

## 2000 ELECTION RESULTS

### The Canton Vote:

- George W. Bush - 4,551
- John McCain - 3,935 ✓
- Alan Keyes - 384

Unofficial vote totals.  
Vote totals are for Canton only.  
Check mark indicates statewide winner.

## IN THE PAPER TODAY

### AT HOME

**Getting wired:** WebTV can bring the Internet world into your home without the need to purchase an entire personal computer system. /D6

### ENTERTAINMENT

**Dance:** Gregory Reuter, a graduate of the Creative and Performing Arts program at Churchill High School in Livonia, is one of six principals in the cast of "Fosse" opening Tuesday, Feb. 29, at the Fisher Theater. /E1

**Popular music:** In a moment made for local music history, Vinnie Dombroski, Joey Mazzola, Robby Graham and Jimmy Paluzzi debuted as the newly formed *Crud*. /E1

### REAL ESTATE

**Tax slashing:** Home owners can take advantage of breaks that renters can't. /F1

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today's

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To place a classified ad: 734-591-0900



**Election Day:** Sammi Miller, 6, waves a pompon as Texas Gov. George W. Bush (left) speaks to supporters Tuesday at Summit on the Park in Canton.

## Canton voters buck state, go for Bush

### Rally at Summit caps off primary

BY SCOTT DANIEL  
STAFF WRITER  
sdaniel@oe.homecomm.net

Arizona Sen. John McCain's stunning upset of George W. Bush in Michigan's presidential primary Tuesday didn't come with the help of Canton voters.

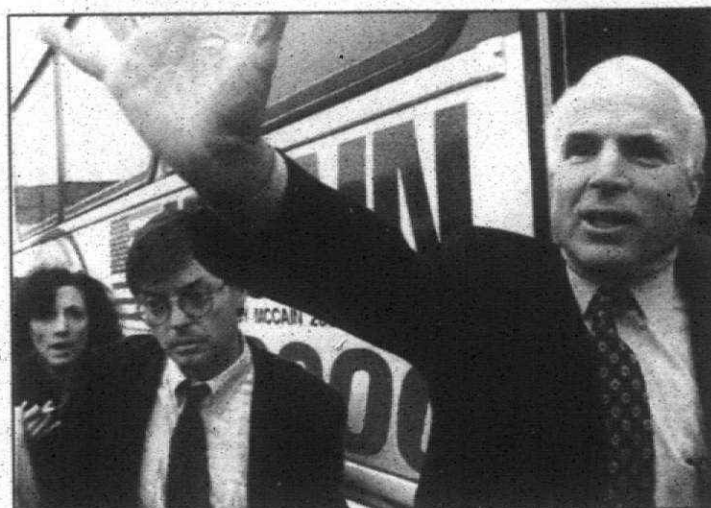
Bush captured 47 percent of ballots cast in the township while McCain garnered 41 percent. Radio commentator Alan Keyes finished a distant third at 4 percent.

#### More election coverage, A14

Statewide, voters favored McCain over Bush 50 to 43 percent. Keyes scored 5 percent of Michigan voters.

McCain told NBC News his opponent's style of campaigning may have effected the primary's outcome. "I think in Michigan there might have been a backlash against these

Please see PRIMARY, A3



**Ready to celebrate:** Sen. John McCain, the Michigan Republican primary winner, campaigns in Livonia Sunday.

## High school to memorialize '69 grad

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
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When the third Plymouth-Canton high school is ready in the summer of 2002, there will be a special area designated to honor students who have used true grit and determination to graduate and become productive members of

society.

Through the efforts of Plymouth Township resident Debbie Madonna, the area will be named in honor of 1969 graduate Sandra Sagar. Sagar, who passed away from complications from post-polio syndrome seven years ago, used her determination to battle polio and other adversities while

attending classes at Plymouth High School, which is now Central Middle School.

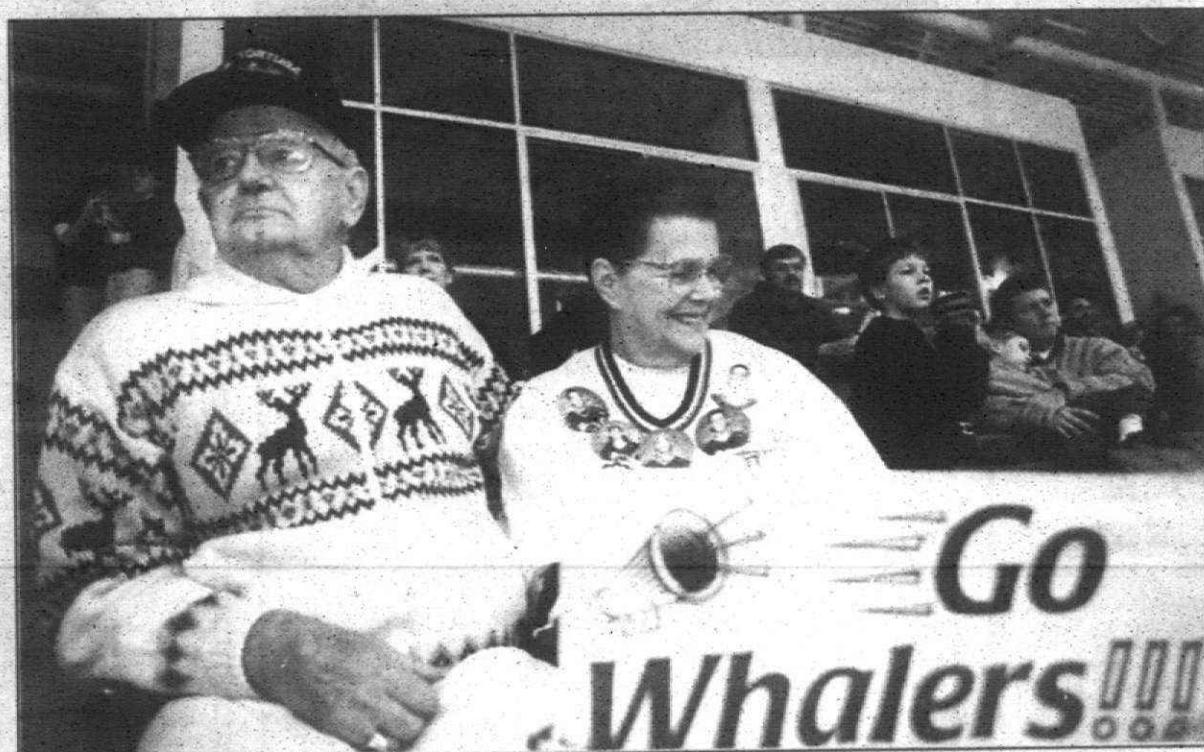
"She didn't go to public school until she was in the ninth grade, and she went through a lot to be able to remain in school," said Madonna. "There was no elevator at the time, and because she was on crutches she had to either

walk up the stair backwards to get to classes on the second floor, or sit down and scoot up each step. She did that every day for three years.

"But she never complained," added Madonna. "She was just happy to be able to go to school and graduate. She got a job as a secretary ... in which she

Please see SAGEAR, A7

### Hockey night in western Wayne County



**Whale of a good time:** Paul and Shirley Clapper of Canton watch the action Friday night as the Plymouth Whalers hosted the Sarnia Sting at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township. The local OHL team extended its winning streak to eight, and continue to hold the top spot in the conference. For a story and more photos from the evening, please turn to Page B8 in today's Observer.

## Taxable values up slightly

### ASSESSMENTS

SCOTT DANIEL  
STAFF WRITER  
sdaniel@oe.homecomm.net

Property owners can soon expect a "gift" from the township.

Assessments are nearly complete and will show up in mailboxes next week, according to Canton Chief Appraiser John McLenaghan.

He expects a 1.9 percent hike in taxable value for property owners. That change will be reflected starting with summer tax bills.

"Taxable value goes up by the cost of living or 5 percent," McLenaghan explained, "whichever is less."

Residents can fight the higher assessment at a Canton Board of Review hearing. The three-member board will hear cases next month.

"They need to have data to indicate why their property isn't worth what the assessment says," McLenaghan said. "You can't just go in there and

Please see ASSESSMENTS, A4

## Health Exploration Station now open to public

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM  
STAFF WRITER  
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A popular interactive health exhibit that has drawn 4,000 children since opening in September, 1999, will open its doors to the public beginning today.

Previously, St. Joseph Mercy's Health Exploration Station at the Canton Health Building was only open to school and Scout tours. The \$2 million, 3,500-square foot exhibit includes an oversized, walk-through model of the digestive tract and a variety of other interactive and classroom activities.

General public hours for the exhibit will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. the fourth Thursday of each month. Appointments will not be necessary and the

tours will be self-guided. Staff members will be on hand to answer questions.

The decision to open the exhibit to the public was prompted by demand - particularly from parents and chaperones asking if they could bring their families, said coordinator Cheryl McInerney.

"We have just been flushed with phone calls," she said. Visitors have come from as far away as Flint, Flat Rock, St. Clair Shores and Chelsea for the exhibit.

Visitors can listen to their own

### ST. JOSEPH MERCY

heartbeats on an amplified sound system in the fitness center while they test their balance, fitness and endurance. They can also take a nutrition quiz via computer, take "Jeopardy!" style tests about health issues and learn about the digestive system by crawling through a larger-than-life size version of it.

"There's nothing like being immersed in what you're learning," McInerney said.

A three-year capital campaign from corporate and individual sponsored netted \$1.7 million for the center.

"The community supported this endeavor - it benefits them to see where the donations went," McInerney said.

Classes began in May, 1999, and the grand opening was in October. It is one of only six such facilities nationwide and the only one in Michigan.

Instructor Gretchen Nachazel said the public hours will allow people to take in the exhibit as they see fit.

"You can go along at your own pace and see the different exhibits or go through it quickly," she said. "It's real self-explanatory."

Nachazel is one of four staff members and several volunteers working at

Please see HEALTH STATION, A4

# HomeTown News... it's all about you!

## Canton Observer

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# HomeTown News... it's all about you!

## Canton Observer

A HomeTown Communications Network™ publication  
794 South Main, Plymouth, MI 48170  
(Between Ann Arbor Rd. and Ann Arbor Tr., across from March Tire)

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Advertising published in the Canton Observer is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department. The Canton Observer reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer & Eccentric ad takes have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute that acceptance of the advertisement.

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# Report: Man assaults officer

A 31-year-old Brooklyn, Mich. man was cited for assault and battery and resisting arrest early Friday morning.

The incident occurred on Michigan Avenue near Canton Center Road, according to township police reports. A Pittsfield Township officer was in the process of transferring the Brooklyn man to a Westland officer.

Reports said the 31-year-old had an outstanding warrant from Westland. During the transfer, the man, who reports listed at 6-feet 2-inches tall and 225 pounds, became disorderly.

The Westland officer finally had to use pepper spray to bring the man under control. He was issued citations for assault and battery of an officer and resisting arrest by the Canton officer.

The Brooklyn man must now appear on those charges March 17 at 35th District Court in Plymouth.

Clubs stolen  
About \$350 worth of golf clubs were stolen from a Shana Street resident's garage recently.

A 25-year-old man reported the clubs missing Friday. He told police they had been stolen between Jan. 16 and Feb. 16. Reports said a garage door had been kicked in.

Police were able to recover one of the clubs, a King Cobra Driver, at a Canton business, according to reports.

Warrant arrest  
A 21-year-old Canton man was arrested Friday on numerous outstanding warrants.

Truck swiped  
A 36-year-old Canton man's truck was stolen from his home early Friday morning, reports said.

He was searching for his wallet in a bedroom when a male acquaintance ran out of his Carriage Cove Apartment, got in the truck and drove off, reports said.

The vehicle is described as a black 2000 Dodge Dakota truck. Reports didn't give a physical description of the acquaintance.

Canton Police are investigating the incident.

reports said. The man was in the process of moving into a new home on Hanford.

All of the equipment stolen was taken from his garage. He told police it was the second time in a recent month that it had been broken into.

As for Canton, the number of registered voters casting ballots more than doubled compared to 1996. A total of 10,023 participated in Tuesday's election while

negative ads," he said. Bush, meanwhile, sounded every part of the victor at a Summit on the Park noon rally. His Canton speech, which lasted about 15 minutes, focused on Democrats and the November general election.

"The mission," Bush said, "is to begin the beginning of the end of the Clinton-Gore era in Washington D.C."

"My message here today is to keep fighting the fight."

As for Canton, the number of registered voters casting ballots more than doubled compared to 1996. A total of 10,023 participated in Tuesday's election while

About 22 percent of the township's registered voters stopped at the polls Tuesday. That's up from 12 percent in 1996.

"We're delighted more people participated," Bennett said. "But we wish even more people would take part."

Turnout was light early. Precinct nine at Erikson Elementary had just 50 voters by 10:15 a.m. Precinct 18 at Field Elementary had 41 by that time.

"It usually picks up at lunch and after 5 p.m.," said Precinct 18 Chairman Greg King. "It's pretty steady from 5 p.m. on."

Voters had differing opinions on the candidates.

"We feel that Bush is as dumb as a bunch of rocks," said Angus Beaton.

He and his wife favored McCain.

"He's got much more character than Bush," Beaton said. "I could live with McCain being president."

While not revealing who he voted for, Ed Levitt said he liked Keyes.

"I was impressed with his ability to present his side of the issues," he commented. "He's very articulate."

No matter who wins the Republican nomination, Levitt thinks the general election will be close.

"I think it's wide open," he added. "I don't see anyone with great mass appeal that will come out way in front."

Amy Koller said her objective is to get Bill Clinton out of the White House. She believes the Arkansas Democrat has brought shame on the office.

"I think it's important to have a respectable leader for our president," Koller said.

Bush told local supporters he would be just that and more as 43rd president of the United States. He stressed the importance of education and family.

"Our most important job description is to be good mothers and good fathers," Bush said. "My message to America is to love your children with all of your heart, all your soul and all your might."

Children must have an excellent education to succeed, Bush added.

"Give me a chance to raise the bar when it comes to education," he said to a gathering of about 200. "I want an educational system that never quits on a child. There are no second-rate children and no second-rate dreams."

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# Primary from page A1

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Sheer radiance. From Cherra B. Evening by Sherrie Bloom and Peter Novelli. Imported. Sizes 4-12. Magnificent sheer tulle with delicate embroidery, beading and trims, trims all around. Ivory, silk organza. \$385. Underwear: A shimmering slip dress in stretch silk. Starting at \$240. In Dressing Room.

an author's take Here are some memoirs available at the library.

"Are You Somebody?" by Nuala O'Faolain  
"The Road from Coorin" by Jill Kerr Conway  
"The Liar's Club" by Mary Karr  
"The Color of Water" by James McBride  
"Tis" by Frank McCourt

Hot topic of the week  
Peace Corps founded! March is dedicated to the official establishment of the Peace Corps by President John F. Kennedy's signing of an executive order on March 1, 1961. The Peace Corps has sent more than 152,000 volunteers to 134 countries to help people help themselves. The volunteers assist in projects such as health, education, water sanitation, agriculture, nutrition and forestry. For more information, visit the corps Web site at: www.peacecorps.gov

@ the Canton Public Library  
Check out these Web sites:  
www.theroyalsoap.com  
www.waterworks.net  
www.AmericanHomeDecorating.com  
www.hpj.org

Q & A  
Q: When was the first toothbrush used?  
A: The first toothbrush used in ancient Egypt in 3000 B.C. was the "chew stick," a pencil-sized twig with one end frayed to a soft, fibrous condition. Chew sticks were initially rubbed against the teeth with no additional abrasive such as toothpaste. The first bristle toothbrush, similar to today's, originated in China about 1498. The bristles, hand plucked from the backs of the necks of hogs living in the coldest climates of Siberia and China, were fastened onto handles of bamboo or bone. Siberian hogs provided bristles for toothbrushes until the introduction of nylon in 1938.

The source for this information is "Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things."

Fairy tales for teens  
Here are some selections that borrow on tradition:  
"Frog Princess of Pelham" by Ellen Conford  
"Crazy Jack" by Donna Jo Napoli  
"Rose Daughter" by Robin

# Relay for Life kickoff event is March 6

The Plymouth/Canton Relay for Life Planning Committee and the American Cancer Society are extending public invitations to attend the Relay For Life Kick-off reception at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 6, at the Summit on the Park Banquet Center, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Refreshments will be served at 6 p.m.

On May 20 and 21, the Plymouth and Canton communities

host the American Cancer Society's 24-hour Relay For Life at Heritage Park in Canton. With over 2,500 events held around the country last year, Relay For Life is more than the American Cancer Society's signature event, it is a movement sweeping the nation.

Relay For Life has touched thousands of people across the country and raised over \$120 million to support cancer research and American Cancer Society prevention, education and support groups, American Cancer Society officials said.

At Relay For Life an entire community comes together for the purpose of celebrating those who are winning their fight against cancer and to pay tribute to those who have lost the fight. Relay For Life is about a community that takes up the fight against cancer, officials said. This fund-raising event is a 24-hour team-walk event. Interested participants put together teams of 12 or more people, raise funds and enjoy the festivities on May 20-21.

Please R.S.V.P. by Feb. 25 for the kick-off reception by calling Rosemary Andrews at (248) 483-4333. You can also respond by visiting their web site at www.cantonrelayforlife.com and e-mailing your RSVP.

# College scholarships available for cancer survivors

College scholarships for young cancer survivors are now available for the fall 2000 school year.

Through a special program offered by the American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division

Inc., scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded to a qualified group of young cancer survivors from Indiana and Michigan to help them achieve their goals of higher education.

Applicants for this year's award will be accepted through 5 p.m. April 14.

The scholarships for graduate or undergraduate degrees at any accredited Michigan or Indiana college or university will be awarded based on need to qualified Michigan and Indiana residents who have had a diagnosis of cancer before the age of 21.

Applicants must also be under 21 at the time of application. Applications must be submitted to the American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division at 1205 Saginaw, Lansing, MI 48906 by April 14. The application process includes submission of letters of recommendation, a 500-word essay, a copy of academic grades 9-12, SAT and/or ACT scores and financial information. To request a scholarship application packet, call the American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division, at 1-800-723-0360.

When skills and confidence improve, grades are sure to follow.

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When: February 28th at 1:00 & 7:30 PM Why? To share helpful information and techniques to help motivate students and get them excited about learning.

Other Area Sylvan Center: 37727 Professional Center Dr., Suite 130, Livonia, MI 48154, (734) 462-1132.

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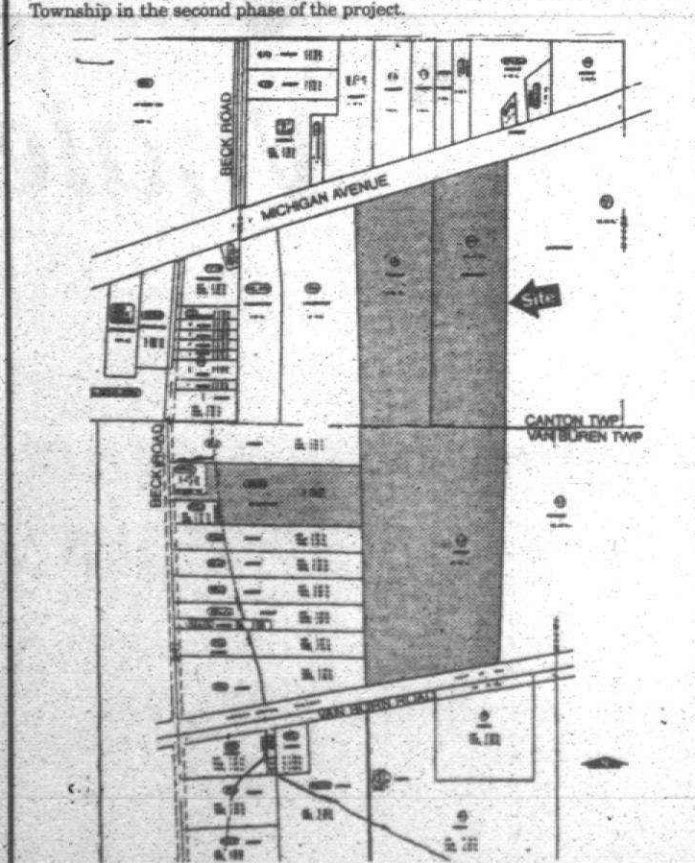
www.educate.com  
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# CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

REQUEST FOR VARIANCE FROM THE CONDOMINIUM ORDINANCE NO. 138 OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Condominium Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton, that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 6, 2000 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. to consider the request by the petitioner to permit the following proposed variance to the Condominium Ordinance for the project known as QUADRANT INDUSTRIAL CENTER, located on the south side of Michigan Avenue between Belleville and Beck Roads.

The petitioner has requested a variance pursuant to Article 4, Design Standards; Section 4.1A.4, Streets and Alleys; Cul-de-sacs; to increase the maximum cul-de-sac length from 1,000 feet to 1,597 feet. The variance would be a temporary resolution until the road is extended into Van Buren Township in the second phase of the project.



Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, March 2, 2000 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Published February 24, 2000

### SHURGARD OF CANTON

Notice is hereby given that the following unit(s) will be sold to the highest bidder by open auction on March 31, 2000 at approximately 9:30 am at Shurgard Storage located at 2101 Haggerty Road, Canton, MI 48187. (313) 981-0300.

UNIT #4223 - ESTEL LANE - Couch, tires, misc. boxes, bike and tables.  
UNIT #4226 - JERRY PITCOCK - Tool box, misc. tools, satellite dish.  
UNIT #5028 - GARY TILLEY - Office furniture, lockers.  
UNIT #5201 - RUTH WALKER - Misc. boxes, clock, clothes hanger, chair.  
UNIT #6036 - KENNETH SHEPPER - Car parts, books, misc. boxes, tires.  
UNIT #6241 - WILLIAM YOUNG - Dining room table, speakers, books, VCR.

Published: February 24 and 27, 2000

### Physical Therapy

Hands On Center  
Presented by Hands On Center For Physical Therapy  
PROPRIOCEPTION

When you sprain an ankle, rehabilitation should include steps to retrain proprioceptors, which enable the body to know where it is in time and space. Proprioception relies on key nerves that relay information to the brain, enabling it to make an infinite number of calculations to ensure that the foot lands properly on the ground. An ankle sprain damages these nerves, which invites future sprains. Unless the proprioceptors are retrained, they will not help muscles "scent" a twisted ankle if the ankle is about to hurt. This is why the most common reason for getting a sprained ankle is already having had one. To break this vicious cycle, physical therapists look to retrain the body's proprioceptors through balance work.

At the HANDS ON CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY, we are committed to providing patient education, as well as hands on treatment, to prevent re-injury and enhance posture, body mechanics, and workplace readjustment. We offer a wide range of manual therapies and modalities such as ultrasound, hot and cold packs, and electrical muscle stimulation (EMS), as well as massage therapy. You'll find our state-of-the-art facilities located in Plymouth at 470 Forest Avenue, Suite 2B. To learn more, call 453-4878, early morning and evening treatment hours available.

P.S. The vast majority of ankle sprains are inversion sprains, in which the foot turns inward and injury occurs to ligaments on the outside of the ankle.

John Conwell, PT  
Scott Schickel, PT  
Paul Schickel, PT

### SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR PET

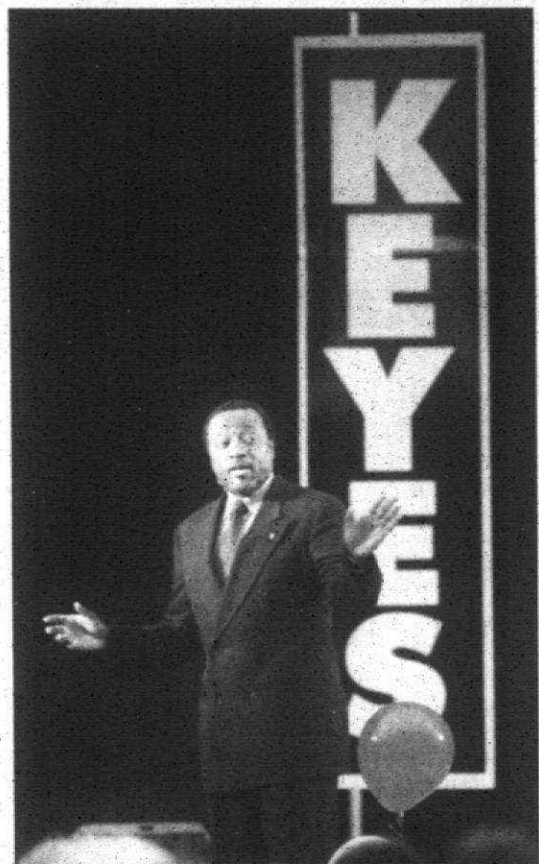
Veterinary Notes  
by Elizabeth Routson, D.V.M.

### CANINE PARVOVIRUS

Canine parvovirus, commonly known as parvo, usually attacks a dog's intestinal tract. In rare cases, it can affect the heart. An extremely heavy virus that can survive in the environment for months, parvo is transmitted through the feces and vomit of infected dogs and puppies. Puppies between six and 12 weeks old are the most common victims of parvo, and puppies up to four months old are at risk of catching it. Puppies get very ill with the virus and can die within days of showing symptoms. Initial symptoms are depression, appetite loss, vomiting, and severe diarrhea. Feces may be yellow gray or streaked with blood. Older and dogs show only mild symptoms and recover from the infection.

To learn more about preventing parvo and other canine illnesses, please contact PARKWAY VETERINARY CLINIC. We provide comprehensive medical care for pets, including surgery, dental care, and boarding. We treat all our patients like family, and our knowledgeable staff will take the time to answer all your questions about any recommended treatments. Visit either of our two locations at 41395 Wilcox Rd. in Plymouth, Tel. 734-453-2577, or 5750 Lilley Rd. in Canton, Tel. 734-961-4400, open six days a week.

P.S. Puppies must be repeatedly vaccinated to protect against parvovirus and should be kept away from other dogs' feces.



Distant third: Alan Keyes campaigning in Livonia last weekend. Keyes finished third in Canton and statewide.

# High school name choice moving toward finish line

By TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net

The Plymouth-Canton school board, at its March 14 meeting, will give a short list of names to consider for the third high school at "The Park."

Thus far board members have received nearly two dozen suggestions for naming the new high school. Trustees want to have a name in place before groundbreaking, which is expected some time this summer.

The long list of suggested names includes Beck High School, Kent and Lolly Buikema High School, Cherry Hill High

School, Harmony High School, IQ High School, PCEP Plymouth High School, PCS-West (for Plymouth/Canton/Salem), Plymouth High School, Plymouth-Canton West, Plymouth-Centurion High School, Plymouth-Community High School, Plymouth-Superior High School, Plymouth-Western High School, Salem High School,

McKinley  
"Just Ella" by Margaret Peterson-Haddix  
"The Fairy's Mistake" by Gail Carson-Levine

An author's take  
Here are some memoirs available at the library.

"Are You Somebody?" by Nuala O'Faolain  
"The Road from Coorin" by Jill Kerr Conway  
"The Liar's Club" by Mary Karr  
"The Color of Water" by James McBride  
"Tis" by Frank McCourt

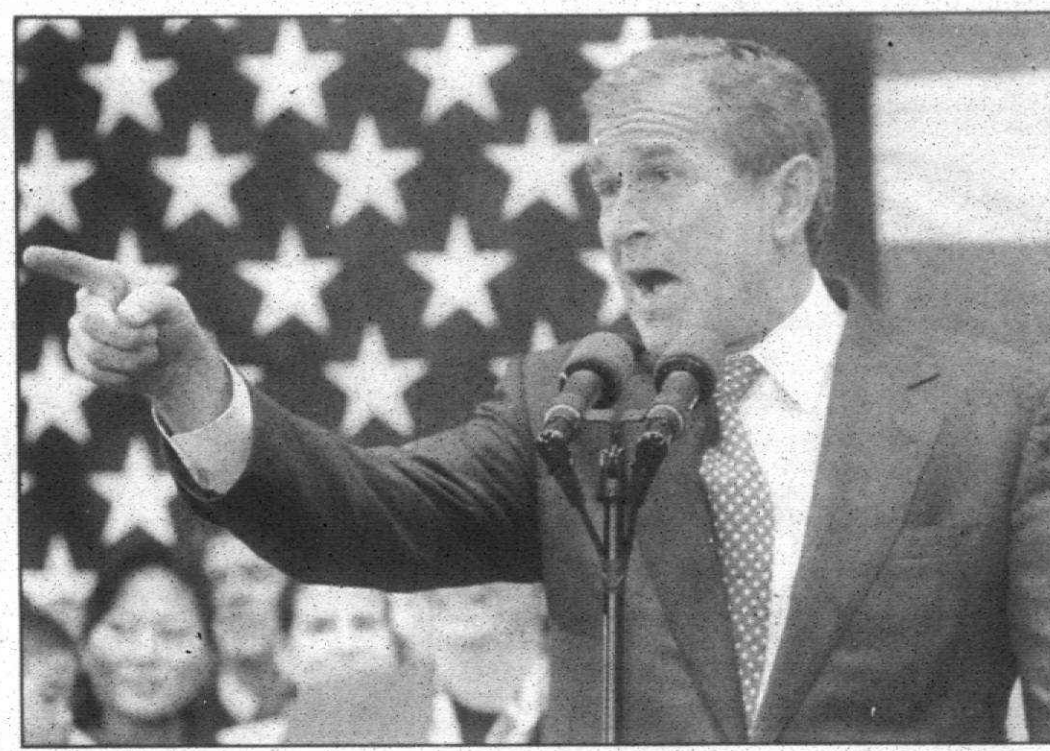
Hot topic of the week  
Peace Corps founded! March is dedicated to the official establishment of the Peace Corps by President John F. Kennedy's signing of an executive order on March 1, 1961. The Peace Corps has sent more than 152,000 volunteers to 134 countries to help people help themselves. The volunteers assist in projects such as health, education, water sanitation, agriculture, nutrition and forestry. For more information, visit the corps Web site at: www.peacecorps.gov

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Check out these Web sites:  
www.theroyalsoap.com  
www.waterworks.net  
www.AmericanHomeDecorating.com  
www.hpj.org

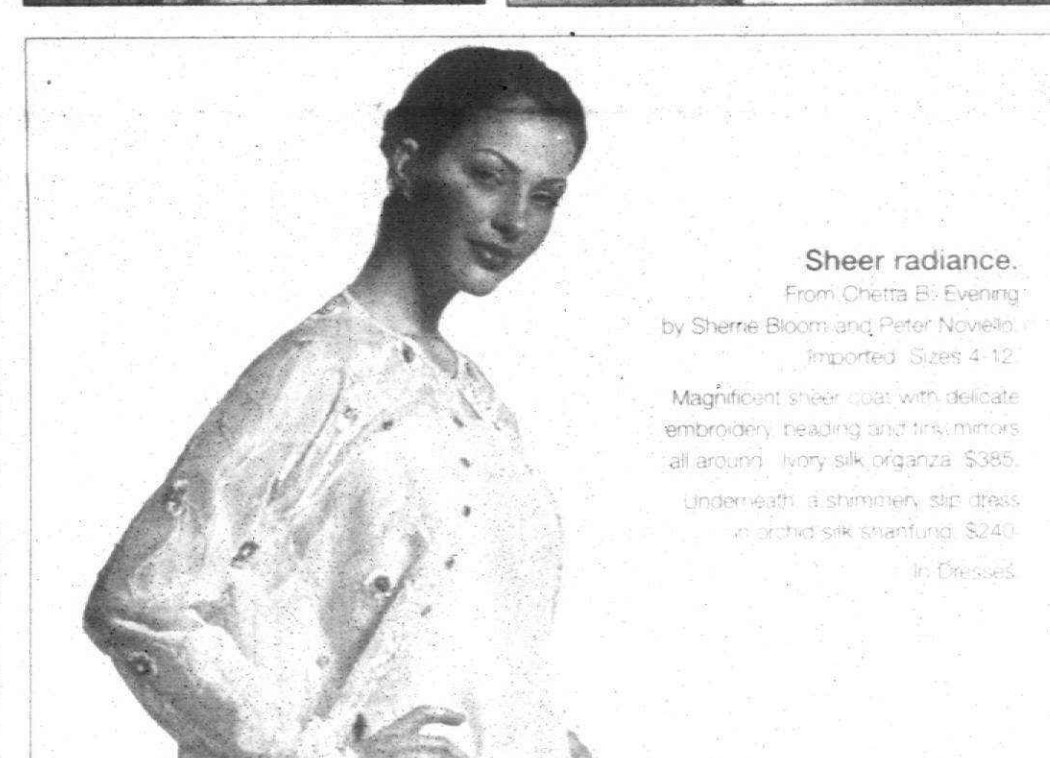
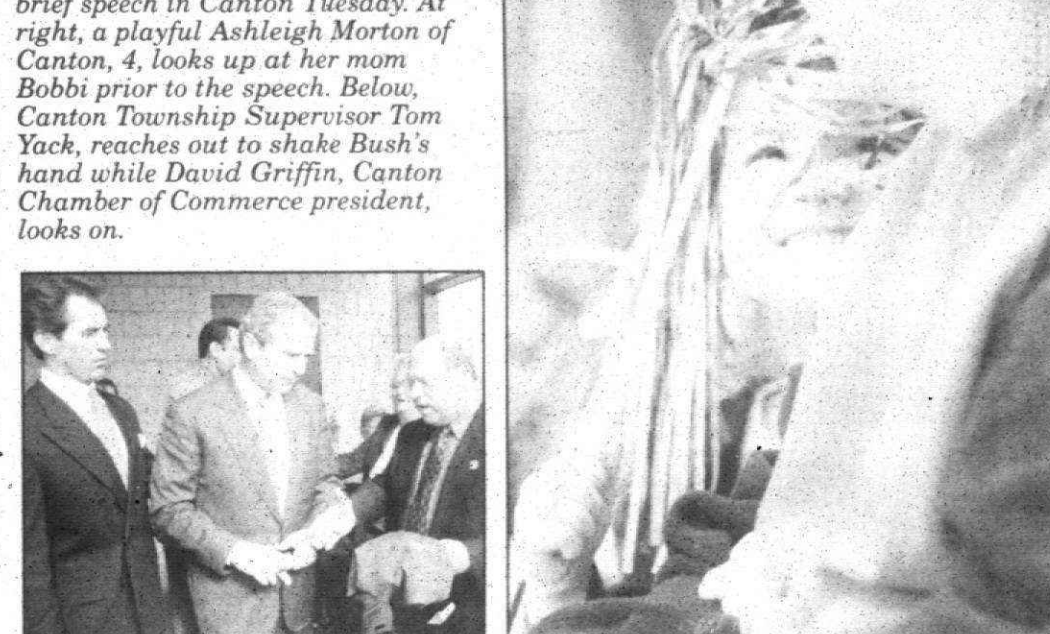
Q & A  
Q: When was the first toothbrush used?  
A: The first toothbrush used in ancient Egypt in 3000 B.C. was the "chew stick," a pencil-sized twig with one end frayed to a soft, fibrous condition. Chew sticks were initially rubbed against the teeth with no additional abrasive such as toothpaste. The first bristle toothbrush, similar to today's, originated in China about 1498. The bristles, hand plucked from the backs of the necks of hogs living in the coldest climates of Siberia and China, were fastened onto handles of bamboo or bone. Siberian hogs provided bristles for toothbrushes until the introduction of nylon in 1938.

The source for this information is "Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things."

Fairy tales for teens  
Here are some selections that borrow on tradition:  
"Frog Princess of Pelham" by Ellen Conford  
"Crazy Jack" by Donna Jo Napoli  
"Rose Daughter" by Robin



Enthusiastic: Texas governor and Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush gestures during his brief speech in Canton Tuesday. At right, a playful Ashleigh Morton of Canton, 4, looks up at her mom Bobbi prior to the speech. Below, Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack, reaches out to shake Bush's hand while David Griffin, Canton Chamber of Commerce president, looks on.



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OBITUARIES

LEMBI S. BAKER
Services for Lembi S. Baker, 89, of Plymouth were held Feb. 19 at the Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth, with Jerry Yarnell officiating.

CLARENCE J. HOLMAN
Services for Clarence J. Holman, 87, of Plymouth were held Feb. 18 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth, with the Rev. J.J. Mech officiating.

He was born Sept. 29, 1912, in Detroit and died Feb. 16 in Livonia. He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, the Plymouth Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Plymouth Knights of Columbus and the Plymouth Goodfellows.

He was preceded in death by his two brothers, Joseph and Walter, and one sister, Dorothy. Survivors include his wife, Catherine Holman of Plymouth; three brothers, John Holman of South Lyon, Robert Holman of South Lyon and Charles Holman of Webberville; and one sister, Leona Schomberger of Plymouth.

Services for Willie B. Pinion, 76, of Westland (formerly of Plymouth) were held Feb. 19 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth with the Rev. James Trump Sr. officiating.

He was born Sept. 4, 1923 in Obion County, Tenn. He died Feb. 17 in Livonia. He was a factory worker. He came to the Westland community in 1963 from Plymouth.

Services for Sadie C. McCrary, 88, of Westland (formerly of Plymouth Township) were held Feb. 19 at the Vermeulen Funeral Home, Plymouth Township with the Rev. David Martin officiating.

She was preceded in death by 10 brothers and sisters. Survivors include her daughter, Sandra Mathis of Georgetown, Texas; and six grandchildren, Brenda McKeehan, Deborah Hosch of Plymouth, David Anderson, James Mathis, Kathryn Bracamontez and Joseph Mathis.

Services for Shirley Mae Bassett, 64, of Wayne were Jan. 4 at Uht Funeral Home with the Rev. David Dahlberg officiating.

Schroeder, Floyd Schroeder, Geri Pierce; one sister, Dorothy Perkins; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services for Donald Frank Gottschalk, 69, of Plymouth were held Feb. 24 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church with the Rev. Jack Quinlan officiating.

He was born March 1, 1930 in Plymouth. He died Feb. 21 in Plymouth. He was a building contractor. He started his business in 1958 doing contracting work in the Plymouth community.

Services for Elizabeth M. "Bessie" Foerster, 81, of Salem Township were held Feb. 2 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth with Pastor Drex Morton officiating.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Norman Foerster Sr.; and her parents, William and Hannah Porter. Survivors include her four children, Patricia (Harry) Detweiler of Calif., Mary L. Rudd of Ann Arbor, Sandra (Clinton) Hoard of Gregory, Mich., and Norman Jr. (Lois) of Hamburg, Mich.; two brothers, Ray Porter of Manchester, Mich., and Tom Porter of Gregory, Mich.; three sisters, Marion (Irvine) Rummel of Detroit, Mich., Gertrude Eisele of Manchester and Connie (Edwin)

Services for Carol Jean Cole, 61, of Allen Park were Feb. 24 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church with the Rev. Jack Quinlan officiating.

Services for Geraldine Jasewicz, 69, of Westland were held Feb. 23 at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Canton with Deacon Joe Daratory from Resurrection Church in Canton officiating.

Services for Brian Patrick Dempsey, 28, of Westland were held Feb. 23 at St. Damian Catholic Church, Westland with the Rev. Lawrence Zurawski officiating.

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Assessments from page A1

The way assessments are done in Michigan changed in 1994. Prior to then, assessments were based on market value of the property. If a home was assessed at \$200,000, for example, taxes would be collected on 50 percent of that value.

When a home changes hands, the assessed value becomes the new benchmark for taxable value, said McLenaghan. As a result, new owners often find themselves paying higher taxes, he added.

For school and scout groups, the customized presentations are age-appropriate for pre-schoolers through 12th graders. Each 90 minute visit includes a 40- to 60-minute classroom presentation.

The Michigan Community Service Commission recently announced the availability of applications for the Michigan Youth Progressive Action Council. The MYPAC promotes youth volunteer service throughout the State of Michigan and provided youth voice to the MSCS.

Selected through a competitive peer review process. To obtain a copy of the application visit the NCSC web site at www.state.mi.us/carrer/mcsc or call (517) 373-4200.

Jumping for a good cause



Jumping for Joy: Bird Elementary third-graders Aaron Ashton, 8 (from left) Bennett Ogg, 8, Aki Hamamoto, 9 and Emily Meade, 8, participate in the "Jump Rope for Heart" event Thursday in the school's gymnasium while a kindergarten physical education class watches.



Jumping for Joy: Bird Elementary third-graders Aaron Ashton, 8 (from left) Bennett Ogg, 8, Aki Hamamoto, 9 and Emily Meade, 8, participate in the "Jump Rope for Heart" event Thursday in the school's gymnasium while a kindergarten physical education class watches.

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# Mayflower project rising fast

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
STAFF WRITER  
tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net

If all goes well, the new Mayflower Centre will possess the same kind of enthusiasm for downtown Plymouth as its predecessor, the Mayflower Hotel, once had.

"We want this to be a lively, energetic center that will be a focal point for the community," said Bob D'Alexander, director of marketing and public relations for Tri-Mount Vincenti Companies, developer of the downtown project.

The final picture of what the Mayflower Centre will look like is a bit more clear, even as crews continue construction at Main Street and Ann Arbor Trail. If all goes according to plan, the Mayflower Centre will be open sometime late this year or January 2001.

D'Alexander said he's been getting calls on a daily basis

asking about availability for the 13,000 square feet of retail space on the first floor. That doesn't include the 4,000 square feet set aside for a restaurant and the 6,000 square feet for New Liberty Bank, which is currently Peoples State Bank.

"We're looking at possibly seven or eight retailers, depending on how the space is divided," said D'Alexander. "Starbucks calls us daily. We also have restaurants and retailers from the local area that want to be part of it."

"We want a lively mix of businesses that occupy this building," he added. "We want businesses that are selling goods, not so much those selling services, to keep people downtown."

The second floor, all 22,000 square feet of it, will be office space.

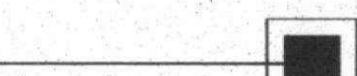
"We don't want businesses that come and go, so we're shooting for leases of more than five years," said D'Alexander. "We want those who plan to establish themselves here and be long term."

D'Alexander smiled when he proclaimed "the third floor is going to be gorgeous."

"There will be 11 condominiums, each of which are two-level condos," he said. "While final costs have yet to be determined, you're talking between \$500,000 and a million dollars, and that doesn't include the options like flooring, cabinets or anything else."

Ron Failing of Plymouth has his name on the list for one of those condos, which are averaging nearly 2,400 square feet on the lower level and 1,000 square feet on the top floor. He's excited about the possibility of living downtown.

"Everything would be convenient to me... restaurants, coffee houses and everything else," said Failing. "With all the cur-



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# Rotary's bear gifts help ease kids' fears

BY SCOTT DANIEL  
STAFF WRITER  
sdaniel@oe.homecomm.net



Bear program: Stuffed animals like this one can help calm children on their way to the hospital, experts say.

An ambulance ride is scary for most adults, let alone a small child.

With that thought in mind, Canton's Rotary Club is continuing its "Teddy Bear" program. The service organization stocks township EMS vehicles and police squad cars with stuffed animals for children caught in unfortunate circumstances.

According to Canton Paramedic and Firefighter John Bartle, the program really works.

"It calms the kids down," he said. "It gets their mind off of their injury."

The program costs the Rotary \$500-\$600 each year. The club occasionally gets help from local businesses in purchasing the animals, said Ramsey.

"It has been rewarding to us," he said of the program. "It has worked out very well."

Bartle echoed Ramsey's statement.

He said he has handed out 15-20 stuffed animals since the program began.

"We usually have the kids name them right there," Bartle explained. "It's a good tool to get their minds off of how scared they are. Parents really appreciate it, too."

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These are nice-sized animals," he added. "We get something very nice and very soft."

### BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS MEETING NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

A regular meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals will be held on Thursday, March 2, 2000 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following items:

- Z-00-01 413 N. Harvey Non-Use Variance Requested: Side Yard & Rear Yard Setback Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential Applicant: John & Maryann Hammill
- Z-00-02 172 N. Mill Non-Use Variance Requested: Lot Split - Width & Square Footage Zoned: RM-1, Multiple Family Residential Applicant: Kathleen Boileau-Hodges
- Z-00-03 510 Irvin Non-Use Variance Requested: Side Yard Setback - Addition Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential Applicant: Michael & Kathleen Blake
- Z-00-04 365 Maple Non-Use Variance Requested: Side Yard Setback-Detached Garage Zoned: R-1, Single Family Residential Applicant: Lawrence Franks
- Z-00-05 155 S. Main Non-Use Variance Requested: Front Yard & Rear Yard Setbacks - Addition Zoned: O-1, Office Applicant: Plymouth Historical Society

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

CAROL STONE, ADA Coordinator

201 S. Main Street  
Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

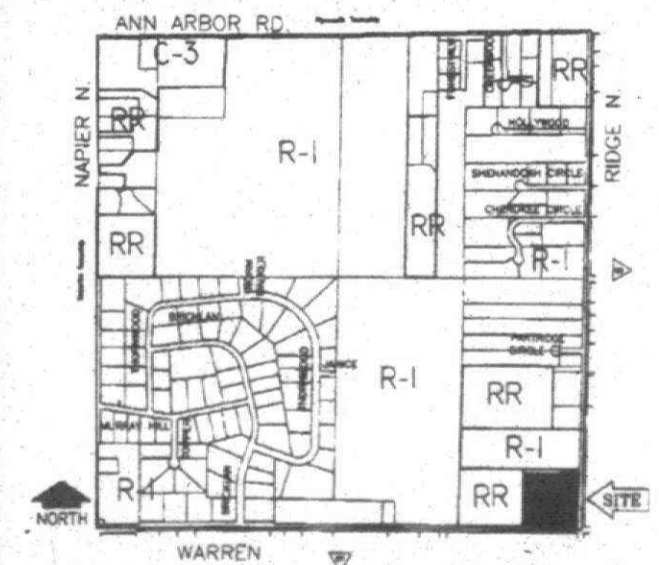
All interested persons are invited to attend.

Published: February 24, 2000

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

PURSUANT TO SECTION 27.03 OF THE CANTON TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AT THEIR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2000, REFERRED THE FOLLOWING REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL BACK TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO REVIEW ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND CHANGES TO THE ORIGINAL PLAN SUBMITTED BY THE PETITIONER:

CANTON CHARTER ACADEMY SPECIAL LAND USE - RECONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 11.02B.4 FOR PARCEL NOS. 024 99 0008 000 AND 024 99 0009 702. Property is located on the northwest corner of Ridge and Warren Roads.



The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 28, 2000 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

The revised information is available for public inspection in Planning Services at the above address.

Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the above address prior to Thursday, February 24, 2000 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Published: February 24 and 24, 2000

# Hockey parents miffed over district penalty

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER  
loconnor@oe.homecomm.net

"Some high school hockey parents are still whistling discontent over the penalty handed out to their sons by the Livonia school board."

Two Stevenson High parents charge that Superintendent Ken Watson was too severe when he suspended the remainder of the regular season after a post-game brawl broke out between Stevenson and Churchill teams Feb. 4.

Both teams are expected to return to the state playoffs that start March 1, a district official said.

The damage has already been done, a parent said during Monday's regular Livonia school board meeting.

"You impacted the players at the worst time of the season," said Chuck Nebus, whose son, Mark, is captain of the Stevenson High team. "There was one university, one college and one junior scout who were going to attend these final games."

"These boys were denied the opportunity to play before these people."

Nebus' son was the league's leading scorer and the state's top point-getter before the team's suspension.

"You cost this young man here an opportunity for college opportunities and also scoring titles, things he had worked for," Nebus said.

Another parent disagreed with district officials that the combatants couldn't be identified.

David Marlowe said he also viewed the videotape.

"Frankly, I must have a different copy of the game (tape) and the unfortunate incident during the handshake," Marlowe said. "The tape clearly shows the individuals involved."

School administrators said that the inability to pick out individuals was the reason both teams were punished, instead of certain players being suspended.

Nebus said the video can be freeze-framed to show 10 players who didn't take part in the melees.

Stevenson High was unfairly

punished since the team couldn't play the last five regular season games, including a tournament in Kentwood, Mich, Nebus continued. Churchill missed four games.

By punishing those not involved, the wrong message is sent, Nebus said.

"A lot of boys didn't participate and they're being 'Gez, I guess I should've done something,'" Nebus said.

Nebus and Marlowe also registered concern about high school hockey being dropped altogether.

Those rumblings have been at the state level, Watson said.

"We have not discussed it locally," he said.

The school chief said he expects the district high school hockey program to return and "be effective at the interscholastic level."

The school chief added that building administrators support hockey. As to rumors to the contrary, "nothing could be further from the truth," he said.

Watson declined to talk further on the matter.

## Sagear from A1

got paid less than others because she had less mobility. But, again, she didn't complain.

A seven-member committee, which will include Madonna, will select a Plymouth-Canton graduate each spring to be honored in the designated area, which is expected to be a wall in a prominent part of the new school.

According to the criteria, the Plymouth-Canton graduate "must have displayed courage, perseverance, focus, etc., rising above life's adversities to graduate and become a contributing member of society."

"It allows us to honor one person each year, and sets them up as an example," said Madonna. "And, it allows us to pick from the entire student body."

"We want to make sure we tell the story of each individual person, and will help us remember what we're grateful for," she added. "Kids are still teased for being different. We need to make sure we don't allow that to happen anymore."

Plymouth resident Jerry Trumpka is also a member of the committee which will choose a student to honor.

Trumpka, a polio victim himself, is a member of the Plymouth AM Rotary Club. Rotary's goal is to immunize all children in the world against polio, and is hoping its \$500-million effort will successfully do so by the year 2005, Rotary's 100th anniversary.

"So, the story of Sagear and her fight against polio and society hits home."

"Sandra grew up, like I did, during a time when there wasn't an Americans With Disabilities Act, so she had to go through a lot to get an education," said Trumpka. "She suffered many indignities, which we wouldn't tolerate today."

"Sandra is a person who fought against the odds to become a success, had real goals and became a productive member of society."

Trumpka's Rotary Club will give a scholarship in connection with each year's award.

"Whether it be a physical or mental disability, we want to honor those who have the courage to face adversity," said Trumpka. "We want to make this a positive for everybody."

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WSDP marks 28th birthday

Rob Milford called Monday to wish the WSDP staff a Happy 28th Birthday.

"Who better to call? Milford was on the station's staff when it signed on Feb. 14, 1972."

Under the leadership of Bonnie Dore, former general manager of WSDP, the student staff began planning the station almost two years before its arrival. According to Milford, the time leading up to the sign-on date was very big.

"The rooms were there and then the equipment was delivered in the fall of 1971," he recalled. "The engineers were plugging it in and then they put the tower on the roof, the little red light started flashing and the excitement was just tremendous."

The station signed on at noon with a mission of training students in broadcasting and serving the Plymouth-Canton community. Milford said people like Dore, former Salem principal Bill Brown and former superintendent John Hoben deserve great credit for their vision.

"They bought into it and said 'This could be exciting, this could be educational as well,' and I think their guess back in the early 1970's has paid off," Milford said.

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  - Bostonian, Stride Rite, Napier,
  - Buster Brown, Duck Head,
  - PK Clothing, Parisian Kids,
  - Parisian Bebé, Richelieu,
  - Hathaway, Woods & Gray,
  - IZOD, Perry Ellis Portfolio,
  - Savane, Ocean Pacific,
  - Hydraulics, Preswick & Moore,
  - Finity Naturals, Finity Studio,
  - August Silk, Maggy London,
  - Parisian Signature, Kasper,
  - Jeanne Pierre and Joseph A

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<b>60% off</b> "Kalpa" shoes from Unisa. Reg. 70.00, sale 28.00.	<b>50% off</b> Famous-maker microfiber ultrasuede pant. Reg. 60.00, sale 29.99.	<b>50% off</b> Bras from Diga and Maidenform. Reg. 25.00-28.00, sale 12.50-14.00.	<b>50% off</b> Ocean Pacific® for boys 4-20 and Buster Brown® for toddlers and boys 4-7. Reg. 14.00-36.00, sale 7.00-18.00.
<b>50% off</b> Parisian Signature sportswear for misses, petites and Parisian Woman. Reg. 42.00-136.00, sale 21.00-68.00. SELECTIVE NAMES BY STORE.	<b>50% off</b> Five pair cubic zirconia earrings in a box. Reg. 60.00	<b>sale 49.99</b> Assorted dresses for misses and petites. Reg. 58.00-88.00.	<b>sale 19.99</b> Juniors' denim jeans from Mudd, I.e. and Hydraulic. Reg. 38.00-44.00.

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# Plymouth company erects Midfield Terminal frame

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



A Plymouth Township firm has a weighty role in the new construction at Detroit Metro Airport - 30 million pounds worth, to be exact.

That's how much structural steel - more than 15,000 tons - National Riggers & Erectors Inc. needs to assemble the framework of the milelong Midfield Terminal.

"More than a mile, actually, over 5,600 feet long," corrects Bob Dunn, company president and chief executive officer, in discussing the terminal project, which includes a retail mall, underground tram and 74-gate passenger concourses, all scheduled to open December 2001.

It's the biggest project National has ever handled by itself - some 200,000 man-hours, says Dunn - and the company has no intention of missing the August 2000 deadline.

Although the \$14-million contract has "a very expensive non-completion penalty" for tardiness, there's more to it than that: National has a national reputation to uphold.

It's been ranked among the top five steel-rigging firms in dollar-volume of business by *Engineering News Record* magazine since 1993 and counts General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, Toyota and Honda and aircraft manufacturer Boeing as its customers, both locally and nationally.

In addition to Northwest Airlines' Midfield project, National and its predecessor, General Riggers & Erectors of Detroit, have participated in or handled solo such other top local projects as the steelwork for the baseball Tigers' new Detroit home and, some years ago, the expansion of Cobo Hall.

The \$4.5-million Comerica Park project saw National managing the steelwork for Hamburg-based Ideal Steel, a minority firm, according to Dunn.

## Largest to date

Its largest project to date overall was a \$32-million steel mill

job in southern Indiana for an Ohio firm, AK Steel. "We had the electrical and siding subcontractors, also the roofing subs," says Dunn. "We were the general (contractor) for about half the job."

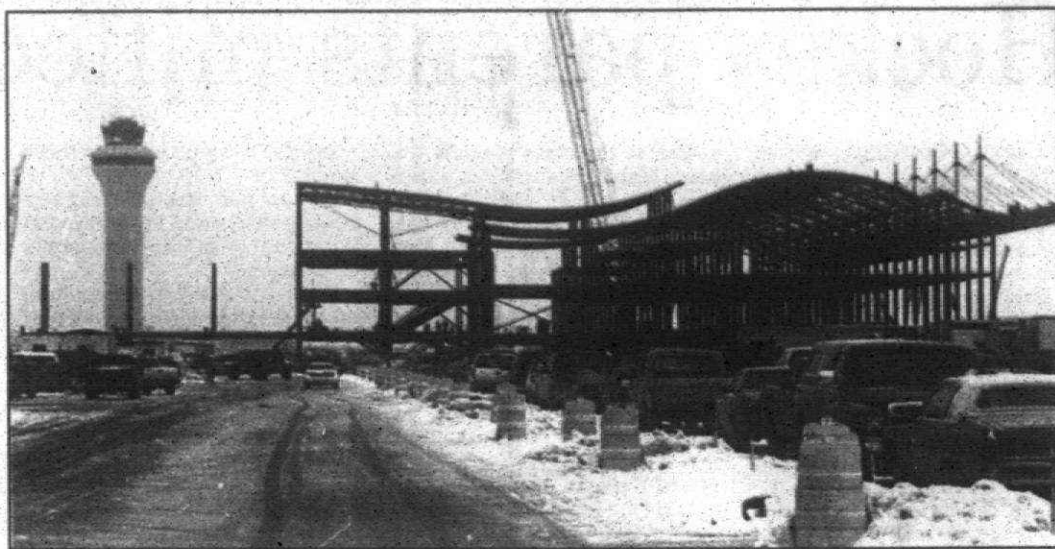
By contrast, he says, the Metro Midfield is "about the largest project we have ever self-performed."

Andrea Cole, National's contract manager, says the firm "hopes to have some involvement" in Ford Field, future downtown home of the Detroit Lions football team.

A City of Plymouth resident, Cole counts 18 years in the steel-rigging business. She was with General Riggers in 1988 when Dunn, then its executive vice president, purchased it and renamed it National.

The company moved from downtown Detroit to Metro West Industrial Park in Plymouth Township in '92, the same year it was purchased by its biggest supplier, Havens Steel Co. of Kansas City.

Cole says most of the 14 administrative staffers at National's headquarters live either in the Plymouths, Canton



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

**Elegant frame:** National Riggers & Erectors Inc. of Plymouth has assembled the framework for the new Midfield Terminal at Metro Airport.

Township, Livonia or the Northvilles.

Steelwork has inherent dangers: The new Midfield Terminal's roof, a convex structure with concave turnouts, can be slippery and treacherous for riggers, especially in winter.

But Bob Dunn says National has "one of the best safety records in the country" through its use of "leading-edge technology" in both on-site safety gear and practices and procedures.

"We require all personnel to wear full-body harnesses when

working on steel," he says. "It's one of the policies we've always employed as a company, even before it was required by our customers."

## Zero tolerance

"Anytime you leave the ground, you have to be tied-off 100 percent," he emphasizes, citing National's "zero-tolerance" safety policy.

Then, sounding much like a New York City cop's son - which he happens to be - Dunn lays down the law: "Once the policy

has been explained to you and you're not tied off, you can't work here."

How did a Big Apple native become a Michigan resident?

The Novi resident initially came to Ann Arbor to complete work on an aeronautical engineering degree at the University of Michigan.

"I got into the construction business while applying for law school at U-M, loved it and have been doing it ever since," he says.

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STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

**Three generations:** Members of the Turowski family in the funeral home business in the library of the Neely-Turowski Funeral Home. Seated is Leonard A. Turowski Sr., who is semi-retired. Standing are Vicki Turowski, her husband, Leonard A. Turowski Jr., and their son, Todd Turowski, who received his funeral director's license last year. The family business was started in 1919 by Todd Turowski's grandfather, Joseph Turowski.

## Family practice

### Turowskis find success with funeral homes in Canton, Livonia

MATT JACHMAN  
STAFF WRITER  
mjachman@oe.homecomm.net

Working with death has given Leonard A. Turowski Jr. a special appreciation for life.

Turowski, who represents his family's third generation in the funeral home business, said the everyday realities of death and grief have shown him how precious life, family and friends are. "Cause it can be taken away very quickly," Turowski said recently during an interview at the Neely-Turowski Funeral Home on Five Mile in Livonia.

Now, Turowski's son Todd is following in the path of his father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He is the fifth licensed funeral director at the three funeral homes - two in Livonia and one in Canton Township - the family owns.

"I had an idea ever since I was in high school that I was going to," said Todd Turowski, who earned a degree in mortuary science from Wayne State University last year.

"You've got to have a calling. I think," his father said later.

Like his father and grandfather, also named Leonard A. Turowski, Todd Turowski started doing odd jobs at the family business as a boy. By age 16, he was driving the flower car or the clergy car in funeral processions.

His father and grandfather tried to talk him out of making it a career, though, Todd Turowski said, stressing the unpredictable hours and draining nature of the job. "When you're working with emotions, it's very traumatic," he said.

But the Redford Catholic Central graduate went ahead, first getting a bachelor's degree in business administration from Michigan State University and then attending WSU.

Both Todd Turowski and his father, a 1973 graduate, praised the WSU mortuary program, saying it provides the skills to communicate with and help grieving people of different cultures and faiths. Course offerings go beyond the technical to



**Pioneer:** Joseph Turowski, who founded the family's first funeral home in Detroit in 1919.

include psychology, sociology, communications and comparative religion, Leonard Turowski Jr. said.

"It's a pretty tough first semester, and a lot of people get

weeded out," added Todd Turowski.

The business was founded in Detroit in 1919 by Joseph Turowski, Todd Turowski's great-grandfather. In a time when viewings were commonly done at the deceased's family home, Joseph had homes designed for viewings back in 1923, said his son, Leonard Turowski Sr.

The family lived in an upstairs apartment. Funeral parlors were typically in converted homes or storefronts until then, he said.

The elder Turowski remembers doing chores at the original funeral home as a youth. "I can remember when I washed my dad's limousine three times in one day," he said.

Joseph Turowski died in 1941; his son was licensed as a mortician the following year. He is now semi-retired.

In late 1955, Leonard Sr. opened a second Detroit funeral home, on Joy, and ran both locations for a time. (His son,

Please see **TUROWSKIS**, A10

## Funeral styles move toward celebrating life

BY MATT JACHMAN  
STAFF WRITER  
mjachman@oe.homecomm.net

With more than 80 years in the business, the Turowski family has seen a lot of changes in funeral traditions.

One of the more marked is the informality, in dress and attitude, that often now accompanies visitations and funeral ceremonies, they said.

Years ago, dark clothing was an essential part of a formal period of mourning. Now, peo-

ple are just as likely to show up for viewings in Dockers and polo shirts, said Leonard A. Turowski Jr.

Turowski, who runs two funeral homes in Livonia and one in Canton Township, is a third-generation funeral director. He carries on the business started by his grandfather, Joseph Turowski, in 1919. Turowski Jr.'s son Todd, was licensed last year.

The new informality, the Turowskis said, has also changed

many funerals and visitations into fond remembrances of a loved one's life, rather than strictly somber events.

Photo collages illustrating the deceased's life have become common, they said. So have props and possessions that depict the person's interests, such as golf clubs or a fishing rod.

"It's a celebration, or a presentation, of a person's life, their hobbies," Todd Turowski said. "I've had ser-

vices where they play Elvis Presley music," his father said.

Some groups have retained a more formal approach, they said. Older people in certain ethnic groups - Polish, Italian, Ukrainian - tend to dress in dark clothing for mourning, but their grandchildren will be less formal.

Chinese Americans are by far the most formal, they said, with everyone in dark clothing

Please see **FUNERALS**, A10

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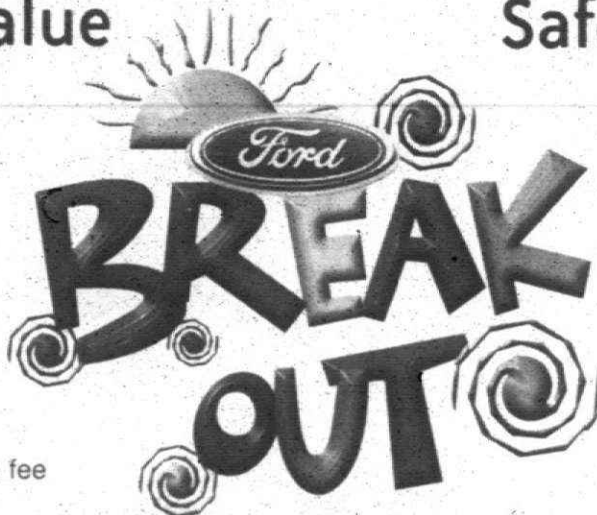
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# Changes in Head Start grant to bring layoffs

**BY LAURIE HUMPHREY STAFF WRITER**

Redford's 16 Head Start workers will be pink-slipped partly because the program is now run by Wayne County.

"There has been a change in who is operating the grant for funding," explained Michelle Gagnier, communications manager for Wayne County Regional Educational Services Agency, which had been running the program. "Wayne County became the grantee at the end of August last year."

As a result, Head Start students across the county could be moved to a new facility, with new teachers as soon as the next school year. This could affect 92 students just in Redford.

Head Start is a federally funded pre-preschool program for at-risk children 3-5 years old. To be eligible for the program, children must come from a low-income family or have impairments

which would affect their readiness for K-12 public education. The federal government allocates \$17 million annually for Head Start programs to be used in Wayne County communities other than Detroit.

That money was going to Wayne County RESA, which then distributed the money to the various entities in western Wayne County.

They include school districts such as Redford Union, South Redford, Livonia, Clarenceville, Plymouth-Canton and Wayne-Westland.

Head Start employees, who were paid by the school district in which they worked, were eligible for benefits provided by the schools, but were also accountable to school district officials. That is about to change.

"When Wayne County took over, they assigned Starfish Family Services to be the delegate," said Bonnie Barker, par-

**Students in federally-funded Head Start programs across the county could be moved to new facilities, with new teachers, as soon as the next school year.**

"I know this is frightening to the parents, the staff and the children," Cash said, "but we're trying to make the transition as smooth as possible."

To alleviate some of the parents' concerns, Cash has met with parent groups in the affected school districts to explain the process.

Baker, for one, is still concerned. "We've had one or two meetings, and I still feel like I'm not sure what is going on," she said. "Even the teachers are really confused."

Staff are concerned about the changes because switching employers may eliminate pensions for some of the Head Start personnel.

Public schools require that people be employed for 10 years before they become vested, or entitled to the pension money the state put into the plan. If they haven't become vested,

they have a couple of options: Buy time into the plan or lose whatever money the state put into the plan. The money they put into the plan would of course be available for them to take out if they so desired.

Head Start personnel also question whether or not they will even have a job.

Starfish will require everyone to re-apply for their old jobs, but cannot guarantee the same job or the same location.

However, in an attempt to keep the current staff, they will be given extra points for knowing the community and the families.

Cash is confident everyone who wants a job will get one, but she suspects some people may decide to find another position in the schools.

Hiring for the next school year has not yet started, but interested individuals should contact Starfish.

**Rouge panel wants floodplain action**

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

A River Rouge advisory council member is hoping the organization's first meeting of 2000 will stimulate the group's efforts to get floodplain ordinances updated at the grassroots level.

"It's the local units of government that can make the first changes," said Bill Craig, vice chairman of the River Rouge Remedial Action Plan Advisory Council, which oversees the river's clean-up and suggests ideas for improvement.

However, tighter ordinances by communities "might stimulate new (state) legislation to catch up with" the new laws.

Craig spoke in the wake of the council's meeting Feb. 16 at Westland's Bailey Recreation Center, during which two representatives of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality suggested council mem-

bers push locally for stronger ordinances regarding developments in the floodplain.

"Nothing stops a community from adopting more stringent requirements" than are called for by existing state law, said Jerry Fulcher, chair of MDEQ's transportation and flood hazard management unit in Lansing.

"Our hands are tied" by existing state ordinances, said Ashok Punjabi, the agency's land and water management district representative based in Livonia.

The discussion resulted from a motion last year by Craig's habitat and headwaters committee calling for floodplain permit restrictions.

The motion sought to get communities to further control construction of new buildings and parking lots, runoff from which Craig and committee members claim will cause "more floods, higher floods and longer (lasting) floods."

In their presentation to the council, Fulcher and Punjabi said, for example, that:

- Michigan has tighter standards in gauging floodwater levels than does the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) - Michigan measures in tenths of a foot, FEMA in feet; and
- that the floodplain maps in use are 10 to 20 years old and that funding is not currently available to FEMA to re-map.

To make matters worse, "Sometimes cities" in the floodplain "don't know they have ordinances" controlling development, Punjabi said.

From what the MDEQ representatives said, it's obvious "They're using existing regulations which might not be adequate for current land-use decisions," Craig commented.

"They can only use the regulations on the books, but we have a higher expectation of what can be done," he said.

He said his committee - which has been renamed the habitat and wildlife committee, in keeping with a council reorganization proposed by new president Kurt Heise - "was pleased that this discussion took place."

"Now more people will have a better understanding of our concern," Craig said. "Maybe there could be some movement. The most significant needs now may be in updating that information, getting new data."

Heise, whose purpose for reorganizing is to stimulate more member participation as the council moves toward its 2001 deadline for revising the Rouge advisory plan, said the six committees - down from nine - are to be approved at the next meeting, tentatively scheduled for April 19 in Troy.

"I used to think 2001 sounded kind of futuristic," said Heise. "But it's next year, it's real and it's almost here."

**County seeks fee from 9-1-1 calls made on cell phones**

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

Wayne County and its municipalities are moving closer to qualifying, by the May 31 deadline, for new 9-1-1 emergency telephone revenue.

That is the date by which existing 9-1-1 plans must be modified to include the servicing of calls received from cellular phones.

A county commission resolution passed last week adopted tentative plan amendments from each of the four 9-1-1 districts in the county - including the Conference of Western Wayne - and set up the requisite public hearing in 90 days.

If the plans are approved by the commission at the May 10 hearing, the county and participating municipalities will be able to share in revenue which a new 55-cent fee on cell phones has been generating since November, according to Sam Washburn, county commission counsel.

The new revenue and equipment it will buy will "improve public safety and compliance," he said.

Cell-phone usage has mushroomed and "More and more emergency calls are coming in" from them "because people are out and around, see things and report" via the phones, Washburn said.

"The problem with the cell-phone is there is no caller ID and so no knowledge of where the call is coming from, so the quick-fix placed on (a land-line call) is lost," Washburn said.

He was referring to the prank false-alarm calls that flooded public safety departments before the advent of 9-1-1 and caller ID, but which "evaporated" afterwards.

"It came hard for a person" to make such calls from land lines, "but cell-phones have made it possible again," the attorney said.

The public hearing will afford county commissioners the chance to approve the amended plans and notify the state before the May 31 deadline.

Communities choosing not to participate in the revenue-sharing can be withdrawn then, but any other changes will force adoption of a new tentative plan and scheduling of a new public hearing, according to County Clerk Teola P. Hunter.

Until last November, only land-line phones were assessed a 9-1-1 service charge. But since then, a 55-cent fee has been imposed on cell phones by federal and state law.

Washburn said 25 cents go to the telephone service provider, five cents to the state and the remaining 25 cents to the counties and municipalities.

He added that a federal act passed in 1996 requires cell-phone manufacturers to begin installing identifiers on the units so that the caller's location is transmitted automatically.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S. Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 10:00 a.m., March 9, 2000 for the following:

**PURCHASE OF TWO (2) TRUE T66 OR TOP COMMERCIAL TREADMILLS**

Specifications are available in the Finance and Budget Dept. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the bid name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk  
Publish: February 24, 2000

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 10:00 a.m., March 9, 2000 for the following:

**PURCHASE OF ONE (1) FAIRWAY MOWER**

Specifications are available in the Finance and Budget Dept. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the bid name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk  
Publish: February 24, 2000

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS**

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 15, 2000.

The Board of Review will be held in Canton Township Hall in the lower level, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute time limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

Saturday, March 11, 2000 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Walk-in Schedule)  
Monday, March 13, 2000 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)  
Tuesday, March 14, 2000 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)

For answers to questions, call Emily Pizzaro, Secretary to the Board of Review (734) 397-6831.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk  
Charter Township of Canton  
Publish: February 20, 24, 27, 2000

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S. Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 10:00 a.m., March 9, 2000 for the following:

**ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT VEHICULAR RADIO SYSTEM**

Specifications are available in the Finance and Budget Dept. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk  
Publish: February 24, 2000

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2000 PROGRESSIVE TOOL & INDUSTRIES CO.**

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 29, 2000, at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider the request of Progressive Tool & Industries Company for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for their new facility located at 46201 Five Mile Road, Parcel C, Metro West Industrial Park Phase VI. The request includes new machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures.

The request of Progressive Tool & Industries Company is on file in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. During the public hearing any resident of Plymouth Township or members of the Legislative Board of any affected taxing unit in the Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments addressed to the Clerk will be considered.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:30 p.m., will be held in the Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, February 29, 2000. Phone Number 734-354-3224. Following the public hearing, the Board may decide on the request by resolution.

MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC  
Plymouth Charter Township  
Publish: February 24, 2000

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S. Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 10:00 a.m., March 9, 2000 for the following:

**ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT VEHICULAR RADIO SYSTEM**

Specifications are available in the Finance and Budget Dept. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk  
Publish: February 24, 2000

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES in preparing the STORMWATER DETENTION BASIN VEGETATION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE**

Sealed proposals for PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES in preparing the STORMWATER DETENTION BASIN VEGETATION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE will be received by Charter Township of Canton, Engineering Services, 2nd Floor, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188 until 5:00 p.m., March 9, 2000.

Requests for Proposal Documents may be picked up at:

Public Works  
2nd Floor  
Canton Township Administration Building  
1150 South Canton Center Road  
Canton, MI 48188

The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

The Township reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Publish: February 24, 27 and March 2, 2000

**2000 CITY OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARINGS ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW**

The Board of Review for the City of Plymouth will convene in the City Commission Chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, for an Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2000 at 12:00 p.m.

The regular Board of Review session will begin:

- TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2000 @ 12:15 TO 6:00 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2000 @ 3:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 2000 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall before an appointment can be made. The "DEADLINE" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Wednesday, March 8, 2000 by 9:00 p.m.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be submitted by Monday, March 20, 2000.

Copies of the notice stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted on the official public bulletin boards of the City and also in the local newspapers.

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call (734) 453-1234, ext. 223.

MARK R. CHRISTIANSEN, City Assessor  
City of Plymouth  
Publish: February 24 and 27, March 2 and 12, 2000

**CHARTER NOTICE OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARING ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW**

NOTICE OF HEARING given that the Plymouth Township Board of Review will meet on the following dates and times:

Hearings are by appointment, please call 354-3267, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. for an appointment.

Tuesday, March 7 9 a.m. - Noon Organizational Meeting  
2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hearings by Appointment  
Monday, March 13 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hearings by Appointment  
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Hearings by Appointment  
Tuesday, March 14 9 a.m. - Noon Hearings by Appointment  
2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hearings by Appointment  
Saturday, March 18 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. First Come - First Served

Other hearings dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

All persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. Appeals by mail will be accepted if received by March 18, 2000.

The Board of Review will be held in the Board Meeting Room of Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Please come prepared as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board of Review will be strictly adhered to.

Publish: February 17, 20 and 24, 2000

**PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Act 184 of the Public Acts of 1943 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 6, 2000 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed special land use request as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:

**CENTRAL PARK SOUTH SUBDIVISION SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR SINGLE FAMILY DETACHED CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 11.02B.13 FOR PARCEL NOS. 114 99 0000 000, 115 99 0001 000, 115 99 0004 000, AND PART OF PARCEL NO. 115 99 0003 000. Property is located on the north side of Geddes Road between Denton and Beck Roads. (Rescheduled from February 7, 2000)**

**PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

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**POWLER CREEK SUBDIVISION SPECIAL LAND USE - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR SINGLE-FAMILY DETACHED CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 11.02B.13 FOR PARCEL NO. 116 99 0002 000. Property is located on the north side of Geddes Road between Beck and Denton Roads.**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2000 PROGRESSIVE TOOL & INDUSTRIES CO.**

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 29, 2000, at a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider the request of Progressive Tool & Industries Company for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for their new facility located at 46201 Five Mile Road, Parcel C, Metro West Industrial Park Phase VI. The request includes new machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures.

The request of Progressive Tool & Industries Company is on file in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. During the public hearing any resident of Plymouth Township or members of the Legislative Board of any affected taxing unit in the Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments addressed to the Clerk will be considered.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:30 p.m., will be held in the Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, February 29, 2000. Phone Number 734-354-3224. Following the public hearing, the Board may decide on the request by resolution.

MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC  
Plymouth Charter Township  
Publish: February 24, 2000

**Turowskis from page A9**

Leonard Jr., and wife Vicki lived in an apartment there early on.

In 1974, the Turowskis opened a Livonia branch, on Middlebelt north of Joy, that still exists.

In 1986, the Livonia location on Five Mile opened (the name Neely comes from a former owner), the Detroit funeral home was sold the next year.

In 1997, a Canton branch was opened on Warren Road.

"We keep moving as the population keeps shifting," Leonard Turowski Jr. said.

Vicki Turowski is also involved in the business: She specializes in helping people make funeral arrangements for themselves or loved ones in advance, called pre-need. "They're able to make those decisions with more thought going into it," rather than at a trying time, her husband said.

But not all Turowskis took the same career path.

Todd has three siblings who, so far, have not shown that inclination (two are in college, one is just 8). His father, also, has three siblings who are not in the funeral home business.

**Funerals from page A9**

(despite the occasional youngster in tennis shoes). They also require that the color red, a festive color in their culture, not appear in the viewing area.

In the Chinese tradition, the deceased's family members hand out candies, for energy, and quarters, for good fortune, to visitors, the Turowskis said.

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MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC  
Plymouth Charter Township  
Publish: February 24, 2000

**Bush defeat may doom open primaries**

**BY PAT MURPHY STAFF WRITER pmurphy@oe.homecomm.net**

Don't be surprised if Republican lawmakers move to end open primary elections in Michigan.

"Open primaries are an open invitation to disaster," Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said Wednesday after underdog John McCain - on the strength of crossover votes from Democrats and independents - upset establishment-backed George W. Bush.

Patterson along with Gov. John Engler and other high-visibility Republicans were at the Westin Hotel in Southfield Tuesday for what was expected to be a victory party for the Texas governor.

But the party in the cavernous atrium never materialized. McCain got an early lead, according to radio and television reports. And the Arizona senator held on to win by more than 5 percent of the record turnout, according to uncertified tallies.

"I'm not going to bad-mouth McCain," said Patterson. "He ran a good campaign, appealing to the voters he needed to win. But it's pretty obvious what happened. McCain won because he appealed to Democratic and Independent voters who could crossover and vote in the Republican primary. That's gotta be fixed, and a number of state legislators there last night agreed. Let's see what happens in states where only Republicans can vote to nominate the Republican candidate, said Patterson, who said he remains confident Bush will win the GOP nomination as well as the presidency.

Patterson said he disagrees with those - especially EPIC-MRA, the Lansing based research firm - who contend McCain's victory was an indication of deeper problems with the candidacy of Bush, the governor of Texas and son of a former President.

John Cavanaugh, a partner with Epic-MRA, Wednesday said McCain's victory was not the result of Democratic mischief, but his moderate message. "Our polling indicates McCain has an appeal that transcends party affiliation," he said. "About 80 percent of those (questioned) who voted for McCain Tuesday said they were certain they'd vote for him in November."

Cavanaugh agreed with his partner, Ed Sarpolus who said Republicans who blame Democrats for Bush's loss are trying to protect their image by blaming somebody else.

West Bloomfield pollster Steve Mitchell, however, disagreed. "Democrats played the spoilers. They were out to stick it to John Engler," he said.

"Because of the crossover vote, this was a Republican primary that wasn't Republican," said the president of Mitchell Research & Communications, Inc. "I agree with Gov. Engler, McCain rented a few Democrats for awhile. But they'll go back to the Democratic Party in November."

Mitchell attributed Bush's loss to:

- Democratic and Independent crossover voters.
- The candidacy of Alan Keyes, who garnered about five percent of the vote - most of which Mitchell said would otherwise have gone to Bush.
- Negative phone calls against Bush, including some claiming he is anti-Catholic.

Asked if he was certain those calls came from the McCain camp, Mitchell said. "Those negative calls were the handiwork of Mike Murphy (former Engler strategist now supporting McCain). There's no doubt they came from him."

At the Westin Tuesday, Bush supporters were clearly disappointed by the results. Occasionally, a few would wave signs and begin chanting, "Bush, Bush, Bush..." But the chant never caught on and quickly died.

Disappointment, however, never turned to despair.

Jonathan Farley of Plymouth confidently predicted Bush would win. "Maybe not tonight," he said, "but he'll win the GOP nomination."

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<b>Livonia</b> Tuesday, February 29 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Livonia Civic Center Library 22700 Livonia Rd. (North side of 5 Mile & 1 1/2 at Livingston) (Reservations will be needed)	<b>Redford</b> Wednesday, March 1 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Redford Public Library 12100 Newberry Rd. (Between Dixie & Five Mile Rd.) (Reservations will be needed)	<b>Westland</b> Thursday, March 2 10:00 am - 11:30 am Metromall Recreation Center 56731 Ford Road (Between Newburgh and Wayne Roads) (Reservations will be needed)
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# Census

## An accurate count will pay off

The fight to keep personal details private has become a huge issue in the Information Age. With every mouse click, every swipe of bar code at the supermarket check-out, someone is gaining access to part of your life, often with the intention to profit from it. So it's understandable that Canton residents would approach the 2000 census with apprehension and even a certain degree of suspicion. We're really not sure what to do about that. The Observer can't force you to fill out the forms that will arrive in your mailbox next month or talk to a census enumerator if he or she appears at your door.

What we can do is present facts about the census. And we can point out the reality that much about the quality of life in Canton — from the education children receive to housing for senior citizens — depends on turning in an accurate count. That's because in communities where the population is growing rapidly, federal and state dollars that funnel down through revenue sharing programs are stretched proportionately tighter than in towns where the population is stable or declining.

The official U.S. census is taken every 10 years, as mandated by the Constitution. The first attempted head count of every American was in 1790. Of course, the technology has improved since then although controversy still exists about undercounts, particularly among homeless people and those who have less-than-permanent addresses. While the count is essentially non-partisan, the numbers are used to fix congressional and state house districts, which often leads to wrangling between

Democrats and Republicans.

Information provided by residents on census forms is confidential. On both the short and long forms, questions are detailed but don't ask for names, Social Security Numbers or any other identifying factors of people living in the household. While the information isn't sold by the government to marketers or other agencies, the statistics are considered public information and are widely available.

Your best bet is to fill out the form as completely as possible and mail it back to the census bureau. Enumerators will begin their "house calls" in April, visiting homes where forms haven't been returned. The 1990 census showed Canton with 57,040 residents. A mid-decade count put the population at more than 68,000 and recent estimates by the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments are in the range of 75,000.

Based on the mid-decade update, Canton Township received about \$115 per resident in state shared revenue, according to Tony Minghine, Canton finance director. That works out to \$7.7 million for the township's general fund, an increase of \$750,000 per year over the 1990 figures. The total numbers will likely go up again next year, after the 2000 census is tabulated.

Besides state shared revenue, federal money for things like the Community Development Block Grant program is determined from census counts.

Anyone with questions about the census may call the township clerk's office at (734) 397-5367.

### Geof Brooks



### LETTERS

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, that's why we offer this space for your opinions. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity we ask that you provide a contact telephone number and if mailing or faxing a letter, please sign it. Letters can be mailed to: Tedd Schneider, Canton Editor, 794 South Main, Plymouth, MI 48170, faxed to Tedd at (734) 459-4224 or emailed to tschneider@homecomm.net

#### School site is the problem

This letter is in response to K. Suzanne Rodenback's letter to the editor (Canton Observer, Feb. 3, 2000, Page A14.) She is disappointed the Canton Township Planning Commission denied special land use to National Heritage Academies (NHA) for the construction of a charter school at the northwest corner of Warren and Ridge Roads.

We believe her disappointment is misdirected. She blames the planning commission when her frustration should be directed towards NHA.

She asks why are our children to be denied the opportunity to attend a new charter school in Canton. That is not the issue. It is not the school. It is the location. She should be asking NHA why they did not do a better job in selecting a site for their school.

There are many other sites in and near northwest Canton that can meet NHA requirements, without so many negative drawbacks. She should ask what did NHA expect after being denied special land use last year for the Beck/Hanford site when the Ridge/Warren site had even more of those same negative drawbacks, plus an even more obvious one — the fact that Ridge Road starting at Warren Road has state Natural Beauty Road status. Any school at that corner will adversely affect the Natural Beauty Road and perhaps the loss of its designation. NHA may even inadvertently break state laws in constructing a school on a Natural Beauty Road.

The site location of Canton's first charter school should have at least some support of nearby residents, maintain the status of our Natural Beauty Roads, be serviceable by existing major thoroughfares and be compatible with adjacent uses.

The Northwest Canton Homeowners Association has given a list of other potential sites to NHA. I believe it would be in the best interest of all Canton residents for NHA to look into other more appropriate sites, not on a Natural Beauty Road, even if it means the school can't open in August 2000.

This school will be with us for a long time. Why the big rush? If those at NHA do their homework now, and find a different site the planning commission can approve, they may still be open this August. We suggest those

who want to send their children to this charter school contact NHA and encourage them to work with the township and its residents who seem more than willing to help.

Northwest Canton Homeowners Association Steering Committee, Chuck Supnick, vice president

#### Family thankful

All too often, the members of our government carry the stereotype of being self-centered individuals, only interested in their own gain or advancement. My family and I have just had the opportunity to disprove this belief.

My husband's father recently passed away in Buffalo, N.Y., and we notified all family members so we could attend the funeral services. We have two sons currently serving in the Marine Corps. Both are stationed at Camp Lejeune, N.C. However, one of our sons was on maneuvers in 29 Palms, Calif., at the time.

The Marine Corps was not going to release my son for the funeral because they were on maneuvers and a grandfather is not considered immediate family. His grandfather was a World War II veteran and would have been very proud to have his grandsons be his pallbearers in full uniform. We spoke with several members of the Marine Corps to no avail.

We contacted Congresswoman Lynn Rivers (D-Ann Arbor) for help in getting my son released for the funeral. Congresswoman Rivers came to our rescue and was instrumental in getting our son released for his grandfather's funeral. She even called us in Buffalo the next day to make sure the Marine Corps had released him on time.

Congresswoman Rivers not only does an excellent job of taking care of us politically, but along the way has not lost sight of the human beings she services.

My family and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her from the bottom of our hearts for all her help.

Dawn Peterson Westland

# Licensing may be only way to fight porn industry

House speaker Chuck Perricone was nervous when he unveiled a new plan for regulating "adult entertainment" establishments last fall.

He was not concerned with how those in the industry or free speech advocates would respond. It was the reaction of other conservatives and local officials that had him worried.

Licensing adult book stores, massage parlors and strip clubs, Ferricone took pains to explain, does not equate to condoning them.

Because prohibitions haven't worked, because zoning restrictions aimed at limiting their numbers and restricting their locations haven't worked, Perricone was proposing a system of licensing.

Issuing licenses would give the state, and along with it municipalities, an additional measure of control.

If a porn shop became a nuisance in a community, revocation of the license would give the government an additional tool in attempting to bring it into compliance.

It turns out, that approach may have more benefits than expected.

Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, says the members of his Committee on Constitutional Law and Ethics are getting quite an education.

The committee is conducting a series of hearings on the 12-bill package in preparation for sending it to the House for a vote in a few weeks.



MIKE MALOTT

Besides Bishop, local lawmakers sponsoring portions of the package include Reps. Eileen DeHart, D-Westland, Susan Tabor, R-Delta Township, and Laura Toy, R-Livonia.

It turns out, that "adult entertainment" is not just good clean, if ribald, fun, as the owners of the establishments would have you believe it is. In fact, it's pretty disgusting.

For one, the facilities themselves are often unsanitary, with multiple health code violations. And if crime seems to be attracted to the vicinity of porn shops, it may be because the owners encourage it, Bishop said.

Tossed out of the house by her father at age 14, Susan was taken under wing by the folks who run a local "gentlemen's club." She was quickly put to work as a dancer, paid under the table. But what started out as a helping hand quickly became exploitative as she got addicted, not just to drugs but to "the lifestyle" and "various forms of promiscuity."

Now 18 and out of the industry, Susan is speaking out because she still has friends trapped in the lifestyle.

What allowed her to be taken advantage of in that manner, Bishop argues, is the fact adult establishments often do not count their dancers or "massagists" as employees. They're paid on the side, in cash, so W-2s aren't issued to them.

Often, the committee has also learned, those dancers and massag-

ists are also able to collect welfare because all that income goes unreported, Bishop said.

Licensing begins to address that, he said. In doing so, it will be quite clear to the owners of these establishments whether their employees are of legal age, Bishop concluded. And if the owners don't get the information, or their employees aren't old enough, the licenses will then be in jeopardy.

Those who disapprove of porn shops may be uncomfortable with the solution. But it would seem we are going to have "adult entertainment" anyway. Attempts to ban it haven't worked. Licensing might just get rid of the worst of the abuses found in that industry.

Mike Malott can be reached by phone at (248) 634-8219 or by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net

# State should quickly close charter schools that are failing

Michigan's Gov. John Engler, who professes to admire presidential candidate George W. Bush, should learn a lesson from Bush's home state of Texas.

The same day that Engler asked for unlimited numbers of new charter schools in his State of the State message, the Texas Board of Education ordered the closing of Ramses School of San Antonio — the fifth charter school Texas has shut down. "Gov. Bush believes charter schools need to be accountable fiscally and academically," a Bush spokesman told the Houston Chronicle.

Bush believes that, but Engler doesn't.

Michigan has chartered 173 "public school academies." Engler packed the Capitol gallery with many charter school students, a Napoleonic stunt to intimidate lawmakers. He intoned, "Those who are fearful build walls. For the sake of our children, tear down those walls... Abolish the cap on charter public schools. The cap must go!"

No, the cap must not go. There is plenty of room to charter new academies if Engler will but follow Bush's lead and shut down bad charter schools. But Engler, while preaching "accountability," won't practice the obvious.

Consider: A year ago, Engler got the Legislature to remove the Detroit district's school board, citing among other reasons, poor academic performance. Oak Park also was reportedly on the short list of districts to be taken over, but the ax didn't fall.

So what happened in last fall's 11th-grade social studies state proficiency exams?

■ Detroit public schools had a 76.3 percent failure rate.

■ Douglas Academy, with just 18 students taking the test, had a 100-percent failure rate.

■ Ferguson Academy, with 21 students, had a 90.5-percent failure rate.

■ Academy for Business, with 11 students and lots of chance for personal attention, had a 91-percent failure rate.



TIM RICHARD

Do you see the pattern? The charter schools — that Engler wants to multiply — did worse than the Detroit public schools.

Oak Park High had a 73.5-percent failure rate, but the charter school called Academy of Detroit Oak Park topped it with an 83-percent failure rate.

And here's Engler's idea of accountability: Nah Tah Wahsh PSA, New Directions Institute, North Star Academy and the AGBU Alex and Marie Manogian School reported no results at all — each had fewer than five students. If, as Engler would have us believe, charter schools are so popular

with parents, why do so many have such minuscule enrollments? If they are losing the competition, shouldn't the state reclaim their charters?

Nationally, charter schools are seen as methods of offering specialized curricula, such as the performing arts or science, and as laboratories for experimental teaching methods.

Not in Michigan. The zealots on the religious right have a different view of the purpose of schooling — to satisfy the whims of parents who seek indoctrination, not the advancement of knowledge, for the young.

Consider the recent Associated Press story: Michigan State University professor Michael Mintrom, who has studied them, says charter schools aren't bringing innovative teaching methods and have no plan to spread their workable ideas to other schools. "There's not a whole lot of innovation going on," he said.

What's interesting was the response from the president of the Michigan Association of Public School Academies. "Parents are not telling us

that they want innovation or experimentation with their kid," said Dan Quisenberry.

So much for the big promises made by charter proponents in 1993. They hollered about "failing" public schools and "declining test scores" from the 1960s through the 1980s. Now that public schools are outscoring many charter schools, they change the rules so their badly performing charter babies are judged by uninformed "parents."

I now repeat what I have written many times in this space. Not all charter schools are bad. About one-third are excellent, judging from test scores.

But before we charter any more academic humbugs, Engler should follow Bush's lead and let our elected State Board of Education, not the Treasury, lift the charters of the many bad schools with bad test scores.

Tim Richard is retired from this newspaper to the land of Kabonokka, the north wind.

# Counties right to fight ruling

In November, the Michigan State Tax Commission implemented new personal property depreciation tables for electric and gas utilities.

The commission changed the multiplier to be used by local assessors to value electric and gas utility personal property (equipment, transmission and distribution lines, not land). Under the new system an assessor uses the "net book value" of the property, the cost of the property when purchased or installed, instead of current day replacement costs.

This decision results in a windfall for the utilities that could amount to up to \$116 million and a severe burden in lost taxes for local governments.

Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties sought an injunction to stop implementation of the new system, but on Jan. 28 Chief Circuit Judge Michael F. Sapala ruled against the injunction allowing the commission to proceed.

The counties will now pursue their complaint with the Michigan State Tax Tribunal. Several local communities, including Livonia, Farmington and Farmington Hills, have joined in the suit. The Michigan Chamber of Commerce has joined in supporting the position of the tax commission and the utilities. Chamber President Jim Barrett has called the suit "frivolous."

We believe that the counties should pursue their complaint. A suit which seeks to preserve millions in tax dollars and opposes special treatment for the utility companies is anything but "frivolous."

In a press release from Wayne County, the position taken by the counties is clear: "The counties sought to maintain the status quo,

until further evidence suggesting an improved method of valuation could be presented. Assessed values historically have been based on the current value of the property, minus depreciation and are the foundation for tax revenue by every city, county, township and school district."

This seems to be a reasonable request. Perhaps the utilities do need some tax relief, but this isn't the way to do it and the tax shortage it will cause could be devastating, resulting in cutbacks in programs when they are most needed.

Several of our communities have experienced an unusually high number of power outages in the last few years, but we aren't hearing any guarantee that the money saved in taxes will be used to upgrade the equipment being taxed.

Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara warns, "Aside from the current loss in tax base and revenue, my concern is the precedent being established."

We question the Chamber's standard anti-tax position as being in the best interests of most businesses. Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson makes a better case for the business community when he says, "The Michigan Tax Commission is using sleight of hand to give gas and electric companies a whopping tax break that will provide them with an unfair competitive advantage over other businesses. Not only is this unfair to the other businesses, it will also negatively impact the tax bases of out local communities and could result in a severe cutback for our citizens."

We urge McNamara and Patterson to continue their fight.

### COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION: Has TV gone too far with "Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire" and other game shows?



"Absolutely. I think one (game show) would have been nice. We all have a dream of being a millionaire, but who cares if it isn't me or you."

Margaret Blaylock Canton



"They're OK. Sometimes I watch. It's good entertainment."

Ashwin Asher Canton



"Yes. It's too much emphasis on greed."

Ron Case Westland



"I don't think (that last show) is giving marriage a good name. Game shows are fine, it's just the people that play them that I sometimes wonder about."

Michele Burkmyr Novi

# Canton Observer

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OUR MISSION: "Because we publish community newspapers, we think about community journalism in a fundamentally different way than our bigger competition. They consider themselves to be independent from the stories and communities they cover, swooping in to write the unusual or sensational and then dashing off to cover something else. We regard ourselves as both accurate journalists and as caring citizens of the communities where we work."

— Philip Power

# Taxing farmland more fairly would address sprawl issue

One of the largest contributors to "sprawl" — low density, uncontrolled, wholesale development, often in rural areas — is a perverse part of the Michigan tax code that requires land to be assessed at its "highest and best use." In practice, this means that rural land that has been farmed for years is often assessed as though it were going to be sold for residential development tomorrow.

This has saddled Michigan farmers, already facing the worst economic times in a decade, with unfairly high taxes that can force them to sell their land and quit farming. Development, sometimes sprawling.

This is not a problem encountered by only a few agricultural malcontents. Over the past 15 years, something like 1.2 million acres of farmland has gone out of production in Michigan, a not insubstantial blow to agriculture, at \$4 billion per year the second largest industry in Michigan.

Of all politicians presently on the scene, Gov. John Engler, who grew up on a farm, is the best qualified to address this problem.

In a plan announced last week at the Michigan Farm Bureau convention, Engler proposed:

■ Farmland would be assessed on the land's present economic value for farming, not on its potential value if developed.

■ Enacting this proposal would require amending the Michigan Constitution, and so would need a two-thirds vote in the Legislature to get on the statewide ballot.

■ If farmland under production but with reduced taxes were to be sold for development, the selling farmer would pay back the tax break he had received for the past seven years.

■ This money would go into an Agricultural Preservation Fund, to be used to buy development rights from farmers willing to sell them. In effect, farmers who choose to sell development rights would continue to own and farm their land, but would have sold off the option of developing it.

A key part of the plan is repayment of the tax break if farmland is developed. Otherwise, all the tax break would do is encourage land speculation schemes. In some states where farmland is taxed at a reduced rate, developers reap the tax break for themselves by renting land to farmers, thereby reducing the carrying cost of land fated for ultimate development.

As is the case with most sensible proposals, Engler's farmland preservation proposal has a cost. Taxing agricultural land at its actual value



PHIL POWER

Engler's proposal deserves passage by the Legislature and adoption by the voters of Michigan.

as a farm would cost state and local governments something like \$90 million each year. The Senate Fiscal Agency estimates that local governments and school districts would be hardest hit, absorbing \$67 million of the reduced revenue stream.

And you may expect to hear from various folks — the Michigan Townships Association in a target for going.

Others, however, are saner in their reactions. "It's a good way to go," said a spokesman for the Farm Bureau. "Sprawl ends up paying to protect farmland." And Lee Schwarz, a lobbyist for the Michigan Association of Homebuilders, argues the program would save farmland by making farming profitable. "It's idiotic to tax farmland as though you were building condominiums on it," he says.

At the end of the day it's plain that serious distortions in land use have arisen from the ways in which agricultural land in Michigan is assessed. Right now, all the incentives favor converting perfectly productive farmland into subdivisions.

Engler's proposal deserves passage by the Legislature and adoption by the voters of Michigan.

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

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NEW LOCATION!

# McCain supporters say it was 'message over money'

BY MIKE MALOTT  
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE  
mmalott@homecomm.net

"We knew we were taking on the most powerful political machine in America, the Engler machine," John McCain said in a congratulatory phone call to his supporters who were gathered at the Novi Hilton Tuesday evening to watch the results of the presidential primary balloting come in. "But we won."

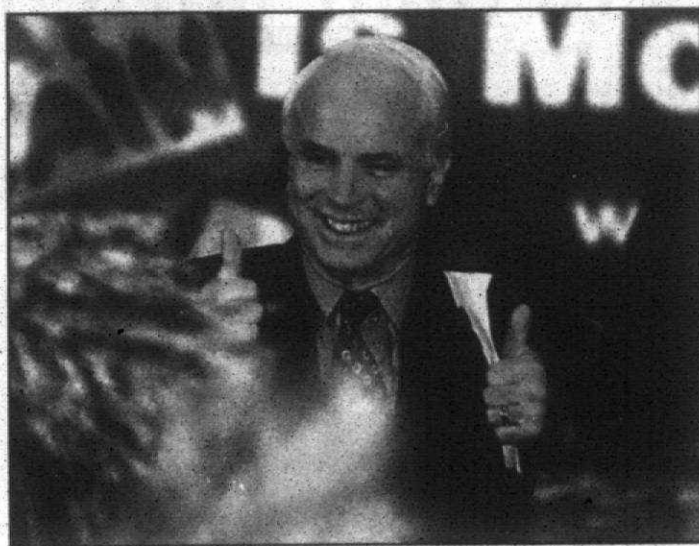
The phone call, from Arizona to state Sen. John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, but broadcast over loudspeakers for all to hear, was to celebrate McCain's seven point victory over Texas Gov. George W. Bush in the presidential primary here.

Gov. John Engler had been a vigorous campaigner for Bush, as had most of the state Republican party faithful.

But that backfired, according to McCain and his advocates.

"I don't want Engler telling me how to vote," Plymouth resident Sandy Kosky said. And it was a theme sounded again and again Tuesday evening at the Hilton.

"This is message over money. And message won," Mark Kelley



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

**Happy warrior: John McCain gives a thumbs up at a rally Sunday in Livonia on his way to a big win in Tuesday's Republican primary.**

Schwartz, McCain's 11th Congressional District chair, said. Schwartz, a West Bloomfield resident, contended it was the Ari-

zona Senator's "message, character and integrity" that carried the day. "And that was after Michigan voters were subjected to \$6 million-plus worth of negative advertising."

When the counting was finished at 6:30 a.m. Wednesday, McCain had tallied 646,820 votes statewide, 49 percent of the vote. Bush gathered 547,773 votes, 41.5 percent. Alan Keyes brought in 58,769 votes, 4.5 percent.

But CNN had declared McCain the victor in Michigan just 45 minutes after polls closed Tuesday. McCain was not in

Michigan Tuesday evening, but in Arizona which was also holding primaries. His phone call to the Novi reception came within moments, declaring victory over the Bush/Engler machine.

## Michigan critical

Schwartz, McCain's campaign coordinator for Michigan, had said the state was critical to win. A loss here, along with the defeat in South Carolina, would have likely doomed McCain's candidacy. Winning here gives McCain a real boost, especially since key primaries are coming up Feb. 29 and March 7. "But it's a long way to November."

"When he has his mind made up, no poll or spin doctor can change his mind. That is leadership," Schwarz said. "My conscience would allow me to do no less than support John McCain."

State Rep. John Pappageorge, R-Troy, was one of the few other party leaders who supported McCain. He sounded a slightly different note.

"People forget that we had three good Republicans in this race and the question was which of those three did we prefer," he said. "We're not opposed to the others. And this was not about beating John Engler."

Pappageorge said he was excited about the McCain campaign because it is attracting many new people to the Republican party who have not previously been involved in politics. He said the party will be stronger for it when the race is over.

And the results here give him hope for a McCain win. "I don't think momentum crosses state

lines very well. New Hampshire and South Carolina are very different than Michigan. What you have here is closer to a microcosm of America."

## Inspires support

The celebration drew supporters from around the area, including a number of families who said they'd been converted to the McCain camp by their children. Among them was Adam Jones of Northville, who was appointed National Teen Chair for the McCain campaign. He convinced dad, Jim Jones, and mom, Cheryl Jones, to vote for McCain, too.

"He has backbone. He supports campaign finance reform and tobacco legislation, even though these are not popular in the GOP," Adam Jones said. "I wrote to him (McCain) in September telling him I supported him. He wrote back saying, 'OK, if you support me, here's a job,'" he said, explaining how he had received the Teen Chair title.

Cheryl Jones said she believes McCain is inspiring young voters "the way John F. Kennedy inspired them to get politically active and model themselves after him."

Livonia's Stacey Golick, a freshman at Schoolcraft College, also converted her family members by bringing the Internet and bringing home materials over the last eight months about the candidates for them to read. She had mom Debbie Golick and sister Kristen Golick, a Churchill High sophomore, in tow at the victory party.

"He's honest and honorable,"

# 2000

ELECTION RESULTS  
REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

## The Michigan Vote:

- George W. Bush - 547,773 DELEGATES: 6
- Alan Keyes - 58,769 DELEGATES: 0
- John McCain - 646,820 ✓ DELEGATES: 52

Unofficial vote totals. Vote totals are for the state of Michigan. Check mark indicates statewide winner.

Debbie Golick said of McCain. "That's the way I've raised my children, to tell the truth and never lie."

"Being an honorable person," Stacey Golick concluded, "his views seem to represent the general American population. His support is widespread and his campaign is very diverse."

The campaign is drawing on people who haven't been active before, said Scott Huntley of Novi. He's a veteran, and served on the Enterprise, as did McCain. But he said he is getting active because it matters here. Having just moved in from Minnesota, "now I'm living in a state where the presidential candidates come to my state."

Craig Freshwater, a Livonia resident, is also new to politics but was inspired enough to campaign door-to-door on behalf of McCain. "He's just the type of guy I'd like to see in the Oval Office," he said.

## McCain racks up delegate vote, too

BY MIKE MALOTT  
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE  
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John McCain, barely out of the starting gate, came from behind to draw nearly even with front-runner George W. Bush Tuesday on the only score that really counts - delegates committed to support him at the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia this summer.

Despite all the hoopla about wins and losses in the previous primaries, Texas Gov. Bush had actually jumped out to a quick early lead on the delegate tote board.

Counting delegates is an inexact science because of "quirky" state rules about when delegates are considered "committed," but Michigan GOP spokesman Sage Eastman estimated that as of Monday - through the primaries in Iowa, New Hampshire, Delaware and South Carolina - Bush had run up a total of about 110. McCain had won only 15.

In Tuesday's balloting, McCain pulled in 52 of the 58 delegates available here in Michigan. Six went to Bush when he led the voting in Michigan's 2nd and 3rd congressional districts, including Grand Rapids, Muskegon and the west side of the state.

Thirty delegates were at stake in Arizona. With a solid double-digit point spread in the senator's home state, McCain was expected to walk away with all of them, according to Eastman.

That would put McCain at 97 compared to Bush's 116.

Also ran Alan Keyes has yet to win a delegate. Steve Forbes had won two before he dropped out.

To assure the nomination, a candidate will have to win 1,034 delegates, half plus one of the 2,066 who will gather at the national GOP convention in Philadelphia at the end of July to make the decision.

Next up in the contest are the Virginia, Washington and North Dakota primaries Tuesday, Feb. 29. Then comes Super Tuesday, March 7, a 12-state primary date that includes the states of California and New York with their massive numbers of delegates. This could all be over by March 8.

Michigan is a "partial winner takes all" state when it comes to the way the Republican party divides up delegates as a result of the primary voting, Eastman explained. The state has 18 "electoral votes" - 16 representatives in the House and two senators.

Based on that, the Republican National Committee allocated 58 delegates to Michigan, essentially a proportional share of the total number of delegates to be at the convention.

Then the state party gave three delegates to each of Michigan's congressional districts, which are awarded "winner take all" to the highest vote-getter within each district.

Ten more are "at large" delegates, awarded "winner take all" to the highest vote-getter statewide.

That's a different system than the Democrats will use at their March 11 caucus. Dems will

award delegates proportionally within each congressional district based on percentages of the vote.

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JACK GLADDEN

## Cell phone users should make calls in 'park'

*"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!  
The jaws that chat, the claws that  
clutch!  
Beware the cell-phone junkie, and  
shun  
The lane-weaving Chatterbox!"  
- With apologies  
to Lewis Carroll*

You've seen them. You may be one of them. They do it in the car, in the supermarket, in the parking lot on the way FROM the car TO the supermarket. They do it in restaurants and libraries. They're addicted cell-phone users. My son, The Webmeister, calls them "cell phonies." They're just soooo important.

And some people are concerned that, when they do it in a moving car, they're downright dangerous. State Sen. George Hart, D-Deerborn, is one of those people.

"Drive along any freeway and you'll see people talking on their cell phones while driving," Hart said. "They are literally accidents waiting to happen."

With that in mind Hart has introduced legislation (Senate Bill 1015) that would make such people guilty of "careless or negligent" driving.

Specifically Hart would amend existing law so that operating a vehicle in a "careless or negligent manner" would include "the use of a hand-held cellular telephone that prevents the person from having both hands on the steering wheel of the vehicle." It would be a secondary offense, meaning that a motorist could be cited for using a cell phone only if he were stopped for some other infraction.

Based on similar legislation introduced in other states, Hart's bill may not have much of a chance of passing. How many of the legislators who'll be voting on it are motorized cell-phone users themselves? But the issue is more than a pet peeve.

While some studies have found that the use of cell phones at accident scenes can reduce the response time by police and EMS crews and actually save lives, other studies (often conducted by the same groups) have found that cell phone use by drivers also increases the risk of accidents.

A British study concluded that drivers who were distracted by cell phones (even hands-free models) were worse at judging safe-stopping distances, anticipating hazards or choosing when to turn in to a traffic lane.

And a 1997 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that distraction caused by using a cell phone while driving more than quadrupled the risk of an accident during the course of the phone call. The researchers (who also found no distinction between hand-held and hands-free phones) compared the "impairment" to that of being legally drunk.

Cell phone manufacturers oppose bills such as that introduced by Hart (Surprise! Surprise!), and high-tech outfits like Yahoo and Microsoft are working on systems to use cell phones not just for telephone calls but for complete Internet access. That's just what we need: Daytraders on the freeway.

The debate over cell phones is starting to get as heated as that over gun control (with a lot of similarities). Proponents of the wireless gadgets claim they are no more dangerous than tuning the car radio, drinking coffee while driving or putting on makeup. They have a point.

But messages on an Internet site devoted to the topic often get raucous. And one user, who said he commutes two hours a day over a rural highway in Idaho and often uses his cell phone to report accidents or help stranded motorists, concluded his comments with: "Cell phones don't kill people. People kill people."

The bumper stickers can't be far behind: "TM A CELL-PHONE USER AND I VOTE!"

I want one that says: "BEWARE THE JABBERWOCK!"  
Jack Gladden is a copy editor for the Observer Newspapers. E-mail him at jgladden@oe.homecomm.net. He doesn't have a cell phone.

## Magic words

### Harry Potter books attract readers, debate

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
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For an imaginary character, Harry Potter sure can create a stir.

Derived from the imagination of J.K. Rowling, Potter is the star of a series of novels — scheduled to end at number seven — that began when Rowling was a divorced parent caring for her infant daughter and struggling to get by in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The writer, who has received awards and accolades for the series, claims she's been writing since age 6. Now it seems some of her fans are following in her footsteps. Ten-year-old Keith Brown has read all the Harry Potter books to date and is anxiously awaiting the newest in the series, due out in July. The stories have captivated his imagination and inspired him to read more and even write his own book.

"I'm writing a book called 'Fantasy,' which is about a fiction writer who finishes a book and wishes to be the lead character," said Keith, a student at Miller Elementary School in Plymouth. In his story, the writer's wish comes true. He credits Rowling with inspiring him to include an element of magic in his book. "Magic is kind of mysterious," he said. "You don't know what's going to happen. It's really unpredictable."

Keith got his first peek into the fantasy world of Harry Potter after a friend told him about the books. Now he's a bonafide fan.

"I think J.K. Rowling is a pretty good writer." He especially enjoys the way she creates words like "muggle" and sports like "Quidditch" in her fictitious world. Now that his mother is reading the books, he said, they have a lot to talk about. "I've always liked to read, but I think (these books) make me want to read."

#### Inappropriate subject?

While readers young and old have lauded the author, some parents still showed concern over the use of sorcery in the books. Annemarie Posh, a Livonia resident, will not let her children read Rowling's novels. Posh said it took one look at the cover to know it wasn't appropriate reading for her children.

"We're always careful about what she watches on TV," she said of her daughter. "I saw that sorcery stuff. You just don't know what the agendas of different authors (may be)."

Carol Bacile of Livonia works as a first-grade teacher. She said that while she believes Rowling is a good writer, she didn't like the "slant toward witchcraft."

"I don't think witchcraft is harmless," added Bacile, who's read the first book in the series. "I just don't think witchcraft is something that needs to be introduced to children."

#### A kind of censorship

Linda Garrett, a young adult librarian, finds the discussion against the books troublesome. She considers it her duty to provide library patrons access to literary works, as well as

## Harry Potter series renews reading interest

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
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Don't try to check out a Harry Potter book from the library at Field Elementary School in Canton. Chances are, the waiting list is growing even longer.

J.K. Rowling's series starring the young sorcerer is the hottest book on the shelves, said Connie Kelber, school librarian. "All the books are sold out. Students had to sign up. This is the newest big thing."

Harry Potter was also the big seller at the school's book fair; it actually sold out. Kelber, who's read all three novels so far, said that part of the appeal of the book stems from the way Harry is portrayed like a normal child — someone who makes mistakes. Kids feel for Harry. And Harry encourages students — who may be reluctant readers — to get lost in this fantasy world.

Kelber said: "When I asked a student 'What is it about the book that you like?' his eyes lit up and he said 'It's really thrilling.' That's how you describe a roller coaster, not a book. We're very happy."

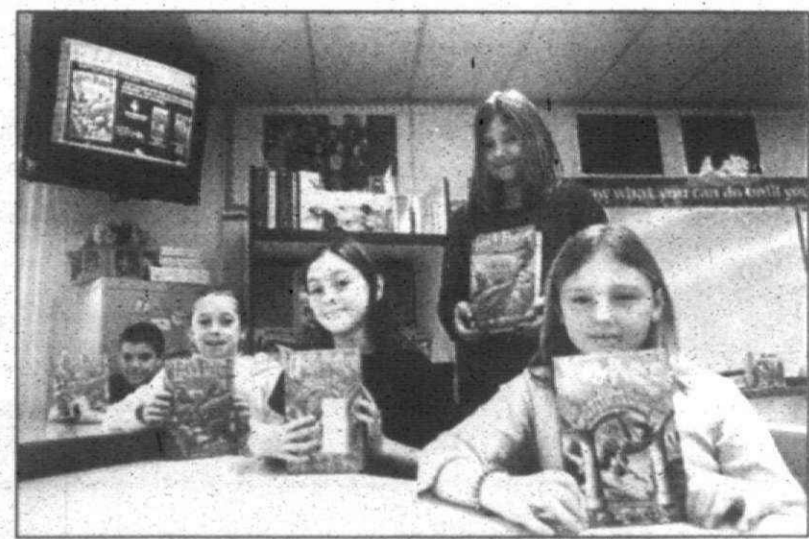
Adam Robinson, a fourth-grader, said it took time for him to get interested. "When I first read it I didn't exactly like it." Now he's almost halfway through the third book. "This is the first book I've ever read through and wanted to keep going." He's not alone.

"I think Harry Potter has surpassed 'Goosebumps,'" said Pattee Rupert, fourth grade teacher. "She makes pictures with words. Those are the authors we like." Rupert noted that teachers use the books in different ways, some read them to the class, others let the students read them by themselves. Rupert answers questions her students have when reading the books. She too is reading them chapter by chapter.

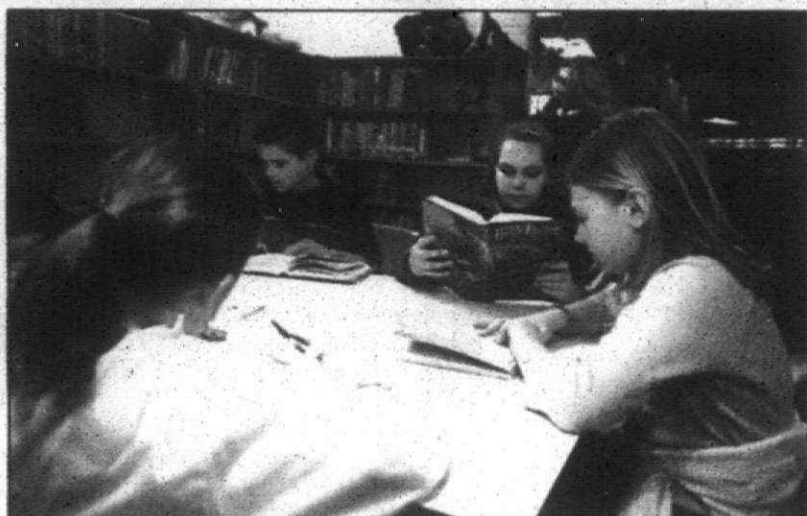
"They're the best books I've ever read," said fifth-grader Brad Way. "They're pretty exciting and action-packed." Classmate Asiri Liyanaarachchi agreed. He's read all three books. "I want to read the whole series," said Asiri.

But the class wants more than that.

Please see READING, B2



Devoted: Brad Way, from left in back, Shayna Klein, Alyssa Heller, Lisa Wiezorek and Stephanie Mifsud, all 10 and in Pattee Rupert's fifth-grade class at Field Elementary in Canton, show off their Harry Potter books, while the official Web site is displayed on a TV screen in the classroom.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

All wrapped up: A group of students from Pattee Rupert's fifth-grade class at Field Elementary in Canton read their Harry Potter books recently.

acting in the best interest of the students who pass through her library. A strong supporter of the books for their ability to promote qualities like kindness, loyalty and bravery, she was disappointed in a decision made recently by her peers.

Garrett explained in a letter: "At the annual MAME (Michigan Association of Media Educators) conference last fall 'Harry Potter' was the topic of discussion at a dinner I attended with Plymouth-Canton media specialists. I'm sorry to report a number of the media specialists stated they would not purchase the Harry Potter series for their libraries because they couldn't bare to face the furor that was bound to erupt."

#### Just fantasy?

Kathy Ellison isn't as concerned with the "sorcery" side of these books that have captured the imagination of her son and daughter. "They are sorcerers, but it's more like magic," she said. "Kids aren't going to try and make a spell."

Fiona Laymon, a Redford Township

parent, agreed. She expressed the idea that if Harry Potter poses a threat because of its subject matter, any classic fantasy story — like "Alice in Wonderland" — could also be questioned. Laymon said the real issue is parent-child communication. "Too many people are too involved in other aspects of their lives, but you need to take the time to listen to your child and discuss what they are reading," she wrote in an e-mail message.

As a substitute elementary school teacher in Canton and mother of twins, Ellison knows firsthand the impact of J.K. Rowling's novels on her 9-year-old son. Max couldn't have picked up a Harry Potter book soon enough, as far as she's concerned.

"He was starting to get more into GameBoy and Nintendo than reading," said Ellison, who read one of the books before allowing her kids to open the cover. "Everything we tried to do, he wasn't really interested, until this book."

Ellison attributed the popularity of

Please see MAGIC, B2

## Fans speak out about Potter

J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series of novels spurred discussion around the community. Here are additional responses from friends and neighbors who know of the young lad and his fantastic adventures:

#### It's a family affair

Cheryl Zuzo of Canton wrote: "My daughter and I read the books together and discuss everything that occurs — good and bad. We are a Christian family and do not advocate sorcery or witchcraft ... I must admit there were nights when my daughter was afraid to go to sleep because the chapter we may have read that evening was a bit frightening. She did come to the conclusion that good will always win over evil."

#### Play time = Potter time

Ann Wilkes, Canton resident and mother of "two (sheltered) girls," wrote:

"The children are so excited about a book they are reading in their free time that they are discussing the characters at lunch, incorporating the novels in their play at recess and generally just want more."

Her daughter, Meggie Wilkes, e-mailed this statement:

"I am in the fourth grade at Cass School and I love Harry Potter! My friends and I really LOVE Harry Potter. The only problem is that one of my friends is not allowed to read Harry Potter, so she really can't play Harry Potter. One of my friends and I tried to write the eighth Harry Potter book, but failed. I love Harry Potter because they are exciting and because they are fun to read!"

#### Witchy, not evil, ways

Shellie J. Schultz, Livonia resident and mother, wrote:

"Immediately I was immersed in a wonderfully imaginative tale of a boy who was unloved in the home he was living in, to find out how 'reversed' he was in another community ... This isn't unlike the 'Star Wars' series — using 'The Force'

for good or evil."

#### Ready to read

Teresa Allen of Livonia wrote: "It is not pro-evil, it is definitely pro-hero. Anything that can encourage children to read, that adults can share with their kids, that excites them as this does, can't be bad ... I definitely find these books to be an asset to any library, children's or adults'."

#### Crusader for Potter

David Heater of Canton wrote:

"If we start throwing around ideas that these books are somehow bad for kids we go down a very dangerous road. It harkens back to the days when certain schools banned 'Huckleberry Finn' and 'Slaughterhouse Five.' I have faith that our teachers and school officials in our area are enlightened enough to dismiss any such talk."

#### A wake-up call

Linda Korovesis of Livonia wrote: "I can't say enough good things about it in an effort to quell those people that would see it banned ... Wake up people, your children are playing at much worse on the Nintendo in your living room."

Cherie Cornick of Canton said: "It's just a good story ... I don't understand at all people's concerns. There's an element who are trying to control what people read and what people think. I think anytime we get a child to read and immerse themselves in a story, it's really valuable. There's also an element of mystery in it. Mystery requires a child to look for clues. (That leads to) better comprehension."

#### Kids can relate

Maggie Zakem of Plymouth called to say kids, like her 12-year-old daughter Maura, can relate to the story and see the humor in it. "I think they're funny, the parallels to witch (school). They have exams, they have some teachers who are awful, some who are boring. It's a parallel."



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Focused: Lisa Wiezorek, 10, reads her Harry Potter book.

# Evening of Hope fund-raiser benefits pediatric cancer research

BY KIMBERLY A. MORTSON  
STAFF WRITER  
kmortson@oe.homecomm.net

Currently cancer is the number one killer disease of children ages 3-14 in the United States. The Leukemia Research, Life, Inc. organization is hoping that the \$2.5 million research dollars they've raised since 1981 will one day soon put an end to such an alarming statistic.

"We need to find a cure. Children are our future," said Colleen Rieckhoff, LRL, Inc. board member and mother of 4-year-old Taylor who was diagnosed with Leukemia in 1996. "It's devastating to lose a mother or grandfather to cancer but seeing a child go through this... it's like getting hit with a wrecking ball."

In an effort to get even closer to finding a cure for childhood cancers LRL, Inc. is gearing up for the 19th Annual Evening of Hope fund-raiser, Saturday, March 4 at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

According to LRL, Inc. founder, Sharon DeVore, this year's theme, "Evening of Hope, Destination: CURE Captain's Gala," is expected to draw more than 700 guests who will help to exceed their \$90,000 fund-raising goal.

"I'm proud to say 99 cents of every dollar LRL raises funds pediatric cancer research at Children's Hospital of Michigan," said DeVore, "and LRL is the largest single contributor to cancer research at Children's."

Festivities for this year's event



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBERKEMANN

**Smiley face:** Taylor Rieckhoff of Plymouth was diagnosed with Leukemia at 13 months old. She's been done with treatment since May, 1997.

begin at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails and a silent auction. Honorary chairpersons Jason Hanson, Luther Ellis and Robert Porcher of the Detroit Lions along with Detroit Rockers Bryan "Goose" Finnerty will summon the main seating for dinner at 8 p.m. Notable media celebrities include "Destination: CURE Captains" Rich Fisher (WKBD-50), Mark Hayes (WXYZ-7) and Lila Lazarus (WDIV-4). No one knows the benefit of funding pediatric cancer research more than the parent of a young cancer patient. Colleen Rieckhoff says she hopes one day her daughter, and thousands of children like her, will be able to

benefit from research funded by events such as the "Evening of Hope."

"Although Taylor has been done with treatment since May 19, 1997 it's still a daily thing for us and we thank God that we had yesterday together," said Rieckhoff.

Taylor, who will celebrate her fifth birthday in April, first showed signs of a problem at 13-months-old when her lymph nodes began to swell and she bruised easily all over her body. "I just thought the doctor would say she had low iron and send us on our way," recalls Rieckhoff. The results of blood

tests however, were so alarming, that there was a message on Rieckhoff's answering machine from the doctor before she arrived home from the office visit.

Rieckhoff said the doctor told her Taylor had such a platelet deficiency that she either had blood cancer or leukemia and that they should pack a bag — a team of doctors was already waiting for her daughter at Children's Hospital.

Ten days of chemotherapy and six months of treatment immediately followed. Young Taylor however relapsed four months after her initial treatment and would have to go into remission again before a Bone Marrow Transplant was an option.

Rieckhoff said her daughter luckily went into remission and was the recipient of bone marrow from a West Virginia donor in 1997. Trying to keep her home life as normal as possible for Taylor's older brother Nicholas and twin, Ryan — Rieckhoff said it wasn't until a year after her transplant that she was able to get involved with LRL, Inc.

"It finally hit me that we need to find a cure for this disease and that I needed to go out and volunteer for myself and for Taylor. How could I look her in the face when she's older and tell her that I didn't do anything to help find a cure. That I let other people do the work for us."

So Rieckhoff began volunteering on the decorating committee with LRL, Inc. and has been devoted to the cause ever since. "Everyone in the group has

lost a child to cancer, has a child who survived, one who is still in treatment or is a friend or family member who has been touched in some way by these children. LRL attracted me and it attracts others because it's a total volunteer effort and because 99 cents of every dollar raised goes toward research," said Rieckhoff.

LRL, Inc. was established in 1981 by a few clinic parents, virtually strangers at the time, in hopes of mobilizing a fight against their children's Leukemia and improve the dwindling research funds that, at the time, were backing research. Although the initial fight was directed at Leukemia, they quickly realized that the battle was against all childhood cancers. Since incorporating as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, LRL has been providing hope by raising dollars for research at Children's Hospital of Michigan.

**Grateful**  
Although it has been nearly three years since 4-year-old Taylor completed her treatment, her mom says that not for one minute does she ever take for granted the health of her little girl.

"I don't want people to think that just because it's been three years that Taylor is cured. They can't tell me that this won't come back and until we find a cure you let the little things that used to seem like big things go. They aren't important anymore," said Rieckhoff.

"Everyone in the group has



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBERKEMANN

**Happy:** After not wanting to have her picture taken, Taylor has a change of heart and hams it up for the photographer. With her is mom, Colleen, older brother Nicholas, 10, and twin Ryan, 4.

General Fare for the Evening of Hope is \$75 per person; VIP Fare is \$1,500 per table of ten only. For information call (313) 884-0931 or Eileen Surma at (313) 581-5847 to purchase tickets. Laurel Manor is located at 39000 Schoolcraft Road (1/2 mile west of Newburgh) in Livonia. An elaborate dessert table and dancing follow dinner.

## Reading from page B1

They want to bring J.K. Rowling to the school in person. The class even went online with the author to talk about their liter-

### 'They are exciting.'

Brad Way  
—Canton student

their kids and then read it themselves."

She's not surprised the series has become so popular. The books always top the Barnes and Noble bestseller list. "She writes as if you're watching a movie," said Decker. "Her imagination is so wonderful."

### Filling a niche for young readers

Pam Lincoln of Canton is not only a fan of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series, she feels the author is filling a niche by catering to readers who are past the age of Dr. Seuss, but not quite ready for John Grisham. She encourages her 14-year-old daughter and 9-year-old son to read the books.

"I don't think there are a lot of good fantasy books on the market," she said. "There are a lot of mystery stories that are easy reads, but it makes it hard when you get to that intermediate level."

She noted that children are naturally drawn to make-believe and imaginative stories. "I don't see this as being all that different from C.S. Lewis' (novels like) 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe.'"

The difference may be that Harry Potter is ready to hit the silver screen in a big way. Not only is a Harry Potter movie in the works, Warner Brothers has purchased merchandising rights, which means Harry Potter dolls could be the hot item to come. Hang onto your sorcerer's stone.

ary hero, Harry Potter. But the Web site was restricted to one week of access to the author. Scott LaTulip said if he ever gets a chance to meet the author, the first thing he'd ask is where she got the idea for these stories. He'd recommend these books to anyone who likes adventure. Classmate Jessica Cicirelli doesn't just read the books, she's taken to writing her own mysteries. Jessica said writing is something she might like to do as a hobby when she grows up. "She does a good job," said Jessica, about one of her favorite writers.

Read the Observer Health section every Sunday

Bonfire presents...

## BREWERS DINNER

John Brewer Ron Jeffries on Sunday, March 12, at 10:00 pm for this special occasion: Chef Dave Platzer and Sous Chef Dianne Magee have created a five-course menu, each paired with one of Ron's handcrafted beers.

- Gator Gumbo - Served with Promethean Porter
- Fried Oyster Salad - Served with Burning Brand Bitter
- Blackened Chicken & Rock Shrimp Roulade - Served with Vulcan's Vienna Ale
- Rotisserie Cornish Game Hen - Served with Red Light Ale
- Bananas Foster - Served with Snow Bock Lager

Ron will be on hand as your host, and brewery tours will be available. Cost is \$50 per person, and seating is limited. Tickets may be purchased at the hostess stand or by calling Bonfire at 248-735-4570.

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## ENGAGEMENTS & WEDDINGS

### Green-Harrigan

Charles and Barbara Green of Redford announce the engagement of their daughter, Teresa A., to Lawrence T. Harrigan Jr. of Farmington Hills.

The bride-to-be is a 1992 Redford Union High School graduate. She works for Tri County Title Agency.

Her fiancé, son of Lawrence and Kathy Harrigan of Farmington Hills, is a graduate of Livonia Franklin High School who attended the University of Michigan-Dearborn. He is employed by EDS/General Motors.

An October wedding is planned at Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills.



Methodist Church in Farmington Hills.

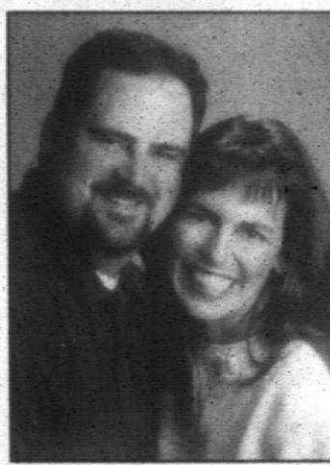
### Guzzo-Wolf

Mr. and Mrs. Francesco Guzzo of Pinckney, formerly of Canton, announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie, to Eric L. Wolf, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Wolf of West Branch, formerly of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Northwood University. She is employed by Automotive Lighting in Wixom.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Churchill High School, and is employed by Apollo Tile and Marble in Plymouth.

A June wedding is planned at St. Edith Catholic Church in Livonia.



### Partain-Monan

John and Phyllis Partain of Plymouth announce the marriage of their daughter, Allison Leigh, to Michael Patrick Monan of Ann Arbor.

The bride is a 1993 graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School and a 1997 graduate of the University of Michigan. She's employed by Exhibit Works in Livonia.

Her husband, son of Richard and Marilyn Monan of Batavia, Ill., received both his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Michigan and works for Diamond Bullet Design in Ann Arbor.

An October wedding took place at Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington before Suzanne Paul. The bride's attendants include Courtney Gazlay, Kristen Monan, Kristi Partain, Samantha Partain and Rache Partain. The groomsmen included



Christopher Hales, Robert Partain, Thomas Heikkinen, Benjamin Guidinger, Seth Klain and Richard Walicki. The couple received guests at the Mayflower Grand Ballroom in Plymouth and later took a cruise to the Pacific Coast of Mexico. They will make their home in Ann Arbor.

### Deschaine-O'Connor

Thomas and Nancy Deschaine of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Laura Rose, to Kevin Patrick O'Connor of Kalamazoo.

The bride-to-be is a Western Michigan University graduate and works as a registered nurse at Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo.

Her fiancé, son of John and Susan O'Connor of Grand Rapids, is a Western Michigan University graduate who is currently working as a bartender at Harpo's in Detroit.



A May 2000 wedding is planned at St. Richard's in Westland.

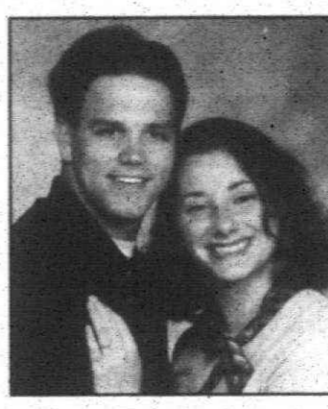
### Fling-Monnette

Richard Fling of Livonia and Ann Douglas announce the engagement of their daughter, Carrie Ann, to Jeffrey James Monnette of Pinckney.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 Mercy High School graduate and will graduate from Boston College in May.

Her fiancé, son of Richard and Elizabeth Monnette of Pinckney, is a 1996 Catholic Central High School graduate and a 1999 DePaul University graduate. He works for Price-Waterhouse-Coopers, LLP.

A July 2000 wedding is



planned at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Detroit.

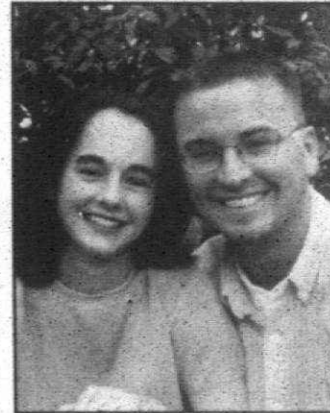
### Kohler-Baier

Charles and Debbie Kohler of Redford announce the engagement of their daughter, Kelly Anne, to Corey Michael Baier of Redford.

The bride-to-be is a Redford Union High School graduate who obtained her bachelor's degree at Hillsdale College.

Her fiancé, son of Ken and Debbie Baier of Redford, is a Redford Union High School graduate and now works in sales support for Zimmer Orthopedics.

A September 2000 wedding is planned at Northville Christian in Northville.



### Gomoll-Buddle

James and Janet Gomoll of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Wendy Sue, to Ronald Richard Buddie Jr. of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of John Glenn High School in Westland and attended Ford Vocational Tech Center for two years, studying data processing and computer programming.

Her fiancé is a 1989 graduate of Franklin High School in Livonia. He works at General Fastner of Livonia in shipping and receiving.

A September wedding is being



planned at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Westland.

### Cordon-Thor

Terrence J. Cordon of Northville and Kathleen M. Cordon of Garden City announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Kathleen, to Michael Robert Thor of Belleville.

The bride-to-be graduated with a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Michigan State University in 1992 and obtained her law degree from the University of Detroit School of Law in 1995. She works as a staff attorney for UAW-GM Legal Services Plan.

She attended Plymouth-Canton High School.

Her fiancé is a 1993 graduate of Florida Institute of Technology, with a bachelor's degree in aviation management and



flight technology. He works as an aircraft dispatcher at Kittyhawk International. An April wedding is planned at St. James Catholic Church in Ferndale.

**AMAZING feats**

- Neil and Deanna Cervenak of Livonia announce the birth of their daughter Sarah Elizabeth on Oct. 21 at Hutzel Hospital in Detroit. Grandparents are Aurel and Gilda Schroyer of Dearborn Heights and Jane Cervenak of Shelby Township.
- Helen and Kirk Martin of Livonia announce the birth of their son Breandan Francis born Feb. 12 at Providence Hospital in Southfield. Breandan joins sister Jessica, 14. Grandparents are Barbara and Eugene Start of Livonia and Ann Martin of Windsor.

## Magic from page B1

the fantasy novels to the way they reach kids. Like the Pokemon phenomenon, Harry Potter books use a language that kids have learned by heart and parents don't always understand. "Kids can talk to each other about it," said Ellison. The books give Ellison, who works in the Plymouth-Canton school system, a new way to relate to her students. She's witnessed kids reading these books and taking out a dictionary to look up the "big words," a good clue that they are educational.

Suitable for all ages

While inspiring children to read may be one of the benefits of Rowling's books, they have also reached beyond youngsters. At 61, Patricia Felts has read the novels and bought them for her grandchildren. The elementary school secretary in Garden City enjoys the stories of wizardry, and she's not alone: "Many members of our staff are also reading these books and are thoroughly delighted with them. These people are educators who are interested in increasing children's desire to learn," she wrote.

Felts stressed the idea that the books encourage readers to use their imagination — something she believes is important for young readers who are constantly bombarded by the distractions of television and computer games.

It isn't just for kids, added Amey Decker, assistant manager at Barnes and Noble in Northville. She has seen the popularity in "Harry Potter" books grow and feels they are suitable for any reader. "All ages come in asking for it," said Decker. "I think parents buy it for

their kids and then read it themselves."

She's not surprised the series has become so popular. The books always top the Barnes and Noble bestseller list. "She writes as if you're watching a movie," said Decker. "Her imagination is so wonderful."

### Filling a niche for young readers

Pam Lincoln of Canton is not only a fan of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series, she feels the author is filling a niche by catering to readers who are past the age of Dr. Seuss, but not quite ready for John Grisham. She encourages her 14-year-old daughter and 9-year-old son to read the books.

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## Children's Directory 2000

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# CALENDAR

### YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON

#### WEEKEND

**PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD**  
 The Plymouth Theatre Guild presents "Oliver" by Lionel Bart at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and a 6 p.m. Sunday Matinee, Feb. 25-27 and March 3-4 at the Water Tower Theatre on the campus of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile (west of I-275, between Haggerty and Northville roads). Tickets are \$12 for adults, students (18 and younger) are \$8. Group rates are \$10 per person for groups of 15-29 people \$9 per person for groups of 30 or more. Tickets may be bought at Gardenviews of Northville, the Penniman Deli in Plymouth and at Evola Music Center in Canton. For more information, call (248) 349-7110.

**OPEN HOUSES**  
 Plymouth Children's Nursery Co-op will host an open house 1-3 p.m. Sunday, March 5. Applications will be accepted for fall enrollment. Plymouth Children's Nursery is on Sheldon, north of Ford. For more information, call (734) 455-6250.

**SUPPORT GROUP**  
 Vermeulen Funeral Homes offers free monthly grief support group meetings for those who have recently experienced the death of a family member or close friend. Usually held on the fourth Sunday evening of the month, each meeting is led by Wes Baldwin of Pointe Care Counseling, an experienced grief counselor and former associate pastor who gives opportunities for those in attendance to express feelings of loss and grief in a comfortable and accepting atmosphere. The next meeting is set for 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, at the Plymouth location on W. Ann Arbor Road between Sheldon and Beck. For more information, call (734) 459-2250.

**PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION**  
 Little Lambs Christian Preschool is having a preschool registration at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 11, at 45000 N. Territorial, west of Sheldon, Plymouth. The school has a weekly theme, monthly field trips, nursery rhymes, Bible stories, crafts, snacks, Spanish, sign language, etc. For more information, call (734) 414-7792.

**AROUND TOWN DINNER/AUCTION**  
 The Plymouth Community Arts Council's annual dinner/auction, "Escape To The Caribbean," begins 6 p.m. Saturday, March 11, in the Mayflower Meeting House, Plymouth. Auction items include trips, dinners, clothing, furniture and art. Dance music will be provided by the Contreras. Entries include beef tenderloin, stuffed chicken and orange roughy. Tickets are \$55. Call (734) 416-4278.

#### CHORUS CALL

**CAMPUS NOTES**  
 To submit your academic honor or graduation announcement to Campus Notes, send the material, printed or typewritten to: Campus Notes, Plymouth-Canton Observer, 794 S. Main St., Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

**WHO'S WHO**  
 Danielle Marie Orlewicz has been selected for inclusion in the 2000 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. She is a senior with a double major in elementary education and middle school education at Evangel University, Springfield, Mo. She is the daughter of

#### Local students meet Mrs. Bush

"Voices In Time," a locally based singing group, will begin rehearsals for the spring-summer season in late February. There are a limited number of openings in all voice parts. For more information, call (248) 449-6540.

**OPENINGS**  
 The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' PLUS Preschool Program has a few openings in its Head Start and MDE School Readiness programs. To be eligible for a Head Start placement, your child must have been 3 or 4 by Dec. 1, 1999 and meet certain qualifying factors - limited income, foster child, or child with a disability. For more information or to register call (734) 416-6105. To be eligible for the School Readiness Program, your child must have been 4 by Dec. 1, 1999, and meet certain income guidelines. Call 416-6194 for more information or to register. PLUS preschool will start registering students for all programs during April.

**Garfield Co-op Preschool** has programs open for children 18 months to 5 years old. The school is in Livonia, at Cass Elementary, 34633 Munger, south of Six Mile and west of Farmington Road. For more information, call (734) 462-0135.

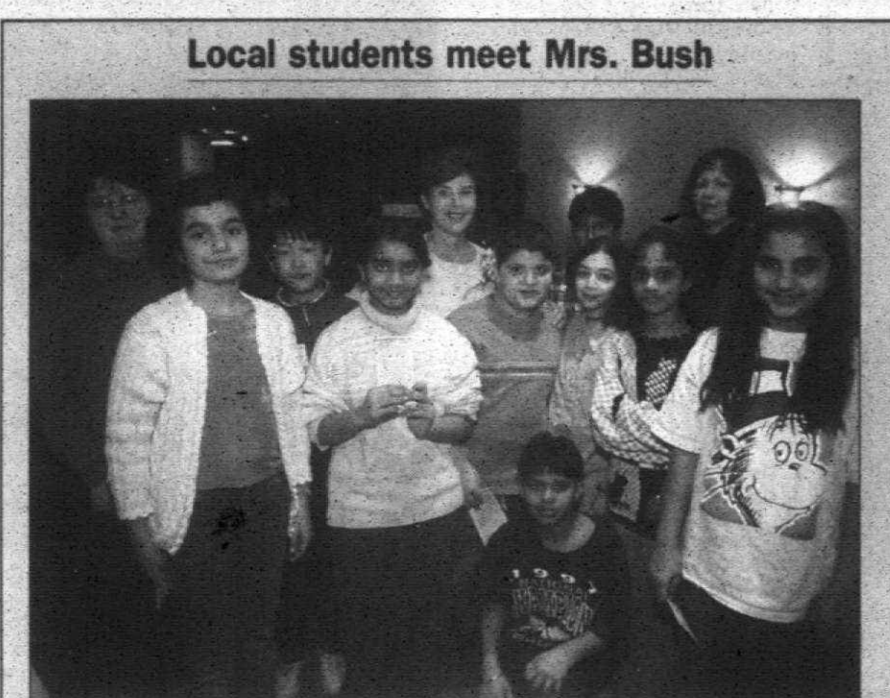
**Plymouth Children's Nursery Co-op** has openings left in its 3- and 4-year-old classes. Call (734) 455-6250.

**First Baptist Church of Plymouth-Canton** Kinder-musik has openings for its winter session enrollment. Call (734) 354-9109.

**The Salvation Army** Tiny Tots Preschool has openings for its 3-year-old program from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The school is on Main Street in Plymouth. For more information, call Peggy Blaisdell at (734) 453-5464.

**Arbor Hospice** is seeking volunteer bakers/food preparers, greeters, fund-raisers and office workers. Arbor Hospice is also looking for volunteers interested in helping terminally ill patients and their families with activities such as meal preparation, errands, reading and eating. A volunteer orientation will take place at Arbor Hospice Residence, 2366 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor. For more information, call the Arbor Hospice volunteer opportunities hot line at (734) 662-3742, Ext. 555. To register for orientation, call the volunteer training hot line at (734) 662-3742, Ext. 566.

**The Detroit Institute of Arts**, in partnership with the Plymouth Community Arts Council and the Community Education Program of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, presents "Art Lecture Series and Brown Bag Lunch" from noon until 12:50 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 29. The



On the campaign trail: Laura Bush, wife of Republican Presidential candidate and Texas Gov. George W. Bush (center, rear) poses with students from Central Middle School's English as a Second Language program during a campaign stop in Canton last week.

theme is "Van Gogh: Face to Face," an introduction to the DIA's latest exhibition. Cost is \$3 per person. Bring your own lunch and friends to what promises to be an informative and entertaining lecture series. For more information, call Betsy Calhoun at (734) 416-4ART.

**TAI CHI CLASSES**  
 Continuing classes in tai chi are offered under the sponsorship of the Taoist Tai Chi Society in Livonia and other locations. For more information, call the society at (248) 332-1281.

**Oakland Family Services** is looking for foster and adoptive families in this area. Foster parents provide a temporary family. Adoptive parents provide a permanent family for children who do not have families of their own. Oakland Family Services is in Pontiac. There are many school-age children who are in need of families. If you have an interest in helping to provide for children in our community, call Vicki Landsman Peterson, at Oakland Family Services at (248) 858-7215, Ext. 236.

**WORKSHOP**  
 Learn the fundamentals of sumi-e painting. Students will learn and practice the four basic strokes. The workshop will be 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. The instructor also demonstrates proper loading of the bamboo brush strokes to achieve variegated coloration. Bring to the workshop, a rice paper pad, a bamboo Chinese brush equal to a size 12 watercolor brush, sumi-ink in a squeeze bottle if possible, green bottle if not, and a piece of flannel the size of the pad paper. For more information, call (734) 416-4ART.

**BASIC DRAWING CLASS**  
 Beginning class will cover the uses of pencil, lithograph crayon, graphitic charcoal, pen and ink in still life, landscape and figure drawing. From 5:30-7 p.m., 10 weeks beginning March 2. Cost is \$150, plus small materials fee. At Charlotte Moore-Viculin Studio of Art, 887 N. Mill, Plymouth. For more information or to register, call (734) 459-1112.

**VEGAS NIGHT**  
 St. Linus Men's Club is having a Vegas night from 6 p.m. until midnight on Friday-Saturday, March 3-4, at St. Linus Activity Center, west of Telegraph and north of Ford at the corner of Hass and Gully Roads in Dearborn Heights. Proceeds benefit the youth sports program. Admission is free. State law limits winnings to \$500. For more information, call the parish office at (313) 274-4500.

**STORY TIMES**  
 Story Time with Miss Karen will be held at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 7, at the Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Penniman, downtown Plymouth and at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at Little Book Shoppe on the Park, 380 S. Main, downtown Plymouth. Parents and children may experience free interactive 20-minute programs of story telling, music and movement. Favorite children's books, simple instruments and imaginative songs and chants highlight the story times. Registrations are suggested but not mandatory. For more information or registration, call (734) 454-0178 for Plymouth Coffee Bean or (734) 455-5220 for Little Book Shoppe on the Park.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
 The Canton Historical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 8, at Cherry Hill School. Please

consultations on legal issues such as elder abuse, grandparents rights, family law, estate/life planning, consumer and public benefits/tax assistance from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, March 25, at the Canton Human Services Building, 44237 Michigan Ave. For more information or to register, call (313) 937-8291.

**AARP TAX HELP**  
 AARP will sponsor free federal and Michigan income tax preparation for elderly people at the locations listed below. Work is performed by counselors qualified by the IRS. An appointment is required. Assistance is available 9 a.m. until noon and 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays at Canton Recreation Center, 4600 Summit Parkway, Canton, by appointment at (734) 397-5444; from 9 a.m. until noon and 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays at Northville Senior Center, 215 W. Cady, Northville, by appointment at (248) 349-4140; and Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and 1:30-4:30 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library, 233 S. Main St., Plymouth, by appointment at (734) 453-1234.

**NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 5403 S. Wayne Rd. • Wayne, MI (Between Michigan Ave. & Van Born Rd.) (734) 728-2180  
 Virgil Humes, Pastor  
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:00 p.m.

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**  
 New St. Paul Tabernacle Church of God in Christ and Grandmont Rosedale Park Christian Day School  
 15340 Southfield Drive at Fenikel & Grand River  
 Bishop P.A. Brooks, Pastor & Founder  
 313-835-5329 SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES  
 8:00 A.M. 10:30 A.M. 6:00 P.M.

**CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Rev. Luther A. Werth, Sr. Pastor  
 Rev. Robert Bayer, Assist. Pastor  
 Two locations to serve you:  
 LIVONIA 14175 Farmington Rd. (N. of I-96) Sunday Worship 8:30 am & 11:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am (734) 522-8630  
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**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
 20805 Middlebelt • Corner of I-96 & Middlebelt  
 Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675  
 WORSHIP SERVICES  
 Sunday, 9:30 am  
 Sunday Morning, 9:15 am  
 Sunday Evening, 7:00 pm

**HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
 9600 Levee • So. Redford • 313-937-2424  
 Rev. Lawrence Weber / Rev. Steve Eggers  
 Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11 am  
 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.  
 Christian School, Kindergarten-8th Grade  
 313-937-2233

**ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
 118 N. of Ford Rd. Westland 425-0290  
 Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.  
 Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.  
 Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.  
 Gary D. Headgorn, Administrative Pastor  
 Kurt E. Lemmer, Assistant Pastor  
 Jeff Bussan, Principals/G.C.E.

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD**  
 2500 GRAND RIVER & BEECH DALE  
 522-2296  
 RESURRECTION TWP  
 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
 Nursery Provided  
 New Hope Preschool  
 Rev. Timothy Hallock, Assoc. Pastor

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 NATIVITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago  
 Livonia 48150 • 421-5409  
 Rev. Donald L. Gendron, Pastor  
 9:15 a.m. Adult Classes  
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
 and Youth Classes  
 Nursery Care Available  
 WEL-COME!

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
 Timothy Lutheran Church  
 8820 Wayne Rd.  
 (Between Ann Arbor & I-96, Riverview)  
 Livonia • 427-2290  
 Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor  
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (all ages)  
 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Avail.)  
 http://www.timothyusa.org

**FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH**  
 291 E. SPRING ST.  
 2 Blocks N. of I-96, E. of I-75  
 Plymouth, MI 48150  
 Bible Study, 7:00 P.M.  
 Sunday School, 9:30 A.M.  
 Sunday Worship, 10:00 A.M.  
 Nursery, 9:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.  
 Pastor: Rev. Dr. J. L. Williams, Jr. • 453-1703

**NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 Stephen Ministry Congregation  
 36500 Ann Arbor Trail  
 between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.  
 422-0149  
 Worship Services  
 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
 "Letters Worth Saving"  
 Rev. Thomas G. Badley, preaching  
 Rev. Thomas G. Badley  
 Rev. Melanie Lee Carry  
 Rev. Edward C. Coley  
 422-0149 website: www.newburgumc.org

**Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
 4000 Six Mile Road  
 "Just west of I-275"  
 Northville, MI  
 248-374-7400  
 Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor  
 Worship Services, Sunday School  
 8:30, 10:30, 11:30 A.M.  
 Contemporary Service  
 8:30-9:45 A.M.  
 Evening Service  
 6:30 P.M. in the Chapel  
 Nursery Provided  
 Now On The Radio 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday - WYUR 1310 AM

**TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth  
 3 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  
 8:30-9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School for All Ages

**ST. TIMOTHY CHURCH, USA**  
 16700 Newburgh Road  
 Livonia • 734-464-8844  
 Sunday School for All Ages 9:30 a.m.  
 Family Worship 11:00 a.m.  
 "New Wine"  
 Rev. Dr. Janet Noble-Richardson, Pastor  
 http://www.undial.com/~sttimothy

**ROSEDALE GARDENS Presbyterian Church (USA)**  
 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI  
 Rev. Richard Brown, Pastor  
 (734) 422-0494  
 Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

**COMMUNITY CHURCHES**  
 "Serving the needs of the family in a caring & contemporary style."  
**COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
 Sunday Worship Celebrations: 10:30 a.m.  
 Holy Communion: 11:00 a.m.  
 45701 Ford Rd. • Canton 734.981.9489

**ORCHARD GROVE Community Church**  
 Sunday, 10:30 A.M.  
 Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.  
 Chris Crumer, Pastor  
 Located on I-275 off I-475 at THE ATRIUM  
 28123 Orchard Lake Road  
 Farmington Hills  
 248-324-7100  
 NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 454-3186

**PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
 6800 W. Ann Arbor Road • 481-402-1021  
 Sunday School 9:45 A.M.  
 Sunday Worship 11:00 A.M.  
 Sunday Evening 6:45 A.M.  
 Family Night Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
 NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 454-3186

**UNITED METHODIST**  
 ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST  
 30000 Six Mile Rd. (at Meridian & Macomber)  
 Livonia, MI 48150  
 10:00 A.M. Worship & Church School  
 11:15 A.M. Adult Study Classes  
 Nursery Provided • 422-6038

**Clarenceville United Methodist**  
 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia  
 Rev. Joan Lewis  
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship  
 6:00 p.m. Wednesday  
 313-437-3170

**Building Healthy Families...!**  
 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship  
 4:30 p.m. - "Connections"  
 Contemporary Worship  
 Dynamic Youth & Children's Programs  
 Adult Education  
 Child Care Provided  
 Pastors: Dr. Dean Kuntz, Rev. James Armer  
 313-437-3170

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 Rev. Melanie Lee Carry  
 Rev. Edward C. Coley  
 422-0149 website: www.newburgumc.org

**CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST**  
 20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia  
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Mail Copy To:  
 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers • 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150  
 For information regarding advertising in this directory,  
 Please Call Rich Viculin (734) 953-2069

**BAPTIST**  
**BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE**  
 29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia  
 734-525-3664  
 Sunday School 10:00 A.M.  
 Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.  
 Evening Worship 8:00 P.M.  
 Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.  
 "A Church That's Concerned About People"

**NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 5403 S. Wayne Rd. • Wayne, MI (Between Michigan Ave. & Van Born Rd.) (734) 728-2180  
 Virgil Humes, Pastor  
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 RESURRECTION TWP  
 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
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 New Hope Preschool  
 Rev. Timothy Hallock, Assoc. Pastor

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 and Youth Classes  
 Nursery Care Available  
 WEL-COME!

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 Livonia • 427-2290  
 Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor  
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 Pastor: Rev. Dr. J. L. Williams, Jr. • 453-1703

# Don't take for granted the blessings God bestows upon us

Recently at our dinner table Grace wisdom was imparted about God's grace. We were all seated and ready to say our blessing. (Since our daughter's name is Grace, we call our table grace a "blessing to God" in order to avoid confusion.)

We hold hands around the table and then we say our blessing. It is the traditional "God is great, God is good" blessing.

On this night, Nick, our 4 1/2-year-old, said, "Now it is time for the blessing." Our daughter, Grace, looked confused so Nick went on to say, "This is where we thank God for all the special stuff God gives us." My husband and I inquired about what the "special stuff" was and Nick said simply, "Love and fun."

I like his definition. God's grace is the love and fun we are given in life. It is something spe-

## 'This is God's grace.'

cial. It is a wonderful blessing, or an unexpected surprise or moment in an otherwise dreary day.

It is the little moments of laughter and smiles during the day. It is the way others care for us. This is God's grace, which is a grand and wonderful gift

offered to each of us, with no strings attached. It is just God's way of loving us.

Sometimes we forget that simple but very profound message. God is there for us. God is always loving us, offering us moments of grace, moments of love and fun. And these gifts from God are what get us through and compel us to offer grace to others.

And then, as we enjoy the wonderful grace of our creator, we must also remember to pass it on. Just as God offers love and fun to us in simple, yet profound ways, we too can offer this grace

to others. It is as simple as a smile, as a kind word, or deed. Simple acts can change our community and world.

Rev. Melanie Lee Carey has served as associate pastor of Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia since June of 1993. She grew up in Chelsea, Mich., and lives with her husband and children in Livonia. She can be reached via e-mail at [Melanielee@newburgumc.org](mailto:Melanielee@newburgumc.org)

## RELIGION CALENDAR

**Listings for the Religious News** should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2131 or e-mail [kmortson@oe.homecom.net](mailto:kmortson@oe.homecom.net)

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**  
Women from clusters 5 and 6 will celebrate the gifts of women, share stories, sing psalms, beginning at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday, March 1, St. Timothy, 16700 Newburgh Road, Livonia. (248) 478-4742 or (734) 522-0739.

**LUTHERAN SINGERS**  
The Detroit Lutheran Singers, Eric Freudinger, director, and Doris Hall, accompanist, will present a concert of sacred choral music with participation by children's choirs at Christ Our Savior Lutheran at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 26 (14175 Farmington Road in Livonia). Tickets are \$10 (\$7 for students and seniors). Call (248) 988-0604 or visit their Web site at <http://members.zoom.com/kmrwin/dls.html>

**KEEPER CONCERT**  
Barbara Keefe, spiritual teacher and new thought vocalist, will be performing in concert "Tinkered and other light beings," at 7 p.m. Feb. 26 at Unity of Livonia (28660 Five Mile Road). The concert will be held Monday evening March 20 at Family Impact Ministries the pastoral care center of Tri-City Christian Church located on Michigan Ave (one mile east of I-275) in Canton. Cost is \$25 per person, \$35 per couple and family. Scholarships available. Call (734) 326-7780 for information.

**WEIGH DOWN**  
A weigh down workshop orientation will be held Monday evening March 20 at Family Impact Ministries the pastoral care center of Tri-City Christian Church located on Michigan Ave (one mile east of I-275) in Canton. You must call to register. (734) 326-7780.

**SEXUAL ABUSE RECOVERY**  
The recovery from sexual abuse

group meets Thursday evenings beginning March 23. Registration cost is \$25 per person, however, scholarships are available. Deadline to register is March 15. Family Impact Ministries the pastoral care center of Tri-City Christian Church located on Michigan Ave (one mile east of I-275) in Canton. Call (734) 326-7780.

**DIVORCE CARE SEMINAR**  
From 7-9 p.m. Friday, March 10 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 11 at Family Impact Ministries the pastoral care center of Tri-City Christian Church located on Michigan Ave (one mile east of I-275) in Canton. Cost is \$25 per person, however, scholarships are available and limited child care. Register by March 3. Call (734) 326-7780.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
"Walitha Kum: Young Woman, Stand Up!" This observance now spans more than 170 countries. This year's service was written by Christian women of Indonesia, where Christians are only 10 percent of the population.

Inspired by this Bible story, the Indonesian women see the hand of Jesus reaching out to them, inviting them to life in its fullness. Program will begin at 12:45 p.m. Friday, March 3 at Lola Valley Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware, Redford (1/10 mile east of I-275) in Canton. Cost is \$25 per person, \$35 per couple and family. Scholarships available. Call (734) 326-7780 for information.

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The recovery from sexual abuse

person. For more information call Tri-City Christian Center at (734) 326-0330.

**NEW BEGINNINGS**  
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church in Livonia offers a year-round grief support group and this new Thursday speaker series, beginning with Del McPherson and "The Healing Power of Humor," March 2; The Rev. Kurt Stutz of Boford Hospital with "Healing Grief" April 6; and Rev. Philip Seymour with "Dreams, Visions and Images" May 4; and Warren Gilbert's "Managing Memories" June 1. The series is free and open to the public. Call (734) 422-6038.

**CHILI COOKOFF**  
The Good Shepherd Reformed Church's annual Chili Cook Off will be held from 6-8 p.m. Saturday, March 11. Come and enjoy. Call (734) 722-7225.

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The recovery from sexual abuse

### Final Days!

## ENTIRE STOCK ON SALE!

45% OFF HUMMELS  
40% OFF PRECIOUS MOMENTS  
45% OFF LILLIPUT LANE  
55% OFF ANRI  
40% OFF CHERISHED TEDDIES  
50% OFF OLSZEWSKI MINIS

Ask About Other Items!

### Taking Collectibles, Inc.

30175 Ford Road • Garden City • 734-421-5754  
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 A.M.-4 P.M. • Sat. 9 A.M.-12 P.M.  
Call for Final Day APRIL 29TH

### PRESENTING

## SOUTHFIELD PAVILION ANTIQUES EXPOSITION

FEBRUARY 25, 26 & 27  
SOUTHFIELD CIVIC CENTER  
SOUTHFIELD, MI  
Fri 25 • Sat 26 • Sun 27  
\$3.00 with ad - Good for All Three Days

BIGGER THAN EVER  
OVER 120 MERCHANTS

Call Everyday Rd South from I-96  
More info: [www.antiqnet.com/MS&M](http://www.antiqnet.com/MS&M)

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MINK  
COATS  
SAVE 50%  
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Every Fur Reduced

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# Team shows town 'Whale' of a time

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

Four years ago, Paul Clapper suffered a stroke. His continuing recovery presented his wife, Shirley, with a new problem: Finding him something to do.

Enter the Plymouth Whalers. Before Paul's stroke, the Clappers, a Canton couple, had never really paid much attention to hockey. They'd heard the name bandied about, but weren't sure what the Whalers were. After the stroke, with Paul's recovery continuing, Shirley decided to find out.

The Clappers haven't missed a home game since.

"I needed something to get him out of the house," said a chuckling Shirley, who has

owned season tickets for three years now. "It's been great therapy for him, and now he wouldn't miss a game."

It's the kind of loyalty the

Whalers, now in their fourth season in Plymouth, seem to engender. The 4,000-seat Compuware Arena is generally brimming with fans, and the Whalers treat them to as close to NHL-style fun as a minor hockey franchise can get.

There are DARE events, a center-ice shooting contest and various other family ties that bind fans young and old to the team.

Tim Smith of Plymouth and his son Tim have been to about 15 games this season. They've had so much father-son fun, and the Whalers have played so well (they led the Ontario Hockey League's Western Conference with 73 points after Friday's 2-1 win over the fourth-place Sarnia Sting) the Smiths will add their name to the season ticket list next year.

"They're doing pretty good this season (Friday's win was Plymouth's eighth straight)," young Tim said. "I just like hockey."

The answer is simpler to his father. "It's good hockey, and the price is right," the elder Smith said. "(Season tickets) saves me the hassle of rushing over here. And the hockey is good, so it's worth the money."

Ryan Stupakis is happy to hear people are flocking to the team. The Whalers' public relations director said the team knows the hockey is good (four players from last year's team were NHL draftees), and it's good to know the fans are finding it out, too.

"A lot of people don't know what junior hockey is," Stupakis said. "We're not saying this is NHL hockey, but for the price, you can't beat it."

The quality hockey, and of the players themselves, is also trumpeted by the 300-member Whale Watchers, the team's loyal and zealous band of supporters. Many of them used to follow the team when they were the Junior Wings, playing at Joe Louis arena.

After a short sabbatical, the fan club returned three years ago. Laurie Johnson has been the club's only president.

"We've followed the team for eight years," said Johnson. "We really like the players and the host families they live with. We've been to every arena in the OHL except three. We're just hockey fans."

As is Aaron Beard of Brighton, whose attendance record is even more amazing than Paul Clapper's. Beard, who works for Kroger, hasn't missed a home game — that's pre-season, regular season and playoffs — since the 1994-95 season.

He's even taken his support to a level most fans don't reach. Sitting next to the opponents' penalty box with his family, Beard, a slightly built 29-year-old, has been taunting opposing players since 1992 with signs and gestures designed to further inflame them after they've already taken a penalty.

Beard has created more than 30 signs — with sayings ranging from "Wuss" to "Now how smart was THAT" — which he flashes at players as they enter the box.

"I get a kick out of it," said Beard, who has been spat at, squirted with water and had various four-letter words directed at him. "I do it for the fun of it. Most of the (opposing players) take it with humor, but there are some who don't react so well."

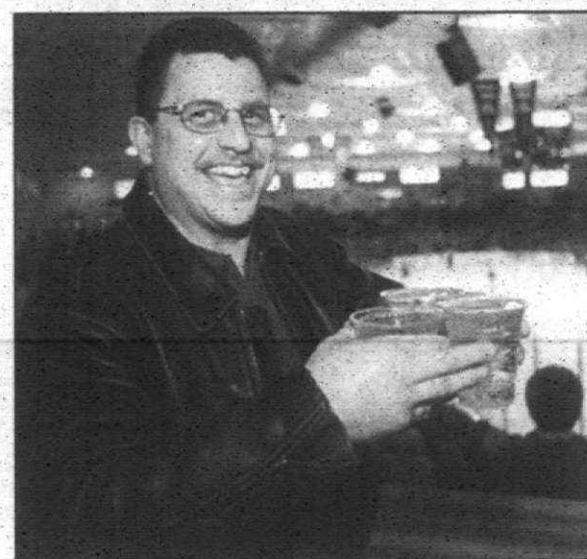
The Whalers have become a way of life for many of their fans. Paul Clapper perhaps embodies the best of the Plymouth faithful.

"I could never figure out what the Whalers were," he said. "I didn't care much for hockey until I started coming here. Now I think it's fantastic."

*Golden voice: Katrina Chizel (far right) of Plymouth, 12, belts out the Canadian and American National anthems while being dwarfed by the Whalers giant blow-up whale. (Right) Aaron Beard of Brighton holds one of his many signs while one of the Sarnia Sting players takes his time in the penalty box. The sign reads, "RAID - Flying Sting Killer."*



First-timers: Carly Bengry, 4 1/2, left, and her sister McKenzie, 2, enjoy their first hockey game with dad Bryce and mom Lisa. (Center, top) Katie Rose, 13, from left, Sarah Hollis, 14, and Melissa Natter, 14, all of Garden City, boogie along with the music during the second intermission. Sarah and Melissa each celebrated their birthdays earlier in the week and they were joined by a half-dozen friends to watch the Whalers Friday night. (Center, middle) Announcer Chris Butzlaff smiles after going through his nightly repertoire with the crowd. (Center, bottom) Paul Verhulst of Dearborn got the beer run duties.



**WHALERS AT A GLANCE**

A few quick facts about the Plymouth Whalers:

- Home ice — Compuware Arena.
- Seating capacity — 4,300, including standing room only.
- Season tickets — \$219 (\$8 seats); \$299 (\$12 seats).
- Game-day tickets — \$12, \$8.
- Most popular souvenir — T-shirts (\$9); mini-sticks (\$5-\$6); pucks (\$5).
- Most popular concession — Pretzel & hot dog.
- Fan Club — Whale Watchers, Laurie Johnson, president. Membership: \$25 family, \$15 individual, \$10 for Junior Whale Watchers.

Staff Photos by Paul Hurschmann

## OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

### Dietrich, Miela honored

Chris Dietrich and Michelle Miela of Madonna University were recently named to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference women's basketball team.

Dietrich, a senior guard from Monroe-Jefferson High School, averaged 15 points per game (16 in the WHAC), while shooting 80 percent from the free throw line.

Miela, a junior guard from Anchor Bay High School, averaged 13 points and two assists per game in the conference. Her season averages were eight points and two assists. She has compiled a 3.3 GPA in three years in Madonna's Dietetics program.

Dietrich, Miela and Jaclyn Kocis, a junior forward from St. Clair Shores Lakeshore, were also named to the All-Academic team in the WHAC. Kocis has earned a 3.25 GPA in Criminal Justice.

Meanwhile, sophomore guard Carissa Gizicki (Riverview Gabriel Richard) was named to the All-WHAC Defensive Team. She finished among the conference leaders in steals (four per game), while averaging six points and four assists (per game).

### All-Academic Crusaders

Redford Thurston High product Chad Putnam, a senior forward for the Madonna University men's basketball team, was recently named to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference All-Academic team.

Putnam, a History (Education) major, achieved a 3.69 grade-point average.

Junior Mark Mitchell (Walled Lake Western) was also named to the All-Academic squad. The Business major carries a 3.41 cumulative GPA.

### College standouts

•Doug Herriman scored 21 points and dished out 15 assists — a school record — in leading the University of Michigan-Dearborn to a 93-62 win over St. Clair (Ont.) University Tuesday.

Herriman, a senior, is a 5-foot-11 guard from Plymouth Salem HS. He also had six rebounds and four steals in the game.

His efforts earned him a berth on the second team of the Northeast Atlantic Conference all-conference team. Herriman is averaging 13.9 points, 6.8 assists and three rebounds a game.

•Janell Twietmeyer scored a team-high 11 points, but it wasn't enough as her Alma College team fell to Calvin College 61-52 Feb. 12. The Scots are 11-10 overall, 8-6 in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

A freshman starter, Twietmeyer is averaging nine points and 5.6 rebounds a game.

### Pistons/Shock Clinic

Members of the Detroit Pistons and Detroit Shock will put on a basketball clinic Saturday afternoon, March 18, at Ward Presbyterian Church, located at 40000 Six Mile (west of Haggerty) in Northville.

Boys and girls in the third-to-eighth grades are encouraged to attend. Cost is \$15.

Session I (grades 3-5) will run from 2-3:15 p.m. Session II (grades 6-8) will run from 3:30-4:45 p.m. Arrive 15 minutes early to register, or pre-register at the Ward Presbyterian Church by March 10.

Parents are invited to attend (no additional charge). The clinic includes five follow-up Saturdays of open basketball practice, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Fundamental basketball skills will be emphasized (ball-handling, passing, shooting, defense and rebounding).

For further information, call (248) 374-5937.

### Lions at Thurston

Members of the Detroit Lions Football Team will challenge members of the Thurston High School Band and school staff in a special benefit basketball game Thursday, March 2 in the Thurston High School gym, 26255 Schoolcraft, just west of Beech Daly.

Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for those age 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased from any band member or at the door. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. The Lions will sign autographs beginning at 6:30 p.m. and during halftime at the game. The game starts at 7 p.m.

## Salem jolts Falcons — again



BY C.J. RISAK  
SPORTS EDITOR  
cjriskak@oe.homecomm.net

Bob Brodie called it "almost a carbon copy of the last time we played."

His opposite number, Farmington coach Denny Mikel, agreed except that the time length expanded. "We can't beat those guys," Mikel said after Brodie's Plymouth Salem squad had

Anyone thinking it was an upset the first time Salem upended Farmington, well — think again. The Falcons were no more successful handling the Rocks this time around, in the WLAA playoffs, than they were the first.

upset his Falcons, 65-54 Wednesday.

"In 10 years, I've never beaten them."

The win sends the Rocks to the Western Lakes Activities Association Tournament semifinals. They host Walled Lake Western, which beat Northville Tuesday, at 7 p.m. Friday.

To be fair, in that decade Salem has dominated, Mikel's Farmington squads have not been of equal caliber. This

season, however, the Falcons are.

They came into Wednesday's game with a 14-3 record. Salem was 9-8.

Now, two of Farmington's four losses have come against the Rocks, who are currently 10-8.

The challenge in their first meeting, a 52-40 win Feb. 4, was to overcome the loss of their starting guards in the last week and the death of teammate Mark Bolger the previous Friday.

All this while playing the Falcons on their floor.

But Salem managed it. And a video could have been sent for the second match-up.

Please see SALEM HOOP, C5

## Short-handed Chiefs still win

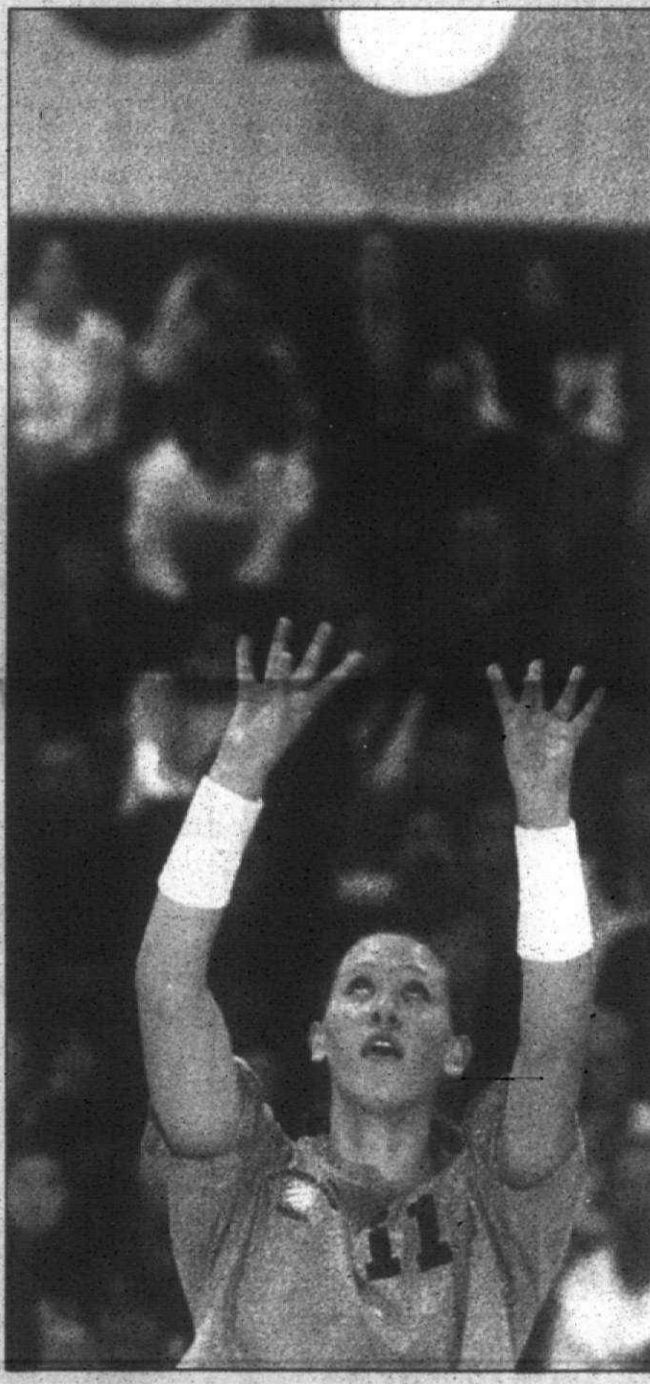
It was not a bright outlook for Plymouth Canton's basketball team.

The Chiefs were already facing a tough opponent in Livonia Churchill in their Western Lakes Activities Association Tournament opener. Having to do so without their top rebounder and one of their top scorers would make things very difficult indeed.

But Canton rose to the challenge

Please see CANTON HOOP, C5

## Rocks wreck Canton



BY C.J. RISAK  
SPORTS EDITOR  
cjriskak@oe.homecomm.net

What a way to get out of the gate for Plymouth Canton's volleyball team.

The Chiefs scored the first four points of the match against arch-rival Plymouth Salem Monday at Canton. Unfortunately, that's as far as they got.

Salem did not surrender another point in dispatching Canton, 15-4, 15-0. The win boosted the Rocks' record to 35-10-1 overall, 9-1 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Amanda Suder's eight kills led the Rocks. Denise Philips added four kills, and Jill Dombrowski had 16 assists to kills.

Beating their cross-campus rivals wasn't the end of the good news for Salem Monday. Walled Lake Central knocked off Livonia Franklin 15-8, 9-15, 15-7 Monday to forge a possible three-way tie for first in the WLAA (Salem played Northville Wednesday in a rescheduled match).

All of which should make for an interesting WLAA Tournament Saturday starting at 9 a.m. at Northville.

Central, Franklin and Salem are the favorites, but Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Churchill and Northville are all capable of upsetting that mix.

"Northville for any number of reasons," was Salem coach Tom Teeters' team evaluation. "Central has a 5-10 setter and a couple of six-footers up the middle. And Franklin has more size than us and Lindsay Sopko does a great job setting."

"Stevenson and Churchill could upset somebody. Shannon Munn gives (Churchill) great speed."

As for Salem: "We're a little less athletic and we're not that big," noted Teeters.

And yet the Rocks have succeeded. "We seem to be more consistent," he said. "Even when we don't play well, we feel we're still in the match."

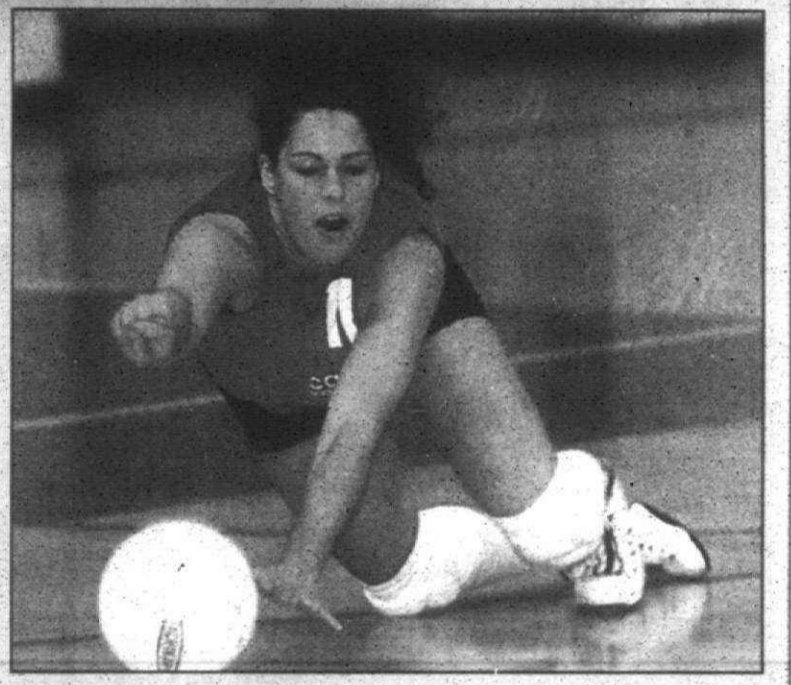
Reaching the WLAA Tournament finals won't be a simple task, but there are some factors in the Rocks favor.

"We're healthy," said Teeters. "We're coming off two ankle injuries."

"We're going to have to have a good serving day. And we're going to have to take care of

Please see VOLLEYBALL, C5

**Pulling away:** Salem squandered the first four points in its match against Canton, but the Rocks — helped by Denise Philips (left) — didn't allow the Chiefs to score anything else, despite Anna Kiel's efforts (right).



STAFF PHOTOS  
BY SHARON LEMUEUX

## 9 and rising: Whalers crush Knights



This can't go on forever. Can it?

There are those who certainly hope it will. And with every game, the Plymouth Whalers create a few more doubters, a few more people who think there may not be an end in sight.

On Saturday, the Whalers combined a four-goal second period with a stingy defense in dispatching the London Knights, 6-0 Saturday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.

A crowd of 2,468 watched the Whalers improve to 35-17-4 with their ninth-straight win; they lead the Ontario Hockey League's West Division with 75 points, six more than second-place Sault Ste. Marie. London is last in the West at 16-31-7 (42 points).

Bill Ruggiero was in goal for the shutout; he made 18 saves. Gene Chiarello faced 42 shots in goal for London, making 36 stops.

Damian Surma got things started for the Whalers, scoring 1:45 into the first period. In the second, goals by Kris Vernarsky, Stephen Weiss, Tomas Kurka and

Justin Williams pushed their lead to 5-0.

Randy Fitzgerald's short-handed goal 1:15 into the third period capped the scoring. Fitzgerald finished with a goal and two assists; so did Surma. Williams and Weiss had a goal and an assist each.

The Whalers' streak — their second lengthy one this season (they won seven in a row in December/January) — has taken them to the second-best record in the OHL, behind only the Ottawa 67's (41-13-3).

## Putnam cashes in on his chance

BY C.J. RISAK  
SPORTS WRITER

He came out of Redford Thurston as a good, but not a great, basketball player. After all, a power forward/center that stood only 6-foot-4 would not be in great demand.

And he wasn't. Chad Putnam — a third team All-Observer selection in 1996 as a senior — wasn't really recruited by anybody.

He tried out at Madonna University, a program that was still trying to get established in its third year of existence. Putnam would face those same kind of difficulties.

"I've worked hard at it," said Putnam.

### PROFILE

"It hasn't come easy."

No, it hasn't. And there's a phrase coaches love to apply to players who may not possess the most talent, but use what they have the best they can: over-achiever.

"Personally, I've improved every year," said Putnam, his senior season entering its final stages. "It's something I'm proud of. I hope I've provided some leadership (this year)."

Putnam has provided a lot of things in his career. As a freshman, he admits, "When I came here, I was the last guy

on the bench."

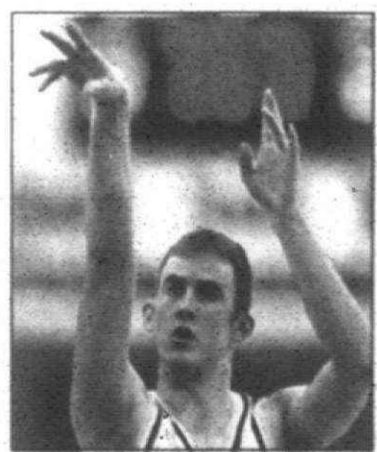
Which means he rarely played. His minutes increased gradually in his sophomore year, but not much, even last season, as a junior, he averaged less than five points in 10 minutes a game and got just a couple of starts.

This season it all changed. Putnam and Jason Skoczylas were the only seniors on a team that also had just one junior. Only three players were 6-foot-5 or taller.

It was clearly a challenge. And Putnam met it.

He has averaged 12.4 points and 5.7 rebounds in 30 minutes a game. And he

Please see PUTNAM, C2



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURCHMANN

Increased accuracy: As Putnam's minutes increased, so did his scoring.

# Henry Ford CC eliminates Ocelots, 63-54

It was a reversal of what happened just a few days earlier. Last Saturday at Schoolcraft College, the Lady Ocelots held off Henry Ford CC to post a 52-49 victory.

On Monday, it was the Hawks who emerged with the win, topping SC 63-54 at Henry Ford.

The difference in the two games: Saturday was just the end of the regular season. Monday was part of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association State Tournament.

"In a nutshell, the game came down to our inability to make free throws," said SC coach Karen Lafata. "Everything else was pretty much even. We went through a stretch in the last five minutes of the game when we were stuck on 42."

## WOMEN'S HOOP

SC coach Karen Lafata. "Everything else was pretty much even. We went through a stretch in the last five minutes of the game when we were stuck on 42."

"We kept going to the line and missing free throws, and that's the time of the game when you can't do that."

Carla Saxton's 14 points topped SC. Angelica Blakely added 13 points and 13 rebounds, and Antone' Watson had 12 boards and six assists.

Katie Martin led the Hawks with 23 points and 13 rebounds.

The loss left SC at 11-13 overall. Henry Ford improved to 13-14 overall.

Last Saturday, the Lady Ocelots took a two-point lead into halftime and managed to hang onto it in edging Henry Ford. Blakely scored 18 points and nabbed 14 rebounds, with Janelle Olson contributing 12 points and three steals.

Saxton added 10 points, Carly Wright (from Garden City) had eight points, eight boards and four assists, and Watson totaled eight rebounds, four assists and two steals.

Martin paced Henry Ford with 14 points.

points.

**CORNERSTONE 64, MADONNA 60:** Despite a second half rally, Madonna University lost at home Tuesday to Cornerstone University, 64-60, in a women's basketball matchup.

The game was the regular-season finale for both teams.

Trailing 39-32 at the half, and by as many as 24 points, Madonna came back with a tough defensive effort, limiting Cornerstone to just 11-of-30 (36.7 percent) shooting from the field in the second half.

However, Madonna could not overcome shooting a dismal 1-of-15 (6.7 percent) from behind the 3-point line.

Laura Yonders led Cornerstone with 21 points and 16 rebounds (both game highs) and Kami Main chipped in 14 points and six assists. Sarah Haney came off the bench to contribute 13 points and five rebounds for Cornerstone, which improved its record to 21-8 overall, 11-3 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Led by Lori Enfield's 13 points and Chris Dietrich's 10 points, the Crusaders dropped to 12-14 overall, 6-8 in the WHAC.

# Cornerstone rips Madonna

The Madonna University men's basketball team faltered in its regular season finale Saturday at Cornerstone University, 109-68.

Led by Luke Moor's game-high 21 points, Cornerstone converted 23 Madonna turnovers into 43 points en route to the blowout.

Shooting a red-hot 35-of-57 from the field (61.4 percent), Jason Skocrylas hit for 17 points.

With the loss, the Crusaders finished the season with an overall record of 4-27 (2-10 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference).

Cornerstone upped its record to 20-10, 9-5 in the WHAC.

19 points and 4 assists, while Jason Skocrylas hit for 17 points.

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## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Soccer sign-up

The Metro Detroit Soccer League is searching for teams for its spring/summer season, which gets under way April 30.

Games will be played Sunday afternoons throughout the metro Detroit area. Registration is open for teams in the Premier

### Coaches needed

Swim coaches are needed in the Plymouth-Canton schools. East Middle School is in need of both boys and girls swim coaches. The season begins in the first week of March. Those interested should call director of athletics Brian Wolcott at (734) 416-7774.

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### Putnam

from page C1

met his responsibilities on a team desperately needing leadership.

"We needed it because we're so young," Putnam said, then added, "I wanted to provide a good, solid role-model, both in the classroom and on the floor. That's important."

"(Academic problems) have killed us in the past. This year we didn't lose anybody to grades. It's a small step in the right direction."

Putnam's role off-court has been substantial. He was an NAIA Academic All-American as a junior, and is on his way to matching that feat this season.

On Monday, it was announced he was named to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference all-academic team. He carries a 3.69 grade-point average, with majors in history and education.

Although the academic woes that plagued the Crusaders in the past have subsided, the benefits haven't materialized on the court. Madonna is still struggling, taking a 4-27 record into Wednesday's WHAC playoff game at Tri-State University.

The Crusaders finished last in the conference.

Player defections and poor academics have wrecked coach Bernie Holowicki's attempts to build a program. The corner, however, may have been reached.

Holowicki is one reason Putnam decided to attend Madonna. With his playing days nearing an end, he has given a lot of thought to coaching.

"I attended Coach Holowicki's camps when I was a kid," Putnam said. "He's part of the reason I came here. I thought I could learn from him."

Holowicki knows he'll make a good coach. "He's really been a godsend," the Madonna coach said. "He's worked very hard to get to where he is. He's a leader, a team captain, he calls the defensive signals on the floor, and he helps the young kids a lot, he doesn't put them down."

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As Holowicki put it, "He's a kid you never have to worry about. He's dependable."

A few more Putnams on the roster and Madonna will turn that corner of success real quick.

"I'm trying to be a part of that," he said. "In the future, when these guys do well, I'll feel a part of it all."

As Holowicki put it, "He's a kid you never have to worry about. He's dependable."

A few more Putnams on the roster and Madonna will turn that corner of success real quick.

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Joann L. Patton

CASE NUMBER: DR35098

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If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form.

If you want legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately.

NOTICE: The restraining orders on the back are effective against both husband and wife until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. These orders are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them.

- The name and address of the court is: SUPERIOR COURT OF MONTEREY, 240 Church Street, P.O. Box 1819, Salinas, CA 93902
- The name, address, and telephone number of petitioner's attorney, or petitioner without an attorney, is: Mark W. Hafen, Esq., Law Offices of Dozier & Hafen, 325 Cayuga Street, Salinas, CA 93901, 831-422-5001, 133611

Date: November 29, 1999

SHERRI L. PEDERSEN, Clerk I. VILLANUEVA, Deputy

Published: February 10, 11, 24 and March 2, 2000

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# Rocks nip Vikes; Chiefs fall

It was a rare occasion for Plymouth Salem.

Monday's rescheduled game against Walled Lake Central afforded the Rocks with the chance to push their record above .500.

It's been a tough season for Salem, which has struggled to stay above the break-even mark. Monday's game was no different — for a while.

This time, however, the Rocks ended up on top, edging Central 51-50.

Indeed, the main reason the Rocks were stuck at .500 going into Monday's game — rescheduled because of Friday's predicted snowstorm — was their inability to win a close game.

Seven of their eight losses had been by five points or fewer.

That changed against Central. The visiting Vikings grabbed hold of the lead quickly, building a 14-9 advantage after one quarter and increasing it to 26-12 by halftime.

Which did not please Salem coach Bob Brodie. Not really. "I got on them pretty bad," he said of his halftime talk. "They came out in the second half and accepted the challenge I gave them."

Salem narrowed the 14-point halftime gap to 10 going into the final quarter. And then it put the game into the hands of senior center Matt McCaffrey.

He hadn't distinguished himself offensively through the first three quarters, scoring just four points. But with Central center Scott Keeler in foul trouble — he fouled out early in the fourth quarter — McCaffrey went to work.

"We just peeked away at them," said Brodie. "We've lost a lot of close games this year. Now we finally won one."

Free throws and three-pointers made the difference. Ryan Cook and Ryan Nimmerguth each made triples down the stretch that narrowed the gap, and Salem hit 8-of-12 free throws — not great (66.7 percent), but better than Central, which converted just 8-of-21 in the game (38.1 percent). Salem was 14-of-23 for the game (60.9 percent).

McCaffrey scored 10 fourth-quarter points as Salem outpointed Central 22-11. "He's a force for us," noted Brodie.

The game was tied at 50-50 with 6.9 seconds left when Cook stepped to the line. He missed his first try, but hit his second to put the Rocks up by one.

Andy Koccolosi provided the key defensive play, deflecting the ball away from a Viking player. He grabbed it but in doing so was whistled for traveling, giving possession back to Central with 1.3 seconds left.

However, an equally successful inbound defense allowed the Vikings only a desperation half-court shot that banged off the backboard.

McCaffrey finished with 14 points and 16 rebounds to lead Salem, but everyone got into the act as every Rock scored. Cook was next highest with seven.

Steve Horn led the Vikings with 28 points, including four three-pointers.

Central dipped to 5-12 overall, 4-7 in the WLAA.

## PREP BASKETBALL

W.L. Western 63, Canton 56: With the WLAA Western Division up for grabs, Plymouth Canton battled hard, but came up short in a 63-56 loss at Walled Lake Western. With the win, Western won the division and grabbed a share of the WLAA regular season title.

Western got 13 points from Chris Howder, and 12 each from Brandon Routhier and Kip Szostek.

Canton, which had won six-of-seven coming into the game, needed a victory to tie Western at the division.

The Warriors pushed their record to 10-1 in WLAA play (5-0 in division), and 14-3 overall, while the Chiefs dropped to 7-4 in the league (3-2 in division), and 8-9 overall.

Although Kenny Nether pumped in a game-high 16 points for Canton, it could not overcome Western's strong, physical play. Western's frontcourt of Howder, Routhier and Szostek dominated inside the paint.

"It was a good, tough game. They were just a bit tougher than us. They deserved to win because they outlasted us," said Canton coach Dan Young. "Their big guys got a lot of inside shots and too many points off of offensive rebounds."

Canton also got strong efforts from Dan McLean (11 points), Jimmy Reddy (10 points) and Jason Weidemann (10 points).

Western will be seeded second in the conference tournament behind WLAA co-champion North Farmington.

PCA 58, Baptist Park 56: Dave Carly scored just six points in this game, but he got two of the most important.

Carly, a senior guard, hit a basket with 1.3 seconds left to lift Plymouth Christian Academy to the victory Saturday at Taylor Baptist Park in a game delayed a day by inclement weather.

The victory was the ninth in a row for PCA and clinched a share of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference title. The Eagles are now 12-4 overall.

Derric Isensee led PCA with 20 points. Mike Huntsman added 15 and A.J. Sherrill had 12.

Matt Reed's 19 points was best for Baptist Park.

West Highland 87, Agape 71: It was a scorefest Monday at Milford West Highland, and the host team won.

With Matt Stamm scoring 25 points and Winston Harper 22, West Highland increased a five-point halftime lead to nine entering the third quarter, then blew Agape away with a 27-20 fourth.

"We got outrebounded by them and we just didn't play very well," said Agape coach Keith Agape.

Eight three-pointers and 30 free throws (20 converted) propelled West Highland.

Agape got 17 points from Julian Wettlin. Paul Anleitner scored 13 points, dished out 10 assists and grabbed 15 rebounds, and Mike Johannes scored 12.

# WRESTLING

## Canton's Pitt, Pocock qualify

For all but two of its wrestlers, the season is over for Plymouth Canton. But it's been a successful one.

"The Canton squad had an outstanding season," said Chiefs coach John Demick, "with seven wrestlers scoring more than 30 (match) wins, 11 with more than 20, and winning records in 13 of 14 weight classes."

"As a team, they finished with a dual-meet record of 19-6-1. By all standards, they have had a good season."

For most of the Chiefs, however, the end of it came a bit too quickly. A state team district title was thought to be within reach, but Canton lost to Plymouth Salem 42-29.

Last weekend, the team competed as individuals at the state district individual tournament hosted by Walled Lake Western. The field was a tough one, and only two of the Chiefs advanced to the regionals.

John Pocock placed second in the 140-pound division, edging Salem rival Josh Henderson 3-1 en route. Henderson placed third to qualify in that division as well.

At 103, Kyle Pitt finished third to also qualify for regionals, which will be Saturday at Temperance Bedford.

"We've had a great year," said Demick. "Our wrestlers have really become a team and believe in one another. They are still young and though they are learning to believe in themselves, they still didn't believe in themselves enough to be regional qualifiers."

"Some things come with experience. We should definitely had six more (qualifiers), with a possibility of another four on top of that, but nothing comes easy at districts and we have a tougher district than most."

Salem went against Dearborn Fordson in the semifinal round of the state regional team tournament last night. The other semi featured Redford Catholic Central and Novi.

The state quarterfinals are slated for March 3, with the state semifinals and finals on March 4 at Battle Creek's Kellogg Arena.

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# Victory carries CC to finals

BY PAUL BEAUDRY  
STAFF WRITER  
pbeaudry@oe.homecomm.net

Sunday, they beat the No. 1 team in Class C, Wednesday, they beat the No. 1 team in the Central Division.

And next Sunday, they'll probably have another crack at the No. 1 team in the state — regardless of class.

Led by 19 points from senior guard Ryan Sparks and 18 more from senior forward Matt Loras, Redford Catholic Central stopped Warren DeLaSalle, 50-45 at Schoolcraft College in a Detroit Catholic League semifinal game.

The win sends the Shamrocks into Sunday's 4 p.m. Central-AA final against the winner of tonight's other semifinal at Schoolcraft between Birmingham Brother Rice and the No. 1 team in Class B — Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep.

"I think both teams played hard and both were tight," said CC coach Rick Coratti after his team improved to 9-9 overall. I think that was the first game we shot under 50 percent from the floor and won."

While the Shamrocks shot just 16 of 43 from the floor on the game, they also stopped the Pilots (11-7) cold in the third quarter — holding them to just three points.

And when DeLaSalle stalled, Loras got hot, posting all nine of CC's third quarter points to turn a 31-25 deficit into a 34-all tie.

"I didn't know I (scored all the points)," said Loras, as an embarrassed smile crossed his face. "I was just moving to the open spot on the block. I wasn't moving there in the first half and did it in the second. I didn't do much. (My teammates) saw me open under the basket and they got me the ball."

Still, nothing was settled until 1:10 left when Ryan Celesky carried a pair of free throws to give CC a 47-45 lead. Anthony Coratti and Loras both hit free throws down the stretch to pad the lead, while CC's defensive pressure kept the Pilots coming up empty.

After allowing LaSalle's senior guard Paul Anderson to score 10 of his team-high 12 in the second quarter, Anthony Coratti turned up the defensive heat.

(Anthony) guarded him in the first half too, but in the first half, he let (Anderson) shoot," Rick Coratti said. "The difference was not to let him set and (Anderson's) a good set shooter."

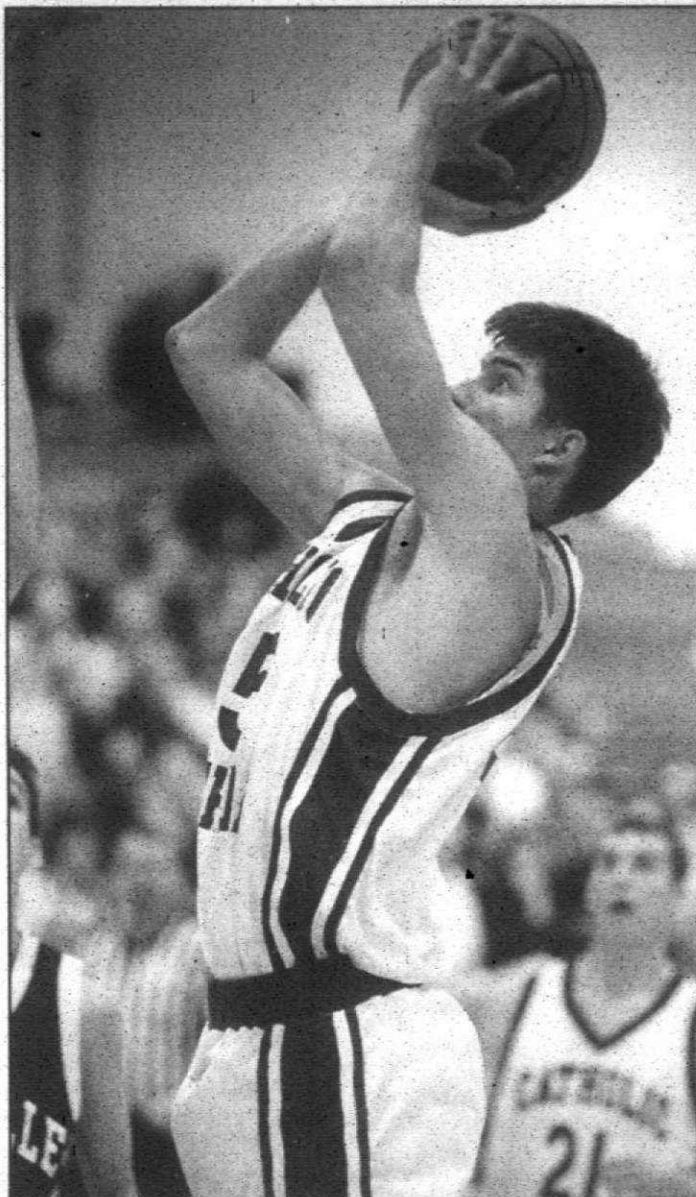
But Sparks wasn't too shabby from the outside either. And his 10 points in the second quarter helped keep the Pilots within striking distance, despite LaSalle's 24-15 advantage in the period.

And if the Shamrocks do face OLSM Sunday, they know they'll have to stay within striking distance against a team that beat them 71-40 in December.

"We were missing three starters then too — Sparks, (Mark) Willoughby and Celesky," Loras said. "It was early in the year. I think it will be a different game."

On Sunday, Catholic Central opened first-round action in the Catholic League's Central-AA Division playoffs with a resounding 75-49 victory over Detroit DePorres at the University of Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall.

CC's balanced attack was led by Mark Willoughby with 21 points. Senior Rob Sparks and junior Anthony Coratti added 16 and 15, respectively.



Sharpshooter: CC's Matt Loras shredded DeLaSalle for 18 points, helping the Shamrocks earn a berth in the Catholic League finals.

# Ocelots rout Henry Ford, advance to state semis

BY BRAD EMONS  
SPORTS WRITER  
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Coach Carlos Briggs and his Schoolcraft College men's basketball team continues to break new ground.

On Saturday, the Ocelots captured their first-ever outright Eastern Conference title in school history with a convincing 110-63 win Saturday at Henry Ford.

On Wednesday, the Ocelots improved to 23-5 overall and opened its defense of Michigan Community College Athletic Association playoff championship with another lopsided victory, 93-55. The victim once again was Henry Ford in a game played Wednesday at Concordia College.

SC lost its homecourt advantage in the playoffs in favor of the Detroit Catholic League high school playoffs, but it didn't matter as four players scored in double figures led by 6-foot-7 reserve forward Mike Williams' team-high 18 points.

SC will take on Grand Rapids JC (16-5) in the MCCA semifinals 5:15 p.m. Friday at Mott. Grand Rapids ousted Lansing in its quarterfinal final encounter Wednesday at home, 89-78.

SC beat Henry Ford (14-13) for the third time this season, and for the second time in four days. Henry Ford, a 68-66 first-round winner Monday over Alpena, however, could not be taken lightly by the conference's top seed.

"We knew this game would be more mental than physical," Briggs said. "We started slow, but the guys picked it up

# CC wrestlers ousted

BY PAUL BEAUDRY  
STAFF WRITER  
pbeaudry@oe.homecomm.net

Redford Catholic Central's wrestling team was dropped from the Division I team dual wrestling regionals Wednesday at Garden City — not because the Shamrocks lost on the mat, but by using two ineligible athletes.

"The rules were pretty black and white on this," CC athletic director Bob Santello said. "There wasn't a lot of gray area in this. It wasn't (the wrestlers') fault."

The ineligibilities came from the wrestlers exceeding the limit of 16 regular-season weigh-ins — something that wasn't discovered until after the Shamrocks competed in the Division I individual district Saturday at Troy High School.

Because the discovery came after the team had competed in district competition, including a 49-21 win last Wednesday over Livonia Stevenson, CC had to forfeit any wins they had in the state tourney.

# WRESTLING

It also gave Novi a bye into the regional final where the Wildcats defeated Plymouth Salem, 56-15, to advance to the state quarterfinals Friday, March 3 in Battle Creek.

"We were informed by the manager of the individual district at Troy that the season history, which indicates wins, losses and weigh-ins for each wrestler, showed the two student athletes had weighed in 17 times during the regular season," said Michigan High School Athletic Association communications director John Johnson.

"Once we were able to share this information with CC, it withdrew from the tourney."

CC officials checked their records and found that the two wrestlers — both of whom had qualified for this Saturday's individual regional competition, also at Troy — had exceeded the allowable limit. Wrestlers who would have faced the CC

# Ratigan's 5 goals lead CC to victory

Heading into Tuesday's game at Grosse Pointe North, Redford Catholic Central's Mike Ratigan had scored exactly five goals on the season.

The junior forward matched that total against the Norsemen, leading the Shamrocks to an 8-0 prep hockey win.

"It was rather an amazing performance," noted CC coach Gordon St. John, after his team improved to 20-2. "They were all great goals; all super shots, no cringles."

In 1990, CC was reprimanded by the MHSAA for rules violations under current coach Mike Rodriguez, who did not return phone calls Wednesday from the Observer.

The Shamrocks captured the MHSAA's first-ever state Class A team dual championship. Rodriguez, one of the state's all-time winningest prep wrestling coaches, also guided CC to six other state titles (1969-71, '74, '78 and '83). The Shamrocks were also runner-up in 1977.

Jason Waidmann, Canton's senior center, was suspended for a game after getting tossed out of Monday's game at Walled Lake Western for retaliating after he was hit in the head.

The Chiefs survived, however, getting the balance they needed on offense. Dan McLean scored a season-best 19 points; Kenny Nether added 13. Jimmy Reddy scored 11 and Oliver Wolcott got nine.

John Bennett topped Churchill with 16 points. Brandon Drinkinski got nine and Avery Jensen scored eight.

"This was a great win for us," said Canton coach Dan Young. "We got good play out of Dan McLean — he had an outstanding game."

Another player who had to step forward was Andrew Holmes, a 6-foot-5 junior forward. With Waidmann already sidelined, Nether — Canton's other sizable threat — got into foul trouble and sat much of the second half.

Which brought Holmes to the forefront. "He was very effective," said Young. "He hit all four of his free throws, played good defense and rebounded well."

"Without Waidmann, it was really a concern for us," John Bennett topped Churchill with 16 points. Brandon Drinkinski got nine and Avery Jensen scored eight.

"This was a great win for us," said Canton coach Dan Young. "We got good play out of Dan McLean — he had an outstanding game."

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# Salem hoop

from page C1

"We got behind," said Mikel. "Once you get behind on Salem, they're going to break you down one-on-one and make you pay."

The Falcons got the lead on you. They're a very well-prepared, well-coached team. They don't make mistakes and they take advantage of your weaknesses."

Mikel had altered a few things for this game, but to no avail. The Rocks broke on top, leading 14-10 after one quarter and 28-20 at the half.

The Falcons threatened a comeback, but could never quite complete it. With 4:58 left, Salem's lead had grown to 11 thanks to two Matt McCaffrey free throws.

It was still at that level when the Falcons got one basket from Garlin Gilchrist and another from C.J. Whitfield, trimming that deficit to seven.

Which is where it stood entering the fourth period, Salem up 43-36. The two teams traded points for the first 90 seconds of the final period, then after Ryan Coratti missed a free throw for Salem the Falcons got a three-pointer from Gilchrist to narrow the gap to 47-43.

It was as close as it would get. The Rocks scored the next eight points to build a 12-point advantage with 2:42 left, too much for Farmington to overcome.

"Right now, at this point of the season, the kids are beginning to believe in themselves," said Salem's Brodie. "We really disrupted their offense."

The Rocks also took command of the game's tempo early, denying Farmington a chance to dictate things to them. Their guards' play on defense resulted in countless turnovers, as they stepped into the passing lanes for interceptions.

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# Volleyball

from page C1

all the little things. Against Franklin (Salem's only loss in the league), we had one block. We're going to have to do better than that.

"If we don't, we're going to have to dig really well."

Strong net play on defense and a solid day serving that produces points on aces will certainly improve Salem's chances.

And a victory in the WLAA Tournament would give the Rocks a nice lift entering the state district tournament a week from Saturday (March 4).

## KIDS, Don't Miss THE RED WINGS YOUTH TRAINING CAMP

ACT NOW! Limited Space Available

with Associate Coach Barry Smith

- 3-day youth training camp at Joe Louis Arena, home of the Detroit Red Wings.
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Observer & Eccentric

**OUTDOORS CALENDAR**

**SEASON/DATES**

**RABBIT**  
Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

**CLASSES/CLINICS**

**FLY TYING**  
River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tyers. Classes will be held at various times. For more information and to register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474.

**SPORTFISHING EXPO**  
The 12th annual Greater Detroit Sportfishing and Travel Expo is set for Thursday through Sunday, March 2-5, at the Palace of Auburn Hills. An all-star lineup of seminar speakers is already scheduled. The show also features exhibitors, merchandise booths, casting and fishing activities and more. Show hours are 4-9:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 2-3; 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4; and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, March 5. Admission is \$7.75 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages 6-12 and children age 5 and under will be admitted free.

**SPRING BOATING EXPO**  
The 8th Annual Spring Boating Expo is scheduled for March 16-19 at the Novi Expo Center. The show features some 200 exhibitors with new boats and watercrafts, motors, trailers, docks, accessories and more.

**OUTDOORAMA**  
Outdoorama 2000 Michigan Sport and Travel Show will be held Feb. 26-March 5 at the Novi Expo Center. The show features over 200,000 square feet of floor space devoted to more than 400 exhibits featuring the latest in hunting, fishing and camping equipment, recreational vehicles, boats, conservation clubs travel and outfitting destinations and more. Call (517) 346-6493 for more information.

**ARCHERY**

**DETROIT ARCHERS OF WEST BLOOMFIELD**  
The Detroit Archers of West Bloomfield (5795 Drake Road) is hosting a number of leagues: 3-D indoor, Sundays, 6:30 p.m.; Monday bush league, 7:30 p.m. (men only); Tuesday target league, 7:30 p.m.; 3-D bow hunter, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. (indoor); and Friday fun league, 7:30 p.m. Open shoot hours are from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Thursday. For more information call (313) 825-2110.

**LIVONIA RANGE**  
The Livonia Archery Range is open to the public. The range features seven field lanes and one broadhead lane and is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The range is also open Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment only through the end of November. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Livonia residents shoot free of charge. The range is located on Glendale Ave., east of Farmington Road. Call (734) 466-2410 for more information.

**JUNIOR OLYMPICS**  
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

**OCSC**  
The Oakland County Sportsmen's Club will hold a 3-D shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, March 12, on its walk-through course in Clarkston. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

**ACTIVITIES**

**DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS**  
Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. membership meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at Knights of Columbus, St. Pius X, 6177 Chicago Road, in Warren. The public is welcome. Dennis Bidigare, well-known charter fisherman on Lake Michigan, is scheduled to be the guest speaker at the Feb. 29 meeting. More information can be obtained by calling Ed Wilczek at (810) 757-7365 or club President Ray Banbury at (810) 598-0310. The Detroit Area Steelheaders will

also hold a Sportsmen's Game Dinner March 18 at Bishop William F. Murphy Knights of Columbus Hall in Warren. The dinner is open to the public and doors open at 5 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person. Tickets will be available at the Feb. 29 DAS meeting or by calling Tom Moores at (248) 634-5789, Mary Karakas at (248) 545-1181 or Linda Banbury at (810) 598-0310.

**CLINTON VALLEY BASS**  
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

**METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS**  
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

**MICHIGAN FLY FISHING**  
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Middle School, located on Middlebelt Road between Seven and Eight mile roads. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

**FOUR SEASONS**  
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets at 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843 for information.

**HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS**  
The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Rd., Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

**BASS ASSOCIATION**  
The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

**SOLAR**  
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation

(SOLAR), a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

**HIGHLAND CC SKI**  
Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a 2-3

hour cross country ski trip at the Highland Recreation Area on Sunday, Feb. 13. Call (313) 863-8392 for more information.

**POINTE PEELE ICE HIKE**  
Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a 2-3 hour hike at Pointe Pelee in Ontario on Feb. 27. Call (313) 581-7579 for more information.

**SHOOTING RANGES**

**BALD MOUNTAIN**  
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Hours for archery and clay target shooting are noon to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Rifle range hours are 3 p.m. to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd., which is three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills off M-24. Call (248) 814-9193 for more information.

**PONTIAC LAKE**  
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

**ORTONVILLE RECREATION**  
Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are 12-5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call

(248) 693-6767 for more information.

**METROPARKS**

**METROPARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178; Hudson Mills, 1-800-477-3191.

**1999 PERMITS**  
The 1999 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permits are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

**OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS**

**COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

**PERMITS**  
The 2000 Oakland County parks motor vehicle permits are on sale at all county park offices and many parks and recreation and township offices. Cost is \$20 through April 30 and \$25 thereafter. Call (248) 858-0906 or TTY (248) 858-1684.

**STATE PARKS**

**STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area, and Island Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and addi-

tional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2187. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7067.

**WAYNE COUNTY PARKS**

**COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Wayne County Parks offers nature interpretive programs throughout the year. Advanced registration is requested. Call (734) 261-1990 to register and for more information.

**SYMPOSIUMS**

**BLACK BEAR SYMPOSIUM**  
Michigan Bear Hunters Association, in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, will sponsor a Black Bear Symposium beginning at 10 a.m. Friday, March 10, at the Northfield Hilton in Troy. Several distinguished researchers will be on hand discussing issues including: Bears Around the World; Bear Population Dynamics; Cultural Carrying Capacity Concepts; Land Use Trends and Bear Habitat, and much more. Admission is free and the symposium is open to the public. For more information call Tim Reis at (517) 373-1263.

**QUIET WATER SYMPOSIUM**  
A quiet water symposium will be held 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at the Michigan State University Agriculture Pavilion (just south of Mt. Hope Road on Farm Lane) in East Lansing. This annual event brings together people who share a love of outdoor, non-motorized recreation. The symposium features speakers, a slide presentation, workshops, demonstrations, a paddlers film festival, information about water quality and access, and much more. Admission is \$5 for adults and children under the age of 12 will be admitted free. For more information contact Wayne Barry at (517) 339-3112 or send e-mail to catalina@tir.com.



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## THE WEEKEND

### FRIDAY



**Detroit Symphony Orchestra** pops concert 8:30 p.m. at Orchestra Hall in Detroit features **Sandy Duncan**, her partner-husband **Don Correia**, and **Guy Stroman** in a self-arranged show titled "Together." Tickets \$14-\$47, call (313) 576-5111.

### SATURDAY



**Adam Antrobus** and his house-keeper, **Sabrina** (**Randy Barret Topper** of Farmington Hills and **Angela Hogue**), battle to keep warm through the *Ice Age* in Thornton Wilder's "The Skin of Our Teeth," 8 p.m. at the Bonstelle Theatre, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$8 to \$10, call (313) 577-2960.

### SUNDAY



**Canton Project Arts** presents "Opera Encore!" with **Dino Valle** and the **Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan** 3 p.m. at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Tickets \$15, call (734) 397-6450. Program includes a slide presentation about the history of opera and concert.



JOAN MARCUS

## Dancer ready to 'Razzle Dazzle' audience



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

**G**regory Reuter has a soft spot in his heart for the musical "Sweet Charity." He danced and sang his way through "Big Spender" as a student in the Creative and Performing Arts program at Livonia's Churchill High School in the late 1980s. Now he's returning to the Detroit area to "Razzle Dazzle" audiences as one of six principals in the cast of "Fosse" opening Tuesday, Feb. 29, at the Fisher Theater.

The production, a celebration in song and dance of the legendary choreographer/director, surveys 35 years of Bob Fosse's award-winning musicals, films and television specials.

Be ready to dance and sing, or at least tap your toes, if you're lucky enough to be in the audience. There are 29 musical numbers and 15-minutes of intensive dancing in the finale — Benny Goodman's "Sing, Sing, Sing" from the 1978 "Dancin'" — not to mention the two hours of high kickin' routines that precede it. Expect plenty of strutting from the 28 cast members dressed in traditional "Fosse" black and holding derbies. Each actor plays numerous roles including Reuter who shines in "From This Moment On" from

"Kiss Me Kate" and "Razzle Dazzle" from "Chicago." "Growing up I was really influenced by Gene Kelly and Fred Astaire," said Reuter. "Fosse was a contemporary, a song and dance man and one of my biggest influences."

Reuter and the rest of the cast went through six weeks of intensive rehearsals with Gwen Verdon and Ann Reinking. Verdon, for whom Fosse created "Whatever Lola Wants" in "Damn Yankees," serves as artistic adviser to the production. Reinking was a principal dancer in many of Fosse's shows. In fact, Reuter originally worked with Reinking in the revival of "Chicago" on Broadway.

"They're the keepers of the torch," said the 28-year-old Reuter, who started out in the chorus at Walt Disney World and eventually worked his way to New York where he sang at Radio City Musical Hall with The Rockettes and as a backup singer for Liza Minnelli. "They have all the original information and don't let you get away with much."

Fosse's theatrical and sensual dances earned him accolades throughout his career. In 1973, he became the first director

Please see FOSSE, E2



Kirk Hanley

## Second City Touring Company

**What:** Performs 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 3-4  
**Where:** Farmington Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, (1/2 mile west of Orchard Lake Road), Farmington Hills  
**Tickets:** \$25 per person. Proceeds benefit the Farmington Players' building fund. Afterglow with refreshments follows performances. Call (248) 553-2955.

## Engineering comedian coming home

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER  
kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

In school, **Kirk Hanley** was the smart, nerdy kid who did well in math and science. He graduated from the GM Institute in Flint, and became an engineer. But it was the experience he received on the stage at Farmington Players that really helped his career.

No kidding — Hanley gave up a career in engineering to become an actor and a comedian.

"My heart wasn't in it," said Hanley a member of the Second City Touring Company performing Friday-Saturday, March 3-4 at the Farmington Players Barn in Farmington Hills. "It was very scary to walk away from a stable job."

A graduate of Troy Athens High School, Hanley started performing in plays at the GM Institute. A family friend invited him to attend a membership meeting at the Farmington Players in 1986. He was only 22; and because there weren't a lot of men in his age group, he got cast in a lot of shows.

"The stage time and experience was terrific," he said. "I always seemed to be involved in shows where I played multiple characters. I had the opportunity to work with many wonderful, patient directors and many fine acting ensembles. I was in all of the comedies. Comedy seems to be one of my strengths, I'm pretty quick on my feet."

With encouragement from his wife **Deborah Hanley, 36**, and a resident of Farmington, started working on his improvisation and acting skills. Prior to being accepted into the Second City Touring Company in 1998, he worked as an actor with the Purple Rose Theatre, Heartland Theatre, and the Gem Theatre. He performed improvisation for two and a half years with Totally Unrehearsed Theatre based out of Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak.

He has done numerous industrial films, industrial stage shows, voice-overs, and a few commercials. In addition to his work with the Second City Touring Company, Hanley teaches

Please see COMEDIAN, E2

## POPULAR MUSIC

### Crud debuts at Lili's, wins over new fans, old friends

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

"You guys must be crazy," shouted one fan standing in a long line leading down the corridor outside Lili's 21 in Hamtramck. But the crowd of people rushing out of the club weren't leaving — they were heading for the stage door, ready to make their entrance.

In a moment made for local music history, **Vinnie Dombroski**, **Joey Mazzola**, **Robby Graham** and **Jimmy Paluzzi** debuted on Lili's stage as the newly formed **Crud**. These former members of Detroit-based bands **Sponge** and **Hoarse** have been rehearsing for just more than a month, but the buzz surrounding them is growing louder by the minute.

The crowd pushed and prodded its way as close to the stage as possible Friday, Feb. 11, anxious to catch a glimpse of **Crud's** first public performance. Four white-hot spotlights shined down — one on each band member.

Vinnie — dressed in black with his head tilted toward the light — sang with such force and conviction, it was hard to look

away. But each spotlight burned as brightly above this group of musicians who've proved themselves worthy of national attention. Paluzzi, **Sponge's** original drummer, and **Graham** had long solidified their places behind the drums and bass guitars as half of **Hoarse**. **Vinnie** and **Mazzola** made headlines as the voice and guitar behind **Sponge**. There was hardly a stranger in the club.

"It fell together really naturally," said Vinnie in a phone interview.

#### Welcome home

Debating at Lili's seemed a natural choice. **Sponge** had chosen the venue for several record release parties, and even recorded "Live at Lili's" there four years ago. "It made sense to play there again," said Vinnie. "I feel welcome there."

Now it's time to put the past aside. **Crud** has a decidedly different sound, a far cry from the pop-driven melodies of **Sponge** hits like "Molly" and "Plowed." These songs

possess more of an edge, a deeper, darker side of rock. "Dig My Own Grave" and "Meat Detination" are real, raw, rock and roll. **Vinnie** calls it "Zombie meets the Pilots doing a soundtrack to 'Easy Rider.'"

And it shows on-stage. It shows in the way **Vinnie** forcefully clutches the microphone, the way **Jimmy Paluzzi** grinds his teeth behind the drums. You can see it when **Joey Mazzola** hops up and down with fervor and **Robby Graham** intensely rocks back and forth cradling his bass.

"There's a certain aspect, that heart aspect, I think can really work for you," said Vinnie of his band mates. "When you work with people you've had some kind of history with, you know their gonna give 120 percent."

With that kind of energy, the name **Crud** doesn't seem to do the music justice, but

Please see CRUD, E2



STAFF PHOTO BY GARY MALERBA

**Captivating the crowd:** Vinnie's more than the voice of **Crud**, he's also a dynamic performer.

## HOT TICKET



**Hot Ticket Item:** The **Gotta Catch It Pokemobile** will be on display at the 48th annual **Big Kmart Detroit Autorama**, Friday-Sunday, Feb. 25-27 at Cobo Center in Detroit. The show features more than 800 exhibits of customized cars, trucks, vans, motorcycles, hot rods and celebrity appearances. Admission \$12.50 adults, children under 12, \$5, children under 3, free. Call (248) 650-5560.

**Crud** from page E1

Vinnie admits it's "near and dear" to him. "The name was a focal point for me," he said. "When these songs started to emerge, I wanted to call them something. These songs fit so perfectly into that idea of this thing called Crud, it just seemed to work."

**One to watch**

Crud has already been touted as the one new band to watch in metro Detroit. Greg Pawlowski came out to Lil's not knowing what to expect. He'd never heard Sponge or Hoarse before, but now he's hooked on Crud.

"It was awesome," declared the Farmington Hills resident. "I'm actually really surprised. I've never heard any of these songs. I'd come see them anytime."

Pawlowski was one of a lucky few who managed to catch the show front and center. Chris Hutt, a Bloomfield Hills native, struggled to see the show from farther back. He wouldn't have missed it. "It was rockin'," said Hutt. "I believe it was their first show. Nobody knew the songs, but the place was packed... everyone was standing on the chairs."

That curiosity hung heavily in the air. Theresa Gallagher and Jenny Zaccaro read about the show on a message board on the Internet and tekked all the way from Chicago to catch the band. "Vinnie is the greatest," gushed Zaccaro. "Whatever band he's in, we're fans." All this attention



**New reality: Introducing Crud (left to right), otherwise known as Joey Mazzola, Jimmy Paluzzi, Vinnie Dombroski and Robby Graham — the latest, greatest musical incarnation of these longtime Detroit musicians.**

comes long before Crud has even begun work on an album.

Vinnie said he's constantly writing new material. "The stuff never shuts off. It just happens."

"I've always used the live shows to gage the success of the music. All the songs we played worked out well."

If Crud gets its way, there will

be another show soon. For now, Vinnie's concentrating on getting the music out. "I'd love to have everything I've done recorded and mixed... Give it a little time."

**Fosse** from page E1

to win Oscar, Tony and Emmy awards in a single year for the film version of "Cabaret," the Broadway musical "Pippin" and the television special "Liza with a Z."

More than 10 years after his death, "Fosse" premiered in Toronto in August of 1998 and subsequently opened in Broadway's Broadhurst Theatre in January 1999. The national touring company opened at Chicago's Ford Center in September.

Fosse's work continues to receive awards. Directed by Richard Maltby Jr. with choreography recreated by Chet Walker, "Fosse" won Tony Awards for Best Musical, Best Lighting and Best Orchestration in 1999. Fosse won a total of nine in his lifetime.

**Full circle**  
Reuter chuckles now when he thinks of playing Alexander Graham Bell in the fourth grade at Kennedy Elementary. Later he joined the Nyonia Youth Choir and studied voice at the Academy of Popular Vocal Arts with Gene Grier at Oakland University in Rochester.

"I still remember the day my mother asked me to take dance class at the Northern Ballet Theater in Westland," said Reuter. "My sister danced and my mother dragged me along. I played a lot of sports. When you start dancing young, your body gets trained. Your body is built to dance."

Reuter's come full circle from seeing "Dancin'" at the Fisher Theater in 1981. He'll not only return to the Fisher to perform but will give a master class for the Creative and Performing Arts students at Churchill High School and a vocal workshop for the students at Waterford Mott High School. Steve Kosinski, Reuter's instructor in the CAPA program, now teaches at Waterford Mott. Joining Reuter for the vocal workshop will be Marsh Hanson, a member of his vocal jazz group New York Bopp and a cast member of the "Irish and How They Got That Way" opening at Music Hall in March. It was while studying for a degree in music theater performance at Western Michigan University that Reuter developed a love for vocal jazz music. Today Reuter is founder and artistic director of the vocal jazz group New York Bopp.

"I'm really excited," said Reuter. "Even though I toured nationally with Joseph (and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat) and 'Chicago,' this is my first time playing in Detroit. I love working in theater and the excitement of live theater every night."

**Gregory Reuter**  
Dancer

**COMMUNITY THEATER**

**Talented cast lends enthusiasm to 'Oliver!'**

The Plymouth Theatre Guild presents the musical "Oliver!" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 25-26, and March 3-4; and 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, at the Water Tower Theatre, 41001 Haggerty, Northville. Tickets \$12 adults, \$8 students ages 18 and under, call (248) 349-7110 or visit the Web site [www.causeway.com/ptg](http://www.causeway.com/ptg). BY SUE SUCHYTA

delivered a delightfully clever, lecherous, yet likable Fagin, making him the bad guy you want to cheer. He dedicated his performance to his father, the director of this show, who played the same role 25 years ago. The talented husband-and-wife team of Ariana and Keith Prusak teamed up once again to play lovers, albeit deeply dys-

functional ones. Ariana brought energy and enthusiasm to the role of Nancy. Keith was consistently, and unrelentingly angry and evil, traits critical to the twisted Bill Sykes. Instead of taking advantage of the youthful cast's vigor and enthusiasm, Barbara Bloom often had them standing stiffly like statues until it was time for

them to perform a movement. The train made of pickpocket children during the "I'll Do Anything" number was clever. The two-level set, with a dual staircase and raised walkway upstage, was functional and versatile. The costumes were generally good, with a few notable exceptions: Mr. Bumble nearly loses

his bulbous belly stuffy in a brawl with his wife, and the workhouse's Widow Carney wears the same clothing as a chorus member, which is confusing. And what was Fagin doing with a modern wristwatch? He may be a good thief, but not a time traveler. The Artful Dodger's costume was delightfully eccentric and

added to his talented performance. The make-up was generally well done. Fagin's character make-up and wig were tremendous. Sue Suchyta is a Dearborn resident and reviews community theater for the Observer-Newsapers.

The Plymouth Theatre Guild's production of "Oliver!" offers a delightful score, an enthusiastic cast and some talented leads. Director Ralph Rosati of Wixom assembled a talented and enthusiastic cast, with a talented and enthusiastic children's chorus. Stacie Guerrero of Farmington Hills lent a beautiful soprano voice to the role of Oliver. Paul Luoma of Farmington Hills was a standout as the Artful Dodger, filling the stage with his charisma and talent, and moving with a confident, self-assured manner. Marc Rosati of Walled Lake

**Arts thrive on fresh approach**

Fresh faces. Fresh approaches. Two essentials for any community wishing to reap the benefits that a thriving arts and entertainment scene can provide.

As the host of Detroit Public TV's BACKSTAGE PASS, I can tell you that freshness is an ingredient the producers insist upon in every show. Even with much-anticipated and highly-publicized exhibits like "Van Gogh: Face to Face," which opens March 12 at the Detroit Institute of Arts, there are important stories that can go untold.

In an edition that airs at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 27, the producers could have chosen to do a segment on the magnificence of the art (hey, it's Vincent!), or the significance of the exhibit (the first anywhere with such a collection of van Gogh portraits). Instead, the focus will be on how the DIA was able to pull off such a coup. Viewers will get a behind-the-scenes look that provides insight into the process of attracting such a major event. It's a story of ingenuity that offers much promise for bringing in future exhibits of this magnitude.

Sometimes, freshness involves a new sound for a musician who has been around for a while. As the frontman for the band Gov't Mule, Warren Haynes has drawn on his stint as a member of the Allman Brothers in developing a distinctive blues/rock thrust to his music.

"Fans over the years have come to expect music from Warren that bridges the narrow gap between the Grateful Dead and Phish. Here, it will be a very rare acoustic performance with just his voice and a guitar," says BACKSTAGE PASS music producer Ron Pangborn of Haynes' appearance on the Feb. 27 show.

Having toured with Was/Not Was during the band's influential period in the 1980s, and subsequently performing solo as an opener in such diverse concerts as Marvin Hamlisch and the Squirrel Nut Zippers, no one will ever suggest that Kathy Kosin is reluctant to try something new.

The Birmingham-based jazz vocalist made a transition from rhythm & blues to straight ahead jazz in the early 1990s. Her 1996 release, "All in a Dreama Work," was a bold, widely-acclaimed collection of nine originals and just one cover. Kosin's open mind and broad musical experiences helped her develop exceptional skills as a songwriter and producer. It takes drive and confidence to turn a debut album into a fresh, personal statement. It shows in her performances, including a Feb. 27 appearance of BACKSTAGE PASS.



**ANN DELISI**

**Comedian** from page E1

beginning improvisation classes at Second City, and performs for corporations as part of his work with Second City Communications.

"I pretty much act full-time now," he said.

Hanley also enjoys working with youngsters and believes theater can make a positive impression. He does outreach programs on drug and alcohol abuse and divorce for middle schools with the National Council of Jewish Women.

**Satire**

On stage with Second City, Hanley and the cast use satire to make their audiences think about prejudice, the workplace, violence and relationships. "Some of our scenes might change people's attitudes," he said.

Sometimes Hanley gets to perform in mainstream productions at Second City Detroit. Some of his biggest fans are members of the Farmington Players.

The six members of the Second City Touring Company will make their audience laugh, and possibly give them something to think about. Part of Second City's mission is to "put on stage what the audience is thinking."

"We try to cover just about everything," said Hanley. "We do social/political satire. The show we will be doing for Farmington Players is usually called 'The Best of Second City.' It is a combination of scripted material along with improvisation. It's a full two-act show, we do some musical numbers too."

Hanley is looking forward to returning to the Farmington Players stage. "The place holds a lot of memories," he said. "I'm still a member of the group, I never let my dues lapse."

**Fund-raiser**

Proceeds from the special Second City performances will benefit the Farmington Players' building fund. The Players are working to raise money to build a new barn-like theater at the same location. Construction is expected to begin this summer.

Hanley hopes to move up to the main stage at Second City. He and the rest of the touring company will be performing on the mainstage at Second City Detroit the first two weekends of April. They're working on the show that's about hockey now.

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# 8 days a week

A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

## THEATER

**CENTURY THEATRE:** "Always...Patsy Cline" continues at the theater, Detroit. \$12.25-\$17.25 through Tuesday, March 7, \$24.50-\$34.50 beginning Wednesday, March 8, (313) 963-9300/(248) 645-6666

**DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE:** "Valley Song," through Sunday, March 19, 8:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, Detroit. \$15. (313) 868-1347

**FOX THEATRE:** "Smoky Joe's Cafe" starring Gladys Knight opens Tuesday, Feb. 29 and continues through Sunday, March 5, at the Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$20-\$45. (248) 433-1515

**GEM THEATRE:** "Escapades in da Moonlight," a comedy by Jeff Daniels, through March 26, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, 33 Madison Ave., Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

**MEADOW BROOK THEATRE:** "All My Sons" continues to Sunday, March 5, at the theater, Rochester. \$24-\$35. (248) 377-3300

## COLLEGE

**U-D THEATRE COMPANY:** "The Dumb Waiter and More" continues to Feb. 27, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday, in the OnStage Theatre on the University of Detroit campus. \$10. \$2 fee for seniors/students with ID. (313) 993-4330

**WSU BONSTELLE:** "The Skin of Our Teeth" Friday-Sunday, Feb. 25-27 and March 3-5, at the theater, Detroit. (313) 577-2960

**WSU HILBERRY:** "Five by Tenn" opens March 10 continues to May 6, at the theater, Detroit. (313) 577-2972

## COMMUNITY THEATER

**FARMINGTON PLAYERS:** Perform John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men" 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 24-26, at the Farmington Players Barn, Farmington and Orchard Lake roads. \$12. (248) 553-2855

**PLANET ANT:** "Comedy of Errors," 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Feb. 25-26 and March 3-4, March 10-11 and March 17-18, 8 p.m. Thursdays March 2, Feb. 27 and March 5, 12 Sundays, Feb. 27 and March 8, 12 Sundays, Feb. 26 and March 7, 12 Sundays. (313) 365-4948

**PLAYERS GUILD OF DEARBORN:** "Nightwatch" 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 3-4, 10-11 and 17-18, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 12, at the theater, Dearborn. \$11. (313) 561-2383

**FLOWERS THEATRE COMPANY:** "A Soldier's Play" continues through Sunday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 6 p.m. Sundays, at Detroit's Holistic Development Center. \$15-\$18. (313) 872-0272

**PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD:** "Oliver," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 25-26 and March 3-4, and 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, at the Water Tower Theatre, Northville. \$12. \$8 students. (248) 349-7110

**STAGECRAFTERS:** "Forever Plaid," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 25-26, March 3-4 and 10-11, and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27 and March 5, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 12, at the Baldwin Theatre, Royal Oak. \$9. (248) 541-6430

**THEATRE GUILD OF LIVONIA REDFORD:** "Godspell" continues through Saturday, March 11, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, Redford. \$12. (313) 531-0554

**TINDERBOX PRODUCTIONS:** "A Chorus Line," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 25-26 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, at Scottish Rite Cathedral Theatre in Masonic Temple, Detroit. (313) 535-8962.

## YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

**PUPPETART:** "Kolobok," the Russian version of "The Gingerbread Man," 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Detroit Puppet Theater. \$7. 55 children. (313) 961-7777

**YOUTHTHEATRE:** "Ishang" African Dancers' 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27 at Music Hall, Detroit. \$8 advance, \$9 at door. (313) 963-2366

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**CABARET EVENING:** Features Grosse Pointe Memorial Church soloists singing music from Broadway and movie scores 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, in the Crystal Ballroom of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. \$35, includes dinner. Must be purchased by Sunday, Feb. 20. (313) 882-5330

**JAZZ JAMBALAYA:** New Orleans style with jazz by the Ron English Trio 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Rochester Community House. \$15. (248) 651-0622

**MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION:** "Put a Little Jazz in Your Life," 7 p.m. Saturday, March 4, dance the night away to the sounds of Tom Saunders and the Detroit All-Stars Band and enjoy delicious New Orleans cuisine, vocal choir Scool Jazz will also perform, in the Waterman Center on the Schoolcraft College campus, Livonia. \$30 if purchased before Friday, \$35 afterwards. (734) 462-4417/(734) 462-4435

**MOTOR CITY EXTRAVAGANZA:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27, at the Knights of Columbus, Livonia. \$2. (248) 426-8059

**OUTDOORAMA:** 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 26 and March 4, until 8 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 27 and March 5, 3-9 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Feb. 28-29 and Thursday-Friday, March 2-3 and noon to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, at the Novi Expo Center. \$6.50, \$3 ages 12 and under. (800) 777-6720

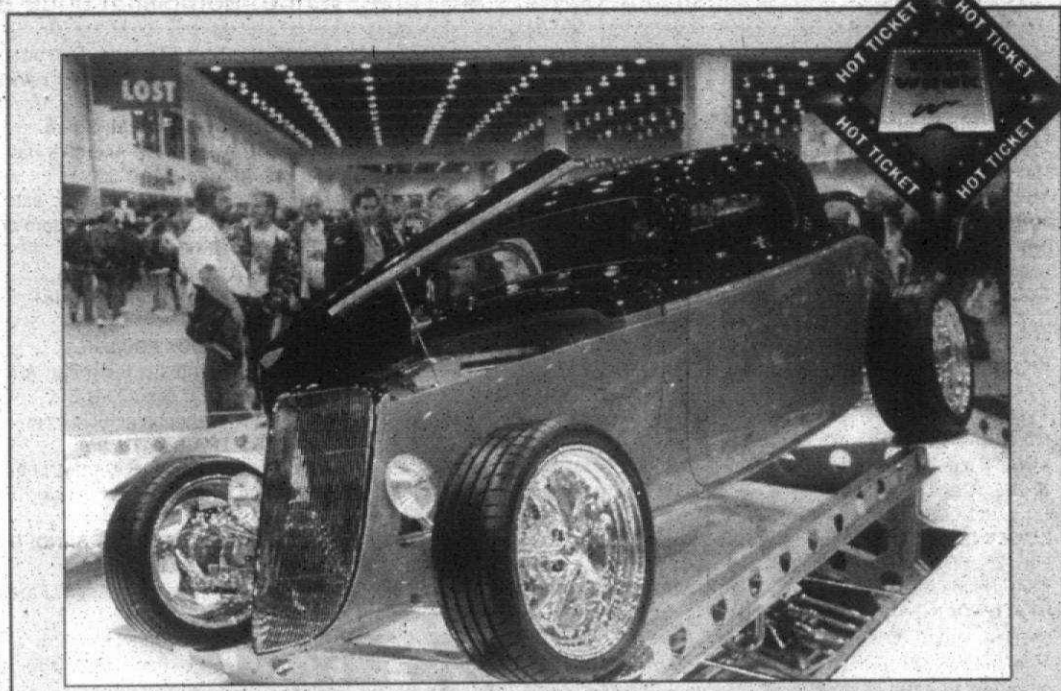
## FAMILY EVENTS

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT:** The Detroit Symphony Orchestra performs Beethoven's Dvorak, Sousa, Tchaikovsky and Berlioz, 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at Orchestra Hall. (313) 576-5111

**JIM PARANAVAS & COMPANY:** "Frank Sinatra Tribute," 8:30 p.m. to midnight, Fridays-Saturdays through February, at Andiamo Italia West, 6676 Telegraph Road at Maple, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300

## BENEFITS

**JAZZ DANCE THEATRE:** A dance concert featuring established repertory works and a recent premiere 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, at the Power Center for the Performing Arts, Ann Arbor. \$12. \$8 students/seniors. (734) 992-



Hot Rod Heaven: Custom cars like this 1934 Ford Highway Coupe are among 800 exhibits on display at the 48th annual Big Knart Detroit Autorama, Friday-Sunday, Feb. 25-27 at Cobo Center in Detroit. The show features customized cars, trucks, vans, motorcycles, hot rods and celebrity appearances. Admission \$12.50 adults, children under 12, \$5, children under 3, free. Call (248) 650-5560.

## THEATER

runs Saturday nights only, 6 p.m. cocktails; 7 p.m. dinner (show follows), at Fox Hills Golf Club, Plymouth. \$29.95. (734) 453-7272

**RAMADA HOTEL DINNER THEATRE:** "Foots," a comic fable by Neil Simon, opened Thursday, evening Feb. 3 and continues on alternate Thursdays, 7 p.m. dinner, show follows, at the theater, Southfield. \$25. (248) 544-0283

## YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

**PUPPETART:** "Kolobok," the Russian version of "The Gingerbread Man," 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Detroit Puppet Theater. \$7. 55 children. (313) 961-7777

**YOUTHTHEATRE:** "Ishang" African Dancers' 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27 at Music Hall, Detroit. \$8 advance, \$9 at door. (313) 963-2366

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**CABARET EVENING:** Features Grosse Pointe Memorial Church soloists singing music from Broadway and movie scores 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, in the Crystal Ballroom of the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. \$35, includes dinner. Must be purchased by Sunday, Feb. 20. (313) 882-5330

**JAZZ JAMBALAYA:** New Orleans style with jazz by the Ron English Trio 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Rochester Community House. \$15. (248) 651-0622

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## JAZZ

**AWIGO:** 8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25, at Edison's, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

**BROTHERS GROOVE:** 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24, at Edison's, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

**TODD CURTIS:** Thursdays, at Ellie's, Birmingham. (248) 647-2420

**KENNY GARRETT QUARTET:** With Kurt Elling Quartet 8 p.m. Friday, March 3, at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. \$16-\$62. (313) 576-5111

**GEM JAZZ TRIO:** Performs 7-11 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, Detroit. (313) 963-9800

**MATT MICHAELS TRIO:** With vocal-ist Sunny Wilkinson 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23, at Ron's Fireside Inn, Garden City. \$5 cover. Reservations recommended for the Jazz Room. (734) 762-7756

**MARK MOULTRUP:** 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26, at Edison's, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

**RICH K. TRIO:** 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at Big Fish, Dearborn. (313) 833-1805 or http://www.detroithistorical.org

**DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM:** "On the Air" Michigan Radio & Television Broadcasting 1920-2000" exhibit continues through Sunday, April 30, at the museum, 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.detroithistorical.org

**DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER:** IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforests" at 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, "Thrill Ride: The Science of Fun" at 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" and "Whales" multiple showings seven days a week, at the center, noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 7 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sundays, at the center, Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 13 and adults ages 50 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4. (313) 577-8400

**DETROIT ZOO:** Mosaic Youth Theatre performs works about amphibians 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays through March 25 in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery Theatre; the exhibit.

**"Inside/Outside: The Art of Caring"** continues through Jan. 2, in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at the zoo, Royal Oak. \$7.50, \$5.50 seniors/students, \$4.50 ages 2-12. (248) 398-0903

**DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM:** Visit the newest exhibition "Folk Art of the Great Lakes" or "Racing on the Wind: Sailing on the Great Lakes," also a temporary exhibit on the construction and launch of the S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald, at the museum on Belle Isle, Detroit. Regular admission \$2, \$1 seniors/children ages 12-18 during the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. (313) 852-4051

**HENRY FORD MUSEUM/GREENFIELD VILLAGE:** Celebrates Black History Month, at the museum, Dearborn. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, \$12.50, \$11.50 seniors, \$7.50 kids 5-12, members and children under 5 free. (313) 271-1620

**MEADOW BROOK HALL:** Tours of the 110-room historic mansion built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto pioneer John Dodge and her second husband Alfred G. Wilson. 1:30 p.m. daily and 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Sundays, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. \$8. \$6 seniors, \$4 children ages 5-12. (248) 370-3140

**THE BROTHERS CREEGAN:** Features current and former members of Barnekand Ladies. 8 p.m. Saturday, March 11, 7th House, Pontiac. All ages. \$10. (248) 645-6666.

**BROTHERS GROOVE:** 10 p.m. Mondays, Music Menu, Detroit. (313) 964-6368

**CHUCK BRODSKY:** 8 p.m. Friday House, Ann Arbor. (734) 665-8558

**BROKEBACK:** Wednesday, March 8, Gold Dollar, Detroit. (313) 833-6873

**BROKEN HALO:** Saturday, March 11, Boulders, Plymouth. (734) 459-4190 (classic rock)

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**THE BROTHERS CREE**

MOVIES

'Reindeer Games' won't win over movie-goers

BY JON KATZ  
SPECIAL WRITER

When a studio bumps the release date of a motion picture from crowded Christmas Day to the limbo of late February, that's like a platoon leader volunteering one of the soldiers for a suicide mission. "Reindeer Games" has been sent to the front, and it won't be coming back.

Stars Ben Affleck, Charlize Theron and Gary Sinise are three of the more appealing performers on the big screen today. Playing, respectively, an ex-con and two sleaze buckets, their appeal in crime-thriller "Reindeer Games" is whittled down so extensively that only their biggest and most forgiving fans

won't miss the money spent on seeing it.

Awaiting his impending release from a five-year prison sentence for grand theft auto, Rudy Duncan (Affleck) is envious of cellmate Nick (James Frain). Nick has been exchanging letters and life stories with a woman named Ashley (Theron), whom he has never met. Pictures of the gorgeous pen pal adorn their cell wall.

Just before their parole, Nick is killed in a prison riot. When Rudy is released and Ashley mistakes him for Nick, Rudy takes one look at the girl in the flesh and doesn't argue. You don't have to have been a prisoner for five years to go along with him on that one.

But to enjoy the benefits of Nick's future, Rudy must also assume the burdens of Nick's past. Having learned that Nick had worked at an Indian casino in northern Michigan, Ashley's brother Gabriel (Sinise) has been planning for months to rob the place using Nick's inside information. In too deep by now, Rudy is forced to continue the identity switch, despite having almost none of Nick's knowledge of the casino.

There are more twists and turns in "Games" than on the snowy state roads they take to the casino. Who can Rudy trust and how long can he stay one lie ahead of those he can't? Oddly enough, the "surprise ending" may not be as surprising to some

as those in the film's middle. Once you've got the rhythm of the thing, you may just nod your head knowingly when the plot plays out.

Affleck is more than capable of playing the boob caught in his own deception. Wanting only to return home for some of mom's hot chocolate, he finds himself locked in a motel room, trapped under a frozen pond and on the wrong end of a few million rounds of machine gun fire.

Through it all, his Steve McQueen-like charm and charisma get him out of trouble both within the movie and in being in the movie in the first place.

Sinise and Theron don't fare as well. Scraggly haired Gabriel is an insult to scum everywhere; as a villain, his one-note character seems an unnecessary and ill-advised pit stop for the overly qualified Sinise. Theron is cute and convincing in her first scenes as the dupe in the story.

When her motives emerge, however, Theron can't pull it off as a leather-tough moll. Her South African accent comes out clearly during her few emotional moments.

Veteran director John Frankenheimer ("The Manchurian Candidate," "Ronin") is at his best choreographing the multiple chases and gun fights. When the characters have to speak, one waits for the Uzis to drop them out again.

Film blends horror, realism

BY GREG KOWALSKI  
STAFF WRITER  
gkowsal@homecomm.net

VIDEO

Here's the plot: A group of young filmmakers goes into the wilderness to investigate a terrifying local legend. They disappear and the only record of their fate is found on the videotapes they made that are unearthed later.

"The Blair Witch Project," right? Wrong. This is the plot of "The Last Broadcast," a film made a year before "Blair Witch" began its runaway success and which has been causing some rumblings among the horror film community (yes, there is such an entity) that "The Blair Witch" is nothing more than a royal ripoff of the obscure "The Last Broadcast." Is it?

Yes and no. Consider this plot: A group of young filmmakers goes into the wilderness to investigate a terrifying local legend. They disappear and the only record of their fate is found on the film that they took that is unearthed later.

Nope. It's the plot of "Cannibal Holocaust," a notorious Italian horror film made in 1978. So everyone steals ideas. The key is how well you do it. "The Blair Witch Project" folks were

master thieves. "The Last Broadcast" gang were petty criminals.

"The Last Broadcast" has its moments, but ultimately fails to deliver the chills with the style or sheer horror factor of Blair Witch. But it's still worth checking out, especially if you want to make comparisons and "The Last Broadcast" invites comparison.

The similarities are abundant. In "Last Broadcast," which announces up front that none of the persons depicted are actors, filmmaker David Leigh binds the story together. He leads us on a bumpy path as he chronicles the vicious murders of two hosts and the engineer of a local cable show called "Fact or Fiction," which leans towards the sensational.

To boost sagging ratings they hook up with a supposed psychic and go on location in the wilderness Pine Barrens of New Jersey to do a live broadcast about The Jersey Devil, a murderous local legend. Only the psychic survives and is pinned with the bloody murders of his three companions.

But some videotape mysteriously turns up, which prompts Leigh to piece together their

story and what happened to them.

"The Last Broadcast" is strung together with interviews of doctors, police and film makers as it documents events leading up to the horrific finale. The photography is appropriately shaky, at times out of focus and complete with flubbed takes. The dialogue appears to be off the cuff and the scenes of the crew trading through the woods could be outtakes from "The Blair Witch Project."

There is a sense of realism about the film that is admirable — until about the last 10 minutes. Then everything falls apart as the plot takes a disastrous turn and completely loses the tension so carefully crafted to that point.

And that is the biggest distinction between this film and the far more effective "Blair Witch Project." That movie left you hanging. This one drops you off a cliff.

On its own, "The Last Broadcast" is still interesting and at least somewhat original. But "The Blair Witch Project" shows what it could have been.

"The Last Broadcast" was written, directed and produced by Stefan Avonel and Lance Weiler. It is available only on video. Check your neighborhood video store.

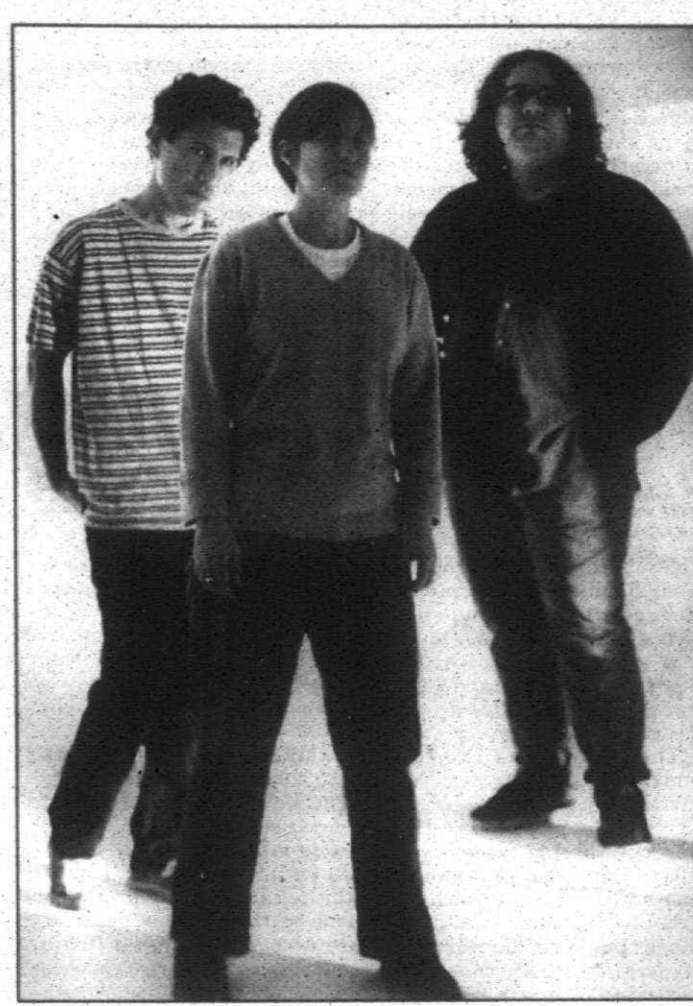
Mellow out with Yo La Tengo live



STEPHANIE A. CASOLA

There are two things James McNew knows well — good music and good fried chicken.

That's easy to see that with one listen and one look at the new album by New York's treasured indie rock trio, Yo La Tengo. "And Then Nothing Turned Itself Inside-Out" is the band's 12th album, and the fifth to be recorded in Nashville, Tenn.



For the bassist, Nashville is synonymous with long hours in the recording studio and the best fried chicken around — Prince's Hot Chicken Shack. "It's beyond red hot," he said with a tinge of excitement in his voice. "We eat there once a week when we're in Nashville. You really can only eat it once a week."

"When you're on tour that's the one thing that really makes you remember where you are. Not to speak ill of our life." He prefers to remember a city by its restaurants, record stores and the people he meets there. "By Friday, Feb. 25 it'll be back to the road for McNew and Yo La Tengo."

"I'm totally looking forward to it," he said, on the telephone from his Brooklyn home. This time around he is bringing two special guests to make it a five-piece: Mac McCaughan of Superchunk and David Kilgour of Clean. "David Kilgour is staying at my house. We were talking last night after rehearsal, in a way it's like we've never toured before. It's so completely different. We're playing seated there. I'm looking forward to it."

"Different" may be hard to

From Hoboken to here: Yo La Tengo is Ira Kaplan, Georgia Hubely and James McNew. Listen to their latest album "And Then Nothing Turns Itself Inside-Out" and then see them live March 3 at the Majestic Theatre.

McNew, along with founding members Ira Kaplan and Georgia Hubely, are taking their freedom, lo-fi sound to new levels. With songs like "The Crying of

Lot G" and "Cherry Chapstick" Yo La Tengo casts a musical spell complete with romantic visions and soul-stirring moods. "It's a wide open approach to writing music and playing it," said McNew. "I think it comes from playing together. The longer you are, the more comfortable you are. You are more confident to try stuff."

That translates into musical courage, like asking one of their favorite musicians, Susie Ibarra, to play on the record or taking friends like the band Lambchop, out on the road, and even inviting McCaughan and Kilgour to join the band on-stage. It's a whole new perspective for Yo La Tengo — one developed over years of creating music together.

"I do think this record really reflects confidence in ideas, in the idea to make kind of a consistent, sustained mood. I am really happy with it. It's been three years since Yo La Tengo's "I Can Hear the Heart Beating As One" was released. For this album, there were no deadlines, no real pressures. McNew said that sense of control and ability to approach the project without a specific destination in mind allowed the music to flow freely from them.

"The hardest song to record was 'Night Falls on Hoboken,' he said. "It was recorded live in the studio. It took the better part of two days to get it on tape." The song happens to be the longest on the CD at a whopping 17 minutes and 41 seconds. And McNew said that was the shortest take.

"And Then Nothing Turns Itself Inside-Out" was produced by Roger Mouton. There's no telling yet how that dreamy tone will go over at a live show. Though Yo La Tengo did perform

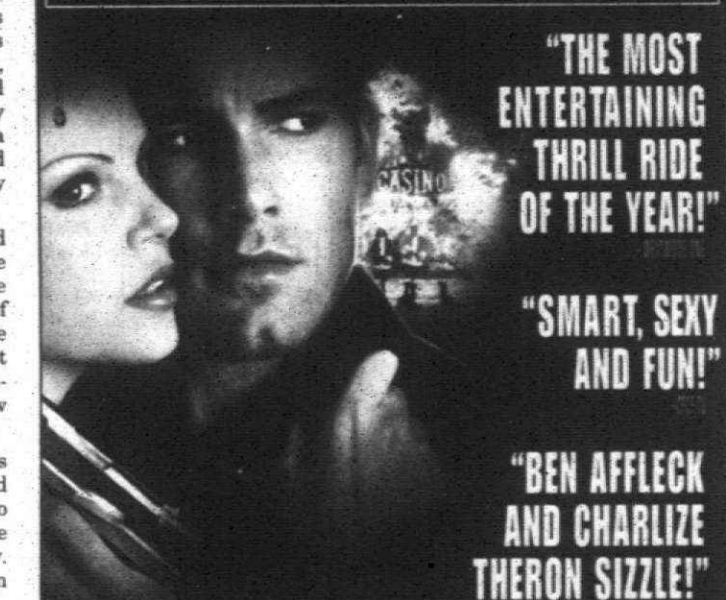
STREET SCENE

ListenUp

Are you hip to the local scene, into supporting Metro area music? Send us a photo of yourself and a list of your top five CDs from local bands, complete with band names. Then, include your list of the top five local bands to see live in the Metro area. The Observer & Eccentric will publish entries in our Entertainment section on Thursday, as space provides.

SEND entries with your full name and city of residence to: O&E Entertainment, 36255 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Or FAX to: (734) 593-7279. Or E-MAIL to: scasola@homecomm.net

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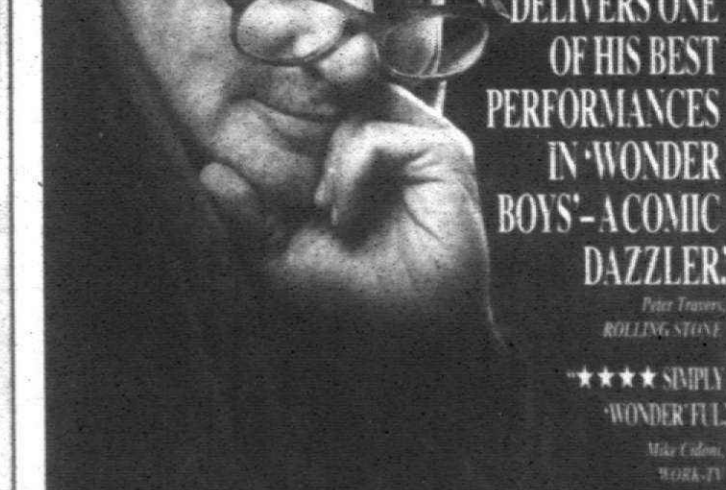
BEN AFFLECK GARY SINISE CHARLIZE THERON REINDEER GAMES

Table listing theaters and showtimes for Reindeer Games.

STARTS TOMORROW AT THESE THEATRES!

Table listing theaters and showtimes for Hanging Up.

FOR SHOWTIMES CALL 734-77-FILMS



"MICHAEL DOUGLAS... DELIVERS ONE OF HIS BEST PERFORMANCES IN 'WONDER BOYS' - A COMIC DAZZLER!"

Table listing theaters and showtimes for Wonder Boys.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Grid of movie listings for various theaters including National Amusements, One Yards, Star Theatres, etc.

THE 2000 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEES

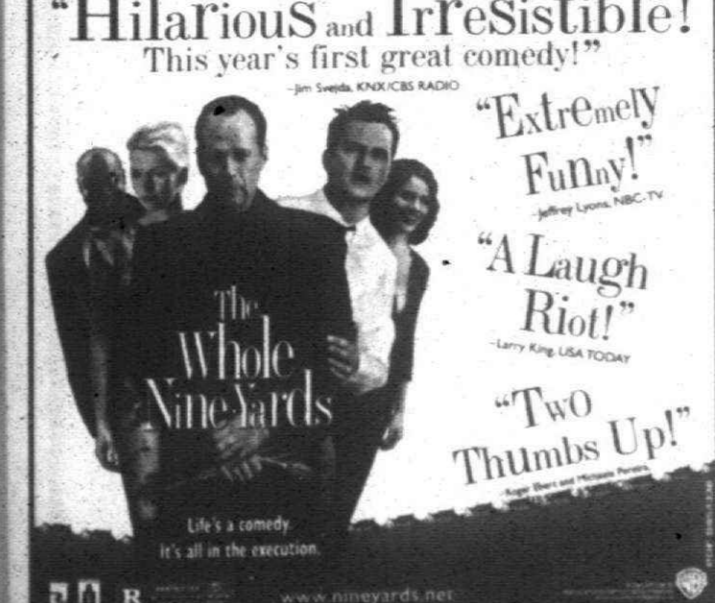
ACADEMY AWARDS BALLOT BOX

SEND IN YOUR BALLOTS AND ENTER TO WIN! AN ANNUAL MOVIE PASS TO AMC THEATRES

Rules: The person who has the most number of correct guesses will win an annual movie pass good for two people to any area AMC Theatres.

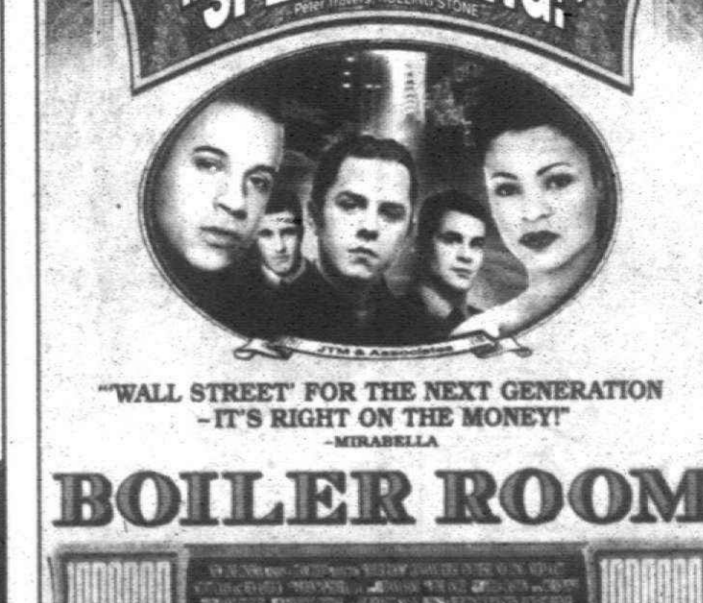
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## DINING

## Eating at Luigi's is just like eating at home

BY MARY QUINLEY  
SPECIAL WRITER

Debbie Brush admits to having an occasional craving for a rich, sweet entree. And she knows just the place to satisfy her urge.

"A co-worker suggested we have lunch at Luigi's," said the Farmington dental assistant. "I had angel hair pasta with Alfredo sauce. It was great! The portion was generous, and I even had leftovers to take with me."

Luigi's, located in downtown Farmington, appeals to a variety of taste buds.

As diners enter the eatery via the east door (there are two entrances), they are welcomed by an Italian greeting, Buon Venuti, painted on the wall above their heads. Once you're inside, breathe in deeply. Waves of simmering sauces seep from the kitchen.

"We serve more southern Italian dishes than northern dishes," said Domenic Belcastro, vice president and manager.

"But we're a mixture (of the two styles). We do a lot of blending."

What's the difference?

Southern Italians, said Belcastro, who was born in Italy, like more spice.

Patrons who prefer a southern flavor might choose eggplant Parmesan with a side of penne, the chicken, sausage and peppers tossed with linguine and marinara sauce, or the veal Parmesan. Stuffed eggplant filled with three cheeses and fresh spinach is another alternative.

**Luigi's**  
**Where:** 23360 Farmington Road, in the Downtown Shopping Center, across from CVS/Pharmacy in Farmington. (248) 477-1880  
**Open:** 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday-Friday; 4-10 p.m., Saturday; closed Sunday  
**Menu:** Italian cuisine (a mix of northern and southern dishes), appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, pasta, seafood, and chicken, beef and veal entrees. Desserts, vegetarian meals and daily specials. Wine, beer and liquor served.  
**Non-smoking:** 100 percent  
**Reservations:** Yes, for parties of five or more.  
**Cost:** Entrees range in price from \$6.95 to \$15.95. Burgers and sandwiches are \$3.95 to \$5.95.  
**Credit cards:** All cards except Diners Club

Northern options include polenta, an appetizer of fried cornmeal topped with marinara and Alfredo sauces. Customers can also order pasta specials of fettuccine primavera or the fontinella or gorgonzola cheese with angel hair.

Doc Sloan ranks Luigi's as one of his favorite meeting places for Italian cuisine.

"The chefs at Luigi's will fix anything I want," said the Milford resident, who eats at the restaurant with his family at least once a week. "It's like eating at home!"

Sloan enjoys the angel hair pasta, chicken Parmesan and the barbecued chicken. "I've never had a bad meal," he said. "The service is good, it's clean, and the owner has a hands-on feel. I keep telling friends of mine about the restaurant."

Almost five years ago, Belcastro and his wife, Vivian J., purchased Luigi's.

"I have always been intrigued by the restaurant business," said

Belcastro. Though, he admits, he never had any restaurant experience prior to Luigi's.

When the former owners wanted to sell the property, Belcastro's uncle offered some advice: "He told me to work at Luigi's before I decided (whether or not) to buy it."

So, Belcastro worked for several months at no charge.

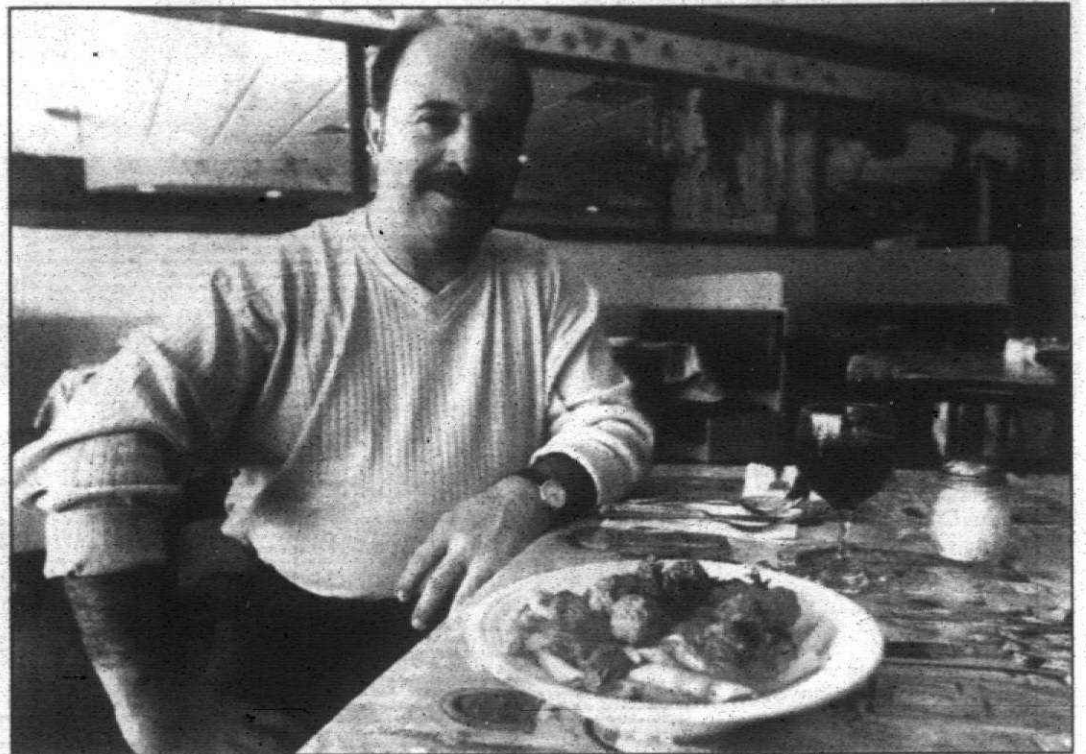
"I had a vision while I worked," he said. "If we had the restaurant, I would fix it up and make it family-oriented."

And he did.

"It took two to three years to get the people to come back and give (the restaurant) a chance," said Belcastro. "I'm happy. We came a long way. We could always do more, which I'm looking into."

Who does the cooking? Not Belcastro.

"I can't boil water!" he laughed. "I have two cooks. James McNulty, a graduate of Schoolcraft College's Culinary



Pass the pasta: Domenic Belcastro presents pasta with meatballs, just one of the dishes you'll find on the menu at Luigi's.

Arts program, came with the restaurant. And the other one is my nephew, Michael Namin."

Specials change daily. Vegetable lasagna, veal, chicken or a pasta entree are possibilities.

At lunch, patrons have an option of ordering the buffet for \$9.95 - a mixture of everything on the menu," said Belcastro.

Minestrone soup is made fresh

every day. The "other" soup could be cream of cauliflower, cream of garlic, lentil or barley. The kitchen staff is constantly introducing new sauces to the menu.

Restaurant employees, said Belcastro, are encouraged to be independent. "If a customer has a problem, (I prefer) if my employees take care of it."

Belcastro describes himself as a working manager: "I clear tables, I bus, I talk to customers.

"It has been a wonderful experience. I've learned a lot and I'm still learning. I treat people the way I want to be treated."

Future plans for Luigi's?

"I envision a bigger restaurant (that we'll) keep family-friendly," said Belcastro.

## CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS

**Mardi Gras Brewers Dinner** — 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27 at Bonfire Bistro & Brewery, 39550 Seven Mile Road, Northville. The cost is \$40 per person, all tables reserved, call (734) 735-4570.

Chef David Platzer and brewer Ron Jeffries are teaming up to present a five course meal and a pre-selected beer per course. The entree is Rotisserie Cornish Game Hen served with andouille sausage and crawfish corn bread stuffing over ed and yellow pepper coulis.

**Mardi Gras Celebration at Schoolcraft** — celebrate the

end of winter and the coming of spring in true New Orleans style at a gala Mardi Gras celebration 7 p.m. Saturday, March 4 in the Waterman Campus Center at Schoolcraft College. Tickets are \$35 a person, and may be ordered by calling (734) 462-4417. VISA, MasterCard or Discover cards are accepted. Proceeds support student scholarships.

Join fellow revelers as they dine on a traditional New Orleans

meal, listen to the Scool Jazz singers' mellow tones and dance

to music of Tom Saunders and the Detroit All-Stars.

The dinner menu includes andouille sausage with chicken gumbo, salad and sweet potatoes, Bourbon Street pork over jambalaya, corn with peppers, cornbread and southern pecan pie. Schoolcraft College's vocal ensemble, Scool Jazz, will harmonize on jazz standards and the Detroit All-Stars will inspire dancers to fill up the floor.

**Fishbone's Rhythm**

**Kitchen Cafe Restaurants** are planning Fat Tuesday celebrations on Tuesday, March 7. Marcus Belgrave headlines at Fishbone's Greektown's 10th annual party 8 p.m. to midnight, (313) 965-4600; Fishbone's Southfield hosts John Davis and Smooth Vibrations 7-11 p.m., (248) 351-2925; Fishbone's St. Clair Shores hosts an all star Dixieland Band 7-11 p.m. (810) 498-3000. Call the restaurant of your choice for details.

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