation of the stars and the animals and Adam naming the animals for gift giving. There's even icon Christmas cards and icon name day cards.

"Icons tell a story," said Shebib. "Icons portray way back in church history. That's why we usually don't say that you paint an icon, you write an

icon. Icons are something all Christians can relate to. They're the story of the theology of the world."

Shebib has stocked the shop with some 1,000 book titles. There's theology books — 90 percent are orthodox, but there are books on Catholicism — a library of classic books, cookbooks (mostly from orthodox European countries) and children's books and videos ranging from Bible stories to the "Veggie Tales."

"Most everything started with cata-

Please see PASCHA, B2

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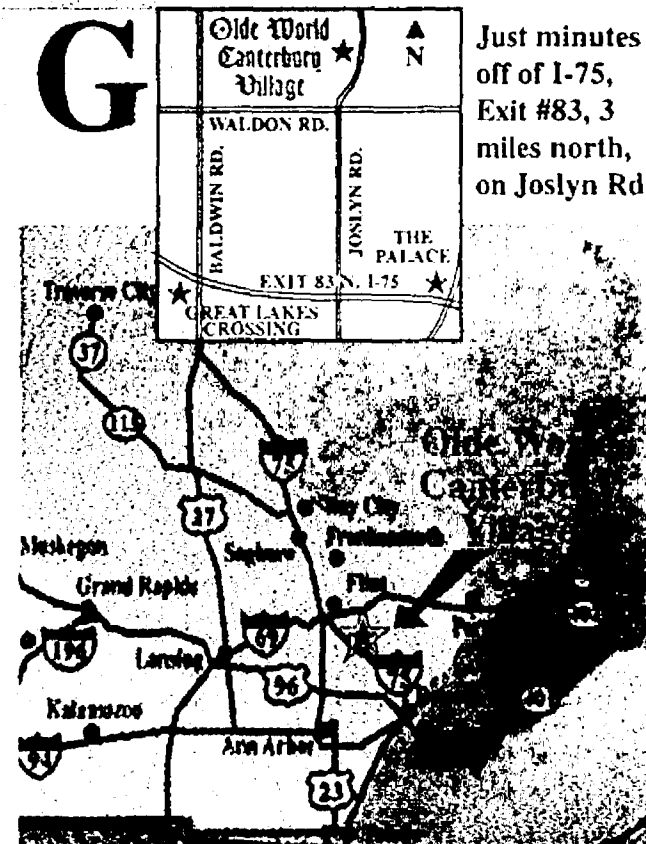
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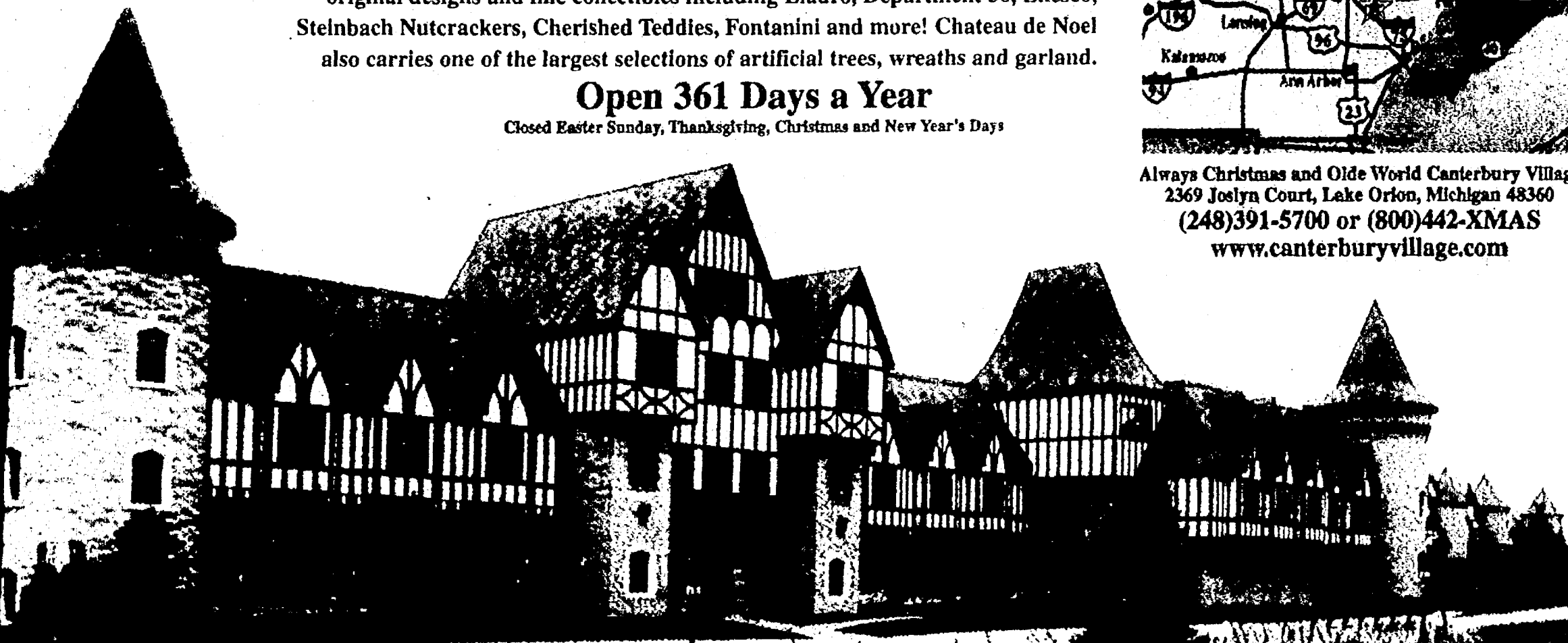
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# Gladden from page B1

A spokeswoman for those WAND protesters in Southfield told a reporter: "There is only one way to play with these toys that we don't approve of (emphasis added) and that's violently and aggressively. I just hope parents will start thinking about the type of toys they are buying for children."

And the inventory-control manager for the Toys 'R' Us store said: "It's our job to provide the toys that consumers are looking for. It's really up to the parent to pick and choose what their child plays with."

## A new direction

WAND started out back in the 1980s as Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament. As the need for such a movement waned, the organization kept going, same acronym, different words. It is now Women's Action

for New Directions. That's broad enough to cover just about any cause that comes along. Like "war toys."

WAND members, of course, are not the only ones concerned about toy soldiers and toy guns. In Massachusetts, sponsors of the Toys for Tots drive have asked donors to bring only "non-violent" toys to the drop-off centers — no BB guns, plastic revolvers or toy machine guns. Nothing wrong with that, but it's interesting since the Toys for Tots program is sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps and the drop-off centers are located at State Police posts around Massachusetts.

But if WAND and the Marine Corps are concerned about the psychological effects of guns and war toys, the Public Interest Research Group (which started out as basically a consumers

advocate organization) has released its annual list of "dangerous toys." PIRG has, by design, focused on toys containing small parts that can cause choking, if swallowed by a child.

Their report lists 24 "dangerous" toys discovered during a survey of stores across the country, from Babe the Pig and Friends Bedtime Babe ("small child could choke on a clock accessory") to a Battery Operated Transport Truck, containing "small plastic fruit and vegetables that children could choke on."

But, in a press release accompanying the report, PIRG reports that the "leading choking killer" of children is still — are you ready? — balloons. That's right. **BALLOONS.**

"It is totally inappropriate to market balloons for toddlers," said Edmund Mierzwinski, con-

sumer program director of PIRG. "We urge parents to avoid balloons altogether for children under 8, and even then to use extreme caution."

## The other 'targets'

If PIRG's "special interest" is toys that choke, other groups have their own particular targets. Greenpeace worries about toys that contain "toxic chemicals known as phthalates that are added to polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic toys as a softener," and the Speech and Hearing Department at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York focuses on toys that are too loud (such as toy sirens and squeaky rubber toys [that] can emit sounds of 90 decibels) and can damage a child's hearing.

An Oklahoma group has issued warnings about toys that shoot objects, such as BB guns or

slingshots, or that include parts that fly. Playthings are a leading cause of eye injuries to children, according to Martha Pat Upp, executive director of Prevent Blindness Oklahoma.

In Hartford, Conn., the Rev. Christopher L. Rose has issued his annual list of the Top 10 "Warped Toys." One wonders where some of these toys come from, such as Gwynn Exotic Dancer (a quite anatomically correct doll, according to the reverend), Typhoid Mary (who comes with shackles and a straitjacket) or Crush Me Phil (who foams at the mouth and begs to be kicked).

Maybe these people don't have that much to fret about. Retailers and toy manufacturers are worried that kids are outgrowing toys at a much younger age than they did in the past and are moving on to high-tech stuff involv-

ing computers and video games or more "sophisticated" items like clothes and makeup. Toys 'R' Us is renovating stores to make more room for electronics and clothes.

And sales of Barbie dolls, that perennial Christmas favorite, are expected to be down this year for the first time since 1976.

Instead of worrying about the toys kids play with, perhaps we should be concerned that they are growing up too fast and not playing with toys at all. I'd rather see a fifth-grader playing with GI Joe or Barbie than hanging around a chat room on the Internet or worrying that her eyeliner doesn't match her lipstick.

Jack Gladden is a copy editor at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. He lives in Canton Township. You can e-mail him at jgladden@oe.homescomm.net.

# Pascha from page B1

logs," Shebib said. "I was blessed. I got a lot of help with sources and the suppliers of books. As a model to begin with, a store owner literally sent me her list for her book store and the suppliers took her titles and started from there."

Now you might think the shop is packed, but Shebib has found room for more — clergy shirts, liturgical items and music, and orthodox crosses, gold and silver

chains, votive candles and incense burners for prayer shelves, vigil lamps and some gift items.

If olivewood is your passion, Pascha has it. Handcrafted in Bethlehem in the Holy Land, the store has a selection of angels; the Nativity scene, crosses, wall crosses, book ends, wall plaques with sayings and a "masterpiece" of the Last Supper.

There's also a selection of Rus-

sian handpainted trinket boxes. The artwork on each tells a different story. Prices range from \$30 to \$300.

Matrioshka, or nesting dolls is a craft that was brought to Russia in the 1800s by a Russian Orthodox monk, and Pascha carries a selection of traditional matrioshka. But there's also a set that features some familiar faces — members of the championship Detroit Red Wings and

Santa Claus — as well as Detroit Red Wings matrioshka pins and necklaces.

And not to be overlooked, there's the stephanothek as well as crown cases. A Greek tradition, the bride and groom wear the white floral crowns that are linked by a ribbon. They are stored in the case until one or the other dies. The ribbon is then cut and one crown is buried with the deceased, according to

Shebib.

Granted starting the store was a scary proposition for Shebib, but Pascha has been his way of saying thanks for a good life. It's also a way of doing some evangelism services for churches ... all churches.

"Life has been good to me and this is where I wanted to spend my retirement," he said. "We've been able to educate people about their own faith."

"We kind of let people know who we are and do a little evangelism," added Asfour.

Pascha Books and Gifts is at 29229 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia. It's open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. For the Christmas season, it also is open at noon on Sundays. For more information, call the store at (734) 466-9722.

## CLASS REUNIONS

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

### BIRMINGHAM GROVES

Class of 1969

A reunion is planned for July 17 and a reunion picnic for July 18. (248) 737-1398 or ardcarlson@aol.com

### CHERRY HILL

Class of 1983

Reunion and alumni family picnic is planned for August. (734) 729-6783

### DEARBORN FORDSON

Class of 1989

Aug. 14 at Hawthorne Valley

Country Club, Westland.

(248) 366-9493, press #8

### GARDEN CITY WEST

Class of 1988

A reunion is planned for September 1999. (517) 522-4893, (734) 213-4350 or (248) 486-5170

### HENRY FORD TRADE

Class of 1949

A reunion is planned for June 1999. (313) 565-2392 or (734) 261-8546

### HIGHLAND PARK

Class of 1969

Is planning a reunion. (313) 864-5943, (313) 583-6418 or (313) 867-3201

### LADYWOOD

Class of 1988

March 13 at the Italian-American Club of Livonia. (313) 255-8078

### LIVONIA BENTLEY

Class of 1964

July 24 at the Holiday, Laurel

Park, Livonia.

(734) 416-5993 or Tink@mediane.net

### LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Class of 1979

Aug. 7 at the DoubleTree Suites, Southfield. (248) 366-9493, press #3

### NORTH FARMINGTON

Oct. 2 at the Double Tree Suites, Southfield.

(248) 360-7004, press 2

### NORTHVILLE

Class of 1979

July 10 at Italian America Club, Livonia. (800) 677-7800 or by e-mail at reunions@taylorpub.com.

### OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Class of 1980

A reunion is planned for Dec. 28. (202) 546-4377 or kbrady@erg.com; (734) 455-5475 or gearns@pcsc.k12.mi.us; or ebdoherty@aol.com

### PLYMOUTH

Class of 1969

Aug. 6-8 at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi. (248) 446-1028 or Karlancast@aol.com, or (734) 420-3811 or PHS1969@aol.com

### PLYMOUTH CANTON

Class of 1979

Aug. 7 at the Holiday Inn-West in Livonia. (734) 397-8766 or www.reunion-works.com

### REDFORD UNION

Class of 1979

Aug. 28 at the Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi.

(313) 592-8537 or (734) 416-0807

### Class of 1949

Is planning a reunion for

September 1999. (313) 937-9329 or (734) 427-4208 or (248) 349-1331

### ROCHESTER ADAMS

Class of 1989

June 5 at the River Crest in Rochester Hills. Cost is \$50 per person. (248) 393-1151, (248) 969-8313, (248) 852-8744 or (248) 952-0444

### ROCHESTER ADAMS

Class of 1979

Aug. 7 at the Somerset Inn, Troy.

(248) 366-9493, press #6

### WALLED LAKE CENTRAL

Class of 1979

A reunion is planned for July 24. (248) 363-8211 or (248) 366-3337

### WALLED LAKE WESTERN

Class of 1979

Aug. 14 at DoubleTree Guest Suites, Southfield. (248) 366-9493, press #1

### WAYNE

Class of 1950

Is looking for classmates for its 50th class reunion. (734) 428-9379 or (734) 721-8036

### WAYNE MEMORIAL

Class of 1983

Sept. 26 at Roma's of Garden City. (248) 360-7004, press 1

## CRAFTS CALENDAR

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

### BRYANT CENTER

The Bryant Center will have its second annual Christmas craft bazaar 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 2-3 and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 4 at the center, 18000 Merriman Road, Livonia. All crafts have been made by Bryant students, and money raised will benefit the student vocational workshop. For more information, call the center at (734) 425-0100.

### SENIOR HOUSE

Senior House of Livonia will

have its 10th annual holiday craft fair 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 3 at the retirement home, 11525 Farmington Road, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. There will be a bake sale, white elephant booth and raffle. For more information, call Madeline at (734) 425-3050.

### PRESBYTERIAN VILLAGE

Presbyterian Village of Redford will have a holiday bazaar 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 4 in the R.C.D. Center, 17383 Garfield. Various crafts, Christmas gift sets and culinary delights will be for sale. Proceeds will benefit the activity programs at the village.

### LIVONIA CIVIC PARK

The Livonia Civic Park Senior Center will host a senior craft show from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Dec. 4, at the center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Admission is free. For more information, call (734) 466-2555.

### WAYNE-WESTLAND YMCA

The Wayne-Westland Family YMCA will have its annual craft show 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 5 at the Y, 827 S. Wayne Road, Westland. For more information, call (734) 721-7044.

### NEW REDFORD HALL

New Redford Hall's holiday bazaar will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 7, 14 and 21 at the hall, Plymouth Road at Inkster Road. Tables are available at \$15 each. For more information, call (734) 729-8166 or (313) 592-8519.

### MADONNA UNIVERSITY

Madonna University is accepting applications from crafters for its 14th annual spring arts and crafts showcase — 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 20 in the Activities Center on campus, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. The show will feature a variety of handmade arts and crafts. Booth space, measuring 9 by 6 feet with two chairs and one 6-by-8-foot table, is \$50. Booths with electricity are limited and are an additional \$5. Exhibitors can purchase up to three spaces. Crafters get a \$5 discount, if their form is received by Feb. 1. For an application or more information, call (734) 432-5603.

## CITY OF GARDEN CITY

### December 15, 1998 - Board of Review

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on Tuesday, December 15, 1998 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to correct mutual mistakes of fact or clerical errors. PA 74 of 1995 authorizes the December Board of Review to hear appeals for poverty exemptions, but not for poverty exemptions denied by the March or July Board of Review. This applies to current year only.

ALLYSON BETTIS  
City Clerk-Treasurer

Published: November 29, & December 3 & 6, 1998

## CITY OF WESTLAND

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On Tuesday, December 8, 1998, the Westland Police Dept. will conduct Public Auctions of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00 AM at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
76	JEEP	2 DR CHEROKEE	ORG/WHIT	J6A17MP028575
79	CHEV	ST WAGON	GRAY	1L35G98303452

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

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	V.I.N.
79	FORD	2 DR MUSTANG	BLUE	9F03Z198923
89	CHEV	2 DR BERETTA	SILVER	1G1LV14W0KY130215
79	CHEV	CAMARO	BLACK	1Q87G9L513463
87	CHEV	CELEBRITY 4 DR	BROWN	2G1AW51W5H1101627
82	OLDS	4 DR NOVALE	GRAY	1G3AW68N2CM221869

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

Published: December 3, 1998

## LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

15125 Farmington Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48154

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of (Equipment only)

1. Lochinvar CHN1800 Copperfin II Boiler
2. Lochinvar CHN2070 Copperfin II Boiler
3. Lochinvar CHN900 Copperfin II Boiler
4. Lochinvar CHN1260 Copperfin II Boiler
5. Lochinvar CPN900 Copperfin II Pool Heater

Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m. on the 14th day of December, 1998 at the office of the Board of Education, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. At this time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read. Vendors are encouraged to attend.

Specifications and bid forms may be obtained at the office of the Board of Education in the Purchasing Department.

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

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

Published: November 30, and December 3, 1998

## CITY OF GARDEN CITY

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Act Number 207, Public Acts of 1921, as amended, that a public hearing will be held by the City of Garden City Zoning Board of Appeals at 7:30 p.m., December 16, 1998 at the City of Garden City City Hall, Michigan.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the purpose of the public hearing is to hear and consider public comments on the proposed Use Variance from Section 161.023 of the Zoning Ordinance to permit a service establishment such as a heating and cooling business in a C-1, Local Business District. The property is located at 33550 Ford Road.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the proposed Amendment to the Official Zoning Map application may be examined at the City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48136 during regular office hours until the date of the Public Hearing. Written comments may be sent to the above address.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS, City Clerk  
EDWARD KANE, Planning Commission Chairman

Published: December 2, 1998

## CITY OF GARDEN CITY MICHIGAN REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed proposals will be received at the Office of the City Clerk, in the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48136 (Telephone: 313-625-8814) on or before December 30, 1998, at 5:00 p.m. for the following items:

### BOND COUNSEL SERVICES FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope endorsed with the name of the item. The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals in whole or in part and to waive any informalities when deemed in the best interest of the City.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS  
City Clerk-Treasurer

Published: December 8, 1998

## CITY OF GARDEN CITY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of Act Number 207, Public Acts of 1921, as amended, that a public hearing will be held by the City of Garden City Zoning Board of Appeals at 7:30 p.m., December 16, 1998 at the City of Garden City City Hall, Michigan.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the purpose of the public hearing is to hear and consider public comments on the proposed Use Variance from Section 161.023 of the Zoning Ordinance to permit the construction of an attached garage that exceeds forty percent (40%) of the floor area of the residence by 199 square feet, and on the proposed Dimensional Variance from Section 21.02, Schedule of Regulations, of the Zoning Ordinance to permit the construction of an attached garage located 2.4 feet into the required side yard setback. The property is located at 32116 Elmwood Avenue.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the proposed Amendment to the Official Zoning Map application may be examined at the City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48136 during regular office hours until the date of the Public Hearing. Written comments may be sent to the above address.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS, City Clerk  
EDWARD KANE, Planning Commission Chairman

Published: December 8, 1998



## WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

## Walton-Temple

Eric Alan Walton and Shelly Lynn Temple were married Aug. 8 at Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia. The Rev. Thomas Badley performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Robert and Ellie Temple of Canton. The groom is the son of Alan Walton and Carla Gardner, both of Plymouth.

The bride is a graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and Eastern Michigan University. She is employed by the University of Phoenix, Michigan campus, as an enrollment counselor.

The groom is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School. He is employed at Botsford Kidney Center as a biomedical technician.

The bride asked Debbie Brake to serve as matron of honor with Julie Kozakowski, Kris Sangregorio and Tara Gatscher as bridesmaids. Emily Walton and Kyleigh Clark were junior bridesmaids. The flower girl was



Amanda Temple.

The groom asked Sean Pardo to serve as best man with Robert Temple, Garry Lopez and Norm Budnick as groomsmen. Troy Lopez was the ringbearer.

The couple received guests at Fellows Creek Golf Club. A honeymoon in Cancun is planned. They are making their home in Canton.

## Petito-O'Bey

Antonio Thomas Petito and Theresa Ann O'Bey were married Aug. 22 at St. Robert Belarmine Church in Redford. The Rev. Donald Walker performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Theresa O'Bey of Livonia and the late John O'Bey. The groom is the son of John and Peggy Petito of Hartland.

The bride is a 1990 graduate of Central Michigan University. She is employed by Oxbow Machine Products Inc. in Livonia as a human resource manager/field service coordinator.

The groom is a 1987 graduate of Michigan State University. He is employed by Bay Pointe Golf Club in West Bloomfield as a horticulturist.

The bride asked Rose O'Bey to serve as her maid of honor with Marg Steinheiser and Siobhan Groleau as bridesmaids.

The groom asked Scott Hicks to serve as his best man with



Terry Carlson and Craig Julien as groomsmen.

The couple received guests at Barnstormer in Whitmore Lake before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Alaska. They are making their home in South Lyon.

## Porterfield-Marion

Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Porterfield of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Laura Jean, to Todd Andrew Marion, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Marion of Durham, N.C., formerly of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School and the University of Michigan. She is employed by Kmart Corp. in Troy.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School and the University of Michigan. He is employed by Reed Detective Agency in Livonia.

A March wedding is planned at Ward Evangelical Presbyter-



an Church in Northville

## Sherman-Fontana

Andrew Robert Sherman and Cara Marie Fontana were married July 18 at the Dixboro United Methodist Church. The Rev. James Cochran performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Lawrence and Janice Fontana of Plymouth. The groom is the son of Harold and Mary Sherman of Ypsilanti.

The bride asked Marie Elaina Fontana to be her matron of honor with Marisa Fontana as maid of honor and Michelle Gayeski, Lisa Smith and Sandee Salyer as bridesmaids.

The groom asked Michael Sherman and Steve McGregor to serve as his best men with Daniel Kolesar, Josh Harrell and Shawn Crabtree as groomsmen.

The couple received guests at Hawthorne Valley Country Club



before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Hilton Head Island. They are making their home in Ypsilanti Township.

## Powell-Hunter

LeRoy and Evadeen Powell of Gaines, Mich., announce the engagement of their daughter, Brenda Lee, to John Galbraith Hunter Jr., the son of John and Colleen Hunter of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a senior at Spring Arbor College, where she is majoring in psychology.

Her fiancé will graduate in December from Spring Arbor College, where he is a business administration major.

An August wedding is planned at Bethel Park Free Methodist Church in Flint.



## Payton-O'Brien

Bethany L. Payton of Redford and Edward B. O'Brien III of Chelmsford, Mass., announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be is a 1984 graduate of Redford Union High School, a 1989 graduate of Wayne State University with a bachelor of arts degree in political science and a 1994 graduate of DePaul College of Law with her juris doctor degree. A lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, she has been on active duty in the Judge Advocate General's Corps since 1994. She is stationed in Nor-

folk, Va., where she is a prosecutor, specializing in sexual assault crimes.

Her fiancé is a 1989 graduate of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst with a bachelor of arts degree in history and political science and a 1994 graduate of Boston College Law School with a juris doctor degree with honors. A lieutenant in the U.S. Navy in Judge Advocate General's Corps, he is stationed aboard the USS Enterprise (CVN 65) on a six-month deployment in the Arabian Gulf.

A fall 1999 wedding is planned.

## Culling-Obidzinski

Virgie Ann Obidzinski and Richard Edward Culling were married Oct. 17 in Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Livonia. The Revs. Dennis Bux and Marc Gawronski performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Leonard and Rhoda Obidzinski of Livonia. The groom is the son of Mildred Culling of Livonia and the late Edward Culling.

The bride is a graduate of Wayne State University with her

bachelor of social work and master of social work degrees. She is employed as a therapist at the Downriver Guidance Clinic in Southgate.

The groom also is a graduate of Wayne State University with a bachelor of fine arts degree and of the University of Michigan with a master of fine arts degree in painting. He is employed as an adjunct professor of art at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

The bride ask Claudia Lowe, Katie Paulik, Jaleen Scigliano,

Jennifer Domagala and Samantha Domagala to serve as her attendants.

The groom asked David Culling, Michael Obidzinski, Eric Culling and Steve Schroat to serve as his attendants.

The couple received guests at a reception at the American Legion Hall in Dearborn Heights before leaving on a honeymoon cruise of the South Caribbean. They are making their home in Canton.



## Foster-Embry

Craig P. Foster of Canton and Christine Desjardens of Manchester, Mich., announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie Christine, to Shawn Patrick Embry, the son Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Wayne Embry of Hopkinsville, Ky.

The bride-to-be is a 1988 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School, a 1992 graduate of

Grand Valley State University and a 1998 graduate of the Citadel College of Graduate and Professional Studies. She is employed by Heritage Community Services.

Her fiancé is a student at Gardent Technical College. He is employed by the U.S. Air Force.

A February wedding is planned at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Charlotte, N.C.

TACYLILIER  
RILTYCALEI  
ILLITERACY

The number of lives affected by illiteracy is staggering. One out of every five Americans has difficulty reading and writing.\* For them, life can feel like an endless series of obstacles.

But these people *can* learn—all they need is someone who can give them the confidence to take the first step.

That's why Philip Morris Companies Inc. developed a learning program called Gateway: Paths to Adult Learning. By making the Gateway materials available at no cost to community organizations, Philip Morris provides an easy way for adult learners to take the first step to literacy—and the first step to a better life.

If you would like to volunteer to help someone, or if you know of someone who needs help, call 1-800-671-6200 for more information about Gateway, or contact your local literacy coalition.

\* U.S. Department of Education, 1993

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1998 YearEnd

# SPA

## FLOOR MODEL BLOWOUT!

FINAL WEEKEND!

Invest in "Together Time" by Cal Spas!

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# CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND WESTLAND

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### TREE OF MEMORIES

Angels from Community Hospice Home Care Services can be inscribed for a donation to be placed on a remembrance tree in the front lobby of the Westland library through Thursday, Dec. 24. To obtain an angel or more information, call (734) 622-4244.

### CRAFT SHOW

The Wayne-Westland YMCA is having its annual craft show 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Y, 827 S. Wayne, south of Cherry Hill, north of Palmer. Free admission, lunch, Princess Di Beanie Baby drawing. Hourly raffle. Tables available. Call (734) 721-7044.

### TREE LIGHTING

The city of Westland's annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony is planned for 6:15 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, on the front steps of City Hall. This year's event will include Santa Claus, singing of Christmas carols and lighting of trees. After Santa arrives and the mayor gives him the key to the city, he will be at the city's main fire station, just east of City Hall for hot chocolate and cookies.

### MARATHON BINGO

A marathon bingo is planned noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, by the Harris-Kehrer 3323 Auxiliary at the post, 1055 S. Wayne Road. Proceeds benefit cancer aid and research. Call (734) 326-3323.

### CARD PARTY

The Westland Jaycees will hold a card party 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at Kirk of Our Savior Church, Cherry Hill between Newburgh and Wayne, Westland. Price is \$5. Proceeds will support experimental treatment for Allen Jensen, who has lymphoma. Play will be informal. There will be a bake sale, raffle and prizes. For tickets or information, call 728-1921 or 721-1232.

### GIFT BASKETS

The Westland Jaycees are seeking sponsors for holiday gift baskets for needy families. The cost to sponsor a basket is \$10 for a small basket, \$20 for a medium and \$30 for a large food basket. The sponsor's name will be included in the basket. Donations will be accepted until Dec. 14. Baskets will be distributed Dec. 20. Checks should be made payable to the Westland Jaycees and mailed to P.O. Box 85191, Westland, MI 48185.

## AT THE LIBRARY

### FRIENDS OF LIBRARY

The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library meet 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Call (734) 326-6123. Meetings last about one hour and are open to the public. The Friends also hold a Friends Shop Book Sale during regular library hours at the library.

## WESTLAND CENTER

### WALKERS CLUB

The Westland Walkers meet the second Wednesday of each month, except during the summer. Westland Center opens its doors to walkers beginning at 7 a.m. through Arcade 2 by

Olga's Kitchen. Mall walking ends at 10 a.m.

## RECREATION

### RECREATION AND FUN

A recreational get-together for teens and adults who are disabled is the second Friday of each month at the Westland Bailey Center. Call (734) 722-7620.

### FIGURE SKATING

The Westland Figure Skating Club has formed an adult introductory precision team. The team is for those who want to have fun with other skating adults and get exercise. Practices are 6-8:50 a.m. Saturdays. All levels are welcome. Call (734) 722-1091.

## SCHOOLS

### McKINLEY COOPERATIVE

McKinley Cooperative Preschool, housed in Good Shepherd Reformed Church, Wayne Road at Hunter, is holding registration. Morning and afternoon classes are available. Call (734) 729-7222.

### SUBURBAN CHILDREN'S

Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery has openings in all classes 18 months through 5 years old. Located in Livonia bordering Westland. Call Michelle at (734) 421-6196.

### PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Wayne-Westland Community School District has ongoing registration for the preschool programs at Stottemyer Early Childhood and Family Development Center, on Marquette between Wayne and Wildwood. Programs include an Early Intervention Program, Head Start, Kids/Plus Preschool, a Pre-Primary Impaired program and Sparky Preschool. Registration is 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call (734) 595-2660.

### CHURCH PRESCHOOL

The Westland Free Methodist Preschool has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in the morning and afternoon sessions. The younger pupils attend Tuesdays and Thursdays, other pupils on Mondays and Wednesdays. A Friday enrichment class is also available. The preschool is at 1421 S. Venoy, Westland. Call (734) 728-3559.

### GARDEN CITY CO-OP

The Garden City Co-op nursery has openings for preschool classes for ages 18 months through 4 years. Tots class meets on Wednesday mornings and 3- and 4-year-olds meet Mondays and Thursdays. Parental involvement is required. Call Kelli at (734) 513-7708.

### ST. MEL PRESCHOOL

St. Mel Preschool, 7506 Inkster Road, north of Warren Avenue in Dearborn Heights, has morning and afternoon classes for both 3- and 4-year-olds. Registration has begun. Call (313) 274-6270.

### YWCA READINESS

The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is at 26279 Michigan in Inkster. Call (313) 561-4110.

### CHARTER SCHOOL

The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves kindergarten through seventh grade. The school emphasizes a basic education with business and entrepreneurial skills. The school offers a foreign language class, music and art, a dress code and a comput-

er lab with access to the Internet. Call (734) 722-1465 or (248) 569-7787.

### LITTLE LAMBS

Little Lambs Preschool, on Farmington Road south of West Chicago in Livonia, is accepting registration for the 1998-99 school year. Classes meet Monday-Wednesday-Friday afternoons and Tuesday-Thursday mornings for 3- to 5-year-olds. Little Lambs is a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory preschool. Call (248) 471-2077.

### FRANKLIN PTSA

The Franklin High PTSA is seeking members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and community, and members aren't required to have a student in the school. Price is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy in Livonia 48150.

### TUTORIAL PROGRAM

A free tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program, 4-5:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, is for students ages 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Lea/Rette Douglas, (734) 722-3660.

### MOM'S MORNING OUT

Children, ages newborn to 6, and their mothers are invited to a "Mom's Morning Out" 9-11:30 a.m. every Thursday at Newburg United Methodist Church, on Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne and Newburgh. Children are grouped together by ages in rooms with two caregivers per room. This program is an optional co-op, with parents working once each month. Call (734) 422-0149.

### LIVONIA COOPERATIVE

Livonia Cooperative Nursery, a preschool at 9601 W. Chicago, has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds. To enroll, call Donna at (734) 266-8185.

## HISTORY ON VIEW

### WESTLAND MUSEUM

The Westland Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays at 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill. Call (734) 326-1110.

### FRIENDS MEET

Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet 7 p.m. on the second Tuesdays of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Westland Meeting House, 37091 Marquette between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Call President Jim Franklin at (734) 721-0136. Everyone is welcome.

## FOR SENIORS

## Coffee



Here's your chance: U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D-Ann Arbor, will hold a constituent coffee 8:30-10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, at the Westland Family Diner, 8301 N. Wayne Road. All constituents of the 13th Congressional District are encouraged to stop by for coffee and a discussion of their concerns. For more information, call her office at (734) 741-4210 in Ann Arbor or (734) 722-1411 in Wayne.

### SENIOR CHOIR

A Friendship senior choir, under the direction of Robert Cassidy, has been started at the Westland Senior Resources Department Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland. Those who enjoy singing are invited to join. The choir meets at 9 a.m. Thursdays.

### EXERCISE

Musical Chairs is a new program from Jazzercise designed for exercisers older than 40. The program provides a low to moderate workout geared for the older adult which improves strength, flexibility, balance, posture, coordination and cardiovascular endurance. It incorporates resistance exercises using rubber tubing and light weights with walking and jogging patterns. Wear loose-fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Light weights and an exercise mat are suggested. Robert Cassidy is the certified Jazzercise instructor. Sign up at the front desk at the Westland Friendship Center or call (734) 722-7632.

### TRAVEL GROUP

The Travel Group meets 12:45 p.m. every Friday in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, unless a trip or program is planned. Programs include

speakers, films, celebration of birthdays and weekly door prizes. There is a \$3 membership fee for residents, \$12.50 for non-residents. Call (734) 722-7632.

### CARD GROUP

The Friday Variety Card Group at the Westland Friendship Center meets at 2 p.m. People play euchre, pinocle, bridge, Uno, rummy and poker. Light refreshments are served. Call (734) 722-7632 for information or just show up to play cards. The Friendship Center is at 1119 N. Newburgh.

### MONTHLY MEAL/DANCE

The Wayne Ford Civic League for people 50 and older schedules its senior meal 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month at the league hall, on Wayne Road two blocks south of Ford. Cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. The meal includes beer, beverages, dancing to Big Band music and door prizes. Call (734) 728-5010.

### WORK REFERRAL

Information Center Inc. refers workers to seniors who need help. The program is for people interested in providing transportation, yardwork, housework, etc. Workers can specify the type of work they are willing to do and the communities they want to serve. Call (734) 422-1052.

### DYER CENTER

The Wayne-Westland School District's Dyer Senior Adult Center has activities Monday through Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, Kitchen Band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.; a Hawaiian dance exercise class will be 1 p.m. every Wednesday in the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh, Hall A. Instructor is Kammo Oris. Sign up at the front desk or call (734) 722-7632.

## CLUBS IN ACTION

### CHADD

CHADD of Northwest Wayne County meets the first Thursday of the month throughout the school year at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. CHADD is a nonprofit, parent-based, volunteer organization whose aim is to better the lives of individuals with attention difficulties. Call (313) 438-3099.

### T.O.P.S.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. M128, a support group for sensible weight loss, meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, Wayne Road and Hunter in Westland. Call Jackie at (734) 722-7225.

### T.O.P.S.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly No. M153 meets weekly: Weigh-in is 6-7:15 p.m., meeting is 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, at the Med-Max building, 35600 Central City Parkway, Westland. Call Suzanne at (734) 728-8437.

### PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club No. 6694 (formerly Holy Smokemasters) urges people who want to learn the art of public speaking to attend the club's weekly meetings at 6 p.m. each Thursday at Denny's Restaurant, 7725 N. Wayne Road next to Westland Shopping Center. Call John Elbe at (734) 326-5419.

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are 8:30-9:30 p.m. Sundays and Wednesdays at Garden City Hospital (north entrance), 5254 Inkster Road in Garden City. Call Woody, (734) 776-3415.

## BINGO

### DEM'S BINGO

The 13th Congressional District Democratic Party sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays in the M.J. Hall, 35412 Michigan, next to the Farmer Jack Supermarket in Wayne. Call 421-1517.

### MORE DEM'S BINGO

The 13th Congressional District Democratic Party holds bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Cherry Hill Hall, on the southwest corner of Cherry Hill and Venoy. Call 421-1517.

### ST. MEL CHURCH

Bingo games are held at 6:45 p.m. Fridays in St. Mel Church's activities building, on Inkster Road north of Warren Road. Doors open at 4 p.m. Food is available.

### WFCL BINGO

The Finesse Girls Travel Softball Boosters hold bingo games at 6:30-9:45 p.m. every Monday to raise money for the girls' softball program. The bingo games are at the Wayne Ford Civic League hall on Wayne Road, two blocks south of Ford.

### MORE BINGO

The Metro Wayne Democratic Club sponsors bingo games at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Joy Manor Bingo Hall, on the south side of Joy, east of Middlebelt. Proceeds are used by the club to sponsor Little League baseball teams, the Salvation Army and School for the Blind. Call 422-5025 or 729-8681.

### SHAMROCK BINGO

There will be bingo at 11

a.m. Wednesdays at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 35100 Van Born, east of Wayne Road, Wayne. Doors open at 9 a.m. Food available. Proceeds go to charity. Call 728-3020.

### SMOKELESS BINGO

"Smokeless" bingo meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Ss. Simon and Jude Parish Hall, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. Offered are three jackpots of \$400, \$300 and \$200.

### K OF C BINGO

Pope John XXIII Assembly of the Knights of Columbus Council 1536 hosts bingo games at 6:45 p.m. Thursdays. The games are in the Livonia Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, one block east of Merriman, Livonia. Call 425-2246.

## FOR YOUR HEALTH

### SCREENINGS

Free breast and Pap screenings are available at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, on Annapolis west of Venoy in Wayne. Appointments are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 467-5555 for early registration.

### AIM

Anxiety or panic attacks? AIM (Agoraphobics In Motion) meets 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. AIM is a support group for those working on recovery from anxiety disorder or phobias. Call (248) 547-0400.

### RATIONAL RECOVERY

Rational Recovery is a nonprofit, self-help organization for people experiencing problems caused by alcohol and/or substance abuse or other self-defeating behaviors. The group meets at 12:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Garden City Hospital Community Health Center, on Harrison north of Maplewood in Garden City. Call (248) 476-2657.

### CHILDBIRTH CLASSES

Garden City Hospital, on Inkster Road at Maplewood, is sponsoring classes for parents of newborns, weekend childbirth instruction, a "refresher" childbirth education course and a new support group for expectant teenage women. For information on programs, call 458-4330.

### CHILDBIRTH ASSOCIATION

Classes for childbirth preparation are offered at several Wayne County locations. Morning and evening classes available. Registering new classes every month. Newborn care classes and Caesarean preparation also offered. Call 459-7477.

## Good Friends



Helping hands: The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library meet 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Call (734) 326-6123 for information.

## CALENDAR FORM

The Observer Newspapers welcome Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or by fax to 734-591-7279. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2104 if you have any questions.

Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional Info.:

Use additional sheet if necessary



## NEW VOICES

Scott Rogers of Franklin, Ind., and Jodi Henry-Rogers of Garden City announce the birth of India Salome Henry-Rogers Aug. 1 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Tim and Diane Henry of Garden City and Kathy Tillotson of New White-land, Ind.

Gary and Beth Creekmore of Plymouth announce the birth of Dylan Louis June 20 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. He has two brothers, Jordan, 8, and Alex, 3. Grandparents are Robert and MaryLou Weaver of Hilton Head Island, S.C., formerly of Livonia, and Harvil and Ann Creekmore of Lexington, Ala., formerly of Northville.

Simon John and Kimberly Ann Pionton of Westland announce the birth of Zachary John Aug. 3 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Nancy Pionton of Westland and the late Simon Pionton and Ed and Connie Lutsic of Wyandotte. Great-grandmother is Helen Tomala of Wyandotte.

Matt and Robin Hallam of Garden City announce the birth of Alyssa Brooke Oct. 18 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She has two brothers, Chad and Randy. Grandparents are Jim and Dell Hallam and Dennis and Brenda Nordstrom, all of Dearborn Heights.

Scott and Kimberly Sparks of Garden City announce the birth of Kailynn Mae Aug. 9 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins four siblings, Jessica, 8, Chelsie, 6, Allissa, 4, and Scott II, 2. Grandparents are Mark and Donna

Sparks and Ron and Mary Francis, all of Garden City, and Tom and Debbie Tanoshunas of Belleville.

Mark and Cheryl Buckley of Westland announce the birth of Jessica Rose-Lee Oct. 14 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She has a brother, Mark Jr., and three sisters, Sarah, Jennifer and Samantha. Grandparents are John and Kathy Nepsy of Wayne, Albert and Sheila Meyers of Wayne and Judith Milot of Westland.

Tracey Beverley of Garden City announces the birth of Caitlyn Nicole July 28 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Troy and Carol Beverley of Garden City.

Jennifer Rexford of Westland announces the birth of Dakota Paul Rexford Oct. 11 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. Grandparents are Tim and Rae Blome of Pigeon and Tim Rexford of Columbus, Ga.

Bernard Brewer III and April Gearhart of Westland announce the birth of Drew Weston Aug. 12 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. He joins a brother, Stephen Gearhart, 7. Grandparents are Tom and Donna Perry of Plymouth and Bernard and Joyce Brewer of Westland.

Sean and Mary Conley of Westland announce the birth of Shyann Lashae Aug. 17 at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center-Wayne. She has a sister, Ashley. Grandparents are Nadene Conley of Wayland, Ky., and Helen Schumaker of Mount Clemens.

## Girl Scouts 'wrap up' the holiday

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

OK, you've fought the crowds to get the perfect gifts for those on your Christmas list. You've survived the long lines at the cash register and got an aerobic workout lugging heavy shopping bags to the outreaches of the parking lot.

Now, you face the task of cutting, folding and fumbling with cellophane tape to get everything ready for Christmas Day.

Well, maybe not. If you don't mind lugging your collection to Wonderland Mall at Plymouth and Middlebelt roads in Livonia. That's where you'll find a cadre of Girl Scouts and their mothers eager to wrap anything and everything for a small fee.

This is the fifth year the Girl Scouts have had their gift wrapping booth at Wonderland, wrapping such things as a mink coat, refrigerators, microwave ovens and a sweater or two.

"They get out there on the floor to wrap some of them," said Diane Bergendahl, who with Sue Roy and Kathy Swan are overseeing the booth. "CD towers are the awkward ones to wrap."

Bergendahl and Roy have been a part of the gift wrapping booth for seven years, while Swan has five years on her tape dispenser.

The 52 girls in the seventh-12th grades are members of 12 Cadette and Senior Girl Scout troops in Livonia, Redford, Westland, Novi, Farmington Hills, Detroit and Inkster. Helping them are 44 mothers working at the booth.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

**Busy, busy:** Members of Girl Scout Troop 1805, Rachel Feathers (left) and Erin Muldowney, both of Livonia, worked together in wrapping a present for a customer at the Scouts' gift wrapping booth in Wonderland Center.

"We're down about 10 girls from last year, but we have a good number," Bergendahl said. "They get more shifts to work."

The booth currently is open during mall hours - 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. - and will stay open to 10 p.m. as it gets closer to Christmas. The mothers staff the booth until 3 p.m., when the girls arrive from school.

Prices start at \$1.50 and a medium-sized shirt box cost \$3.75 - 50 cents less, if you supply the box.

This is the seventh year the Scouts have had a gift wrapping

booth and the fifth year it has been at Wonderland Mall. In the past, the booth has been located in a vacant store front, but this year, it's out in the mall across from the food court and kitty-corner to Jeeps.

"There's no storefront which is better because people don't see us in a storefront," said Bergendahl. "But it's been slow to start because we're away from most of the stores."

The gift wrapping booth is one of several fund-raising activities for the girls. They work on the calendar and nut sale which just

ended and also participate in the cookie sale - they start taking orders Dec. 14.

But the booth provides money for troop end-of-year activities. In the past, the troops have used to money for trips to Toronto, Chicago, Boston and Savannah as well as the Mall of America in Minnesota and Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

"We do get around; that's what the money is for," said Bergendahl, whose troop at Timothy Lutheran Church in Livonia plans to use the money for a trip to Toronto.

Calling All Families!!!

Thornhollow Tree Farm

invites you to start a new tradition: Cut your own Christmas Trees! First quality trees at a reasonable price and friendly service too!

Thornhollow tree Farm  
44387 Hull Rd., Belleville  
734-699-3709

1-94, exit 190, south thru town, continue south on Samper 1 mile to Hull, turn left, entrance 1/2 mile on right

\*2.00 OFF WITH THIS AD

Fodor's Christmas Tree Farm

You cut or fresh! Fraser, Concolor & Douglas Fir, Blue & White Spruce, White & Scotch Pine. All Sizes, All Prices.

Wreaths, Gifts, Snacks. FREE rides, animals, animation. Santa weekends. Saws & Tree cleaning provided.

Daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
3360 Burtch Road  
Grass Lake, MI  
1-94 West, Exit 150 • Follow Signs  
517-522-4982

SUPER PREMIUM TREES

Shop inside our 20,000 sq. ft. greenhouse. Choose from over 500 trees standing. Fresh Cut trees from 2'-14' tall. Also wreaths, roping, poinsettias.

PLYMOUTH NURSERY  
Christmas in the Country  
9900 Plymouth Rd. • 7 miles west of I-275  
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Battalee Lake Christmas Tree Farm  
Clarkston, MI

U-Choose • We Cut  
Scotch Pine Blue Spruce  
Douglas Fir Norway Spruce  
and White Pine

ALSO  
Fresh cut NC Fraser Fir up to 12  
Roping • Wreaths  
Refreshments • Warming Room  
• Wagon Rides

Daily from Nov. 21  
(248) 625-9127

Trees 60% Off

Gimmies Rustics  
Is closing out all artificial Christmas trees.

Hurry!

Only while supplies last.  
Livonia (734) 522-9200  
Novi (248) 348-0090

Howell Nature Center

Cut Your Own Scotch Pine  
MANY VARIETIES OF FRESH CUT FIR, SPRUCE & PINE  
• Tree Shaking • Live wildlife exhibits on weekends • Crafts, wreaths, roping & refreshments  
Santa arrives 1st 2 weekends in December  
• Have breakfast with Santa on Dec. 5, 6, 12, 13  
• Naptime with Santa on Dec. 18th & 19th  
Reservations required  
517-546-0249  
1005 Triangle Lake Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48150 • 1 mi. W. of I-75  
Hours 9-5, starting Nov. 27th

COCKRIFF'S TREES ARE HERE!

Once again we have a fine selection of trees. All sizes. Lots of premium...

Douglas Fir, Fraser Fir, Balsam Fir, Scotch Pine & White Pine.  
Come early for a better selection. Wreaths of many sizes. Cedar & Pine Roping. Excellent selection of Grave Blankets.

35 yrs. in the same location.

COCKRIFF'S FARM MARKET  
33841 PLYMOUTH RD.  
1/4 mile W. of Wayne Rd. across from Ford Transmission  
Open 9 am - 7 pm, 7 days

The holiday season is hectic enough....so why not make some special memories for you and your family by going to a Christmas Tree Farm this year!

A Family Event  
Northville Tree Farm

Prices start at \$20  
Scotch Pine 4 to 10 feet

8 Mile Road  
9212 Hickory Ridge  
Country Fair  
Call (248) 348-6257

CUT YOUR OWN X-MAS TREES

1000's to Choose From  
Scotch Pine, Blue Spruce, White Spruce & Balsam Fir

Free Wagon Rides, Tree Cleaning & Tree Wrapping. Large Sales prices of Fraser Fir, Douglas Fir, Wreaths and Roping. Under \$1000.00. Fudge, Fruit Pies and Apples. Open Daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through December 23.

BLAKES Orchard & Cider Mill  
17985 Center Road  
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BOUGHAN'S Assure Freshness. Cut your own tree!

2 FARMS TO SERVE YOU  
• Pine • Spruce  
Drive to & Thru Fields  
(734) 689-8062  
15851 Marquette Rd. • Belleville, MI

• Pine • Spruce • Fir  
Wreaths Garland Grave Blankets Flocked Trees Wagon Rides Santa Claus weekends only  
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(734) 689-8493  
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We Honor all Tree Farm Coupons

Matthes Evergreen Farm

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Livonia, MI 48140  
734-269-2668

FUN! Over 80 Acres of Choose & Cut also pre-cut & balled. All trees cleaned & Wreaths, roping, centerpieces.  
FUN STUFF Weekends thru Dec. 20  
ANNUAL FESTIVAL Nov. 28 & 29  
Daily 9am - Dark  
5 South on Telegraph to Albany Follow Signs  
\$3 OFF any tree with ad 0.1

Richardson Tree Farm

78400 Romeo Plank Road  
36 1/2 Mile, Armada Twp.  
810-336-0885  
810-939-8041

Choose & cut your own Christmas Tree from 15 varieties of Firs, Pines and Spruces. Prices start at \$29.00.

We provide hand saws, plus shake and bat every tree. We also provide wagon rides through the trees, offer hot cider, coffee & donuts, also fresh wreaths, tree stands and bags. We are open every weekend 9 am until dark beginning November 27th until December 1st.

Braun's Tree Farm

Fraser Fir • Douglas Fir  
Blue Spruce • Scotch Pine  
White Pine

We shake and bale  
Location: 796 Warren Rd.  
Between Pontiac Trail and Whitmore Lake Rd. in Ann Arbor Twp.  
Open 12 noon - dark • Fri. Sun. 10am - dark  
(734) 663-2717

Candy Cane CHRISTmas Tree Farm

Choose & cut a beautiful tree at one of our two locations. Fresh wreaths & roping. FREE tree wrap. Saws & tree carts provided.

OXFORD 4780 Seymour Lake Rd. (between Bklyn & Sashabaw) Take I-75 to Exit 89 N on Sashabaw for 5 mi. E on Seymour Lake for 3.4 mi. Farm on right.

WE ARE A SNOWFRESH FARM FOR GUARANTEED QUALITY.

Choose from 10 varieties including Fraser Fir, 6-8 ft., 20 to 60 dollars. Visit our new baby deer and ewe exhibit. Open M-F noon-5, Sat & Sun 9-5.

LAPEER 2401 Farmworth Rd. (N on M-24, 2 mi. past city of LaPeer. E on Daily for 1/2 mi. N on Farmworth for 1 mi. farm on left.)

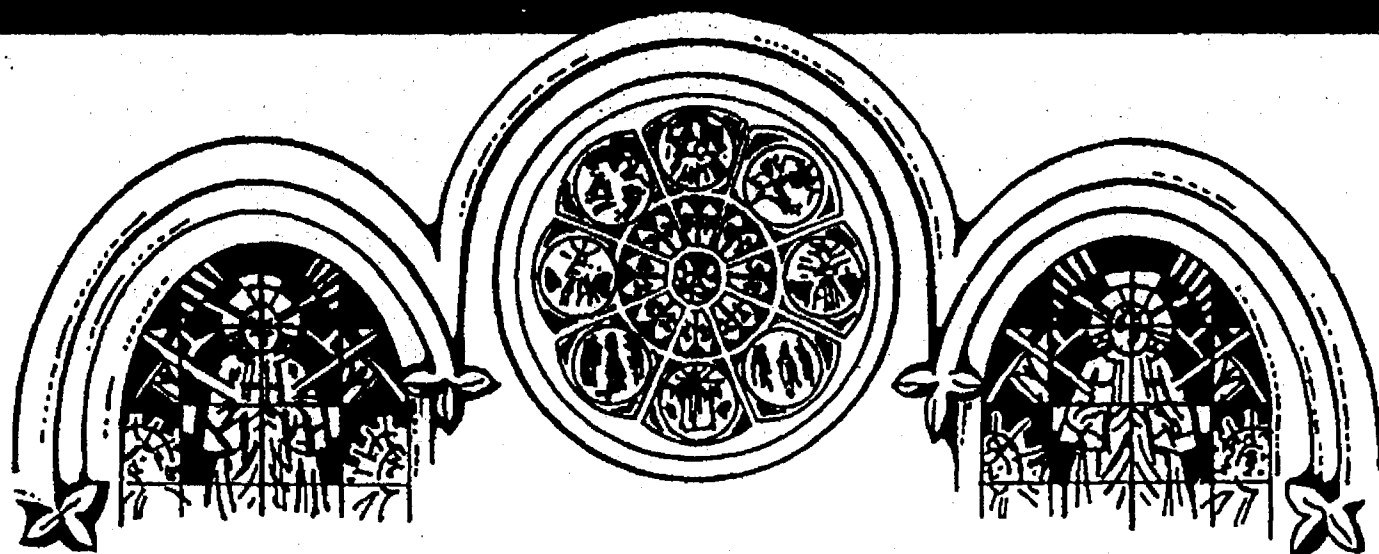
Need a BIG tree for a high ceiling? This is the place. Thousands of beautiful spruce & pine up to 14 ft. Only \$5 per ft. in LaPeer! Open Sat & Sun 9-5.  
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FOR INFORMATION REGARDING ADVERTISING IN THIS DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL RICH VICULIN (734) 953-2069



## BAPTIST

### BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE

29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia  
525-3664 or 261-9276

Sunday School ..... 10:00 A.M.  
Morning Worship ..... 11:00 A.M.  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 P.M.  
Wed. Family Hour ..... 7:15 P.M.

**December 6th**

11:00 a.m. Guest Speaker  
6:00 p.m. Guest Speaker

"A Church That's Concerned About People"

### NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

5403 S. Wayne Rd. • Wayne, MI  
(Between Michigan Ave. & Van Buren Rd.)  
(313) 728-2180

Virgil Humes, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



## LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

### CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Luther A. Werth, Sr. Pastor  
Rev. Robert Bayer, Asst. Pastor  
— Two locations to serve you —

**LIVONIA**  
14175 Farmington Rd.  
(N. of I-96)  
Sunday School 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
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**CANTON**  
46001 Warren Road  
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Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.  
(313) 414-7422



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**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
20805 Middlebelt, Livonia  
Farmington Hills, Mich.  
WORSHIP SERVICES  
Saturday Evening 6 p.m.  
Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.  
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:10  
Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

**Risen Christ Lutheran**  
46250 Ann Arbor Road  
(1 Mile West of Sheldon)  
Plymouth • 453-5252  
Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Family Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Pastor David Martin  
Hugh McMartin, Lay Minister

**ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School**  
20805 Middlebelt, Livonia  
1 Blk. N. of Ford Rd., Westland 425-0260  
Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.  
Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.  
Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.  
Gary D. Headspeth, Administrative Pastor  
Kurt E. Lambart, Assistant Pastor  
Jeff Burck, Principal/DCE

**HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
9600 Levee • So. Redford • 937-2424  
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WORSHIP WITH US  
Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00  
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Thursday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.  
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5 Miles W. of Sheldon Rd.  
From M-14 take Gottfredson Rd. South  
734-459-9550  
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor  
8:00 Prayer & Praise Service  
9:30  
Lifeline Contemporary Service  
11:00 Traditional Service  
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)  
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED  
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School for All Ages



We welcome you to join us at our new location!!

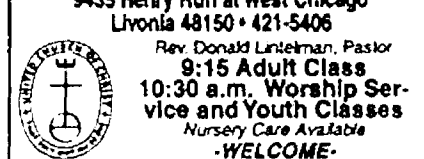
40000 Six Mile Road  
Northville, MI  
248-374-7400  
Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor  
Worship Services  
Sunday School  
8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.  
Evening Service  
6:00 P.M. In the Chapel  
Nursery Provided

Worship Service  
Broadcast  
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WMUZ-FM  
103.5



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**NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
9435 Henry Rd. at West Chicago  
Livonia 48150 • 421-5406  
Rev. Donald Lintelman, Pastor  
9:15 Adult Class  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
and Youth Classes  
Nursery Care Available  
-WELCOME-



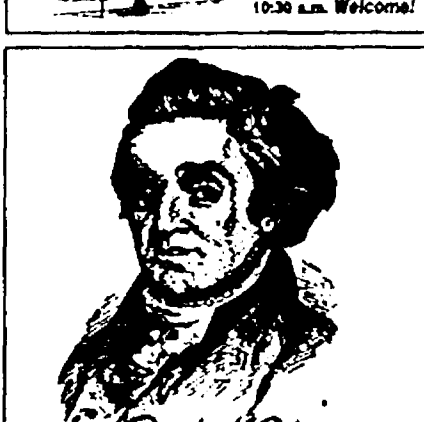
## CONGREGATIONAL

**Mt. Hope Congregational Church**  
30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia • 734-425-7280  
(Between Middlebelt & Merriman)  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Nursery Care Available

"The Church You've Always Longed For."

## First Congregational Church of Wayne, Est. 1848

Michigan Ave. at Wayne Rd  
(734) 729-7550  
Sunday School, Sunday School & Nursery  
10:30 a.m. Welcome!



Would Webster join any church that put words in his mouth?

Congregational Christian Churches encourage individual freedom of belief. Which naturally attracts great thinkers. And which explains why so many of our followers have been leaders. Simply put, we honor every sincere conviction that exalts our Lord. And we do so, together in fellowship, each Sunday.

## A Congregational Christian Church

First Congregational Church of Wayne, Est. 1848  
Michigan Ave. at Wayne Rd  
(734) 729-7550  
Sunday Worship, Sunday School & Nursery 10:30 a.m.

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**GENEVA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)**  
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(313) 459-0013  
Sunday Worship & Church School  
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Education for All Ages  
Childcare Provided • Handicapped Accessible  
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PLYMOUTH  
Worship Services 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Church School & Nursery 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Dr. James Skirmins, Pastor  
Senior Minister: Tamara J. Seidel  
David J. W. Brown, Dir. of Youth Ministries  
Accessible to All

**ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH**  
16700 Newburgh Road  
Livonia • 484-8844  
Sunday School for All Ages: 9:30 a.m.  
Family Worship 11:00 a.m.  
"Born to Die"  
Rev. Janet Noble Richardson  
<http://www.undel.com/~sttimothy>

**Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)**  
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI  
(Between Merriman & Farmington Hills)  
(313) 422-0494  
Worship Service & Sunday School  
10:30 a.m.  
Nursery Care Provided  
We Welcome You To A Full Program Church  
Rev. Richard Peters, Pastor  
Rev. Ruth Billington, Associate Pastor  
Visit our Website at <http://www.kennetec.com/emiddle>

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

**Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church**  
14750 Kinloch • Redford Twp.  
532-8655  
Pastor Gregory Gibbons  
Morning Worship 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School and Bible Class 9:45 a.m.  
Now accepting applications for 1999-00 school year.  
WLQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

**United Methodist**

**Clarenceville United Methodist**  
20100 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia  
474-3444  
Rev. Jean Love  
Worship Services 10:15 A.M. 6:00 P.M.  
Nursery Provided  
Sunday School 9 A.M.  
Office Hrs. 9-5

**ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST**  
30900 Six Mile Rd. (Bet. Merriman & Middlebelt)  
Chuck Sonquist, Pastor  
10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School  
11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes  
Nursery Provided • 422-6038

**NARDIN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
29887 West Eleven Mile Road  
Just West of Middlebelt  
248-476-8860 • Farmington Hills  
Worship Service at 9:15 and 11 a.m.  
Church School at 10 a.m.

**December 6th**  
"What Will I Be?"  
Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack  
Rev. Benjamin Bohnsack  
Rev. Kathleen Groff  
Rev. Jane Berquist  
Rev. Robert Bough  
Mr. Melvin Rookus

**NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
38500 Ann Arbor Trail  
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.  
422-0149  
Worship Services & Sunday School  
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

**December 6th**  
Rev. Melanie Lee Carey, preaching  
Contemporary Worship  
8:00 p.m.  
Praise Band - Drama  
visit our website: [www.gbpw.com.org/newburg-umc](http://www.gbpw.com.org/newburg-umc)

**Catch the Spirit at Aldergate**  
United Methodist Church  
10000 Beech Daly, Redford  
Between Plymouth and W. Chicago  
Bob & Diana Goudie, Co-Pastors  
313-937-3170  
3 Styles of Creative Worship  
8:00 a.m. - Cozy, Traditional, Basic  
9:30 a.m. - Contemporary, Family  
11:00 a.m. - Traditional, Full Choir  
Sunday School  
9:30 - Adults; 11:00 - Children-Adults  
Dec 6 - Matt. 3:1-12  
"Prepare the Way of the Lord"  
Rev. Bob Goudie, preaching

**Brightmoor Tabernacle**  
Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor  
26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI (I-696 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn) • 352-6200  
Sunday Service Times - 10:00 am Worship Service • 6:10 pm Evening Service  
8:45 a.m. Family Sunday School • Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Family Night  
10:00 AM Pastor Calvin Ratz  
6:30 PM Pastor Doug Rhind  
24-Hour Prayer Line 248-352-6205

## ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

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24-Hour Prayer Line 248-352-6205

## ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

### OPIN

Yep! We're Still Open.  
Just in case you were wondering we're still open and eager to meet you. Go ahead, stop by this Sunday. You'll be glad you did.

Tri-City Christian Center  
Michigan Ave. & Hannon Rd.  
326-0330  
Sunday 9 am, 11 am, 6 pm

**EVANGELICAL COVENANT**

**FAITH COVENANT CHURCH**  
314 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills  
(248) 661-9191  
Sunday Worship  
9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Child Care provided for all services  
Sunday School for all ages  
at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
Activities for all ages • Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.  
Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

**CATHOLIC**

**ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Society of St. Pius X  
Traditional Latin Mass  
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan  
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121  
Priest's Phone (810) 784-9511  
Mass Schedule:  
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.  
First Sat. 9:30 a.m.  
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.  
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass

**OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL**  
1160 Penniman Ave.  
Plymouth • 453-0326  
Rev. John J. Sullivan  
Masses: Mon-Fri. 9:00 A.M., Sat. 5:00 P.M.,  
Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M.  
5:00 P.M. Life Teen Mass

**RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187  
451-0444  
REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO  
Weekday Masses  
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS PARISH**  
23816 Power Rd. at Shilohwasee  
(South of I-96  
between Farmington & Orchard Lake Rds.)  
Farmington, MI 48336  
\*\*\*\*\*  
WEEKEND LITURGY SCHEDULE  
Sundays: 4:30 & 6:00 p.m.  
Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.  
1:00 & 8:30 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Worship Together**

## EPISCOPAL

### ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

16360 Hubbard Road  
Livonia, Michigan 48154  
421-8451  
Mon-Fri. 9:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist  
Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Dinner & Classes  
Saturday 5:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist  
Sunday 7:45 & 10 A.M. Holy Eucharist  
10:00 A.M. Christian Education for all ages  
Sunday Morning - Nursery Care Available  
The Rev. Robert Clapp, Rector

**ST. MARTIN EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
24699 GRAND RIVER, DETROIT, MI  
7 Miles Five Points  
313-533-3600  
Sunday Service 10:15  
• Nursery Care Available  
• Free Parking

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**

**PLYMOUTH SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
PLYMOUTH ADVENTIST ACADEMY Grades 1-8  
4295 Napier Road • Plymouth  
(313) 455-3580  
WORSHIP SERVICES  
SATURDAY: Sabbath School 8:15 a.m.  
Divine Worship 11 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Pastor Mike Doucours (313) 844-8560  
School (313) 459-8222

**CHRISTADELPHIANS**

**CHRISTADELPHIANS**  
Sunday Memorial Service 10:00 A.M.  
Sunday School 11:30 A.M.  
Bible Class - Wednesdays 7:30 P.M.  
36516 Parkdale, Livonia  
425-7610

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

**FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH**  
291 E. SPRING ST.  
2 Blocks N. of Main - 2 Blocks E. of M  
SUNDAY  
Bible School 10:00 A.M.  
Worship 11:00 A.M. AND 5:00 P.M.  
(Nursery Provided In A.R.)  
Pastor Frank Howard • Ch. 453-0323

**CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE**

**PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (313) 453-1525  
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.  
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 455-3194

**REFORMED**

**Reformed - Adhering to the Westminster Confession of Faith**  
Presbyterian Free Church  
30025 Curtis Ave., Livonia 48154  
off Middlebelt between Six and Seven Mile  
Sunday Services - 11am and 7pm  
Wednesday Bible Study - 7pm  
Pastor - Kenneth Macleod - tel 313-421-0789

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**

**First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth**  
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI  
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Reading Room - 433 S. Huron, Plymouth  
Monday Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. • Sunday 7-9 p.m.  
453-1676

**NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
5403 S. Wayne Rd. • Wayne, MI  
(Between Michigan Ave. & Van Buren Rd.)  
(313) 728-2180  
Virgil Humes, Pastor  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



## RELIGIOUS NEWS

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

## NEW BEGINNING

"Making It Through the Holidays" will be the topic when New Beginnings, a grief support group meets at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, east of Merriman, Livonia, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3. The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one. There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions as they feel the need. Call the church office at (734) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7903, or Rosemary Kline at (734) 462-3770.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

The Livonia Churchill High School Choralists will present a one-act musical, "Scrooge," at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, and 2 p.m. Dec. 6, in Guthrie Hall of Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Tickets cost \$10. Proceeds will benefit the Newburg Youth Choir tour. Call (734) 422-0149. The children and youth of Newburg United Methodist will present "The First Christmas Present Ever" by Sherry Sanders at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at the church. The children will retell the story of Jesus' birth and carols will be sung.

## CHOIR CANTATA

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

will present a choir cantata, "Lord of Light - Prince of Peace," at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, at the church, 20805 Middlebelt Road at Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

The church also is having Advent services at 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 9 and 16. The sermon topic will be "Christmas Is for Giving" on Dec. 9, while the St. Paul's Christian Day School will present "Carriers of the Light," with special music, choirs and handbells, on Dec. 16. Call (248) 474-0676.

## HELPING HONDURAS

Plymouth Seventh-Day Adventist School is selling Florida fruit to raise money for victims of Hurricane Mitch in Honduras. Oranges and grapefruit are available by the case or half case. Oranges are \$18 per case (4/5 bushel), and grapefruit are \$16 per case. December orders must be placed by Dec. 3 with pick-up scheduled for 12:30-4 p.m. Dec. 13, at the school, 4295 Napier Road (between Ann Arbor and Warren roads), Plymouth. Call (734) 459-8222 or (248) 349-5683.

## THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth has opened its new location at 494 N. Mill St., one block north of Plymouth Road, Plymouth. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Call the store at (734) 459-1250 or e-mail the church at fpcp@juno.com.

## 'GLORY OF CHRISTMAS'

Temple Baptist Church will present its annual Christmas program, "The Glory of Christmas," at 7:30 p.m. Fridays Dec. 4, 11 and 18, and 6 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays, Dec. 5-6, 12-13 and 19-20. Interpretation for the deaf and hearing-impaired will be provided on Dec. 4. Tickets are \$6, \$8 and \$10 for reserved seating. To order tickets, call (734) 414-3980. For reservations for the hearing-impaired performance, call TTY (734) 414-3992. The church is located at 49555 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth.

## ANNUAL AUCTION

Garden City First United Methodist Church will hold its third annual auction Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. with the silent auction beginning at 6:45 p.m. A live auction as well as hors d'oeuvres, desserts and beverages and entertainment will be a part of the evening's festivities. Tickets cost \$15 each or \$25 per couple and are available in advance by calling (734) 421-8628. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door.

## COMMUNION BREAKFAST

The Detroit Presbyterian Men's Council's 18th annual Advent Communion Breakfast will be 8 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church, 24110 Cherry Hill Road, at Telegraph Road, Dearborn. The speaker will be Youngil Cho, a resident of Raleigh, N.C., and an elder and member of the DuRaleigh Presbyterian Church. His topic, "The New Beginning," will focus on the present state of the denomination and what God is doing and wants to do to renew the spiritual vigor of the men's mission, ministry and witness.

Cho is a professor and associate dean at North Carolina Central University, past president of the National Council of Presbyterian Men, a member and past moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly Council. Tickets cost \$6 each and are available through the Detroit Presbytery Office at (313) 345-6550 or George Irwin at (734) 425-3024.

## COOKIE WALKS

St. Michael's Orthodox Church will sell cookies by the pound during its annual cookie walk, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at the church, 26355 W. Chicago Road, between Inkster and Beech Daly roads, Redford. Cookies will be sold by the pound, so come early for the best selection.

Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church will have a Christmas cookie walk beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the church, 36075 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia. There will be an assortment of Greek, Ukrainian, Russian, Italian and other ethnic cookies, homemade pierogi, stuffed cabbage, sweet breads and nut apricot and poppy seed rolls for sale. Call (248) 476-3432.

The United Methodist Women of the First United Methodist Church in Garden City will have a cookie walk and mini bazaar 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 12, at the church, 6443 Merriman Road. Cost will be \$8 for a large tin and \$6 for a medium tin. Call (734) 421-8628.

## ADVENT RETREAT

Madonna University will hold an Advent retreat 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Founder's Room and University Chapel in the Residence Hall on campus, Schoolcraft and Levan roads, Livonia.

This year's theme will be "Embody Christ." The Rev. Dave Cornett, a missionary of the Divine Word, will lead the activities, which include prayer, quiet reflection, conferences, lunch, a reconciliation service and liturgy. The cost of the retreat is \$12 for the entire day. Reservations can be made through Dec. 3 by calling Deacon Gene Desjarlais at (734) 432-5419.

## BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST

Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance to divorced and separated Christians, will have a dance at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, West Chicago and Inkster roads, Redford. Cost is \$8 and includes refreshments. Participants should bring a hat or pair of gloves for the poor. For more information, call Rose at (734) 464-3325.

## CHRISTMAS MUSICALS

The congregation of Merriman Road Baptist Church will kick off the holiday season at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, with the first of three musical presentations, the Children's Department's "www.christmasonline.com."

The Youth Department takes over on Sunday, Dec. 13, with its 7 p.m. presentation of "Christmas Crossroads," while the Adult Choir has scheduled two performances of "The Father's Gift of Love" at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, and Sunday, Dec. 20. The musical focuses on the events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ as told by those who were

present.

Merriman Road Baptist Church is at 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City. For more information, call the church office at (734) 421-0472.

## GOSPEL SERVICE

The Chapels Gospel Group from Plymouth will perform at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter Road, Westland. Free-will offering will be taken. Call Anna at (734) 729-8842.

## CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church is hosting "Christmas Around the World," a Christmas walk 5-8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at the church, 9601 Hubbard Ave., Livonia. Admission is free. To make reservations, call (734) 422-0494.

The church's Children's Christmas Pageant will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, featuring The Children's Pageant Choir performing "The Cow Said and the Donkey Replied" as written by church member Dixie Elam.

## SILVER STRINGS CONCERT

The Silver Strings will be in concert at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City. The free concert will feature holiday music played on the lap and hammer dulcimer, guitar and other instruments. Call (734) 421-3660.

## HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

St. John's Lutheran Church

Please see B1, B3

## Family Channel to air Lutheran Hour's 'Boots'

The engaging story of a bitter shoemaker who is visited by an angel on Christmas Eve will once again charm audiences of all ages this holiday season in the classic animated television special, "Red Boots for Christmas."

Produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries, the award-winning program is set for broadcast at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, on cable's Fox Family Channel.

Through the 30-minute family special, LHM hopes to deliver the "true" message of Christmas. Following the broadcast, viewers will be given the opportunity to

call a toll-free number to receive a free children's storybook version of "Red Boots for Christmas."

In addition to the television special, the grumpy but lovable shoemaker named Hans and his pet cow, Aldo, also appear in full color at (www.org/redboots), offering visitors an electronic storybook, broadcast information, a free book offer and information about the program.

For more information about "Red Boots for Christmas" and other programs from Lutheran Hour Ministries, visit the "Wired with the Word" at www.lhm.org or by calling (800) 442-0324.

## IN CONCERT

Pittsburgh's Own

### River City Brass Band

Thursday, December 17, 1998 - 8:00 pm  
Southfield Centre for the Arts  
24350 Southfield Road

Adults - \$15 Seniors/Students \$10 Family \$25  
For more information call:

(248) 424-9022 (248) 616-9725

City of Southfield • Parks & Recreation • Cultural Arts Division

## Chronic Fatigue?



- Feeling Weak?
- Always Tired?
- Having Trouble Concentrating?

Finally...

Someone is seeking an effective treatment for this serious disorder, and we need your help! If you experience the symptoms of chronic fatigue syndrome, call us for

more information on this medication research program. All research-related care and study medication is provided at no cost to those who qualify. If you are currently taking anti-depressants, you cannot qualify for this research study.

### Institute For Health Studies

Robert J. Bielaski, MD, Medical Director  
(517) 349-5505 / (800) 682-6663



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CUSTOMER  
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DECEMBER 19, 1998

LIVONIA

IN KINGS ROW PLAZA  
S. OF 5 MILE  
(6700 MIDDLEBELT)  
734-427-4330

**BEANIE BUDDIES Are Here!**

**WONDER Hostess Bakery Thriftshop**

**TWINKIE LOTTERY IS HERE**  
(LIVONIA-SOUTHGATE STORES ONLY)  
SEE STORE FOR DETAILS

**\$ VALUABLE COUPON \$**

**50% off**  
MAXIMUM DISCOUNT **\$3.00 off**

Valid Only at  
Wonder Hostess Thrift Stores

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Bet. Levan & Newburgh  
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MON. - FRI. 8-6  
SAT. 8-5

14750 FORT ST.  
1 Block N. of Eureka  
**734-284-0863**  
MON. - FRI. 9-7  
SAT. 8:30-7 SUN. 9:15-5

35780 GODDARD  
West of Merriman  
**313-291-2004**  
MON. - TUES. FRI. 9-6  
WED. & SAT. 8:30-5:30

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**Professional Dry Cleaning Shirt Laundry**  
Same Day Service

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DRY CLEANING AND DRAPES  
Expires 12-31-98  
One Coupon Per Visit

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SHIRTS ON HANGERS  
With Incoming Dry Cleaning Orders  
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Lost or Gained Weight, We Can Alter to Fit You.

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Corner of Five Mile & Newburgh, Next to Blockbuster Video and Dannon Hardware  
(734) 591-0335

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Wind Chimes & Gardening Ornaments

Holiday Ornament Bouquet Crystal Glow Bouquet

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(734) 525-0980  
HOURS:  
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Specializing in Commercial and Residential Lawn Care Equipment

Get up to 50% back with Toro's S'no Risk Guarantee.



# Religion from page B7

will have its holiday boutique following the 10:30 a.m. worship service Sunday, Dec. 6, at the church, 13542 Mercedes, east of Inkster Road and south of the I-75 freeway. Holiday baked goods and craft items will be sold. The church also will have its annual Little Christmas ethnic festival at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8. The evening will include worship service with hymns and music from several ethnic heritages and a dessert buffet with ethnic specialties. Call (313) 538-2660.

**RAFT-STORY HOUR**  
Newburg United Methodist Church will have a Christmas craft and story hour for preschoolers ages 2 1/2 to 5 and their parents 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, in the west end of Guthrie Hall. There will be child care available in the crib room for younger siblings. Call (734) 422-0149. Newburg United Methodist is at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

**'GIFT OF CHRISTMAS'**  
Plymouth Baptist Church will present the concert "The Gift of Christmas," at 7 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 11-13, at the church, 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, 1/2 mile west of Haggerty Road, Plymouth. The concert features traditional and contemporary Christmas music in a "small-town" setting.

There is no admission charge,

however, a Salvation Army kettle will be available for donations. Children younger than age 5 will not be admitted into the auditorium. Full nursery and preschool care will be provided. Call (734) 453-5534.

**ASP BENEFIT**  
A spaghetti dinner and basket auction at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, will benefit the Appalachia Service Project, which sponsors youth and young adult work trips to Appalachia. Tickets - \$6.50 for adults, \$4 for children ages 3-12, and \$20 for a family of two adults and two children - for the auction will be on sale through Sunday, Dec. 6, or games for a rainy day. Call the Rev. Melanie Lee Carey at (734) 422-0149 or visit <http://www.gbgn-umc.org/newburgumc>.

**MUSICAL DRAMA**  
Covenant Community Church will present the musical drama, "The King: The Long Awaited Promise," at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 25800 Student St., at Beech Daly Road, Redford. The musical drama unfolds the life of Benjamin, a fictitious first century rabbi who considers the claims of Christ. Call (313) 535-3100.

# Alpha Baptist to build family center

Alpha Baptist Church in Livonia is expecting, so to speak, in the spring. That's the tentative completion date of its new 6,000-square-foot Family Life Center.

"We've looked forward to this day for a long time," said the Rev. Benson Kern, senior pastor at Alpha Baptist. "As our congregation grows, so does our need for a place where we can all gather in fellowship."

Ground was broken for the new center in October. The facility will include a gymnasium, changing rooms, kitchen and several classrooms.

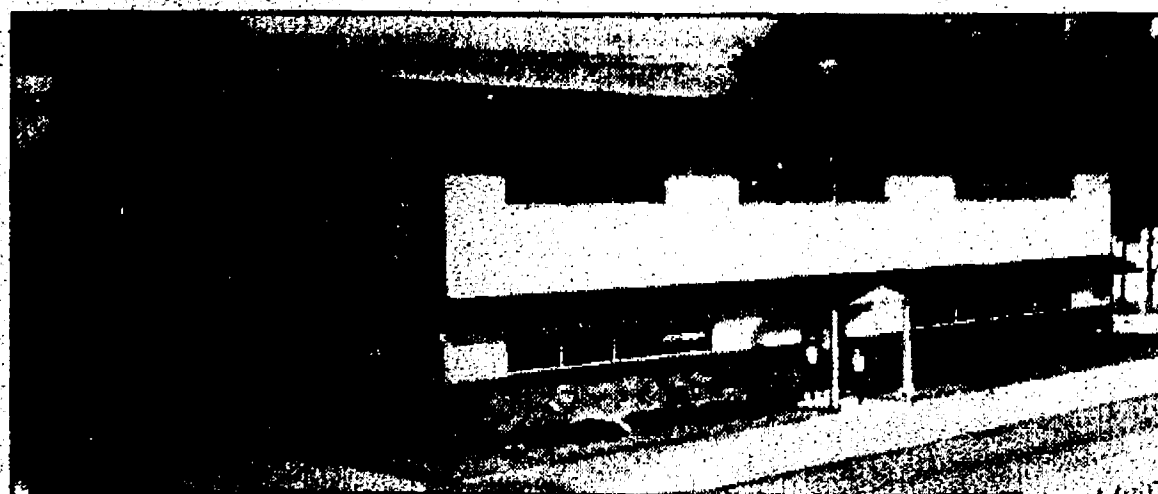
According to Kern, the center will be used for indoor athletic events, concerts, drama presentations, dinners and Sunday school classes.

"Our championship softball, basketball and volleyball teams have been begging for a place to practice during the winter months," Kern added. "This new Family Life Center promises to meet these needs and much more."

Alpha Baptist was founded in 1939 when Coronado Baptist Church was asked to sponsor a Sunday School in the neighborhood of the Dutcher home on Sherwood Lane in Livonia.

By January 1940, a formal meeting was called to organize the members of the Sunday School as a church.

By August 1941, lots were pur-



chased at the corner of Grantland and Arcola and the basement church was built. It was dedicated in October 1942.

The sanctuary was erected on the basement church in 1950, but by July 1952, the growth of the church made it necessary to sell the old church and once again meet in a school.

In September 1953, ground was broken for a new church at its present location, 28501 W. Chicago, west of Inkster Road, Livonia, and in November 1953 the name was changed to Alpha Baptist.

The new sanctuary was completed in July 1954, with a new educational facility and expanded sanctuary started in 1963. Further remodeling was undertaken in 1972 to make better use of the church facilities.

By the shovel: The Rev. Carl Young, pastor of Alpha Baptist Church from 1952 to 1987, assists the Rev. Benson Kern, pastor since 1995, with ground-breaking for the new 6,000-square-foot Family Life Center that's expected to be completed in the spring.



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## Return of key wrestlers creates anxiety for start of new season

BY NEAL ZIPSER  
STAFF WRITER

Redford Catholic Central may want to keep the celebration going.

After repeating as the state's Class AA football champions last weekend, the Shamrocks may have another state title to boast.

Backed by a strong returning cast, CC has a good chance this season of winning the state title in wrestling.

The Shamrocks, a perennial power which has won the Catholic League wrestling title the past seven seasons, haven't won the state title since 1988.

That 10-year drought may end as CC returns three first-team All-Area performers: Casey Rogowski, the outstanding Observerland wrestler of 1998, Broce

Naysmith and Mitch Hancock.

Is it a coincidence that the wrestling squad may be able to match the football team's feat? Not necessarily, according to CC coach Mike Rodriguez.

"I think the two programs complement each other," he said. "I think the tenacity they get from wrestling helps them in football. And the good winning attitude and competition from football helps them in wrestling."

Rodriguez isn't too concerned about some of his star wrestlers starting late.

"This is not the first time the football team has gone this far and we've had wrestlers start late," he added. "The football season was long and will certainly drain them physically at the beginning of the wrestling season. Luck-

ily we have a long season and they should all be ready come time for March (the state tournament)."

Another team to watch this season will be Livonia Clarenceville, under second-year coach Todd Skinner. The Trojans are seeking their first Metro Conference championship after enjoying their first non-losing season in 16 years.

Team by team previews:

### REDFORD CC

The break between football and wrestling was brief for several Redford Catholic Central wrestlers.

Some came to practice for the first time Monday as a result of the football team's title run. One of those to walk in

Please see **WRESTLE, C2**



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

On top of their game: Livonia Clarenceville's Walter Ragland (above) and Lutheran Westland's Josh Meyer (below) are two of many fine wrestlers to return this season, which begins tonight.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

**Catching a Smile:** End Derek Andersen of Livonia flashes a winning smile and gets congratulations from teammates after catching the winning TD pass Saturday in Catholic Central's 27-23 victory over Rockford in the Class AA football state title game.

## CC wraps up another football title with come-from-behind win

BY STEVE KOWALSKI

STAFF WRITER  
skowalski@ccs.homecomm.net

Put Redford Catholic Central senior quarterback Dave Lusky indoors and he reaches for his security blanket.

Strange as it seems, Lusky's most reliable receiver in the Pontiac Silverdome has become senior Derek Andersen, who caught one pass in nine games played outdoors.

Andersen caught a 70-yard touchdown pass from Lusky with 5:04 left to erase a 23-21 deficit and give CC its second-straight Class AA state championship Saturday afternoon, 27-23, over Rockford.

Exactly a month earlier at the Silverdome, the two connected on a 21-yard pass on fourth down and 20 to set up

See related stories, C2, C8

the winning touchdown in a 22-15 win over Orchard Lake St. Mary's in the Catholic League championship.

Lusky, who as a kid used trees as targets when there was no one around to play catch with, couldn't find his Red Wood - 6-foot-5, 255-pound tight end Nick Brzezinski - or fullback Casey Rogowski open.

Andersen was the next option. "It was actually supposed to go to Casey and they had it covered and Derek was the secondary receiver," Lusky said. "He told me in the huddle they weren't covering him. He did all the work, I just laid it in for him."

The ball appeared to have gone through the hands of the Rockford cor-

nerback, who was step for step with Andersen. The catch was made around the 30 and Andersen raced the rest of the way to the end zone.

"I just know we had it covered pretty darn well," Rockford coach Ralph Munger said.

The play stunned the crowd of 17,150 and capped another playoff rally by the Shamrocks, who found themselves down 23-14 after a nine-yard run by Rockford's Keith Wurn with 1:38 left in the third quarter.

Rockford, a heavy underdog, finished 11-2 overall record, its only losses coming to Detroit Catholic League opponents.

The Shamrocks, 12-0 overall, are the first back-to-back champions in AA.

Please see **CHAMPS, C3**

### OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

#### Sabres win tourney

The Sabres, a Mite team in the Livonia Hockey Association, won the Troy Thanksgiving Tournament with a 3-0-1 record.

The Sabres beat the Farmington Hills Ice Cats, 5-0, in the finals. They also beat the Troy Predators, 7-0, and the Great Lakes Wings (from Fraser), 3-2 in overtime, and tied the Great Lakes Leafs (Fraser), 2-2.

Team members included Robert Louwers, Colin Beck, Kenny Masiarczyk, Michael Padgen, Anthony Foresta, Pat McHugh, Nicholas Lawson, Greg Killeen, Daniel Yaquinto, Richard Stack, Justin Gilliam, Michael Piotrowski, Steven Godlew, Greg Michael, Vito Geluso and Joseph Cummings.

The coaches are John Louwers, Tom Beck, Jerry Cummings and Scott Lawson. Managers are Jim Stack and Lori Killeen.

#### Gymnastics Invitational

The Michigan Academy of Gymnastics is hosting its 20th Christmas Classic Invitational competition Dec. 11-13 at the gymnastics facility.

Girls 8-18 from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan will compete for individual and team awards in Compulsory Levels 5 and 6 plus Optional Levels 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Michigan Academy, owned and operated by Douglas Rowe, is at 5870 North Hix, between Ford and Warren Roads. For more information, call 721-4001.

#### Poglits Impressive

Freshman Sarah Poglits (Livonia Ladywood) of Loyola University Chicago was named to the All-Newcomer women's volleyball team and Second Team in the Midwestern Collegiate Conference.

Poglits ranked in the MCC's top 10 in kills per game with a 3.02 per-game average and had a .269 regular season hitting percentage good for seventh in the league.

She also had 112 total blocks with a single-game high of nine and averaged 1.66 digs per game.

The Ramblers were second in the MCC tournament Nov. 23 and Poglits was one of two team members selected to the All-Tournament squad.

## Clarenceville hires new boys basketball coach

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK  
STAFF WRITER

Bill Dyer is in and Rick Larson is out as varsity boys basketball coach at Livonia Clarenceville.

New Clarenceville athletic director Chuck Sorentino plucked the 32-year-old Dyer from an assistant's position at Dearborn Divine Child.

Dyer succeeds Rick Larson, whose contract was not renewed after going 40-53 in 4 1/2 seasons.

"All coaching contracts are up for one year," Sorentino said. "I reposted the job. Rick called me after the job was posted and I told him he was welcomed to reapply and he said he would, but he didn't."

"When I took the job I talked with Rick and asked him to do a number of things. He didn't attend the first coaches meeting and never contacted me. I asked him for team inventory, plan for the program, practice schedule and a wish list. But I never heard from him again. He also missed a second coaches meeting."

Larson, who ran a summer basketball program at Clarenceville, also coaches the highly successful girls varsity soccer team during the spring at Madison Heights Bishop Foley. He also recently finished his first season this fall as Madonna University women's soccer coach.

Sorentino also confirmed that JV coach Mark Skrela, a former Clarenceville player, has decided not to return.

Larson seemed mystified by Sorentino's action. "Inventory?" said Larson, who became interim coach in the middle of the 1994 season when Rob White left to take a job in Ohio. "I told him we had 13 jerseys. Maybe we could have used some real basketballs. I don't know what else he was looking for. I didn't think there was a sense of urgency so early in the fall."

"He (Sorentino) acted like he was playing God. I'm kind of glad I don't have to come back there and coach under those circumstances."

"As far as not making the coaches meeting, I moved during the summer. And when I did, they never got my address so I never heard from them."

"Then, when he told me the job was being reposted, I told him I wouldn't be reapplying. Whatever he thinks I did not do, I don't think it was deserving of my having to reapply for a job I held for five years."

"Maybe it was a formality, but I think it was pretty obvious what he was trying to do from the get-go."

"It's kind of a sad situation. I enjoyed working with the kids."

Dyer, meanwhile, is currently teaching seventh and eighth grade math at Pierce Middle School in the South Redford Schools.

"He's been working a number of years under Joe Charnley at Divine Child, whom I considered one of the finest coaches in the Catholic League," Sorentino said. "Bill is level-headed, a fine teacher and a young and enthusiastic guy."

"He knows the game and will help develop the program."

Please see **DYER, C4**

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# Wrestle from page C1

was senior Casey Rogowski, who won the state title last season at heavyweight.

Rogowski, now in his second year at heavyweight, went undefeated in 45 matches last season despite not being ranked in a statewide poll.

He is 100 percent after suffering a broken leg early in football season and his goal is "to repeat as state champ," Rogowski said. "That's the only direction Casey knows."

Also walking in to practice for the first time was senior Brock Nayamith. The 215-pounder, Rodriguez's grandson, posted a 40-4 record last season and has a 99-12 career mark.

Another returning grappler is junior Mitch Hancock, a two-time first-team All-Area wrestler. He finished 44-6 last season and fourth in the state after losing to the eventual 135-pound champ.

This season, Hancock will wrestle at 152 and try to improve his 92-8 mark.

"Mitch is bigger and stronger this season and a state title is not out of his reach," Rodriguez said.

Senior John Abshire, another state qualifier and a third-team All-Area wrestler, returns at 189 pounds. In the wings is junior Andrew Conlin.

Arguably CC's smartest wrestler, junior Jess Norman, a member of CC's Quiz Bowl team, will compete at 171.

At 160 pounds, freshmen Brian Jackett and Blake Nayamith will vie.

Junior Sean Bell, a third-team All-Area wrestler last season, is at 145.

Mike Werner, who won the district title as a freshman last year, will compete at 140.

Rodriguez has a problem at the 135 class — too much talent. The foursome of seniors Ron Sarata and Jeff Wheeler, sophomore Andy Lendrum and freshman Jay Abshire compete.

Other wrestlers include: junior Peter Mazzarese at 130, and sophomores Chris Petersen at 125, Josh Crawford at 119, Tom Buddenberg at 112 and Chris O'Hara at 103.

"This is the year we've been waiting for," Rodriguez said. "There will be very tough competition as usual, but this is by far one of the best teams we've had here in 10 years."

Rodriguez has fewer things to worry

about thanks to coaching additions Sam Amine and sons Dave and Chris.

## LIVONIA STEVENSON

The team that lost perhaps the most talent was Livonia Stevenson.

But don't call the Spartans lightweights, even though they do have the area's most impressive pair.

Senior Joe Moran and junior Josh Gunterman will switch off at 103 and 112 and are considered best at those weights in preseason rankings.

Senior Brian Barker also returns at 160 along with sophomore Imad Kharbush, who earned third-team All-Area honors as a freshman.

Junior Mike Falton, who missed most of last season due to a broken leg is also back along with junior Mike Radley at 170. Sophomore Chris Cooperider will wrestle at 130 or 135.

"We have the same problem as last year: not a lot of experience at the heavier weights," Stevenson Coach Don Berg said. "It will be tough for us to fill all 14 spots."

Even though the Spartans return talent, Stevenson will be missing three first team All-Area performers. Notable losses are Dan Seder, second at the state tournament at 135, Katsuhiko Sueda (141-25) and Chris Goins (40-9) at 119 last season.

"We're trying to reload but we're not sure how many bullets we have," Berg said. "It will be interesting to see how we do. I'm not sure if there is a dominant team in the league this year other than Northville."

"The big thing for us will be to see how well we do come February when it's time to prepare for the state tournament. That's what matters."

## LIVONIA CHURCHILL

It will be a building year for the Livonia Churchill wrestling team.

However the Chargers return three wrestlers who are among the best in the area at their weights.

Returning from injury is senior Steve Vasiloff, who compiled a 20-11 mark at 125 pounds last season before breaking a bone in his leg.

Also back is senior Brandon LaPointe, a second-team All-Area

wrestler at 152 pounds. He recorded a 28-10 mark last season.

The third member of the impressive trio is junior Mike Carter at 145. Carter placed fourth at the Observerland meet last year and compiled a 24-11 record.

"I like to say these three are in the upper echelon of wrestlers but you never know in this sport," coach Marty Altounian said. "These three are real good people, understand their roles and how to handle certain situations. They lead by example and the rest of the team will learn by watching."

The remaining spots will be taken by young wrestlers. Making early good impressions are freshmen Tom Vandeboosche at 215 and Brian Jones, who will compete at 135 or 140.

"This is the largest amount of young wrestlers I've ever had," he said.

## LIVONIA FRANKLIN

Former Eastern Michigan University Ken Meinhardt takes over the Livonia Franklin wrestling program this season.

Meinhardt will have his work cut out for him. He got the coaching job less than two weeks ago.

The Patriots have had only three days of practice under Meinhardt, who declined comment about his team until he has seen them more.

According to the new coach, 26 potential wrestlers showed up to the team's first practice including All-Area honorable mention performers Ryan Shiplett, Eric Toska, Steve Mylinsky and Derek Azzopardi.

Franklin opens its season Thursday at a quad meet at Dearborn Fordson.

## WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

A new face is leading the Westland John Glenn wrestling program this season — sort of.

Taking over for David Hill as head coach is Keith Zimmerman, who assisted Hill the past nine seasons. What's the difference?

"The paperwork," Zimmerman said. "It's incredible how much there is. But other than the responsibilities, there's not too much different."

One thing different is that John

Fedulchak, who had over 100 career wins, is no longer around.

The Rockets will also be without the services of 215-pounder Jake Tharp, who injured his leg in the football team's victory over Wayne and decided not to wrestle.

This leaves Glenn lean on experience and talent, but the Rockets do return senior Pete Langer at 160. Also back are juniors Jesse Purdon at 112, Jeff Albrecht at 130 and Eric McMichael at 135.

The Rockets received a lift from two football players. Senior Bobby Hagelthorn will compete at 189 and senior J.T. Pillsbury at 215.

Senior Javonn Perkins will compete at 171 while a few sophomores will play key roles. They include Chris Wolfgang at 145, Chris Smith at 119 and Derek Giamondi at 130 or 135.

"This will be somewhat of a rebuilding year for us," Zimmerman said. "We have our numbers high right now and it will help us if we can keep those numbers high. Once we get our lineup ironed out, we should be all right."

"But one thing you can be certain of — we will be ready and we will be aggressive like usual."

## WAYNE MEMORIAL

Last season saw the end of a two-year district championship streak for Wayne Memorial's wrestlers.

Though this year's squad may be improved, regaining a district crown will be tough for the Zebras because they lost several key grapplers including heavyweight William Laramie and Jason Sienko (135).

Wayne does return two regional qualifiers: senior Nate Wensko (30-12), a two-time regional qualifier at 135 pounds, and junior Jon Gregg (119).

"Nate will be one of the better wrestlers at 135 in the area," Wayne coach Dave Davis said. "He's aggressive and doesn't give up. I've seen him win several matches in the last minute."

"Jon wrestled at 112 last year and he improved as the season went on and really finished strong."

Perhaps the most improved wrestler on the team will be senior Justin Beseler at 125 pounds, according to Davis. Another possible surprise will be senior Mike Kassabri at 112.

Two more seniors who should see plenty of action are Ken Raupp at 145 or 152 and Kurt Spann at 160.

"Overall, we are a slightly better team," Davis said. "We're definitely a more balanced team and we have a good mix of wrestlers in terms of experience."

"For what we will face, we're in pretty decent shape. We're ready now, but will improve as the season goes on."

## LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE

Don't be surprised if Livonia Clarenceville winds up right behind Catholic Central as the area's best team. That's right, the Trojans.

Success on the mats has been rare at Clarenceville, but times have changed under second-year coach Todd Skinner.

After a 9-9-1 season last year — the first non-losing season since 1982 — the Trojans may be looking at winning their first Metro Conference championship. Last season, Clarenceville finished second to Harper Woods.

"Our long-term goal here is to create a strong program and build interest in wrestling at the middle school level," Skinner said. "Our goal for this season is to have a winning record, win the conference title and then see what comes next."

Leading the Trojans will be the same person who led them on the football field this fall — Walter Ragland. The senior, 33-10 last year, will be one of the area's top wrestlers at 189 pounds and looks to become a three-time Metro Conference champ.

Also returning is junior Josh Rose at heavyweight. Rose finished second in the conference and was 21-20.

This year's lineup will also include junior Dan Tondreau at 112. At 103 last season, he won the conference title with a 31-10 mark. Freshman Nick Elam may also wrestle at 112.

Other wrestlers at the lower weights include freshman Eric Burr at 103, sophomore Tim Sampson at 119 and freshman Matt Combs at 125.

Senior Dave Lemon, a 25-win performer last season, will compete at 130 with junior George Gostias at 135. Gostias, a soccer player, is in better shape than last season where he wrestled at 152.

At 140, sophomore Dan LeClerc will try to improve on his second place conference finish. Sophomore Mike Hudson will also see time at the 140 class.

Junior Matt Wiehl and sophomore Rob Simpson are battling for the opening at 145, while sophomore Charlie Ufford will step into the spot at 152.

Senior Tony Rachoza, who finished second in the Metro last year with more than 25 wins, returns at 160. He will be backed up by junior Jose Aguelera and freshman Ryan Smith.

Senior Adam Marcum returns at 171 with sophomore Steve Rothenberger stepping in at 215.

Other wrestlers who may make an impact this season include senior Justin Green at heavyweight, sophomore Matt Agar at 171 and sophomore Jeff Potter at 145.

Some Trojans even have the possibility of advancing to the state tournament this year — another rare achievement for the school's program.

"The varsity returnees know what they have to do to advance that far," Skinner said. "We have a good mix of experienced wrestlers with younger wrestlers."

The Trojans will most likely field a wrestler at every weight class.

"Just five years ago, we had only five wrestlers on the squad," Skinner said. "This season, we have 22 on the team and will have the chance to field a complete team for the first time since 1985."

In addition, Skinner has strengthened his coaching staff with the addition of Clint Craft and former Trojans John Rose and Chris Lackner.

## LUTHERAN WESTLAND

Lutheran Westland finished third in the Metro Conference last season, but this will be a rebuilding year for the Warriors.

Coach Dennis Tuomi, now in his 12th season at Westland, has only two seniors and one junior on his squad. The other 16 spots on the squad are taken by freshmen and sophomores.

Gone from last year's squad are several seniors, most notably third-team All-Area heavyweight Matt Meyer.

Junior Joshua Meyer, Matt's younger brother, is one of three key returning grapplers. He will wrestle at 189 pounds.

The two seniors who return from last season's 5-11 squad are Ryan Soos, who will compete at 145 or 150, and 171-pounder Scott Archer.

Sophomore Adam Haller, who wrestled at 103 last season, will make the move to 112 this year.

The remaining spots on the team will be battled over by a group of 10 freshmen and six sophomores.

"Most of the underclassmen have never wrestled before," Tuomi said. "This definitely will be a rebuilding year, but we expect to improve as the season goes on."

The Warriors open their season Saturday at Lutheran East.

According to Tuomi, defending Metro Conference champion Harper Woods will again be the team to beat. Macomb Lutheran North and Clarenceville should also field strong squads.

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## Champs from page C1

This was their sixth state title in school history, fifth in the 1990s.

Rockford used some flea-flicker plays that you'd find in a backyard touch football game to confuse a CC defense that had

surrendered an average of 10 points per game.

Rockford opened the scoring when quarterback Dan Richard (13 for 21 for 109 yards) completed a 35-yard touchdown pass to

Courtney Yon, who didn't have a CC player within 20 yards of him, with 6:55 left in the second quarter.

Richard started the play with a hand-off to the halfback, who pitched the ball to a receiver. The ball then was lateralled back to Richard, whose pass to Yon gave the Rams a 6-0 lead.

"I wasn't surprised, I think anxious was the better word," said the Rockford quarterback. "That play usually works. I was first worried about catching it. I throw it all the time."

Rockford raised the lead to 9-0 when Luke Greenland kicked a 19-yard field goal with 3:47 left in the half following a fumble recovery by the Rams at CC's 8.

Three running plays resulted in seven yards but Rockford chose to try the field goal attempt by a straight on kicker from the left-hash mark on fourth down.

"I'm a midwest coach and if I had my druthers I'd pound on you (with the running game) but if you have tough guys inside you have to find another way," Munger said. "It can backfire on you too."

Lusky was 6-for-11 for 162 yards and two TDs, tying a Class AA finals game record.

Brzezinski's 12-yard touchdown catch and the first of Mike Sgroi's three extra points with 1:45 left in the first half cut Rockford's lead to 9-7.

But Rockford took a 16-7 lead into the locker room, scoring on a one-yard run by Tony Savickas after a 52-yard return on the ensuing kickoff.

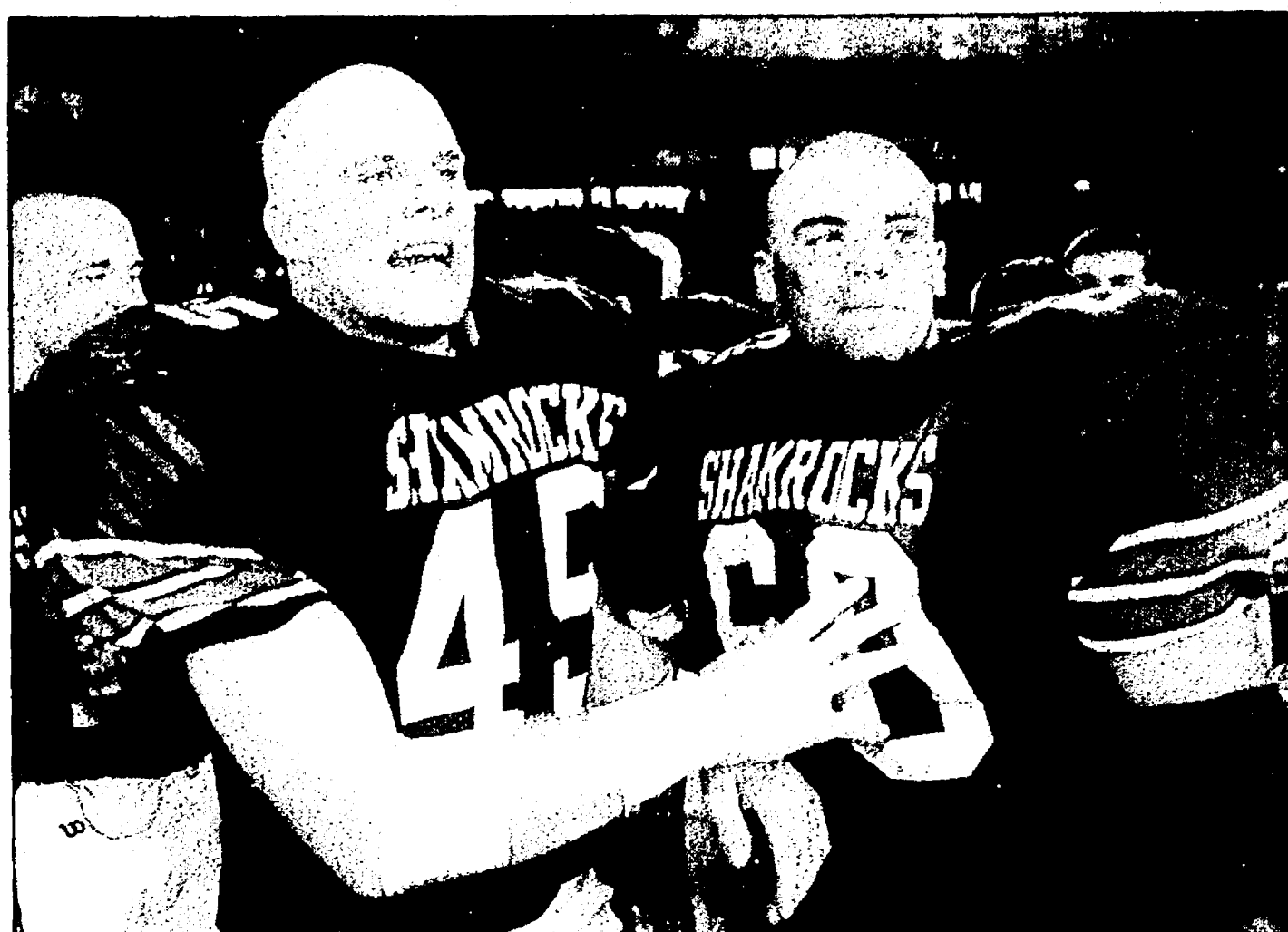
CC junior fullback John Kava, who had 83 yards in 22 carries, capped an 80-yard drive to start the second half with a one-yard run to cut Rockford's lead to 16-14.

Jeff Potts' 30-yard catch to the Rockford 3 keyed the drive.

The Rams seemed to regain the momentum after Wurn capped a 10-play 80 yard drive with a run off a lateral from Richard that seemed to be designed as another flea flicker pass.

Wurn faked a throw inside the 10, causing the CC defender to jump, and ran around the end untouched.

The score made it 23-14 in Rockford's favor but the Sham-



Player/coach: Lou Willoughby Jr. (with Casey Rogowski) wears No. 60 for CC but is No. 1 in the hearts of the St. Genevieve girls basketball team he coaches.

## St. Genevieve girls cheer playing coach

The Livonia St. Genevieve fifth- and sixth-grade girls basketball team won the St. Peter & Paul tournament in Detroit over the Thanksgiving weekend — but not without a detour to see their coach win a championship of his own.

St. Genevieve was scheduled to play crosstown rival St. Edith B at noon on Nov. 28 without Coach Lou Willoughby, Jr. on the bench.

It seems Coach Willoughby had an engagement of his own — playing defensive tackle for Detroit Catholic Central in the Class AA state football championship game that afternoon in the Pontiac Silverdome.

St. Edith graciously consented to having the game moved up two hours to 10 a.m. so the St. Genevieve team could go to watch their coach try to win the state title again.

St. Genevieve won, 35-8, and made it to the Silverdome in time to watch Catholic Central come from behind and defeat Rockford, 27-23.

The team displayed a banner saying, "St. Genevieve's girls basketball says CC and Coach Lou (No. 60) rock."

Rock he did as Willoughby finished with six tackles, including half a sack.

"Seeing the sign made me feel good — they're like a bunch of little sisters to me," said the 6-foot, 240-pound Willoughby, who has a younger sister, Amber, at home. "I knew two or three of their fathers were coming because they follow the team

but they didn't say their girls were coming with them."

With coach Willoughby on the bench Sunday, St. Genevieve had another championship effort, beating Belleville St. Anthony, 20-18, in overtime to claim the St. Peter & Paul Tournament title.

With four seconds left in regulation, Lauren Trosell sank a pair of free throws to forge an 18-18 tie and Jamie Rhodes made a pair of free throws in the extra period to win it.

The Jaguars defeated Dearborn Divine Child, 25-8, Nov. 21 to open the tournament.

Coach Willoughby was assisted by his mother, Linda Willoughby, and brother Mark Willoughby.

The squad also included Wendy Hoots, Marissa DiPonio, Theresa Morasso, Erin Lovell, Jenny Perkins, Mara Maj, Desiree Thomas and Julie St. Onge.

Willoughby might want to give his coaching resume to Rick Coratti in the future. Coratti is the CC football team's defensive coordinator and the school's basketball coach.

"I love football but I've been coaching basketball about five years now so I know that well," Willoughby said. "I think I'd like to be like coach Coratti — coach a little bit of both."

Willoughby's father, Lou, Sr., is an assistant coach for Redford St. Agatha's football team.

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## Dyer from page C1

He'll teach fundamentals, and he'll move the program forward."

Clarenceville is a member of the Metro Conference and Dyer said he is familiar with the league.

The Divine Child team he's helped coach the past few seasons has played Metro basketball power Hamtramck on a regular basis.

So he knows what the top of the league looks like. Now he'll get familiar with how the other half lives.

"From what I understand," Dyer said, "realistically, if we can get some kids who are fairly competitive, we can do fairly well over here."

"I'm looking at it as a good opportunity. I've got nothing to lose."

Dyer wants to bring a little of

the Divine Child practices and policies with him."

He knows no successful program is built without hard work during the "off" season and at the lower levels of the community.

"I'm hoping to some of the things we do at Divine Child," he said, "and that is to play a lot of games in the summer, under a lot of conditions."

"I've got a good program for lifting (weights), running, conditioning."

"If we get kids excited, interested, that should help us in the long run."

"I feel that if you show a little bit of interest, a little bit of effort, and you get the same return from the kids, you shouldn't have any problems at all."

Dyer also wants to get some-

thing started in the lower grade levels.

Installing a system pays dividends in the long run. All the successful programs are built from the bottom levels up.

That's a secret all good coaches know.

"We want to teach them the same things, run the same plays, so that when they get to the varsity level it's not a whole new experience."

"And I want them to have expectations. They have to know what they have to do to be successful."

Just like their coach.

Sorrentino has known Dyer for some time. He was one of the candidates the Trojans' AD contacted to replace Larson.

Dyer played high school basketball at Divine Child, finishing

with the Falcons in 1984.

He went to Central Michigan for a year, then transferred to Madonna University, where he played from 1986-88.

He passed on his final season of eligibility to complete his work toward his degree.

Dyer then started coaching track, middle school girls basketball and had been working with the Falcons' boys high school team for the past five seasons.

"I'm hooked. I'm addicted (to coaching), I guess. And when you teach, your schedule is set up so that if you like to do things like that, it's available."

"My wife, Sue, stays at home with our two kids. That affords me the ability to do that."

Brad Emons also contributed to this report.

## Whalers, Ambassadors win

Harold Druken offered more offense than the Peterborough Petes could handle.

Druken, the Ontario Hockey League's leading scorer, got three goals and an assist to lead the Plymouth Whalers to a 6-3 victory over the Petes at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.

The win kept the Whalers atop the OHL's West Division with a 20-4-2 record; Peterborough dropped to 14-11.

Druken scored his first goal on a power play 3:21 into the game. He added two more in the second period, giving him 33 for the season. Adam Colagiacomo and Julian Smith added a goal and an assist apiece, with Jamie LaLonde also getting a goal. David Legwand and Shaun Fisher contributed two assists each.

Detroit led 2-0 after one period and 4-1 after two. Two quick goals by the Petes early in the final period narrowed the margin to 4-3, but Smith and LaLonde both scored in the last

six minutes to insure the win.

Robert Holsinger was in goal for the Plymouth win; he made 28 saves. Mike Pickard made 24 stops for Peterborough.

### Ambassadors still No. 1

Two weekend wins assured the Compuware Ambassadors they would retain first place in the North American Hockey League.

The Ambassadors improved to 18-4-1 with a 5-0 win over Team USA in Ann Arbor Friday and a 4-2 triumph over the St. Louis Sting Saturday at Compuware Arena. Five different players scored in the win in Ann Arbor Friday, and goalie Craig Kowalski had 25 saves in earning his second shutout of the season.

In Saturday's win over St. Louis, Troy Milam and J.J. Swistak each got their second goals of the weekend. The Sting's Aaron Smith scored in the first period to end his team's string of 167 consecutive scoreless minutes against Compuware.

## CC hockey team hot, too

Detroit Catholic Central's hockey team gave the school's fans more to cheer Saturday night with a 7-0 victory over Dearborn Divine Child at Redford Ice Arena.

The win came hours after the CC football team won its second-straight Class AA state title.

CC goaltender Ben Dunne earned the shutout with 27 saves as the Shamrocks improved to 3-0.

CC junior forward David Moss had a hat trick and sophomore linemate David Spiewak added two goals.

The Shamrocks, who led 3-0 after one period and 6-0 through two, had four power play goals.

Brad Holland and Matt VanHeest had the other CC goals.

Todd Bentley and Keith Rowe collected three assists each and Chris Morelli two. Van Heest, Ryan Yost, Nick Lewarne, Sean McGowan and Spiewak assisted on one goal each.

"Any time you get four (power play goals) in a game, that's OK," CC coach Gordie St. John

said. "They're still young, got a lot to learn, got to learn the discipline of the game."

St. John said he doesn't have a No. 1 line among his four but Moss, Spiewak and Bentley are sure playing like it.

"They are playing very well," St. John said. "If you can throw out four equal lines, you wear out opponents who are only using three. We don't have a first line and if we did I'd switch it around to get equality."

A recent 6-4 win over the Red Wings Old-Timers, whose roster included Gary Bergman, Alex Delvecchio and more recent NHL players John Ogronick and Mark Hamway, helped St. John reach the 100 win mark in his sixth season as CC coach.

St. John downplayed the win because he remembers the Shamrocks' 1997 Class A state champion team getting whipped by the Red Wings Old-Timers.

"I don't think (the Red Wings old-timers) had been skating that long," St. John said. "You play them in January and they'd be a whole lot stronger."

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## SPORTS ROUNDUP

## AAU HOOP TRYOUTS

■ Tryouts for the Livonia Lasers girls AAU basketball team will be 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, at Livonia Stevenson for the girls 10-under and 11-under teams with tryouts for the 12-under team to be 7:30-9 p.m. Girls playing CYO or LJAAL or at the YMCA are welcome. Those who cannot make the tryout but are interested in the team are asked to call Wayne Henry at (248) 624-7839.

■ Tryouts for the Oakland Lady Hawks 14-year-old girls AAU basketball team will be held 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8 at the Evans Rec Center and on Saturday, Dec. 12 at the Royal Oak Township Recreation Hall.

The Evans Rec Center is on 13950 Joseph Campau, between McNichols and Davison Freeway. The Royal Oak Township Rec Hall is on 21272 Mendota.

There is a \$10 fee each day. Call Loretta Tindle at (248) 548-8869 or Linda Tate at (313) 893-5482 for more information.

## BASEBALL TRYOUTS

The Michigan Yankees Rebels will hold tryouts for its 1999 Little Caesars travel team for 10 year olds and under at 3 p.m. Dec. 13 and 20 at the Sports Academy in Northville.

The team plans to play 5-6 tournaments including trips to Knoxville, Tenn., and Chicago in a schedule of some 50 games.

To register or for more information call Bob Ramsey at (313) 928-5691 or (313) 562-4667.

## BOMBS GOING STRONG

Tony Goins (Westland John Glenn) continues to climb the Wayne State basketball all-time scoring list.

The senior needed 202 points entering tonight's game against Michigan Tech to become the Tartars' all-time leading scorer.

He entered the game with 1,410 points, fifth on the list. He was fifth in field goals made (528) and fourth in shots attempted (1,124).

## MICHIGAN SOCCER WINS

Three players from Livonia schools helped the University of Michigan's Men's Club Soccer team win its National Championship Nov. 19-21 in Phoenix.

The Wolverines defeated Arizona State, 1-0, in the semifinals and Weber State, 2-1, in the

## championship game.

Team members included Pete Lechowicz of Stevenson and Schoecraft College, Brian O'Beirne of Churchill and Jason Buelow of Franklin.

## PEE WEE WINNERS

■ The Livonia Pee Wee Avalanche team earned a runner-up finish in the Monroe Thanksgiving Tournament.

The Avalanche were defeated in the finals, 2-0, by Lincoln Park with the second goal coming into an empty net.

Goalie Nick Hill recorded an 8-0 shutout win against Monroe House III in the tournament opener with Justin Stadler getting a hat trick.

The team followed with a 7-1 victory over the Grosse Pointe Psycho Penguins and a 4-1 victory over the Lincoln Park House team. The Avalanche are coached by Bob Stadler, Bob Hill and Dave Quenneville.

Other team members include Mike Baaso, Kevin Bendert, Marc Bokas, Pat Cooper, Matt Dunatchik, Mike Gardner, Frank Gribeck, Reed Klast, Cory Quenneville, Steve Rakoczy, Ryan Rowe, Kenny Sinclair, Joe Swenders and Tim Wilson.

■ The Livonia Pee Wee Penguins (Division B) team took first place in the Thanksgiving Tournament at City Sports Arena.

The Penguins swept five games to take the title in their division. The team is coached by Kevin Gentry with assistants Rick Leirstein, Matt Leirstein, Tim Hollandsworth and Steve Vesey.

Penguin team members include Tim Nawrocki, Justin Zagata, Chris Marsh, Joe Kozlowski, Jon Szeliga, Joe Padgen, Nick Dahlstrom, Matt Warren, Pat Meier, Sean O'Neill, Jeff Hollandsworth, Shawn Martin, Stephen Parker, Jacob Pierzynski, Jamie Murray and Bryan Walters.

## CURL BREAKS IN

Sophomore right guard Eric Curl (Livonia Stevenson) is being tabbed a key member of the Bowling Green State University offensive line next season.

Curl started two games at right guard as a freshman and 11 games this season. The Falcons, who were 5-6 this season, return five veteran offensive linemen in 1999.

## Good for a half anyway

Madonna University's second half at Lakeside of its girls' basketball game at Lakeside College ended in a 31-28 victory for the Crusaders.

The Crusaders' half-time lead was largely the result of strong first-half shooting: They converted 15 of 28 shots (53.6 percent) to Albion's 14 of 28 (49.9 percent).

Led by Tim Czarnecki's 25 points on 12-of-13 floor shooting, Albion was a remarkable 22-of-27 from the field in the second half (81.5 percent). The Brits were equally dominant on the boards, outrebounding Madonna 34-21 — which included 13 offensive rebounds compared to the Crusaders' 12 defensive boards.

Michael Massey's 11 points was best for Madonna; Mike Maryanski and Narvin Russaw added nine points each and Nick Hurley (from Plymouth Canton) had eight. Russaw and Hurley also had three assists apiece.

Erick Shaffer and Steve Conger chipped in with 10

## points each for Albion.

## Stam's 20 points

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Erick Shaffer and Steve Conger chipped in with 10

points each for Albion. Jacob Stamm's 20 points was best for Tyndale.

"We played up to our capabilities," said Briggs. "We didn't let down. There's a tendency in games like this to let down and play to the level of the competition. We didn't do that."

Then, there was the "glorious part of football," according to Herrington — the end-of-season equipment return and inventory.

After school Monday, Herrington also met individually with a dozen seniors who aspire to play college football. On Tuesday, there were sixth-hour talks with juniors and more after-school sessions with sophomores and freshmen.

"The season never really ends; it just moves to the next phase," Herrington said.

The 1998 season ended with the Hawks winning a second consecutive Class A title and their ninth state championship overall with a 35-13 win over Hudsonville in the finals Friday.

## A strong first-half defensive

effort and Mary Murray's superb all-around effort helped Madonna University's women's basketball team rebound from its first loss of the season to win easily at Albion College, 50-40 Tuesday.

The Lady Crusaders say 5-1 Albion's 1-3.

Madonna opened up a 23-20 lead by halftime, in part due to a defense that limited the Brits to 31 percent shooting; Madonna shot 44 percent.

Murray converted 10-of-12 floor shots and 5-of-6 free throws, scoring a game-best 26 points. She grabbed a game-high 11 rebounds, had three assists and three steals.

Other major contributors Lori Enfield and Michelle Miala with 10 points apiece; Chris Dietrich with nine; Kristi Fiorensi (Plymouth Canton) with six points and 10 boards; and Carissa Cizicki at 10.

## Five points and five assists

Mary Murray's 26 points and eight rebounds paced Albion, Madonna shot 44 percent to Albion's 31 percent.

Madonna rebounded from its first loss of the season to win easily at Albion College, 50-40 Tuesday. The Lady Crusaders say 5-1 Albion's 1-3.

Madonna opened up a 23-20 lead by halftime, in part due to a defense that limited the Brits to 31 percent shooting; Madonna shot 44 percent.

Murray converted 10-of-12 floor shots and 5-of-6 free throws, scoring a game-best 26 points. She grabbed a game-high 11 rebounds, had three assists and three steals.

Other major contributors Lori Enfield and Michelle Miala with 10 points apiece; Chris Dietrich with nine; Kristi Fiorensi (Plymouth Canton) with six points and 10 boards; and Carissa Cizicki at 10.

Murray's 13 points was best for Madonna; Enfield added 10.

## Harrison reflects on title

Another championship season ended Friday for Farmington Harrison's football team, and there was no practice this week for the first time in four months.

So you probably think everything was back to normal and business as usual again Monday at the school.

Not so for coach John Herrington, who finished his 29th season and was starting preparations for the next one.

"Today was a very hectic day, as busy a day as there is during the year," he said. "It takes a week to get settled back into the regular routine."

Besides his daily teaching load, Herrington was fielding phone calls from college recruiters, ring salesmen and city hall, which plans to honor

the team with an official proclamation.

Then, there was the "glorious part of football," according to Herrington — the end-of-season equipment return and inventory.

After school Monday, Herrington also met individually with a dozen seniors who aspire to play college football. On Tuesday, there were sixth-hour talks with juniors and more after-school sessions with sophomores and freshmen.

"The season never really ends; it just moves to the next phase," Herrington said.

The 1998 season ended with the Hawks winning a second consecutive Class A title and their ninth state championship overall with a 35-13 win over Hudsonville in the finals Friday.

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## Entsminger's return gives Shamrocks lift

BY STEVE KOWALSKI  
STAFF WRITER  
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It was an unfamiliar role but Redford Catholic Central senior Kyle Entsminger was back in uniform for the Class AA state football championship Saturday at the Pontiac Silverdome.

Entsminger, who started the first nine games of the season at running back, dressed for the first time since injuring his knee in the Shamrocks' 12-7 regional semifinal playoff victory over Dearborn Fordson on Nov. 7.

Entsminger didn't have any carries but played on special teams in a 27-23 victory over Rockford as CC repeated as state champion.

Entsminger returned a kickoff 13 yards to the CC 20 to start the second half.

His starting backfield mate most of the year, John Kava, scored 13 plays later to cap an 80-yard drive and cut the Shamrocks deficit to 16-14.

Entsminger gained 736 yards in 131 carries for a 5.6 yard average and seven TDs prior to the injury. His seven-yard run in the final minutes against Fordson was the game winner.

### Timely return

A 29-yard kickoff return by Steve Ivy gave the Shamrocks possession at Rockford's 43.

The good field position led to a 12-yard touchdown pass from CC senior quarterback Dave Lusky to senior tight end Nick Brzezinski with 1:45 left in the first half.

### Creative thinking

Rockford's offensive playbook had the CC players' heads spinning on two of its touchdowns.

Rockford went ahead 23-14 with 1:38 left in the third quarter when Keith Wurn took a lateral from quarterback Dan Richard and faked a pass, only to run around the end after a CC defensive back fell for the fake.

The Rams also scored on a 35-yard flea-flicker pass from quarterback Dan Richard to Courtney Yon to take a 6-0 lead in the second quarter.

Richard started the play with a hand-off to a halfback, who pitched to a wide receiver.

The wide receiver then threw a lateral across the field to Richard, who was a yard behind the line of scrimmage before throwing the ball.

"It wasn't funny then but I laugh about it now because I never saw that before," said Lusky, one of the players in the CC secondary.

Richard's 13 completions (in 21 attempts) were a new Class AA finals record.

### A numbers game

CC outgained Rockford, 151-128, in rushing yardage but the Rams had a better average per carry. Rockford rushed 30 times for a 4.3 yard average and CC 45 times for a 3.4 yard average.

Lusky completed six passes to five different players, led by Brzezinski with two catches for 47 yards.

Casey Rogowski, Derek Andersen, Matt Loidas and Jeff Potts had one catch each.

### CC's Sgroi outstanding

The Shamrocks have to be excited about their kicking game the next two seasons, the way sophomore Mike Sgroi handled the placekicking on Saturday.

Sgroi nailed three extra points and put two of his five kickoffs into the end zone for touchbacks.

He also kicked one to the four, another to the seven and quib kicked a ball to the 10 that stayed in-bounds and was returned only six yards.

Sgroi, who missed much of the season due to a leg injury, ended a recent CC practice with a 55-yard field goal.

CC's Jack of All Trades, Lusky, handled most of the placekicking this season.

Rockford punter Dave Rysko showed why he came in with a 41.0 yard average. Rysko averaged 47.3 yards for four punts, all of which had great hang time. He had a long of 53 yards.

Lusky punted twice for a 36.0 yard average.

### Harrison vs. CC?

Farmington Hills Harrison and Detroit Catholic Central may meet on the football field some time in the next millennium but don't hold your breath about a matchup any time soon.

The debate is brewing over who had the better team this year: The Class AA champion Shamrocks or the Class A champion Hawks, who finished their seasons undefeated.

A meeting between CC, a six-time state champion, and Harrison, a nine-time state titlist, seems only natural.

The Shamrocks are gung ho about the thought, and would make room for a matchup in their annual season opener at the Pontiac Silverdome when both teams need to find non-league opponents.

Could Harrison's recent history against another Catholic League power, Birmingham Brother Rice, be the reason it's avoided the Shamrocks?

Harrison stopped playing Rice after losing three straight years to the Warriors and finishing with a 1-3 record in a series that lasted five years.

Harrison won the first meeting with Rice in 1991, 32-0, before losing to the Warriors' 39-0, 28-21 and 16-14 in consecutive seasons from 1993-95.

Rice is a three-time state champion but not nearly the juggernaut the Shamrocks have become.

The Rice teams that Harrison lost to were very strong despite losing in the first round of the Class A playoffs in '93 and '94 and not qualifying in 1995.

The Shamrocks are 7-2 in the last nine games against Rice but lost to the Warriors in '94 and needed a last-second 47-yard field goal by Eron Kosmowski to beat them in 1995.

Harrison may not have the line strength year after year that the Shamrocks have, but line up the skilled players on each team and the Hawks would win most, if not all, of the races.

Harrison has won five Class A titles in the 1990s, including back to back crowns in '93 and '94 and '97 and '98. CC has five AA titles in the '90s, including two in a row.

Maybe once the state goes to the new proposed playoff format, letting in all teams with at least six wins, we'll see the CC-Harrison matchup.

## Bishop Borgess one step closer to crown

BY STEVE KOWALSKI  
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Hampton Inn is a popular motel chain, but on Tuesday night it was a phrase often heard from the mouth of Redford Bishop Borgess girls basketball coach Dave Mann.

"Hampton, in," is what Mann would say when he'd need a spark off the bench. And in went freshman forward Raechelle Hampton to the Class C quarter-final game against Sandusky.

Hampton, who didn't get into regional victories over Detroit Communication and Media Arts and Riverview Gabriel Richard, provided five points, a handful of rebounds and solid defense in a 52-33 victory at Troy Athens.

Sandusky, 20-4 overall, has lost to Borgess in three of the last six quarterfinals.

The win means the Spartans could make reservations (at the Hampton Inn, just for good luck?) again for Mount Pleasant, the site of the Final Four. Borgess, the defending Class C state champion with a 16-10 record and 10-game winning streak, meets Freeland in a semifinal at 2:50 p.m. Thursday at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena.

Freeland, a 52-44 winner over Grand Rapids Baptist, is 23-2. The final is at 5 p.m. Saturday.

Hampton doesn't care if she sits or plays, but was glad to contribute.

"If me sitting on the bench makes us win, I'll do it," she said. "I played more than I expected tonight."

Hampton and another freshman, 6-foot-1 center Joei Clyburn, should form a formidable front line in the future.

"Raechelle really gave us a lift and when she scores it's a bonus," Mann said. "I didn't play

her last week, not because she's not playing well or because I don't have confidence in her, but because the kids I had on the floor I was comfortable with."

Mann couldn't get comfortable against Sandusky until late in the third quarter when consecutive baskets by senior guard Tiffany Simon gave the Spartans a 35-26 lead heading into the final eight minutes.

Borgess started the fourth quarter on a 12-2 run, highlighted by three layups off steals by sophomore guard Michelle Catchings for a 47-28 lead.

The run also included a basket after a delay in the half-court offense by Simon and two buckets in the paint by sophomore forward DeShawna Hoskins.

"They're so aggressive and physical, we just couldn't handle it," Sandusky coach Al DeMott said. "We hit our peak at the end of the year and I'd like to go one more step (in the state playoffs) but I'm extremely proud of them."

The teams were tied at 8 after one quarter before Borgess had scoring runs of seven and six points in the second quarter to enjoy a 21-14 halftime lead.

Sandusky's best players are juniors: Marcy Bissett and Julie Guttowski. Bissett led the Redskins with 13 points, 11 after halftime. Guttowski had all eight of the Redskins' first-quarter points and 12 overall.

Guttowski didn't play in last year's quarterfinal because of an injury.

"I said (to his players) 'Their guards can all shoot, and 32 (Guttowski) is back in full force,'" Mann said. "Al is such a great coach, one of the best in the state, and there are certain coaches that no matter how athletic we are, they are good enough to negate the things we do. They frustrate you and hold the ball so long."

Simon had 16 to lead Borgess and Catchings added 14, 10 in the second half. Hoskins added eight and Amber Taylor six.

Sophomore forward Stacy Cobbs had a handful of rebounds and one point, totals that are shy

of her averages.

She also had an excuse. "I got my immunization shots today and my arm is a little lazy," she said. "I got three in this arm today and it's still aching."

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- Novi
- Plymouth
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### World Wide Web

- [www.med.umich.edu](http://www.med.umich.edu)



## THE WEEKEND

### FRIDAY



The Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford presents "A Chorus Line" 8 p.m. at the theater, 15138 Beech Daly, Redford. Tickets \$12 adults, \$11 seniors and students, (313) 531-0554.

### SATURDAY



You'll find a variety of gifts for everyone on your list at the third annual Village Potters Guild Holiday Show and Sale 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 340 North Main, south of Mill St. (Lilley), behind the Plymouth Landing Restaurant, (734) 207-8807.

### SUNDAY



The Michigan premiere of "Resident Alien" by Stuart Spencer opens 7:30 p.m. at the Adron DeRoy Theatre, lower level of the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. Tickets \$13 to \$23, call (248) 788-2900.

**HOT**



Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester will delight guests of every age with "Picture Perfect Holidays" through Sunday, Dec. 6. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Admission for the Holiday Walk is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children under 13, \$6 for Oakland University affiliates with I.D., (248) 370-3140.

# Noel Night

offers a wonderland of sounds and sights

BY LINDA ANN CHROMIN  
STAFF WRITER  
[lchromin@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:lchromin@oe.homecomm.net)

Dressed in Victorian coats and capes, Sharon Thomas and Kevin Finke take to the streets of Detroit's Cultural Center in a holiday celebration of caroling and live theater with the Festival Singers on "Noel Night" Dec. 5. Thomas, a Waterford voice teacher, Finke of Royal Oak, and nine other members of the Festival Singers, including Thomas' husband Stephen, play 28 characters from Charles Dickens' classic tale "A Christmas Carol" with the Detroit Institute of Arts as a backdrop. They will be among the hundreds of handbell ringers and choirs joining in the event for an evening alive with singing, children's activities, a tree lighting ceremony, and horse-drawn carriage rides.

The 26-year-old tradition of "Noel Night" transforms the area into a holiday wonderland of sights and sounds, and nearly all of it is free. From puppet shows to mini dance performances of "The Nutcracker," 23 participating institutions offer an array of activities such as a Kwanzaa Card Workshop and an exhibit of dolls from around the world. The evening concludes with a community sing-a-long led by the Salvation Army Band.

"We love Noel Night," said Thomas, who majored in music at Oakland University in Rochester and began performing with community theaters such as the Bloomfield Players 20 years ago. "We think it's great that all of these arts and performing groups come together for this event."

Thomas, director of the 11 Festival Singers, founded the group four years ago to entertain crowds at the Dickens Old Fashioned Christmas Festival in Holly which runs weekends through December with singers, jugglers and fire eaters. In addition to playing Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit and the Ghost of Christmas Past, members of the group sing songs from the more than 40 in their repertoire at 6:45 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. in the Detroit Institute of Arts' Kresge Court. In between belting out "Silver Bells" and "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas," the Singers perform Thomas' street theater rendition of "A Christmas Carol" outside on Woodward Avenue with audience participation sought for Marley's Ghost and the Ghost of Christmas Future. The Singers, age 24 to 41, hail from



Featured performers: The Festival Singers will light up Detroit's University Cultural Center with carols and street theater on Noel Night.

### "NOEL NIGHT"

**WHAT:** The 26th annual event to ring in the holidays features carolers, choirs, street theater, dance, hands-on art, a tree lighting ceremony, and horse-drawn carriage rides. Festivities conclude with a community sing-a-long led by the Salvation Army Band 8:30-9:30 p.m. on Woodward Ave.

**WHEN:** 5-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5.

**WHERE:** Detroit's Cultural Center (bounded by Ferry Street on the north, Forest on the south, Brush on the east, and Cass Avenue on the west). For more information or a schedule of events, call (313) 577-5088.

**Parking:** Is available in the Cultural Center and Detroit Science Center lots on John R., underground garage off Woodward at Farnsworth, and Rackham parking garage on Warren east of Woodward. Free shuttles run continuously throughout the evening.

Rochester, Troy, Royal Oak, Clarkston, St. Clair Shores, and Ypsilanti.

"We do everything acapella with five and six part arrangements," said Thomas. "For the street theater, we encourage audience participation. They help us do the sounds of Jacob Marley's ghost like rattling the chains."

Finke first enjoyed street theater during his college days when he played Davey Crockett at Disney World's Frontierland in Orlando. An account executive for the Momentum Group, a division of McCann Erickson in Troy, Finke has performed with Stagecrafters and the Avon Players, to name a few.

"It's street theater and we interact with people," said Finke. "You maintain that character with the people you meet. I enjoy lighting up people's face and getting them into the holiday spirit. On Noel Night, there's a great pool of arts talent from all different cultures around Detroit. And I enjoy being part of that, making people smile and happy."

### Some of the highlights of "Noel Night"

- The Boys Choir of Ann Arbor kicks off the festivities at 4:30 p.m. in the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward.
- Photos with a Toy Soldier (\$2) at the Children's Museum, 67 East Kirby
- The Mosaic Youth Theater and St. Paul Royal Oak Lutheran Bell Choir at the Detroit Historical Museum, 6401 Woodward

■ Horse-drawn carriage and sleigh rides depart every 10 minutes from the Park Shelton on East Kirby at Woodward, \$6 adults, \$3 children.

■ Children's Ballet Theatre presents the "Butterfly Ball" and ensembles from the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra perform throughout the evening in the Prentiss Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward

■ Pippin Puppets perform "Rudolph, Rudolph! Where's Your Nose?" at 6 p.m., and the Foreign Language Immersion Choir sing holiday songs in several languages throughout the evening in the Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward

■ At the Detroit Science Center, Sesame Street's "Art from the Fuzzy and Famous" exhibit celebrates 30 years of Big Bird, Cookie Monster and the rest of The Muppets, 5020 John R

■ Kwanzaa Card Workshop, Adrinka Stamping on cloth, storytelling, 6-9 p.m. at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 East Warren

■ Pre-"Noel Night" entertainment takes place 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at a Young People's Concert, "Holiday Songfest," under conductor Ya-Hui Wang at Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, and during the event there's "Go Baroque," a Classical Series concert with conductor Nicholas McGegan at 8:30 p.m. Call (313) 576-5111 for ticket information.

■ The 85th annual Gold Medal Exhibition and Holiday Sales Show at the Scarab Club, 217 East Farnsworth

■ The Wayne State University dance department present excerpts from "The Nutcracker" every half hour in the Old Main Building on Cass Avenue, also view the exhibit "Metaphors" by Yvette Smith in the Elaine L. Jacob Gallery, enter at 480 West Hancock

■ Shop for the holidays at 14 different locations including Center for Creative Studies, Detroit Institute of Arts Museum Shop, Museum of African American History Gift Shop, and Detroit Historical Museum Old Detroit Shop

■ Make an evening of it by having dinner downtown at the Scarab Club, Detroit Institute of Arts' Kresge Court, or soups, sandwiches and desserts at the International Institute's "Taste of the World"

## HOLIDAY MUSIC

# Judy Collins brings her 'Amazing Grace' to Southfield

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER  
[kwygolik@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:kwygolik@oe.homecomm.net)

If she could, Judy Collins said she would like to do holiday concerts year-round. "I like the material," said Collins in a telephone interview from New York City. "It's a very special time of year."

She'll be in Southfield on Tuesday, singing some of her favorite holiday tunes, along with "Amazing Grace," "Someday Soon," "Both Sides Now," and other songs that have made her a legend. The 8 p.m. concert is part of the City of Southfield's new Celebrity Series.

"I saw her last year and I fell in love," said Nimrod Rosenthal, director of Community Relations for the City of Southfield. "When she sang 'Amazing Grace,' I had tears in my eyes. She was

### Judy Collins Special Holiday Concert

**WHEN:** 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8

**WHERE:** Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road (south of 10 Mile Road). Concert is part of the City of Southfield's new Celebrity Series and will include traditional and new songs.

**TICKETS:** \$30 and \$35 per person, available weekdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Southfield City Hall, Main Reception Desk, 26000 Evergreen Road or the Parks and Recreation Building, 26000 Evergreen Road, evenings 5-7 p.m. and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Tickets also available at all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers including Hudson's and Harmony House stores. Call (248) 354-4854 for more information. To charge tickets, call (248) 645-6666.

**HIGHLIGHT:** Special pre-concert dinner, \$25 per person, offered by the Golden Mushroom Restaurant, 18100 W. 10 Mile Road (at Southfield). Call the restaurant (248) 559-4230 for reservations/information.

### Mark your calendar

The Southfield Celebrity Series at Southfield Centre for the Arts will feature Nancy Wilson, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 24. Tickets are \$30 and \$35 per person, available at Southfield City Hall or the Parks & Recreation Building, and Ticketmaster Ticket Centers.



Folk legend: This photo of Judy Collins is from her new CD "Both Sides Now," released this fall by Platinum Entertainment.

Please see COLLINS, E2



# Collins from page E1

enchanting."

After the concert, "A Judy Collins Christmas at the Biltmore Estate," which Rosenthal watched on TV, he went to work to see if Collins would be available to perform at the Southfield Centre for the Arts. "She's wonderful," he said.

Collins will be accompanied by the Southfield-Lathrup Madrigal Singers, under the direction of Robert A. Martin. The concert will include traditional holiday songs and new songs for Christmas and Hanukkah.

To make it an especially memorable evening, the Golden Mushroom Restaurant is offering a special pre-concert dinner at 6 p.m. before the concert. The dinner is \$25 per person and begins with chilled smoked chicken breast on mixed field greens, red wine vinaigrette, crumbled blue cheese and avocado.

Diners can choose between two main courses - smoke-roasted beef tenderloin with roasted garlic whipped potatoes, grilled vegetables and wild mushroom gateaux, or bronzed Atlantic salmon on lemon risotto with artichokes and tomatoes.

Dessert will be a chocolate flourless torte with strawberry sauce and mint cream.

Southfield is just one of Collins' many concert stops this month. She'll also be performing in Sacramento, Calif., Cincinnati, Milwaukee, and Syracuse, N.Y. A self-described "road warrior," Collins said she enjoys touring - "I've got to make a living," she said. But there's more, "I love it (performing) it's a tremendous gift. I've had a successful career, it's been wonderful."

While most of us are fretting about holiday gifts, Collins is on the road bringing holiday cheer to millions of fans. Her fondest holiday memory is of standing around the piano with her brothers and sisters on Christmas Eve and singing carols. Her favorite is "The Holly and the Ivy."

After singing carols, led by her father, Chuck Collins, a singer, composer and radio broadcaster, the family would



**Legendary singer: Judy Collins will be presenting a special holiday concert at the Southfield Centre for the Arts on Southfield Road.**

sit down to a big dinner.

If you're not able to attend the concert in Southfield on Dec. 8, you can tune into the A&E Network 9 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, and watch "A Judy Collins Christmas at the Biltmore Estate" on TV. You can also learn more about her latest projects, including a new release of Christmas songs from the Biltmore Estate concerts, on the Web at [www.judycollins.com](http://www.judycollins.com).

Collins has released 30 albums, many of them certified platinum and gold, over her career which spans 3-1/2 decades.

Trained as a classical pianist, Collins began taking piano lessons at age 4. Her repertoire includes folk, rock, spiritual and Broadway show tunes.

In 1969 Collins made her stage debut as an actress at the New York Shakespeare Festival where she played Solveig in

**"I've got to make a living. I love it (performing). It's a tremendous gift. I've had a successful career; it's been wonderful."**

*Judy Collins  
at Southfield Art Center*

"Peer Gynt" opposite Stacy Keach.

She also appeared in the Arnold Schwarzenegger film, "Junior," the CBS series "Christy," and has a cameo in the soon-to-be-released remake of a Rod Serling Story, "A Town Has Turned to Dust," directed by Ron Nilsson.

This fall she released "Singing Lessons: A Memoir of Love, Loss, Hope and Healing" (A Pocket Books Hardcover, \$24). In the book, Collins looks back on her life and career, the triumphs and mistakes. Each chapter is separated by meditations she wrote in the period after her son Clark's suicide. He was 33 years old. A CD with a new song, "Singing Lessons," is included in the book.

"Singing and writing helped me heal," said Collins. "I sang my way through the pain and began to write daily prayers, which I included in this book."

"My song writing and prose writing are interconnected, one feeds the other."

A tireless performer and writer, Collins said she "feels very grateful to have had this much career."

But she's not ready to slow down. "I'm always looking for new projects."

"Both Sides Now," a new Platinum Entertainment release of new recordings of songs that have made Collins famous such as "The Times They Are A-Changin'," "Morning Has Broken" and "Blowin' in the Wind," includes a tribute to her dear friend the late John Denver.

"I never recorded any of his songs," she said. "I'm glad to have had the opportunity."

# Hilberry 'Scapin' delights

Wayne State University's graduate theatre company present Moliere's "Scapin" in rotating repertory through Feb. 3 at the Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Avenue and Forest on the Wayne State campus in Detroit. Tickets are \$10-\$17. Performances are scheduled 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19. For reservations, call (313) 677-2972.

By SUE SUCHYTA  
SPECIAL WRITER

Moliere's "Scapin" is a comic romp with as many plot twists and turns as there are pratfalls and tumbles. The humor is both intellectual and physical, as clever wordplay is liberally interspersed with comically timed trips and flips.

Scapin is a street-smart servant who plays his masters like a game of chess, both for amusement and thrill. When the sons of two wealthy fathers fall in love with unapproved women when the fathers are out of town, Scapin agrees to not only help the young men gain their fathers' approval of the matches, but to bamboozle them out of the funds the young men need to finance their romantic endeavors. Scapin, who loves a challenge and survives by his wits, sets in motion a hilarious series

of escapades, and defends his own honor along the way.

Fred Shahadi is captivating as the clever Scapin. He artfully handles the subterfuges his character employs to pull off his schemes, playing the humble, contrite servant one minute, and a fast-talking schemer the next, while cleverly planting ideas in his dupes' minds. Shahadi's fast pace and excellent timing used Moliere's clever script to its full comic advantage. Shahadi also used multiple characters and accents in rapid succession as part of the ruse, a challenge he pulled off without missing a beat, much to the delight of the audience.

Octave and Leandre, the love-smitten sons, played by Mike Schraeder and Erik Gratton, were fun to watch as the earnest and gullible swains, easy prey for Scapin's manipulations.

The fathers, on the other hand, presented more of a challenge to Scapin. He needed them until he found their Achilles heel, then exploited it.

Garonte, Leandre's father and a notorious tightwad, was played with penurious perfection by Aaron Lake. Lake captured the character's fiscal distress with laughter-provoking physical reactions as well as verbal chagrin.

Likewise, Octave's father, Argante, played by Lucas Caleb Rooney, captured the dilemma of parting with his hard-earned fortune in both physically and verbally entertaining ways. Proud and pompous, Rooney's Argante held on to his control and dignity for as long as possible before unraveling under the unrelenting ruses of the clever Scapin.

Orestes Arcuni as Silvestre, a hapless servant and Scapin's reluctant accomplice, drew his share of laughter for his many pratfalls and woe-begone expressions. Hyacinthe, Octave's lady love, played by Sara Wolf, and Zerbinette, the sexy Gypsy desired by Leandre, played by Tanisha Gonzalez, began as polar opposites and ended up having startling similarities. Both used exaggerated feminine wiles to garner laughs.

The set was a colorful explosion of undersized and rakishly angled doorways. The costumes also accentuated the absurd. Scapin was dressed like a well-tailored clown, with keyboard trim on his clothing alluding to his ability to play people like a piano. For Scapin is a master manipulator producing laughter not only for what he does, but for the gullibility he expresses in others.

# Show boasts knowledgeable hosts

BACKSTAGE  
PASS



ANN  
DELISI

I realize that everyone is probably missing Backstage Pass, but we are off the air temporarily for a good reason, the annual winter Pledge Break. Please don't forget to call and make a donation to Detroit Public Television, because it's the viewers that make shows like Backstage Pass possible. So the winter pledge left me with a dilemma, what to write for this week. Then it came to me, of course, I should have thought of this before. I am going to introduce and give some background on the hosts I mention in the columns every week. There are more hosts than there is

room in this newspaper, so I am going to pick a few then focus on the rest next time.

Gerry Craig is a visual artist and writer. She graduated from Cranbrook Academy of Art with an MFA and from the University of Kansas in 1982 with undergraduate degrees from Art History and Textile Design. She was executive director at the Detroit Artists Market from 1990 to 1995 and previously worked for the Detroit Institute of Arts and Cranbrook Art Museum. Gerry's art has been exhibited throughout the United States, Japan, England, Australia, Mexico and Canada. Her writings have also been published in many art publications.

Lex Kuhne is a lawyer by training, but has a role on Backstage Pass as pop culture provocateur. Lex was a Metro Times columnist for more than eight years, with the popular "Word of Mouth" column. He also developed the format for 89X and was pop culture commentator both there and later for The Planet 96.3. Lex is a graduate of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and Wayne State University Law School.

Kim Hunter is a native and lifelong Detroit. Kim graduated from Wayne State with a degree in radio, television and film. Kim enjoyed a five-year

stint as the host and producer of Radio Free Earth, a nightly, multi-cultural music program that ran on Detroit Public Radio. Kim also finds time for another favorite, writing. His music reviews and poetry have been published locally and nationally. He is currently the music reviewer for Against the Current magazine.

Marsha Miro has long been a recognized and respected voice in Detroit art scene. She attended the University of Michigan as an undergraduate, concentrating in political science with an art history minor. She then attended the London School of Economics before focusing on art, returning to Detroit to earn an MA in art history from Wayne State. Marsha has been an instructor at Oakland Community College at the Cranbrook Academy of Art and at the Center for Creative Studies. Marsha is currently the writer and documentarian of new architectural additions, working on both the book and film "Cranbrook: Evolution of a Dream" for the Cranbrook Educational Community. She writes criticism for Glass magazine and has published articles in American Ceramics.

Reading the long list of credentials the hosts on Backstage Pass possess I realized we are a very lucky group.

## Gibraltar

Happy Holidays

Monday Nov. 30th OPEN 12-9	Tuesday Dec 1st OPEN 12-9	Wednesday Dec 2nd OPEN 12-9	Thursday Dec 3rd OPEN 12-9	Friday Dec 4th OPEN 12-9	Saturday Dec 5th OPEN 10-9	Sunday Dec 6th OPEN 10-9
Monday Dec 7th OPEN 12-9	Tuesday Dec 8th OPEN 12-9	Wednesday Dec 9th OPEN 12-9	Thursday Dec 10th OPEN 12-9	Friday Dec 11th OPEN 12-9	Saturday Dec 12th OPEN 10-9	Sunday Dec 13th OPEN 10-7
Monday Dec 14th OPEN 10-9	Tuesday Dec 15th OPEN 10-9	Wednesday Dec 16th OPEN 10-9	Thursday Dec 17th OPEN 10-9	Friday Dec 18th OPEN 10-10	Saturday Dec 19th OPEN 9-10	Sunday Dec 20th OPEN 9-8
Monday Dec 21st OPEN 9-10	Tuesday Dec 22nd OPEN 9-10	Wednesday Dec 23rd OPEN 9-10	Thursday Dec 24th OPEN 9-9	CLOSED Merry Christmas	Saturday Dec 26th OPEN 10-9	Sunday Dec 27th OPEN 10-9

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## THEATER

## Talented cast steps up to challenge of 'A Chorus Line'

The Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford presents "A Chorus Line," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5 at the playhouse 16138 Beech Daly, Redford. Tickets \$12 adults, \$11 seniors and students, call (313) 531-0554.

BY BOB WEIBEL  
SPECIAL WRITER

They step, they kick, they touch, shimmy and shake. They are the talented singer/dancers in the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford's spirited production of "A Chorus Line."

With music by Marvin Hamlisch, this Tony Award winning show tells of the chaotic, inse-

cure life of theatrical performers. The show features an uninhibited, free-form that was new to musical theatre when "Chorus Line" premiered on Broadway in 1975. There are no lavish sets or costumes (except white tuxedos and top hats for the finale). There is no plot per se.

Rather, there is a bare stage upon which dancers in rehearsal outfits warm-up an audition. The director barks out, "Tell me about yourself, why do you want to be in this show." Some are hesitant, others embarrassed.

No matter how much they reveal, the director badgers them for more. Which leads to person-

al stuff (and adult language and subject material) which in context of the show is not offensive.

Mark Hammell, as the director, gives a convincing performance as a hard taskmaster. Yet, we see his soft side, when we learn of a personal relationship with one of the dancers. Christine Maurer, a former star, creates a high-voltage moment as she begs for a job as just a member of the chorus.

The director has to be tough, because Broadway is a tough business. Only eight of 16 dancers will be cast; the others rejected. That's the nature of show business. As we hear their

stories, we are as happy for those who succeed as we are sad for those who don't make it.

Each story begins differently, but all end the same - dancers desperately needing the applause, the approval of an audience. They will pay any price, make any sacrifice to dance. That's the context of the show's hit song, "What I Did For Love" sung beautifully by Jenny Florkowski.

Mathew Leland is most appealing as a young man following his sister's footsteps in an acrobatic "I Can Do That." Rubber-faced, Marci Mitchell, is a comic delight as one who wanted

to be Doris Day, but cannot sing a note.

Valerie Mangrum scores as a sassy babe near the end of her career.

In a riveting whispered soliloquy, Alonzo Luzod, recounts his search for dignity and the embarrassment of having his parents learn he is dancing in a gay bar. On the lighter side, John Luther, all decked out in puce, is a scream telling us he was always "a strange one" - "breaking into people's houses, not to steal anything, but to rearrange the furniture."

Other cast members include: Justine Blazer, Anna Bonde,

James Cargill, Alicia, Christoff, Nicole Gauvin, D.J. Oliver, Jamie-Lynn Perry, Darren Peterson and Emily Tyrryon. The whole cast marvelously strut their stuff in the show's big production number, "One (Singular Sensation)." Ken Pletzer impressively provides full orchestration via computer and digital piano for two hours. There is no intermission.

Director/Choreographer Stephanie Stephan makes good use of the Guild's smallish area, in staging complex pieces such as "At the Ballet" and "Hello Twelve, Hello Thirteen, Hello Love."

## Meadow Brook Theatre creates animated Christmas card

"A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens, adapted by Charles Nolte. Through Sunday, Dec. 27. Meadow Brook Theatre, Wilson Hall, Oakland University campus, Rochester. Performance times vary, call for information. Tickets: \$25-\$30.50; (248) 377-3300, or (248) 370-3316.

BY FRANK PROVENZANO  
STAFF WRITER  
fprovenzano@oe.homecomm.net

The genius of "A Christmas Carol" is not only the layers upon layers of allegory and parable, but the sheer message of eternal hope in the face of the impulse to buy, buy, buy. Certainly, the notion of worship takes on an entirely material connotation during retailers most blissful season.

Of course, material gain - as the plight and redemption of Ebenezer Scrooge teaches - is not a substitute for spiritual sustenance.

And who could argue that that's a lesson worth learning, again and again.

Appropriately, during the busiest shopping time of the year, Meadow Brook Theatre's annual homage to Charles Dickens and the true spirit of Christmas is a priceless counterbalance to the nausea caused by conspicuous consumption.

Indeed, attending Meadow Brook Theatre's 16th annual production might be a perquisite before stepping into a mall to do your duty. Or at least before the electronic strip on your plastic credit card runs thin.

Thanks to Charles Nolte's

■ Booth Colman not only looks the part but adds subtle touches that make Scrooge look less than a lump of coal and more like a person whose insecurities and emotional vacuousness sowed the seeds of his desolation.

adaptation, the production is as timeless as Dickens' tale. Under Nolte's direction, "A Christmas Carol" blends high theatrics, calculated pyrotechnics and measured doses of melodrama into a perpetual animated Christmas card.

At times, however, the mawkish spirit of the season drips like sap onto the carpet.

The sugary feeling gets a little out of hand during the Cratchit's Christmas dinner, which comes complete with a tiresome description of holiday food, prayers, song and toast.

The emotional gush, much like an overbearing uncle, is bearable given the relentless holiday cheer. And hey, if you can't get overly sentimental at the holidays then you might have the heart of a wet log.

And speaking of moribund souls, there's little doubt that for two hours the body and soul of Scrooge has been transferred to veteran actor Booth Colman, who has performed the role at Meadow Brook more than 600 times since 1981.

Colman not only looks the part, but adds subtle touches that makes Scrooge look less than a lump of coal, and more

like a person whose insecurities and emotional vacuousness sowed the seeds of his desolation.

But "A Christmas Carol" isn't O'Neill's "The Iceman Cometh." Rather, the Dickens' classic is about rediscovering those feelings of youth that made life more of a magical mystery, than a onerous task. And clearly at Meadow Brook, the cast is up to the challenge.

Particularly, Paul Hopper in the dual roles of the earnest Bob Cratchit and the daffy Fezziwig; and, Geoffrey Beauchamp as the Ghost of Jacob Marley recall the transcendental appeal of the story to be both a high moral lesson and pleasingly entertaining.

Meanwhile, director Nolte has added enough surprises to keep audiences searching for the next appearance of the ghosts and special effects. All made possible, of course, by the intricately magical scenic design of Peter Hicks and the jewel-tone period costumes of Barbara Jenks.

Ironically, Meadow Brook's "A Christmas Carol" has become as much of an annual tradition as those last-minute shopping trips to the mall.



Holiday classic: Booth Colman (left) and Richard A. Schrot in a scene from Meadow Brook Theatre's production of "A Christmas Carol."

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## A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

### THEATER

**DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE**  
"Ad Alcare Dei (Unto the Altar of God)," through Dec. 31, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 8:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday. \$15. (313) 868-1347 or DetRepTh@aol.com

**GEN THEATRE**  
"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change," through Jan. 3, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$27.50), 8 p.m. Thursdays (\$27.50), 8 p.m. Fridays (\$32.50), 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays (\$32.50), 2 p.m. Sundays (\$27.50) and 6 p.m. Sundays (\$19.50). (313) 963-9800

**JET**  
"Resident Alien," an intergalactic comedy of love and acceptance by Stuart Spencer, through Sunday, Jan. 3, at the theater, 6800 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. (248) 788-2900 or <http://comnet.org/jet>

**MEADOW BROOK THEATRE**  
"A Christmas Carol," continues to Sunday, Dec. 27, Wilson Hall, Oakland University campus, Rochester. \$25-\$36. (248) 377-3300

### COLLEGE

**EMU THEATRE**  
"Ghost of the River House," an 11-year-old and her grandfather search for adventure in this play by Max Bush of Michigan, for ages 7 and up, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, and 8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5, Quirk Theatre, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. \$7 Thursday, \$12 Friday-Saturday, \$10 Sunday matinees. (734) 487-1221

**ORCHARD RIDGE PLAYERS**  
"Shorts: A Theatrical Potpourri," featuring works by Edward Albee, Neil Simon, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 10-11, in Smith Theatre on the Oakland Community College campus, Orchard Lake Road and I-696, Farmington Hills. \$8, \$5 students. (248) 471-7667

**UD MERCY THEATRE COMPANY**  
An evening of "Chekhov," through Dec. 6, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sundays, Earl D.A. Smith Studio Theatre, McNichols Campus, Detroit. \$10, \$8 students/seniors/UD Mercy employees, alumni. (313) 993-1130

**UM THEATRE AND DRAMA**  
"Volpone," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 3-5, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, Power Center, Ann Arbor. \$18, \$14, \$7 student with ID. (734) 764-0450

**WSU BONSTELLE THEATRE**  
"Little Women" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, Dec. 11-12, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6 and 13, Saturday, Dec. 12, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8-\$10; ages 5-12, \$6, (313) 577-2960.

**WSU HILBERRY THEATRE**  
"Scapin," in rotating repertory to Feb. 3, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$17. (313) 577-2972

### COMMUNITY THEATER

**LIVONIA-REDFORD THEATRE GUILD**  
"A Chorus Line," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, 15138 Beech Daly, Redford. \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, students. (313) 531-0554

**ST. DUNSTON'S THEATRE GUILD OF CRANBROOK**  
"The Sleeping Beauty," a production for children and their families, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11; 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at the playhouse, 400 Lone Pine Road, on the grounds of the Cranbrook Educational Community, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$6 each, 50 percent of net profits from all six performances benefits Old Newsboys Goodfellow Fund of Detroit. Call (248) 644-0527 for tickets.

### DINNER THEATER

**BACH ABBRACCI ITALIAN CHOPHOUSE**  
"Tony n' Tina's Wedding," 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac. 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 2 p.m. and 7:30 Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. \$50 Thursdays and Sundays, \$55 Fridays and Saturdays, in advance at 8 W. Lawrence St., Pontiac. (248) 745-8668/(248) 645-6666

**GENITTI'S MOLE-IN-THE-WALL**  
Live interactive children's theater program, "Santa's Workshop," Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 5-6, Friday, Dec. 11, and Saturday-Wednesday, Dec. 12-23, 108 E. Main St., Northville. \$9.65 for children, \$11.65 adults, includes lunch, show, tax and gratuity. (248) 349-0522

### YOUTH

**AMERICAN FAMILY THEATRE**  
"Cinderella," 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road. \$8, reservations. (248) 424-9022

**EMU THEATRE**  
"Ghost of the River House," an 11-year-old and her grandfather search for adventure in this play by Max Bush of Michigan, for ages 7 and up, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, and 8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5, at the Quirk Theatre, on the Eastern Michigan University campus in Ypsilanti. \$7 Thursday, \$12 Friday-Saturday, \$10 Sunday matinees. (734) 487-1221

**MARQUESS THEATRE**  
"Cinderella," through Jan. 3, 135 E. Main St., Northville. 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 5, 12, 19 and 26, and Jan. 2; 2:30 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 6, 13, 20, and Jan. 3; and 2:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Dec. 28-31. \$6.50. (248) 349-8110

**NEW MILLENNIUM YOUTH THEATRE**  
Hans Christian Anderson's fairy tale



**Holiday memories:**  
Jillian Roettenberg, 9 and her brother, Alex, 3 of Troy look through a Dodge family album at Meadow Brook Hall where "Picture Perfect Holidays" continues through Sunday, Dec. 6. Original Dodge and Wilson family photographs are part of the elegant holiday decorations at the magnificent 100-room mansion on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Knole Cottage is open during daytime hours only. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children under 13, \$6 for Oakland University affiliates with I.D. Knole Cottage admission is \$1 for all ages. Call (248) 370-3140 for information.

"The Snow Queen," 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 and 19, Millennium Center, 15500 J.L. Hudson Drive, between Eight and Nine Mile roads, Southfield. (248) 552-7000/(248) 552-1225

### NOVI THEATRES

"The Nutcracker," a play with dancing by June Walker Rogers, adapted by Mary Kay Davis, performed by Children's Annex Company, 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. \$8, \$7 advance. (248) 347-0400

### PAPER BAG PRODUCTIONS

"Cinderella," Saturdays-Sundays through Dec. 20, Historic Players Club, 3321 E. Jefferson, between Mount Elliott and McDougal, Detroit. Saturday programs start with lunch at noon and performances at 1 p.m., Sundays with lunch at 1 p.m. and performances at 2 p.m. \$7.50, \$6.50 groups of 20 or more. (810) 662-8118

### PUPPETART

"Close the Window...or, a Chelm Story," a folk tale inspired by Isaac Bashevis Singer from old Russia, 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Detroit Puppet Theater, 26 E. Grand River, (between Woodward Avenue and Farmer Street), Detroit. \$6.50, \$5 children. (313) 961-7777/(248) 557-8599

### STAGECRAFTERS YOUTH THEATRE

Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale, "The Snow Queen," 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 10-11, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. \$5, all seats reserved. Patrons are also asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy to benefit the Salvation Army's Toy Drive for needy children. (248) 541-6430

### WHISTLE STOP PLAYERS

"The Velveteen Rabbit," 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5-Sunday, Dec. 6, Plymouth Community Arts Council, Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth. \$5. (734) 416-4278

### WILD SWAN THEATRE

"The Cricket in Times Square," through Saturday, Jan. 2, Anderson Theatre at Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn. (734) 763-TKTS/(734) 995-0530/(248) 645-6666

### HOLIDAY EVENTS

#### "A CHRISTMAS CAROL"

Presented by the Nebraska Theatre Caravan, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Garfield Road and Hall (M-59), Clinton Township. \$22, \$20 students/seniors. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

#### BECKLEY HOLIDAY FEST

Immediately following parade, 1-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, in the downtown shopping district, 12 Mile between Coolidge Highway and Greenfield Road. (248) 548-8881

#### "BLACK NATIVITY"

Langston Hughes' musical drama presented by Cass Technical High School Drama Department, 10 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Dec. 8-10, and 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, at the Southfield Center for the Arts. \$3 matinees, \$8 evening. (313) 596-3900, ext. 211

#### "CANDLELIGHT HOLIDAY DINNER"

With Johnny Trudell Orchestra, Sunday, Dec. 6, Italian American Club Banquet Center, 39200 Dix Road, Livonia. \$36, includes full course dinner, cappuccino and espresso, and music. (248) 349-8880

#### CHELSEA FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Featuring Santa's workshop, kids' crafts, window displays, hayrides, cookie decorating, reenactments of German Christmas stories, festival of lessons and carols, Friday-Sunday, Dec. 4-6, throughout downtown Chelsea, I-94 exit 159 (north-Chelsea/Manchester exit). Free. (800) 265-9045 or <http://www.ypsilanti.org>

#### CHRISTMAS WALK

The Friends for the Development of Greenmead presents its walk featuring seven homes decorated for the holidays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, in Livonia. \$7 advance, \$8 on day of the walk, proceeds go toward restoration and preservation of Greenmead Historical Village at Newburgh and Eight Mile roads. (734) 425-4855/(734) 464-2741

#### COBO CARNIVAL

Featuring a full-scale midway including games, rides and family entertainment, noon to 4 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, and Saturday, Dec. 12, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Cobo Conference and Exhibition Center, Detroit. Free admission but a charge for rides and games. \$15 ride-all-day wristband. (313) 877-8111

#### DIA WASSAIL FEAST

Travel back 400 years to celebrate the holiday season in a re-creation of the legendary Winter Court of England's Queen Elizabeth I, vegetarian menu also available, 6:30-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 10-12 and 17-19, in the Kresge Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue. \$135 Thursdays, \$150 Fridays-Saturdays, proceeds to benefit the museum's general operating fund. (313) 833-4005

#### DEXTER'S VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Featuring free street performances, horse-drawn sleigh rides, carolers and musicians throughout town, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, and Saturday, Dec. 12, in the village, northwest of Ann Arbor. (734) 426-5514, <http://members.tripod.com/~Dexter426> or [ebtek@hotmail.com](mailto:ebtek@hotmail.com)

#### FIESTA NAVIDAD

A festive Mexican Christmas celebration with dancers and the "Los Arrieros" Mariachi band, 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Garfield Road and Hall (M-59), Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students/seniors. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

#### FRIENDS OF BELLE ISLE

Wassail Party, 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, with performance of 16th century court dances by Renaissance Dance Company of Detroit, at the Belle Isle Casino, Detroit. \$15. (313) 331-7760

#### IRISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Will Millar's Celtic Christmas, Millar is formerly of the Irish Rovers, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Garfield Road and Hall (M-59), Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students/seniors. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

\$22 students/seniors. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

#### "LIGHT ONE CANDLE"

A Chanukah program especially for children ages 5-10, educational program and craft (each family creates their own Chanukah menorah), 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9 (West Bloomfield) and Thursday, Dec. 10 (Oak Park), at the Jewish Community Center. Optional 6:30 p.m. Kosher pizza dinner (\$3). Reservations by Friday, Dec. 4, (248) 661-7649 (Dec. 9 program), (248) 967-4030 (Dec. 10 program)

#### "NOEL NIGHT"

The 26th annual event to ring in the holidays features carolers, choirs, street theater, dance, hands-on art, a tree lighting ceremony, and carriage rides, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, festivities conclude with a community sing-along led by the Salvation Army Band 8:30-9:30 p.m. on Woodward Avenue, in Detroit's Cultural Center bounded by Ferry Street on the north, Forest on the south, Brush on the east, and Cass Avenue on the west. Free. (313) 577-5088

#### "THE NUTCRACKER"

"A Spectacle on Ice" performed by Russia's St. Petersburg State Ice Ballet, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Garfield Road and Hall (M-59), Clinton Township. \$28, \$24, \$22 students/seniors. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

#### SANDI PATTY CHRISTMAS

Concert, 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, at Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Garfield Road and Hall (M-59), Clinton Township. \$29, \$27, \$24 students/seniors. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

### CHORAL

#### HANDEL'S MESSIAH

With the UMS Choral Union and Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, Hill Auditorium, 630 S. State St., Ann Arbor. \$10-\$18. (734) 764-2538/(800) 221-1229 or <http://www.ums.org>

#### MADISON CHORALE

Present two Holiday Cabaret Concerts, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4 and Tuesday, Dec. 8, at Wilkinson Middle School, 26524 John R. Madison Heights. \$10 donation, \$8 seniors/students (advanced sales). (248) 330-3589

#### THE MADONNA CHORALE

"Christmas Choral Concert," 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, in the Felician Sisters' Motherhouse Chapel, Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. Admission by donation to the music scholarship fund. (734) 432-5708

#### MADRIGAL CHORALE OF SOUTHFIELD

"Holiday Concert," 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Old-St. Mary's Church, St. Antoine and Monroe streets, Detroit's Greektown. \$15, \$12 students and seniors. (810) 445-6199

#### OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

The Department of Music, Theatre and Dance presents its popular show choir, The Meadow Brook Estate Ensemble, in an International Holiday Spectacular 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5; 2 p.m. and 7:30

p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, in Varner Recital Hall on the campus in Rochester. \$12, \$10 seniors, \$6 students. (248) 370-3013/(248) 645-6666

#### PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS

"Joy," a Christmas Concert, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, Plymouth Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road, Canton. \$9 donation. (734) 455-4080

#### SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR

Holiday concert, 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 W. Church St., at Main Street, Plymouth. \$4. (734) 462-4435

### HOLIDAY MUSIC

#### FARMINGTON COMMUNITY BAND

A "Holiday Collage" concert opens the band's season with holiday and classic band music 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at Harrison High School on 12 Mile Road between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake, Farmington Hills. \$3 adults, \$2 students, \$8 family. (734) 261-2202

#### GALLIARD BRASS ENSEMBLE

Annual Holiday Concert, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at Pease Auditorium, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. Free. (734) 487-1221

### CLASSICAL

#### BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE CHORALE ENSEMBLE

Under the direction of Judith Premin perform Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols" with guest harpist Allegra Lilly 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Central Woodward Christian Church on the southeast corner of Adams and Big Beaver roads. Free. A festive tea follows the concert. (248) 475-5978

#### CHAMBER MUSIC AT SCARAB CLUB

The series begins with music by Villa-Lobos and Piazzola featuring soloist Peter Soave (South American music), and string quartet comprised of Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at the club, 217 Farnsworth, behind the Detroit Institute of Arts. \$15, \$10 students/seniors. (313) 831-1250

#### LIVONIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Rings in the "Sounds of the Season" when they perform with flutists Ervin Monroe, principal with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and Alexander Zonjic and his jazz ensemble, also on the guest list is the Churchill High School Choir singing songs from the movie "Home Alone" and "Twins the Night Before Christmas," 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia. \$15, \$12 children. (734) 421-1111

#### LYRIC CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Perform opera choruses that have a sacred theme 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, scenes will be introduced by Dr. Wallace Peace, a frequent lecturer for the Michigan Opera Theatre, at Christ Church Detroit. \$15, \$12 seniors/students. (248) 357-1112

#### SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Violinist Stephen Shipp, accompanied by pianist Anton Nel, performs selections by Debussy, Ravel and Franck noon Wednesday, Dec. 9 in the Forum Building Recital Hall at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile, Livonia. Free. (734) 462-4400, ext. 5218

### ORGAN

#### MIKE ECCARD

Presents a Lowrey Organ Concert, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Evola Music Store in the Livonia Mall, Seven Mile and Middlebelt. Free, but donations of canned goods accepted for the Franciscan Poverty Program. Reservations, (248) 442-9682

### POPS/SWING

#### JUDY COLLINS

Performs holiday songs with the Southfield-Lathrup Madrigal Singers, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road, Southfield. \$30 and \$35, available at the Southfield City Hall, 26000 Evergreen Road, the Parks and Recreation office, or Ticketmaster outlets. (248) 645-6668/(248) 354-4854; Pre-concert dinner at the Golden Mushroom, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8. \$25. (248) 559-4230

#### SHAKEN NOT STIRRED

9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, Karli's, 9779 Godfredson Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 455-8450 (swing/rockabilly)

#### T. TURNER

Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, at D.L. Harrington's Roadhouse, 2086 Crooks Road and M-59, Rochester Hills. (810) 852-0550

### AUDITIONS

#### AVON PLAYERS YOUTH THEATRE

Open auditions for sixth to 12th graders for "The Wizard of Oz," Tuesday-Wednesday, Dec. 8-9, registration at 6:30 p.m., auditions at 7 p.m., at the playhouse, 1185 Tienken Road, east of Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. For four performances Jan. 29-31. \$20 membership fee required to be part of production. (248) 542-8447

#### JACKSON PRODUCTIONS

Auditions for Jackson Productions and Trenton Community Players' "South Pacific," 7-10 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Dec. 8-9, Trenton Theatre, 2447 W. Jefferson, Trenton. Showdates are Feb. 25-28, and March 5-7. (734) 332-9166

### NOVI THEATRES

Auditions for ages 7-97 for "The Wizard of Oz," 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, Dec. 8 and 10, at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 West 10 Mile, Novi. All actors must pay a participation fee of \$125 once cast. For performance fees March 5-6 and 12-13. (248) 347-0400

### VOCAL ARTS ACADEMY

Auditions by appointment only for second semester 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in Varner Hall, Room 134 at Oakland University, Rochester. (248) 625-7057

### JAZZ

#### DWIGHT ADAMS TRIO

8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Dec. 10, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (trumpet/piano/bass)

#### GARY BLUMER TRIO

8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (piano/bass/drums)

#### JUDIE COCHILL TRIO

8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Fridays, Dec. 4 and 11, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocals/piano/bass)

#### COLEMAN-RHODES DUO

8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5 and Friday, Dec. 11, at Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue at Mack, Detroit. Reservations (313) 831-3838 (r & b)

#### BUDDY GRECA AND ANNA MARIA ALBERGHETTI

1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

#### HEIDI HEPLER & MICHELE RAMO

6-10 p.m. Mondays at Too Chee, 27155 Sheraton Dr., Novi. (248) 348-5555; 7-10 p.m. Wednesdays to Saturdays at Encore in the Quality Inn, 1801 S. Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 335-3790; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, at Vic's Market, 42875 Grand River Ave., Novi. (248) 305-7333 (vocal/piano/bass)

#### JUBILATION RUN

The Dixieland Jazz band in cooperation with the New Windsor/Detroit Jazz Club presents jazz/ragtime, 3-6 p.m. Saturdays, at Steak 'n Ale, 32750 Concord, east of I-75 north, south side of 14 Mile, Madison Heights. \$3 cover. (248) 588-4450

#### KATHY KOSINS

8-11 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Dec. 4-5 and 11-12, Giovanni's Cafe Italiano, 31 N. Saginaw St., at Lawrence Street, Pontiac. Free. All ages. (248) 334-5241; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Dec. 8, 15, 22 and 29, at Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue at Mack, Detroit. Reservations (313) 831-3838



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Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Christina Fuoco; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

## Continued from previous page

with reception, \$12-\$20 for general seating (Canadian prices), (519) 252-6579

## GOSPEL/CHRISTIAN

**GAITHER CHRISTMAS HOMECOMING**  
With Gaither Vocal Band, Janet Paschal, Larry Ford, The Happy Goodmans, Anthony Burger, The Martins, Candy Christmas, Jake Hess, Amy Lambert, Mark Lowry, Ben Speer, Bob Celn, Jessy Dixon, The Easters, and others, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$17.50 reserved, Superfan seating is available. Seniors ages 60 and older receive \$3 off reserved seating and children ages 12 and younger receive \$8 off reserved seating. Group rates are also available. (248) 377-0100

**"SANDI PATTY CHRISTMAS"**  
7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$27, \$24 students and seniors, \$29 gold circle. (810) 286-2222

## WORLD MUSIC

**"FIESTA NAVIDAD"**  
Featuring dancers and a mariachi band, 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

**HART-ROUGE**  
3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at the Southfield centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road. \$8. (248) 424-9022. (French/English)

**PINO MARELLI**  
7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3 and 10, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, at Luciano's 39031 Garfield, Clinton Twp.. (810) 263-6540; 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, at Benedetto's, 15505 15 Mile, Clinton Twp. (810) 790-1010 (English/Italian/Spanish)

**"WILL MILLAR'S CELTIC CHRISTMAS"**  
Former Irish Rover with Robbie O'Connell and Aengus, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

## DANCE

**CONTEMPORARY CIVIC BALLET**  
Rose Marie Floyd's is joined by Christopher Stowell of the San Francisco Ballet 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Scottish Rite Cathedral Auditorium in Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit. \$5. A second performance takes place 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at Troy High School. \$8. (248) 641-9063 or (248) 546-7484

**CONTRA DANCE**  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, open jam for musicians of all levels 4-6 p.m., at the Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor Saline Road, south of I-94, Ann Arbor. \$7. (734) 332-9024

**DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
With Ballet Internationale dance "The Nutcracker" Dec. 10-13 and Dec. 17-20 at the Detroit Opera House. \$16-\$35. (313) 576-1111 or through the DSO Web site at [www.detroit-symphony.com](http://www.detroit-symphony.com)

**FULL CIRCLE DANCE COMPANY**  
Annual Children's Dance Concert, "Food for Thought Song and Dance Revue" brought to you by "Top Banana," 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in Adray Auditorium, MacKenzie Fine Arts Building, Henry Ford Community College, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. \$5. (313) 845-6314

**"THE HARLEM NUTCRACKER"**  
Through Sunday, Dec. 6, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. \$15-\$50. (734) 764-2538/(800) 221-1229 or <http://www.ums.org>

**LAKES AREA CIVIC BALLET**  
With guest artist James Toth of the Winnipeg Royal Ballet in Manitoba, Canada, Saturday, Dec. 12 (school group matinees Thursday-Friday, Dec. 10-11 (\$5) at West Bloomfield High School, 4925 Orchard Lake Road. \$8.50-\$10. (248) 666-1971

**LIVONIA CIVIC BALLET COMPANY**  
The official ballet company of the City of Livonia presents "The Nutcracker" 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at Clarenceville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, south of Eight Mile Road, Livonia. \$12, \$9 seniors/students, \$6 children ages 5-9. (734) 427-9103

**MICHIGAN CLASSIC BALLET CO.**  
"The Nutcracker," 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, Mercy Auditorium, 29300 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. (248) 334-6964

**OAKLAND DANCE THEATRE**  
"Leaving Ground," a concert featuring works Oakland University students, faculty and guest artists, directed by Laurie Elsenhowe, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 3-5, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, in the Varner Studio Theatre on the Oakland University campus. Rochester. \$10, \$8 seniors, \$5 students. (248) 370-3013

**PLYMOUTH CANTON BALLET COMPANY**  
More than 150 musicians from the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and the Plymouth Canton Ballet come together to perform "The Nutcracker" with guest artists Dawnell Dryja and Cameron Caldwell from the Cincinnati Ballet Company, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11 and 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 12-13 at the Plymouth-Salem High School

Auditorium, 48181 Joy Road, Canton. \$17, \$10 students K-12th grade, \$5 Sugar Plum Tea. (734) 451-2112

**RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR**  
Featuring the Rockettes, through Wednesday, Dec. 30, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$52.50. (248) 645-6666

**"SPIRIT OF THE DANCE"**  
Produced by Dublin Worldwide Dance Productions in the tradition of Riverdance, features Russian/Cossacks, Flamenco Fiesta and Irish routines, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Garfield Road and Hall (M-59), Clinton Township. \$29, \$26 students/seniors. (810) 286-2222/(800) 585-3737

## COMEDY

**JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB**  
Paul D'Angelo, Robert Mack and Rich Higginbottom, Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 3-5 (\$12); Ross Amicucci, Jim Hamm and Rich Higginbottom, Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 9-10 (\$12); Jeff Dunham and Joey Belaske, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12 (\$20), at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 281-0555

**JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S**  
Randy Lubas, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3 (\$8, \$20.95 dinner show package), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5 (\$10 and \$22.95), and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6 (\$8, \$20.95 dinner show package); John Di Crosta, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner show package), and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 (\$10, \$22.95 dinner show package), at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

**MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE**  
Jack Mayberry and Jeff Margrett, Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 3-6; "Christmas Comedy Event" with Joey Belaske, Alyce Faye and Frank Turner, 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 7, \$5 off ticket price with donated toy, \$10 with toy, \$15 without toy, toys will be distributed to disadvantaged children for the holidays; Bob Zany and Mark Boyd, Wednesday-Saturday, Dec. 9-13, at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays (\$5), 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays (\$6), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays (\$12), and 7:30 p.m. Sundays (\$6). Prices subject to change. (248) 542-9900 or <http://www.comedycastle.com>

**SECOND CITY**  
"Daimlers are a Girl's Best Friend," a fifth anniversary celebration show retrospective, 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays with additional shows at 10:30 p.m. on Fridays-Saturdays through Feb. 7, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. (313) 965-2222

**JOHN VALBY**  
7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$15. 18 and older. (313) 961-5451

**MICHAEL WINSLOW**  
Star of "Police Academy" movies, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Farmington Civic Theatre, 33332 Grand River Ave., Farmington. \$25 and \$20. (248) 473-7777

## MUSEUMS AND TOURS

**CRESTWOOD PLANETARIUM**  
"Off to an Asteroid, Mars and a Comet," the journeys of Deep Space 1, the two Mars Surveyor '98 spacecraft and Stardust beginning their flight this year, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Dec. 8-10 Crestwood School District Planetarium, 1501 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights. \$1 adults, 75 cents for students and children. Reservations necessary. (313) 274-3711

**DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM**  
"Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901," formerly known as "Furs to Factories," with a new Land Office, a "Wheel of Fortune" style land acquisition interactive, three new video screen interactives, a documentary video, a new Heavy Industry section and a display explaining Detroit's move from "Stove Capital of the World" to the Motor City, automobile capital of the world, opens Saturday, Dec. 5; "The Fantasy World of Doll Houses," through Jan. 31; "Remembering Downtown Hudson's" exhibit, a nostalgic look at what made the Hudson's downtown Detroit store an icon of the city's prosperous era, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805 or <http://www.detroit-historical.org>

**DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER**  
IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest" at 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, "Special Effects" at 1:10 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" multiple showings seven days a week at the center, 5020 John R. (at Warren), Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4. (313) 577

## 8400

**HISTORIC CHURCH TOURS**  
Featuring St. Peter-St. Paul Jesuit, Christ Episcopal, Second Baptist, St. Dominic Roman and St. Paul Cathedral Episcopal churches, Monday, Dec. 7, leaves from the Detroit Historical Museum's parking lot at 10 a.m. \$11. Detroit Historical Society members, \$18 non-members, includes bus, tour and luncheon. (313) 833-1405 or <http://www.detroit-historical.org>

**HOLIDAY HOMES OF HISTORIC YPSILANTI**  
Tour of homes, Christmas carols by the Sweet Adelines, homemade Christmas cookies, Festive Tables decorated by community members, 1-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, \$13, available at Remington's By Design, Me 'N' My Sister's Country Store, and Tea, Thyme and Treasures in Historic Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Benefits Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels and historic preservation in Depot Town. (734) 485-2164 or <http://www.ypsilanti.org>

**GREENMEAD HISTORICAL VILLAGE**  
Tour 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6 free concert by Livonia Civic Chorus at the church in the village, 20501 Newburgh, south of Eight Mile, Livonia. Tours \$2, \$1 children. (248) 477-7375

**MEADOW BROOK HALL**  
"1998 Holiday Walk - Picture Perfect Holidays," through Sunday, Dec. 6, at the mansion, Oakland University, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester. (248) 370-3140

## POPULAR MUSIC

**AHADA**  
9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**ALL HAIL ME**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5. 21 and older. (313) 875-6555 or <http://www.lilis21.com> (rock)

**THE ALLIGATORS**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Karl's, 9779 Goffredson Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 455-8450; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-8609 (blues)

**JOCELYN B. AND DETROIT STREET PLAYERS**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard (at Van Born), Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340 or <http://www.siskos.com> (blues)

**BAKED POTATO**  
With Deep Space Six, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom.com> (funk)

**BUGS BEDDOW BAND**  
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, Bad Frog Tavern, 555 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-9400; 10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Shark Club, 6650 Highland Road, Waterford. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 666-4161 or <http://www.bugsbeddow.com> (blues)

**GORDON BENNETT**  
9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Thursdays Dec. 3 and 10, Hamlin Pub North, 741 S. Lapeer Road, Lake Orion. Free. 21 and older. (248) 814-8109; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Hamlin Pub, 1988 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. Free. 21 and older. (248) 656-7700 (rock)

**"BLIND PIG SHOWCASE"**  
With Pamela West, Sweet Kelly, The Element and Lurch, 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Free. 21 and older. (734) 996-8555 (variety)

**THE BOMB POPS**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5. 21 and older. (313) 875-6555 or <http://www.lilis21.com> (rock)

**BILLY BRAGG AND THE BLOKES**  
With Corey Harris, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$22.50 in advance. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.a2ark.org> (pop)

**BUFFALO TOM**  
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$8.50 in advance. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (pop)

**BURNER**  
With Exploration, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. 18 and older. (810) 913-1921 (rock)

**BUSTERS BLUES BAND**  
9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Giovanni's Cafe Italiano, 31 N. Saginaw St. (at Lawrence Street), Pontiac. Free. All ages. (248) 334-5241 (R&B)

**CANDLEBOX**  
With The Hunger and Blue Plate Special, perform as part of radio station WQIB's "Rockin' for the Hungry" concert, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. \$21.03, \$27.50 limited superfan seating includes afterparty ticket. (734) 763-TKTS/(248) 645-6666 (rock)

**CLOUD CAR**  
With The Numbers, formerly known as Big Block, and Smoods, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.gold-dollar.com> (rock)

**JAMES CLOYD GROUP**  
9 p.m. Thursdays, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard, Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340

or <http://www.siskos.com> (blues)

**CULTURE BANDITS**  
With Ghettoillies, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Lili's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5. 21 and older. (313) 875-6555 or <http://www.lilis21.com> (rock)

**RONNIE EARL AND THE BROADCASTERS**  
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$17 in advance (each night), 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicbag.com> (blues)

**EARTH CRISIS**  
5:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$11. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

**OLEN EDDIE**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, Bobby J's Music Cafe, 29 Front St., Lake Orion. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 814-8550; 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**FACTORY 81**  
With Slave 1, Finch and Tap Root, 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. All ages. (810) 913-1921 (rock)

**THE REV. MARC FALCONBERRY**  
Hosts acoustic blues jam, 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard (at Van Born), Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340 or <http://www.siskos.com> (blues)

**TIM FLAHERTY TRIO**  
Hosts blues jam, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays, Frigate's Inn, 14 Mile Road (at East Lake Drive), Walled Lake. (248) 624-9607 (blues)

**FUNKTELLIGENCE**  
9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, as part of Mood Indigo night at Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 21 and older. (734) 662-8310 (funk)

**GHEOTOILLIES**  
With Joey Skidmore, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom.com> (rock)

**STEVE GORNALL**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard, Taylor. Tickets at Ticketmaster. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340 (blues)

**HAL 9000**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.gold-dollar.com> (hardcore rock)

**MICHAEL HILL'S BLUES MOB**  
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Amer's First Street Grill, Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. 21 and older. (734) 213-6000 (blues)

**"HOLIDAY HOOTENANNY"**  
Featuring the Goo Goo Dolls, DC Talk, Semisonic, Better Than Ezra and Edwin McCain, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Cobo Arena, Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. All ages. (248) 645-6666 or <http://www.ticketmaster.com> or <http://www.planet963.com> (pop)

**THE HOPE ORCHESTRA**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Cafe Zola, 112 W. Washington St., Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 769-2020 or <http://www.concentric.net/~hopeorch> (pop)

**LISA HUNTER**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Six String Coffee House inside the Michigan League, University of Michigan campus. Cover charge. All ages. (734) 763-4652 (acoustic rock)

**THE INCURABLES**  
With 1959, a Buddy Holly tribute band, play a benefit concert for 11-month-old Brittany Long, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Harris-Kahner VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. \$5, free for those ages 5 and younger, includes pizza and pop. All ages. Long was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia and is undergoing chemotherapy. (734) 722-8743 or <http://www.incurables.com> (rock)

**NIKKI JAMES AND THE FLAMETHROWERS**  
9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, Giovanni's Cafe Italiano, 31 N. Saginaw St. (at Lawrence Street), Pontiac. Free. All ages. (248) 334-5241 (blues)

**THE KINGSNAKES**  
10 p.m. Fridays, Dec. 4 and 11, Mr. Sports, 13090 Inkster Road, Redford. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 534-7420; 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Rivertown Saloon, 1977 Woodbridge, Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 567-6020 (rock)

**KNEE DEEP SHAG**  
With Sugar Buzz, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (funk)

**MASCHINA**  
With Papa Vegas and Paper Plate, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

**DAVE MATTHEWS BAND**  
With Maceo Parker, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. Sold out. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

**STONEY MAZAR AND THE WESTSIDERS**  
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 4-5, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**MERGE**  
With Bliss, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. 18 and older. (810) 913-1921 (rock)

**MIGHTY JOE YOUNG**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Amer's First Street Grill, 102 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. 21 and older. (bluesy rock)

**"N SYNC**  
With Britney Spears, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. Sold out. All ages; 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets, \$35 and \$24.50, go on sale at 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (pop)

**ROBERT MOLL BLUES MISSION**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-8609; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

**N2 SUBMISSION**  
Featuring The Impaler, with The Shakes, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.gold-dollar.com> (synth pop)

**THE OFFSPRING**  
With Unwritten Law, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Sold out. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

**OPIE'S DREAM**  
With Shout, the Beatles tribute band, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, JD's Macomb Theatre, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Cover charge. 18 and older. (810) 913-1921 (rock)

**ROBERT PENN**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, 24 Karat Club, 28949 Joy Road (two blocks east of Middlebelt Road), Westland. Cover charge. 18 and older. (734) 513-5030 (blues)

**PROPELLER**  
With Kuz and The Triggers, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

**PUMMEL**  
With Swag and Broadzilla, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom.com> (rock)

**PUSHMONKEY**  
With Puya, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$5.01. All ages. (248) 335-8100 or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

**? AND THE MYSTERIANS**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Magic Stick in the Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. 18 and older. (313) 833-POOL (rock)

**THE REV. HORTON HEAT**  
With Flat Duo Jets and The Amazing Crowns, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$15. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

**SKINFLOWER**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or



# Zany 'Home Fries' will satisfy your appetite for something fun

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER  
kwygonik@oe.hometown.net

Silly, romantic, and sometimes stupid, "Home Fries" won't satisfy serious movie-goer appetites, but if you're looking for something fast and fun, this is it.

Sally Sawyer (Drew Barrymore) works the drive-through window at the Burger-Matic in a small town. That way nobody will know she's pregnant, by a

married man, heavens!

**'Home Fries' Isn't a gourmet meal, but if you're looking for a night of laughs, and maybe even a little romance, you'll be satisfied.**

But Sawyer, who has a heart as big as Grand Canyon, had no



Romantic: Drew Barrymore and Luke Wilson star in the off-center romantic comedy, "Home Fries."

idea her Henry (Chris Ellis) was married, until it was too

late. Henry's wife, Mrs. Lever (Catherine O'Hara) knows about this other woman, and "can feel her." Sometimes Mrs. Lever even dreams about her, and in her dreams "she looks like a big black ant."

"Home Fries" is definitely junk food for the mind, except unlike McDonald's, you don't know exactly what you're getting. This movie has more twists and turns than a roller coaster at Cedar Point. It's totally unpredictable, until near the end.

Henry pulls into Burger-Matic to see his girl, and order his favorite — a vanilla milkshake — "very cold, very tall." Sally's not happy, and won't agree to see him after her shift. On the way home, Henry, the rascal, takes his wedding ring out of the car ashtray, and puts it back on.

He's in for a surprise of his life. Mrs. Lever's two sons by a previous marriage, Dorian (Luke Wilson) and Angus (Jake Bussey) are both Army National Guardsmen and Cobra helicopter pilots. Mom wants them to scare a little sense into Henry.

Things get a little out of hand, as Henry runs for his life with the helicopter hovering overhead. Sally's working the night shift, and starts to pick up the helicopter's frequency on her headset. She doesn't pay attention, because she's too busy arguing with her co-worker over who will clean out the milk shake machine.

The brothers don't know that, and they didn't know Henry had a weak heart either. When he ends up dead, sitting upright in the middle of a field, it sets off a whole chain of crazy events more fun than a Happy Meal.

O'Hara's hilarious as the woman done wrong. Her sons, who are in their 20s, act a whole lot younger. They sleep in bunk beds, bicker like little kids, and vie for mom's attention. Angus is crushed when Mrs. Lever tells Dorian, "you're my favorite."

As the older brother, Angus decides it's best to eliminate Sally just in case she heard something on her headset. Dorian didn't count on falling in love with her.

Set in a small town that could be anywhere U.S.A. there's a lot to like about this movie. Dorian goes to work at Burger-Matic, on a mission to find out more about Sally. He becomes a hero when her drunken father shows up with a shot gun at Burger-Matic during a birthday party for Sally's younger brother. "When he gets drunk he gets stupid," says Sally in defense of her dad. Angus isn't happy, "we don't need the publicity," he says.

Shelly Duvall is perfect as Sally's mom, Ms. Jackson, who bails her husband out of jail time and time again, and loves her children unconditionally.

Sweet Sally wants Mrs. Lever to know the truth about her husband. "I didn't know he was married until after I conceived," she explains to Dorian. "He lied to me, and he's been lying to her too. She needs to know."

Wilson and Bussey are believable as the squabbling brothers choking on mom's long apron strings who will do anything to make her happy.

Mrs. Lever's family's breaking apart, and Sally's is just starting — "I know how I look to everyone," she says. "I was raised right, I can't help the rest, but I'm going to be a really good mother."

"Home Fries" isn't a gourmet meal, but if you're looking for a night of laughs, and maybe even a little romance, you'll be satisfied.

## SHARE YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY MOVIE MEMORIES

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

With shopping, parties and other assorted merrymaking, the holidays can be a very hectic time.

Sometimes it's nice to take a breather — to put your feet up and relax with a video. Movies, seasonal or not, are part of our collective memories.

There are some obvious traditional films people enjoy watching around the holidays. Like "It's a Wonderful Life" or "Miracle on 34th Street" — the latter a particular favorite of mine since childhood. There are the myriad of "A Christmas Carol" adaptations — my personal favorite is the one with George C. Scott although my seven-year old niece was quite amused by the Looney Tunes version.

Some of the other choices may not be so obvious. Another Christmas season favorite in our family was "The Shop Around the Corner." The 1939 romantic comedy starring James Stewart and Margaret Sullivan tells the story of bickering co-workers who don't realize they're lovelorn pen pals. (The e-mail version "You've Got Mail" is due in theaters shortly.) Everything gets resolved on Christmas Eve.

Another fun holiday movie is "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" the 1987 comedy in which uptight businessman Steve Martin and shower curtain ring salesman John Candy encounter all sorts of obstacles, calamities and annoyances in an effort to get back home for Thanksgiving. The version shown on television is very funny but the uncut video version is even funnier.

While probably not a film that immediately comes to mind around the holidays, there is always "Meet Me in St. Louis," the 1944 musical that manages to hit most of the major holidays during the year leading up to the opening of the 1903 World's Fair. Among the terrific songs is Judy Garland singing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

An important rule in life is "know your audience." That's especially true if you are going to show a movie to a collection of friends and relatives of varying ages and tastes. I recall spending a holiday with friends when one of the siblings pulled out a copy of "Angel Heart," a terrific but quite violent film. As one synopsis summed it up "Absolutely not for the squeamish or children." A shockingly bad choice for a family gathering.

We'd like you to share your memories and thoughts about your favorite holiday movie viewing over the years. E-mail your comments with your name, age and

hometown to: kwygonik@oe.hometown.net or fax at 734-591-7279 no later than Dec. 17. We'll run a sampling of your responses in our Dec. 24 edition.

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 4

### "PSYCHO"

A scene-by-scene remake of the 1960 Alfred Hitchcock classic. Stars Vince Vaughn, Anne Heche.

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 11

### "JACK FROST"

Fantasy adventure about a man who becomes a real father after returning to life as a cooler guy than he ever imagined possible — below freezing to be precise. Stars Michael Keaton, Kelly Preston.

### "WAKING NED DEVINE"

A comedy fable about the true meaning of fortune. Someone in a small Irish town wins a lottery and the towns people want to share.

### "HARD CORE LOGO"

Exclusively at the Landmark Main Art Theatre. The story of four characters who struggle to reconcile their mythic punk rock past with the hangover realities of the present. A tale of lost dreams, the lure of the open road and memories of youth that fade in the rearview mirror.

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 18

### "THE LAST EMPEROR"

Bernardo Bertolucci's director's cut of the Academy Award-winning drama based on the life of Pu Yi, the child who was the last emperor of China.

### "YOU'VE GOT MAIL"

A romantic comedy about two book store owners, rivals who accidentally fall in love in cyberspace with Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan.

Scheduled to open Wednesday, Dec. 25

### "DOWN THE DELTA"

An emotional and riveting story where big city meets small town, young meet old, parents reconnect with children, and life for everyone becomes something unexpected.

### "THE FACULTY"

Science fiction thriller that blends teenage angst, cutting edge comedy and out of this world special effects as the students of Herrington High School struggle to save the world from alien domination.

### "LITTLE VOICE"

Magical musical comedy about the power and perils of expression. Based on one of London's most acclaimed hit plays, the story follows an aging but on-the-prowl widow who never shuts up and her reticent daughter, who barely speaks but does sing.

### "SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE"

Witty and fast moving comedy set in 1593 that follows the trials and tribulations of Will Shakespeare, a struggling young playwright who's suffering from a terrible bout of writer's block until he falls in love. Stars Joseph Fiennes, Gwyneth Paltrow, Geoffrey Rush.



Family feature: Joseph Cross and Michael Keaton in a scene from "Jack Frost," opening Dec. 11 at metro Detroit movie theaters.

## GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

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| <p><b>National Amusements Showcase Cinemas</b></p> <p><b>Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14</b><br/>2150 N. Opdyke Rd.<br/>Between University &amp; Walton Blvd<br/>810-373-2660<br/>Bargain Matinees Daily<br/>All Shows until 6 pm<br/>Continuous Shows Daily<br/>Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. &amp; Sat.</p> <p><b>BADE (G)</b><br/><b>BUG'S LIFE (G)</b><br/><b>HOME FRIES (PG-13)</b><br/><b>JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)</b><br/><b>VERY BAD THINGS (R)</b><br/><b>AMERICAN HISTORY X (R)</b><br/><b>ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)</b><br/><b>RUGRATS (G)</b><br/><b>I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b><br/><b>MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13)</b><br/><b>WATERBOY (PG-13)</b><br/><b>ANTZ (PG)</b><br/><b>I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)</b><br/><b>PLEASANTVILLE (PG-13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Showcase Dearborn 1-4</b><br/>Michigan &amp; Telegraph<br/>313-561-3449<br/>Bargain Matinees Daily<br/>All Shows until 6 pm<br/>Continuous Shows Daily<br/>Late Shows Fri. &amp; Sat. &amp; Sun.</p> <p><b>BADE (G)</b><br/><b>BUG'S LIFE (G)</b><br/><b>HOME FRIES (PG-13)</b><br/><b>ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)</b><br/><b>I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b><br/><b>MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13)</b><br/><b>WATERBOY (PG-13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Showcase Pontiac 1-5</b><br/>Telegraph &amp; Lake Rd. W. Side of<br/>Telegraph<br/>810-352-0241<br/>Bargain Matinees Daily<br/>All Shows until 6 pm<br/>Continuous Shows Daily</p> <p><b>BUG'S LIFE (G)</b><br/><b>VERY BAD THINGS (R)</b><br/><b>ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)</b><br/><b>I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Showcase Pontiac 6-12</b><br/>2403 Telegraph Rd. East side of<br/>Telegraph<br/>810-354-6777<br/>Bargain Matinees Daily<br/>All Shows until 6 pm<br/>Continuous Shows Daily<br/>Late Shows Fri. &amp; Sat.</p> <p><b>BADE (G)</b><br/><b>HOME FRIES (PG-13)</b><br/><b>JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)</b><br/><b>RUGRATS (G)</b><br/><b>MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13)</b><br/><b>WATERBOY (PG-13)</b><br/><b>PLEASANTVILLE (PG-13)</b><br/><b>I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>One Yacht</b><br/>Warren &amp; Wayne Rds<br/>313-425-7700<br/>Bargain Matinees Daily<br/>All Shows until 6 pm<br/>Continuous Shows Daily<br/>Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. &amp; Sat.</p> <p><b>BUG'S LIFE (G)</b><br/><b>JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER</b></p> | <p><b>(R)</b><br/><b>VERY BAD THINGS (R)</b><br/><b>ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)</b><br/><b>I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b><br/><b>I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)</b></p> <p>ALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Showcase Westland 1-8</b><br/>6800 Wayne Rd.<br/>One blk. S. of Warren Rd.<br/>313-729-1060<br/>Bargain Matinees Daily<br/>All Shows until 6 pm<br/>Continuous Shows Daily<br/>Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. &amp; Sat.</p> <p><b>BADE (G)</b><br/><b>ELIZABETH (R)</b><br/><b>HOME FRIES (PG-13)</b><br/><b>RUGRATS (G)</b><br/><b>MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13)</b><br/><b>WATERBOY (PG-13)</b><br/><b>ANTZ (PG)</b><br/><b>PLEASANTVILLE (PG-13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Star Theatres</b><br/>The World's Best Theatres<br/>Bargain Matinees Daily \$4.00 All Shows Starting before 6:00 pm<br/>Now accepting Visa &amp; MasterCard<br/>*NP Denotes No Past Engagement</p> <p><b>Star John R 14 Mile</b><br/>32289 John R. Road<br/>810-585-2070</p> <p>No one under 6 admitted for PG-13 &amp; R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p><b>BADE: PG IN THE CITY (PG-13)</b><br/><b>NP JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)</b><br/><b>NP HOME FRIES (PG-13)</b><br/><b>NP RUGRATS (G)</b><br/><b>NP ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)</b><br/><b>NP CELEBRITY (R)</b><br/><b>THE SIEGE (R)</b><br/><b>WATERBOY (PG-13)</b><br/><b>PLEASANTVILLE (PG-13)</b><br/><b>ANTZ (PG)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Star Rochester Hills</b><br/>200 Barclay Circle<br/>853-2260</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 &amp; R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p><b>NP HOME FRIES (PG-13)</b><br/><b>NP VERY BAD THINGS (R)</b><br/><b>NP ELIZABETH (R)</b><br/><b>NP ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)</b><br/><b>NP CELEBRITY (R)</b><br/><b>MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13)</b><br/><b>I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b><br/><b>THE WATERBOY (PG-13)</b><br/><b>THE SIEGE (R)</b><br/><b>I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)</b><br/><b>THE WIZARD OF OZ (G)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Star Southfield</b><br/>12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-496<br/>248-353-STAR</p> <p>No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 &amp; R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p><b>NP A BUG'S LIFE (G)</b><br/><b>NP BADE: PG IN THE CITY (PG)</b><br/><b>NP HOME FRIES (PG)</b><br/><b>NP VERY BAD THINGS (R)</b><br/><b>NP ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)</b><br/><b>NP RUGRATS (G)</b><br/><b>NP JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)</b><br/><b>NP I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b><br/><b>NP MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13)</b><br/><b>NP THE WATERBOY (PG-13)</b><br/><b>NP CELEBRITY (R)</b><br/><b>I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b><br/><b>MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13)</b></p> | <p><b>NP I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)</b><br/><b>WATERBOY (PG-13)</b><br/><b>THE SIEGE (R)</b><br/><b>PLEASANTVILLE (PG-13)</b><br/><b>WIZARD OF OZ (G)</b><br/>DEC. 1 SPECIAL OPEN CAPTIONED<br/><b>RUSH HOUR (PG-13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Star Winchester</b><br/>1136 S. Rochester Rd. Winchester<br/>Mail<br/>248-656-1160<br/>No one under age 6 admitted for PG-13 &amp; R rated films after 6 pm</p> <p><b>NP A BUG'S LIFE (G)</b><br/><b>NP BADE: PG IN THE CITY (PG)</b><br/><b>NP JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)</b><br/><b>NP RUGRATS (G)</b><br/><b>NP AMERICAN HISTORY (R)</b><br/><b>PLEASANTVILLE (PG-13)</b><br/><b>ANTZ (PG)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>United Artists Theatres</b><br/>Bargain Matinees Daily, for all shows starting before 6:00 PM<br/>Same day advance tickets available.<br/>NY - No V.I.P. tickets accepted</p> <p><b>United Artist Oakland</b><br/>Inside Oakland Mall<br/>248-968-0706</p> <p><b>I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b><br/><b>NP BELIEVED (R)</b><br/><b>RUSH HOUR (PG-13)</b><br/><b>WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (PG-13)</b><br/><b>PRACTICAL MAGIC (PG-13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>United Artists 12 Oaks</b><br/>Inside Twelve Oaks Mall<br/>248-349-4311</p> <p><b>A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV</b><br/><b>VERY BAD THINGS (R) NV</b><br/><b>RUGRATS (G) NV</b><br/><b>THE WATERBOY (PG-13) NV</b><br/><b>THE SIEGE (R) NV</b><br/><b>ANTZ (PG)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>United Artists West River</b><br/>9 Mile<br/>2 Block West of Middlebelt<br/>248-788-6572</p> <p><b>A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV</b><br/><b>HOME FRIES (PG-13) NV</b><br/><b>VERY BAD THINGS (R) NV</b><br/><b>ENEMY OF THE STATE (R) NV</b><br/><b>RUGRATS (G) NV</b><br/><b>JERRY SPRINGER (R) NV</b><br/><b>I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R) NV</b><br/><b>MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13) NV</b><br/><b>THE WATERBOY (PG-13) NV</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>United Artists Commerce Township 14</b><br/>Located Adjacent to Home Depot<br/>Just North of the intersection of<br/>14 Mile &amp; Haggerty Rd.<br/>248-966-5901<br/>All Stadium Seating<br/>High-Back Reclining Chair Seats<br/>Two-Day Advance Ticketing</p> <p><b>A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV</b><br/><b>BADE: A PG IN THE CITY (G) NV</b></p> | <p><b>Monday - Friday only</b><br/>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Main Art Theatre III</b><br/>Main - 11 Mile<br/>Royal Oak<br/>(248) 542-0100<br/>\$3.00 (TWO-LITE) SHOWS DAILY</p> <p><b>ELIZABETH (R)</b><br/><b>AMERICAN HISTORY X (R)</b><br/><b>VELVET GOLDMINE HAPPINESS (PG-17)</b><br/>NO ONE UNDER 18 ADMITTED</p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES<br/>Children Under 6 Not Admitted</p> <p><b>Maple Art Cinema III</b><br/>4135 W. Maple, West of Telegraph<br/>Bloomfield Hills<br/>248-855-9990<br/>DISCOUNTED SHOWS!</p> <p><b>LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (PG-13)</b><br/><b>CELEBRITY (R)</b><br/><b>THE CRUISE (PG-13)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Oxford 3 Cinemas, L.L.C.</b><br/>Downtown Oxford<br/>Lapeer Rd. (M-24)<br/>(248) 628-7100<br/>Fax (248) 628-1300<br/>DETROIT'S LOWEST FIRST RUN PRICES INCLUDING THROUGHOUT PRICING \$3.00 4-5 PM</p> <p><b>RUGRATS (G)</b><br/><b>A BUG'S LIFE (G)</b><br/><b>PLEASANTVILLE (PG-13)</b><br/><b>MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13)</b></p> <p>CALL THEATRE FOR FEATURES AND TIMES</p> <p><b>AMC Livonia 20</b><br/>Haggerty &amp; 7 Mile<br/>734-542-9909</p> <p>CALL THEATRE FOR FEATURES AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Waterford Cinema II</b><br/>7501 Highland Rd.<br/>S.E. corner M-59 &amp; Williams Lake Rd.<br/>24 Hour Movie Line<br/>(248) 666-7900<br/>CALL 77 FILMS \$5.51<br/>Stadium Seating and Digital sound Makes for the Best Movie Experience in Oakland County<br/>\$3.25 (TWO LITE) SHOWS DAILY</p> <p><b>NP THE RUGRATS MOVIE (G)</b><br/><b>NP THE ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)</b><br/><b>NP I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)</b><br/><b>NP I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)</b><br/><b>NP MEET JOE BLACK (PG-13)</b><br/><b>THE WATERBOY (PG-13)</b><br/><b>THE SIEGE (R)</b><br/><b>PLEASANTVILLE (LIR)</b><br/><b>ANTZ (PG)</b><br/><b>LIVING OUT LOUD (R)</b></p> <p>CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES</p> <p><b>Visa &amp; Mastercard Accepted</b></p> <p><b>Terrace Cinema</b><br/>30400 Plymouth Rd.<br/>313-261-3330</p> <p>All shows \$1 except shows after 6 pm.<br/>All shows \$1.50<br/>7:51 every Tuesday<br/>Would you like to see Free Movies?<br/>Then become a "FREQUENT VIEWER!"<br/>COME IN AND FIND OUT HOW<br/>Box Office opens at 4:00 pm</p> |
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# F-111 sees big things for Control Freq.



CHRISTINA FUOCO

If Andrew Goldstone of F-111 Records has his way, the Detroit-based band Control Freq. and its debut album "Freq. Show" will be huge.

"We really feel like it's a mainstream (release) or can be a mainstream pop record. At the same time, we're going to attempt to cultivate some interest on the underground," said Goldstone, co-director of the Warner Bros.-affiliated label F-111.

"It's not a Spice Girls Record. It's got a lot more musicality to it."

Control Freq. is the latest project from singer/leader Dennis White, keyboardist Ken Roberts and guitarist Steve Zuccaro, all of whom are former members of Charm Farm. The band, whose album is due out in March, officially inked the deal recently.

Control Freq. signed to F-111 after former CIMX-FM DJ and Hits Magazine writer Caeri Bertrand referred the band to Goldstone.

"She told me about Dennis, and I used to run Astralwerks (Records). Dennis was doing

more techno stuff on the side and we met up at the Winter Music Conference two years ago," Goldstone explained.

"When he sent me a tape of five songs, it was mostly just to say, 'Hey, this is what I'm up to.' He didn't know I was about to make a move to go to Warner Bros."

As soon as Goldstone heard the demo, he knew he had to have them.

"We're very happy to have them. It was pretty much the first thing we signed. They weren't officially signed until relatively recently. But it was a done deal shortly after we came aboard at Warner Bros. in March."

Control Freq. just returned from New York where it did a photo shoot at a "serious prop house," according to guitarist Zuccaro. For the shoot, the band used props from "Back to the Future."

"We were inside a spaceship and in a cockpit. We got all these fresh shots that we'll probably use for promo photos and the record," he said.

Charm Farm released an album, "Pervert," on Mercury Records and had a hint of success with the song "Superstar." The band was dropped shortly thereafter.

Guitarist Zuccaro said that already he's pleased — but cautious — about working with F-111 and Warner Bros.

"I'm not really as excited as before. I know what can happen. I'm kind of just like ho-hum about it because of what happened last time."

## Rubbing elbows

Country singers Joseph James of Rochester Hills and Carl Larson of Farmington rubbed elbows with some of their genre's top singer/songwriters at the three-day prestigious songwriter retreat in Nashville.

"It was a great experience," James said. "If you're a songwriter, you're sort of in your element. We also had three days of working on even better songs."

During the three-day retreat, James and other songwriters worked on improving their songwriting ability by interacting with fellow songwriters and breaking into small groups.

"We were whisked off from downtown Nashville at 8 in the morning on Greyhound buses. We were taken to an inn, an old Victorian home built 70-80 years ago," he explained.

The leaders of the group would perform the participants' songs and afterward critique them. Songwriters were chosen to

participate based on a tape of two songs that they were required to send.

In 1998, James released his debut CD "Back in Love," which featured the song "Car Country." The song hit No. 1 on two of the independent charts. Earlier this year, he performed a showcase at the Opryland Hotel during the Country Radio Seminar.

James, who also hosts "The Money Show" at 3 p.m. Saturdays on WCM-AM 990, is due to release his sophomore effort early next year. To hear samples of his new disc, visit <http://www.joseph-james.com>

## Big winners

The hard pop band Sensitive Clown has reason to celebrate. It was named one of the four first-prize winners of Sony Music's DEMOlisten Derby battle of the bands.

Each member of the band — guitarist/singer Todd Wicks, drummer Joel Wicks, guitarist Rock McClain, and bassist Lawyer Ned Friendship — received a Sony mini-disc player.

Todd Wicks, a Rochester Hills resident, entered the contest after stumbling across information about it on the Web.

"There's probably a dozen or so of these things that bands enter each year. For some reason we

lucked out this time. It's hopefully a little more recognition. I can't say that anything has directly come from it yet, but it's something on our resume, as they say," Wicks said.

Although Sensitive Clown didn't get the grand prize of studio time, Wicks said it's still a nice surprise.

"It's a tiny little bit of validation that encourages you and makes you think I'm not insane to think that this is something good. If a huge faceless corporation like Sony likes it, maybe there's a future for us after all."

Sensitive Clown performs at 9

p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at the New Way Bar, 23130 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. For more information, call the bar at (248) 541-9870 or visit Sensitive Clown's Web site at <http://www.msu.edu/user/wickajoe>

Christina Fuoco is the pop music reporter for The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have a question or comment for her, you can leave her a message at (734) 953-2047, mailbox No. 2130, or write to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or [cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net)

# Offspring finding time to be a band

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO

STAFF WRITER

[cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net)

After hitting megastar status with the albums "Smash" and "Ignorance," the Offspring is finding time to be a band.

"We're practicing this week for the live show. It's been fun. We didn't practice yesterday. We just did interviews and photos. It was one of the funnest days I remember having in a long time," said guitarist Noodles, via telephone from his Orange County, Calif.

"We were cracking each other up, and playing and having fun. Everything is coming together really well."

The Offspring's "Americana" (Columbia) is poised to be just as successful thanks to the first single, the instantly memorable "Pretty Fly (For a White Guy)" and its catchy line "Give it to me baby."

"We had a lot of fun doing that, actually. It all came together once we were laying all the different layers down and all the different voices," Noodles

explained.

The key to the song, he said, isn't the sample of Def Leppard's "Rock of Ages," or the line "all the girls say I'm pretty fly for a white guy." It's his fat guitar licks.

"It's in the same vein as the funk 'Low Rider' kind of thing. I just added the rough Offspring edge to it."

"Pretty Fly (For a White Guy)" pokes fun at white gangster wannabes, who frequent talk shows wearing tilted baseball hats, baggy pants, flavor-saver goatees, and tattoos.

"He thought we'd write this song about wannabes and this white guy, this white suburban middle class kid, who thinks he's down with the urban hip-hop kids and not cutting it," Noodles said with a laugh.

"We've all tried to fit in. Everybody kind of relates to trying to be something other than what we are. But it's also funny knowing people like that. You can be horrified but at the same time find the humor in it."

Characters on talk shows

played a big part in the writing of "Americana," according to singer Dexter Holland, who earned a Ph.D. in microbiology. "She's Got Issues" shares Holland's thoughts on emotional baggage-carrying women: "Now I know she'll feel abandoned. If I don't stay over late/And I know she's afraid to commit/but it's only our second date."

"Why Don't You Get a Job?" rips on people who take advantage financially of their lovers.

"Lately, I've been into this warped sense of Americana. The whole daytime talk show culture fascinates me. It seems like the stuff that used to be the fringe is more and more the everyday reality," Holland explained.

"If America was barbecues, big cars and life in the suburbs in the '50s, it's now totally a freak show. I want to show that ordinary, average American life isn't so average."

In the midst of all that is a surprising cover of the 1970s ballad "Feelings."

"It gets the point across in the very Offspring matter. At first we thought it could come out a

little more metal sounding. That was how we even kind of attacked it from the beginning, with a heavy metal guitar solo and everything," Noodles said.

"But it didn't sound right so we were backing off and it fell into that Offspring groove. Plus, everybody knows the melody, everyone can sing-along. It's going to be fun to do live."

"Americana," recorded in February with producer Dave Jerden at his El Dorado Studios in Burbank, Calif., closes with the eight-minute, mostly instrumental, Middle Eastern-tinged "Pay The Man."

The Offspring and Unwritten Law perform a sold-out, all-ages show at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. For more information, call (313) 961-MELT or visit <http://www.961melt.com> for more information. To learn more about the Offspring, visit <http://www.offspring.com> or write to them via snail-mail at P.O. Box 5956, Garden Grove, Calif., 92846.

**"A BLOCKBUSTER ADVENTURE!"**  
NEWSWEEK

**"THE RUGRATS MOVIE IS A DELIGHT!"**  
Anita Gates, THE NEW YORK TIMES

[www.rugratsmovie.com](http://www.rugratsmovie.com)

|                           |                        |                           |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| AMC BEL AIR 10            | AMC EASTLAND 5         | AMC LAUREL PARK           |
| AMC LIVONIA 20            | AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY    | AMC STERLING CTR. 10      |
| BIRMINGHAM 8              | CANTON                 | SHOWCASE                  |
| SHOWCASE                  | SHOWCASE               | SHOWCASE                  |
| STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE   | STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE | STAR LINCOLN PARK 8       |
| STAR SOUTHFIELD           | STAR TAYLOR            | STAR WINCHESTER 8         |
| UNITED COMMERCIAL TWP. 14 | UNITED ARTISTS 12 OAKS | UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER |

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**"A cutting-edge romantic comedy."**

**Drew Barrymore**  
**Luke Wilson**

**"Hilariously zany and fun. Enormously original. Drew Barrymore shines yet again!"**  
—Anita Gates—NOC-TV

**"Wickedly funny with superb performances!"**  
—Julia Lopez—NOC-TV

**"A rich and quirky comedy with the best performance of Drew Barrymore's career!"**  
—Anita Gates—NOC-TV

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| AMC SOUTHFIELD     | AMC SOUTHLAND             | AMC STERLING CTR.  |
| AMC WONDERLAND     | BEACON EAST               | CCC NOVI TOWN CTR. |
| SHOWCASE           | SHOWCASE                  | SHOWCASE           |
| SHOWCASE           | SHOWCASE                  | STAR GRATIOT       |
| STAR JOHN R        | STAR LINCOLN PARK         | STAR ROCHESTER     |
| STAR SOUTHFIELD    | UNITED COMMERCIAL TWP. 14 | UNITED WEST RIVER  |

**"Blistering...to the wall!"**  
—Rolling Stone

**"Savage funny!"**  
—Entertainment Weekly

**"Funnier than 'There's Something About Mary'."**  
—Grainne Kelly, Interview

**CHRISTIAN SLATER** **CAMERON DIAZ**

**VERY BAD THINGS**  
A VERY SAVAGE COMEDY.

**NOW SHOWING**

|                       |                      |                 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| AMC LIVONIA 20        | AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY  | AMC BEL AIR 10  |
| BCC CANTON            | MJR SOUTHGATE 20     | BEACON EAST     |
| SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS | SHOWCASE PONTIAC 1-5 | QUO VADIS       |
| STAR GRATIOT          | STAR ROCHESTER       | STAR SOUTHFIELD |
| UA COMMERCIAL 14      | UA 12 OAKS           | UA WEST RIVER   |

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**"this bug's for you!"**  
—newsweek

**★★★★★**  
one of the most inventive movies in years.  
—usa today-mike clark

**"A bug's life should delight everyone—young, old or six-legged!"**  
—people magazine-tom pillard

**"two thumbs up!"**  
—siskel & ebert

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**a bug's life**

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|                    |                         |                     |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
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| AMC SOUTHLAND 2    | AMC EASTLAND 2          | AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY |
| AMC LAUREL PARK    | AMC LIVONIA 20          | AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY |
| AMC SOUTHLAND 4    | AMC STERLING CENTER     | BIRMINGHAM 8        |
| CANTON             | MJR SOUTHGATE 20        | QUO VADIS           |
| SHOWCASE           | SHOWCASE                | SHOWCASE            |
| SHOWCASE           | STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE | STAR SOUTHFIELD     |
| STAR WINCHESTER 8  | STAR COMMERCIAL TWP. 14 | STAR 12 OAKS        |
| UNITED WEST RIVER  | UNITED WEST RIVER       | UNITED WEST RIVER   |

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**ENEMY OF THE STATE**

STARTS WITH A BANG AND ENDS WITH A BOOM.

**NOW PLAYING**

|                    |                         |                     |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
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| AMC SOUTHLAND 2    | AMC EASTLAND 2          | AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY |
| AMC LAUREL PARK    | AMC LIVONIA 20          | AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY |
| AMC SOUTHLAND 4    | AMC STERLING CENTER     | BIRMINGHAM 8        |
| CANTON             | MJR SOUTHGATE 20        | QUO VADIS           |
| SHOWCASE           | SHOWCASE                | SHOWCASE            |
| SHOWCASE           | STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE | STAR SOUTHFIELD     |
| STAR WINCHESTER 8  | STAR COMMERCIAL TWP. 14 | STAR 12 OAKS        |
| UNITED WEST RIVER  | UNITED WEST RIVER       | UNITED WEST RIVER   |

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# Fusion creates more than East meets West cuisine

BY ELEANOR & RAY HEALD  
SPECIAL WRITERS

Perhaps you've noticed that Matt Prentice, President of the Unique Restaurant Corporation, likes bringing you new restaurants. Call him restaurant trend setter or creative genius, innovation is his specialty and Fusion in Farmington Hills is his latest.

Fusion is located in URC's former Relish. When a theme such as Relish lost its identity, Prentice said "makeover time." Diners never caught on to the Relish theme of salsa; Pacific Island sambal, Indian chutney, piccalilli, Indonesian, blatjungs or atjars served with wood-smoked fish and meats. So Relish backed off, gave diners what they wanted, and a new theme found room on the drawing board.

Prentice looked at dining trends and a bowl concept evolved. What do we like to eat in bowls? Noodles, rice and mashed potatoes. Asian noodle shops are popular around the world. They serve rice there too. But this is America and we love mashed potatoes or in new lingo "mash!"

Prentice needed a name to fit his ideas. He ran a contest. Fusion won and opened Nov. 19 in the Farmington Hills location of the former Relish. Decor and architectural design by Birmingham's Marc Therrien are new, more open and red/gold bright. But only 85 percent complete until mid-to-late December.

At its simplest, fusion cuisine refers to the blending of flavors created by the ancient technique of wok cooking. URC's Fusion takes them to the next level.

"Our concept goes beyond Asian," Prentice explained. "However, it will follow a healthy Asian diet with dishes that are about 60 percent carbohydrates, 30 percent vegetables and 10 percent protein. This reverses a traditional American diet that is about 60 percent protein, 20 percent carbohydrates and 20 percent vegetables."

Also of note - menu items are

**Fusion**  
Where: 34555 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, between Farmington and Drake Roads (248) 489-8852  
Hours: Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday until midnight, Saturday 5 p.m. to midnight, Sunday 3-9 p.m.  
Menu: Flavors of countries around the world are fused by stir-fry techniques creating a celebration of noodles, rice and America's comfort food, mashed potatoes.  
Cost: All items under \$10.  
Reservations: Accepted.  
Credit cards: All majors accepted.

all under \$10.

Prentice said "beyond Asian." True, but Asian oriented with serious dumplings and rolls such as steamed chicken and ginger shumai or vegetable and wild rice spring roll with orange duck sauce and hot mustard.

At Fusion you can have your mash, full-blooded American spuds, served up mini or mighty. Mini are appetizers, such as the creative Sweet Potato Mash with apple, chutney and candied pecans. Mighty versions are mega main dishes, all beyond Asian in concept. Comfort food at its lip-smacking best is Pepper Steak, slow-roasted brisket with onions, peppers and mushrooms over horseradish mash.

Among satays are tandoori chicken, but living in this state you have to try the Traverse City Special of apple cider marinated pork tenderloin with cherry BBQ and spicy mustard dipping sauces.

Prefer meatless? Go wild in the Fresh Vegetable Market! An all vegetable wok of choice with any of five sauces is \$7. Toppings such as stir-fried chicken or sirloin, seared shrimp, roasted salmon or great crispy duck can be added for \$3-6, depending on choice.

Included in the Oodles of Noodles department are stir-fried chicken in the Marco Polo;



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Dinner in a bowl: General Manager John Muster (left) and Chef Jason Jones at the newly opened Fusion where diners can choose from a variety of dishes that are served in a bowl.

seared shrimp and green chiles in Bancock Shrimp; Tenderloin Teriyaki; Crispy BBQ Duck; or Mushroom Madness with stir-fried shitake, crimini and oyster mushrooms with leeks, garlic, fettuccine and wild mushroom sauce.

If you agree that Rice is Nice, you can choose from just about any of the above and have it your way.

Kiddie bowls at \$5-6 feature spaghetti with tomato sauce, mac 'n cheese, chicken tenders and China bowl with crispy veg-

etables, rice and sesame-soy ginger sauce. All are served with soft drink and dessert.

Adults can choose from among four Sensational Sweets. Most unique is Mango-Ginger Creme Brulee. It's less custardy than the classic, but flavors are marvelous.

Orchestrating menu offerings created by Corporate Chef Jim Barnett is executive chef Jason Jones who climbed the URC kitchen ladder and was Executive Chef at Relish. Also out of the URC management talent

pool are General Manager John Muster and Dining Room Manager Danford Egnor who inspired the beer selections, \$3.50-4.50 in the Nuclear Fusion beverage department.

Arcs and Sparks are fusion cocktails including the G-Factor and a Neutrino. The Top Quark list of 25 wines from the Global Atomic Village are all available by the glass, \$5.50-\$9.50, or by the bottle at \$20-\$45. URC's wine director Madeline Triffon likes the Von Kesselstadt Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabi-

nett best with "the broad spectrum of food offerings."

We liked both the 1997 Villa Maria Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand and 1997 KVV Steen Chenin Blanc from South Africa with appetizers. Among reds our nod goes to 1996 La Famiglia di Robert Mondavi Barbera and 1996 Folie a Deux Old Vine Zinfandel.

Guaranteed all beverages, like many menu items are "beyond Asian," but with a fusion of delectable flavors.

## WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in What's Cooking to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, fax (248) 591-7279, or e-mail kwygonik@oe.homedm.net

■ **Chefs for Humanity** - On Sunday, Dec. 6 from 4-7 p.m. at the Kingsley Hotel & Suites in Bloomfield Hills, 1475 N. Woodward Ave., (just north of Long Lake Road), over 30 of Michi-

gan's top chefs will combine their talents to create and host Chefs for Humanity to raise money to aid in the relief for Honduran families ravaged by Hurricane Mitch.

Tickets are \$150 per person, call Unique Restaurant Corporation, (248) 646-0370 Ext. 219 or Tribute (248) 848-9393. Reservations are recommended. Participants include Schoolcraft College, Duet, and Steve & Rocky's. In addition to an award-winning

cuisine and wine selected and poured by Master Sommelier Madeline Triffon, patrons will include festive live music. Six of the world's finest French Champagne Houses will also participate. Patrons can savor the champagnes of Veuve Clicquot, Gosset, Taittinger, Piper Heidsieck, Perrier Jovet, and Moet et Chandon.

■ **Cafe Bon Homme Christmas Eve Special** - In addition

to its regular menu Cafe Bon Homme, 844 Penniman, Plymouth (734) 474-4800 will be featuring a special four-course dinner for two, \$100, exclusive of tax, tip and beverages. Dinner includes Foie Gras and pear appetizer; Raspberry Vinaigrette salad with toasted almonds and dried cranberries; Crown Rack of Lamb persillade; and Creme Brulee as a sweet ending.

■ **Archie's** - Check out the

renovations at Archie's, 30471 Plymouth Road, Livonia. The dining room is beautiful, and there's a new kitchen too. Restaurant hours are 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturdays, closed Sunday. Archie's will be open until 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Call (734) 625-2820 for information. See story next week in Entertainment.



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