

# Clarkston Eccentric

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December 10, 1998

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## IN THE PAPER TODAY

### CLARKSTON LIFE

**Holiday happenings:** Area churches are planning a full slate of holiday-related activities, including sing-alongs, children's performances and charity benefits. / A13

### SPORTS

**New era:** For the first time in 10 years, Clarkston opened the boys' basketball season without a Fife on the floor. It hardly mattered in an easy 67-45 win over Oak Park. / B1

### INDEX

Apartments/C8	Jobs/A20
At Home/D	Movies/E6
Autos/B9	Opinions/A10-11
Classified/A, B, C	Police news/A3
Class index/C4	Real Estate/C4
Crossword/C5	Service Guide/B6
Entertainment/E	Sports/B

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### VINTAGE



CLARKSTON

With the holidays fast approaching, it is time once again to send out cards to friends and family. How did this tradition begin? Well, those of you rushing to accomplish the task (as I am) might want to know that people have been sending out holiday greetings since the 15th century. At that time, they wrote notes to one another expressing good wishes for the new year. By the 16th century, merchants had begun to send printed versions to their customers, obviously recognizing the importance of advertising even back then. Imagine their surprise if they could see today how far past the simple new year's greeting the mega-merchants of the 1990s have gone. My Saturday newspaper was so full of advertising leaflets that it took two bags to hold it rather than just one.

The first official Christmas card was sent in 1843 by London businessman Henry Cole. Realizing he didn't have time to write the customary personal letters to his associates and friends, he commissioned artist John Calcott Horsely of the Royal Academy to create a work of art he could send out. Horsely created a design featuring a family raising wine glasses in a toast. On each side of the happy family is a scene of two old Christmas traditions, feeding the hungry and clothing the needy. The message on the card back then still graces more cards than any other: "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You." Though Cole's associates were aghast at the time that he did not send a personal note, the custom quickly caught on, and by 1880 the Christmas card had completely replaced the handwritten New Year's greeting.

Vintage Clarkston is written by Kim Huttenlocher, vice-president of the Clarkston Community Historical Society.



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## adventures Gifts they won't expect indulgences



STAFF PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE R. MCKEE

**Special gift:** Consider giving someone a weekend stay at the Millpond Inn or another area bed and breakfast.

## A gift guide for those who have everything

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
STAFF WRITER  
[nstafford@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:nstafford@oe.homecomm.net)

**T**hey say the best gifts are those you'd never purchase for yourself.

So, if visions of striped neck ties and furry sweaters inside department store gift boxes are clouding your ability to dream up more innovative alternatives, think indulgence and adventure.

Think, too, about experiences rather than objects.

### Indulgence for two

Decadent gifts are common for women — perfume and jewelry are classic offerings.

But why not indulge yourself at the same time?

Clarkston residents will find such a gift close at hand — a leisurely weekend stay at the Millpond Inn.

Located at 155 N. Main in downtown Clarkston, the historic bed and breakfast is the perfect venue for a weekend of relaxation.

Gift certificates are available for between \$120 and \$150. Stays include an all-you-can-eat homemade breakfast and rooms for two with full bathroom facilities.

With five to seven dishes, the inn's varying breakfast menu is a far cry from continental style. Homemade eggs, blueberry pancakes and bread puddings are just a few of the culinary indulgences you are likely to

encounter.

"I have people that come over and over again," said Millpond Inn owner Joan Kopietz. "The thing they remember the most are my breakfasts."

Built in the 1860s, the inn has five bedrooms, one of which has a whirlpool bath.

Gift recipients will also be in good company since a few notable faces have stayed at the Millpond Inn, including Chad Everett, the George Clooney of the 1970s, and radio sportscaster Charley Wright.

"It's not a formal home; it's a home. I call it grandma's house, somewhere

to be spoiled," said Kopietz, adding, "There's always a bowl of homemade cookies in the dining room."

Gift certificates and reservations for stay at the Millpond Inn can be made by calling (248) 620-6520.

Oakland County is home to many bed and breakfast inns, including:

The Wren's Nest, West Bloomfield, (248) 624-6874

Indianwood Bed and Breakfast, Lake Orion, (248) 693-2257

Paint Creek, Rochester Hills, (248) 651-6785

Please see GIFTS, A2



**No place like home:** Millpond Inn owner Joan Kopietz creates a home-like atmosphere at her Clarkston bed and breakfast.

## GM project up for 2nd look

**Independence Township planning commissioners will examine modifications to a General Motors warehouse plan that many residents oppose.**



BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
STAFF WRITER  
[nstafford@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:nstafford@oe.homecomm.net)

Planning commissioners in Independence Township are slated tonight to mull over modified plans for a warehouse project opposed by residents.

Planning Commission Chair Steve Board said several changes have been made to plans for the 450,000-square-foot warehouse proposed off of Bow Pointe Drive at Sashabaw on 30 acres of industrial-zoned property south of I-75 between Maybee and Waldon.

Changes include a reduction in trailer storage space, relocation of parking spaces and the addition of landscaping, Board said.

However, such changes may not ease residents' distress. Concerns expressed during a November informational meeting on the project ranged from fears about environmental pollution to plummeting property values.

In addition to presenting plan details, project managers from Cunningham-Limp Co. are expected to request conceptual site plan approval for the warehouse, which would store automotive parts for General Motors Corp.

Significant efforts to improve the site plan have been made, but "we still have a lot of discussion to do," said Board.

On Dec. 3, a week prior to the Planning Commission's scheduled meeting, the Clarkston Eccentric received a phone call from Marx Layne, a public relations firm on behalf of Cunningham-Limp Co.

Project managers from Cunningham-Limp were interested in discussing the warehouse's potential benefits for the community with local media, according to a representative from Marx Layne.

While residents have strongly protested the proposal, project managers have not yet elaborated on the plans.

Board said although he wasn't surprised by the use of a public relations firm, he wasn't sure whether one had ever been consulted for prior building projects in the township.

"I don't recall somebody (a builder or project manager) coming in that way, but we've had people come in with consultants ... to help, quote, get the process moving and get the project approved," Board said.

"It doesn't bother me one way or another," he said.

"The reality is that we have to judge this thing based on the facts, not on the presentation."

The fact that the project is, at present, connected with General Motors, a powerful corporate entity, does seem to

Please see WAREHOUSE, A2

## Community mourns death of 'very talented' musician

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER  
[scasola@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:scasola@oe.homecomm.net)

Friends and family gathered for funeral services Wednesday to celebrate the life of Colin Michael McIntyre, a 19-year-old Clarkston resident known for his musical talent.

McIntyre died unexpectedly Saturday morning.

The 1997 graduate of Clarkston High School was a member of the National Honor Society and sang baritone with the school's Barbershop Ensemble. He is remembered for playing the lead role in the school's rendition of "The Music Man."

"He was immensely talented," said Cliff Chapman, music coordinator and band director at Clarkston High School.

Chapman said that McIntyre's skill in playing and singing music, and the

performing arts was evident. He played the tuba, trombone and several other brass instruments. McIntyre was a National Merit finalist.

"You name it, he did it," added Chapman.

"He was borderline genius ... He did it all. He was probably one of the single most talented people ever to grace us with his presence. He was a very sincere young man who was involved in anything that was arts-related."

Chapman recalled that McIntyre had the ability to "put things to memory almost at sight."

"He was a remarkable young man," said Chapman.

**'Colin was one of the most outstanding students. He was a highlight of my entire career.'**

Grayce Warren

former choir director, Clarkston High School

Members of the Clarkston High School faculty will remember McIntyre for his accomplishments.

"Colin was one of the most outstanding students," said Grayce Warren, former choir director for the high school. "He was a highlight of my entire career."

Because of his intellect, knowledge of music and desire to learn, Warren said, she thought of McIntyre as a colleague, rather than a student.

His talent spread beyond the walls of the high school into the community. He served as an organist at the Waterford church Canterbury on the Lake for the

past two years. The Rev. Robert Wollard of the church called McIntyre a "very bright young man" who demonstrated talent for playing both the piano and organ.

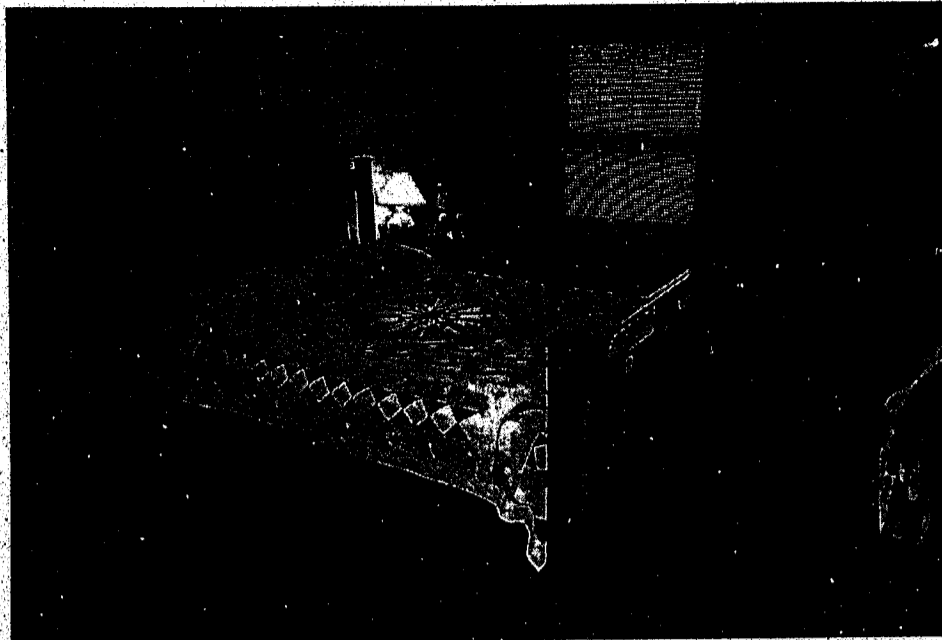
"He was here every Sunday like clockwork," Wollard said. "His approach to hymn playing was very creative. He was a wonderful improviser. He would take the hymn tunes and make up a prelude."

McIntyre began serving at the church for special events. When Canterbury on the Lake opened the new chapel, they needed a regular organist.

Please see MUSICIAN, A4

Colin McIntyre

# Gifts from page A1



**Get-away gift:** A gift certificate for a weekend stay at a bed and breakfast inn, like the Millpond Inn in Clarkston, is a gift of relaxation and indulgence.

### More indulgences

Another decadent experience that is particularly well-suited for gift-giving, especially between mother and daughter, is afternoon tea at the Townsend Hotel.

Located at 100 Townsend St. in downtown Birmingham, the hotel serves a traditional English tea every Tuesday through Saturday at 3 p.m. and sells gift certificates.

Tea for two costs \$54, including tax and gratuity. Tea for four is also available at a cost of \$108.

The tea is served in separate courses on fine china and includes a traditional cheese

twist made at the hotel's bakery, an assortment of English finger sandwiches, scones and other homemade pastries.

Tea at the Townsend is also a great gift between good friends and sisters, said Pauline Palazolo, the hotel's afternoon tea director.

For information, call the Townsend Hotel at (248) 642-7900.

### Gifts of art

If you have an aversion to giving gift certificates but are still searching for an unusual and unique gift, art is always an option. You're sure to be giving a one-of-a-kind gift that is truly an indulgence.

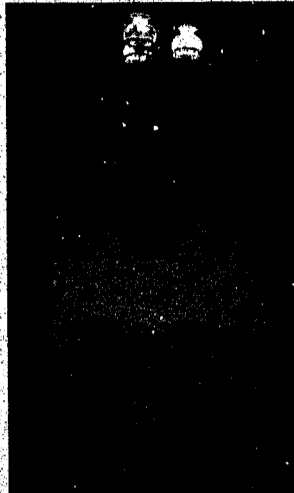
For a large and varied selection of art, check out the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center's Holiday Shop.

Located at 1516 South Cranbrook Road in Birmingham, the art center (formerly the Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association) has three galleries worth of fine arts and crafts during the holiday season.

About half of the artists are local and proceeds benefit the art center's programs, said Jennifer Muir, the center's special event coordinator.

Hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday through Dec. 12.

Paintings in several media —



**Hearty and homemade:** Breakfasts at the Millpond Inn are large, homemade and memorable.

prints, ceramics, fine-art photography, calligraphic work on handmade paper, glassware, wood and wearable fibers — are available. Prices range from \$7 for a holiday ornament to \$500 for a painting. Framed fine art photography can be purchased for as low as \$100.

"All of the work is chosen very carefully so all definitely has an original look," Muir said.

Call the art center at (248) 644-0866.

### Theater seats, castle doors

If you're looking for a one-of-a-kind gift that is a bit more novel, check out Anthropologie at 214 W. Maple in downtown Birmingham.

The store carries found-objects, as well as reproductions, and opens Dec. 10.

Currently in the store are a set

of antique theater seats for \$600 and a pair of castle doors for \$4,800.

If you're looking for a less expensive found-object, how about a Victorian-era specimen jar used to collect scientific evidence at a cost of \$30-60? The new store's holiday hours start on Dec. 14 and are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Call (248) 593-5653.

### Taking risks

If both you and your gift recipient are willing to take a risk, consider the gift of adventure. Opportunities for venturesome gift-giving abound in the area.

In Clarkston, call Ed Frakes, owner of Outdoor Connection, a company that specializes in fishing, hunting and outdoor travel.

Frakes will put together a gift travel package and allow the recipient to select travel and lodging dates at a later time.

Outdoor expeditions run the gamut — from a three-day fishing trip in Ontario for \$450 per person to a one-week, grizzly bear hunt in Alaska for \$7,500.

For more information, call (248) 625-7475.

### Adventures close to home

But if you're seeking an adventure a little closer to home, don't despair.

Like a weekend at a bed and breakfast, a balloon ride through the country makes for a romantic gift.

Sky Adventures, based in Oxford, sells gift certificates for any number of riders. The company also discounts its prices during the holidays.

Rides for two in a group are \$300. A private ride for two is \$450.

For more information or to order gift certificates by phone, call (248) 628-1000.

### Throw in a challenge

If your gift recipient is a dyed-in-the-wool adventurer who enjoys a challenge, lessons in rock climbing, snowboarding or flying will probably come as a welcome surprise.

Pine Knob Ski Resort at 7777 Pine Knob Road in Independence Township sells gift certificates in any denomination. Private snowboarding lessons are \$30 and equipment rents for \$28.

Skiing lessons and season mountain passes are also available for purchase.

For more information, call (248) 625-0800.

Probably the cheapest gift of adventure in the area, Planet Rock's rock climbing instruction package is only \$32 and is available for purchase by gift certificate.

The package includes rental equipment, instruction and a day's climbing time for individuals ages 14 and older.

The same package is available for individuals 13 and under for only \$20.

Planet Rock is located at 34 Rapid St. in Pontiac.

Call (248) 334-3904 for more information.

Flying instruction is available through several companies that operate out of Oakland County Airport in Waterford.

Tradewinds Aviation sells gift certificates for flying lessons in any denomination. Currently, the company is offering a discounted package for 10 hours of plane instruction at a total cost of \$489.50.

For more information, call (248) 666-4077.

# Warehouse from page A1

further exacerbate residents' worries.

As so far presented, the warehouse would operate in two shifts from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. with 90 employees and generate from eight to 10 truck trips an hour.

Planning commissioners also expressed several concerns last month, some described the warehouse as "intimidating."

Commissioner Dan Travis said the warehouse reminded him of Jackson Prison.

The township's planning commission meets at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10 in the Annex Board Room at Independence Township Hall at 90 N. Main St. in Clarkston. The warehouse proposal is slated to be heard first.



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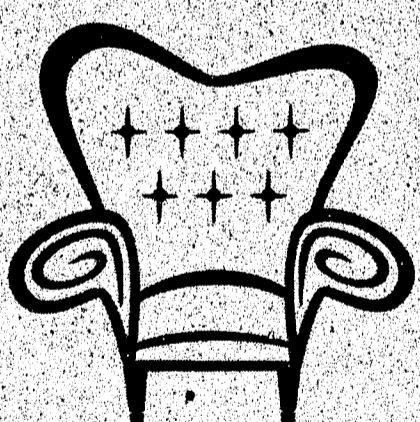
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Monday, Dec. 14th • 6:00 p.m.

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**WE'RE SAVING A SEAT FOR YOU.**

The Holidays are very exciting times.

And at the Somerset Collection, amid all the festivities, shoppers can also find a nice, quiet place to relax and be pampered. A haven of cushy sofas and chairs. An oasis where purchases are courtesy wrapped, where you can savor a hot beverage, and, well, catch your breath.

Welcome to the Holiday Suites in the South Rotunda of the Somerset Collection, sponsored by Michigan National.

Won't you sit and relax for a while?

Coolidge and Big Beaver in Troy. Just west of I-75 • (248) 648-6800

# Rotarians take to the streets to help kids

## Clarkston club members sell newspapers in fund-raiser

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

The Clarkston Rotary Club took over Main Street last weekend to help local children in need.

As Rotarians hit the streets each year with their special edition Goodfellows Newspaper, they aim to provide shoes and boots for area children. This is the 58th year of the program in Clarkston.

The donations received by selling the newspaper are used to purchase footwear for Clarkston-area children, whose names are submitted by the Clarkston branch of Lighthouse Emergency Services and Clarkston schools. The names of 302 children from throughout the area have been submitted.

"We appreciate everyone's contributions," said Donald Ernst, chairman of the event.

"Some were exceptionally generous."

The Rotary Club raised \$9,871 of its \$10,000 goal through paper sales and is awaiting additional donations. The club members were not alone in the quest to reach their goal; they will receive assistance by Cub Scout Troop 314 and Machine Engineering, an organization that



The scoop: Kirt Stalker of Independence Township sold newspapers last Friday to raise money for the Clarkston Rotary Club's Shoes for Kids Program.

has been assisting Rotarians in selling the newspapers and making "sizable donations" for the past eight years.

Since 1991 Machine Engineering Inc. has contributed more than \$18,000, said Ernst.

This year, the company contributed \$2,270 for a current

total of \$12,151.

In addition, Church of the Resurrection and Calvary Evangelical Lutheran churches will provide hats, scarves, gloves and mittens to the children.

The newspaper was sold along Main and Washington streets in downtown Clarkston, at Maybee

Road and Dixie Highway, and at Food Town and Kroger in Independence Township.

The paper contains articles written by club members and informs the public about Rotary events the club hosts and programs it sponsors.

For Ernst the rewards come

from those individuals who make donations and thank the club for their efforts.

This year, club members took to the streets in mild weather, though they're used to selling the newspapers in blustery winter weather.

"It was certainly the best

weather we ever had," said Jeff Lichty, club president.

Lichty said the program is "lots of work and lots of fun." More than 250 pairs of shoes and 250 pairs of boots will be purchased for the children, he said.

Once the money is acquired, Terry Harp takes over the responsibilities as chairman of the Clarkston Rotary Club's "Shoes for Kids" program. Between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Saturday, the Church of the Resurrection on Maybee Road will transform into a store for the children chosen to benefit from the program. They will be sized and fitted with shoes, boots and other winter apparel, and entertained by a visit from Santa Claus.

Harp said that "giving people who need shoes an opportunity to have them, especially kids who don't have control over whatever their parents can afford," is what makes the program worthwhile.

He looked for a shoe store that could provide a broad selection of quality footwear for boys and girls between ages 2 and 18. Mr. Alan's Shoes in Pontiac will contribute the Nike, Adidas and other name-brand footwear for the program this year. A list of sizes has been provided to store manager Jason Riegle, who will make sure the merchandise is sent to the church for distribution.

"This is my first year, but so far I think it's amazing what this club does for these kids," said Riegle. "We do give them a discount rate."

# Computer loans for township employees renewed

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
STAFF WRITER  
nstafford@oe.homecomm.net

A controversial computer purchase plan for Independence Township employees will continue.

Trustees voted to renew the plan in a 4-3 vote taken Dec. 1. Trustees Jeffrey McGee, Larry Rosso and Neil Wallace opposed the motion.

Under the program, originally approved by trustees in November 1997, full-time employees and board members are entitled to interest-free loans of up to \$5,000 for the purchase of home computer equipment.

Program modifications proposed by Wallace were considered, but not implemented.

"I don't think that we should be in the lending business, but, more importantly, I'm philosophically opposed to lending taxpayer dollars out to township employees," McGee said in an interview following the meeting.

"The rationale is that we are improving computer literacy," he said. "I don't buy it."

However, Independence Township Supervisor Dale Stuart and Clerk Joan McCrary, who work with township employees on a day-to-day basis and initiated the program in 1997, strongly disagree.

Employees' computer skills have significantly improved, they said. "Therefore, they're

doing a better job for the township," McCrary said.

"We're not giving them anything. We're just giving them use of the funds until they're paid back. And, (the funds) are paid back regularly," she said.

Employees pay back the loans through paycheck deduction.

Also, said McCrary, many employees, particularly those who spend the majority of their time in the field, use their home computers to do township work at home.

The program "improves their skills, and it helps the township and the taxpayers," she said.

"This is a program that has been well-received by our employees, and we have seen the benefits," Stuart said.

While Rosso voted against renewing the computer purchase program, he described its concept as "excellent" and "worthy."

During the first year of the program, 22 township employees purchased computer systems at a cost of approximately \$65,000. As of Nov. 5 of this year, about \$51,000 was still outstanding.

The departments of Public Works, for which six computer systems were financed, and Parks and Recreation, for which four systems were funded, had the greatest number of program users.

Three systems were purchased by Fire Department employees. Two purchases came through

each of the township's remaining departments, except the library, which had one purchase.

Wallace, who, like McGee, philosophically opposes the program, proposed that the board reduce the loan cap from \$5,000 to \$3,000.

Computer costs have significantly declined, and employees can easily purchase a system that meets the township's needs for under \$3,000, he said.

If employees wish to augment their systems for purposes beyond improving job-related computer skills, they should assume the extra cost, he said.

Stuart opposed the cap idea, saying that the program was a "self-disciplining" one in terms of cost and that all employees should be afforded the ability to purchase a comprehensive computer system.

Wallace also proposed that the township require full loan collection when employees leave or are terminated.

Under the program, former employees pay the prime rate of interest on the computer loans. In Wallace's opinion, though, such an arrangement forces the township to act as a bank, which is an inappropriate role.

At present, one individual terminated employment after taking advantage of the program.

Collection of the loan was being worked out, Stuart said at the meeting.

According to Wallace, however, that individual's payments have been "erratic," and obtaining the loan amount may require filing suit.

Problems aside, the parameters and rationale of the program ought to fit, Wallace said. The amount allocated for buying

a computer should be reasonably related to the benefits reaped by the township.

And, loans should be paid back in full when an employee leaves, since "once the employee has left the township, that computer in their home is of no benefit to the township," he said.

■ "...I'm philosophical-ly opposed to lending taxpayer dollars out to township employees."

Jeffrey McGee  
Independence Township  
trustee

## POLICE NEWS

The following incidents were reported to police and fire agencies in Springfield and Independence townships Dec. 3-7.

### Springfield Police

#### Vandalism

On Dec. 4, a sign on Oak Hill Road was reported damaged by paint.

### Independence Police

#### Auto theft

On Dec. 5, a tan 1998 Chevy Lumina was reported stolen from a garage on Balmoral Terrace. The door to the garage was left unlocked.

On Dec. 6, a blue Geo Prizm was reported stolen from a driveway on Dartmouth. The car was unlocked and keys were left in the ignition. Also stolen was a purse containing \$160 cash.

#### Drunk driving

On Dec. 5, a 32-year-old

Waterford man was arrested for operating a vehicle under the influence of liquor. He was stopped for speeding while traveling 58 mph in a 45-mph zone on Dixie Highway.

The man also had a felony arrest warrant outstanding for possession of less than 25 grams of a controlled substance. He was lodged at Oakland County Jail after refusing a preliminary breath test. A chemical test taken at 3:19 a.m. at the jail showed a blood alcohol level of 0.23.

#### Thefts

On Dec. 3, two bank deposits worth \$1,831.08 were reported missing from a safe at a business on Sashabaw Road.

On Dec. 4, a pager was reported stolen or lost from a location on Pine Knob Road.

On Dec. 4, a purse containing credit cards and identification was reported lost or stolen from a grocery store on Sashabaw Road.

On Dec. 5, a cell phone was reported stolen from a restaurant on Dixie Highway.

#### Vandalism

On Dec. 6, a vehicle parked near a deli on Sashabaw Road was reported as damaged. The window of a 1988 GMC Jimmy was shot out, the hood was dented, and paint was chipped on the door.

#### Recovered property

On Dec. 5, a stolen cell phone was recovered from an Andersonville Road business.

#### Independence Fire

Between Dec. 3-7, firefighters responded to 20 calls. Among them were 12 medical calls, four personal-injury accidents, one vehicle fire and three investigations.

On Dec. 5, firefighters responded to a call from the Mid Oakland Medical Center on Dixie Highway for odor investigation. The building was found to contain carbon monoxide from a gas-powered cutting saw being used by construction workers in the basement.

4 DAYS  
THIS WEEKEND

ODDS &  
ENDS,  
NEW &

USED  
SKI SALES

CASH & CARRY. LAST YEARS STYLES 50-70% OFF.

WE HAVE GATHERED UP ALL THE ALPINE MERCHANDISE,  
ODDS & ENDS, NEW & USED - 100's OF PAIRS OF ALPINE BOOTS, SKIS,  
BINDINGS, POLES & A GREAT ASSORTMENT OF LAST SEASONS WINTER  
CLOTHING, JACKETS, PANTS, SWEATERS & MORE, FROM ALL OF OUR  
BAVARIAN VILLAGE SKI SHOPS AND PUT IT ALL TOGETHER FOR ONE  
GIGANTIC SALE AT ONE CONVENIENT LOCATION

# Land conservancy holds membership drive

North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy — a Clarkston-based non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of such properties as waterways, forests, natural areas and farmland — is holding a year-end membership drive.

Memberships and gifts to NOHLC are tax-deductible. The conservancy is a 501(c)(3) organization. Various membership levels are: Life member, Conservator, \$1,000; Sustaining, \$500;

Life member, regular (annually renewable), \$100; Family, \$25; Individual, \$10; and Student, \$1.

Incorporated in 1972 as the Independence Land Conservancy, the NOHLC has worked in and for the community for more than 26 years. It protects various open spaces in the headwaters regions of the Clinton, Shiawassee, Huron and Flint rivers.

Currently the conservancy has stewardship of 23 parcels comprising more than 460 acres.

Some properties are totally owned and some are protected by conservation/scenic easements.

A volunteer board (15 directors and five auditors) guides the NOHLC. The board meets monthly and also holds two general meetings each year for its more than 200 members and the public.

At least two newsletters are published yearly.

NOHLC works with individuals, neighborhoods, organizations, municipalities, developers and planners in a continuing effort to preserve the best of today's natural environment so that future generations can enjoy a better tomorrow.

Checks for memberships may be mailed to NOHLC, P.O. Box 285, Clarkston, MI 48347.

For more information, call 625-8193.

# Musician from page A1

"He was the first and only organist we ever had," said Wollard. "He was a very avid musician. It was fun for us to watch him grow here. We are terribly sad about this loss."

McIntyre also was a cantor at St. Daniel Catholic Church in Clarkston.

He worked regularly in offering that kind of ministry," said the Rev. Msgr. Robert Humitz. "He was very talented and was able to bring those kinds of gifts and talents to the community."

Humitz, who officiated for the funeral mass Wednesday, said McIntyre had been actively involved in the church's music ministry since high school.

"He was well-liked and thought of very highly," said Humitz.

After dividing his time between the churches and attending classes at Oakland Community College, McIntyre also worked at Walgreen Drug Store in Waterford.

"He was very self-disciplined," said Dan Signor, store manager at Walgreen. "He was meticu-

lous about the work he did. I have to say, I'll probably never find anybody that did the job he did as well as he did it."

Signor described McIntyre as a friendly, trustworthy employee. He was hired on Dec. 23, 1997, and worked in the photo department.

"He knew everybody," said Signor. "He was just an ideal employee. He knew the customers' names. They felt comfortable leaving their photos with him."

"He'll be missed."

McIntyre is survived by his parents, Denise and Michael McIntyre; a sister, Maureen; grandparents Ronald and Mary McIntyre of Fenton and Thomas and Mary Jane Hamel of Royal Oak; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services were held Wednesday at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church in Waterford. Burial followed at All Saints Cemetery.

Donations to the family will go toward a music scholarship in McIntyre's memory.

# Groundwater programs available from MSU service

Clarkston and Independence Township residents rely directly on groundwater for their drinking water. Preventing groundwater contamination is necessary to sustain health and the quality of life in Clarkston and Independence Township.

The Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program is a cooperative effort designed to reduce the risks of groundwater contamination associated with the use of pesticides and nitrogen fertilizers. Farm\*A\*Syst, Home\*A\*Syst, Lake\*A\*Syst and Lawn\*A\*Syst are several programs offered through the MGSP which help people understand the risks they may pose to their surrounding groundwater. Anyone can participate, but where you live dictates which

program is right for you. If you live on a farmstead, then Farm\*A\*Syst would be most beneficial. If you live on Deer Lake, or any other lakes, then Lake\*A\*Syst would be most beneficial. People who live anywhere other than on a farm can use both Home\*A\*Syst and Lawn\*A\*Syst.

All programs are completely confidential.

If you would like a Farm\*A\*Syst done at your farmstead, or if you are interested in attending or scheduling a Home\*A\*Syst, Lake\*A\*Syst or Lawn\*A\*Syst presentation, contact either Denise Landsberg or Larry Ruetz at the Michigan State University Extension-Oakland County office at (248) 858-0895.

## AGENDAS

**Independence Township**  
90 N. Main St.  
Clarkston  
625-5111

**Planning Commission**  
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10  
*Tentative Agenda*

**Roll Call**  
**Public Comment**  
**Public Hearing**  
**Old Business**  
File No. 98-1-057

Joseph Newood, Petitioner, Request Conceptual Site Plan Approval Of Office & Warehouse Facility For Ryder Dedicated Logistics, Bow Pointe, 31.76 Acres, IOP Zone pt of 08-27-276-001.

File No. 98-1-053 (Tabled from 10/22/98) Scott Constable, Petitioner, Rezoning Request From: R-1R (Rural Residential) to R-1B (Suburban Residential) Waldon Road, east of Sashabaw, 11-plus Acres, 08-26-101-002

**New Business**  
File No. 98-1-052

Robert B. Aikens & Assoc., Petitioner, Request Conceptual Site Plan Approval for Walgreens, Dixie & White Lake, C-3 Zone, 2.64 Acres, 08-30-276-015 & 08-30-276-018

File No. 98-1-063

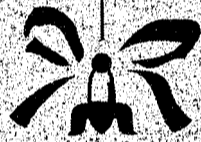
James Scharl, Berlit LLC, Petitioner, Request Conceptual Site Plan Approval For Trillium Place, Maybee, east of Dixie, 24+ Acres, R-2 Zone, 08-29-454-003

**Approval of Minutes:** Oct. 22, & Nov. 12, 1998

**Continuing Review:**  
**Planners Review**  
**Staff Report**  
**Committee Report**

*Only those matters that are listed on the agenda are to be considered for action. A majority vote of the board members may add or delete an agenda item.*

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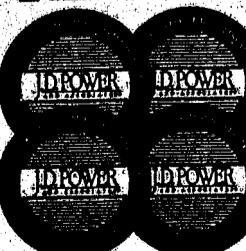
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| <b>West</b><br>Genesee Valley Shopping Center<br>3191 S. Linden Road<br>810-933-2028  | <b>Novi</b><br>Twinkle Oaks Mall<br>27600 Novi Road<br>248-949-5316                         | <b>Troy</b><br>Oakland Mall Shopping Center<br>300 W. 14 Mile Road<br>248-597-0900    |   |

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# Southeast Michigan continues pushing growth envelope

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

Southeastern Michigan will lead, rather than trail, the state's economic growth for the next two years, say University of Michigan forecasters.

"Sluggish growth" — but growth nevertheless — will mark 1999 and 2000, Dr. George A. Fulton told the Michigan Economic Outlook annual confer-

ence Nov. 20, a week before Thanksgiving.

The jobless rate will rise from the current 3.7 percent to 4.2 percent by the end of 1999 and 4.6 percent by the end of 2000. Chief reasons: a tapering off of vehicle sales as the domestic market becomes saturated, the closing of two General Motors plants in Flint and one in Kalamazoo.

"The Detroit area is expected to experience a mini-boom in construction activity over the next few years," Fulton said. "Several major projects are planned over the forecast horizon," he said, citing:

■ General Motors — "A week ago, GM formally announced plans for a \$1.5 billion building and renovation project in the Detroit area over the next five

years, to consolidate its engineering and research functions." It will bring some of the industry's best jobs to the region.

■ Casinos — "The state license applications for the three casino projects in Detroit are currently being reviewed by the Michigan Gaming Control Board. We are assuming that these applications will be approved, and that construction activity on temporary

facilities will occur during the spring and summer of 1999. Investments for three temporary casinos are assumed to total about \$300 million." Temporary casinos are expected to be operating by fall of 1999 and permanent casinos from 2000 to 2002. The investment: \$1.5 billion.

■ Stadia — Tiger Stadium construction is in progress for opening day in April of 2000. The

Lions football stadium will start going up in late 1999 with completion by 2002. Total investment: \$500 million.

■ Retail — The Great Lakes Crossing mega-mall on I-75 in Auburn Hills is stimulating job growth already.

The economists assumed labor peace, though their will be sharp bargaining between GM and the

Please see GROWTH, A5

# clearance

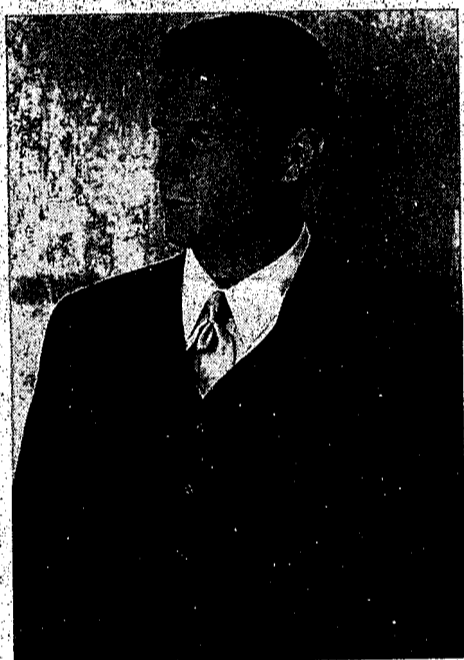
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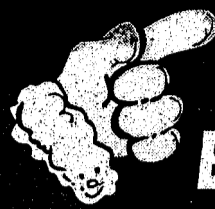
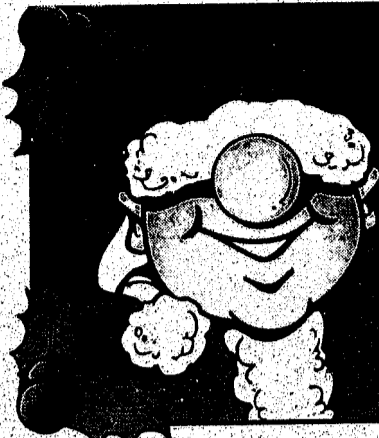
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**10" Power Miter**

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**17-Piece Drill Set With 4 Bonus Bits**

- Professional quality steel w/black oxide finish

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7441 (224197)

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**10" Motorized Bench Saw**

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36-540 (982377)

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**10" Precision Table Saw with Stand**

- 15 AMP, 3 HP, 4,800 RPM motor
- Includes 10" 36-tooth premium carbide tipped blade
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BT3000SX (175477)

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- Lightweight yet powerful, operates at 9,000 RPM
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DS1000 (942423)

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- 4 AMP, 30,000 RPM torque balanced motor tackles the toughest jobs

SCS01 (117305)

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BO4552 (493198)

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DW411 (590542)

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7313 (344184)

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- Dust bag included

36-075 (772309)

**SKIL**

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- Includes 17 assorted profile pads

9444 (575388)

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- 1.7 AMP 3/32" orbit, 12,000 OPM

333 (196554)

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- Storage case included
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- 175+ uses booklet
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3961 (393356)

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- 13 amp, 4000 RPM
- Electric brake
- 0-48° bevel capacity to the left and right

DW708 (104389)

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4-22-1126 (789895)

**BLACK & DECKER**

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73-737 (678902)

**Vermont American**

# \$21

**10" Carbide Blades 2pk**

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033877PP (153868)

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02427 (120303)

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# Fictitious candidates no-shows in final election tallies

**■ New law makes election night run more smoothly**

By PAT MURPHY  
STAFF WRITER  
pmurphy@oe.homecomm.net

Mickey Mouse didn't get any write-in votes for governor this year — none that had to be counted anyway. Neither did Donald Duck.

It's not that Mickey, Donald and other common write-ins have lost popularity. But a law that went into effect this fall stipulated that write-in votes didn't have to be counted unless the candidate filed a "declaration of intent" on the Friday prior to the election.

The new law was well-received among election workers who no longer had to tally votes for less-than-serious candidates, said County Clerk William "Doc" Caddell. The law eliminated the need for election workers to keep a tally of write-in votes for candidates who hadn't filed the declaration of intent.

That meant workers were doing the serious work of tabulating election results, Caddell

said. Candidates who got write-in votes — even though they hadn't filed the necessary paperwork — simply didn't get them counted, he said.

"Mickey Mouse and others still probably got votes," explained Mary Jo Hammond, director of elections in Oakland County. "But workers didn't have to tabulate them, and they didn't show up on the certified results."

Homer Simpson, Kilroy and

any number of Disney characters have been known to show up on ballots cast in Rochester Hills during major elections, according to Deputy Clerk Jane Leslie.

"We've had a number of those over the years but I'm not sure how many there would have been this last election because the ballots are counted at each precinct," Leslie said. "We will notice it once in awhile on absentee ballots because those come

to our offices but it still isn't very frequent."

Of the 26,000 votes counted for Rochester Hills in the November election there were perhaps a half dozen that were tallied for legitimate write-in candidates.

"It's still much less time consuming for the election workers on election night because in the past they had a big task recording all the write-in candidates by hand and tallying them to send on to the state," Leslie said.

"I heard that one time there was a person named Donald Duck who was a registered voter in the state of Michigan so that's why every name had to be carefully recorded, by hand," she added.

The subject of write-in candidates was pretty much a non-issue for the 26,494 voters who cast ballots in Southfield in early November, according to Susan Rydell, deputy city clerk.

"We just don't get a lot of that here and when it does show up it's generally for a Presidential election," Rydell said. "And we like to think that's because we have good, informed voters."

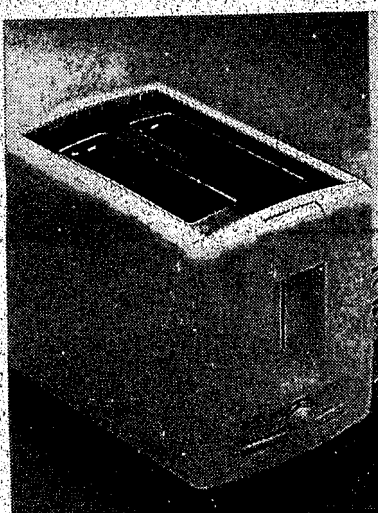
Reporter Barb Peri Templeton contributed to this report.

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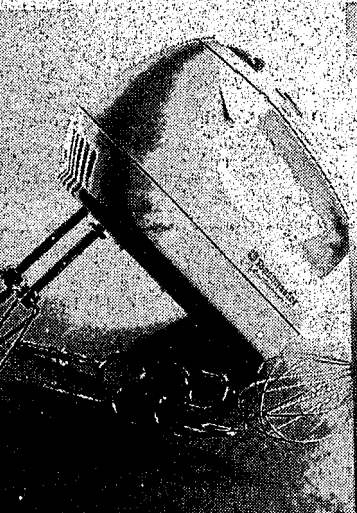
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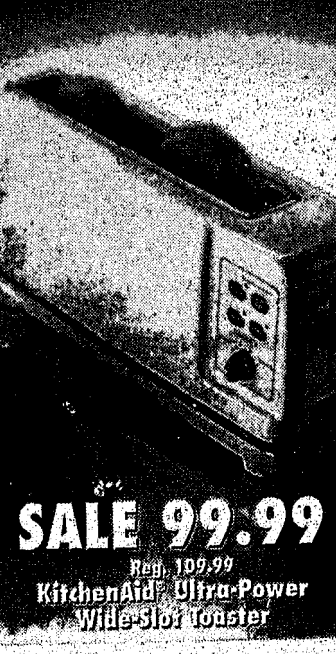
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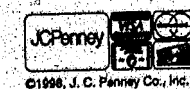
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**SALE 233.99**  
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Regular prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Sale prices on regular-priced merchandise effective through Thursday, Dec. 24, unless otherwise noted. Percentages off represent savings on regular prices, as shown. Any event designated as a "Sale" always includes Special Buys, Red-Ticketed Clearance Merchandise. Items sold every day in multiples of two or more and Value Flight items, which are sold at our best price every day. Selection of merchandise may vary by store. Small electrical appliances available only at larger JCPenney stores.

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## Growth from page A5

United Auto Workers, and a slightly higher inflation rate of 2.3 percent.

Fulton, distinguished senior research economist, has been working on state and regional forecasts in Ann Arbor since 1985. His colleague, Joan Cray, joined U-M in 1979 after a year on the staff of the President's Council of Economic Advisers.

A year ago they forecast a 1.2 percent rise in wage and salary employment. The actual number: 1.9 percent. In 1997 they forecast a 4.8 percent increase in state personal income, and it turned out to be 5.1 percent.

In the last 10 years, their annual errors have been 1.06 percent, "so apparently we do learn a bit as time passes," Fulton quipped.

Two more years of growth would give Michigan nine straight plus years in a row — "our longest run of job creation in the past 50 years," he said.

Some listeners misinterpreted the U-M's economic forecasts as negative. A Detroit paper headline used "downturn." Not so. Growth in both income and employment will continue, but not at the hot pace since 1992, they said.

In fact, there will be labor shortages in some areas, impeding economic growth. Asked where workers will come from, Fulton cited three sources: unemployed workers finding jobs, 30 percent; increases in labor force participation, 7 percent; immigration, 63 percent. He called Michigan's population growth "modest," at less than one percent.

Jobs in the manufacture of durable goods will decline in 1999 and to a lesser extent in 2000 after an increase of 8,000 this year. New retail jobs will taper off but continue to grow. Government will add 5,000 jobs for the 2000 census.

The big growth will be in "service" jobs, which covers everything from lawyers and accountants to barbers and casino workers — 10,300 jobs per quarter.

People with some college education will have lower rates of unemployment and higher workforce participation than those with high school diplomas or none at all.

"There's really quite a payoff to an associate's degree," Fulton told a questioner.

He had fairly good news for Madhu Anderson, the former Farmington Hills resident and the new acting state treasurer since the resignation of Douglas Roberts. Revenues earmarked for the school aid fund rose by 5.3 percent in 1998 and will continue to go up by 2.9 next year and 3 percent in 2000 — a total of \$9.27 billion for education.



## Garden spot

# Japanese Business Society of Detroit helps fund local art group

BY BARB PERT TEMPLETON  
STAFF WRITER

The beauty of a Japanese theme garden at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center will be enhanced because of a \$3,000 grant from The Japan Business Society of Detroit Foundation.

A portion of the funds will go to maintain the garden including adding Japanese stones and some foliage. It is the second time the center has been on the recipient of a JBSD grant.

In fact, the JBSD is donating \$82,000 in financial assistance to over 40 cultural, artistic, educational, civic and charitable organizations across metro-Detroit. They recently hosted their seventh-annual grant ceremony at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit.

"In this our 25th-anniversary year, the JBSD is proud of our continued support for community organizations that promote unity between Japanese and American cultures. Many of our recipients represent youth and non-profit scholastic programs," said Kaoru Yonemoto, president of the JBSD Foundation.

"To commemorate this milestone, the JBSD Foundation established two scholarships (Youth for Understanding and Japan Center for Michigan Universities) that have already sent four students to study in Japan this year."

Officials of the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center were pleased to receive a second

**"We have a substantial Japanese student base here so we want to make them more aware of what we have to offer here at the center."**

*Janet Torno*  
—Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center

grant from the foundation. Last year, when the center opened a new expansion that included a glass enclosed garden, it received \$1,000. The funds covered the costs of acquiring a sculpture — *Cloud Mountain* — by Japanese artist Isamu Noguchi, according to Janet Torno, executive director of the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center.

"I was very pleased that we got another grant," Torno said. "We have developed a relationship with the foundation so they know what we are about and that we also do lots of community projects and outreach programs."

In fact, Torno said this year's funds will help create new outreach programs.

"We have a substantial Japanese student base here so we want to make them more aware of what we have to offer here at the center," she said.

Letting the community know just what you have to offer will also be the game plan for the

Southfield Symphony Society, Inc. which got a \$2,500 grant from the JBSD.

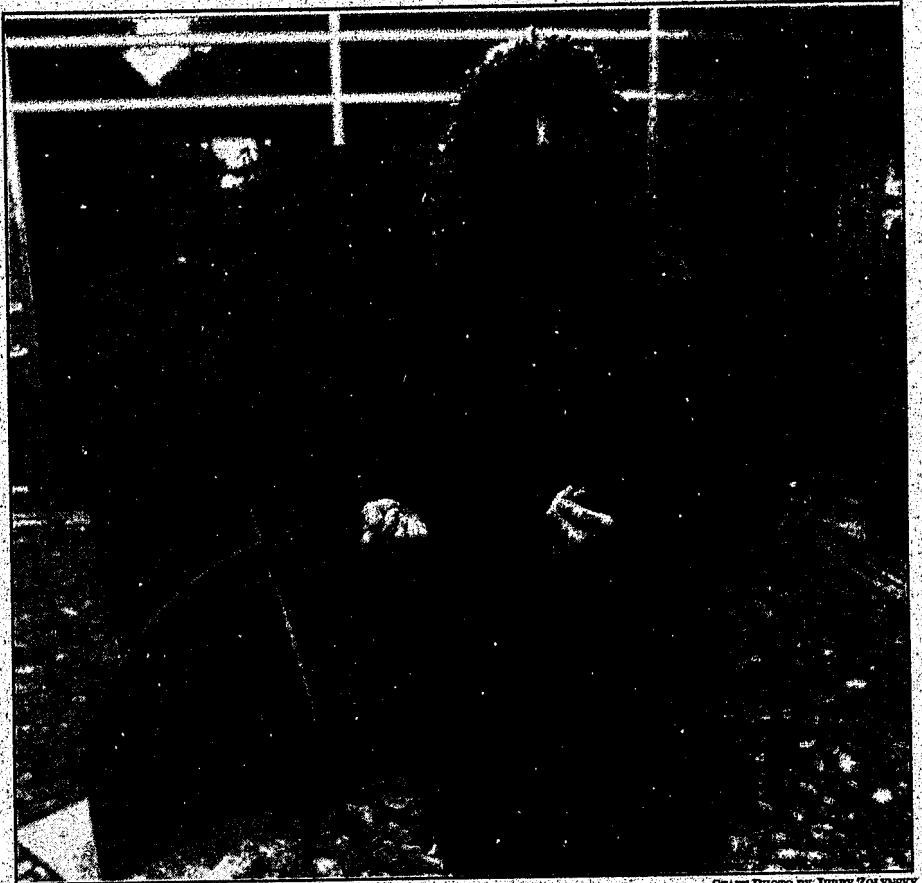
"What we present here is a cut above what you'll see in other community orchestras," said Merrill Shapero, task force chairman for the Society's funding committee. "We have a Russian conductor and we play what I like to call classical music that's not popular."

The purpose of applying for grants such as the one from JBSD is to ensure the same caliber of music continues to be presented in Southfield. Shapero would like to see the recent windfall used to advertise the symphony through outreach programs to the community and local school districts.

Other local grant recipients include Farmington Hills Youth and Family Services, West Bloomfield Public Library, Rochester Community Schools Foundation, West Bloomfield School District Bilingual Program and Farmington Public School District.

The JBSD Foundation is a philanthropic arm of the JBSD, which oversees the largest group of global investors in Michigan, with 230 companies and 1,460 members. The JBSD enhances understanding and mutual cooperation between Japanese and Americans through community and business involvement.

To date, nearly \$600,000 has been apportioned to the organizations throughout Southeast Michigan, with a special emphasis on Detroit.



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Japanese presence: Janet Torno, executive director of the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, looks pleased in the center's Japanese theme garden — complete with sculpture — made possible by a grant from the Japanese Business Society of Detroit.

## Who helps and who hinders?

Women in Communications of Detroit invites communication and business professionals to nominate companies or organizations for helping or hindering the advancement of women.

It's the 15th-annual Dogs and Diamonds Awards that WIC of Detroit presents every February. The Diamond Award recog-

nizes the efforts of an individual, company or organization that offers a workplace culture for women to thrive, or whose activities enhance the status of working women.

The Dog Award is given to an individual, company or organization whose policies, practices, advertising, or other activities

have hindered the progress of working women.

Nominations must be in writing and include: Nominee's name, address and telephone number; nominee's employer (if applicable); the award for which the nomination is made; reason for the nomination; and supporting materials, such as pho-

tographs, news releases, articles, letters of support, etc.

Nominations must be received no later than Jan. 5, 1999. Send nominations to Dogs & Diamonds, Women in Communications of Detroit, P.O. Box 1288, Royal Oak 48068-1288.

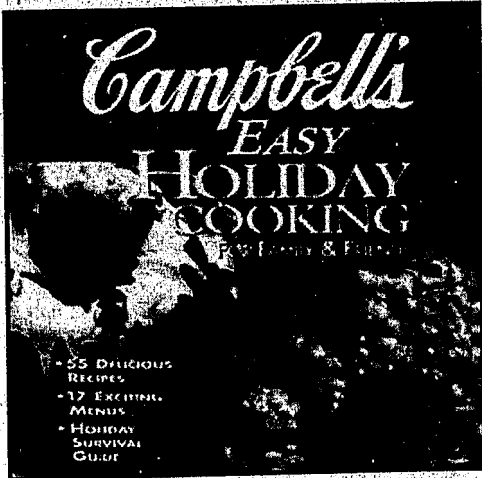
Founded in 1909, The Association for Women in Communica-

tions is one of the nation's oldest and largest professional communications organizations. The organization has more than 7,000 professional members in chapters across the country representing diverse backgrounds.

For more information, call Kim Boyd at (313) 535-4202.

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## FREE HOLIDAY COOKBOOK

Spend \$100 during December 7 - 13 at MeadowBrook Village. Keep your receipts and receive your "Free" Holiday Cookbook anytime between Friday, December 11 and Sunday, December 13 at Center Court. Offer good while supplies last. Limit one per family.

## Visit "Santa's Winter Village"

Photos with Santa! Now thru December 24  
Monday - Saturday 11:00 am - 8:00 pm • Sunday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

## TACYLILIER RILTYCALEI ILLITERACY

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

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

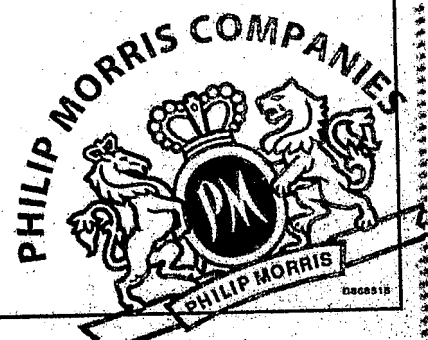
That's why Philip Morris Companies Inc. developed a learning program called Gateway: Paths to Adult Learning. By making the Gateway materials available at no cost to community organizations, Philip Morris provides an easy way for adult learners to take the first step to literacy—and the first step to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

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

\* U.S. Department of Education, 1993.

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# Clarkston Eccentric® OPINION

A10(CI)

7151 ORTONVILLE ROAD, SUITE 2, CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN 48346

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1998

## System failure Taxpayers foot bill for wasteful perk

Independence Township Board members had a chance last week to close out a controversial computer purchase program.

They didn't do it. In a split vote (4-3), board members decided to continue lending interest-free loans to full-time Independence Township employees for expensive home computers.

The year-old program, in our opinion, wastes taxpayers' money. Here's how it works: Employees and board members can borrow up to \$5,000 each of taxpayers' money, interest-free, for three years to purchase computers for their homes.

So far, 22 township employees have purchased computer systems at a cost of approximately \$65,000. As of Nov. 5 of this year, about \$51,000 was still outstanding. Employees pay the fund back through paycheck deductions, though one employee quit already before paying the township back in full. The employee is making payments, with interest, but those payments have been "erratic," according to one board member.

Those who voted to continue the program argue that employees are becoming more proficient at their jobs because having a computer at home allows them to hone their computer

skills and to work from home if need be.

However, we don't think the benefits outweigh the costs. If the township were to invest the \$50,000 still outstanding, it would earn \$7,500 in interest over the next three years (even at a modest interest rate of 5.15 percent).

Even if the township had to use some of that money to pay for computer classes for employees who needed them, it still would save thousands of dollars. (The total cost for 10 employees to take community education computer classes is under \$1,000.)

To their credit, three of the seven township board members — trustees Jeffrey McGee, Larry Rosso and Neil Wallace — voted against continuing the computer purchase program as it currently is.

McGee and Wallace said they are philosophically opposed to lending taxpayer money to township employees and elected officials. We are, too.

"The rationale is that we are improving computer literacy," McGee said. "I don't buy it."

Nor do we.

We see the program as an expensive perk that downloads on taxpayers.

## Communities offer alternative to insanity of shopping havens

There's good news ... we think. People in the Detroit area seem to be spending a little more money this Christmas season ... they say.

With enthusiasm so typical of their profession, area chamber of commerce officials told the Eccentric they expect strong local retail sales this holiday season.

Reporter Barb Templeton's article ("Strong local sales expected") appeared last Thursday in most Eccentric editions.

Reasons for their optimism: a continuing strong economy, businesses located close to home and "personal" service sometimes offered by local merchants.

We notice that the big malls are jammed with holiday shoppers these days and nights. The solid-state cash registers in the stores are beeping and chirping merrily away.

A lot of Oakland County folks with serious shopping to do will flock to Great Lakes Crossing, that sprawling monster of a mall with discount stores that just opened out on I-75.

Sure they'll go to Great Lakes Crossing and the other mega-malls. There's a nice selection of stores and, of course, acres and acres of free parking.

With so many people doing the majority of their shopping at the big malls, we almost have to believe that Christmas would be canceled if some wizard of an environmentalist waved his magic wand and the malls suddenly reverted to corn fields, orchards and meadowlands.

But a wander through the brittle broadsheets of the decades-old Farmington Enterprise, the Rochester Clarion and Birmingham Eccentric seems to prove that yes, Virginia, there was life — and Christmas, too — before the advent of huge shopping malls.

In days of old, people simply shopped their hometowns and apparently came away none the worse for the experience.

An Enterprise editorial from almost 50 years ago advised readers to "help yourself

and help your home town by giving local merchants first crack at your Christmas dollar.

"When our merchants prosper, the entire community prospers," the editorial continued. "You not only help yourself, but you also help your friends and neighbors."

But the missive also spoke of "the responsibility of the merchants to encourage and promote greater interest in the local shopping center. Cooperative effort must be made to make the entire community attractive to home town shoppers."

That was good advice then ... and now. And we're happy to note that the officials and business folks in so many of our communities seem to be taking it.

This is the time of year when small-town and suburban America ushers in Christmas with parades, festivals, tree-lightings and other assorted whoop-de-doo.

In Clarkston, there's the Tree of Caring holiday festival. There's a Progressive Walk in Oxford, as well as a parade. They also marching in Rochester and Lake Orion.

Out Franklin way, Holly Days get things rolling. Santa comes to Shain Park in Birmingham, and descends from a helicopter in Farmington.

Southfield is an urban suburb that counts on malls, not a traditional downtown, for much of its commerce. But give them credit: Northland Mall offers a free trolley service (no, it's not a real trolley car, but you can't have everything) for shoppers, picking them up at hotels and office buildings during December.

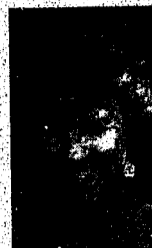
All things considered, there are lots of good reasons to shop the local stores this holiday season. No, they aren't monster malls with a thousand stores, and we're not suggesting that shoppers desert those malls.

But please remember that the spirit of the season shines in our local business districts, too.

### COMMUNITY VOICE

#### QUESTION:

As a local resident, are you interested in buying shares in the newly-chartered Clarkston State Bank?



"Yes, I would be interested in that. I don't know much about it, but I think it would be a good investment in our community."

Mary Anne Kenerson  
Independence Township



"Possibly, I don't know much about it."

Dale Bond  
Independence Township



"Yes... I'm working on it right now."

Kathy Moultrup  
Independence Township



"I've never heard about it. I don't know."

Traci Hamilton  
Clarkston

This question was asked at the U.S. Post Office in Clarkston.

### LETTERS

#### State shared revenue no gift

Everyone needs to remember that State Shared Revenue (SSR) is not a "gift" from state government. It was begun to replace funding that the state stole from local units of government. As is typical with the state, formulas were developed over the years that were far more complex than necessary — and always to allow the state to keep more money in Lansing and send less to the locals.

It is clearly way past the time where expensive, inefficient cities should start cutting back services rather than raising taxes to pay for their mismanagement.

The state Senate and the state House are about to adopt a new set of formulas. One of the tenets of these equations is that the city of Detroit is going to be guaranteed an amount of money regardless of its population, the economy or its "drunken sailor" spending.

Call and write your state senator and state representative and tell them what you think. Tell them to quit calling high-taxing, inefficient cities needy. Tell them to reward local governments with low tax rates for what they are — effective, efficient providers of services.

Dale A. Stuart, Supervisor  
Independence Township

1998 federal income taxes and avoid an additional interest penalty that would be added in January.

1998 winter taxes are currently due and can be paid without penalty through Tuesday, Feb. 16. A 3 percent late penalty is added on winter taxes from Wednesday, Feb. 17, to Monday, Feb. 28. After Feb. 28 all uncollected 1998 summer and winter real and personal property taxes are sent to Oakland County as delinquent.

Our offices can no longer collect taxes starting March 1, which is the same throughout Oakland County.

Property owners wishing to pay both the summer and winter taxes should be aware that two separate checks would be needed.

It appears that local banks may no longer in the future allow for property taxes to be paid at their branches. I am told that internal studies indicate that the service is not time effective for their employees.

The township office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Township offices are closed for the holiday season on Thursday, Dec. 24, and Friday, Dec. 25. Offices will be open Monday, Dec. 28, through Friday, Dec. 31.

Please be aware that service on Dec. 31 could be slower due to traditionally high volume of residents coming to the Treasurer's Office.

Jim Wenger, Treasurer  
Independence Township

#### Library board not needed

Regarding private sector funding for the library and Mr. Wallace's letter of last week:

Another board, more meetings, more agendas, less books. Andrew Carnegie funded a lot of libraries, and he didn't need permission from some bored board.

At the risk of redundancy, I've said it before, and I'll say it again: Neil Wallace is right!

Robert Namowicz  
Independence Township

#### Reminder tax bills in mail

As a courtesy, the Independence Township Treasurer's Office is sending out a copy of any unpaid 1998 summer tax bills (real and personal) that have not been paid as of Dec. 4. Hopefully, this reminder will allow property owners an opportunity to take care of their outstanding taxes.

The amounts shown due are good until the end of December. By paying in December, property owners can declare the taxes on their

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, as do your neighbors. That's why we offer this space on a weekly basis for opinions in your own words. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you sign your letter and provide a contact telephone number.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Clarkston Eccentric, 7151 Ortonville Road, Clarkston, MI 48346. Or e-mail to: ksmith@cc.homcomm.net

#### United States Senators

Spencer Abraham - R  
26222 Telegraph Road  
No. 200  
Southfield, MI 48034  
Phone: 248-350-0510  
Fax: 248-350-0420

Carl Levin - D  
30500 Van Dyke  
Suite 206  
Warren, MI 48093  
Phone: 810-573-9145  
Fax: 810-573-8260

#### U.S. Representative

Dale E. Kildee - D  
1829 N. Perry St.  
P.O. Box 143340  
Phone: 248-373-9337  
Fax: 248-373-6355

#### State Sen.-16th Dist.

Mat Dunaskiss - R  
State Capitol Bldg.  
P.O. Box 30086  
Lansing, MI 48909-7886  
Phone: 313-263-1245  
Fax: 517-373-2684

#### State Rep. - 46th Dist.

Tom Middleton - R  
State Capitol Bldg.  
Room 59  
Lansing, MI 48913  
Phone: 500-MIDDLETON  
Fax: 517-373-2684

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KAREN HERMAN SMITH, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR, 248-625-1900  
STEVEN K. POPE, PUBLISHER & GENERAL MANAGER, 248-901-2595  
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PHILIP SHERMAN, MANAGING EDITOR, 248-901-2563  
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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

# Middle school options: Part II — Challenges, plans

This week I'd like to complete the middle school picture I began in my last column. Today, I'd like to focus on the challenges we face and outline some of the options.

## Challenges ahead

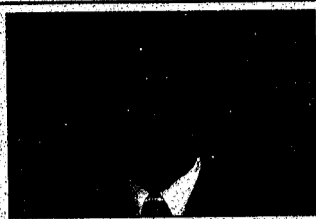
Our most immediate challenge is appropriate housing for students as we move to bring the construction projects to a close. New district boundary lines — whatever they are — will likely go into effect next fall. The redistricted Sashabaw Middle School population (about 700 students) will be relocated for at least eight months while the remodeling of the SMS building is completed. The current plan is to use the Clarkston Middle School building for this temporary housing. The boundary changes will also permit us to assign approximately 1,000 pupils to the new CMS building (the old high school).

But here's where the schedule gets tricky. If the new elementary school cannot be occupied in August (and the schedule is extremely tight), that population of elementary kids will also have

to be accommodated. We are watching the construction progress very closely so we will be prepared to act in the overall best interest of our students.

While the short-term placement of youngsters is critical, our long-term instructional plan is also a vital piece of the puzzle. The research on middle level education affirms that boys and girls in this age group must be academically challenged and emotionally supported! A U-M study reports that it is typical for grade marks to drop and interest in academics to dwindle in many middle schools. The importance of parental involvement and support are well-documented in several studies.

The truth is, to reach their potential students need such support, even if they don't say so. Most teachers and administrators, based on their experiences, would cite class size, safety and discipline issues, the ability to deliver curriculum and/or services to students, building design, and staff certification and expertise as critical elements of any plan.



AL ROBERTS

The bottom line is that we must be careful to consider all the options. The short-term and long-term plan for middle school youngsters must encourage quality programs and better learning opportunities for all pupils.

Many ideas have surfaced over the past few months. For example, some members of the faculty have suggested that all sixth graders should be housed in one building, with seventh and eighth graders placed at another location. Others have suggested that our eighth graders need a more specialized program, and should be housed in a

location separate from their sixth- and seventh-grade counterparts.

Still others say, leave the grade configuration alone!

It would be shortsighted to ignore the necessity to address student needs, but we will not change for the sake of change. If we can serve children better in a different grade configuration, that option should be given serious consideration but we must have compelling reasons to do so. A powerful rationale will be needed to make those changes.

## Developing plans

Good research has been a catalyst for our discussions about middle school placement and programs. As we move toward the physical changes of next year, we are also evaluating our planning process. We want our plans to address better student achievement, stronger safety and discipline measures and positive emotional development.

Any solution to the program and placement challenges must include the

following:

- The creation of a more challenging academic environment for our pupils. The fact is that middle school kids across the country claim they can do more and better work than they are being asked to do.

- The ability to raise our level of expectation for students.

- The continued development of a well-prepared faculty and staff and resources to support the program.

Finally, parent and community support is imperative! While your school district considers the possibilities, we are steadfast in our commitment to our parents and community. No change in grade-level structure will occur unless the reasons are compelling and you have been advised.

In the meantime, I ask you to apply the "PUT" principle: Patience, Understanding, Trust and Teamwork.

Al Roberts is superintendent of Clarkston Community Schools. His hotline number is 623-6454.

# Local downtowns rebound; offer comfort, ambiance

One of the very few catalogues I extract from the seasonal tidal waves of junk mail before they hit the trash bin is the one from Neiman Marcus.

I find I need a jolt of outrage at the onrushing materialism and fakery of our culture every Christmastime, and the special offerings from the good folks at Neiman Marcus seldom fail me. In past years, we've had his and hers business jet airplanes (thoughtfully painted blue and pink, in case you wondered), along with hot air balloons and God only knows what other upper-upper scale rubbish.

This year's special is a British Ferret Mark 1 armored car. "Carries a crew of two; one of two 'friendly' people may be added to the commander's seat for cruising around the ranch." If you hurry, you can still get delivery in time for Christmas for only \$25,000.

So much for this year's monument to materialism.

For a good spell of anti-fakery, I sug-

gest you take a leisurely stroll through your downtown shopping area. Not the mall or even the discount mall. But your own home town downtown. It turns out that as the Christmas season is (ahem, in light of the recent weather) heating up, small downtowns all across the state are on a roll.

"What we're seeing is a renaissance on Main Street," according to Tom Scott of the Michigan Retailers Association.

Main Streets are hardly going to steal all the business from the malls, national chain stores or big box discount centers. But retailing experts say downtowns, once mourned as near-dead, are finding their own special niche that's increasingly attractive to real people in search of real things sold by real shoppers in real, human-sized stores.

"There are an increasing number of successful small downtowns," says Norman Tyler, director of Eastern Michigan University's Urban and



PHILIP POWER

Regional Planning Program. "People like to come downtown. There is a certain comfort about it."

Plainly, downtowns are not likely to compete on price only with the big retail chains or discount malls. But the relaxed ambiance, human scale and personal quality of good downtowns are increasingly attractive to anybody who has ever had to pound on the counter to get the attention of the bored and alienated clerk in the outlet store.

Professor Tyler's research shows that downtowns are helped by a good face lift: trees, landscaping, new sidewalks. A good mix of unusual and authentic businesses helps, too, such as flower shops, specialty shops, book and gift shops. "You want to get people on the sidewalk and make them want to walk up and down the sidewalk," says Tyler.

Tyler says parking may not be as important as many city planners think. "You have to have the businesses. The parking doesn't bring the people, the businesses do," he says.

He cites a formula for downtown success: Keep your costs low. Work cooperatively with other businesses. Attract a good mix of stores. Provide excellent service and selection within your particular niche. Offer your customers something they can't get at Wal-Mart.

Brenda Sternquist, who teaches merchandising management at Michigan State University, gives this advice:

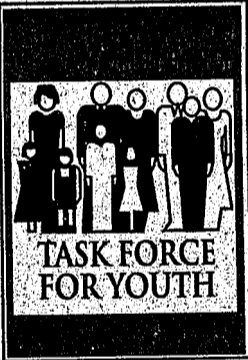
"Stay away from national brands, especially national brands that have been discounted. It is the kiss of death to compete directly with national discount stores."

One of the fundamental objectives of this newspaper is to nourish the communities we serve and assist the success of local businesses. Our theory is very simple. If the home town community flourishes, the home town newspaper will thrive.

Our downtown is a vital part of the life and spirit of our community. That it and other small downtowns like it all across Michigan are thriving is a happy sign as we come into the Christmas season hoping for immunization against the excessively materialistic and the crassly fake.

Phil Power is chairman of Home-Town 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@eoonline.com

## Community coalitions winning the battle in the war on drugs



Communities from across the United States gathered in the nation's capital recently for the four-day CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America) conference. On the way home I saw a billboard on the highway which could have been the conference theme — "The war on drugs starts on the home front."

Dr. Alan Leshner, a brilliant scientist on the cutting edge of new discoveries in brain chemistry and uniquely able to articulate these findings in clear, concise language, heads up the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Foregoing the usual rhetoric about dysfunctional families, peer pressure and poverty, Dr. Leshner answered the question, "Why do people take drugs?"

"People take drugs because they like what it does to their brains ... either the effect of feeling good (the 'high' or 'buzz') or feeling better (self-medicating in the case of depression, anxiety or true chemical dependency in which they need the drug to 'normalize' their brain chemistry.) The problem is, compulsive alcohol and illegal drug use can lead a person down a deceptive path — actually causing permanent changes in the brain structures, which can result in a self-induced 'brain disease.' Sounds like fun? The 'feeling good' phase passes quickly, leaving the user feeling worse than ever, and often leading to problems at home, school, or work, and sometimes the loss of life itself."

Dr. Leshner's work with NIDA is helping policy makers and community activists to see the drug problem as a true public health issue, and "users" as people who are often in need of medical treatment. Under Dr. Leshner's direction, current drug education efforts in schools and communities go beyond the scare tactics and "Just say no" approach of past decades. Prevention efforts and drug education are now based on pure science and understanding brain chemistry.

We heard from Nelson Cooney, the 30-something-year-old new president of CADCA and former staffer under the first national drug czar William Bennett. With story telling style and the boundless enthusiasm of a new generation of young adults, Nelson reviewed the nine-year history of CADCA, which held its first member-

national conference in 1989 with an organizational ship of 314 community coalitions.

Current membership now stands at 4,000 community coalitions. Nelson introduced a full-time professional staff of eight people who specialize in activities such as legislative advocacy, training, technical assistance, membership and marketing.

But perhaps most exciting was hearing directly from the "Outstanding Coalition" Award recipients: Native American representatives from the Bering Strait Coalition in Alaska, located 180 miles from the edge of Siberia, shared how they have benefited from CADCA's technical assistance and coalition training as they coordinate drug and alcohol prevention efforts among 15 Native American tribes in their frontier setting.

Prevention Partners Inc. has developed a "prevention extension" — a 28-foot mobile resource center vehicle which has made more than 100 on-site visits to schools, recreation centers and after-school programs since its inception in late 1997.

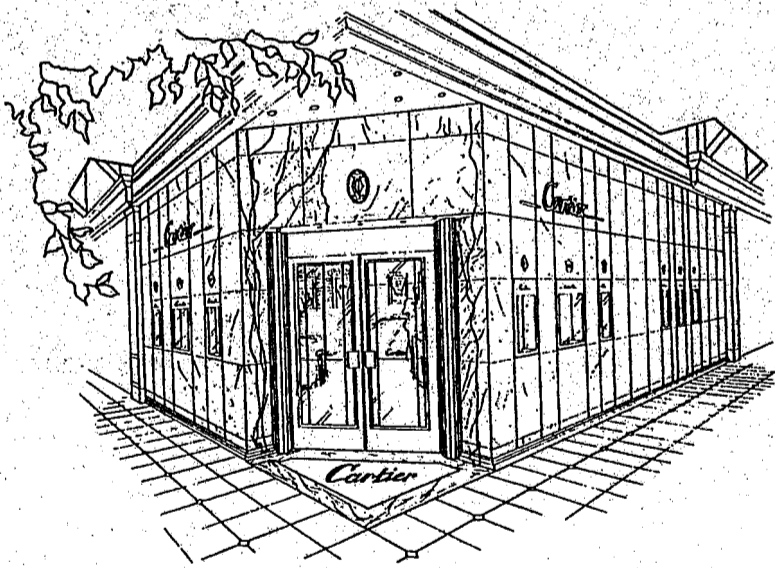
Participating in the "Kmart Kids Race Against Drugs," this coalition involved 2,000 fourth- and fifth-graders (plus parents and care givers) in a fun and informational drug prevention day in their Rochester, N.Y., community last year.

Lastly, we heard from the "San Antonio Fighting Back" Coalition whose efforts to reclaim their community from the ravages of the drug culture have shown documented improvement since the group's beginning in 1990. Overall crime rate in that community has decreased 19 percent and "first use" of alcohol and illegal drugs has been delayed from an initial age of 9.4 years to the 1997 "first use" age of 13.5 years. More next month ...

To learn more about the Clarkston Community Task Force for Youth, check out our website at [www.clarkstonyouth.org](http://www.clarkstonyouth.org) or call us at 394-0252.

This column is shared by various local community groups. Up next week: Clarkston Area Youth Assistance.

# Cartier



## CARTIER NOW IN TROY AT SOMERSET COLLECTION

Cartier, the international jeweler, with stores on the world's most celebrated streets, opens its first Troy store today. After 150 years in Paris on the rue de la Paix, 95 years on Bond Street in London, and 90 years on Fifth Avenue in New York, Cartier now brings its distinguished collection of jewelry, watches and gifts to an elegant new home right in Troy's most vibrant shopping environment.

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# Legislators hope pain management shuts down Dr. Death

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

trichard@oe.homecomm.net

Jack Kevorkian should have fewer customers for aid in dying as Michigan's health care system uses more laws on pain management techniques.

"We've done more than any other state," said Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, as the state Senate Dec. 3 gave 38-0 approval to six House-passed bills. "We started on this four years ago."

Law took the legislative lead on sponsorship after an ailing David Honigman, R-West Bloomfield, resigned from the Senate in 1996. The House passed the bills earlier in the year, but the Senate Health Policy Committee went over the bills in excruciating detail until last week.

"I'm glad that after 11 months of resting in committee these bills have passed," said Sen. Dianne Byrum, D-Onondaga. She criticized the Senate panel's

delay and on Sept. 24 had attempted to discharge the bills (force them out of committee for a full Senate vote). "One in five adults lives in pain; 16 percent of those say it dominates their lives," Byrum said.

"We have a clear policy that use of opiates is approved of, and physicians no longer have to be afraid to prescribe morphine," said Sen. John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, the Legislature's only physician.

"Morphine has been around for centuries, and we're now getting around to using it as the most effective form of pain control. We (the state) will not look over every physician's shoulder and micro-manage how they treat pain," Schwarz said.

Law predicted the House this week would occur in Senate amendments, which he called "minor and technical," and send the bills to Gov. John Engler for signing before year's end. The six House Bills:

**"We have a clear policy that use of opiates is approved of, and physicians no longer have to be afraid to prescribe morphine. Morphine has been around for centuries, and we're now getting around to using it as the most effective form of pain control. We (the state) will not look over every physician's shoulder and micro-manage how they treat pain."**

*Sen. John Schwarz*

*R-Battle Creek, the Legislature's only physician*

■ 4681, sponsored by Law, setting up a state interdisciplinary advisory committee on pain and symptom management.

■ 4682, sponsored by Penny Crissman, R-Rochester, setting standards and penalties for hospitals' comprehensive, multidisciplinary pain management programs.

■ 4683, sponsored by Mike Griffin, D-Jackson, granting physicians limited immunity from liability when they prescribe morphine or other controlled substances to treat intractable pain.

■ 4684, sponsored by Sharon Gire, D-Macomb County, requiring that health insurance policies clearly state whether pain management is covered.

■ 4685, sponsored by Beverly Hammerstrom, R-Temperance,

requiring that health policies clearly state whether treatment for intractable pain and hospice care for the terminally ill are covered.

■ 4686, sponsored by Kirk Profit, D-Ypsilanti, requiring health care corporations to state clearly whether treatment for intractable pain and hospice are covered.

The bills aren't as exciting as the law the Legislature passed providing for five-year prison sentences for assisting a suicide. But Law and the less flamboyant colleagues insist they will do more to alleviate pain than Kevorkian's methods.

"It's not a perfect package," said Sen. Dale Shugars, R-Portage, who chaired the Health Policy committee, predicting that more fine-tuning must be done

in 1999. Shugars said the new package "defines intractable pain, states a legislative intent to prescribe narcotics for pain, defined standards of care, and increased awareness of the need for interdisciplinary practice."

"When health care premiums are going up, we don't want to put another mandate on the system," Shugars said.

Law agreed that "we didn't get into reimbursement."

Over the last four years, Law said, the Legislature has passed measures to:

1. Allow patients to sign "do not resuscitate" orders.
2. Prescribe "death with dignity"

and the patient's bill of rights - requiring that a patient be given full knowledge of medical options.

3. Residential hospice licensing - done by Law at the request of Angela Hospice in Livonia.

In other health matters, the Senate unanimously passed Schwarz's SB 1231 to amend hospital certificate of needs rules to require two operating rooms in small hospitals with emergency rooms and obstetrical services. Schwarz said it would affect hospitals in Clinton and Eaton counties and the western side of the state.

## SEMCOG official to speak on transportation for senior citizens

Healthy People, Healthy Oakland (HPHO) will hold its Community Council meeting 9-11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, in the second-floor Conference Center of the Oakland County Courthouse, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Pontiac.

HPHO is an umbrella group for county organizations who assist those in need of health services.

Carmin Palambo, representing Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), will be on hand to address the board regarding transportation services as an issue for seniors and members of various communities in Oakland County.

More than 100 county groups and 150 community leaders are affiliated with HPHO. The list includes Oakland Family Services, the Farmington YMCA, plus churches and hospitals.

HPHO's efforts are centered around six task forces. The list includes Environment, Community and Social Values, Health and Well Being, Lifelong Learning, Health Service Delivery and

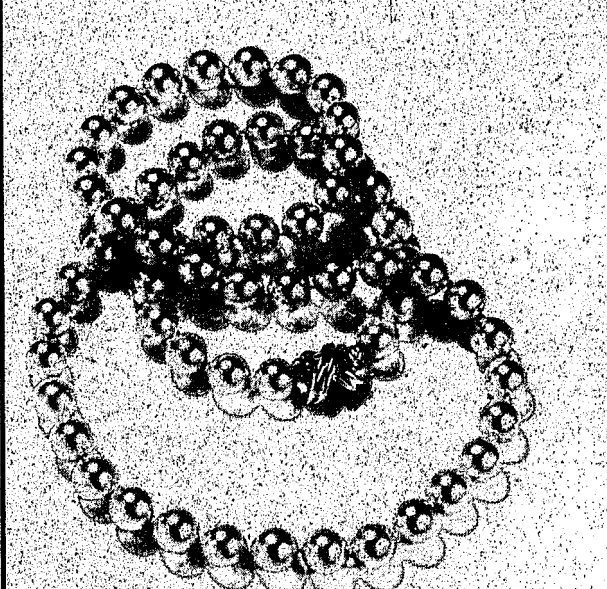
Community Development.

HPHO Community Council representatives will be present at the upcoming meeting. The meeting is open to anyone interested in finding out more about the group.

For more information on HPHO, call (248) 858-1284 or go online at [www.co.oakland.mi.us](http://www.co.oakland.mi.us)

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-----  
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Grosse Pointe, Barnes & Noble.....7:00 p.m.  
- DECEMBER 5TH -  
Farmington Hills, Borders.....3:00 p.m.  
- DECEMBER 10TH -  
Birmingham, Borders.....7:00 p.m.  
- DECEMBER 11TH -  
Rochester Hills, Barnes & Noble.....7:00 p.m.  
- DECEMBER 12TH -  
Troy, Barnes & Noble.....2:00 p.m.  
- DECEMBER 13TH -  
Stelby-Township, Barnes & Noble.....2:00 p.m.



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CAROLYN WALKER

## Mirror images sometimes more than skin deep

Perhaps you remember the old movie "Mask," starring the singer/actress Cher. In that film, she portrays a motorcycling mother whose teenage son is afflicted with a disorder that distorts his bone structure and facial features, making the boy look somewhat like a wide-faced lion.

There is a scene in the movie, based on a true story, where the young man looks into the waves of a fun-house mirror at a circus and, for the first time in his life, sees what his face would have looked like had he been born "normal."

While the mirror creates monster or cartoon faces out of the other humans who peer into it, it has a reverse effect for the boy. The sight stops him in his tracks and he takes time to run his hands up his cheeks and along his brow to consider what his future might have held had he not been born with this particular defect.

It is the most powerful scene in an all-around powerful movie.

The emotion of the scene came rushing back to me a few weeks ago after I awoke from a startling dream.

In the dream, the friendly, anonymous hands of a stranger had reached out from the darkness of an empty ice-skating arena to offer a pair of shining white ice skates to my eager,

Please see WALKER, A15

## In the spirit

### Local churches prepare to spread joy of holidays



Sing out loud: Children at Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church practice for their big performance on Sunday. The church will host its second annual Christmas Collage Concert.

STAFF PHOTOS BY STEVE CANTRELL



Follow the leader: Inger Nelson directs students in the singing of Christmas carols. The songs presented will overlap, like a musical collage.

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

As the sounds of jingle bells ring in our ears, Clarkston-area churches organize gatherings to bring back the true meaning of Christmas.

Whatever you choose, there's an emphasis on family gatherings and the celebration that accompanies the Christmas holiday. Sing Christmas carols, watch a children's performance of the birth of Christ, and come together to help the less fortunate this season by attending a special holiday function. Here's a rundown of what to expect from your local churches.

**First Congregational Church**  
5449 Clarkston Road, Clarkston  
349-0200

The holiday celebrations have already begun at First Congregational Church. Their "Mitten Tree" was

Please see CHURCHES, A14

YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES!

# GRAND OPENING

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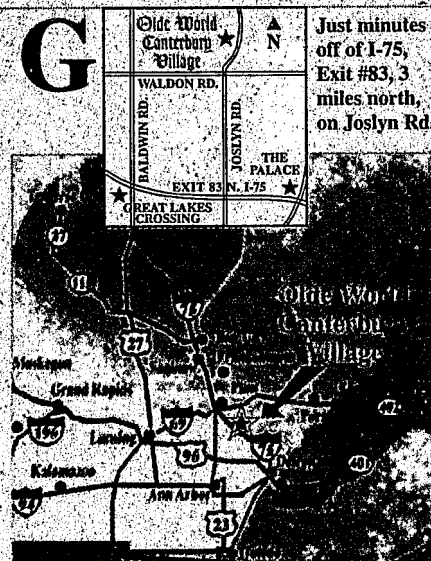
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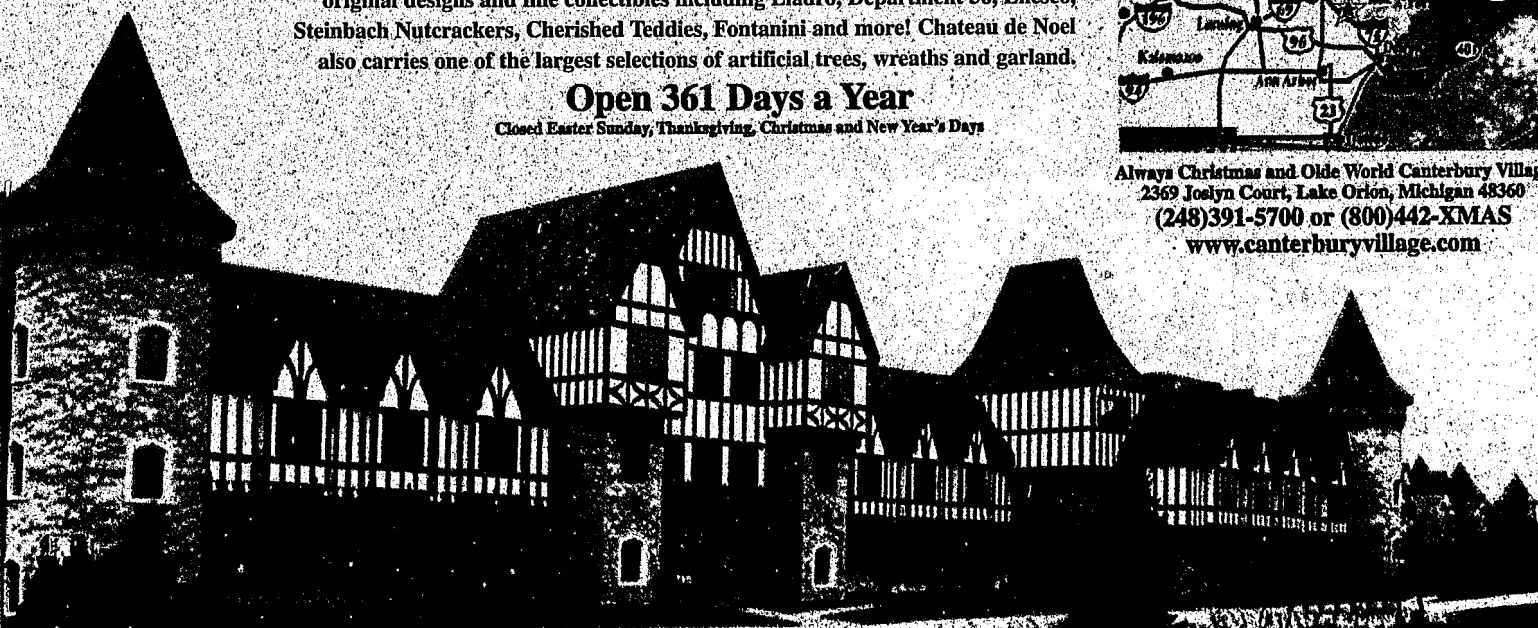
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# Churches from page A13

deemed a success by the Rev. James Keough, who said parishioners collected more than 200 pairs of mittens, 30 scarves and earmuffs, and assorted hats. Half of the goods were sent to Appalachia, and the other half were donated to Lighthouse Emergency Services, Clarkston branch, for children in need.

On Christmas Eve the church holds two services, one at 7 p.m. which includes the nativity pageant, and another at 9 p.m. with Christmas carols. As it does every year, the church has been lit up with white lights and the windows are adorned with candles. Keough said people will drive by this time of year just to see the lights.

### Calvary Evangelical Lutheran

6805 Bluegrass, Clarkston  
625-3288

On Dec. 13, the church will host its second annual Christmas Collage Concert, featuring both secular and Christian music. Inger Nelson, music director for the church, compared the concert to a visual collage. All the music overlaps, she said.

Church choirs, as well as vocal and instrumental soloists, will participate in the event, which begins at 7 p.m. and is held in the sanctuary. The public is invited.

"Last year it was really packed," said Nelson, who expects to draw another large crowd this year.

Another public-friendly event, Christmas caroling, will be organized for anyone who wants to participate between 7-9 p.m. on Dec. 11.

The group will also visit area nursing homes. Anyone interested can meet at the church before 7 p.m.

### Clarkston United Methodist

6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston  
625-1611

The Giving Tree is decorated with wishes and ready to go at Clarkston United Methodist. From Dec. 12-19, the tree has tags on it denoting certain items for children at the Baldwin Center in Pontiac. Parishioners may take tags from the tree and purchase the gifts to place under the tree.

On Dec. 13, the children's celebration, "Christmas Around the World," will be held at the church. Christmas eve services, which are coordinated by age from children to adult, will be held at 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m. and 11 p.m.

### Good Shepherd Assembly of God

6051 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston  
625-1344

The Christmas service will be held on Dec. 20 at 10:30 a.m. and will include communion. Healing services will be held from 7-8 p.m. every Wednesday night. The service will be complete with songs, readings from the Bible, and spiritual healers.

### St. Trinity Lutheran Church

7925 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston  
625-4644

"Jesus Lights the Way," a special children's service and Christmas pageant, will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday. The children involved will have singing and speaking parts as they present the story of Christmas. It is an annual tradition for the church.

The church also displays two holiday trees which represent

children in need this holiday season. "The Giving Tree" is covered in tags listing a child's Christmas wish. Parishioners may take a tag from the tree and purchase a gift for the child to place under the tree. Lighthouse Emergency Services, Clarkston branch, will give those gifts to area children.

"The Mitten Tree" is decorated in hats, mittens and scarves, which have been purchased by church members. The clothing is also taken by Lighthouse to distribute to children. Anyone who would like to contribute may bring a gift to the church before noon on Sunday.

### First Baptist Church of Clarkston

5972 Paramus, Clarkston  
625-3380

The story of Christmas will be told through the use of choir and the church's brass band this year as First Baptist Church presents "Portraits of Christmas."

Assistant Pastor Tim Davis said the production is open to the public and will be held at 6 p.m. Dec. 20. Christmas carols will be sung prior to the production, but will not be a main focus of the gathering.

### St. Daniel Catholic Church

7010 Valley Park, Clarkston  
625-4580

On Dec. 20, the church will host a Tree Trimming Party for its parishioners. Families are invited to make or bring an ornament to place on the parish tree. The informal gathering will begin after the 6 p.m. service and will take place in the activities building.

A visit from Santa Claus is expected and light refreshments will be served.

# Warning: Shopping with hubby can be hazardous to your health

It's Christmas shopping time again. This time every year, I hear women complaining that their husbands don't help enough with the Christmas shopping. Personally, I love to shop and prefer to do it alone. If I shop with my kids, they seem to want everything they see and, if I shop with my husband, we spend way too much time in the tool department of Sears, even if the people on our list don't want tools. When I shop alone I get to look at everything, without being rushed out of the store. If I want to, I can look at 20 blouses for my sister-in-law (who just happens to be my size) and decide which would be best for her and which would match my black skirt perfectly.

Of course, doing the Christmas shopping by myself has led to a little inside joke among our relatives. After opening a gift marked with a tag saying "From Dave and Rochelle," each Christmas at least one person will turn to my husband and ask him if he would like to see what he got them. He takes the teasing with pleasure. He hates to shop, especially during the busiest shopping season of the year. Since I love shopping and don't particularly care if there are 2,000 other people doing it next to me, our arrangement works out splendidly.

Although I hesitate to admit it in print, I usually buy my own Christmas gift to be from my husband. Before you start rolling your eyes and gasping in disgust, think about it. I love shopping, especially when I'm buying something for myself. He hates shopping and rarely has a clue as to what I would really like. If I buy my own gift, I know I will like it and I enjoy the shopping process. If he buys my gift, it's questionable as to whether I will ever use it and he will hate the shopping process. Some people say "that takes all the meaning out of the gift giving." I say, "Gift giving isn't a test." If I made my husband



ROCHELLE SMITH

pick out something for me, I would feel like I was testing him to see if he knows me well enough to know what I want. Ever since our second Christmas together as husband and wife, when he bought me a snowmobile in October and then, in December, told me that the snowmobile, which I had already had for two months, was my Christmas gift, I've decided he doesn't need to be tested. I know his test score and I love him anyway.

Last week I heard a report on the news that substantiated the arrangement that my husband and I have enjoyed for years. It was about stress and shopping. Apparently, London researchers have conducted a study of shoppers. They got a study group together, consisting of both men and women, and sent them out to do some Christmas shopping in crowded shopping areas. Some were sent out with children, some with spouses and some alone.

Their heart rates and blood pressure were monitored and data accumulated. It was determined that one out of four women had elevated heart and blood pressure readings at some point during the shopping experience. Researchers found, however, that every single male shopper studied experienced both an elevated heart rate and elevated blood pressure readings — some becoming elevated as soon as they left their homes to head for the store. In some instances the male shopper's heart rates reached levels comparable to that of fighter pilots or police officers entering dan-

gerous situations. The researchers also determined that the men were likely to buy the first item they saw, just to get out of the store. It was also determined that the women who shopped with men experienced a much higher blood pressure reading than those who shopped with children or alone.

What does this survey say to me? It's obvious that a man shopping is a health hazard, both to the man himself and to anyone unfortunate enough to be with him. As the news reporter I was listening to quipped, "This survey gives the phrase 'Shop till you drop' a whole new meaning."

Already having a predisposition to high blood pressure, I'm not taking a nancy chances. This survey sealed the deal. I'm not letting my husband anywhere near a shopping mall this Christmas, especially if I'm there.

There are enough health hazards to worry about during the Christmas season — hot lights on dry trees, cholesterol producing foods, drunk drivers. When I take the check book and head for the stores, I go knowing that I'm taking another step in the right direction toward preventative health care for my family.

Besides, I can't wait to see what my husband will be giving me this year.

Rochelle Smith, who lives in Clarkston, is a free-lance columnist.

**What does this survey say to me? It's obvious that a man shopping is a health hazard, both to the man himself and to anyone unfortunate enough to be with him.**

The unseasonably warm weather is producing some unexpected shopping trends — Find out more in the Sunday Clarkston Eccentric's Malls & Mainstreets pages

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WE ARE A SNOWFRESH FARM FOR GUARANTEED QUALITY.  
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**CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

The Clarkston Eccentric publishes calendar items free of charge. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Type or print: Event, date and time, location, telephone number and any additional information and mail to the Clarkston Eccentric, 7151 Ortonville Road, Suite 2, Clarkston, MI 48346 or fax to 625-5712. Deadline for calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. All phone numbers below have 248 area code unless otherwise noted.

**FRIDAY, DEC. 11**

**SPAGHETTI DINNER**  
5-7 p.m. Independence Township Senior Center. Featured is an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner. Dessert is only 75 cents extra. Program is open to the public so bring the whole family. All proceeds go directly to the senior center. No registration required. Center is at 5980 Clarkston Road in Clintonwood Park. Cost \$4 adults, \$2 child.

**RECREATION FOR SPECIAL PEOPLE**

7-9 p.m., Christmas Party. Heather Highlands Golf Course on East Holly Road, halfway between I-75 (Exit 98) and Dixie Highway. Visit with Santa, gifts for everyone. Dance to music of Disc Jockey Matt Wolfe. While NWOCS, a volunteer organization, provides recreational activities, care givers have responsibility for direct supervision of participants. For more information, call 634-9570.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 12**

**SNACK 'N SANTA**  
1 and 3 p.m., Indian Springs Metropark. Santa will be at the park to meet all his young friends. Registration required. Call 625-7280 or 1-800-477-3192. Cost: Children \$5, Adults \$2.

**SUPERNATURAL SATURDAY-GIFTS OF MICHIGAN**

1:30-4 p.m. Lewis E. Wint

Nature Center at Independence Oaks County Park. Michigan's gifts to us include sparkling water and beautiful forests. Celebrate the holiday season by making gifts with a Michigan theme. By creating unique gifts, ages 7-11 can learn about our great state. Cost \$10 per person. Registration required. Call 625-6478.

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DEC. 12 & 13**

**FAMILY HOLIDAY FEST**  
6-9 p.m. Saturday, 2-5 p.m. Sunday. Bay Court Park, Andersonville Road between Dixie Highway and White Lake Road. You and your family are invited to capture the spirit of the season by joining Santa and his elves for a weekend at the festival. Park will be decorated as the North Pole with Candyland, Santa's Workshop, Toyland and much more. Also enjoy horse drawn carriage rides, and refreshments while listening to festive music. Cost: \$5 resident, \$7 non-resident, \$20 resident family, \$25 non-resident family. Advance tickets required by Friday, Dec. 11. For additional information call Independence Township Parks & Recreation Department at 625-8223.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 17**

**HOLIDAY DINNER**  
6 p.m. Independence Township Senior Center. 'Tis the season for family, friends, fellowship and food... and we've got it all. Join us as we celebrate the joy of the season. We'll have a traditional holiday meal, some special entertainment and a visit from an out of town guest. \$2 per person. Call the center at 625-8231 at least 48 hours in advance for a reservation.

**FRIDAY, DEC. 18**

**HOLIDAY SWING**  
5-11 p.m. Independence Township Senior Center. Swing into the holiday season with the big band sound of the String of

Pearls Orchestra, Singers and Dancers at Whiting Auditorium. We'll stop for a dinner, on your own, on the way to the show. There's no doubt about it—this will bring you into the holiday spirit like the good old days. Remember—we'll take you to and from your house too, if you need transportation. \$34 residents, \$37 non-residents. To register call 625-8231.

**RECREATION FOR SPECIAL PEOPLE**

6-8 p.m., Bowling at Holly Lanes (Grange Hall Road, Holly, 1/2 mile west of light). \$1.50 per game—shoes included. While NWOCS, a volunteer organization, provides recreational activities, care givers have responsibility for direct supervision of participants. For more information, call 634-9570.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 19**

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
2-4 p.m. American Legion Post 377, Mary Sue Street at the end of Maybee Road, Clarkston. There will be entertainment and a visit from Santa. Sign up at the post lounge or for more information call Robin Puckett at 625-6425.

**THROUGH DEC. 20**

**CANNED FOOD DRIVE**  
Auto Lab, 5534 Dixie Highway, across from Our Lady of Lakes Church. To benefit Lighthouse Clarkston. Receive 10 percent off repair bill if you bring in 12 cans of non-perishable food. For more information, call 623-1400.

**Selling Beanie Babies!!!**  
\$12 Canyon, Loopy \$15 Erin, Princess, Peano \$18 Glady  
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\$22 '97 MCO \$41 \$2 Bruno, Church, Eam, Quacker, Sly, Scott,  
Singer \$2 Bally, Bambi, Blackie, Bizzy, Bones, Daisy, Grace,  
Puff, Sissy, Stripes, Fatz, Scoop \$10 Pany, Lige, Seaweed,  
Ho \$11, Dooch, Zo, Volant, Speedy \$22, Hook, Scot, '97  
Teddy \$18, Bubbles, Sparty, Tuck, Grant, Seamora \$84 Fish,  
Satan, Digger, Br Teddy \$118 Chops, Sing, Menny, Keri \$178  
Lily, Huggy \$229 Liberty Other Specials \$33 Cobby, \$138  
Mazes \$168 Emma \$168 Bubbles \$28 Oz Teddy \$23 Peanut,  
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**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23**

**HOLIDAY LUNCH**  
Noon. Independence Township Senior Center. Join us as we celebrate the festivities of the holiday season. We'll have some special visitors, great music, fun and laughter. \$2 per person. Simply call the center at 625-8231 at least 48 hours in advance for a reservation.

**FRIDAY, DEC. 27**

**RECREATION FOR SPECIAL PEOPLE**  
6-8 p.m., Sponsored by Northwest Oakland Community Services. Bowling at Holly Lanes (Grange Hall Road, Holly, 1/2 mile west of lights). \$1.50 per game. Shoes included. Refreshments. While NWOCS, a volunteer organization, provides recreational activities, care givers have responsibility for direct supervision of participants. For more information, call 634-9570.

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30**

**MARTIN PRESTON AS LIBERACE**  
9:15 a.m. - 7 p.m. Sponsored by Independence Township Senior Center. Pre-New Years celebration in Toledo, Ohio. Martin Preston is recognized as the greatest impersonator in the country. He has captured Liberace's flamboyant style both in music and costumes. Singer extraordinaire William Garon will also be performing. \$69 residents, \$74 non-residents. To register call 625-8231.

**Walker from page A13**

but mentally retarded daughter... who, in reality, just barely walks with a very bum, multi-surgiced leg.

She gave up running long ago. And she has never ice skated. Suddenly, though, she was wearing the skates (while my heart raced in fear) and she was off — a streak of mature physical beauty swirling and twirling to the distant strains of a song that only she could hear.

The sight of her, in my dreamer's eye, with an athletic, supple and poised body — the sight of her as a normal woman — skating away from me, long hair trailing in the breeze, was remarkable, indeed.

The rare syndrome that affects my daughter affects her totally. It is the very gauge that has determined her physical stature and mental acuity, her body functions and her potential.

Because of it, her face more closely resembles those of other people who share her syndrome than it does her own family members. We are left to wonder, when we take the notion, what she would have looked like, who she would have resembled, whose side of the family she would have most favored, had some mysterious, unknown, pre-birth quirk of nature not altered her face... and her life forever.

Once I accepted the fact that my daughter would always be disabled, I quickly learned to look past — indeed not to see at all — her infirmities. Maternal love is a powerful and a miraculous emotion.

How easily it transformed a fear of the unknown into something more than acceptable: Into something welcome and wondrous.

Earlier this summer, we had occasion to travel to Cincinnati, where we met, for the first time, some 200 other families whose children have the same syndrome as my daughter. We ascended the floors of a luxurious downtown hotel on an elevator and were greeted, as we exited the elevator doors, by a room full of same-faced children as familiar to us as our daughter.

My mother's urge to embrace them all — especially the infants and toddlers who so resembled her when young — was almost overwhelming.

For my daughter, though, the experience provided an encounter not unlike that of the young man in Mask's fun-house mirror.

A girl slightly younger than my daughter approached and asked of me, "Does she have the same syndrome as me?" She squinted at my daughter with the same slightly slanted, mischievous eyes and grinned at her with the same crooked grin that my daughter has used for 21 years.

My daughter, looking and grinning back, did what can only be described as a subtle double-take, for she saw in the other's face, some unspoken thing that she instinctively recognized. Something that struck a chord with her.

In a flash that would rival a figure skater's fantastic, air-borne spin, they had embraced each other and commenced a friendship — like they had known each other all their lives.

Perhaps, in a way that the rest of us cannot understand, they have.

Carolyn Walker is a free-lance columnist who lives in the city of Clarkston.

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**Homeowners: Debt Free For New Year's?**

By MARK SUMMER  
Your Money

Imagine not having to sift through the bill drawer each month deciding who gets paid and who will have to wait. Imagine not having to write checks for the "minimum amount due." And, imagine having hundreds, even thousands of dollars in savings in your pocket each month. Sound too good to be true? According to one expert, it isn't!

Ken Towne, executive vice president of Southfield-based wholesale and retail mortgage lender Investaid says that homeowners have an opportunity to make a New Year's resolution to be debt free (excluding mortgage) by New Year's Day, and it won't cost them a penny out of their pocket. "We invite homeowners to spend five minutes with us over the phone to evaluate their financial situation and determine the best course of action," says Towne. "In less than five minutes we can pre-qualify a homeowner for a loan and determine the total monthly savings—it costs the caller nothing."

We asked Towne why a homeowner would ever want to consolidate their short-term credit card debt into a long-term mortgage. His answer made complete sense. "Most of the people we help have been making minimum payments on their bills for as long as they can remember. As a matter of fact, many can't even remember what they purchased. I don't consider that short-term debt—I consider that a problem," he said.

Towne explained that there is a point at which every borrower realizes that there is no way that he or she will ever pay off the debts. It is then that a decision should be made to refinance, consolidate debt, lower payments, take advantage of valuable tax benefits, and cut up those credit cards.

**In Debt? You're Not Alone!**

Consumer debt is at an all time high. Between 1991 and 1997, consumer credit card balances and other revolving credit card debt skyrocketed to \$514 billion—from \$247 billion.

What does that mean? It means that you are not alone. Your friends, your family, your neighbors and even your colleagues are likely going through the same financial challenges. And, many of them are doing something about it.

According to a recent study, more than 4 million families have turned to companies like Investaid in the last two years to consolidate more than \$26 billion in credit card and revolving debt into home equity or mortgage programs. The process is easy, and the programs work.

**Take Action, Become Debt Free**

How about a little extra holiday cheer. Start fresh in 1999 by taking control of your financial future today.

Evaluate your current situation. Take advantage of a free payment comparison and monthly savings review. Investaid offers a free payment comparison with no application fee. Finally, weigh your options and make the best financial decision possible for your family. It really is quite simple.

Investaid offers free payment and savings comparisons. You can reach the company toll free at (800) 492-2110. "On average," Investaid saves homeowners \$300-\$500 per month," says Towne. "Not bad for a five minute toll free phone call!"

However, Towne warns homeowners to be careful when choosing a lending partner. Watch out for late night television ads and fake checks in the mail offering "too good to be true" programs. "Our company's formula for success is simple," says Towne. "We have no commissioned salespeople. Our customer savings specialists are experienced and knowledgeable and are recognized for their ability to save our customers money. Also, our roots as a wholesale lender allow us to pass significant savings on to our borrowers enabling us to offer a very flexible approval process."

Regardless of your past or current credit difficulties, consolidation programs are now available for all borrowers. Take the time to educate yourself. Don't be bullied into believing that you don't qualify. Most importantly, take action and become debt free.

Investaid is a Southfield-based, full-service wholesale and retail mortgage lender specializing in debt consolidation. You can reach Investaid toll free by calling (800) 492-2110. The company is located at 30300 Telegraph Road, Suite 117.

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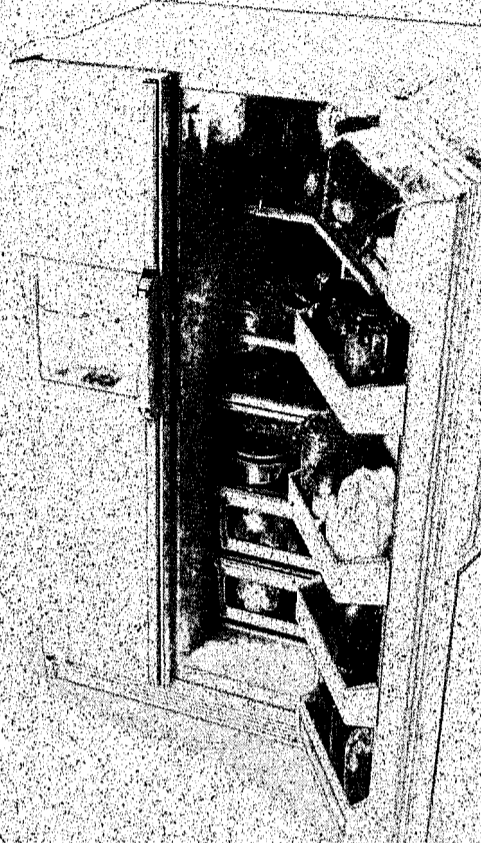
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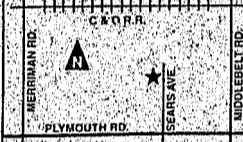
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## Safety belt use up a notch in state

Michigan's just-released safety belt use rate is up only slightly from last year, according to a survey conducted by the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI).

Use of safety belts is 69.9 percent in 1998 versus 67.6 percent in 1997. The national rate in 1997 was 67.6 percent.

Historically, federal guidelines have required states to base their safety belt use rates strictly on belt use in passenger vehicles. This is the first year Michigan and other states are reporting safety belt use rates as the average for passenger vehicles, sport utility vehicles, vans-minivans, and pickup trucks.

"Michigan cannot be contented with such small gains in safety belt use," said Betty J. Mercer, division director of the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning. "The bottom line is that safety

belts, more often than not, mean the difference between life or death, between serious or minor injuries, in the event of a traffic crash."

Lowest rate of usage is among pickup truck drivers, 54.1 percent.

It's highest among those who drive vans and minivans, 75.7 percent.

Belt use is lowest for those aged 16-29, at 63.6 percent, and highest for the 4-15 age group, 75.2 percent.

"Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for infants, children and young adults. Unbuckled children are at serious risk," Mercer said. "We know that parents who buckle up are positive role models - their children are more likely to be buckled up."

Last year Michigan traffic crashes claimed 1,446 lives. Of those who died, less than half were buckled up.

## Daimler Chrysler urges 'Do The Buckle'

During the holidays, more people travel the nation's roadways than any other time of the year. So, it's important to drive safely and take extra precautions to protect yourself, your children and your friends while traveling.

Research has shown wearing a safety belt and properly restraining children in the back seat is the most effective way to reduce fatalities and serious injuries in a motor vehicle crash. But still, many drivers and passengers do not wear them.

This holiday season Daimler-Chrysler, with its North American headquarters in Auburn Hills, is sponsoring its "Do the Buckle" team, which is touring the United States reminding families about the importance of wearing safety belts and buck-

ling kids in the back seat.

The tour brings safety messages (wear your safety belt, kids in back, air bags save lives) to schools, malls, day care centers and local events. The coordinators give safety demonstrations and show the "Do the Buckle" song and dance (through a video) to a variety of audiences.

"Motor vehicle crashes were the leading cause of death for children, taking the lives of 2,087 children in the U.S. in 1997," said Melissa Liptak, a "Do the Buckle" driver. "Tragically, nearly half of these children would be alive today if they had been properly restrained. Not only that, but adults who don't buckle up send children a very deadly message."

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Intermediate markdowns may have been taken. Reductions taken at register.



# Pets on parade

## Thinking of a dog or cat for a Christmas gift? Center has plenty

BY BARB PERT TEMPLETON  
STAFF WRITER

If you're thinking about putting a four-legged critter under the Christmas tree this year, you'll want to stop by the Oakland County Animal Care Center in Auburn Hills Saturday, Dec. 12, when the center will host an open house.

Dozens of dogs and cats currently available for adoption will be on display.

The center holds similar programs four times a year and the holiday event is generally quite successful, according to Supervisor Joanie Toole.

"We have it before the holidays so people aren't adopting just on a whim on Christmas Eve,"

**'We have it before the holidays so people aren't adopting just on a whim on Christmas Eve.'**

*Joanie Toole*  
—Animal Care Center

Toole said, "This way they can come in and look around and ask questions or pick up information before adopting a pet."

The Animal Care Center, established in 1981, is a facility that is funded and operated by Oakland County. The shelter is different from the Michigan Humane Society in several ways. The society is privately run and tends to take on more hardship cases concerning pets.

"We have more strays here and we enforce the state laws," explained Toole. "We have Deputies that go out and check for licenses or dogs that are running loose or strays."

The center also takes in "any dog of any breed" that a owner no longer wants or can keep. Once in awhile they even get dogs with official papers that owners just can't handle anymore and on rare occasions a small breed pure bred is dropped off at the shelter too, Toole said.

The shelter can house up to

Please see ANIMALS, A18



**Pet shopping:**  
Customers check out the offerings at the Oakland County Animal Care Center in Auburn Hills. Dogs and cats will be for sale at an upcoming open house. "We're bursting at the seams with cats right now," says the center's Joanie Toole.

STAFF PHOTOS BY  
LAWRENCE R.  
MCKEE



## You've Lived A Life Of Dignity, Independence And Choice.

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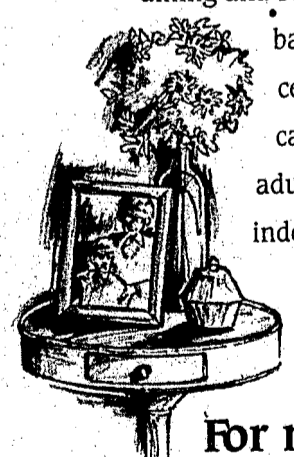
Announcing the opening of Botsford Commons Assisted Living Center. This innovative facility, located in an historic and newly renovated Albert Kahn-designed

building in Farmington Hills, offers a caring environment for those who need support to maintain daily living routines. Residents receive assistance only with the services needed and requested, encouraging each individual to remain as independent as possible in a safe and secure environment. Center residents retain privacy and comfort in individual apartments while their psychological and social needs are met through a variety of programs and group activities. Easily accessible community living,



dining and social areas complement comfortable accommodations with private baths and generous space for treasured personal furnishings. The center features a chapel, clinical offices and a full range of health care services including geriatric assessment programs. As an older adult, you've lived a life that has been one characterized by dignity, independence and choice. It should continue to be. When you choose Botsford Commons Assisted Living Center, you insure that the next chapter of your life is filled with the same richness of choice and independence to which you are accustomed and that you deserve.

For more information, call 248-477-1646.



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# Animals from page A17

200 dogs or cats and currently has 176 animals ready for adoption.

"Occasionally we get a hamster or a bunny and we even had some rats once, but those animals aren't something that we get here very often," Toole said.

The large number of dogs being brought in right now as strays or lost animals are tied to the season.

"We have a lot of beagles back there because it's hunting season right now," Toole said. "And in some cases the owner might realize the dog is here, but just won't pick it up for one reason or another."

Wanting rid of a problem pet or having to pay the costs involved in claiming your dog turns some people away, Toole said. The fees for pick-up vary from city to township but in Auburn Hills the cost is \$33 plus \$14.64 a day for food and shelter and then a license fee if the dog doesn't have one.

"Some of these pets can turn into a really big bill if the owner didn't come for them right away and the dogs been in here a few weeks," Toole said. "I think that's why some people just don't bother to come and pick their dog up."

"We're bursting at the seams with cats right now," Toole

**The Animal Care Center, established in 1981, is a facility that is funded and operated by Oakland County. The shelter is different from the Michigan Humane Society in several ways. The society is privately run and tends to take on more hardship cases concerning pets.**

said. "We have plenty of cats that need a good home."

The reason for the huge cat population lies in the fact that many people view cats as the "disposable" pet. If one wanders away they simply get another one. "It's a real big problem," Toole said.

For those eager to consider adding a four legged friend to their family the process is quite simple.

"If they see something they like they can fill out an application, pay the fee and they're ready to take the dog home with them," Toole said.

The application asks basic questions such as will the dog

be a family pet? Or will it live in or outside? New owners must also agree to have the dog spayed and licensed.

Puppies can be adopted for \$87, dogs six months and older \$117, and kittens are \$80. State law requires that all dogs be spayed so \$50 of the \$87 for puppies is held as a deposit and returned once the new owner brings in proof of the neutering.

Adult dogs, stays in particular, have to have rabies shot, the distemper vaccine, and a license, Toole said.

"Strays are a big part of our population," Toole said, although the canines picked up aren't pack dogs that are foaming at the mouth or anything. "We don't have that big a problem with strays being wild in a lot of cases the dog just got away from it's owner."

The center works hard to get as much information as they can on puppies that are turned in so that they can tell the prospective owners things like the breed, size and temperament of the dog.

The Oakland County Animal Care Center will hold an Open House on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 1700 Brown Road, Auburn Hills. For more information, call the Center at (248) 391-4100.

# Senate guts municipal OK on school building

BY TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

A legislative bill giving cities and townships power to approve school building plans has been gutted by a Senate committee and is almost as good as dead.

Burial will be Dec. 31, when all unpassed bills expire.

"We'll be back next year," said Don Stypula, lobbyist for the Michigan Municipal League, which joined forces with the Michigan Townships Association to seek local unit site and construction plan reviews of both public and non-public school construction.

The bill had been eagerly watched by Northville Township, which has had a long-standing battle with the Northville School District over building plans.

Rep. George Mans, D-Trenton, a former mayor and school board member, won House passage of his bill. "We had two situations in my district - Woodhaven, where a relatively new building just fell apart; and Flat Rock, where there was no local control to inspect a building of a public school academy."

"We should treat school buildings the same as others," Mans told the Senate Human Resources, Labor and Veterans Affairs Committee - but the panel, headed by Mike Rogers, R-Brighton, disagreed. The committee gutted the

Mans bill and sent it to the Senate floor Dec. 2 on a 3-2 party-line vote. It is languishing on the Senate calendar.

Mans' bill would have repealed a 1987 law placing school site and building inspection authority in the hands of what is now the state Department of Consumer and Industry Services. Local building and fire codes are inapplicable. It would also amend part of the school code.

The Senate Fiscal Agency estimated the Mans bill would add \$26,000 to the cost of inspections and permits for a one-story building.

Rogers' committee version went back to a uniform method of statewide review. School authorities could voluntarily submit their plans to local officials, but wouldn't be required to do so. The Senate version keeps the House requirement that state-certified architects and engineers approve construction plans and be on-site.

But Republicans on the panel threw Democrats a political curve when they further amended the bill to remove a

requirement that school districts pay the "prevailing wage" (a legal euphemism for union scale) on construction jobs.

"That will be a poison pill in the House," said Sen. Ken DeBeaussiaert, D-Macomb County, predicting the Democrat-controlled House would never agree to it.

"This prevailing wage is altogether a separate issue," said Sen. Mike O'Brien, D-Detroit. "Get another bill," he told Republicans.

Replied Rogers: "This (prevailing wage) adds costs. This takes money from school kids for books and computers."

O'Brien shot back: "All the books and computers aren't worth a darn if the roof caves in."

Sen. Leon Stille, R-Spring Lake, who sponsored the prevailing wage repeal, said the requirement does nothing but add to school construction costs. "It has nothing to do with construction quality," he said.

Refer to House Bill 5654 when writing to your state senator, State Capitol, PO Box 30036.

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Sealed proposals for the purchase of vacant land will be received by the Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority at the Authority office, 3910 W. Webster Road, Royal Oak, Michigan 48073, until 11:00 A.M., E.S.T., Wednesday, January 6, 1999, and then at said office will be publicly opened and read.

The parcel of land, having an area of 56.7 acres more or less, is located north of Avon Road in the City of Rochester Hills.

The conditions of sale and maps may be obtained at the Authority office.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a cashier's check in the amount of at least ten (10) percent of the amount of the proposal payable to the Authority.

The Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any formality or technicality in any proposal in the interest of the Authority.

Proposals may not be withdrawn within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

**SOUTHEASTERN OAKLAND COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY**  
THOMAS G. WAFFEN, P.E.  
General Manager

Published: December 6 and 10, 1998

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# Party possibilities unlimited for New Year's revelers

BY JILL HOCKMAN  
STAFF WRITER

If you're hoping to waltz into 1999 at the annual New Year's Grand Ball in Vienna, a local travel agent says it's too late to get tickets.

But if you'll settle for a Caribbean vacation, a mellow jazz concert in Detroit or a Pontiac party that includes free food and cocktails, then there's still time to book a New Year's Eve reservation.

Charles Randolph, who owns Chuck Randolph Travel & Tours, said New Year's travel reservations are down this year due to unseasonably warm weather.

"The weather has been so terrific here that people have not booked much for that period," he said.

Some holiday charter flights are still available, Randolph said. Key Tours offers a seven-day trip to Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic that leaves New Year's Eve. Round-trip air fare is \$359, and hotel/air packages start at \$969 per person, according to Randolph.

Seats are also available on a three-day outing to Las Vegas that departs Dec. 31. The trip runs \$267.90 per person, and includes air fare and hotel accommodations at Circus Circus, Randolph said.

If you'd rather skip the plane

ride this New Year's Eve, consider a concert at a Detroit area music venue. The State Theatre in Detroit is hosting jazz saxophonist David Sanborn. Shows start at 7:30 and 11:30 p.m. Concert-goers at the late show can toast 1999 with free party favors and champagne, according to promoter Rodney Cameron of Top Cat Productions.

Jazz, pop and R&B vocalist Rachele Ferrell is performing 7:30 and 11 p.m. shows at Detroit's Music Hall, Cameron said. The 11 p.m. show will feature a complimentary champagne toast.

If you prefer louder music, the Magic Bag in Ferndale is hosting

local Detroit band the Howling Diablos, and 70s rock band Kiss will perform at 9 p.m. at The Palace in Auburn Hills.

If you'd rather eat, drink and dance at a more traditional New Year's Eve party, several Metro Detroit hotels and banquet halls are hosting all-inclusive events.

General Manager Haydee Kosch is expecting some 1,500 guests to fork out \$50 each at The Lafayette Grande in downtown Pontiac. The first-year event will feature a prime rib and seafood buffet and open bar. One deejay will spin swing music and another will play dance and latin tunes while top 40 band Art of Fact will perform

in the Grande's ballroom. The entry fee also includes a champagne toast at midnight followed by a breakfast buffet of eggs, meat and pastries. "We're going to have a great time," Kosch said.

At the Hotel St. Regis in Detroit, sit-down dinner, dancing to a live band and a champagne toast in the dining room runs \$69 a couple. A \$179 package includes a hotel room, with buffet dinner, a champagne toast and dancing for two in the ball-

room, according to Pam Riley, a sales coordinator at the hotel.

The Ramada Inn in Southfield will host a ritzy black tie optional party featuring dancing, a champagne toast and finger food.

The event is hosted by personalities from WJLB FM 98, which broadcasts Top 40 and R&B music from the party that night. The first 200 tickets are sold for \$19.98. After that, tickets cost \$40, according to Roy Isaac III, the event's coordinator.

## CLASS REUNIONS

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

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#### ROCHESTER ADAMS

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#### ROCHESTER ADAMS

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Aug. 7 at the Somerset Inn, Troy. (248) 366-9493, press #6

#### WALLED LAKE CENTRAL

Class of 1979  
A reunion is planned for July 24. (248) 363-8211 or (248) 366-3337

#### WALLED LAKE WESTERN

Class of 1979  
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(248) 366-9493, press #1

### OTHER SCHOOLS

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\$10/hr. to start. \$11 after 30 days + overtime. Will train. Full medical, dental & life insurance. Paid vacations, holidays & uniforms. Great opportunity for advancement. Farmington Hills office. VENTCORP 248-473-9300

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Multi-state alarm dispatch operation looking for dependable persons to answer phones and monitor computer-operated alarm-reporting systems. Full or part time positions available for all shifts with flexible hours to include rotating weekends. Salary commensurate to experience. Customer service and keyboard experience helpful. Training provided. Fax resume to: (248) 374-5752 or mail to: Securix Corporation, Central Station Manager, 22325 Roethel Drive, Novi, MI 48375.

AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

Local office of Michigan's largest real estate company is looking for 2 people for their Farmington V. Bloomfield office. Must be willing to work hard & be trained. Contact Steve Leibhan or Gus Seager 248-851-4100. REAL ESTATE ONE

500 Help Wanted General

ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR

Seeking a full-time visionary to run the admissions program of our 186-bed nursing home. Responsibilities include conducting tours, community marketing, management duties. Send resume to: Peachwood Inn, 3500 W. South Blvd., Rochester Hills, MI 48309. EOE

AGGRESSIVE TELEMARKETER

Can you get people's attention? If so, this is your ticket to success. Hourly pay plus commission. HOMETOWN USA (734) 568-8000

ACCOUNTANT, CPA

3-5 years experience. Excellent opportunity and benefits. (248) 552-9400

ACCOUNTANT

Entry level position. Rapidly expanding Highland Park distributorship has immediate full-time opening. Computer knowledge and accounting degree preferred. Competitive wage and benefits package. Send resume and salary requirements to: Fax: 313-867-2550 or mail to: Human Resources General Wine Company 373 Victor Ave. Highland Park, MI 48203

ACCOUNTING

Degraded accountant with minimum 1 year experience in all phases through general ledger. The candidate will know computerized spreadsheets, accounting software and preferably have commercial real estate or hotel accounting experience. This opportunity leads to a Regional Controller. This is a full time position (37.50 hr.) with medical/dental/benefits, 401K and tuition reimbursement. Please send or fax your resume to: The Hayman Company, P.O. Box 7777, Troy, MI 48067. Fax: 248-879-2430.

ACCOUNTING

Growing lease company looking for a highly motivated, conscientious individual for our Accounting Department with an Associates Degree in Business and at least 1 year experience. If interested, send/fax resume to: Office Manager P.O. Box 4415, Troy, MI 48099-4415. Fax: (248) 729-9057

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT & SALES

For small company. Salary to mid \$20s. Reply to: Box #1468, Observer & Eccentric News 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia, MI 48150

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Progressive management company looking for experienced manager couple to operate medium size complex. This is a hands on operation. Excellent salary, apartment and utilities provided. 401K retirement program and health benefits available. Please send resumes immediately. Channess & Simon Apt. Manager Position 31500 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 195 Farmington Hills, MI 48334

APPLIANCE SERVICE TECH

Factory authorized service company seeks experienced tech. Paid hourly and benefits. 1-800-878-4000

ARCHITECTURE FIRM

Assistant/Project Manager - 2-5 years of residential design documents & AutoCAD 13-14 required. Competitive salary & benefits. The Design Group 4086 Rochester Rd., Suite 109, Troy, MI 48068. Or fax resume to: 248-619-9690

ASSEMBLY

Entry level for plant that manufactures plastic parts for the automotive industry. Training provided. All shifts, \$5.75-\$8.35/hr. (734) 524-9165

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR RESIDENTIAL BUILDER

Qualified applicant must be very knowledgeable in all aspects of construction. Must be able to punch out homes. Salary D.O.C. Flex resumes, fax: 734-455-0815. Attn: George Kilpatrick.

BUILDING CLEANERS

needed immediately for Mon-Fri from 10pm to 4am. Excellent pay. (800)794-1011

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BUILDING CLEANERS

needed immediately for Mon-Fri from 10pm to 4am. Excellent pay. (800)794-1011

500 Help Wanted General

AUTOMOTIVE PARTS COUNTERPERSON

Hines Park Lincoln-Mercury of Plymouth is looking to fill a position in the parts department. Ford parts experience is preferred. Full time. Full benefits. Call Mr. Barr at: (734) 453-2424

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE ADVISOR

Immediate openings for hardworking, honest individuals with strong people skills. Experience preferred. Good pay & benefit package. Contact John Polers or Cecil Green, at: Galisman Oldsmobile: 1-800-354-5558

AUTO OIL CHANGE TECH

Oil change & tire technicians needed. No certification required. Job preferred. Earn up to \$12 per hr. Room for advancement. DAVIS AUTO CARE INC. 807 Doherty Dr. (in the Northville Industrial Park) 248-349-5115

Auto Tire Installers Full-Time & Part-Time

Great pay and Benefits Looking for a good job? Maybe a career? Hard worker. Call or Visit One of these locations W. Bloomfield, 5705 W. Maple 248-651-4600 Detroit, 19400 Grand River 313-538-8000 Farmington, 22843 Orchard Ln 248-474-5042 Rochester Hills, 248-299-5775 Garden City, 33335 Ford Rd 734-425-1365 Troy, 2245 Stoughton Hwy. 248-683-7606 Livonia, 16801 Middlebelt 248-477-1000 Novi, 42409 Grand River 248-448-4348 Livonia, 86591 Plymouth 734-425-4440 Plymouth, 433 W. Ann Arbor 734-453-5300

AWNING INSTALLERS

Need Full-time. Ask for Sue - 734-422-7110

BAKER

Full-time. Experience good but not necessary. Centrol Bread Company. (734) 354-8837

CREDIT UNION in Farmington

seeking experienced Loan Officer. Must have knowledge in consumer lending, mortgage & home equity lending. Collection experience a +. 248-474-7100

CREDIT UNION in Farmington

area looking for TELLER. Must have computer experience & good communication skills. Call: (248) 474-7100

PART-TIME TELLER

Are you bored and looking for a new opportunity? You want to get ahead but there are few opportunities. Perhaps you want to go back to work because your kids are in school or you find yourself an "empty nester". Are you someone who can be assertive but people say friendly even in difficult situations? Someone who has learned to use tact and wit to find positive solutions? Do you enjoy working with customers and co-workers? If this describes you, we need you! We'll train you for a part-time teller position. Cash handling experience a plus. Send resume: Metrobank 37000 Grand River Ave. #200 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 Attn: Human Resources Dept. Or fax to: (248) 473-9365. Drug Testing is part of the pre-employment process. Equal Opportunity Employer.

BATHUB REGLAZER

Will Train! Must be dependable & have good driving record. 734-459-9900

BLOT-MAKER OPERATOR/SET-UP

Some experience required. Benefits. Call 248-437-2171 to set up an interview.

BRIDGEPORT OPERATOR

Minimum 5 yrs. experience. Must be able to make own set-ups and be self-starter. Blue Cross, holiday pay. 248-477-3664

BUILDING CLEANERS

needed in the Canton/Plymouth area Mon-Fri 6:10pm 7:34-554-9530

500 Help Wanted General

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR RESIDENTIAL BUILDER

Qualified applicant must be very knowledgeable in all aspects of construction. Must be able to punch out homes. Salary D.O.C. Flex resumes, fax: 734-455-0815. Attn: George Kilpatrick.

BUILDING CLEANERS

needed immediately for Mon-Fri from 10pm to 4am. Excellent pay. (800)794-1011

CARPENTER - FINISH

Tools & truck preferred. Minimum 2 years experience. Ann Arbor area. 313-418-8374 Or fax resume: 248-648-0118

CARPENTER/INSTALLER

Nations largest manufacturer of bullet resistant barriers is looking for a person to grow into a lead installer position. Extensive out of state travel required. Successful candidate must be highly motivated, aggressive & have 4 yrs. construction experience. Health insurance, all travel expenses paid, 401K, benefits. Must pass drug test. EOE. Call Tony (248)437-9167

CARPENTERS

Residential frames. Top dollar for all entry levels. Benefits. Hi-Craft Carpentry, Inc. Brad (248) 437-8881 Mike (734) 513-9800

CARPENTERS

Looking for good work this winter installing wood shakes & custom fabricating copper, give us a call. Good pay, 40 hrs. benefits, welfare & holiday pay. Working in Bloomfield area. Call 248-540-7465

CARPET CLEANING technicians

no computer skills necessary. 3000/Wk. Medical benefits available. 734-459-7370

CAR WASH - Full/part-time

Must be 18 or over. Discounted bonuses. Flexible hrs., some weekends. Apply at: Mr. Car Wash, 720 S. Lapeer, Rd. Livonia

CASHIER

For large dealership. Experience necessary. People skills important. We offer excellent pay & benefits. Apply in person at: Don Massey Cadillac 40475 Plymouth Rd. Plymouth

CASHIERS

Experience preferred. Full & part-time positions available. Full-time benefits include medical, dental, vision. Apply in person only. JOE'S PRODUCE 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia

Center Director/Manager

Fitness/Weight Loss National Women's Weight Loss and Exercise Center seeks energetic, compassionate, goal-oriented individual to manage our Livonia location. Excellent opportunity for self-motivated individual as we expand throughout Southeast Michigan. Salary, bonus and equity opportunities. Fax resumes to: 248-855-0282 Or call 248-613-2350.

CHIEF ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

Experienced in industrial control systems. BS in Electrical. Management experience necessary. Outstanding opportunity for the right individual. Please send resume to: Belanger, Inc., P.O. Box 5470 Northville, MI 48167. Fax resumes to: 248-855-0282 Or call 248-613-2350.

CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

Needed for infants, toddlers, & pre-schoolers. • 248-471-1022

CHILD CARE TEACHERS, ASSISTANTS & SUBS

Competitive Pay, Benefits, Flexible Schedules. Full-time available. Pathways To Learning 248-473-1860

CHILD CARE Teachers & Assistants

Learning centers near Auburn Hills, Troy, Novi, Plymouth & Southfield has immediate openings for full/part-time candidates. Benefits offered. (248)559-2500, (248)559-2100

CHRISTMAS HELP NEEDED

Are you looking for some extra cash for the holidays? Snelling Personnel has numerous positions. Call us right now for YOU! • Cash Entry • Word Processor • General Labor • Secretary • Switchboard Operator • Receptionist • Machinist • Accounting Clerk • Warehouse • Electronic File Clerk. P.O. Box 1156 Birmingham, MI 48012-1156

COUNTER SALES PERSON

York Heating & Cooling Wholesale seeks experienced Counter Parts & Sales Person. Full-time. Full benefits package including 401K. SLC Distribution 12650 Inkster, Redford, MI 48239 313-534-2665

COURIER

Deliver & pick up closing documents for our busy Troy office. Must be dependable with good driving record. Good pay & benefits. Please fax resume to: Great Lakes Title, Attn: Bob (734) 462-0918

CREDIT

World class commercial leasing company seeks to fill a senior Credit Analyst vacancy. The candidate must have 6 to 10 years industrial credit experience. Primary markets include machinery, tools, fleet vehicles, construction, telecommunications, security and surveillance equipment and franchise restaurants. The company is active in both middle market and small credit vendors programs. This position performs comprehensive credit analysis and contributes recommendations in the decision process. Competitive salary, benefits and 401 (k) program. Please forward resume to: HUMAN RESOURCES Job Code SC0 P O. Box 9049 Farmington Hills MI 48333 FAX: (248) 737-0487

500 Help Wanted General

CNC MILL/CNC LATHE

Wanted - top notch CNC Mill and CNC Lathe operators with possible advancement qualities. Apply now! Excellent pay, company paid health, life and dental. Quarterly bonus. 401K plan. Plenty of overtime. Extra time off between Christmas and New Years. Top quality, dependable, people apply now! LMP Enterprises, Inc. 201 Industrial Drive Plymouth, MI 48170 734-453-2300 Fax: 734-453-9160

CNC MILL OPERATOR

Some experience required. Full time, 45 plus hours. Benefits. Milford Twp. (248) 684-0555

COLLECTION MANAGER

Asset Acceptance Corporation is seeking a dynamic collections professional to join its growing collection organization in St. Clair Shores, Michigan. Responsibilities include: • Leadership of 40-50 collectors • Meeting performance objectives • Training, development & performance of collectors • Reporting and analysis of department performance • Collection strategy, development & implementation

THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

Employment

Your HomeTown Classified ad is automatically posted on the internet! Visit us at... www.oonline.com

500 Help Wanted General

GLASS WORKERS / FABRICATORS / PRODUCTION... Do you know your boss? Does he know anything about you? Come to work at a company where you're treated like a person...

GREAT LAKES STEAMWAY DISTRIBUTORS has opening for Full-Time Repair/Service Technician. Must have mechanical skills, training with a college degree...

BEAUTY CLUB PETITE SPA has openings for all positions: Hair Stylist, Massage Therapist, Nail Technician, Waxing Specialist...

HELPERS: MACHINE shop helper needed for small tasks & some small machine operation. Full-time or part-time. Flexible schedules...

HOLIDAY HELP: Due to holiday expansion local company must hire 25 positions. Full-time or part-time. Flexible schedules. Great for students, homemakers...

HOUSECLEANERS: Staining wax \$20/hr. \$245-850-8120. Union Lake

HR EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST: Coordinate interviews & hiring, develop projects, conduct new hire orientations, coordinate benefits...

HVAC APRENTICES: If you are looking to start a career, this is it. Previous experience not necessary but helpful. Mechanical aptitude a plus...

HVAC INSTALLERS: New construction. Benefits include: health, dental, 401K, vision, paid holidays, top wages. Call now: (248) 335-4555

HVAC SERVICE TECHNICIAN: 2 years experience. Residential & commercial work. Year-round. Company vehicle, top pay, benefits, retirement plan. 734-591-3310

INSTALLERS: For Cabling & Camera Systems. Good wages plus holiday & vacation pay, health & IRA. Plymouth. 1-800-983-3933

INSTALLERS: Viny and aluminum siding installers wanted. (248) 478-9500. Viny and aluminum siding installers wanted. (248) 478-9500

500 Help Wanted General

INVESTIGATOR/SECURITY: for floor care. Call: (248) 557-7543. Job Link, Fee

JANITORIAL - Help Wanted for floor care. GENERAL CLEANERS in Auburn Hills. 248-351-9608

JANITORIAL HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER: Livonia based janitorial company has full time position for HR professional experienced in: Recruiting, benefits, safety programs, employee relations, workmans compensation and MESA claims...

JANITORIAL POSITION: Full time. Starting pay \$5.50 per hr. Oxford area. Call between 9am & 4pm only: (610) 695-8188

JANITORS/LAUNDRY: We are looking to keep our beautiful facility beautiful. Full-time with benefits. Great wages! Apply at: Peachwood Inn 3500 W. South Blvd. Rochester Hills, MI 48309

JOB DEVELOPER: Person with strong presentation & management skills needed to create community based employment & oversee vocational support for people with disabilities. (248) 474-9373

KINDER CARE LEARNING CENTER OF NORTHVILLE: Hiring full time positions with benefits. Immediate openings. Call: (248) 348-1589

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER: needed, nice atmosphere, small class. Call Farmington Hills Nursery school after 4pm: (248) 478-3110

LABORERS - 18 & over. Willing to be trained to learn the craft of wood roof installation & customer service. Work around college schedule if needed. Good pay, hours & benefits. Call us at 248-540-7485

LATHKEY DIRECTOR - Greenfield Elementary School, 25 hours/wk. Generous salary. Call Ingrid Haddock at: 248-203-3244

LAW CLERK/MESSANGER: for Southfield law firm. Responsibilities include court filing, research, etc. College or prior experience required. Call 248-552-1000

LEASING CONSULTANT: Full or Part Time. Novl apartment community. Some computer knowledge required. Must be available to work weekends. 248-348-0626

500 Help Wanted General

LOAN OFFICERS: Fast-paced, rapidly expanding lender has immediate positions available. Results-oriented Loan Officers. We provide you with high quality leads & training...

LOGISTICS COORDINATOR: The candidate must have experience with Ford DDL, Chrysler Smart System, MPP, and have the ability to perform EDI Transactions including the 830 Release, 888 Shipping Schedules and the 856 ASN. Will be responsible for monitoring and controlling inventory levels with an awareness of customer delivery requirements...

MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICERS EXPERIENCED: Have you ever had trouble getting your loans processed? Are you earning less than you should be making? At Washington Mortgage Company, you will earn what you deserve and have the opportunity for rapid advancement...

MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICERS TRAINEE: Are you in sales but not earning \$100,000 per year? We have loan officers who earn well over \$100,000 per year. We will train you in sales and provide you with the best training and support...

MACHINE REPAIR: Person with heavy industrial experience in electrical hydraulics & pneumatics for manufacturing company. Full-time position. Good pay with benefits. Mail resume to: The Durcon Company, 8484 Ronda Dr., Canton, MI 48187, Attn: Ron or Fax to: 734-459-5506

MAILROOM/OFFICE to \$16/hr. Major Company. Call: (248) 557-7543. Job Link, Fee.

MAINTENANCE ENGINEER: W/Machine tool electronics experience. Able to maintain machine tools & related new controllers. Send resume to: Brighton, NC 7202 Whitmore Lake Rd. Brighton, MI 48116

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: Knowledgeable, dependable person needed for general maintenance at manufactured home community located in Canton. Retired person welcome. Full time, salary position. On-site housing included. Call: 734-397-0400

MAINTENANCE PERSON for apt. community in Westland, benefits available, 401K. 734-422-6411

MAINTENANCE POSITIONS for apartment communities at various locations throughout suburbs. Full time positions, health benefits, dental plan, 401K available. Experience helpful. Apply in person, benefits being taken at Paragon Properties, 32400 Telegraph, #202, Bingham Farms, MI 48105

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN: Needed full-time for Livonia apartment community. Apt available after 90 days. Benefits call for interview. 248-477-6448

MANGERS/ASSISTANT: 2 days per week. Extra days & hours as needed. \$7. per hour. Office work & light maintenance. Troy (248) 568-3939

500 Help Wanted General

MARKETING: Currently we are seeking a Marketing Assistant to act as an exceptional support person to our Real Estate Manager in our West Bloomfield. Qualified candidates will possess a bachelor's degree, have a working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, and Desktop Publishing. The desired individual will be able to work by oneself and have the ability to successfully handle a variety of duties simultaneously. Superior verbal and written communication skills will be needed, as is the talent to deal effectively and professionally with office personnel and outside contacts. For consideration, please forward your resume with cover letter and salary requirements to: Dart Container Corporation, 500 Hockback Road, #44A, Mason, MI 48854. EOE

MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICERS: Are you in sales but not earning \$100,000 per year? We have loan officers who earn well over \$100,000 per year. We will train you in sales and provide you with the best training and support...

MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICERS TRAINEE: Are you in sales but not earning \$100,000 per year? We have loan officers who earn well over \$100,000 per year. We will train you in sales and provide you with the best training and support...

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500 Help Wanted General

PHONE PRO: We seek enthusiastic individuals and experience in customer service or sales for our Call Center in West Bloomfield. You will be contacting registrants and scheduling appointments to our centers. No cold calling or selling. Hourly pay + commission and bonuses weekly. Our reps average \$10,920/yr. A professional work environment, excellent work schedule, health insurance, paid vacations and the opportunity to grow. Call Ms. Norton at (248) 737-7800. Fitness USA SUPERCENTERS

PRINTING/BINDERY CLERK: Printing company looking for experienced bindery person. Minimum 3 years bindery experience required. Must be able to operate all typesetting equipment. Must be moving to Northville soon. Send resume to: Shelley Beyer, P.O. Box 5040, Southfield, MI 48076 or fax 248-352-1350. Fax resume to 248-352-1350. Include salary requirements.

PRODUCTION ASSEMBLY: Looking to train individuals to assemble mechanical and electronic assemblies in a positive team environment. Need college degree or experience required. Full time day position, no weekends. Excellent opportunities to learn electronics first hand. Medical, Dental, Life, Profit Sharing & 401K Plan. Fax resume to 248-390-8730 or mail to: Human Resources Manager, P.O. Box 5470, Northville, MI 48167.

PRODUCTION/PACKAGING \$7 - \$7.50: Manufacturing & package small parts. Possible overtime. STAFFING SERVICES OF MICHIGAN, LTD. (734) 542-0500

MULTI-SITE PROPERTY MANAGER: needed for a large apartment management company. Excellent opportunity for a strong individual with experience in multi-site management. Must have 5+ years experience. Great benefits with medical and 401(k) plan. Send resume in confidence with salary requirements to: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, MI 48150

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT Resident Manager/Couple: For a mid-size apartment community in Metropolitan Suburbs. Responsible for all leasing, office and maintenance duties. Must have three years experience. Salary, benefits and apartment for select manager(s). Send resume to: Paragon Properties, 2400 Telegraph, #202, Bingham Farms, MI 48105

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT BOOKKEEPER: Needed for fast-paced residential property management company. Ideal candidate should be well organized, self motivated and able to work independently. Duties include maintaining receivable, payable, accounts, interacting with residents and managing preparing daily bank deposits and other clerical duties. Computer experience required. Excellent wages and fringe benefits available. Send resume and salary requirements immediately to: Channess & Simon Property Management/Bookkeeper, 31500 Northwestern Hwy, Farmington Hills, MI 48334

PURCHASING AGENT: Design and sign manufacturing company seeks experienced purchasing agent, computers a must. Full-time, great benefits, competitive wages. Please send resume to: Attn: Controller, 4431 Grand River Ave., Novi, MI 48375

QUALITY PLACEMENT FIRM seeks experienced QUALITY: Managers, Engineers, Technicians, Inspectors, ISO/QC Coordinators. UDA, P.O. Box 19424, Detroit, MI 48218, Fax: 248-443-1317

ROOFERS - People willing to learn the specialized craft of wood roof installation & custom fabrication of copper. Please call (248) 540-7485. Good pay & benefits. Bloomfield area.

ROUTE SALES: Kowalski Sales is seeking a Route Retail Salesperson. Prior sales and customer relations experience required. Salaried wages & benefits available. Send resume to: Kowalski Sales, 48212 Attn: HR Manager, Hamtramck, MI 48212, Attn: HR Manager, Fax: (313) 873-4220

SALAD PREP: Full & part-time positions available. Full-time, great benefits, medical w/dental & vacation. Apply in person only. JOE'S PRODUCE 33152 W. Seven Mile Rd., Livonia, MI

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This Classification Continued on Page B5.

# Fact finder's recommendations open lines of communication with Oakland Community College union

Chancellor Richard T. Thompson is pleased with a fact finder's recommendation that may end a lengthy bargaining battle with Teamsters Local 214. The union has represented 106 administrators, deans and managers at Oakland Community College since early 1996.

Thompson said the result would be a 3-percent increase on base salary for fiscal 1996-97, a 3-percent lump sum for fiscal 1997-8, and 3 percent of base salary for 1998-9, the current fiscal year.

"The fact finder's report provides a solid basis for the dialog between the two parties," said

Thompson. "The fact finder has performed an invaluable service in narrowing the issues for negotiation at the bargaining table."

George Mergner, chair of the Teamsters bargaining committee, said, "We're reviewing it and will take it to the group at large."

Mergner said his personal opinion is that "I don't find it necessarily unacceptable. It's a document we can work with."

Mergner said there are 19 items in fact finder John A.

Lyons' report, written in outline form. Mergner and the committee will flesh out the meaning of each of Lyons' recommendations in their report to members.

"We find him to be an honorable and objective individual," Mergner said of Lyons.

Fact finding, administered by the Michigan Employment Relations Commission, is a non-binding procedure available to public sector employees in Michigan. Unlike binding arbitration, fact finding does not conclude negotiations. OCC and

the Teamsters still must negotiate a contract.

The lengthy bargaining process turned bitter as Teamsters' spokespersons accused the college of "engaging in union busting" and bought ads to denounce top administrators' salaries.

OCC's announcement was handled by Caponigro Public Relations Inc., in Southfield, rather than by the college's own staff.

# Children's woes on the agenda

Author Doris Rapp, M.D., will speak on problems of children from 7-10 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 15, in the Brandon High School auditorium, 1025 Ortonville Road.

The program is sponsored by the Brandon-Groveland Youth Assistance and the United Way of North Oakland County.

Rapp is an author, a retired professor of pediatrics of the State University of New York and past president of the American Academy of Environmental Medicine.

She will discuss aggressive behavior, school failure, moodiness, depression and reduced immunity as they relate to unrecognized food allergies in children. She will suggest ways these problems can be recognized, prevented and treated.

Rapp is the author of the New York Times bestseller *Is This Your Child's World?* about children who are hyperactive, asthmatic, disruptive or suffering from chronic colds and learning problems.

The event is open to the public. For more information, call (248) 627-6445.

# Consumers Energy warns its customers to be wary

Consumers Energy is advising customers statewide to be aware that an individual posing as a utility employee has victimized a metropolitan Detroit senior citizen.

The victim was robbed by a man impersonating a Detroit Edison employee. The man gained entrance into the victim's home by telling her he was there to discuss installation of a utility pole. He asked for \$45 to install the pole and, while showing her where the pole would allegedly be installed, he robbed her. A similar incident occurred in October when several Michigan residents were approached by individuals posing as Consumers Energy employees, soliciting to test and exchange meters.

To help protect yourself and your home, Consumers Energy offers the following precautions:

If someone comes to your door when you have not requested a specific utility service, such as a furnace inspection or repair, ask for company picture identification. All Consumers Energy employees carry a company picture identification card and should be prepared to show it when asked by a customer. Never open your door to a suspicious person.

Consumer Energy never gives cash refunds at a customer's home. If someone offers a cash refund at your door, be aware of a possible case of fraud and report the incident to police.

- Get a description of suspicious person(s) for police, but do so from a safe distance.
  - Get a description of any vehicles that were used from a safe distance.
  - Do not give cash to anyone for work you have not requested.
  - Report any suspicious activity to local police as soon as possible.
- Under legislation signed earlier this year, it is now a felony to impersonate a utility worker in the state of Michigan.

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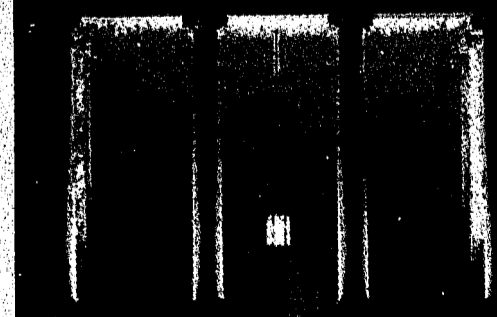
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# Sports & Outdoors

Clarkston  
Eccentric

INSIDE

Eagles win own tourney, B2  
Outdoor calendar, B2

Page 1, Section B

Brad Kadrich, Editor 248 693-4900

on the web: <http://observer-eccentric.com>

Thursday, December 10, 1998

## Icers erupt to pound Rouge

### 17-goal outburst gives Clarkston easy hockey victory

BY MIKE SCOTT  
SPECIAL WRITER

To say the least, Saturday's game was a breather for the Wolves.

Clarkston pummeled an overmatched River Rouge squad on the road by a football-type score of 17-0. The Wolves (3-1-1) received balanced scoring from a number of different players and a combined shutout by Steve Badger (one period) and Mike Gerowitz (two periods).

Clarkston led 9-0 after 15 minutes of play and finished with nearly 70 shots on goal to overwhelm the River Rats. Badger and Gerowitz stopped a total of 12 shots.

One of the benefits of the game was head coach Bryan Krygier was able to give some fourth-line players extended playing time. Reserves such as freshman Adam Postal, defenseman Jay Manojlovich (recently back from a football injury) and sophomore forward Jeremy Gabriel each tallied two goals.

"We used the game as a tool to try a few new things," said Krygier, who was surprised by the lack of experience River Rouge had. "But we can't feel too good about this game. We need to come back and work even harder for our next game. The guys know (after last Wednesday's tie) that we can't let up."

**'We used the game as a tool to try a few new things. We need to come back and work even harder.'**

*Bryan Krygier  
—Clarkston hockey coach*

With the easy win, the Wolves turned their attention to this week's matches, a pair of league games starting with last night's battle with Waterford Mott and ending Saturday at 11:20 a.m. against league favorite Royal Oak.

Clarkston has a loss and tie in their first two league games and Krygier said his squad needs a league win in the worst way.

"I'm sure Mott will want to knock us off," he said, referring to the fact Clarkston eliminated the Corsairs in the state playoffs last year.

The Wolves have been working on the power play and penalty kill in the past few practices as Krygier has stressed a large percentage of goals in high school hockey come on special teams. If the Wolves had scored on even one of their six power plays last Wednesday, they would have defeated Birmingham.

Krygier said his team needs to play strong in front of the net on both ends. He wants more sticks to redirect shots and rebounds on offense and has worked extensively with his squad on covering opponents without the puck in the Clarkston zone.

"I've said it before, the guy without the puck in the most dangerous guy on the ice," Krygier said. "We can't try and overhandle the puck on defense."

Even though the season is still young, Saturday's contest with the Blades will go a long way toward determining how far the Wolves have come this year. Last season, Royal Oak was the class of the league. Clarkston gave the Blades a couple of good battles.

The game is expected to be physical since Royal Oak is a tall, strong team at all positions. Krygier expects his squad to perform with more physical play in the next few weeks since they have shown a propensity to play smart and not take penalties at bad times.

"I've told the guys I don't mind an aggressive penalty," said Krygier. "I've kind of released the reins and told them that physically we need to dictate that aspect of the game."

"I think you'll see us giving more of the hits in the next few games."

## Fife-less Wolves open with easy win

BY BRAD KADRICH  
SPORTS EDITOR  
[bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net)

For the first time in 10 years, the Clarkston Wolves opened a boys' prep basketball season without a Fife on the floor.

But the Wolves used plenty of other players to drum host Oak Park, 67-45, in the season opener for both teams.

Clarkston coach Dan Fife, who traditionally rotates his top seven or eight players, went 12 deep Tuesday, getting points from 10 different players in posting the easy win.

"It appears as though we're going to be playing as many as 12 players a game, unless something happens," said Fife. "It's good in that I'm having a hard time figuring out who my top five players are, because each of them has his own strengths."

Behind the steady play of junior Ryan Marino and the long-distance dialing of Kevin Stalker, the Wolves jumped to an early lead and never trailed, running to a 27-14 halftime edge and cruising.

Marino was 4-for-4 from the free throw line and scored a team-high

15 points, while Stalker drained three 3-pointers and finished with 11 points as the Wolves (1-0) opened the post-Dane Fife era in Clarkston.

"I'd be lying if I said I didn't miss having my sons on the court with me," Fife said. "But to be honest, even though they don't live in my house, I've known most of these kids their whole lives, so they're like my sons. I still enjoy being with these kids."

Clarkston's defense held the Knights (0-1) to single digits in each of the first three quarters. Oak Park managed to outscore the Wolves 23-20 in the fourth quarter, long after the game had been decided.

Andy North chipped in 10 points, while Rocky Lund finished with seven and Ryan Briceland added six.

Fife was happy to get out of Oak Park with the victory.

"I was pleased," he said. "I'm not necessarily sure how good either one of us was, but I was happy with the outcome."

The Wolves host Berkley Friday. Game time against the Bears, who nearly upset Pontiac Northern Tuesday, is 7:30 p.m.

## Local players were some of football's finest

**Outstanding performances by local players helped fuel a successful season in the North Oakland area, and those players make up the Eccentric All-North Oakland football squad.**

BY BRAD KADRICH  
SPORTS EDITOR  
[bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:bkadrich@oe.homecomm.net)

Football teams in North Oakland County enjoyed phenomenal success this year, with two teams — Lake Orion and Oxford — reaching the state semifinals and Clarkston staying in the playoff hunt down to the last week.

Such success is attributable to the performances of many key players, some of whom were among the best at their position in the state. Those players make up the 1998 Eccentric All-North Oakland football team.

Here's a look:

### Offense

■ Darren Tooley, Lake Orion, senior, quarterback

■ George Gomez, Oxford, senior, running back — Gomez got off to a solid start, but had a spectacular finish spearheading an Oxford ground attack that took the Wildcats to the state Class A semifinal.

■ Steve Seargeant, Lake Orion, senior, running back — In an offense that featured a high-octane passing attack, Seargeant's running provided crucial balance and was the key to several wins, including a 14-0 victory over Rochester Adams and the season-ending 19-8 win over Clarkston.

■ Adam Eldridge, Lake Orion, senior, wide receiver — Eldridge put together his second straight outstanding season, leading Oakland County receivers again while helping the Dragons to a share of the Oakland Activities Association Division I title.

■ Dave McKay, Lake Orion, senior, tight end — McKay, who stars on both sides of the ball, provided a fine target for Tooley's air attack.

■ Matt Paulsen, Lake Orion, senior, offensive line — At 6-foot-2 and 245 pounds, Paulsen, a three-year starter, was the key on Lake Orion's offensive front.

■ Nick Heffernan, Oxford, senior, offensive line — Heffernan was strong enough to work alone, and the Wildcat running game benefited from it.

■ Matt Cagle, Oxford, senior, offensive line — Cagle, a two-year starter, shouldered the responsibility of controlling line assignments and helped Oxford gain 3,147 yards in 12 games.

■ Bubba Clement, Clarkston, junior, offensive line — A varsity player since his freshman season, Clement was one of the big reasons the Wolves were successful in switching to the option offense.

■ Jon Robinson, Clarkston, junior, offensive line — A smart blocker, Robinson, who is also a star on the Wolves' wrestling team, is a major reason for Clarkston's outside rushing success.

■ Mike Crawford, Lake Orion, junior, kicker — Crawford proved to be a valuable weapon for the Dragons, scoring points on both sides of the ball.

Crawford scored 78 total points on 3-of-4 field goals, 30-of-33 extra points.

■ Nick Upchurch, Clarkston, senior, defensive line — Upchurch was a key player in Clarkston's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

■ Adam Olds, Lake Orion, junior, defensive line — Olds was a key player in Lake Orion's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

■ Zack Kosboy, Lake Orion, junior, defensive line — Kosboy was a key player in Lake Orion's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

■ John London, Oxford, senior, defensive line — London was a key player in Oxford's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

■ Greg Strickland, Lake Orion, senior, defensive line — Strickland was a key player in Lake Orion's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

■ Eric White, Clarkston, senior, defensive line — White was a key player in Clarkston's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

■ Dan Heffernan, Oxford, senior, defensive line — Heffernan was a key player in Oxford's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

■ Ray Johnson, Oxford, senior, defensive line — Johnson was a key player in Oxford's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

■ Chris Smith, Clarkston, senior, defensive line — Smith was a key player in Clarkston's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.



One of the best: Clarkston's Tim Loveless (3) put together a solid season and landed a spot on the Eccentric All-North Oakland football squad.

Rowley said. "And he played great defense for us."

■ Dave McKay, Lake Orion, senior, tight end — McKay, who stars on both sides of the ball, provided a fine target for Tooley's air attack.

McKay caught 22 passes for 237 yards and four touchdowns, and he also was a defensive captain and had 56 tackles, two fumble recoveries and an interception.

"He's one of those kids we can't take off the field," Bell said. "He's got sure hands, and he's got a unique ability to get open. He's very smart, and picks up his adjustments. He's a huge threat."

■ Bubba Clement, Clarkston, junior, offensive line — A varsity player since his freshman season, Clement was one of the big reasons the Wolves were successful in switching to the option offense.

"He's been with us for three years," Richardson said. "He's a good drive blocker. When it's tight, he's the guy we run behind."

■ Matt Paulsen, Lake Orion, senior, offensive line — At 6-foot-2 and 245 pounds, Paulsen, a three-year starter, was the key on Lake Orion's offensive front.

Paulsen made the line calls for the Dragon offensive unit.

"He's solid as a rock," Bell said. "We never knew who the other team's nose guard was, because Matt took him out of the game."

■ Matt Cagle, Oxford, senior, offensive line — Cagle, a two-year starter, shouldered the responsibility of controlling line assignments and helped Oxford gain 3,147 yards in 12 games.

"He called all the schemes for us," Rowley said. "He was the straw that stirred the offensive line. He's the one who got everyone in position."

■ Jon Robinson, Clarkston, junior, offensive line — A smart blocker, Robinson, who is also a star on the Wolves' wrestling team, is a major reason for Clarkston's outside rushing success.

His mobility and his football smarts make him a key part of the Wolves' rushing success.

"We ran our sweeps behind Jon," Richardson said. "He's very mobile, and he's just very intelligent."

■ Nick Heffernan, Oxford, senior, offensive line — Heffernan was strong enough to work alone, and the Wildcat running game benefited from it.

Heffernan was particularly effective handling the opposing defensive tackles face-to-face.

"One-on-one he can block anybody," Rowley said. "He takes their best defensive tackle one-on-one, which lets us send other offensive linemen to help out somewhere else. He's the best run blocker we have on the team."

■ Mike Crawford, Lake Orion, junior, kicker — Crawford proved to be a valuable weapon for the Dragons, scoring points on both sides of the ball.

Crawford scored 78 total points on 3-of-4 field goals, 30-of-33 extra points.

■ Nick Upchurch, Clarkston, senior, defensive line — Upchurch was a key player in Clarkston's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

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■ Ray Johnson, Oxford, senior, defensive line — Johnson was a key player in Oxford's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

■ Chris Smith, Clarkston, senior, defensive line — Smith was a key player in Clarkston's defense, leading the team in sacks with 10.

Please see FOOTBALL, B3

# Eagles capture Shootout tourney title

BY DANIEL STICKRADT  
STAFF WRITER  
dstickradt@oe.homecomm.net

For Greg Irish, Saturday's assignment might have seemed a little daunting. But that didn't prevent the 6-foot-2 junior forward from Clarkston Springfield Christian from coming through in the clutch.

Irish, a first-year varsity player, was asked not only to help with the point guard duties, but to combine forces inside with 6-3 junior teammate Adam Armstrong and try to stop Warren Antioch Baptist's 6-4, 290-pound junior center Rami Riashy in the finals Saturday of the eight-team Springfield Christian Shoot-Out in Clarkston.

The result? Irish was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player after helping the Eagles hold off Antioch 60-55.

In the championship match,

Irish collected 20 points, 10 rebounds and five assists — all were game highs — against the physical Knights. On the defensive end, he help limit Riashy to 17 points on 5-of-14 shooting.

"We did all right," admitted Irish. "We knew that (Riashy) ate up a lot of space inside and that he would be hard to stop. So I was just asked to help out and not let him dominate inside. It was hard and we were flying all over, but it was worth it. We came out on top and that's what matters."

Riashy also had nine rebounds and nine blocked shots, but was frustrated by Irish and the pesky Eagles all night. Riashy converted just 6-of-12 free throws.

Meanwhile, Irish hit a triple from the top of the key and then a baseline jumper with one second left in the third quarter that closed out a 12-5 run that help extend the Eagles' lead to 52-40,

and then followed that up by assisting on three Springfield buckets in the fourth as the Eagles avoided Antioch's comeback bid.

"This was a great week for us, especially after we were pounded by (Temperance) Stateline Christian a couple weeks ago," said Springfield second-year coach Dennis Hopkins. "We had a lot of guys step up. Greg Irish had a great week. He did a lot of things very well. And in the (finals), we had guys like Tom Devine and Mike Degg step in and give us a lift. I think this team as a whole matured a lot in the past three games. Things are starting to come together for us."

During the first two quarters against Antioch, the Eagles were missing versatile 6-2 junior Jon Vanaman, who was ejected during the second quarter of the Eagles' 63-50 semifinal win Friday over Rochester Hills Chris-

tian, and had to sit out for four quarters for disciplinary reasons. Although Vanaman played in the second half against Antioch, where he six points and eight rebounds, Vanaman recorded three fouls and saw limited action, putting more pressure on Irish and Co.

"We knew that we would have to step up with Jon not being able to play," said Irish. "I'm just glad that I was able to do my part."

After being tied 14-14 after the first quarter, Springfield Christian (3-1) went on a 16-11 second-quarter run to take a 30-24 halftime advantage.

In the third quarter, Antioch opened up with a 7-2 run to knot the score at 32-32 with 6:06 left in the quarter. But a lay-up by Irish off a back-door feed from junior guard Matt Christie 37 seconds later gave Springfield the lead for good.



PHOTO BY BOB KNOSHA

Flying high: Lake Orion's Jason Kendall (21) goes for the rebound during the Dragons' easy opening win over Royal Oak Dondero.

## Coach party

Oxford girls' basketball players past and present are invited to a party in honor of varsity coach Ian Smith.

The party, being organized by former Wildcat Patti Smith, is set for Sunday at the high school from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. for players and their families, and anyone else in the community who would like to attend.

Donations will be taken at the door. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Patti Smith, 628-6204.

## Alumni game

The Lake Orion Dragons are trying to bring back a tradition.

The Dragons will host a Men's Alumni Basketball Game Tuesday, Dec. 22, in the new Dragon Field House. Games are tenta-

## NORTH OAKLAND SPORTS SCENE

tively scheduled for 6 and 8 p.m., depending on the number of alumni who respond. The game is open to any former Lake Orion men's varsity basketball players.

"We've got a new building and a new field house," new Dragon varsity coach Jim Manzo said. "We want to build on that, and there's no better way to do that than bringing back Dragon tradition."

Former players can call the athletic department, 693-5458, or contact Manzo directly at 693-5420, Ext. 6040 or 6041, or at home, 628-8594.

## Raiders AAU tryouts

The Michigan Raiders AAU Girls Basketball tryouts will be held Dec. 6 at Rochester High School (Walton Blvd. and Liver-

nois). The following schedule will take place - 10-Under: 1-3 p.m. (two teams, coaches Debbie Nelson and Michael Kanan); 11-Under: 9-11 a.m. (coach Anne Rexford); 12-Under: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (coach Dan Darland); 13-Under: 3-5 p.m. (coach Kathy Bieniek); 14-Under: 3-5 p.m. (two teams, coaches Doreen Belkowski and Pat Lowney); 15-Under: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (three teams, coaches Joe Clinton, John Frenedo and Chuck Nutt); 16-Under: 1-3 p.m. (two teams, coaches Dawn Lichty and Steve Hasler); 18-Under: 9-11 a.m. (Mary Ann

Copley).

Players are asked to be there 30 minutes prior to the tryout time, wearing appropriate attire with a water bottle and basketball. Ages as of Jan. 1, 1999 will determine age-group tryout designation. There is a \$10 tryout fee. For further information, call (248) 299-0673.

## Spartans tryouts

The Michigan Spartans AAU Girls Basketball tryouts will be held Sunday, Dec. 13.

DEC. 13: The Franklin Fitness & Racquet Club in Southfield will hold tryouts from 4:30-6:30 p.m. for the 12-Under age division and from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for the 15-Under and 16-Under age divisions. Detroit Country Day will host tryouts from 7-9 p.m. for ages 17-Under and 18-Under.

Players are asked to bring water and a basketball, and wear basketball shoes and appropriate playing attire. There is a \$20 tryout fee.

For further information, call Clyde at (248) 258-9510; Marvin at (313) 863-1332; or Dave at (248) 569-5365.

## Dragons get easy win

During the past three years, Darren Tooley has hooked up with Adam Eldridge on the football field hundreds of times — Tooley as the strong-armed quarterback and Eldridge as the reliable receiver.

On the basketball court, the Lake Orion teammates maintained the same deadly connection during the Dragons' season opener Tuesday at Royal Oak Dondero.

Eldridge, a 6-foot-2 senior forward, collected a game-high 22 points — five buckets coming off Tooley feeds — to go along with six rebounds and four assists, while Tooley, a 6-3 senior point guard, contributed 12 points, seven rebounds, six assists and three steals as Lake Orion rolled

past Dondero 58-35 in an Oakland Activities Association crossover game. The win gave Dragons coach Jim Manzo his first career varsity victory.

"We are so used to playing with one another," said Tooley. "We have played together for five consecutive seasons on varsity — three in football and two on basketball. We know each other well and we seem to be on the same page."

Eldridge was hot in the first quarter, scoring seven points as the Dragons built an 18-11 advantage. By halftime, Lake Orion led 31-16.

Sophomore guard Jason Miller was able to add 10 points and four rebounds for the Dragons.

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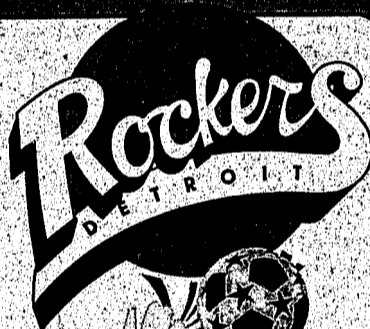
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Observer & Eccentric



# Football from page B1

32 extra points, two touchdown catches and a two-point conversion. "This kid does it all for us," Bell said. "We used him as much as we could because he could do it all. There were times he had nothing left at the end of games because we took advantage of everything he had."

## Defense

■ **Nick Upchurch, Clarkston, senior, defensive line** — At 5-foot-9 and 175 pounds,

Upchurch isn't exactly the largest defensive lineman around. But he may be the toughest.

The little fireplug often drew more than one blocker as teams tried to find a way to control him. "He had a great year," Richardson said. "He forced a lot of double teams and he gave us a great pass rush. He gave a lot of centers fits."

■ **Chuck Ventimiglia, Lake Orion, senior, defensive line** — Ventimiglia, who excels in

defending screens and traps, was named the Dragons' Outstanding Defensive Lineman.

He had 10 solo tackles and assists, with three sacks and a pair of fumble recoveries.

"You can't move him," Bell said. "He sits there like a rock and makes plays. For a big guy, he moves well."

■ **Adam Olds, Lake Orion, junior, defensive line** — Olds, who is listed at 5-foot-6 and 200 pounds, uses his relentless nature to excel along the line.

He had six solo tackles and 50 assists, with one fumble recovery and three quarterback sacks.

"He's got a constant motor," Bell said. "He's a straight-out battler, a relentless kid who will chase you sideline to sideline to make the play. He was born to play the nose."

■ **Zak Keasey, Lake Orion, junior, linebacker** — Keasey not only excelled on the football field, where he did a little bit of everything for the Dragons, he was also outstanding in the classroom, where he forged a 3.7 grade point average.

Keasey, 5-11 and 200 pounds, had 35 solo tackles, 113 assists, five sacks, four fumble recoveries and two interceptions. He also rushed for 38 yards and had 10 catches for 99 yards and three touchdowns.

"He did everything," Bell said. "Pound for pound, he was our best football player. Wherever he plays, he plays one way — all out, every down. He just loves to play football, and he's a tough son of a gun."

■ **John Londer, Oxford, senior, linebacker** — At an even 6-foot tall and 190 pounds, Londer made the most of his ability to become the Wildcats' leading tackler.

He picked up 21 solo tackles and a whopping 114 assists, with one interception.

"He's a self-made linebacker," Rowley said. "He's not big, he's not fast, but he got the job done. It didn't make any difference what needed doing, Londer did it."

■ **Matt Wohlgenuth, Lake Orion, junior, linebacker** — Like Keasey, Wohlgenuth excelled in the classroom with a 3.7 GPA, and on the field, where

he was a dominant force in the Dragon defensive scheme.

Wohlgenuth had 16 solo tackles, 68 assists and forced two fumbles. Where he really dominated was on the pass rush, with a team-high 12 tackles.

"You just can't block him," Bell said. "Your only hope is to boot-leg him, and even that doesn't work that often. He's just a dominant pass rusher."

■ **Steve Sheffield, Lake Orion, senior, linebacker** — Sheffield played hurt as a junior, and repeated the act as a senior, and still put together a monster season.

He had 11 solo tackles and a whopping 94 assists to go with one interception.

"He's a throwback-type guy," Bell said. "He's a hard-nosed, big hitter who runs like a deer. He's always around the football, and he's a first-class kid."

■ **Tim Clouse, Lake Orion, senior, defensive back** — A transfer from Orchard Lake St. Mary's playing his first season as a Dragon, Clouse earned the respect of his teammates, being voted Lake Orion's Prime Time Player.

The senior came up with five interceptions, two of which he returned for touchdowns. He had 18 solo tackles and 30 assists.

"He's the best there is," Bell said. "He's got incredible closing speed, and he wants to cover the other team's best receiver. He flat-out competes."

■ **Dave Hein, Oxford, senior, defensive back** — Despite his solid season, Rodney Dangerfield got more respect than Hein. But Hein did a lot more to deserve it.

The Wildcat senior led the Flint Metro League with five interceptions, and he chipped in 24 solo tackles (second on the team) and 42 assists.

"He didn't make anybody's first team, didn't even get a vote despite leading the league in picks," Rowley said. "He got no respect, even though he did everything to earn it."

■ **Ron Wells, Clarkston, senior, defensive back** — The Wolves ran a complex defensive scheme, but that didn't keep Wells from running it effectively.

He called Clarkston's signals in the backfield, and chipped in three interceptions despite playing hurt part of the season.

"He called everything for us," Richardson said. "We get pretty complex defensively, and he ran the show back there. It was like having a coach back there."

■ **Chris Himburg, Clarkston, senior, punter** — Himburg did double duty, handling the punting and placekicking chores for the Wolves all season.

His punting helped Clarkston in field position battles, and he made all four of his field goal attempts.

"His kicking was a big factor for us," Richardson said. "He had a good year."

# Wildcats open with easy win

Jesse Heck wasn't looking for perfection Tuesday night. All he wanted out of his Oxford Wildcat was a solid performance, a little confidence boost and, if possible, a victory.

The Wildcats delivered on all three.

They weren't perfect, but the Wildcats played good defense, shot just well enough to win and got their season started on the right foot with a 43-32 non-league win over Frankenmuth. It was the season opener for both teams.

Junior Dave Inman led the Wildcats (1-0) with 14 points, while senior Josh Jolly added 10 points.

"It's a nice start," said Heck in his first full season as Oxford's head coach. "Our main goal was to come out and get off to a good start, and we did that."

Oxford pulled away from a 6-6 first-quarter tie by outscoring the Eagles (0-1) 30-16 over the next 16 minutes.

They led 22-16 at halftime, mostly behind Inman, who hit a pair of 3-pointers and scored eight points in the period.

1998 ALL-NORTH OAKLAND FOOTBALL TEAM	
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RB	Clarkston Sr.
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RB	Oxford Sr.
RB	Lake Orion Sr.
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# Hunters enjoyed second most successful season on record

According to preliminary numbers issued by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, firearm deer hunters in Michigan enjoyed the second most successful season on record by harvesting an estimated 323,000 deer during the recently completed, 16-day firearms season. The record harvest of 334,940 was recorded during the season of 1989.

Final figures won't be released until July, but DNR biologists feel the mild weather, an early corn harvest and good deer numbers statewide resulted in a higher than expected harvest.

"We recognized early in the



BILL PARKER

season that the 1998 harvest would be up from last year, and our figures confirm that this year's harvest was 20-percent greater than 1997," John Urbain, big game specialist with the DNR, said. "We are especially encouraged by the harvest in southern Michigan, where we focused on increased antlerless harvest in areas of high deer numbers. We had an estimated antlerless harvest of 85,000 deer in the southern Lower Peninsula, which is a 28-percent increase over last year."

The preliminary numbers are a result of a survey of south-bound hunter traffic during the 16-day season and hunter data gathered throughout the season.

An estimated 750,000 hunters participated in the 1998 firearms season.

Hunters who missed out on bagging a deer so far still have an opportunity to put some meet



in the freezer. The muzzleloading season continues through Dec. 13 in the Upper Peninsula and opens tomorrow (Dec. 11) and runs through Dec. 20 in the Lower Peninsula. The second archery season runs through Jan. 3 statewide and a special antlerless firearms only season

will be held Dec. 19-Jan. 3 on private land only in many areas of the state. Check the DNR's 1998 Hunting and Trapping Guide for details.

Success reports are still coming in from area hunters who tagged a deer this fall. If you, a friend or family member tagged

a deer this fall let me know, then look for details in an upcoming issue of the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper. My address, phone number and e-mail address are listed at the bottom of this column.

• Oxford's Kevin Ross took a doe with his bow and arrow on Oct. 22 and shot a spike horn buck on opening day of the firearms season. Ross shot both deer while hunting in an overgrown apple orchard in Lapeer County.

• Lake Orion's Billy Edwards shot two does with his hand gun during the firearms season.

• Tom Lewis, owner of The Town Locksmith in Plymouth, used a bow and arrow to take a huge buck in Hillsdale County on Friday, Nov. 6. The beautiful 12-point buck featured a 20-inch spread and 12-inch tines and dressed out at 230 pounds.

• Westland's Bill and Sheryl Sutherland each took an 8-point buck this fall.

Bill arrowed an 8-point with a 20-inch spread while hunting Wayne County farmland on Friday, Nov. 13th. Sheryl used a single-shot 12 ga. shot gun to drop an 8-point on Monday, Nov. 16, while hunting some farmland in Washtenaw County.

• Kevin Bodner of Canton Township arrowed an 8 point buck at 3:20 p.m. on Friday.

November 13th, while hunting in Gladwin Michigan.

(Anglers and hunters are urged to report your success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: *Outdoors*, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (248) 644-1314, send e-mail to *bparker@oe.homecomm.net* or call Bill Parker evenings at (248) 901-2573.)

## Outdoor Calendar

(To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric's Outdoor Calendar send information to: *Outdoors*, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to (248) 644-1314 or send E-mail to *bparker@oe.homecomm.net*)

**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.

**JUNIOR ARCHERS**  
A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West

Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

### CLASSES

**ICE FISHING**  
Bob "Hangman" Mitchel, of Redford, will give a seminar entitled, "Everything You Want to Know About Ice Fishing," beginning at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the monthly meeting of the Huron Valley Steelheaders at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

### FLY TYING

Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tyers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

### ACTIVITIES

**GANATCHO TRAIL**  
Come and explore the Ganatcho Trail, which runs from Windsor

to Tecumseh parallel to the Lake St. Clair shore, during this program, which begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. The event is sponsored by the Southeast Michigan Group Sierra Club. Participants should meet at the tourist information center on Route 3, south of the bridge in Windsor. Call (313) 581-7679 for more information.

### WATERLOO WANDERINGS

Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on this hike at the Waterloo Recreation Area, which begins at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Participants should meet at the Eddy Geology Center. Call Phil Crookshank at (313) 562-1873 for more information.

### CLUBS

**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.

**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 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

**FOUR SEASONS**  
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center. Refreshments will be served and visitors are welcome. For information call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843.

**FISHING BUDDYS**  
Fishing Buddys Fishing Club

meets monthly in Rochester Hills. The meetings are open to all anglers. Call (248) 656-0556 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.

### MEETINGS

**NRC**  
The monthly meeting of the state Natural Resource Commission will be Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 9-10 at the Lansing Center (Wednesday) and the Steven T. Mason Building (Thursday) in Lansing. Persons who wish to address the commission or persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation should contact Teresa Golden at (517) 373-2852 one week in advance.

### SEASON/DATES

Please see CALENDAR, B12

## ARCHERY

**SOUTHEASTERN OAKLAND COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY LAND SALE**

Sealed proposals for the purchase of vacant land will be received by the Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority at the Authority office, 3910 W. Webster Road, Royal Oak, Michigan 48073, until 11:00 A.M., E.S.T., Wednesday, January 6, 1999, and then at said office will be publicly opened and read.

The parcel of land, having an area of 56.7 acres more or less, is located north of Avon Road in the City of Rochester Hills.

The conditions of sale and maps may be obtained at the Authority office.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a cashier's check in the amount of at least ten (10) percent of the amount of the proposal payable to the Authority.

The Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any formality or technicality in any proposal in the interest of the Authority.

Proposals may not be withdrawn within thirty (30) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

SOUTHEASTERN OAKLAND COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY  
THOMAS G. WAFFEN, P.E.  
General Manager

Published December 6 and 10, 1998

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Services — www.marksmgmt.com</p> <p><b>AUTO RACING</b> Milan Dragway — www.milandragway.com</p> <p><b>BAKING/COOKING</b> "Jiffy" Mix - Chelsea Milling Company — www.jiffymix.com</p> <p><b>BIKES</b> Wahut Bicycle Company — http://rochester-hills.com/wahut</p> <p><b>BOOKKEEPING PRODUCTS</b> Big E-Z Bookkeeping Co. — www.bigez.com</p> <p><b>BOOKS</b> Apostolate Communications — www.apostolate.com</p>	<p><b>BUSINESS NEWS</b> Insider Business Journal — www.insiderbiz.com</p> <p><b>CERAMIC TILE</b> Stewart Specialty Tiles — www.specialtytiles.com</p> <p><b>CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE</b> Livonia Chamber of Commerce — www.livonia.org Birmingham/Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce — www.bbcc.com Redford Chamber of Commerce — redfordchamber.org</p> <p><b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b> St. Vincent &amp; Sarah Fisher Center — http://oeonline.com/svsc</p> <p><b>CLASSIFIED ADS</b> Advillage — http://advillage.com Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers — http://observer-eccentric.com</p> <p><b>COMMERCIAL PRINTING</b> Colortech Graphics — http://colortechgraphics.com</p> <p><b>COMMUNITIES</b> City of Birmingham — http://cl.birmingham.ml.us</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY NEWS</b> Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers — http://observer-eccentric.com</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY SERVICES</b> Beverly Hills Police — www.beverlyhillspolice.com Detroit Regional Chamber — www.detroitchamber.com Sanctuary — http://oeonline.com/webstool/teenhelp Wayne Community Living Services — www.wcls.org</p> <p><b>COMPUTER GRAPHICS</b> Logix, Inc. — www.logix-usa.com</p> <p><b>COMPUTER</b> <b>HARDWARE/PROGRAMMING/SOFTWARE SUPPORT</b> Applied Automation Technologies — www.capps-edges.com BNB Software — www.oeonline.com/bnb Mighty Systems, Inc. — www.mightysystems.com</p> <p><b>COMPUTER PRODUCT REVIEWS</b> CyberNews and Reviews — http://oeonline.com/cybernews</p> <p><b>CONSTRUCTION</b> Frank Rewold Construction — http://rochester-hills.com/rewold</p> <p><b>DEVELOPERS</b> Moceri Development — www.moceri.com</p> <p><b>DUCT CLEANING</b> Mechanical Energy Systems — www.mest.com</p> <p><b>EDUCATION</b> Global Village Project — http://oeonline.com/gvp.htm Oakland Schools — http://oakland.k12.mi.us Reutter Middle School — http://oeonline.com/rms Rochester Community School Foundation — http://rochester-hills.com/rcsf The Westminster School — http://rochester-hills.com/westm Weston High School Internal Lear Group — http://oeonline.com/wvclug</p> <p><b>ELECTRICAL SUPPLY</b> Caniff Electric Supply — www.caniff.com Progress Electric — www.pe-co.com</p> <p><b>ELECTRONIC SERVICE AND REPAIR</b> ABL Electronic Services, Inc. — www.ablerv.com</p> <p><b>EMPLOYEE LEASING COMPANY</b> Genesys Group — www.genesysgroup.com</p> <p><b>EMPLOYMENT SERVICES</b> Employment Presentation Services — www.epswsb.com HR ONE, INC. — www.hroneinc.com</p> <p><b>ENVIRONMENT</b> Resource Recovery and Recycling — http://oeonline.com/rraeco Authority of SW Oakland Co.</p> <p><b>EYE CARE/LASER SURGERY</b> Greenberg Eye Center — www.greenbergye.com</p>	<p><b>FROZEN DESSERTS</b> Savino Sorbet — www.sorbet.com</p> <p><b>HAIR SALONS</b> Heads You Win — www.headsyouwin.com</p> <p><b>HEALTH CARE</b> Family Health Care Center — http://oeonline.com/ehmann</p> <p><b>HERBAL PRODUCTS</b> Nature's Better Way — http://oeonline.com/nbw</p> <p><b>HOME ACCESSORIES</b> Laurel Home Accessories &amp; Gifts — http://laurelhome.com</p> <p><b>HOSPITALS</b> Botsford Health Care Continuum — www.botsfordsystem.org St. Mary Hospital — www.stmaryhospital.org</p> <p><b>HYDRAULIC AND PNEUMATIC CYLINDERS</b> Hennells — www.hennells.com</p> <p><b>HYPNOSIS</b> Full Potential Hypnosis Center — oeonline.com/hypnosis</p> <p><b>INDUSTRIAL FILTERS</b> Elkair Corporation — www.elkair.com</p> <p><b>INSURANCE</b> Cadillac Underwriters — www.cadillacunderwriters.com J. 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BOOKKEEPER/OFFICE ASSISTANT A/R, A/P, Payroll, Peachtree helpful, full time. Plymouth, ASAP (734) 416-5550

BOOKKEEPER/OFFICE MANAGER Full charge for Northville location. Fax resume 248-645-9099

BOOKKEEPER/PART TIME Experienced. Needed for residential builder. Flexible hours. Rochester. Call 248-656-7191

CARPENTER CONTRACTOR Interior finish skills. Inside work only. Call: (248) 374-2222

CLERICAL HELP wanted, experienced. Also, merchandising person, health food store experience helpful. Please fax resume to attn: Carla, 248-625-5633

502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical CITY CLERK The Novi Police Department is searching for an individual with excellent clerical and public relations skills to perform a variety of general office, typing and record keeping duties. Salary \$22,740 with a comprehensive benefit package. Obtain and submit a City of Novi application by December 10, 1998, to the Human Resources Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile, Novi, MI 48375.

FILE CLERK/RECEPTIONIST Needed for Farmington Hills Law Firm. Must have excellent organization & communication skills. Call Kim: (248) 442-0510 Fax resume: 248-442-0518

HUMAN RESOURCE ADMINISTRATOR Newly formed PEO has an immediate need for a human resource generalist to manage client/employee interface for benefits, unemployment, workers compensation. Must have a Bachelors Degree in HR and 2+ years of experience in a minimum sized company. Excellent benefits and a growing opportunity. Fax resume with cover including salary expectations to: 248-559-6212

CLERICAL EXECUTIVE BUSINESS SYSTEMS, a communications company located in Troy has a full time opening for individuals to perform various office functions including filing, copying, interfacing mail, word processing of letters and proposals and backup/receptionist duties. Qualified candidates must have word processing skills at 50 wpm, Microsoft Word preferred, excellent communication skills, professional attitude, well organized and detail oriented with reliable transportation. Previous office experience preferred. We offer an exceptional benefit package which includes BCBS for you and your dependents, life, disability insurance, 401K, tuition reimbursement and more. \*Send or fax resume to: Human Resources, EXECUTIVE BUSINESS SYSTEMS 1700 W. Big Beaver, Ste. 100 Troy, MI 48064 Tel: 248-649-5558 or call: 248-649-9100 Ext. 8003 An Equal Opportunity Employer

CLERICAL for Waterford outpatient clinic to maintain records, answer telephones, general office knowledge of MS Word helpful. Immediate opening, full-time, benefits. Resumes to: Marilyn Alexander, 29475 Inkster Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334 E.O.E.

Credit Analyst Assistant - This entry level position entails heavy phone contact, interfacing with banks and businesses. Requires excellent communication skills. Starting salary \$20K. No experience is necessary as Microsoft Word, organized team player, 401K, BCBS. Please fax resume to: 248-355-4590, Or mail to: 24680 Swanson, Southfield, MI 48034.

LEGAL SECRETARY For busy Troy law office. 2-3 years corporate/estate planning experience. Excellent benefits. Smoke-free office. Fax resume to: Office Manager, 2301 W. Big Beaver Rd, Suite 525, Troy, MI 48064. Fax: 248 649-7373

LEGAL SECRETARY For busy personal injury firm. Minimum 3 years experience; Microsoft Word, organized team player, 401K, BCBS. Please fax resume to: 248-355-4590, Or mail to: 24680 Swanson, Southfield, MI 48034.

LEGAL SECRETARY Full time position available in Northville area. Compensation commensurate with competence and experience. Must be competent with Windows 95 & Word Perfect. Minimum 3-5 years experience in litigation environment helpful. Please fax your resume to: 248-380-3434

LEGAL SECRETARY - Full or part-time. For immediate opening. Please fax resume to: R. Shulman, 24750 Lahser Rd., Southfield, MI, 48034

LEGAL SECRETARY Insurance defense litigation. 8 attorney office, 3-5 years. Word Perfect. Full benefits. Bloomfield Hills. Send resume to: Box #1462 Observer & Eccentric 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

LEGAL SECRETARY Needed for Farmington Hills law firm. Competitive salary & benefits package. Fax resume to: 248-442-0518 or forward resume to: Attn: Kim, 37000 Grand River, Ste. 35, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

LEGAL SECRETARY Upbeat Birmingham firm seeks person with strong litigation skills and WordPerfect 5.1. Salary/benefits commensurate with experience. Resumes to: Personnel Dept, 370 E. Maple, 4th Floor, Birmingham, MI 48009

MICHIGAN'S PREMIERE Title Co. seeking exceptional people for employment in our Brighton and Howell locations. Openings available for: \* Title Examiners \* Closers \* Processors Fax your resume to: Alice Young, (248)540-1045 E.O.E.

OFFICE/ASSOCIATION MANAGER Must have previous experience with Accounts Payable/Receivable & Month End procedures. Computer experience required. Send resume to: Mr. Proach, Administrator, Franklin Eye Consultants 29275 Northwestern Hwy, Suite #100, Southfield, MI 48034 or fax to: 248-559-7645

502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical OFFICE ADMINISTRATION Integrated Systems, Technology, a growing national corporation, is a leading provider of CAD/CAM solutions. Rapid expansion has led to staffing needs in the following areas: ADMINISTRATION, HR/PAYROLL, PURCHASING, IT. Provides excellent growth potential, competitive compensation and an independent work environment. Degree preferred. Interested candidates please forward resumes to: Ms. Zollner, Integrated Systems, Technology, Inc. 41370 Bridge St. Novi, MI 48375 Fax: (248)629-6198 E-Mail: czoll@istmail.com IST is an Equal Opportunity Employer

OFFICE ASSISTANT - PART-TIME. Dependable person for misc. office tasks. Must be computer literate. Word docs, 95, Excel, Word of Art/Pro. Good typing & pleasant phone manners a must. Please fax resume to Tina at: (248) 932-8751

OFFICE ASSISTANT/RECEPTIONIST Part-time. Must be detail oriented. Some computer and bookkeeping experience helpful. Send resume to: Imperial Industries, Inc. 5850 Sheldon Rd., Belleville, MI 48111

OFFICE ASSISTANT Major company seeks an energetic individual to perform varied administrative functions. This position requires excellent customer relations skills and light data entry. Full benefits. Diversified Recruiters 248-344-6700 Fax 248-344-6704 Call For Other Openings

OFFICE ASSISTANT for a growing & associated company. Need excellent phone etiquette, organization & typing skills. Working knowledge of Quickbooks, Excel & Word would be helpful. Will train. Fax resume with wage history to: 734-728-1280, or mail to: Craftmatic Adjustable Bed Company, 6132 Executive Dr., Westland, MI, 48185; attn: Leslie

OFFICE ASSISTANT Troy Financial Planning Firm looking for an Office Assistant to round out its staff. \* 40 hour work week \* Paid Vacations & Holidays \* Retirement Program \* Advancement Potential Please fax resume: 248-643-4896. Or send to: Scripps & Associates, Inc. 9155 W. Big Beaver Rd. #103 Troy, MI 48064

OFFICE ASSISTANT - with working knowledge of computers & invoicing. Milford/Wixom area. Attn: Jacqui, 4422 Old Plank Rd., Millard, MI 49831. Fax: 248-684-2523

OFFICE MANAGER PRESBYTERIAN VILLAGE WESTLAND provides the finest in retirement living by having the best staff in town. We invite you to become a part of our team. Duties include: supervise and manage receptionist/clerical staff; back-up biller and human resources. We offer competitive wages, benefits and a clean, friendly work environment. Fax send resume or apply in person: Presbyterian Village Westland 32001 Cherry Hill (Just W. of Morriman) Phone 734-728-5222 Fax 734-728-1910

OFFICE PART-TIME (25-30 hrs/week) to handle general office duties, phone answering, typing, computer data entry. Need computer experience in Microsoft Office. Mail to: Part-time Office, P.O. Box 528, Int'l. MI 48141, 24048. Or fax resume to: (313) 278-6523

OFFICE/SHOWROOM For ceramic tile distributor. Position includes computer data entry and promotional copywriting. Excellent salary and benefits. Litigation experience preferred. Non-smoking office. Health Insurance and Profit Sharing. Fax resume to: 248-647-9599 or call Stephanie 248-647-9599

PARALEGAL For senior partner of busy personal injury firm. Experience in medical malpractice and excellent writing skills a must. Team player but also self starter. Please fax resume & salary requirements to: 248 355-4590 or send to: 24680 Swanson, Southfield, MI 48034

PARALEGAL Troy law firm. Litigation experience preferred. Excellent working conditions and benefits. Mail or fax resume to: Office Administrator P.O. Box 737, Troy, MI 48007 248-641-9921

PART-TIME SECRETARY Part-time for non-smoking office. Various duties to include phone, typing & data entry. 30 hrs, per week. MS Word/Excel knowledge a must. 248-471-4500 Novi

502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical PAYROLL CLERK Southfield CPA firm seeks highly motivated individual with a minimum one year computerized payroll experience to enter payroll data & do balancing work. This position has great potential for growth & increasing levels of responsibility. Mail resume & salary history to: Job #3309-P22, P.O. Box 307, Southfield, MI 48037-0307, Fax 248-352-8018, or e-mail careers@plante-moran.com. Equal Opportunity Employer

PERSONAL ASSISTANT For president of multi-million dollar distributing company based in Royal Oak. Computer experience necessary. Full time. Full benefits. 401K plan. Must have vehicle. Salary commensurate with experience. Fax resume to: 248-884-4921

Production Assistant Full-time, 9-5. Offering good pay, full benefits, 401(k). The right person will possess good communication skills, typing skills, good organizational skills and working knowledge of computers. Call 1-800-331-1205, ask for Mike or Sue

REALTOR - desires assistance with Open Houses on Sundays from 12-4 p.m. Two positions available. \$7/hr. Call: RE/MAX 100, Diane Bravkovich's office at (248)348-3000, ext. 234.

RECEPTIONIST Part-time opportunity available for an outgoing, energetic person. Experience helpful but not required. Apply at: Peachwood Inn 3500 W. Southfield, Rochester Hills, MI 48309 EOE

RECEPTIONIST PRESBYTERIAN VILLAGE WESTLAND, a leader in retirement living is inviting applicants for full and part-time receptionist's second shift. We offer competitive wages, benefits and flexible schedules. Come join our team! Apply in person: 32001 Cherry Hill (Just W. of Morriman) 734-728-5222

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY Phones, Microsoft, Windows helpful. Detroit area. 248-344-9510

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY Small office in Farmington Hills looking for someone to answer phones, filing and other misc. duties. Must be dependable & flexible. Knowledge of MS Office helpful. Submit resume to: Receptionist/Secretary, 27260 Haggerty Rd., Suite A8, Farmington Hills, MI 48331.

RECEPTIONIST Southfield law firm need a responsible & reliable person with 2 yrs. experience answering phones, typing, clerical duties & have clerical diploma. Fax resume to: (248)358-1627 Attn: Jennifer or Mail to: 3000 Towncenter, Suite 2600, Southfield, MI 48075

RECEPTIONISTS WORD PROCESSORS WHERE ARE YOU?? We have 500000 many openings for these skills!! Our clients are located in Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Westland, Farmington Hills, Southfield, Auburn Hills, Pontiac, Troy, Taylor, Dearborn, Detroit and Novi areas. Lots of full-time temporary and Temp-to-Hire or Direct Hire Permanent opportunities. Super benefits and great pay!! We also have part-time openings. Call for an appointment today!

LIVONIA 734-266-8600 SOUTHFIELD 248-352-1300 TAYLOR 734-284-0777 AUBURN HILLS 248-373-7500

RECEPTIONIST Full-time position with busy Troy law firm. Excellent telephone skills and experience with multiple phone system a necessity. Some light typing and filing. Fax resume to 248-649-5678 or call 248-649-0211

RECEPTIONIST Full or part-time. Flexible hours. Non-smoking medical/legal office in Novi. Keyboard and phone skills. Send resume with salary requirements to: Box #1462 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

RECEPTIONIST Full time position in a fast growing software development company. Seeking highly motivated Receptionist, must have excellent customer service, computer & organizational skills. Please send resume and salary requirement to: Eureka Technology, Inc. 1088 W. Big Beaver, Suite 310, Troy, MI 48064 Fax: (248) 816-8453

RECEPTIONIST Full time for Plymouth office. Typing or word processing preferred. Excellent benefit package. Send resume & wage requirements to: Office Manager, 15101 Cleat Plymouth MI 48170

RECEPTIONIST PART TIME for Bloomfield Hills Real Estate office. Evenings 4-8pm, Saturdays 9-5pm, 57-50. Call: JON DOWNING, RE/MAX in the Hills (248) 646-5000

502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical RECEPTIONIST Hamilton House, an assisted living residence for the elderly is looking for a full time receptionist. Responsibilities include answering a multi-line phone, greeting guests, light office work. Qualified candidates will be creative, possess good communication skills, and have a genuine love for the elderly. For consideration please send resume or apply in person at 27950 Drake Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48331. EOE

RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE ASSISTANT - Part-time Are you well organized and excellent on the phone? We're a fast-paced and friendly Livonia advertising specialty office looking for a team player to answer phones, organize detail and assist customers. Some data entry. Approx. hours: 9am-2:30pm., weekdays. Call 734-422-2200 or fax 734-422-1233

RECEPTIONIST Part-time position available. Fast-paced law offices in Farmington Hills. Professional attitude with good sense of humor and patience necessary. Experience preferred, not required. A great place to work. Fax resume to Kate at: 248-932-1734

RECEPTIONIST Part time opportunity available for an outgoing, energetic person. Experience helpful but not required. Apply at: Peachwood Inn 3500 W. Southfield, Rochester Hills, MI 48309 EOE

RECEPTIONIST ACRO SERVICE CORP., a \$50 million organization, is one of Michigan's fastest growing staffing companies. We have an opening for a Receptionist to join our team in our Livonia office. Hours are 4:00pm to 8:00pm, Mon. and Wed. Responsibilities include answering and directing all incoming phone calls from switchboard, greeting clients, outgoing stamping of outgoing mail using postage meter, call for pick up of express mail, drop off express packages, stuff envelopes and other clerical duties. Selected candidates must have high school diploma, experience with multi-line phone system and some familiarity with word processing and/or data entry. Please mail or fax your resume to: Acro Service Corp., Human Resources, TM 17187 N. Laurel Park Dr. Livonia, MI 48152 FAX: (734) 591-1217

RECEPTIONIST/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT General contracting firm. Computer skills necessary. Good working environment & benefit package. Call: 248-489-0999 Fax resume to: 248-489-0960

RECEPTIONIST Busy Novi real estate office needs full-time Receptionist to start soon. Call Monica at: (248) 348-3000, ext. 228 or FAX RESUME to: (248)347-1169

RECEPTIONIST Dependable, friendly & outgoing person needed Part-time. Resume to: HR, 755 W. Big Beaver, Suite 1003, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. Fax: 248-362-4509

RECEPTIONIST for W. Bloomfield computer consulting firm. Needs full-time Receptionist to start soon. Call Monica at: (248) 348-3000, ext. 228 or FAX RESUME to: (248)347-1169

RECEPTIONIST Full-time for Farmington Hills consulting firm. People-oriented, exceptional phone etiquette and computer skills. Excellent benefit package. Please send resume & salary requirements to: Mary, Prism Performance, 37000 Grand River #230, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

RECEPTIONIST Full-time position with busy Troy law firm. Excellent telephone skills and experience with multiple phone system a necessity. Some light typing and filing. Fax resume to 248-649-5678 or call 248-649-0211

RECEPTIONIST Full or part-time. Flexible hours. Non-smoking medical/legal office in Novi. Keyboard and phone skills. Send resume with salary requirements to: Box #1462 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

RECEPTIONIST Full time position in a fast growing software development company. Seeking highly motivated Receptionist, must have excellent customer service, computer & organizational skills. Please send resume and salary requirement to: Eureka Technology, Inc. 1088 W. Big Beaver, Suite 310, Troy, MI 48064 Fax: (248) 816-8453

RECEPTIONIST Full time for Plymouth office. Typing or word processing preferred. Excellent benefit package. Send resume & wage requirements to: Office Manager, 15101 Cleat Plymouth MI 48170

RECEPTIONIST PART TIME for Bloomfield Hills Real Estate office. Evenings 4-8pm, Saturdays 9-5pm, 57-50. Call: JON DOWNING, RE/MAX in the Hills (248) 646-5000

502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical SECRETARY Competitive salary plus company paid health & retirement. Full-time. Dependable, enthusiastic person needed for busy Ann Arbor office. Computer, phone, assist. Accounting Dept., misc office duties. Experience required. Resumes to: Box #1473 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

SECRETARY Good typing skills and computer knowledge. Salary negotiable. Call Chris (734) 281-4700

SECRETARY Real Estate firm in Birmingham seeking part-time Receptionist. Evening 4:30-8:00 and weekends hours available. Call Margie at: (248) 844-3500

SECRETARY/FULL TIME - for foster care agency. Word 7.0, dictation skills, 55 wpm+. Fax resume to: 248-204-1375.

SECRETARY Small, manufacturing company in Plymouth has full time position for organized person with good typing, record keeping, word processing & phone skills. Send resume to: 47650 Clipper Dr, Plymouth, MI 48170 Or fax: (734) 414-6599

TRADE BILLING CLERK Come join a progressive company. Dedicated person responsible for billing trade accounts for advertising customers. Must have computer experience. Excel or any data base system is a plus. Good benefits and fun work environment. Please send resume to: HomeTown Newspapers P.O. Box 230 Howell, MI 48844 Attn: TBC-Human resources 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 No Phone Calls, Please EEO/ADA

RECEPTIONIST PRESBYTERIAN VILLAGE WESTLAND, a leader in retirement living is inviting applicants for full and part-time receptionist's second shift. We offer competitive wages, benefits and flexible schedules. Come join our team! Apply in person: 32001 Cherry Hill (Just W. of Morriman) 734-728-5222

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY Phones, Microsoft, Windows helpful. Detroit area. 248-344-9510

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY Small office in Farmington Hills looking for someone to answer phones, filing and other misc. duties. Must be dependable & flexible. Knowledge of MS Office helpful. Submit resume to: Receptionist/Secretary, 27260 Haggerty Rd., Suite A8, Farmington Hills, MI 48331.

RECEPTIONIST Southfield law firm need a responsible & reliable person with 2 yrs. experience answering phones, typing, clerical duties & have clerical diploma. Fax resume to: (248)358-1627 Attn: Jennifer or Mail to: 3000 Towncenter, Suite 2600, Southfield, MI 48075

RECEPTIONISTS WORD PROCESSORS WHERE ARE YOU?? We have 500000 many openings for these skills!! Our clients are located in Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Westland, Farmington Hills, Southfield, Auburn Hills, Pontiac, Troy, Taylor, Dearborn, Detroit and Novi areas. Lots of full-time temporary and Temp-to-Hire or Direct Hire Permanent opportunities. Super benefits and great pay!! We also have part-time openings. Call for an appointment today!

LIVONIA 734-266-8600 SOUTHFIELD 248-352-1300 TAYLOR 734-284-0777 AUBURN HILLS 248-373-7500

RECEPTIONIST Full-time position with busy Troy law firm. Excellent telephone skills and experience with multiple phone system a necessity. Some light typing and filing. Fax resume to 248-649-5678 or call 248-649-0211

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RECEPTIONIST Full time for Plymouth office. Typing or word processing preferred. Excellent benefit package. Send resume & wage requirements to: Office Manager, 15101 Cleat Plymouth MI 48170

503 Engineering SAFETY/ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER This position represents an excellent opportunity for a highly motivated person with a strong background working in a Manufacturing/Union environment. This position will be responsible for administration of environmental/safety training programs, ensuring compliance with all governmental and environmental regulations and corporate standards. The position will report to the Plant Manager. The successful applicant will possess: \*B.S. in Engineering or related field and 3+ years experience \*Strong project management skills. \*Thorough knowledge and working application of occupational/environmental regulations and standards. \*Able to manage and direct safety/environmental programs and administer training. \*Effective communicator and able to work with all areas and levels in the Company. We offer a competitive compensation benefit package. Please send resume, academic transcript and salary requirements in confidence to: Box #1701 Observer & Eccentric 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150 EOE (No Walk-ins Please)

SECRETARY Good typing skills and computer knowledge. Salary negotiable. Call Chris (734) 281-4700

SECRETARY Real Estate firm in Birmingham seeking part-time Receptionist. Evening 4:30-8:00 and weekends hours available. Call Margie at: (248) 844-3500

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RESPONSIBLE & caring Nanny who loves children. Experienced in child care essential with references to support. \$8 per hr. W. Bloomfield. (248) 788-3984

SITTER NEEDED 2 3 days/week in my Keego Harbor home. 1 preschool age child. (248) 889-7783

\$100/DAY Energetic, responsible caregiver/housekeeper needed for adorable infant & toddler in my Birmingham home. Mon-Thurs weekly 8am-6:30pm. Also includes 3.5 overnight per month. (\$100/night). Must have reliable transportation, non-smoker, excellent references required. Call (248) 933-2216

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Whether you need assistance with personal care or around-the-clock nursing, Heartland can help you. For additional info call: HEARTLAND HEALTH CARE (248) 948-0044

LARGE PRIVATE ROOM for ambulatory care. Nice family atmosphere. 24HR supervision. Licensed. Livonia 248-777-3366

542 Nursing Care Homes CENA Full & Part-Time positions available on our day & midnight shift. Whitehall of Novi. 43455 W. 10 Mile Rd. 248-349-2200

COOK/DIETARY AIDE, 25-30 hours per week. Experience in long term care preferred. Willing to train. Apply Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm. (248) 349-2200. Whitehall of Novi. 43455 W. 10 Mile Rd. Novi.

HOUSEKEEPER full time days. Call (248) 349-2200. Mon-Fri, between 8am-3pm, or come in and fill out an application. Whitehall Health Center of Novi. 43455 W. 10 Mile. EOE

RNLPN Full & Part-Time positions available on our afternoon & midnight shift. Whitehall of Novi. 43455 W. 10 Mile. Novi. (248) 349-2200

560 Education/ Instruction YOUNG WOMEN/MEN 16-24. Free Job Training (lots of career choices), earn your GED/HS Diploma. Paid Training, live on or off campus, and receive free job placement. Job Corps - U.S. Department of Labor Program. Call 1-800-774-5627.

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574 Business Oppt. (See Class 530)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS #600-698

600 Personals ALONE FOR THE HOLIDAYS? Love awaits you 1-900-990-9333 ext. 1121. \$2.99/min. 18+ Serv-U 619-645-8434.

\$3000 REWARD For information that would lead to the arrest and conviction of the person and/or persons who broke into a residential home on Crestview Dr. in Troy on Nov. 8 & 11, 1998. Please call Detective Mike Trainor of The Troy Police Dept. 248-524-3504. Fax 248-524-2135. THE INFORMANT WILL BE KEPT ANONYMOUS.

623 Adoptions ADOPTION: A loving couple and sweet daughter long to share love, happiness, security and hearts with a baby. Please call Carol and Terry at 1-800-484-1661. (#1667)

ADOPTION: A securely married couple is waiting to welcome your baby into our hearts & home. Call Jan & Steve. 1-800-379-8777

A LOVING couple to open hearts & home to your new born. Lots of laughter, love, security & cousins. Mid-west roots & values to pass on. We can help each other. Maternity & sec'd. (800)748-9912

LOVING, CARING couple and toddler seeking to adopt baby to join our family. Please call: (248) 828-4417

636 Lost & Found FOUND CAT - Large orange & white, fluffy adult, on Main Street in Brighton on 12/5/98. Call: (517) 521-3786

636 Lost & Found

FOUND DOG Male - Huskie, Black/White, Blue eyed, Eureka & Allen Rd. Days: 734-324-5141 Even: 248-642-6139

Merchandise #700-778

700 Absolutely Free

BRICK - New & unused. 800 Cor. dora bricks. Zonith/Health lot 25' TV needs work 248-478-2747

CHILDRENS' WOODEN play center. Disassemble & take away. 248-258-1975

DEEP FREEZER, 21 cu. ft. You pick up. 734-464-1667

FIREWOOD - Red Oak, small chainsaw needed. 248-645-0533

FOUR LANDSCAPING boulders - 30 in to 42 in. Black granite, white granite, etc. 248-477-5510

FREE CEMENT steps - 4 steps & platform. You haul. Northville. (248) 374-5568

FREE - Sears riding lawnmower without engine. 8hp. 30" cut. (734) 422-6545

KIMBALL ORGAN with bench, works good, needs to be cleaned, you pick up; absolutely free. (248) 363-9355

MENS BIKE, cross country skid exerciser, bricks, books; other misc. Call (248) 391-1836

702 Antiques/Collectibles

ANTIQUE BOOKCASE, 18th Century, mahogany, 3 doors w/original glass, \$1200. VICTROLA w/full set of records, mint shape, \$500. 810-798-2617

ANTIQUES UNLIMITED Victoria, Mission & oak furniture. Lighting; hanging & table lamps, leaded glass doors, windows, glass pottery, mirrors, signed Tiffany lamps. Toys; banks, large oak counter, bookcases, desks, Plycroft metal works, Handel lamp, outside urns, coffee grinder, etc. 11 Mile Rd. Royal Oak 831 E. 11 Mile Rd. Royal Oak Wed-Sun, 11am-5pm.

ANTIQUE Victorian queen size bed, Walnut & burr. At least 100 yrs. old. Excellent condition \$1200. Walnut dresser & mirror, both \$850. 517-552-9641

A PRESENT FROM THE PAST IS A GREAT HOLIDAY GIFT! Our newly-renovated building is all decked out and bursting at the seams with great stuff for gift-giving or gift-getting. Visit us Tues-Sun, 10-5. Extended holiday hours every WEDNESDAY 'til 8pm, beginning Dec. 9, 16 and 23. In N. Oakland County's finest and friendliest multi-dealer mall: THE GREAT WESTERN ANTIQUE EMPORIUM 5233 Dixie Hwy., Waterford, MI

BARBIE DREAM HOUSE - 1962. Some furniture. Good shape. \$95. 734-565-5124

BEANIE BABIES - Bubbles \$200; Coral \$250; Erin \$45; For tuna \$30; Kiwi \$225; Lety \$375; Mplies \$250; Princes \$50; Righty \$375; Seamore \$200; Snowball \$30 & Teddy \$55. Will ship. 517-422-2466, others.

FURBIES \$100/best offer. Call (248) 651-0829

FURBIES FOR SALE. Best offer. Beeper # (810)3173984

FURBY DOLLS for sale. \$200. 734-347-1898

FURBY'S, \$125 each or 3 for \$300. Also Animatronics Art. prp. Birthday Boogie), retail \$1,000, \$450. Also Pinocchio, \$300. (517) 545-2528. (248) 435-5702

FURBY'S (2) \$200 for pair. Call after 4pm. 313-533-4634

FURBY'S FOR SALE. Black & Gray. Best offer. (248) 549-9224

FURBY'S & HARLEY BARBIES (248) 474-7267

HOLIDAY SALE! Dec. 11-13, Bellows Antiques, 843 N. Mill, Plymouth, Bring ad/ 20% off 1 regular priced item. (734) 454-5510

Hudson's Santa Bears Mint, Brilliant Beanie others Mint, Barbies Mint. (313) 538-0115

Hudson's Santa Bears, K-Mart, Santa Bears, Care Bears, mint. Reasonable: 313-593-0694

In your search for affordable antiques, your best shopping experience will be at: TOWN-HALL ANTIQUES 50' of Michigan's finest antique dealers featuring the largest selection of quality antiques under 12' roofs. Open 362 days a year, 10-6pm, 205 North Main Downtown Historic Romeo 810-752-5422

LLADRO - 3 pieces: 1 - \$75, 2-\$50 each, Voehn angels, (set-\$300), Franklin Mint collectible angels, \$30 each. Borsalo natively - \$100. 313-336-7978

MODERN COLLECTIBLE Dolls - Alexanders, Eftanbos, Limited Editions, Danbury Mint, Very reasonable priced. All MIB. (248)887-9276

702 Antiques/Collectibles

BEANIE BABIES! Retired & current. Garcia, Princess, Manny, Seamore, Sparky, Digger, over 40. Best offer. 248-661-2908

BEANIE BABIES - 1997. Teddy Beanie Babies \$40 each and OTHERS! (248) 635-5005

BEANIE BABIES - We have all 10 of the new ones & Beanie Buddies. For more information call: (248) 476-3714 after 4pm Thurs.

BEENY BABIES - 87. Teddy, Snowman, Glory & more! Reasonable prices. 248-299-3854

BEVERLY HILLS - Holiday Sale, Sat. 9-5pm, Sun. 12-5pm. Old & New decorations, collectibles, books. 31605 Mayfair Lane, S. off Beverly Rd, between Southfield & Evergreen

DEPARTMENT 56, large collection, many retired pieces. Please call: 248-624-0262

DEPT. 56 - Retired pieces & accessories. Mostly NEV, great prices on second hand secondary exchanges. (248) 684-2944

DOLLHOUSES - Tinlitho, wood & fiberglass Dollhouse furniture, wood, wood & plastic. All from 1940's-1980's. Electrified-Victoria style house w/furniture, Rochester Hills, 248-656-5038

EFFANBEE DOLLS, 14 different characters, now in box. \$350. Troy (248) 454-9545

FLYING RED HORSE, Mobil Sign, 60 yrs. old, 3x3, porcelain metal. \$495/Best. 734-665-5124

FURBIES \$100/best offer. Call (248) 651-0829

FURBIES FOR SALE. Best offer. Beeper # (810)3173984

FURBY DOLLS for sale. \$200. 734-347-1898

FURBY'S, \$125 each or 3 for \$300. Also Animatronics Art. prp. Birthday Boogie), retail \$1,000, \$450. Also Pinocchio, \$300. (517) 545-2528. (248) 435-5702

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MODERN COLLECTIBLE Dolls - Alexanders, Eftanbos, Limited Editions, Danbury Mint, Very reasonable priced. All MIB. (248)887-9276

702 Antiques/Collectibles

NORITAKE MONTBLANC china, 12 place settings w/ extras, \$500. (810) 247-0634

OIL PAINTINGS European - all sizes at bargain prices. Perfect Christmas gift. (248) 644-5283

PLEASE DONATE a beanie babble to those children less fortunate! Please visit: http://www.ccfan.com/beanie.html

PRINCESS DI & Prince Charles wedding dolls by Danbury Mint. \$300 pair, Beanie Babies also available. Call: (734)591-1857

SNOW VILLAGES - 30% below "Green Book" (248) 661-4060

THE BARN ANTIQUES CHRISTMAS SALE From now thru Dec. 23, 48120 W. 8 Mile Rd. Northville, 14 mile W. of Back Rd. 248-419-0117

THOMAS KINKADE Canvas "Autumn Bats", Value \$5000! Taking Orders: (734) 455-8687

TONKA TOY metal trucks, from 1950's, also Lionel train set, 1950's, other, best offer. (248) 651-7674

Victorian marble-top tables \$550 & \$300; primitive butcher block \$1150; child's rocker \$35; Child's chair \$95. (248) 723-9298

706 Auction Sales

ESTATE AUCTION Tractors & Antiques & Collectibles. We will have a public auction at 143 Dowsley Street, Chelsea, MI. Take M52 (Main Street) North to Dewey then East. SAT. DEC. 12 AT 10:30 AM. Owner: Estate of Hazel I. Wacker. Braun & Helmer Auction Service. Lloyd Braun, Jerry Helmer, Lynn Braun, David Helmer, Ann Adams, Sally Sales (734) 655-6546 (734) 994-6389

ICE CREAM PARLOR/AUCTION LOVING SPOONFUL - Ice Cream Machines - Coolers - Dell Equipment - Berkel Meat Slicer. Call business, auction at: 330 South Main St., Ann Arbor, MI (Between Williams Street & Liberty) Parking On Ashley St. MON. DEC. 14 AT 10 AM. An Owner: Loving Spoonful Ice Cream Parlor. Braun & Helmer Auction Service. Lloyd Braun, Jerry Helmer, Lynn Braun, David Helmer, Ann Adams, Sally Sales (734) 655-6546 (734) 994-6389

Public Auction SAT. DEC. 12TH @ 7PM. DOORS OPEN @ 6PM 525 FARMER PLYMOUTH Antiques/Collectibles, Glassware, Household, Costume Jewelry, Buttons, Figurines, Holiday Items. Conducted by J.C. Auction Services, Inc., Cash, MC/Visa, MI Checks with ID. 734-451-7444

TOYS BY WOODY Sun. Dec. 13, 1PM 5089 Dixie - Waterford

710 Estate Sales

DEARBORN HTS. - Dec. 10-12, 9am-4pm. 688 Belywn, Beech & Cherryhill. Entire contents to include furniture, china, tools, antiques & much more!

710 Estate Sales

AN ESTATE SALE EVERY DAY YOUR BEST CHOICE, FOR UPSCALE QUALITY FURNISHINGS IT MUST MEET OUR HIGH STANDARDS FIRST \*QUALITY \*SELECTION \*VALUE RE-SELL IT ESTATE SALES 248-478-SELL www.ressell.com Daily 10-6pm Sun. 12-4pm 34769 GRAND RIVER

ANOTHER ESTATE SALE BY IRIS Fri-Sat-Sun Dec 11, 12, 13 10-4 1034 West Maple, Birmingham (Waterfall Condos) On Maple, just West of Southfield Rd. Please park on side streets. The Estate of Robert Kowalsky, Famous Designer "The Place For Your Christmas Shopping. Collectibles Galore, You Just Can't Believe It!" Contents include: Large bronze sculpture, also bronze deco sculptures, collage by Karl Appel and lots of other good art - 2 huge gold plid mirrors, 2nd hand leather chairs & ottomans - Outstanding game table & chairs - Down sofa with dozens of throw pillows - Antique silk, oriental kimono - Several oriental garden seats - Several oriental fish bowls - Antique barber, polio, washboard - One room full of linens, Ralph Lauren towels, sheets, pillows, etc. - One room full of mens designer clothes, sizes 42-44. Armani, Ralph Lauren, leather coats, jackets, suits, separates - and size 12 new shoes - Sub zero, fridge, freezer - Washboard - Tons of movie tapes - Christmas lights, holiday decorations. This is A Huge Sale! 248-626-7723 IRIS KAUFMAN

DECEMBER 11, 9 to 4, 12 & 13th, 11 to 4

Final Days-Year End, Floor Sample Sale Designer Furniture & Accessory Sale. Black leather sofa, pair off-white, occasional chairs, taupe loveseat, olive damask sofa, copper-velvet sofa; large taupe chair & ottoman assorted French chairs some with ottomans; 2 tan ultra suede chair and ottoman, large Mark Hampton Desk chair, pair French carved and tables & chairs, assorted tables, lamps, artwork, oriental rugs, antiques & accessories. 33238 Woodward Ave., N. of 14 Mile.

JEWELL & ASSOC. ESTATE SALE 16929 DUNLAINE BEVERLY HILLS Dec 10, 11, 12, 9 am-4 pm Sun. Dec. 13, 10-4 W. Greenfield Some mahogany furniture & antiques, porcelain pottery & glass, general household merchandise, lawn & garden items. For more info call: (248) 398-1331

710 Estate Sales

another ESTATE SALE ONE DAY ONLY SAT. DEC. 12, 10-4 1485 Pebble Pointe Pebble Creek Condos, West Bloomfield (N. of 14 Mile, W. of Orchard Lake) Ask for Jack Lawson CONTEMPORARY & TRADITIONAL CONTENTS Parsons style dining table & chairs by Hickory, Thomasville Walnut master bedroom, 2 sectional sofas, occasional tables, chrome lighting, decorative accessories, silver, Block & Norlake dinnerware, crystal liners, T.V.s, Mink jacket, ladies clothes (10-16), stereo equipment, Schwinn Aldyria, art, oriental chest, mirrors, plus large volume of household & personal misc. SEE YOU THERE! EDMUND FRANK & CO. LIQUIDATORS & APPRAISERS (313) 669-5555 NUMBERS AT 9 A.M.

A INDIAN VILLAGE AREA ESTATE SALE FRI. DEC. 11, 10-5 SAT. DEC. 12, 10-5 SUN. DEC. 13, 11-4 BY APPT. ONLY (248) 569-2929

A Fine Collection of Original Art Including Bearden, Calder, McGee, Neal, Kalman, B. White, Kasimir colored etchings.

A Large Collection of African Art Masks, fertility figures and other African artifacts. LIVING ROOM: Camel back sofa, French desk and chair, and old tables and lamps. PARLOR: KIMBALL baby grand piano, ornate metal door frame from Atlanta, circa 1850. DINING ROOM: Round marble dining room table w/carved wooden pedestal, and antique oak sideboard. BEDROOM: Antique iron bed, antique brass bed and marble top dresser. ACCESSORIES INCLUDE: Oriental Rugs, Lamps, Architectural Artifacts, Stained Glass Door, Mirrors. Large collection of Jazz records. And Other Misc. Items. SALE BY Lilly M. & Co.

711 Garage Sales Oakland ESTATE SALE - Tons of stuff, 57yr. accumulation, collectibles; jewelry, glassware, furniture, lamps, dolls. Dec. 11-13, 9:5PM. 1 Mile West of M-53 (Van Dyke), 1 Mile N. of light, in downtown Airport (St. Clair/Ganero Squire Rd) at 4821 Shoemaker. (810)798-3465

713 Moving Sales DEC. 12, 9am-2pm, car stereo, T.V., gks, table, etc. 33910 Edna. (248) 474-7221

EVERYTHING MUST GO! Furniture, chairs, outdoor equipment, toys kitchen items 734 207-0223

Selling home - Selling most everything! Furniture, dishes, household items 248-353-7885

WEST BLOOMFIELD MEGA MOVING SALE! 4206 Elmcrest Dr., S. of Walnut Lake, W. of Orchard Lake. Fri-Sat, Dec. 11-12, 9am-4pm. 248-932-0179

WEST BLOOMFIELD - 14 Mile & Middlebelt. Furniture, bedroom set, tables, lamps, dining set. Call (248) 851-5137

714 Clothing BEAUTIFUL EVENING WEAR! and other clothing, sizes 6-10 & medium. 248 477-2837

CARMELA'S FURS Fine & next to new. For the discerning buyer & connoisseur. Open Tues. thru Sat. Noon-5 (1 mile W. of Telegraph). (248) 682-3200 \* Celebrating 24 Years \*

COYOTE FUR Coat, Full length designer w/white fox tufted front. Size 18-20. 248-398-3267

FULL LENGTH Red Fox, 4 yrs. old, rarely worn, appraised \$6000. Best offer. 734-547-9985

ST. JOHN KNITS - Beaver coat, hooded/dressy/office. Other Name brands. 2-6. 248-354-5846

716 Household Goods

APARTMENT SIZE mahogany Duncan Phyfe dining room tables, \$200 each. Excellent condition Mahogany Hepplewhite & French dining room chairs, \$500 each. Mahogany banquet & traditional size dining room tables (Chippendale, Sheraton, Duncan Phyfe, more). Set of 4 Queen Anne dining room chairs, \$600 set. Set of 8 highback Hepplewhite dining room chairs (excellent condition) \$1800 set. Set of 6 brown mahogany dining room side chairs, \$300 set. Sets of chairs, \$200 each. Mahogany dining room chairs (up to 12 per set). Assorted china cabinets & buffets. \$400 & up; Mahogany House desks, \$400 each. Oak desk chairs, \$40 each. Assorted 1930's French furniture. Loveseat, vanities, console, beds, chests (more). Tea, carts, camelback sofa, mahogany traditional & poster beds (twin-twin sizes). Traditional bedroom chests, dressers, night stands, brass lamps, oil paintings. Too much to list. PRICED SALE! Visa, MC, American Express MAHOGANY INTERIORS 508 S. Washington, Royal Oak. (248) 545-4110

BABY CRIB - white, w/mattress, bedding, etc! \$85. (248) 626-9511

BEAUTIFUL SOFA & love seat, off white, perfect condition, \$750. (248) 477-2837

You may not want it...

...but, we'll bet someone does.

Is your attic or basement or garage filled with stuff you don't want anymore? Maybe you don't have anything quite as weird as our toy Martian, but like most of us, you may have some odds and ends you can do without.

Our 3-2-1—SOLD! offer is just what you need when you have things to sell for under \$500.

Here's how it works:

- 1. You get 3 lines to describe your item (remember, you have to be asking less than \$500)
2. You get to run your ad for 2 days (one week)
3. You get 1 low price—just \$19.95.

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716 Household Goods

ANNOUNCING 2 GREAT SALES! By Everything Goes. #1. Fri-Sat Dec 11-12, 10-4. 3847 Oakland Dr. Bloomfield Hills...

716 Household Goods

Dining Table, 6 chairs, buffet, walnut, \$500. Camelback sofa \$500. (248) 648-4557

718 Appliances

GE REFRIGERATOR, 9 cubic ft., white, 1 mo. old, \$250 (248) 375-5062 between 4-9pm

740 Farm Produce/Flowers/Plants

Christmas Trees Are you getting ready for the holidays? That time again is here...

752 Sporting Goods

HOME GYM - Complete. Nordic Flex Gold. Stationary Bicycle. Stair Stepper. Nordic Track Sld. (734) 458-8228

805 Boat/Vehicle Storage

CHEAP CHARLIE'S STORAGE Heated-Alarmed-Insect-Boats-Five-Classic Cars Michigan Ave/275. 734-721-7177

811 Snowmobiles

ARCTIC CAT '92 Powder, Liquid Cyl., automatic, air, fiberglass cover, \$9900. 248-651-4275

822 Trucks For Sale

CHEVY 1996 S10 pickup, 8 cyl., automatic, air, fiberglass cover, \$9900. 248-651-4275

822 Trucks For Sale

DODGE RAM, 1994, 4 x 4, loaded w/matching cap, 80K miles, \$12,500/best. leave message if not in. 734 522-3175

716 Household Goods

BEAUTIFUL, LARGE Country French armchair; Baker teal/navy armchair plus; 2 mirrors; Henderson Kingsley bed & night stand; many Link wicker daybed & bistro table; Lithographs by Lazo Duz; McKnight & Hwang, much more furniture for sale. (248)847-3017

716 Household Goods

LEATHER SOFA & loveseat - off white color, in good condition, \$750. (248) 648-6972

722 Building Materials

A LARGE - Oakland Hills Golf Course Home To Be sold in Parts Prior to Demolition. See Everything Goes Ad Section 710 Today's Paper...

745 Hobbies/Coins/Stamp

WANTED TRAINS Accessories (734) 729-8512

746 Hospital Equipment

LIFT CHAIR (upholstered) brown, 1 yr. old, excellent condition, \$500. 313-581-1044

783 Cats

ADORABLE SHADED SILVER Persian male kittens, 6wks. Shots, \$200/each, 248-645-5818

784 Dogs

ADOPT: A pet - photos with Santa, Dec. 12 at Northville Pet Smart located at 6 Mile & Haggerty. Call 248-335-8290 or 248-347-4337 for details

718 Appliances

BRAND NEW, whirlpool side-by-side refrigerator, white, ice/water in door, \$1000. 248-549-5549

718 Appliances

WOODMARK CHAIRS 2, upholstered, salmon color, \$225/each. (734)420-1790

734 Electronics/Audio/Video

JUKECO NITEGLO SPEAKERS: Lights go on & off and change colors. Sales & Rentals. (813) 531-2404

751 Musical Instruments

ANTIQUE PIANO - Upright w/ ivory keys. Good condition. \$1400. (248) 393-0378

751 Musical Instruments

BALDWIN CONSOLE PIANO - mahogany, owned by musician, asking \$1895. (248) 332-0912

751 Musical Instruments

BALDWIN PIANO - medium wood, excellent condition, \$1290. Other pianos from \$795. MICHIGAN PIANO CO. (248) 548-2200. Open 7 days

751 Musical Instruments

CONSOLE PIANO w/beautiful needlepoint bench, excellent condition, \$600. 248-628-0849

752 Sporting Goods

GLOSS, BLACK, top quality American made Baby Grand Piano w/QRS Planimation, excellent condition, with bench, cover & 14 discs. Must see! \$500. 248-693-7836

752 Sporting Goods

HUDSON CONSOLE w/bench. Dark wood, good condition. \$900. 734-459-6531

718 Appliances

DINING ROOM - table, 6 chairs, 1 leaf & china cabinet. Excellent. \$700/best. 734-453-0678

718 Appliances

DINING ROOM table w/8 chairs & coffee table, fossil stone, \$650. (248) 477-0753

718 Appliances

DINING ROOM - Thomasville, burl accents, table, 2 leafs, custom table pads, 6 chairs, lighted china hutch, server, excellent condition. \$3500. (248) 305-9588

718 Appliances

DINING SET - 6-piece, Thomasville \$2500. Sofa (formal), \$600. Farmington. 248 477-5458

718 Appliances

Dining - 1940's mahogany table, chairs, china cabinet & buffet. Quality. \$2500. 810-530-5258

718 Appliances

DINING - 1940's Mahogany Table, 2 leafs, 6 chairs, china cabinet, buffet, excellent. \$3800. 248-540-7694

718 Appliances

WOODMARK CHAIRS 2, upholstered, salmon color, \$225/each. (734)420-1790

718 Appliances

WOODMARK CHAIRS 2, upholstered, salmon color, \$225/each. (734)420-1790

718 Appliances

WOODMARK CHAIRS 2, upholstered, salmon color, \$225/each. (734)420-1790

Win Red Wings Tickets! Detroit Red Wings

You could be a lucky winner of four tickets to the Observer & Eccentric SRO section. You receive: 4 standing room only tickets to a Red Wings home game.

752 Sporting Goods CUSTOM SOLID Oak 4 x 8 pool table, 1" slate, leather drop pockets, \$1800. 734-459-6531

752 Sporting Goods GOLF MEMBERSHIP - Goodrich, for Country Club, \$1500, includes dues. 249-391-1636

752 Sporting Goods HEALTH RIDER, \$150/best offer. (248) 435-8640 after 5:30pm

788 Household Pets - Other ADORABLE, hand fed baby Lovebirds (many colors) & Cockatiels. Call Lili: (248)652-3844

788 Household Pets - Other BLUE & gold Macaws. Proven pair. Breeders sellout. all accessories. \$2500. -248-348-2834

788 Household Pets - Other CHINCHILLAS - 8 male, 4 female w/ 30 cages. \$400/best. (248) 474-0927

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Automotive

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822 Trucks For Sale

FORD RANGER XLT 4x4 Supercab, 1995, loaded, 43K, \$19,500. (248) 952-8578
Ford Ranger 1993- 4x4, V-6, 5 speed, dual fuel tanks, am/fm cassette, \$1400 734-722-0291
GMC 1990 Sierra pick-up, 4.3L, V6, manual, w/berglass cap. Runs great, \$3000. 248-390-6368
GMC 1988 Sport Size, 4/6 drop kit, newer dealer installed engine, shaped handles. \$8,300 (734)641-9220
GMC S15 '97 SPORT SIDE 5 speed, H/O 4.3, extras, 60K, \$8760. (248)693-2576
GMC S15 '97 SPORT SIDE 5 speed, H/O 4.3, extras, 60K, \$8760. (248)693-2576
RANGER 1993 extended cab, 5 speed, 6 cyl, good condition, \$8200. Call: (734) 462-2216
RANGER 1991 XLT - V6, auto, air, 88K miles. Very good condition. \$2800. (734) 453-4233
SONOMA 1996 extended cab, like new, 5 speed, 4 cyl, stereo, \$9,750 248-623-8714

824 Mini Vans

AEROSTAR 1992, auto, air, stereo, like new, \$1995 only at TYME. (734) 455-5666
AEROSTAR 1993 - Great condition, power windows, running boards \$8900, 734-525-9853
AEROSTAR 1992 - 3 liter, V6, new tires & battery. Very clean. \$5400. 734-261-4202
AEROSTAR XLT 1990 - silver, gray, excellent condition, new tires/brakes/battery, 104,000 miles, \$2900. (248) 553-9592
Astro 1995 CL-60K, many options, new tires, very good condition \$10,500. 248-521-1977
ASTRO LT 1990 - 64K, 2-tone tan, loaded, excellent condition, \$5500/best. (248) 960-9091
CHRYSLER 1993 Town & Country - rear air, 60K miles, loaded, \$7500. 248-553-7510
DODGE CARAVAN 1992 - 58K miles, great condition; 1 owner, V6, air, cruise, power door locks, cassette, \$5700. (248) 650-8674
DODGE GRAND caravan le 1992, loaded, new transmission, \$5500. (734) 451-2119
GRAND VOYAGER 1994, 49K, 7/8 warranty transferrable, \$7500. 313-537-9593
GRAND VOYAGER 1993 LE - V6, 88K. Very good condition, \$8300/best. 734-542-0125
TOWN & Country 1992 - well maintained, excellent condition 103K, \$5000/best. 734-525-0394
VILLAGER 1998 GS-35K, excellent condition, child seat, all power, \$13,750. (248) 646-5424
VILLAGER 1994, GS, Loaded, Great condition, 95K, \$8900. (734) 454-8853
VILLAGER 1994, LS, good condition, loaded, rear air, heat, 2nd row captain's chairs, 100,000 extended warranty, \$9,900/best. 248-988-2238
VOYAGER - 1988 - Excellent condition, must see \$2800. Days 248-442-7343; Eves, 734-522-1036
WINDSTAR 1995 LX - all options, dual air, TYME does it again \$1100 below black book, only \$89 down. TYME AUTO. (734) 455-5666
WINDSTAR 1995 LX loaded, good condition, \$10,900. (248) 879-6882

826 Vans

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 AURORA 1995 - Moonroof, 38K miles, \$17,000. 248-377-7846; Eves. 248-650-8920  
 CUTLASS 1998 GL-GM retirees car. 12,600 mi. Sticker \$19,000; \$14,900/best. 248-608-8067  
 CUTLASS SUPREME 1996 - Fantastic red V-6, air, cruise, 20,900 miles. \$11,700 (810)574-1361  
 DELTA '88, 1989 - Fair condition, runs, needs a little work, \$850. 248-855-1580  
 EIGHTY EIGHT 1989 Royale, family owned, great condition, low mi, \$5000. 248-625-4278  
 OLDS '88 - 1990, 106K. Most options. No rust. Great condition. \$3800. 248-474-7671  
 REGAL 1996 - GS, 26K, leather, cd, super charged, \$18,500. Best Offer. (248) 737-9612

**864 Pontiac**  
 BONNEVILLE 1990 - Excellent condition, loaded, 89,000 miles, \$4295. (248) 661-0391  
 Bonneville 1990 LE, air, cruise, power locks, hitch, 140K miles. Good condition. \$2,800. (248)561-7409  
 BONNEVILLE SLE 1993 - leather, CD, loaded, 62K, like new. \$9300 (248)646-4665  
 GRAND AM 1993, SE coupe, V6, Auto, Air, 1 owner, 89K, \$4500. (734) 261-4398  
 GRAND AM 1996 SE - 4 door, great shape, 1 owner, 89K miles, \$7700 (248) 338-3092  
 GRAND AM 1996 SE - Perfect condition, 4 door, spoiler, power, air, cruise, loaded, 13,400 miles, \$12,500/best. (248) 474-7973  
 GRAND PRIX SE '94 - 4 door, great condition, 34K, auto power, \$7600. (734)464-6128  
 SUNBIRD, 1991 - 4 Dr., clean, sunroof, high miles. New brakes, \$2250. 734-464-3121

**872 Toyota**  
 CAMRY 1996 LE, Black & gold edition, loaded, \$11,500 or make an offer. (248) 659-3345  
 CAMRY 1996 - red, 4 cyl. automatic, power, leather, sunroof, 55,000 mi. \$11,900. 248-449-4607  
 CELICA 1995 GT-23K miles, mint. 248-626-5638

**874 Volkswagen**  
 JETTA III 1995 - GLS Sedan, 22,000 miles, auto, FWD, ABS, air bags, air, sunroof, cassette, cd, aluminum wheels, alarm. \$13,400. (248) 547-1103

**878 Auto Under \$2,000**  
 BUICK ELECTRIC 1986 - Great car! Well maintained, 1 owner. \$2000/best. \*\*\*\*\* SOLD  
 CROWN VIC 1966 - \$1400/best, 1968 Cougar, \$2400/best, air, Good Bodies, Reliable, Days/Eves. 248-474-1115  
 CROWN VICTORIA 1988, 83,000 miles, good transportation. \$1900. (734) 251-8353  
 DODGE SHADOW 1987, 104,500 miles, \$850. 734-416-9405  
 DOTSON NISSAN 1983-pickup, stick, winter ready, clean, king cab, \$1500. (313) 387-0609  
 FESTIVA 1991-reliable, great car, perfect. \$1350. (734) 542-9088  
 HONDA CIVIC 1988 - 4 door, new brakes & battery. New tires/clutch/timing belt/exhaust. 165,000 miles. \$1800/best. (248) 545-6889  
 LINCOLN 1985 - 4 door, Red. Runs Good! Needs work. \$750. Best. (248) 646-3967  
 LTD 1966-clean, 4 door, runs. \$1500. (313) 387-0609  
 MUSTANG, 1968 convertible, automatic, all power \$2000 Plymouth. (734) 416-1643  
 PONTIAC, FIERO, 1984, 4 cyl. under, automatic, \$1000. Plymouth. (734) 416-1643  
 SABLE Wagon 1988 fully loaded, Great condition! minor rust, 137,000 miles well maintained. \$1200/best. 734-394-1599  
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\*Lease conditions: Example based on specially equipped 1999 Chevrolet Prizm with MSRP of \$14,595. \$1367 due at lease signing includes security deposit. Tax, title, license and registration fees extra. Option to purchase at lease-end at \$2319.15. Thirty-six monthly payments total \$6000.12. GMAC must approve lease. Mileage charge of 26¢ per mile over 36,000 miles. Lessee is responsible for excess wear and use. Payments may be higher in some states. This is a special GMAC program. Special financing, Cash Back and SmartLease may not be combined. Must take retail delivery from dealer stock by 12/31/98. See your participating dealer for qualification details. \*\*Length of finance contract limited. Other rates available as length of contract increases. Dealer financial participation may affect consumer cost. Must take retail delivery from dealer stock by 12/31/98. See your participating dealer for qualification details. Chevrolet, the Chevrolet Emblem and Prizm are registered trademarks of the GM Corp. GMAC is a registered trademark of the General Motors Acceptance Corp. ©1998 GM Corp. Buckle up, America!

# Calendar from page B4

**DEER**  
The second archery season runs through Jan. 3. The muzzleloading season runs through Dec. 13 in Zone I (Upper Peninsula) and Dec. 11-20 in zones II and III (Lower Peninsula). There are several other special seasons. Check the 1998-99 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide for details.

**ELK**  
The late elk season will be held Dec. 8-14, by special permit and in designated elk management units only.

**GOOSE**  
There will be a special late Canada goose season Jan. 9-Feb. 7 in the southern Michigan Goose Management Unit. Check the 1998-99 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide for specific boundaries.

**GROUSE**  
A special late season runs through Jan. 1 in the Lower Peninsula.

**PHEASANT**  
There is a special late season in southern Michigan, which runs Dec. 1-15. Check the 1998-99 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide for exact boundaries of the December hunt.

**RABBIT/HARE**  
Rabbit/hare season run through March 31 statewide.

**SQUIRREL**  
Squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

## SHOOTING RANGES

**BALD MOUNTAIN**  
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 31 are 10 a.m. to sunset Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays. On Mondays and Tuesdays only the spotting clay course is open, noon to sunset. 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. Wednesdays 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.

**1998 PERMITS**  
The 1998 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 permit is \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call 1-800-477-PARKS for more information.

**TOYS FOR TOTS**  
The Huron-Clinton metroparks are serving as collection spots for the Toys for Tots program. The program is conducted annually by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve to serve needy children

in local communities by providing them with new, unwrapped toys during the holiday season. Anyone wishing to donate a new unwrapped toy that has no violent connotations can drop them off at park offices of the HCMA Administrative Office through Dec. 16. Call (800) 477-2757 for more information.

**SNACKS WITH SANTA**  
Spend some time with Santa, enjoy a snack and a hayride and sing some holiday songs during this program, which will be held Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12-13, at Kensington. Several sessions will be held each day and admission is by advanced ticket purchase only. Tickets are \$5 per person. Call (800) 377-3178 to register. A similar program will be held on Saturday, Dec. 12, at Indian Springs.

## OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

**COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

**GIFTS OF MICHIGAN**  
Celebrate the holiday season by making

gifts with a Michigan theme during this program, which begins at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Independence Oaks.

## 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 additional 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) 685-2433. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7067.

**HOLIDAY TREES**  
Take a horse-drawn hayride through farmland to pick out your holiday tree during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12-13, at Maybury. Cost is \$30 per family and includes hayride, choice of pre-cut tree and daily motor vehicle permit.

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FEATURES INCLUDE: 301 DOHC Duratec V-6 engine • Second Generation dual air bags\*\*\* • Power windows and door locks • Electronic Automatic Temperature Control • Perimeter alarm and Keyless Entry keypad (driver's side) • Automatic on/delay off headlamps • Integrated Control Panel • Dual power outside mirrors • The only car in its class with the government's highest crash test rating.

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\*Class is mid-size cars under \$27,000. Driver and passenger front crash test. U.S. government data only useful in comparing vehicles within 500 pounds. \*\*1999 Mercury Sable LS with Premium Group MSRP \$21,295 excluding title, tax and license fees. Lease payment based on average capitalized cost of 93.30% of MSRP for leases purchased in the Detroit Region through 8/31/98. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear. See dealer for details. For special lease terms and \$500 RCL cash take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/14/99. \*\*\*Always wear your safety belt and secure children in the rear seat.



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4178 Highland Rd. (M-59)  
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# Real Estate

Observer & Eccentric  
NEWSPAPERS

HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

NO Page 1, Section C

Thursday, December 10, 1998

on the web: <http://www.observer-eccentric.com>

## Real Estate Ad Index

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER
Real Estate For Sale	300-388
Homes For Sale By City	304-346
Homes For Sale By County	352-357
Misc. Real Estate	358-388
Commercial/Industrial	390-398
Real Estate For Rent	400-444

Our complete index can be found inside this section.

### HOME SEEKER'S CHECK LIST

- SELLER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
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## Everyone pays for membership

### REAL ESTATE QUERIES



ROBERT M. MEISNER

**Q:** We are members of a homeowners association, but we aren't obligated to pay assessments, although the association does provide certain services to us. I am wondering if the homeowners association could impose liability for such assessments on us?

**A:** There is a strong argument that just because you aren't obligated by the enabling documents for whatever reason to pay assessments to the association, you may, under various legal theories, still be responsible to contribute to the association for its expenses, to the extent that you derive benefits.

An example of this occurred recently when the Iowa Supreme Court upheld a cooperative collecting assessments from an owner in a subdivision because the lot owner derived "substantial benefits" from services the cooperative provided.

The court further stated that since no express agreement pertaining to the services existed between the parties, the court applied the principles of quasi-contract law.

The court also indicated that because the cooperative owned and maintained interior roads, water, sewer and waste disposal systems pertinent to the property, the lot owners were benefited in addition to the other amenities provided by the cooperative that enhanced the value of the lots owned by the lot owners.

The court reasoned that the lot owners were liable for fees because they received major quality of life services from the cooperative even though they were unable to choose the services for which they were willing to pay.

Robert M. Meisner is an Oakland County area attorney concentrating his practice in the areas of condominiums, real estate, corporate law and litigation. You are invited to submit topics that you would like to see discussed in this column, including questions about condominiums, by writing Robert M. Meisner, 30200 Telegraph, Suite 467, Birmingham Farms MI 48025. His e-mail address is [meisner@meis.com](mailto:meisner@meis.com) and his Web site is <http://www.meisner.com>. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.



## Holiday rush puts brakes on home sales

By DOUG FUNKE  
STAFF WRITER  
[dfunke@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:dfunke@oe.homecomm.net)

The bad news is that the holiday season traditionally is the slowest time of the year for houses coming onto the market for sale.

The good news is that buyers and sellers on the scene at year's end are generally much more inclined to do business, real estate professionals agree.

"Typically, you've just weeded out people fooling around, people just looking," said Janice Morlock, affiliated with Real Estate One in Westland. "And probably some people who put their house on the market feeling if they can get a price, they'll sell and if not, that's O.K."

Bill Ferguson, a Realtor with RE/MAX Executive in Troy, observes, "We're in a cooling-off period now."

And it's more than just the weather. Some folks don't want to bother getting a house in showing condition and keeping it that way during the holidays, which can be hectic enough during the best of circumstances.

Some sellers might not want to scramble to find a replacement home, themselves, during the holidays — especially if their buyer wants to move in as soon as possible.

So who's on the prowl? Transferees make purchase offers during November and December, said Vivian Wilson, an associate broker with Max Brock Realtors in Bloomfield Hills.

"I specialize in relocations," she said. "I'm working with three different people. This might be a slower time of year, but the quality of the buyer is serious. The seller gets a true, qualified buyer when showing."

Some companies begin a new budget year in mid-to-late fall, prompting a resurgence in relocation activity, Wilson said. "They might have limited selection, but they will buy something."

Perhaps not so apparent is a second group of sellers who list their houses for sale during the holidays.

"It's people who have committed to new construction in August or September and their new houses will be ready in January or February," Ferguson said. Buying and selling houses doesn't have to be a seasonal thing, maintains Genevieve Patterson, a Realtor with Century 21 Row in Livonia.

"I have two listings now," she said. "One is simply downsizing to a condo; the other is moving up. They don't really care about the timing. They figure one time is as good as another."

"Everyone isn't into Christmas," Patterson said. "There are Jewish people, Arabs. People are of different beliefs. Maybe their kids are grown and they don't want to make a big deal about it (holidays). Everyone doesn't think of it."

All of the numbers indicate a definite year-end hiatus.

According to Realcomp II, a giant multi-listing service that covers metro Detroit, December and November were the two lowest listing months of the year in Wayne County last year and in 1996.

The numbers: 1,066 in December and 1,414 in November of '97; 924 in December and 1,274 in November of '96.

The same pattern generally held for Oakland County, with low-listing months during November (1,830) and December (1,272) of 1996 and December (1,511) of 1997.

Also, actual sales were lowest in both counties during January and February

in recent years, said Karen Kage, director of business operations for Realcomp. That would follow a 30- to 60-day tracking period from acceptance of a purchase order to formal closing.

Listings rose by nearly 1,000 during January each of the last two years in Oakland County, and by 700 this January and 500 during January of '97 in Wayne.

"That indicates people want to move — just not during the holidays."

Some parents agree with child experts who believe that it's better to move and bond with new friends during the school year rather than wait for summer — just not during the holidays.

Sellers and buyers should be aware of a couple of items to expedite the process if they do want to jump into the market at year's end.

"The main thing at this time of year is for people to have the home ready (clean, uncluttered) to sell and priced right," Ferguson said.

"Some decorations are good — as long as it doesn't look like Christmas Village," Wilson said.

"It's just as well (for buyers) to be sure their (mortgage) pre-approval is in place," Morlock said. "You can miss out if you find a house and not all the cards are in order yet."

Keep in mind that many business institutions have restricted hours during the holidays. That might slow the process even though you're gung-ho.

Some Realtors use the holiday lull to prime the pump for the months ahead.

"It's the time of year we make phone calls to past customers, this year and five to 10 years ago," Ferguson said. "I ask how they're going, how the job is, how the kids are. I ask for referrals. Most of my business today is done by referrals."

### HOW MANY?

Here's the population of selected metro areas in the Midwest as of July 1, 1998, based on Census Bureau estimates.

Metro area	Population in millions	5-year % change
Chicago	8.7	+3
Detroit	5.5	+3
Cleveland	2.9	+2
Minneapolis	2.8	+6
St. Louis	2.6	+2
Cincinnati	1.9	+4
Kansas City	1.7	+6
Milwaukee	1.6	+1
Columbus	1.5	+5
Indianapolis	1.5	+6

Source: U.S. Housing Markets

HELEN FURCEAN / STAFF ARTIST

## New home loans available

### MORTGAGE SEARCH



DAVID C. MULLY

Home buyers can now qualify to buy a more expensive home than before. Buyers can apply a greater percentage of their gross income toward housing expenses, if they have excellent credit.

"Borrowers who receive a credit score of at least 700 from two of the three major credit bureaus can use up to 50 percent of

their gross income toward their total monthly payments," said Robert Rabano, president of Great American Mortgage Corp. based in Birmingham. Previously, buyers could use just 36-38 percent of their gross income to cover all their monthly obligations which include housing expenses (principal, interest, taxes, insurance).

"A buyer with monthly income of \$5,000 and placing a 10-percent down payment can now qualify for an additional \$90,000," he said. These new programs have a maximum loan amount of \$500,000.

FNMA and FHLMC, the two largest secondary investors for conforming loans, have also introduced new programs. FNMA's "Flex 97" requires a credit score of at least 660. This program requires a 3-percent down payment and will accept a debt ratio of 33 percent to 41 percent. A buyer can qualify for an additional \$35,000.

Meanwhile, FHLMC's "Freddie Gold" program allows 38-40 percent of the gross income to be used toward housing expense. This program requires a 5-percent down payment with a minimum credit score of 620. This increases the maximum purchase by \$75,000.

The FNMA "Flex 97" requires a buyer to have two month's house payments in reserve after paying the down payment and closing costs. In addition, all of the down payment and closing costs can be a gift from a relative.

An FHA loan has a much lower maximum loan amount than this new product. In addition, the seller is allowed to pay up to 3 percent of the closing costs, but this cannot be used as part of the 3-percent down payment.

The "Freddie Gold" has a one-month reserve requirement if a buyer is receiving 2 percent of the down payment as a gift or a grant. However, the reserve requirement will be waived if the buyer can make the 5-percent down payment without the gift or grant. In addition, the "Freddie Gold" program limits the Detroit-area buyer's income to \$57,200.

The maximum loan amount for FNMA or FHLMC loans are now \$240,000. Anyone with a loan between \$227,150 and \$240,000 should consider refinancing because conforming fixed rates are three-eighths of a percent lower than the jumbo rates.

For more information on these programs, call Great American Mortgage Corp. at (800)240-9448.

David Mully's company, Mortgage Search Services, helps consumers save money when shopping for a new mortgage. He is not a mortgage broker and is not affiliated with any mortgage lenders. To contact him, call (248) 305-7337 or e-mail him at [dmully@mich.com](mailto:dmully@mich.com). You can access Mully's Mortgage Search column and current mortgage rates on-line at [www.mtgsearch.com](http://www.mtgsearch.com).

## Bundle up your pipes for winter

(NUI) — We've enjoyed a long warm fall, but rapidly falling temperatures are a sign that it's time to change wardrobes in order to keep warm. Shorts are exchanged for long johns, bathing suits are gone ... and here come the mittens.

Just like people, the pipes in our homes need protection from the cold to ward off a painful winter. If pipes freeze and burst, the results can be chilling, causing property damage and high repair costs.

Taking a few preventive measures can help protect your home from potential plumbing catastrophes this winter.

"More than a quarter million homes in the United States suffer damage from frozen water pipes every winter," said John Winther, director of plumb-

ing at Roto-Rooter. "Fortunately, much of that damage can be prevented."

He offers these tips to minimize the risk of frozen pipes and help prevent damage and expensive repairs:

■ Shut off the outside water valve, disconnect garden hoses and drain water from pipes that lead to outside faucets.

■ Insulate all pipes in areas where there is no heat, such as the garage or crawl space.

■ Apply heat tape or thermostat-controlled heat cables around pipes that are exposed to the weather and prone to freeze.

■ Seal any leaks around doors and windows to reduce cold-air penetration.

■ If the temperatures plunge, allow a trickle of hot and cold water to drip

overnight. However, be careful not to run the water into a drain line that is exposed to the extreme cold because that line might freeze.

■ If you are going to be away from home for a long period of time, shut off the main valve (usually next to the water meter) and drain the system by opening a faucet at the highest and lowest points of the house.

■ Lowering the household temperature will save energy and money, but only up to a point. Make sure the heat is set no lower than 55 degrees Fahrenheit, especially if you will be away from home for several days.

■ Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors under sinks to allow heat from the room to circulate around uninsulated pipes.

HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

Table listing various real estate transactions in Oakland County, including addresses, sale prices, and agent information. Columns include address, price, and agent details.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real estate briefs features news and notes on professional associations, office activities, upcoming meetings and seminars, new services/products and consumer publications.

Dinner is \$14. The program at 8 p.m. is \$10 for non-members. To register, call (800) 747-6742.

tered in Farmington Hills, has reported it's become the first real estate company in Michigan to surpass \$2 billion in sales for a single year.

gan for closed revenue units, gross commission income and listing sold for the third quarter of this year.

store, library, game room, TV lounge, arts and crafts room, salon/barber shop and post office.

MSHDA WEB SITE Information about affordable housing, available loans and community development promoted by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority is now available on its new Web site at www.mshda.org

3 named to state office

Three members of the Women's Council of Realtors Birmingham/Bloomfield chapter were sworn in at the state level.

ney Bennet & Keating is the financial secretary. Officers sworn in from other chapters are Cynthia Flynn from Grand Traverse as vice president.

This column highlights promotions, transfers, hirings, awards won and other news within the real estate, construction, architecture and mortgage communities.

Duce Simmons Associates, an architectural, design and planning firm in Troy, announces two appointments.

Becker received a bachelor of architecture degree from the University of Detroit Mercy. He lives in Bloomfield Hills.

Elizabeth D. Lilley, vice president of NBD Bank, was elected to the board of directors of the National Network of Commercial Real Estate Women.

Farmington Hills New Construction Condominiums Starting From \$138,500. Seven Distinct Floor Plans. Ranch, Cape Cod and Townhouse Homes Available.

MORTGAGE SEARCH UPDATE. Table with columns for lender name, website, and various mortgage terms and rates.

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP \$375,000. This beautiful 3,150 sq. ft. raised ranch is situated on 6 acres, 4 bedrooms & 3 full baths.

LAKE ORION \$218,900. 10 years young Keatington Colonial. Spacious rooms, private backyard, cul-de-sac setting.

LAKE ORION \$192,900. Keatington Colonial within walking distance to private beach, 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS. Nancy Milstein joins as an interior designer. She's currently pursuing a bachelor of architecture degree at Lawrence Technological University.

MORTGAGE SEARCH EXTRA. Table with columns for lender name, website, and various mortgage terms and rates.



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 that are right for them while providing the most  
 cost-effective, worry free transactions in the  
 real estate industry.

**Prudential Chamberlain-Stiehl REALTORS**

**LAKELANDS**



**BLOOMFIELD HILLS NEW LAKEFRONT CONST.**  
 • For information on this fine home please dial Gwen  
 Williamson's 24 Hour Recorded Real Estate Information Line  
 by Phone or Fax 1-800-784-6832 (Code 7074)  
**\$2,750,000**



**WEST BLOOMFIELD - ROYAL POINTE**  
 • An extraordinary home with endless custom extras  
 • Custom designed fireplace in great room, incredible dining  
 room ceiling and delightful breakfast room  
 • Fabulous master bath. All situated in corner lot  
**\$599,900 Ask for: Arlene Prey (248) 539-8111 RU625**



**CURB APPEAL PLUS**  
 • Beautiful and spacious transitional Tudor  
 • Great room, library, huge finished lower level  
 • Four large bedrooms, 3.5 baths, hardwood floors  
 • Lovely yard with huge deck and hot tub  
**\$369,900 (248) 646-6000 BR158**



**NORTH TROY FORMER MODEL - TROY SCHOOLS**  
 • Light, bright and airy, great room Colonial Terrific floor plan  
 for family living and entertaining  
 • Two story entry foyer, large rooms, expansive windows  
 • Premium elevation, professionally landscaped, spacious deck  
**\$369,900 (248) 641-1660 WO676**



**SOUTHFIELD - WASHINGTON HEIGHTS**  
 • Quality dream home! 4-5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths  
 • Hardwood floors, modern kitchen, neutral carpet  
 • Beautifully finished lower level with wet bar & sauna  
 • Florida room. Lovely setting.  
**\$329,900 (248) 851-4400 LA245**



**BERKLEY**  
 • Maintenance free Bungalow in move in condition!  
 • Refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen  
 • Remodeled bath. Light & bright throughout!  
 • Covered patio, detached garage. Walk to school!  
**\$126,900 (248) 641-1660 RO366**



**LAKE ORION - PRIVATE WOODED LOT**  
 • Gorgeous almost new home in pristine condition  
 • Cathedral foyer, 9ft ceilings, neutral decor  
 • Many hardwood floors, island kitchen, four bedrooms  
 • Community pool, tennis and lake privileges  
**\$309,500 (248) 651-8850 MT381**



**FARMINGTON HILLS - LOOKING FOR PRIVACY?**  
 • Secluded four bedroom quad-level home with acreage  
 backing to stream, trees and ravine  
 • Hardwood floors in most rooms, newer oak kitchen  
 • New windows throughout, Gunite heated pool  
**\$289,900 (248) 851-4400 BR343**



**TROY - BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS**  
 • Updated quad offers new carpet, fresh paint & more  
 • 2,300 sq. ft. with two master bedroom suites  
 • Lower level family room with doorwall to treed yard  
 • Side load garage. All appliances stay. New roof  
**\$263,000 Ask for: Colleen Hood (248) 646-4024 BI253**



**NOVI - ABSOLUTELY STUNNING**  
 • Truly beautiful and better than new Colonial home  
 • Two story great room with fireplace, hardwood floors in entry,  
 den, kitchen and hall. Loft overlooks great room. (NO483)  
 • Seller will consider offers over:  
**\$260,000-279,900 (248) 646-6000 HE287**



**WEST BLOOMFIELD**  
 • Beautiful Contemporary ranch on cul de sac lot  
 • Warm decor, ceramic foyer, master suite w/ walk-in closet  
 • Eat-in kitchen, finished basement w/ rec room, office  
 • Deck and brick paver patio overlook small pond  
**\$259,000 (248) 851-4400 PA309**



**UPPER STRAITS LAKE - CANAL FRONT**  
 • Enjoy panoramic views of private all-sports lake  
 • Two bedroom ranch/ value in land, Private and public golf  
 courses and nature preserves nearby  
 • Seller motivated - make offer.  
**\$258,000 (248) 646-6000 SH554**



**ROCHESTER HILLS - GARDENERS DREAM!**  
 • This home sits in a premium location with a lovely yard  
 adorned with a rose garden and many trees  
 • Hardwood entry and kitchen floors, vaulted ceilings  
 • Dynamite master suite with garden tub & shower  
**\$257,900 (248) 651-8850 SA128**



**BEVERLY HILLS RANCH**  
 • Outstanding home in move in condition!  
 • Situated on a private triple lot and offers neutral decor,  
 updated baths, stone fireplace in living room!  
 • Library, breakfast room, lots of built-in storage  
**\$249,999 (248) 851-4400 MA161**



**ROCHESTER HILLS - PRIVACY!**  
 • Magnificent 3 bedroom Tudor provides privacy  
 • Built in 1995, large great room with cathedral ceiling and  
 marble surround fireplace, formal dining room  
 • Large master with full bath. Attached two car garage  
**\$244,900 (248) 641-1660 TH104**



**TROY**  
 • 1997 gourmet kitchen in this Troy Colonial  
 • Light Maple cabinets, white ceramic floor  
 • Recessed lighting, neutral decor, 4 bedrooms plus den  
 • Walk to elementary, middle school, professionally landscaped.  
**\$238,900 (248) 641-1660 FO558**



**NEW CONSTRUCTION - OPEN SUNDAYS 1-4 PM**  
**Springfield Twp. Lot #11 Hickory Ridge**  
 Ormond to E. on Big Lake to Ridge Hollow  
 • Phase 2 Now Open: Only 12 lots remain  
 • One acre wooded walkout sites. Four bedrooms, 2+ baths.  
 • Two car attached garage, 2,150 sq. ft. Prices starting at  
**\$229,000 (248) 324-3800 HI11**



**FARMINGTON HILLS - ROMANTIC VIEWS**  
 • Beautiful and neutral decor throughout this Colonial  
 • Delight in gorgeous views of secluded site adorned with  
 pines and boulders from wrap around deck  
 • Family room and dining room, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths  
**\$219,411 (248) 324-3800 CE311**



**ROCHESTER HILLS - STREAMWOOD'S FINEST**  
 • Custom, contemporary three bedroom townhouse on  
 fantastic private, tree site overlooking the river  
 • Marble fireplace, hardwood foyer and kitchen floors  
 • Private basement, deck & balcony, 2 car garage  
**\$210,000 (248) 651-8850 LO165**



**BIRMINGHAM**  
 • Transferred seller must sacrifice & they just finished remodel  
 ing everything! Custom kitchen, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces  
 • Huge family room. New furnace, roof, air, landscaping!  
 • Well priced at  
**\$209,500 (248) 641-1660 PE242**



**HUNTINGTON WOODS - BRICK BUNGALOW**  
 • Well cared for and situated on double lot with almost  
 1,500 square feet, three bedrooms, family room  
 • Remodeled kitchen, finished breezeway  
 • Attached 2 car garage. Walk to all schools  
**\$208,900 Ask for: Jane Solomon (248) 647-8068 LI131**



**SOUTHFIELD - ONEACRE**  
 • 2,100 sq. ft ranch with one wooded acre of privacy  
 • Cozy up to the fireplace in the living room or the family room  
 then relax in your private Jacuzzi room  
 • Lovely atrium, four bedrooms and two full baths  
**\$199,999 (248) 324-3800 GE264**



**WALLED LAKE LAKEFRONT**  
 • New construction with 2 story foyer, 4 bedrooms, 3  
 baths, great room, library and finished bonus room  
 • Very open, impressive home. Three car garage.  
 • Sandy beach, great fishing, boat to restaurants!  
**\$430,000 (248) 624-3015 SO109**



**STERLING HEIGHTS - VALUE**  
 • Four bedroom brick Colonial in prime neighborhood  
 • This one owner home has been very well kept  
 • Hardwood floors under carpet, large foyer, 1st floor laundry,  
 doorwall off family room leads to patio  
**\$189,900 Ask for: Christine Hemmings (248) 647-8081 JE376**



**SOUTHFIELD - LOTS OF SPACE**  
 • This ranch home is a great buy in Sherwood Village  
 • Nearly 2,000 sq. ft. w/ hardwood flooring throughout  
 • Family room with fireplace, all appliances included  
 • Master suite with walk-in closet. Lovely private lot  
**\$179,921 (248) 647-6400 JE173**



**SOUTHFIELD EVERGREEN GLEN**  
 • Attractive stone front Cape Cod has plenty to offer  
 • You'll love the neutral decor and covered sun porch  
 • Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths, new roof and windows  
 • Refinished kitchen. Southfield Schools!  
**\$178,900 (248) 851-4400 BE270**



**FARMINGTON HILLS - BRING YOUR FAMILY**  
 • Settle in for the holidays & cozy up to the fire  
 • Hardwood floors, custom moldings & neutral decor  
 • New kitchen, baths, furnace, plumbing & electrical  
 • Appliances stay. Backs to vacant land for privacy  
**\$169,900 (248) 324-3800 SP231**



**TROY RANCH**  
 • Surprise! This 3 bedroom 2 bath ranch is a real find  
 • Huge family room added in '93 with skylights, fireplace &  
 doorwall to deck, Jacuzzi tub in master bath  
 • Award winning Troy Union Elementary. UPDATES!  
**\$169,900 (248) 641 1660 ST205**



**LIVONIA - ALL NEW FOR YOU!**  
 • Just move into this beautifully updated ranch  
 • Fabulous new kitchen and 1/2 bath, newer carpet  
 • New roof, doors and windows! Three bedrooms  
 • Wet bar, finished basement. Detached garage  
**\$159,000 (248) 851-4400 MI350**



**ROCHESTER HILLS - STREAMWOOD ESTATES**  
 • End unit 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse w/ A/C  
 • Deck off dining room balcony off master suite  
 • Attached garage, basement, newer roof, neutral decor.  
 • Clubhouse pool, tennis court, river & pond.  
**\$149,900 Ask for: Betty Hoffman Dowhan (248) 651-8850**



**COMMERCE - NEW CONSTRUCTION**  
 • This four bedroom new build is a perfect "10"!  
 • Two story great room, sparkling white kitchen opens  
 to dining area and gathering room with fireplace  
 • Lots of hardwood flooring and windows throughout  
**\$325,500 (248) 624-3015 DR441**



**BEST BUY IN BLOOMFIELD**  
 • Wonderfully updated & sparkling clean 1 bdrm condo  
 • Kitchen, bath, windows, central air all redone  
 • Freshly painted, plus in-unit washer and dryer  
 • Close to Chrysler & GM Tech centers  
**\$67,900 (248) 646-6000 FO743**

VRM - Value Range Marketing  
 Donation was made to the Sunshine Kids







68(OFFICE) (No)



**TROY - 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial** with a finished basement, 2 car attached garage. Troy Schools, Great location. \$192,000 (56BAR) (248) 524-1600



**TROY - 4 bedroom Ranch home** with Troy schools. Central air. \$149,900 (62ROB) (248) 524-1600



**LAKEFRONT RANCH - Custom built Ranch** on Manito Lake in Orion Twp. Inground pool, dock, steel sea-wall, 1st fl. laundry, master suite w/master bath, ceramic tiled kitchen/foyer/dining room, custom window treatments. Home Warranty. \$329,900 (75MAN) (248) 652-8000



**RARE FIND! 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Troy brick ranch.** Open floor plan. Living room, dining room, family room. First floor laundry. Oak kitchen. Basement. Central air. \$298,000 (30WHI) (248) 524-1600



**TROY - 4 bedroom, 2 full bath Quad-level.** All neutral colors. Updated oak kitchen cabinets. Florida room. Tread lot. Vinyl windows. Home Warranty! \$244,900 (35HEA) (248) 524-1600



**PREMIUM SITE & POOL! Elegant and prestigious!** Gourmet kitchen opens to family room with fireplace, 12x17 sunroom overlooking wrap around pool with spa. Formal dining room with hardwood floor, lavish master suite with 3 closets, bath with jet tub! \$319,977 (47TIM) (248) 652-8000



**TROY - 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Ranch home.** First floor laundry. Finished basement. Lake privileges and located near beach access lot. \$209,900 (05EME) (248) 524-1600



**FENTON HISTORICAL GEM - 2+ acre estate** close to downtown Fenton, established in 1869. This home provides all the warmth of the era with updates. \$429,900 (12ADE) 363-1200



**FORMER MODEL HOME.** Tons of upgrades! Quality and neutral T/O. 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2 story foyer, cathedral ceiling in living rm and dining rm, kitchen w/island and doorwall to deck, master with cathedral ceiling, W/I and jet tub. Prem. wooded lot, over 2,700 sq. ft. \$294,500 (90WOO) (248) 652-8000



**TROY - Ranch home with large remodeled bath.** Oversized jet tub and shower. Finished basement. Long Lake Village Sub. \$179,900 (83CAL) (248) 524-1600



**ENJOY THE SUNSETS** and all the other activities that come with this newer lakefront Ranch. Swimming, boating, skating & ice-fishing are all included. Walled Lake Schools. Novi mailing, close to 12 Oaks & I-96. \$279,900 (09LAK) 363-1200



**SHARP CONTEMPORARY** backing to woods. Family friendly Eddington Farms Sub. Loaded! Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, C/A and sprinklers. Best location in sub. \$264,900 (24ESS) (248) 652-8000



**TROY - 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Ranch home** with newer vinyl windows, kitchen floor, furnace, roof. Finished basement. Home Warranty. Birmingham schools. \$164,900 (92BRO) (248) 524-1600



**BEAUTIFUL HOME - Beautiful almost new home** on 15th green of Brentwood. Open floor plan, neutral decor and daylight basement. \$234,850 (97HAV) 363-1200



**BEAUTIFUL HOME** in Orion's popular Long Lake Woods. This spacious 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial shows an open foyer with soaring ceiling in living rm & dining rm. Unique gas fp in living rm. Home offers priv. study, formal dining rm, 1st fl. laundry & fin. basement. \$259,500 (36WAT) (248) 652-8000



**TROY - Dramatic 2-story foyer and great room** lead you into this stunning former model home. Luxurious MBR suite w/high ceilings & large whirlpool tub. Doorwall off breakfast area leads to 38x12 deck. Finished lower level w/o w/wet bar. \$349,900 (60NOR) (248) 642-8100



**TROY - Three Tri-Level.** Family room with fireplace. Anderson windows. 2 1/2 car garage. Interior of subdivision. \$154,900 (05RAI) (248) 524-1600



**ALMOST NEW - Gorgeous 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home** in newer sub. Located on premium lot with great landscaping. This house is immaculate and ready to move into. \$214,900 (24SYC) 363-1200



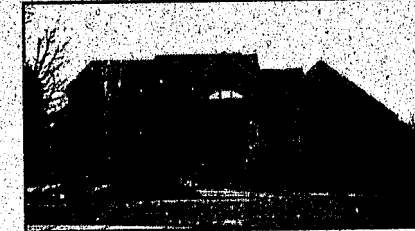
**WEST BLOOMFIELD - 2600 sq. ft. Condo** with 1st floor MBR suite just a few months old. Spacious kitchen, formal LR and DR, Library. 2 bedrooms up. Courtyard and walk-out to woodlands. \$399,900 (96MIR) (248) 642-8100



**BLOOMFIELD - 4 bedroom quad** with over 2,800 sq. ft. on 1+ acre. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile, 2 fireplaces and much more! \$344,000 (30MAL) (248) 642-8100



**TROY - 3 bedroom, 2 full bath Ranch.** Formal dining room. Family kitchen. Home Warranty. 2 car attached garage. \$164,900 (45KIL) (248) 524-1800



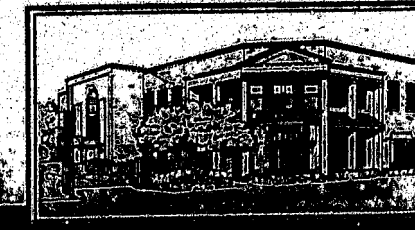
**PRIME SUBURBAN LIVING** could be yours in this spacious 1 1/2 story home in Stoney Point featuring 2 story foyer and great room. Oak floors, den, formal dining room, spacious kitchen. 3 full / 2 half baths, finished basement, 3 car garage. \$439,900 (76PEB) 248-652-8000



**WEST BLOOMFIELD - Stunning detached Condo** with custom features. 1st floor MBR, library, laundry, expansive kitchen and breakfast area. Fabulous LL walk-out with custom wet bar, cherry cabinets, bonus room, full bath. Tasteful decor. Enjoy the 3 decks. \$364,900 (25HER) (248) 642-8100



**WEST BLOOMFIELD - Clean, beautifully maintained Colonial.** 5 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2,700 sq. ft., formal dining room, office, family room, living room, finished basement. Deck backs to private, treed lot. Master bedroom suite, updated kitchen. Shown well. \$279,900 (84MAC) (248) 642-8100



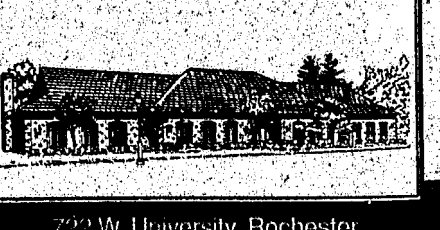
11111 Troy Rd. Troy, MI 48065  
(248) 642-8100



11111 Troy Rd. Troy, MI 48065  
(248) 524-1600



11111 Mile Rd. Sterling Hills, MI 48065  
(810) 939-2800



722 W. University Rochester, MI 48063  
(248) 652-8000

# CENTURY 21 Town & Country



**TROY - 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath Colonial** in gorgeous Beach Forest Sub. Dual stairs. Walk-out basement. Beautiful decor. Many amenities. \$820,000 (54TAL) (248) 524-1600



**CUSTOM BUILT WATERFRONT ESTATE -** Fabulous home with over 4,700 sq. ft. and 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 ceramic baths, 3 car att. gar. Hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces. Spectacular setting - steamroom, loads of decking and dock. \$549,950 (47CHI) 363-1200

## Century 21 Town & Country



**TROY - Dramatic 2-story foyer and great room** lead you into this stunning former model home. Luxurious MBR suite w/high ceilings & large whirlpool tub. Doorwall off breakfast area leads to 38x12 deck. Finished lower level w/o w/wet bar. \$349,900 (60NOR) (248) 642-8100



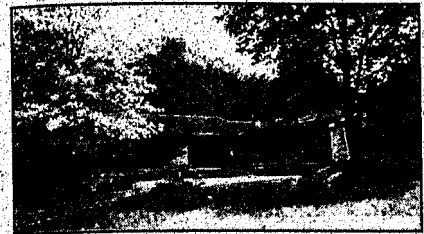
**BLOOMFIELD - 4 bedroom quad** with over 2,800 sq. ft. on 1+ acre. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile, 2 fireplaces and much more! \$344,000 (30MAL) (248) 642-8100



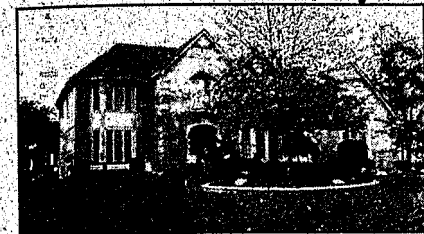
**WEST BLOOMFIELD - Clean, beautifully maintained Colonial.** 5 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2,700 sq. ft., formal dining room, office, family room, living room, finished basement. Deck backs to private, treed lot. Master bedroom suite, updated kitchen. Shown well. \$279,900 (84MAC) (248) 642-8100



# Town & Country 's #1 21 Firm!

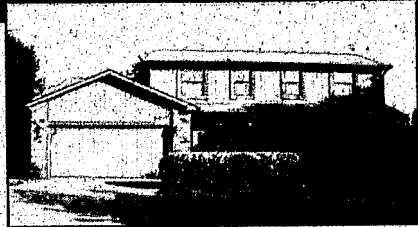


**SPECTACULAR MULTI LEVEL** custom contemporary. 5 bedrooms, 3 full baths and 3 lavs. Gourmet kitchen with top of the line appliances. Finished walk-out lower level, great for entertaining. Bloomfield Hills school. \$849,900 (36SHO) (248) 626-8800.



**BLOOMFIELD TWP** - Quality and extras best describe this 4 bedroom Tudor built in 1990. Marble floors, 3 car garage, Corian kitchen. Dramatic 2 story entry, cul-de-sac location, professionally fin. bsmt. Sound system. \$414,900 (37CLE) (248) 642-8100.

# Century 21 Town & Country



**BUILDERS' FORMER MODEL**, decorated, meticulous maintenance. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, WIC in master bedroom, fabulous finished basement, secluded backyard for privacy, beach, boat & swim, 2 area parks close by. \$224,900 (54GRE) (248) 626-8800



**PRICED TO SELL!** Well maintained updated 4 bedrooms, Tri-level with lake privileges. Lots of updates which include roof, carpeting and water softener. Desirable area. \$169,900 (69LEY) (248) 626-8800



**STUNNING RANCH** in beautiful gated Ramblewood. Great room with fireplace, formal dining room, 3 bedrooms, 4th bedroom/den in W/O LL with 2nd fireplace. 2 full, 2 half baths. 1st flr laundry, neutral decor. Side entry garage. Corner lot in quiet area. Deck. \$289,000 (36VAL) (248) 626-8800



**PARK LIKE WATERFRONT** - Imagine yourself enjoying lakefront living at a great price. Ready for you, nothing to do! Updated kitchen, newer roof, newer driveway too! Great neighborhood and award winning schools wait for you. \$206,500 (28CAP) 363-1200



**LAKEFRONT PARADISE!** If views of an all sports lake from 2 doorways are a dream seize the opportunity to enjoy lakefront living at it's finest. Everything is ready, no maintenance, entertain like you've always wanted! \$199,500 (35CAP) 363-1200



**EXCELLENT HOME IN TROY** - 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath ranch on .50 acres, with Birmingham schools. Updated bath with ceramic tile. Home Warranty. \$195,000 (40WAL) 363-1200



**GREAT FAMILY NEIGHBORHOOD.** Colonial with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, attached 2 car garage, basement. Open entry with winding staircase. Natural fireplace in family room, formal dining room, 2nd floor laundry. \$179,900 (94TEA) 363-1200



**GET AWAY FROM IT ALL** - Buy stay close enough to commute. This beautiful, well updated 4 bedroom Colonial features entry level living room and family room with fireplace, formal dining, doorwall to custom deck, gorgeous kitchen & Huron Valley Schools. \$169,900 (41CUR) 363-1200



**MOVE IN** and enjoy this spacious 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial on premium landscaped lot with C/A, sprinklers, gas fp, hdwd floors; crown moldings, neutral T/O. Many upgrades: carpet, lights, daylight basement, 1st fl laundry, deck. Sub offers community pool, bike trails. \$249,900 (48BRI) (248) 652-8000



**BEST OF BOTH WORLDS**, Woodhull Lake canal with access to all sports Lake Oakland and Eagle Lake dock and boat access. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, hardwood floors, C/A, basement, 2 car garage. Home Warranty. Nicely landscaped, treed lot. \$224,850 (18SHO) (248) 652-8000



**UPDATED RANCH ON COUNTRY LOT** - Remodeled and updated brick ranch with finished W/O LL. Additional Fla. room not counted in sq. ft. LL family room w/fp, wet bar, bar reffrig. Daylight windows, newer kitchen cab. & more. Lib/den or 4th bedroom, patio & decking. \$229,900 (00KAL) (248) 652-8000



**SHARP RANCH IN POPULAR SUB** - 3 bedroom, 3 bath, great room Ranch backing to commons. Features include gas fireplace, cathedral ceiling, Euro style kitchen, all appliances, large pantry, finished basement, C/A, sprinklers & more. \$224,900 (31HIL) (248) 652-8000



**HOUSE BEAUTIFUL!** Move in condition! Spacious rooms with plenty of windows. Natural fireplace in living room. Newer window treatments. Large eat in kitchen with newer dishwasher, microwave and flooring. Freshly painted throughout. \$169,900 (15COL) (248) 652-8000



**GREAT LOCATION** - Oakland Township country sub minutes from Rochester. Living room with cathedral ceiling, family room, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths. Home Warranty. Close to parks and golf courses. \$149,900 (36QUA) (248) 652-8000



**FARMINGTON HILLS** - This roomy Colonial backs to the woods and features 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, LR/DR/FR with fireplace. Large kitchen. Huge BRs, check out the 21x16 MBR suite with private dressing area! Nica covered deck overlooks woods. Room to roam and more. \$239,900 (20BRI) (248) 642-8100



**GREAT RANCH** with family room, 2 full baths, updated kitchen with eating space, half bath off MBR, plenty of closet space, finished rec room with fireplace and hardwood floors under most carpet. Newer C/A, furnace and roof. Perfectly maintained. \$234,900 (27BAT) (248) 642-8100



**BIRMINGHAM** - Birmingham jewel! Very special, open and bright, updated white kitchen, 2/3 bedrooms, lib. can be converted to BR. Heated Fla. room. FP in LR, hardwood floors throughout. Newer roof, storm windows, recessed & track lighting. Full basement. 2 car gar. \$219,900 (35YOS) (248) 642-8100



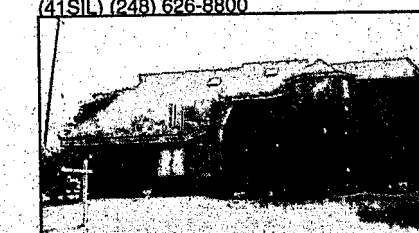
**BIRMINGHAM** - Charming Poppleton Park! 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, hardwood floors, newer furnace, large, updated kitchen, fireplace with Pewabic tile, large dining room, MBR with walk-in closet. Professionally landscaped, 2 car garage. \$309,900 (44OAK) (248) 642-8100



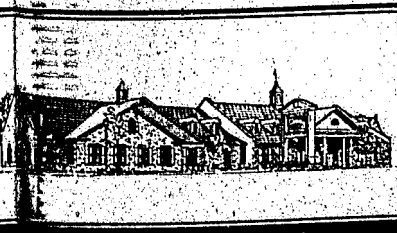
**YOUR SEARCH IS OVER!** Bright & clean, neutral decor, excellent condition. Fabulous 2 story. Hardwood foyer. Huge kitchen with island. Master suite with jet tub. 1st floor library & laundry. Prof. landscaped. 2 tier deck. Cul-de-sac location. \$285,000 (67TIF) (248) 626-8800



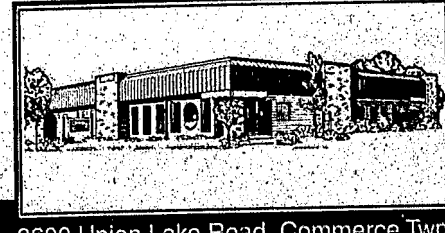
**BEAUTIFUL CONTEMPORARY** Colonial on premium lot. Bright and clean 4 BR, 3 1/2 baths. 1st floor den with vaulted ceiling, 2 skylights, huge family room with fireplace, Jack & Jill bath, master suite w/WIC, guest room w/private bath. Crown molding. \$284,900 (41SIL) (248) 626-8800



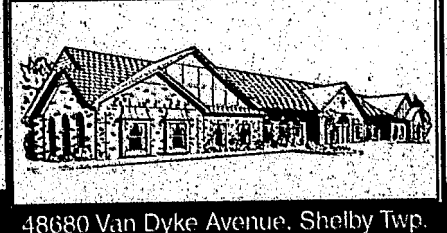
**OUTSTANDING 2 story brick** Contemporary home. Features jacuzzi, wet bar, ceramic foyer, custom window treatments. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths and 2 car garage. \$459,000 (63ROY) (248) 626-8800



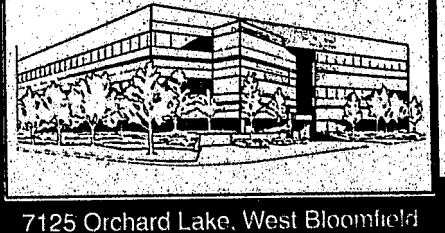
50 Garfield, Clinton Twp. (810) 286-6000



2600 Union Lake Road, Commerce Twp. (248) 363-1200




48680 Van Dyke Avenue, Shelby Twp. (810) 731-8180



7125 Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield (248) 626-8800



**388 Cemetery Lots**  
**CASKET REFUNDS**  
 If you've had trouble canceling your purchase or getting a refund, contact us to know your legal rights. Free Consultation, Hurwitz, Kamp, Wallace & Gantz, P.C., 313-278-7030

**COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL SALE OR LEASE #389-398**  
  
 NORTHVILLE - Completely renovated Cape Cod house in downtown Northville, 2300 sq. ft., ample on-site parking. Many features, great opportunity for owner/occupant. \$450,000. (248) 349-7575

**392 Comm/Retail Sale/Lease**  
 PLYMOUTH DOWNTOWN 730-1710 sq. ft. Excellent parking in Westchester Square. Call Danny: 810-229-7474

**395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease**  
 BIRMINGHAM - 200 sq. ft. office space. Bright, single office w/2 windows, private entrance, parking for 2 cars. 248-842-0330

**395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease**  
 FARMINGTON HILLS OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE  
 Small suites. Two locations. Call today to schedule an appointment.  
 CERTIFIED REALTY, INC. 248-471-7100

**395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease**  
 FARMINGTON Office & Retail Spaces Available:  
 Downtown Farmington - Prime business district - Refurbished office/retail, 1100 sq. ft. to 1800 sq. ft. All have private entry, private lavs & unit HVAC. Some w/basements.  
 Ask for Joyce Cornwell.  
 S. Orchard Plaza - Retail spaces available - 1200 sq. ft. to 2500 sq. ft. located on busy Orchard Lake.  
 Ask for Joyce Cornwell.  
 Cornwell & Bush Real Estate 248-477-5114

**395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease**  
 NOW SHOWING SINGLE OFFICES & SUITES  
 From 125 sq. ft. with Phone Answering, Receptionist Support, Covered Parking Conference & Seminar Rooms Part-time to annual leases, \$250/mo. From \$525/mo. Livonia: 8 Mile & I-275 (734) 591-4555  
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 REDFORD TWP OFFICE SUITES AVAILABLE  
 Rent includes all utilities. Two locations. Call today to schedule an appointment.  
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**395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease**  
 W. BLOOMFIELD CPA firm has windowed office available for rent. Reception, conference room, fax, copier & phones included. Call Mir 248-932-0850

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 BEAUTY SALON  
 Beautiful, modern & spacious. Excellent location. Downtown Garden City area. Great clientele. \$25,000. 734-729-8456  
 OWN A DOLLAR STORE.  
 1-800-227-6314.  
 OWN YOUR OWN apparel, shoe, lingerie, bridal, gift or \$1 store. Includes inventory, fixtures, buying trip, training. Minimum investment \$18,500. Call Liberty Opportunities (601) 327-8031

**391 Business/Profess. Buildings For Sale**  
 NORTHVILLE - Completely renovated Cape Cod house in downtown Northville, 2300 sq. ft., ample on-site parking. Many features, great opportunity for owner/occupant. \$450,000. (248) 349-7575

**394 Ind./Warehouse Sale/Lease**  
 LIVONIA 24,000 sq. ft. distribution center. 3 truckwalls, 1-96 & Levan. Golden Key Realty 734 482-2238

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 ANNOUNCING: Farmington Hills Executive Offices from 150 sq. ft. with secretarial services & conference rooms. Other locations in Novi, Livonia, Sterling Heights, Troy, Ann Arbor and Detroit.  
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 Medical Office 1305 sq. ft.  
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 Retail Space 2400 sq. ft.  
 Retail Space 1200 sq. ft.  
 Office 734-284-4342  
 Mobile 248-877-1065

**395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease**  
 LIVONIA OFFICES  
 19500 Middlebelt  
 15415 Middlebelt  
 15195 Farmington Rd.  
 1 & 2 ROOM OFFICES.  
 ALSO 6 ROOM SUITE  
 CALL KEN HALE:  
 DAYS: 734-525-2412  
 EVES: 734-281-1211

**395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease**  
 OFFICE FOR RENT  
 Telegraph & 9 Mile area. 4 room suite, 730 sq. ft., adequate parking. Utilities included - \$875/mo. (248) 932-9060  
 Southfield

**395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease**  
 TROY AREA Crooks/Maple. Newly decorated 2 room suite, includes 5 day janitor service & utilities. \$425/mo. 248-826-2560  
 TROY AREA Space available. 18/Coolidge. 3000 sq. ft. 248-820-5668  
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 CLARKSTON - on Wood Hall Lake, 3 bedrooms, upper, appliances. \$600/mo. No pets. Water included. (248) 618-9282

**400 Apartments/Unfurnished**  
 "FALL SPECIAL" WESTLAND CARRI California Style Apts.  
 • 1 bedroom from \$500  
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 • Cathedral ceilings  
 • Balconies • Carport  
 • Fully carpeted  
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 • Great location to malls  
 • Livonia school system  
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**400 Apartments/Unfurnished**  
 GRAND RIVER-MIDDLEBELT. GREAT LOCATION  
 Clarenceville School District  
**CEDARIDGE**  
 Deluxe 1 & 2 Bedroom Units  
 From \$620  
 Vertical blinds, carpeting, Hot-point appliances, security system, storage, within apartment.  
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 (248) 471-5020  
 Model Open daily 1-6 Except Wednesday

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 FARMINGTON HILLS TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT HOMES  
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 • 1300 Sq. Ft.  
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 • Gas Fireplace  
 • Full Size Washer/Dryer  
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 Fair people for fair pricing. If you have been treated unfairly please contact our main office at 248-477-7174

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 Northville - Novi Rd at 8 Mile  
**TREE TOP APARTMENTS**  
 Contemporary Eurostyling throughout including hi-tech kitchen, open floor plan, track lighting, individual washers/dryers, and more. Exciting wooded streamside setting. 1 bedroom with french doors to den. From only \$750. HEAT & CARPORT INCLUDED.  
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 For your personal appointment, please call (248) 347-1690

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 1 & 2 BEDROOMS  
 Quiet Park-Like Setting  
 Call for Information & appointment  
**734-455-6570**  
 Off Ann Arbor Road, 1 block W. of Sheldon (next to Big Boy)  
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 PLYMOUTH Sheldon Park Apartments at Sheldon Road & Ann Arbor Road. Spacious 1 & 2 bedrooms, quiet adult community. Walk to shopping. Central air. Dishwasher, vertical blinds, central air, covered parking for select units. Incredible values from only \$645. EHO  
 PLYMOUTH 1 spacious modern bedroom - appliances, carpeted, air, carpeted, laundry, \$600/mo. security, utilities. 734-591-6566  
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 ROYAL OAK Apts. for rent. 1 & 2 bedrooms, stove, refrigerator, desirable area. Call State Mgmt. (248) 540-6288  
 ROYAL OAK 14' & Crooks. Beautiful spacious 1 bedroom walk-in closet, large bath, balcony. Assigned carport, heat, water included. References & deposit w/lease, \$750/mo. NO PETS. 248-847-3066  
 ROYAL OAK - North Oaks Apt. location W 13 Mile newly remodeled, 1 bedroom apt. \$515/mo. including heat, water, window treatments air & pool. Call (810) 757-8309  
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**400 Apartments/Unfurnished**  
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 FREE HEAT  
 minutes from x-ways & public transportation.  
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**FOX HILLS**  
 Fox Hills is a beautiful estate-like community with spacious apartments and townhomes set in beautifully landscaped grounds with tennis court & swimming pool. Fox Hills offers 1 & 2 bedroom apartments and 2 & 3 bedroom townhomes. The location combines prestige with convenience as Troy, Rochester, Birmingham and even Downtown Detroit (via near by I-75) are easily reached.  
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 COMMERCE - Large, custom studio on Commerce Lake, private entrance, utilities included. Available Jan. 1, 1st & last, \$575. Voicemail 248-253-8031

**400 Apartments/Unfurnished**  
 Best Apartment Value  
 FARMINGTON HILLS (N. on Tuck Rd. off 8 Mile between Middlebelt & Orchard Lake Rd., corner of Folsom).  
**TIMBERIDGE DELUXE**  
 2 Bedroom Units  
 From \$640  
 Includes appliances, vertical blinds, carpeting, pool, close in Farmington Hills location.  
 Model open Mon-Fri, 9-5 (248) 478-1487

**400 Apartments/Unfurnished**  
 FARMINGTON HILLS - River Valley Apt. - 1 Bedroom, \$535/mo. Rent includes water, verticals & carport. 248-473-0035  
 FARMINGTON HILLS, finest location - 2,500 - SQ.FT. TOWN HOMES, Unlimited Free Golf. Call for details. (248)477-0133

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 Farmington Hills  
**IMAGINE!**  
 12 unique floor plans. Extra-spacious apts. Beautifully landscaped. Extra-large storage areas. Close to all x-ways. Extra-large health club Full size washers & dryers. 24 hour monitored gatehouse.  
**Muirwood**  
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 • Furnished Apartments  
 • Flexible Lease Terms  
**FAIRMONT PARK APTS**  
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**400 Apartments/Unfurnished**  
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**SUPER LOCATION**  
 Grand River/Orchard Lake Stoneridge Manor.  
 The largest one and two bedroom's in the area. Starting from \$560 per mo. including carport, verticals, all appliances.  
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**400 Apartments/Unfurnished**  
 FARMINGTON HILLS (N. on Tuck Rd. off 8 Mile between Middlebelt & Orchard Lake Rd., corner of Folsom).  
**TIMBERIDGE DELUXE**  
 2 Bedroom Units  
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 12 unique floor plans. Extra-spacious apts. Beautifully landscaped. Extra-large storage areas. Close to all x-ways. Extra-large health club Full size washers & dryers. 24 hour monitored gatehouse.  
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BLOOMFIELD HILLS: 3 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, 2700 sq.ft., library, family room, no pets/smokers. \$2400/mo. D&H Properties 248-737-4002

402 Condos/Townhouses

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403 Duplexes: DUPLEX - 2 bedroom, Fl. room/3rd bedroom, basement, central air, all appliances, 2 1/2 car garage, \$750/mo. Call (734) 721-5537

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405 Homes

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405 Homes: DEARBORN - 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, basement, garage, appliances, fenced, \$550. RENTAL PROS (734) 513-9121

405 Homes: DEARBORN - 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, 925 sq. ft., fenced, \$575. RENTAL PROS (734) 513-9121

FARMINGTON HILLS - 2 bedroom, fenced yard, quiet, shed, 3000 sq.ft., 5 1/2 bedroom, 3 bath & finished lower level. Available immediately. \$2700/mo. (248) 539-1955

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405 Homes

GARDEN CITY: Super clean, updated bungalow with 3 bedrooms, basement, 2 car garage, appliances, \$925/mo. + security. 7078 Daerling, W. of Inkster, S. of Warren, Call Jim R/EMAX PREFERRED (313) 487-7777

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ROYAL OAK: 3 bedroom brick colonial, fireplace, new carpet, 2 car garage. Near downtown. \$800/mo. (248) 589-9148

405 Homes

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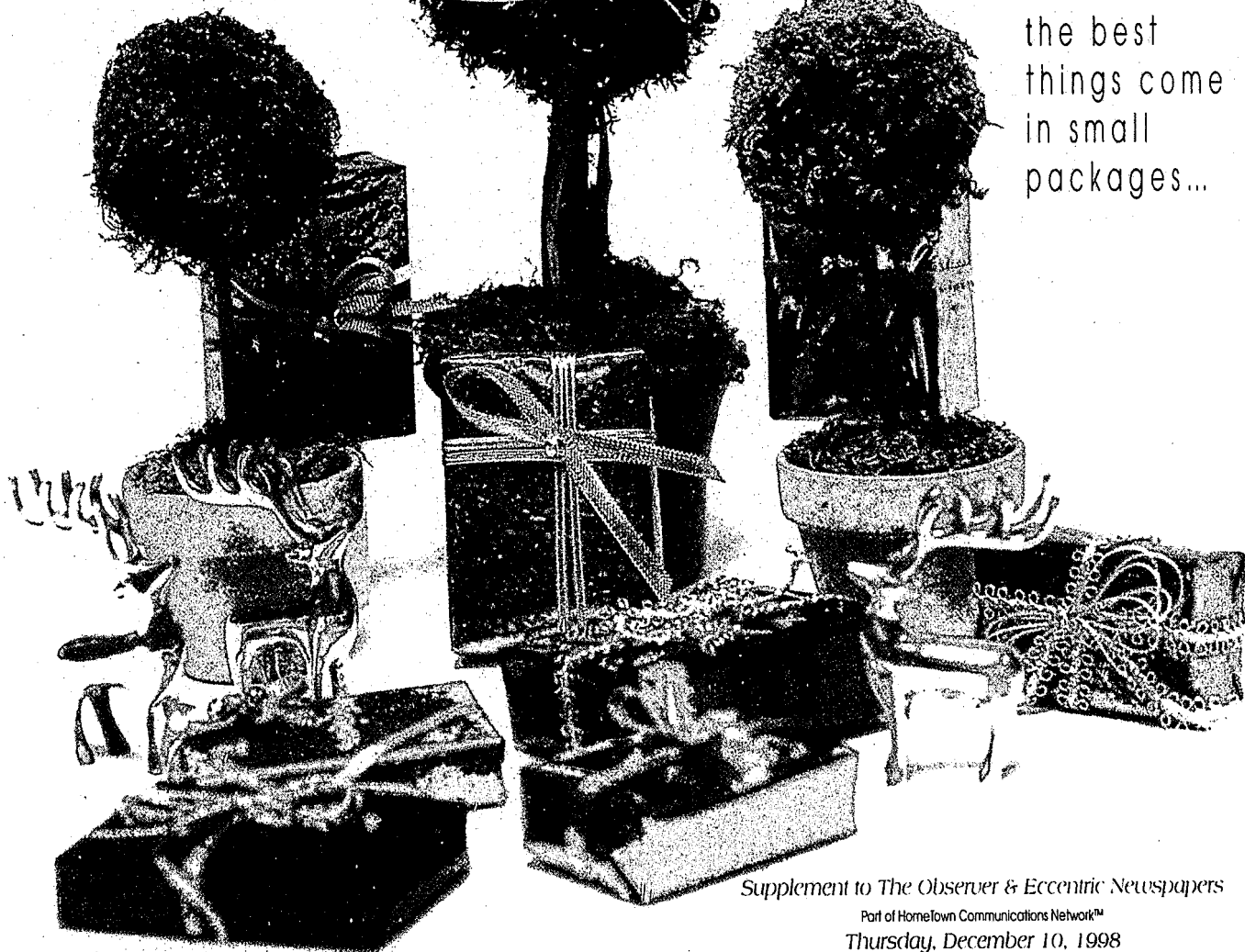
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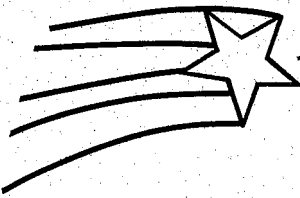
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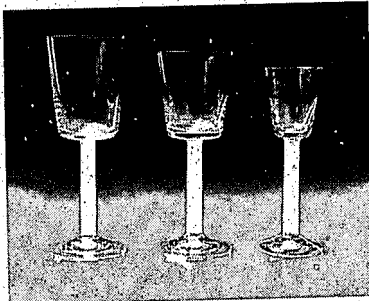
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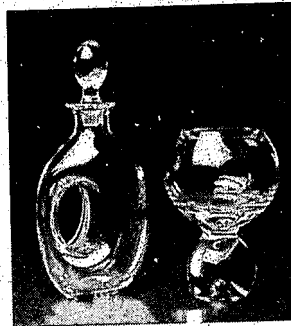
*Thursday, December 10, 1998*



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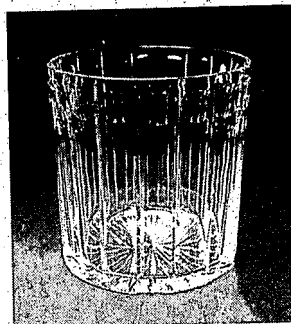
CELESTIAL SHAPES  
Decanter Crystal  
1 Ltr. Plus Candle Vase  
~~\$50~~ \$29.97 ~~\$40~~ \$19.97



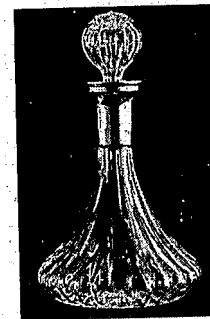
MIKASA MAGIC CLOUD CRYSTAL  
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White Wines, Flutes, Saucer Champs  
~~\$8.50~~ \$4.97 each



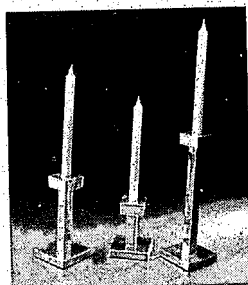
ELEGANCE!  
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24% Lead Crystal • Beverage, OTR  
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A STAR CATCHER!  
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CAPTAIN'S DECANTER  
Crystal by Mavin  
12"  
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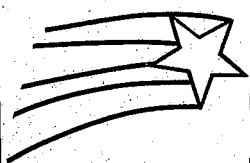
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# little bundles of JOY

Sometimes the best things in life are wee. Yes, wee, not free. Like tiny diamond studs, little bitty mink mittens, a silver charm, a miniature crystal bud vase or one perfectly sinful bittersweet truffle.

In this holiday gift guide, we celebrate the little things in life: little velvet pillows, baby-sized bath products, incredibly small phones and all of the little somethings that can be tucked into stockings or slipped into evening bags. We include wonderful tokens of appreciation for holiday hosts and hostesses as well as diminutive high-tech gadgets.

To give your petite presents larger-than-life presence, we give you unique gift wrap ideas, so that shiny, tiny box won't get lost under the tree.

So kick back with a demitasse of coffee or tea and dream of pint-size parcels. They might just bring the biggest smiles on Christmas morning.

-Linda Bachrack

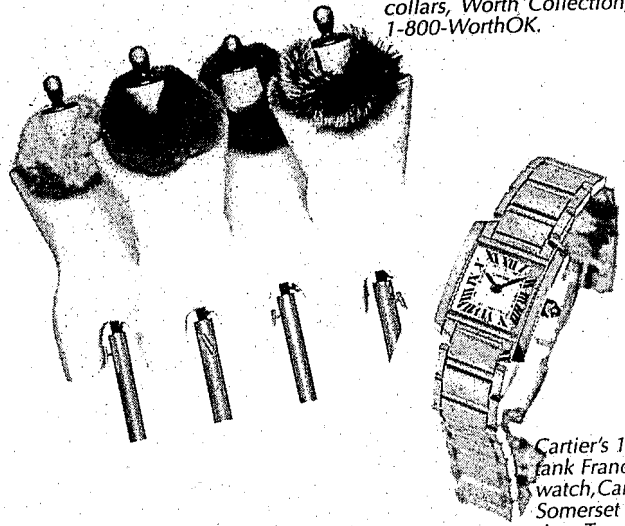
**On the cover:** Mini topiaries, \$11, L'Esprit, Birmingham; brass reindeer placecard holders, \$16, Pottery Barn, Somerset Collection, Troy; packages and decorated tree by Lisa Gleeson.

## credits:

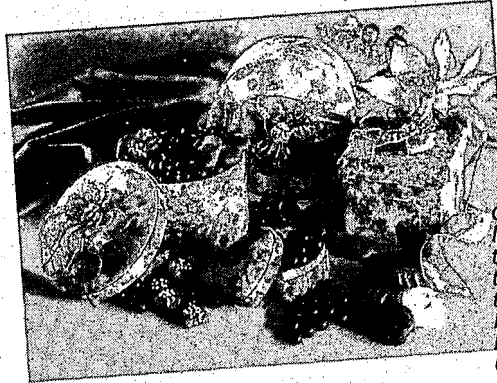
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 Laurie Wasker, Michele Lyon, Pam Tassoni,  
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Worth's sumptuous fox fur collars, Worth Collection, 1-800-WorthOK.



Cartier's 18k gold fank Francaise watch, Cartier, Somerset Collection, Troy.

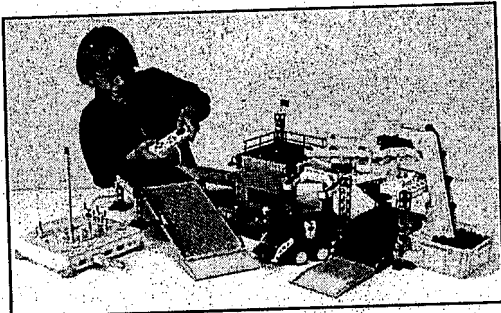


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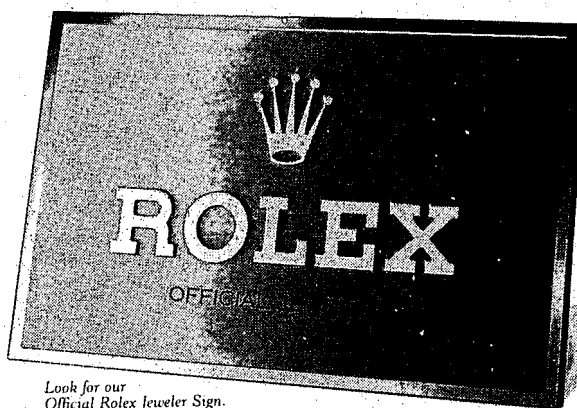
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Q: Where can you find a helpful staff that is truly excited about skiing?



A: *Sm's Sports*

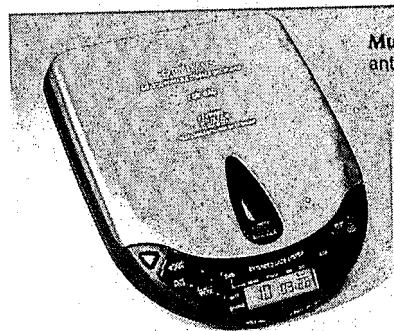
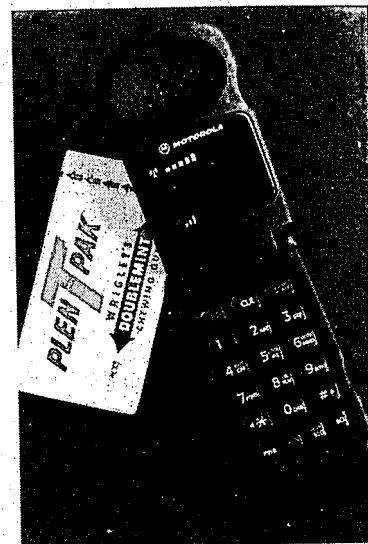
BLOOMFIELD PLAZA • TELEGRAPH AT MAPLE • BLOOMFIELD HILLS MI • (248) 626-9500

# palm-sized techsfile

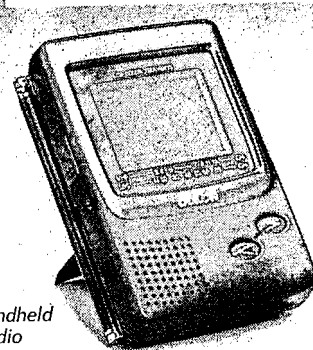
High-tech gadgets can take a byte out of your holiday list, especially if the recipient wants the tiniest, most cutting-edge gizmos. Impress the savviest trendoids with these simple, small designs.

— Linda Bachrack

**Small talk:** Motorola B3620, \$900 with activation, Let's Talk Cellular, Somerset Collection, Troy.



**Music to go:** Portable CD player with anti-skip system, \$79.99, Radio Shack.

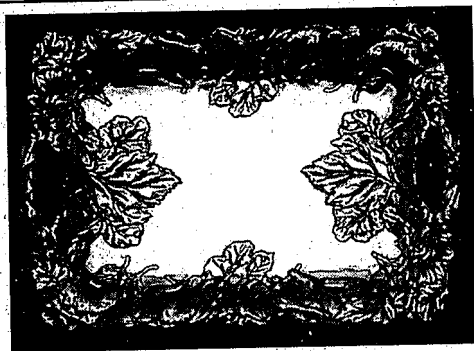


**Tiny TV:** Optimus handheld color TV, \$99.99, Radio Shack.



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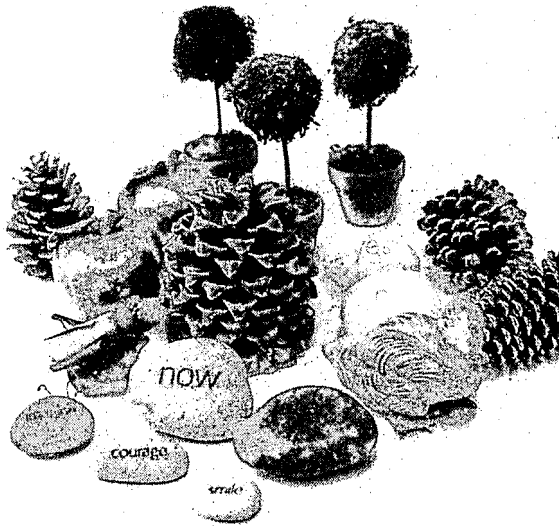


**Travel and leisure:** Nexa Space FM Radio clips to clothing, \$20, Jacobson's; Olympus Stylus Epic Zoom camera, \$250, Sharper Image, Somerset Collection; Tool Logic golf card, \$20, Sharper Image; Sound Spa Traveler, \$35, Jacobson's; Five O-Clock Shaver, \$22, Sharper Image; Christmas tree candles, Crate & Barrel.

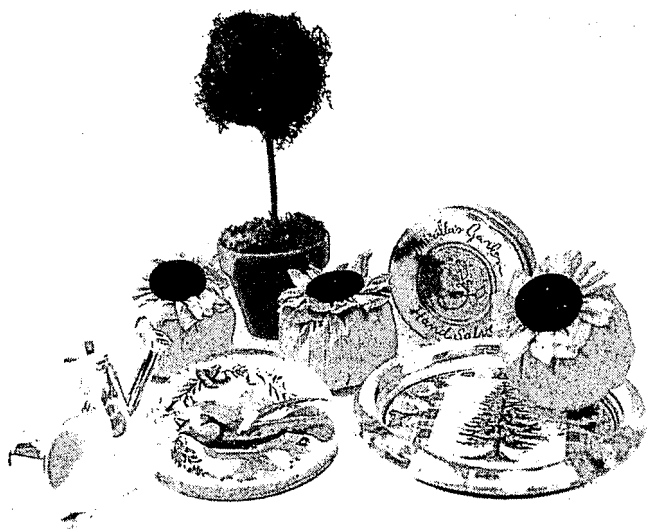
# a stroll through the garden of DELIGHTS

Gardeners are a dedicated bunch. When the weather doesn't cooperate for outdoor gardening pursuits, they plan for spring, collect knickknacks for the flower beds, research new botanicals and dream of snapdragons and sunshine. Often, the gardener's home is filled with nature-inspired accessories. Gift ideas abound for the green thumbs whose names sprout from your gift list.

- Linda Bachrack

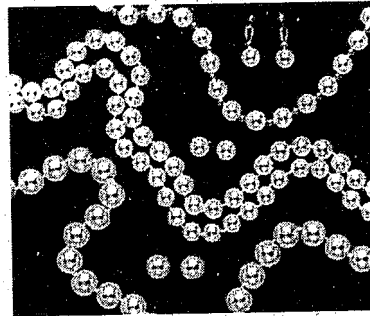


**Written in stone:** Small rocks, \$8.98, larger rocks, \$19.98, English Gardens; grasshopper napkin ring, \$7.99, L'Esprit, Birmingham; gold leaf apples, \$5, Chez Nous, Rochester; Pineapple pinecone candle, \$32, and duckling, \$28, The Nature Company, Somerset Collection, Troy; gold pinecones, \$1.50, The Village Barn, Franklin. Topiaries, \$11, L'Esprit, Birmingham.

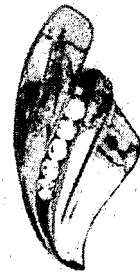


**Best blooms:** Silver salt cellar and watering can pepper shaker, \$25, Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Collection, Troy; Sunflower sachets, \$22, John Derian coaster, \$28, and paperweight, \$52, Magnolia's, Birmingham; Priscilla's Garden hand salve, The Nature Company, Somerset Collection.

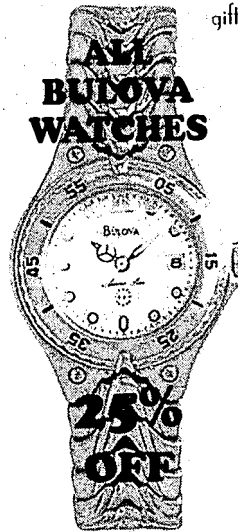
## Gift Ideas To Make The Holiday Season Special!



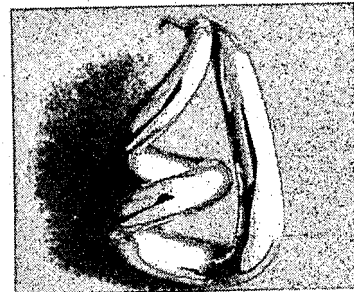
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Cultured Pearls,  
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# beauty & the BATH

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— Linda Bachrack



**Scintillating:** Silvestri perfume bottle, \$9.97, Wells Freight & Cargo, Birmingham.



**Vanity fare:** Little silver vases, \$18, Restoration Hardware, Somerset Collection, Troy; Lady Primrose dusting silk, \$28, and cream soap in china dish, \$44, Neiman Marcus; Handpainted ring holder, \$12, L'Esprit, Birmingham; Silk and velvet potpourri bag, \$34.95, Bellissima, Rochester; Lady Primrose powder brush, \$42, Neiman Marcus.



**Old-fashioned boudoir:** YADO tobacco tin purse, \$130, Figaro Salon and Marley's, Birmingham; Simple Bath book, \$13.95, green plunger, \$12, rubber soap dish, \$5, Kirk's Castille Soap, \$2, Mustard Bath, \$13.95, all Restoration Hardware, Somerset Collection, Troy; 1903 Vintage aftershave balm, \$30, and spray cologne, \$32, J. Peterman, Somerset Collection; Donner and Vixen hand towels, \$16, Pottery Barn, Somerset Collection; Victorian velvet fruit pin cushions, \$18, L'Esprit, Birmingham.

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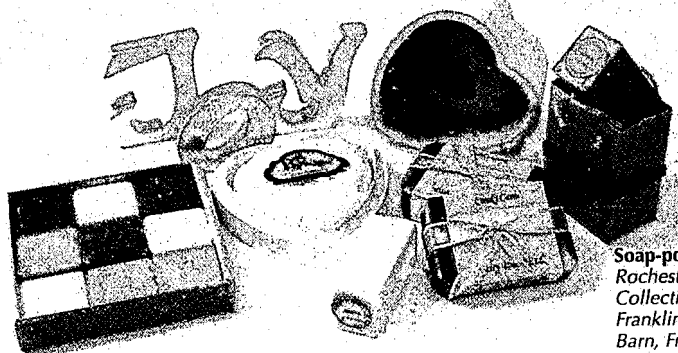
BEVERLY HILLS BOCA RATON CHICAGO DALLAS DENVER DETROIT EDINA GREENWICH HOUSTON MANHASSET NEWPORT BEACH



**Counter culture:** YADO cigar box purse, Figaro Salon and Marley's, Birmingham; 1903 Vintage shaving brush, \$60, and shave cream, \$22, J. Peterman, Somerset Collection, Troy; Limoges boxes, sofa (\$210) and red wine (\$160), Slades, Southfield; Spike razor, \$12, Chiasso, Somerset Collection; 1903 Vintage cologne, \$45, J. Peterman; For the Man razor and brush, \$21, Chez Nous, Rochester.



**Bath bouquet:** Velvet potpourri bear, Pottery Barn, Somerset Collection, Troy; oblong sachet, \$22, Chez Nous, Rochester; velvet apple, \$24, Village Barn, Franklin; sachet boxes, \$18, Magnolia's, Birmingham; sachet pillows, \$22, Chez Nous; Mary Glancz oxygenating facial products; Mary Glancz, Birmingham; handpainted ring holder, \$12, L'Esprit, Birmingham; potpourri bag, \$34.95, Bellissima, Rochester.



**Soap-pourri:** Pré de Provence French soaps, \$10, Mondial, Rochester; Bath Bloomers, \$30, Neiman Marcus, Somerset Collection, Troy; Candy Cane soaps, \$3.75, Paige Stanton, Franklin; French soap in bag, \$6.50, Mondial; JOY, Village Barn, Franklin.

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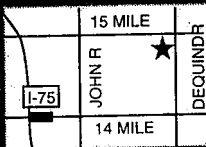
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# stocking STUFF for big kids

By Rebecca W. Kalajian

Every December around this time, it's the same phone conversation.

"Hello, Stacey? It's me, your sister," I say, tapping my pen restlessly on my writing pad. "Do you have any ideas for what we should put in Mom and Dad's Christmas stockings?"

"No....don't you?" she'll reply, just as puzzled as I.

Since we were little girls, the question of What to Stuff in Their Stockings has loomed large over our heads, haunting us with accelerating intensity as we've gotten older and, supposedly, more creative.

Understand that the Big Gift has not been the problem; a drill for dad, a new robe for mom, and we're finished. Understand also that historically our ideas have not been self-generated, as our parents are unusually talented in the Big Gift hint-dropping arena.

The stocking stuffers stump us every time.

It wouldn't be such a big deal except on Christmas morning every year we'll gather with our cups of coffee and our Christmas cheer, furtively sizing up each other's stockings.

You see, in the Waltman family, size does matter.

Usually it's poor Mom who gets the limpest stocking, the one with a few bars of soap tucked in the toe. "Gosh, everyone, look at this!"

she'll smile and say, holding up some lavender-scented item. "I love it!"

Stacey and I smile back and cringe as we drag our stockings, loaded with tissue-wrapped goodies, to our respective chairs.

We cringe again as Dad unwraps his lone sleeve of golf balls or bag of tees, or whatever last-minute golf item we've managed to stuff in his stocking that year.

"Great job, girls," he'll say, with a twinkle in his eye. "It's just what I wanted!"

Every year, Stacey and I agree we're blessed with incredibly understanding parents and vow to do better next year.

The thing is, while we annually fret about Mom and Dad's stockings, our parents successfully stuff ours without our hints and consultation. We never know what we'll find inside, but it is always exactly what we need.

If only my sister and I could figure out their secret, we'd be golden. We'd never have to stress again about those two oversized wool stockings with cheery flannel Santas appliquéd on the front.

Of course we realize our stock-

**Family ties:** Multi-colored silk gift ties by Ermenegildo Zegna, \$110, come in a red and gold gift cylinder. Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Collection, Troy.



ing angst is mostly self-inflicted, but we want so badly to reciprocate all those magical Christmas mornings they've given us over the years.

Why we think the stocking's the answer, I'm not sure. Maybe it has to do with the infantine

thrill Stacey and I get every time we see those plump stockings with our names sewn on the front.

We want to give that same feeling to Mom and Dad.

So, this year we're fighting back, sly little foxes that we are. We have a plan. Stacey's been assigned to Mom's stocking, I've been assigned Dad's.

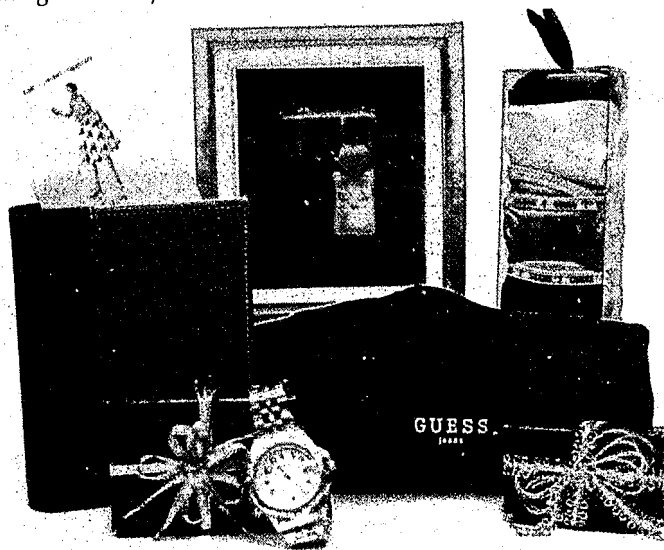
We're working undercover, certain they won't uncover our motive. During telephone conversations with each parent, we take notes. "Wow, I saw the coolest drill bit today!" said Dad, and I run to get my pencil and paper. "Darn, there's a run in my best pair of knee-highs," sighs Mom and my sister archfully wonders aloud who made them.

As we've been stealthily compiling our lists, it has dawned on us recently that we are hearing them make the same subtle rustle of pen on paper as we are. We find ourselves dumbly replying to questions from Mom like, "Gosh, who makes that gorgeous blue nail polish you wear?" right after we've asked Dad if he's read that new Civil War book yet.

We realize that the secret has been no secret at all; we just weren't listening all these years.



**Crown jewels:** Rhinestone hair ornaments, \$20-\$78, Imelda's Closet, Birmingham.



**Girls night out:** Kate Spade organizer, \$145, Saks Fifth Avenue; Hard Candy nail polish and frame gift set, \$28, Neiman Marcus; Guess underwear gift set, \$24, Guess; Guess t-shirt, \$22, Guess; Guess watch, \$85, Guess. All stores at Somerset Collection, Troy.

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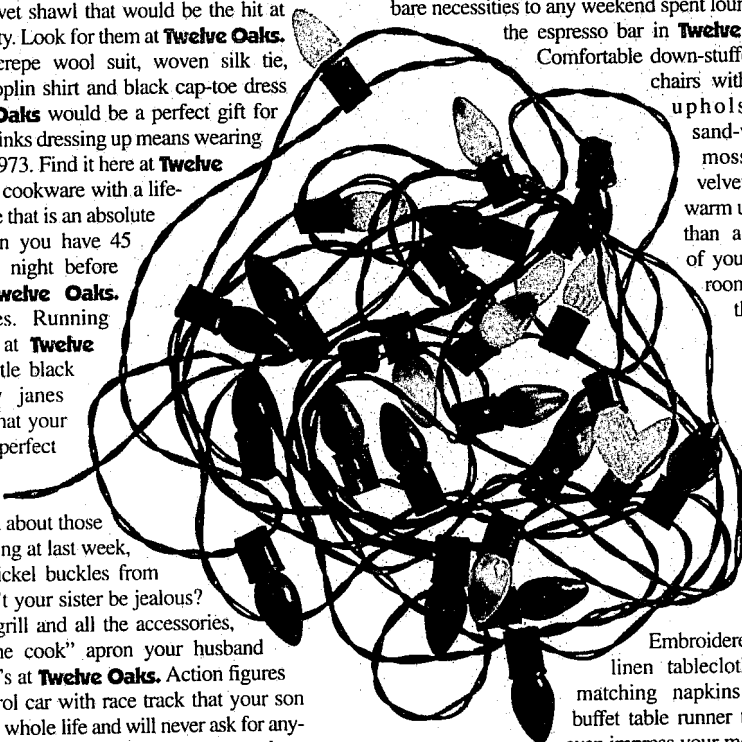
Untangling the tree lights still isn't.

Cashmere V-neck sweater and matching cashmere/angora blend scarf, worsted wool pants and that mohair mid-waist raincoat with faux leopard print trim that your teenage daughter can't seem to live without, can be found at **Twelve Oaks**. Lambswool tank-dress and burgundy mules with a silk-velvet shawl that would be the hit at any office holiday party. Look for them at **Twelve Oaks**. Three-button black crepe wool suit, woven silk tie, French cuff cotton poplin shirt and black cap-toe dress shoes from **Twelve Oaks** would be a perfect gift for your husband, who thinks dressing up means wearing that sport coat from 1973. Find it here at **Twelve Oaks**. Stainless-steel cookware with a lifetime non-stick surface that is an absolute must-have item when you have 45 relatives coming the night before Santa. It's all at **Twelve Oaks**. Shoes, shoes, shoes. Running shoes for your son at **Twelve Oaks**. The cutest little black patent-leather mary janes with a chunky heel that your daughter would look perfect in. Pick them up at **Twelve Oaks**.

But who could forget about those shoes you were looking at last week, the ones with the nickel buckles from **Twelve Oaks**? Won't your sister be jealous? Weber outdoor gas grill and all the accessories, without the "kiss the cook" apron your husband insists on wearing. It's at **Twelve Oaks**. Action figures and the remote control car with race track that your son has been wanting his whole life and will never ask for anything else. Ever. He promises. Go to **Twelve Oaks** and get it. Not to mention all the how-to books on plumbing, cabinetry and home repair so your husband can feel like he really is Bob Vila. They're all at **Twelve Oaks**. Tricotine dress and fine-gauge cardigan and lace-up calf skin snow boots will be a great addition to any winter wardrobe. They're at **Twelve Oaks**. Speaking of winter, with all that wind, snow, sleet and dry air, look for hand and body lotion that will soothe those chapped hands and lips at any cosmetic counter at **Twelve Oaks**. A baby doll that cries with all the matching dresses that you daughter insists her friends' parents bought at **Twelve Oaks**. Polished steel

gardening tools with hand-hewn redwood handles and terra-cotta window boxes that will remind you that Spring is just around the corner at **Twelve Oaks**. T-shirts in assorted colors, all pigment-dyed in natural earth tones and matching pigment-dyed socks that are bare necessities to any weekend spent lounging at the espresso bar in **Twelve Oaks**.

Comfortable down-stuffed club chairs with plush upholstered sand-washed moss-green velvet would warm up more than a corner of your living room. Order them at **Twelve Oaks**.



Embroidered white linen tablecloths with matching napkins and a buffet table runner that will even impress your mother-in-

law. All from **Twelve Oaks**. Enzyme-washed cotton twill five-pocket pants and zip-up hooded cotton and polyester sweatshirt with enough style and flare for your daughter to actually think you are stylish. What do you expect? You shop **Twelve Oaks**. Zip-front jacket in waxed nylon with a matching polar fleece scarf that will withstand the winter weather as well as your eight-year-old son. It's here at **Twelve Oaks**. Scotch-guarded pillow-back sofa with coordinating end and coffee tables and a plush chenille throw that will help your husband watch his eyelids a little more comfortably, all from **Twelve Oaks**.

Denim jeans and jackets are the perfect gift. Even if it's for someone else other than you. **Twelve Oaks** has them. Cordless twelve-volt power drill and accessories kit in one handy carrying case from **Twelve Oaks**. Hopefully your husband will consult a contractor first. Home stereo system including CD player, double cassette deck, equalizer, digital hook-up and a variety of **Twelve Oaks** music stores that will keep your teenager in their room for the next three months. All found at **Twelve Oaks**. Entertainment center featuring a wide-screen TV with digital hook-up and VCR to make Monday Night Football just a little piece of heaven for you, your husband and 15 of his closest friends. He'll love that it came from **Twelve Oaks**. Wide-leg corduroy carpenter pants with a black cotton long-sleeve pique polo shirt that your 14-year-old son might actually wear. From **Twelve Oaks**. Industrial mixer, automated bread machine, Italian pasta maker and hundreds of cookbooks that could turn Queen Elizabeth into Betty Crocker. Pick them up at **Twelve Oaks**. Wicker sofa and chairs with matching canvas cushions that will bring a glimmer of summer, even on the coldest of days. They're here at **Twelve Oaks**. Two-ply cotton poplin dress shirts for your husband, who thinks a cartoon character on a necktie is high fashion. Find them at **Twelve Oaks**. Sterling silver rings, matching bracelets and a tri-colored gold, rose gold and silver roll-ring could quite possibly make you your mother's favorite child. **Twelve Oaks** can help. Flat-front relaxed fit khakis and pleated baggy-fit khakis in stone and tan that everyone in your family will love. All from **Twelve Oaks**. Video games with everything from cosmic aliens to secret agents that are sure to invade your son's homework time. They can be found at **Twelve Oaks**. Long sleeved tank-dress in fine merino wool, lavender chenille cardigan with pearl buttons and matching suede cap-toed pumps and handbag would turn daddy's little girl into a **Twelve Oaks** fashion model. Sterling silver hand-turned candle holders with pastel beeswax candles will make any place setting a masterpiece from **Twelve Oaks**. Cotton adjustable baseball caps with embroidered logos from all of your favorite sports teams are a great gift to any fan. They're at **Twelve Oaks**. Fine cotton and linen stationery with foil lined cards would be perfect for sending out thank you notes to all the people who sent you wonderful gifts from **Twelve Oaks**. These are just a few of the millions of hip, cool new gifts you can find throughout the 180 stores of **Twelve Oaks**.

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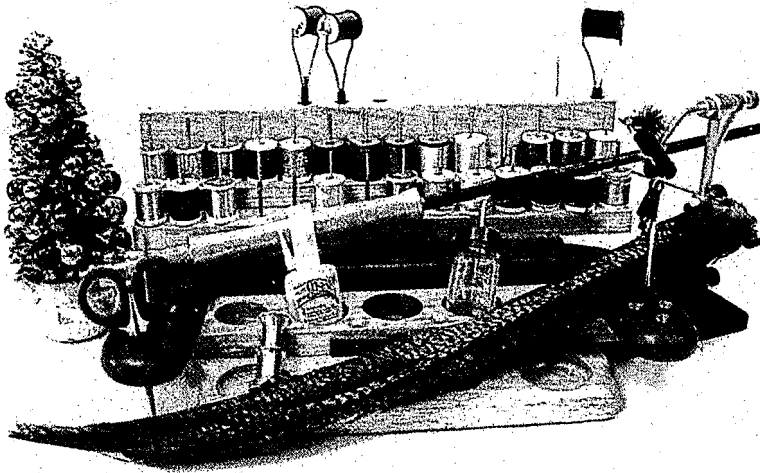
# outdoor adventure GEAR

Anyone who knows an outdoorsperson knows one thing: They can't get enough of those little, seemingly useless sports gadgets. Fly fishermen need endless amounts of flashy fly-tying materials and boxes for their flies. Hunters need hosts of knives, clothing and books to read on their game of choice.

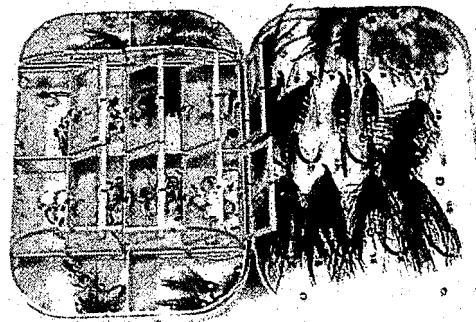
If you're shopping for a camper, look out: The latest and greatest gadgets are lighter and smaller than anything you've seen before. Camping bags stuffed in sacks are a mere eight inches long. If your camper has an espresso addiction, now she can bring along her own espresso maker that weighs only six ounces.

The sky's the limit this year for your loved one who loves life in the sun.

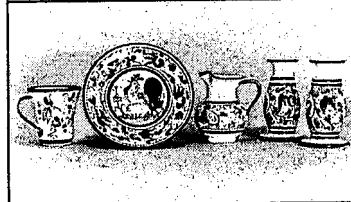
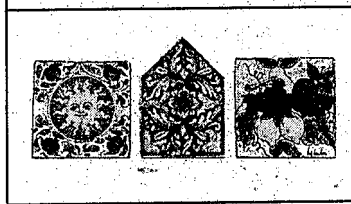
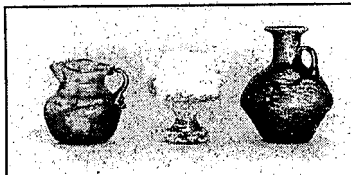
- Rebecca W. Kalajian



Tie one on: Oasis mahogany and cherry tying partner, \$99; assorted thread and tinsel, \$1.40-2.50 each spool; Scott Fly Rod Co. 5-wt fly rod, \$119; Renzetti travel fly-tying vise with pedestal, \$139.95; assorted tools range from \$3.50-\$9.95, all at The Riverbend Sport Shop, Southfield.



Fly fisher's dream: Wheatley fly box with special clips and compartments. Flies not included. \$104.95, The Riverbend Sport Shop, Southfield.



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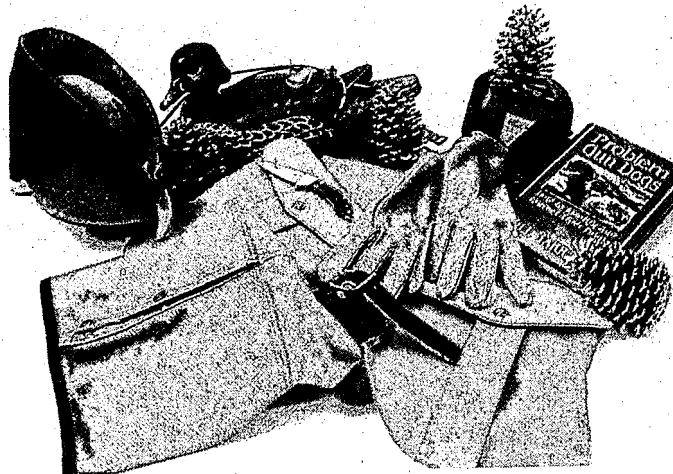
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**Goodwill hunting:** Filson wool-lined cap, \$42.95; Filson chaps, \$67.95; mini pheasant knife, \$59.95; Outdoorsman's leather gloves, \$39.95; Problem Gun Dogs - How to Identify and Correct Their Faults, by Bill Tarr, \$21.95; The Riverbend Sport Shop, Southfield.



**Compact camp:** 12-Tools-in-Your-Pocket knife, \$12, Restoration Hardware, Somerset Collection, Troy; mini candle lantern, \$17.50, Eastern Mountain Sports, Somerset Collection; eight-inch compact sleeping bag, \$249.50, Eastern Mountain Sports; mini espresso maker, \$16.50, Eastern Mountain Sports; mini topiaries, \$11, L'Esprit, Birmingham; gilded pine cones, \$1.50 each, The Village Barn, Franklin.

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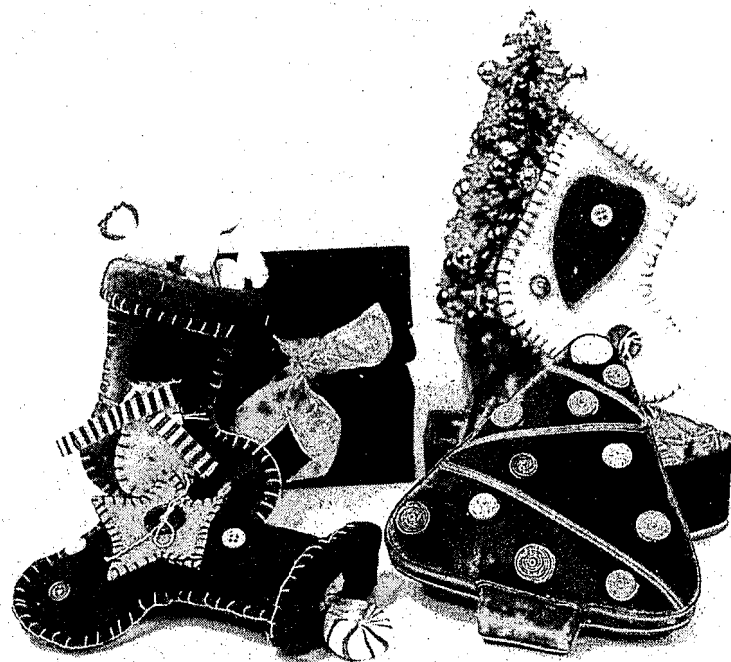
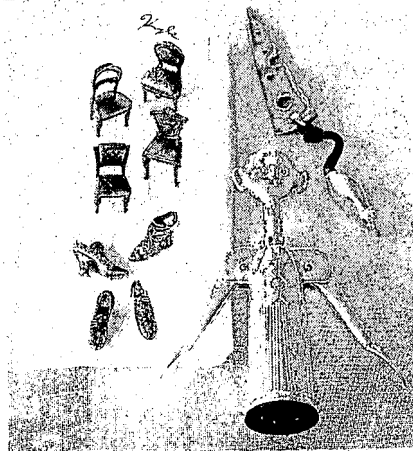
She's the hostess with the mostest, the one who loves to throw those great holiday parties. He's Mr. Hospitality, throwing open his doors to friends and loved ones for a night of dancing and cheer.

Show your appreciation for their talents with the right gift, without sacrificing originality. For the angelic party-giver, a Baccarat cherub will do. For the sweet-toothed entertainer, caramels tucked inside velveteen tree-shaped boxes will satisfy any craving. For the oenophile, a whimsical sterling silver corkscrew.

Candles and candleholders are a classic way to say thank you, and this season you will find them everywhere. Scented or not, they are an easy way to add warmth and light to your friend's home.

No matter what you choose to bring along with you, remember: It's the thought that counts.

— Rebecca W. Kalajian



**Sweets for the sweet:** Glass candy ornaments, \$4 each; flannel stocking ornaments, \$3.50 each; velveteen box filled with caramels, \$10.50; tree-shaped velvet box filled with caramels, \$15. All from Jacobson's. Ornamental tree, \$21, Village Barn, Franklin.

**Tiny treasures:** (Left) Pewter placecard holders, set of four, \$25; sterling silver corkscrew, \$35; sterling silver cheese knife, \$55, Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Collection, Troy. Photo by Barry Lewis.

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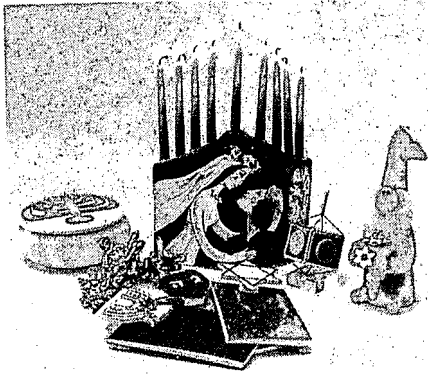
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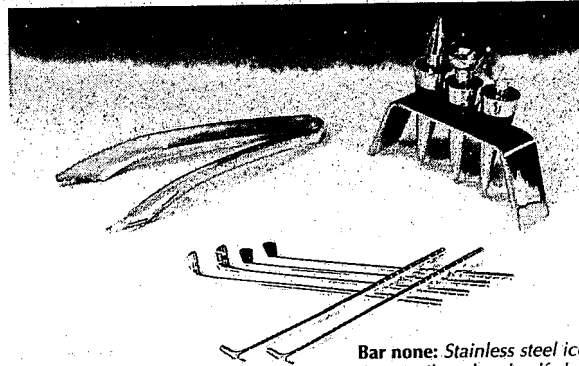
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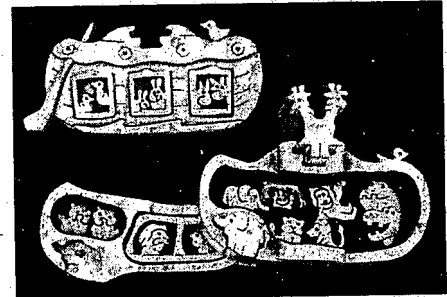
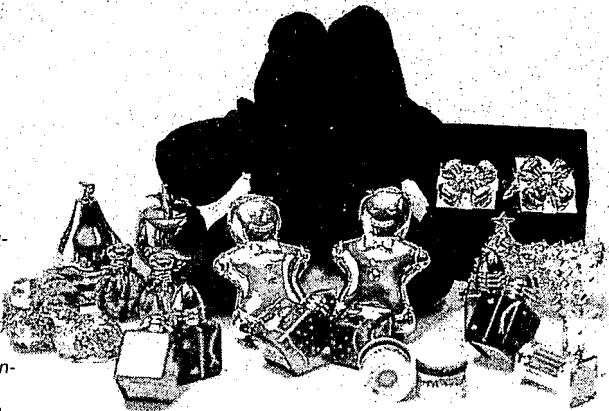


**Chanukah cheer:** Judaica gifts from left, hand-painted gelt box, \$30; Mordechai hand-painted dreidels, from \$42-\$100; clip-on magnet notes, \$8 each; Turov ceramic menorah, \$80; Big Dipper hand-dipped candles, \$10.50; stained glass dreidel with stand, \$70; Northern Lights character candle, \$16. All from Zyzyx, West Bloomfield.



**Bar none:** Stainless steel ice tongs, \$9.97; silverplated golf club stirrers, set of 6, \$16.97; silver bottle stoppers, set of three includes holder, \$24.97; all from Wells Freight & Cargo, Birmingham.

**Season's greetings:** (From left) Silver partridges, \$110, Magnolia's, Birmingham; silver apple and pear set with matching silver tray, Que Bonito, Rochester; handpainted blue striped globes, \$32.95, Bellissima, Rochester; handpainted presents and snowmen, \$17.50, Escapades, Franklin; silver gingerbread lady and gentleman, \$25, Neiman Marcus, Somerset Collection, Troy; Limoges holiday motif, \$32, Neiman Marcus; silver presents in velvet box, \$22, Neiman Marcus; silver Christmas trees, \$36, Magnolia's; silver columns, \$9, Escapades, Franklin. Stuffed velvet bear, \$29, Chez Nous, Rochester.



**Art for ark's sake:** Noah's ark puzzle by Richard Rothbard, \$300, Paint Creek Center for the Arts, Rochester.

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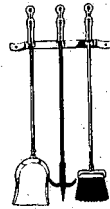
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# Holiday Gifts FOR THE Home

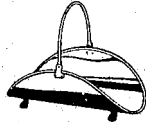


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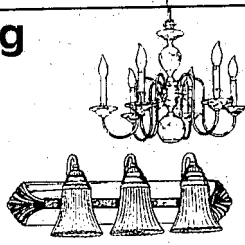
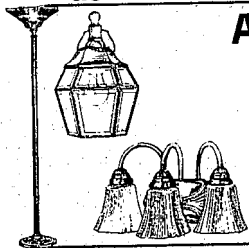
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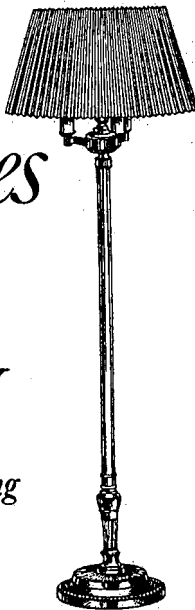
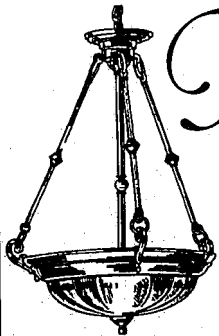
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# stylish fashions for stylin' KIDS

By Cari Waldman

**M**uch to our kids' delight, today you may find that dressing down is in, and dressing up is out. With the holiday season upon us, though, the need for the dress is here. Holiday looks to watch for include the sleeveless sheath dress with a coordinating jacket or bolero, velour dresses, and chenille sweaters with pants and skirts. Strong fabrics include both stretch and panne velvets with a touch of shimmer.

"The looks are very new," says Lois Levenson of Guys 'N Gals in West Bloomfield. "The new length for skirts is just below the knee with a small slit in front. We call it the pencil skirt, as it is fitted and body-conscious. Pair these skirts with sweater sets adorned with tiny beaded appliques."

"A hot new item for the holidays is the cargo pant done in dressy fabrics like velvet and Lycra. The pant looks great with a cashmere cardigan and camisole or a sheer illusion top. The fun, kicky short dress in silver lamé also is a great look."

For festive party dresses, simple glamour is in. Flocked roses climb across chiffon, while embroidered flowers bloom on velour, and taffeta mixes with stretch velvet.

"Shine is strong," says Chris LaRock of Jacobson's stores. "Silver lurex threads are woven into fabrics to create shine and depth. Dresses this season are worn both short and long." Burgundy, navy and jewel-tone velvets are the colors you will see in the stores.

The little ones also reap the benefits of this season's plush fabrics. For infants and toddlers you will find cozy corduroy, brushed flannels and nubby fleece in trendy shapes and sophisticated shades. Choose a velvet dress in navy or wine this season for your little one's holiday pictures.

A crop of rich, dark hues inspired by the harvest colors kids' casual clothing this holiday season. Look for charcoal gray, olive green, dark brown and wine. The fabrics are soft and strong - lush velvets and velours, stretch fabrics, flannel and fleece. Look for interesting fabric twists like velvet appearing down pant legs and faux fur trims on cardigans and sweater sets.

Watch for the Japanese influence on everything from dragon embroideries on denim to Chinese printed fleece tops. Key shapes include boot-cut flared legs and wide-leg jeans. Racing stripes are an important detail, as you will find them down the seams of pant legs and on the chest and sleeves of most tops

The look for the holidays is sophisticated in silhouette. Mothers may be taken aback by the grown-up styling, although the girls love the junior-inspired looks. The hottest ticket for both girls and boys is the ever-evolving urban hip-hop influence. Whether it's a 24-inch wide-leg jean or a nylon Adidas-style pant, these looks are popular with the school-age set.

Bob Prusak of The Waiting Game in Southfield says it the best, "Kids simply love it! Velour fitted tops paired with velour bootlegs in both pastels and darks are hot from toddler sizes all the way up to big girls. Boys want this look as well. Wide-bottom carpenter pants in denim with long T-shirts are considered "Cool". Camouflage cargo pants are a big trend this season. This urban look will continue in our store all the way through spring."

Ultra-stylish chunky loafers with silver hardware and waxy leather finishes are the shoes of the season for girls. Also look for rugged ankle boots with a high-heeled, chunky bottom to complement these styles. "The '70s have returned with a vengeance," says Dale from Hansel & Gretel shoes in Birmingham. "Earth shoes are on their way back!"

If you can't get Johnny or Jill to change into a suit or a dress for the holiday party, at least you'll know they're stylin' in their wide-leg cargos and chenille sweaters.

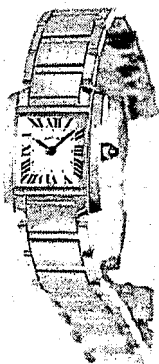


Picture perfect party dress from Jacobson's.

# little last-minute LUXURIES

By Linda Bachrack

'Tis the season to be stressed – especially when you're shopping at the 11th hour. Escape the holiday frenzy with these luxurious last-minute gift ideas.



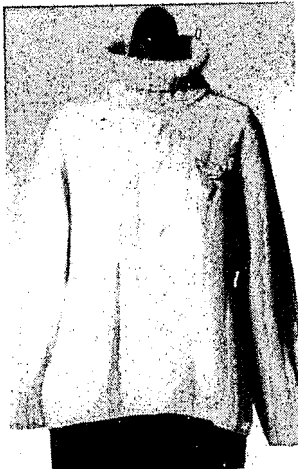
**Enjoy The Moment** – Toast the good times with Cartier's 18k gold tank Francaise watch, the jewel of the Cartier collection. Cartier, Somerset Collection, Troy.

**Silver Bells** – For tableware, sleek silver captures cool water in the hand-hammered water pitcher designed by John Hardy. From the bar, a vamped up martini duo combines a silver shot glass and stirrer to make mixing a martini as easy as drinking one. John Hardy at Neiman Marcus.

**Handle With Care** – L'Occitane hand cream with shea butter protects, nourishes and softens winter-weary hands. The all-natural shea butter is better known as "women's gold." L'Occitane, Somerset Collection, Troy.

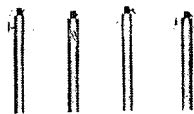
**Warm The Soul** – Indulge her in extravagance. Worth's sumptuous fox fur collar makes her feel as regal as she looks.

Worth Collection, 1-800-WorthOK.

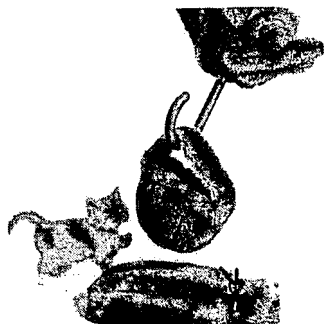


**Nap Of Luxury** –

The comfort of a casual sweater is interpreted in the all-out luxe of cashmere. A soft teal cashmere turtleneck is perfect for the office or the dinner party. Matching jade and silver pin by Amy Kahn Russell. Roz & Sherm, Bloomfield Hills.



**Furry Friends** – Who can live without a faux fur-trimmed umbrella, a tiny faux fur bag or a faux fur hot water bottle. Life's little necessities. All from Frank McIntosh Home at Saks Fifth Avenue, Somerset Collection, Troy. Photograph by Barry Lewis.



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# it's a WRAP: a lesson in cover-ups

By Rebecca W. Kalajian

Lisa Gleeson of Troy whips out handfuls of gold and cream wired organdy ribbon and holds it against textured, snowy rice paper. "Probably one of the nicest things to do is to find a wonderful wrapping paper and ribbon when you're creating a certain look for a gift," said Gleeson, deftly shaping a bow. "Combining gold and silver with monochromatic ribbons makes a distinct impression and looks sophisticated and luxurious."

Gleeson should know. She is the owner of Lisa's Gift Wrappers, her home-based gift wrapping company that takes clients' unwrapped gifts and magically transforms them into eye candy using simple ingredients.

"There are some basic rules to good gift wrapping, especially where small gifts are concerned," explains Gleeson. "For little things, think subtle wrapping like marbled paper or a very small repeating pattern. Don't go for the big prints; they look funny on little boxes."

When wrapping small gifts, let your imagination take over. Creative touches like textured ribbon, a hand-made container, or a non-paper wrap can go a long way on a little gift. Below are some ideas to consider this holiday season that give your palm-sized present real presence under the tree.

### Wee Receptacles

While the easiest things to wrap are boxes, why not skip the box altogether and use a gift container as the package? "One of my favorite package stories is one where a prospective groom put the engagement ring in a Limoges porcelain wedding cake," said Gleeson. "The key is not to limit yourself and look for unusual containers."

Other ideas include using antique teacups (found cheaply at garage sales or flea markets) to hold miniature guest soaps or Godiva samples, mint julep cups to hold a bonsai tree, or little clay pots to hold gardening gifts. For a



more masculine touch, a beer stein filled with golf tees might do the trick.

To begin building your container cache, keep an eye out for discounted baskets at craft stores. Inexpensive baskets can be transformed from cheap to cool with a quick shot of spray paint, and no one is the wiser.

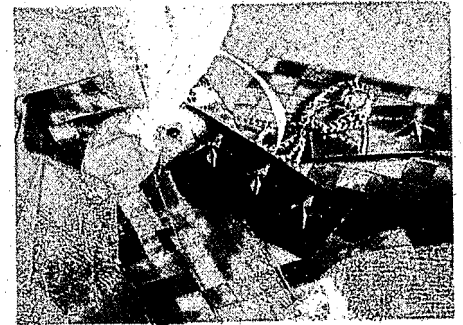
### Paper Chase

"A lot of the trends we see in clothing are followed in gift wrap," said Gleeson. "We're seeing a lot of photorealism paper [patterns which look photographed, not printed], handmade paper, and jewel-tone colors. Copper tones are also making a

strong appearance in gift wrap this year." Gleeson recommends buying unusual paper to wrap your gift because "...a beautiful paper needs no embellishment."

Consider papers with unusual characteristics. "I've used corrugated cardboard tied with raffia and twigs and you wouldn't believe how great it looks," said Gleeson.

Some paper even comes infused with pieces of twigs, raffia, and flower petals, giving new meaning to the phrase "pulp fiction". If you are truly texturally-inspired, try weaving symmetrical strips of paper together and creating a signature look that won't be soon forgotten.



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— Laurence DeLine, Detroit Live Press

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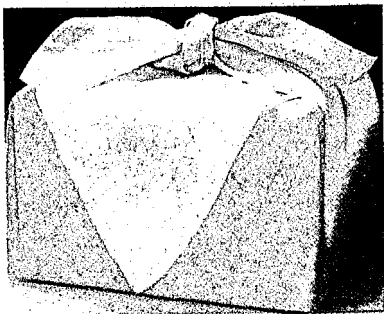
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**Fun Fabrics**

For some, paper won't do. For Gleeson, paperless gift-wrap is an opportunity for the giver to shine. "I love using fabric as gift wrap because it's so quick and easy to wrap with," said Gleeson. "The Japanese have been using fabric as gift wrap for centuries, wrapping layers of soft fabric squares and then tying the ends together."



with wire and dyed a variety of colors, giving gift wrappers everywhere the opportunity to wrap well even if they're lacking in talent.

Alternatives to ribbons are also a great way to get creative. "My favorites to use are raffia, lace, cordin, and even pipe cleaners," said Gleeson. "Kids love pipe cleaners twisted on their gifts in funny shapes."

**Tie One In**

Much like jewelry spruces up an old outfit, gift tie-ins are indispensable for adding pizzazz to little gifts. "I've used holly, pine cones and flowers to give gifts a lift," said Gleeson. Tie-ins such as ornaments, little teddy bears, glittery hairpins or key rings can also add a personal touch to any gift you bear.

If tying won't work for you, reach for Martha Stewart's weapon of choice: the hot glue gun. "Go to the hardware store and look for the low temperature kind of glue gun," said Gleeson. "Make sure to buy a stand for it. Once you start using it, you won't go back."

Glue gun glue now even comes infused with glitter and color, giving your adhesive a great new look to stick with during the holidays.

**Quick Trim**

Pinched for time and desperate to impress? "Gift bags are the answer, no question," said Gleeson. "There are just so many choices and they are great for non-standard gift sizes." Gift bags are also reusable, making them twice as nice around the gift-giving season.

**Tulle Time**

For some, nothing wraps better than tulle, a light netting which comes dyed in an array of colors. "A bolt of tulle from JoAnn Fabrics can yield dramatic results for pennies a yard," she said. "Take your gift out of the box, wrap it in tulle, and tie some grosgrain ribbon into a bow." If you have the time, writing the recipient's name on the ribbon with fabric paint is an easy way to add charm to your gift.

While picking out the perfect gift for your loved ones may have been a perfect chore, presenting it perfectly need not add to your holiday stress. "Just keep in mind one thing," said Gleeson. "You don't have to be a terrific wrapper for your gifts to be fabulous." Amen and pass the tulle.

Add a modern twist to the ancient tradition by using silk scarves, napkins, table runners, or other useful items to loosely knot around pieces of jewelry or napkin rings. If you enjoy giving homemade bottled items like flavored vinegar, try wrapping a new kitchen towel around the bottle and securing it with a coordinating ribbon.

**Gossamer Garnishes**

Ribbons are a classic way to top off a gift, and buyers are definitely not limited to the old yarn ribbons of the past. "It's so easy to find beautiful ribbon now," said Gleeson. "I recommend mixing ribbons of different thicknesses, prints and textures."

A good ribbon can hide a multitude of sins, like poor wrapping techniques or pinch-hit wrapping materials. "Even recycled grocery bags can be arty if you want them to be," laughed Gleeson. "Turn them inside out, wrap, and the plain paper will showcase your beautiful ribbon."

The trendiest ribbons are made of organdy, which is a gauzy, loosely woven fabric. Often organdy is piped



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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1998 THE OREGONIAN BENTON COUNTY NEWSPAPER

# AT HOME

COVER STORY: Decorate with old favorites and new, Page 6



Inside: Appliance Doctor, Page 2 • Garden Spot, Page 4 • Inviting Ideas, Page 8

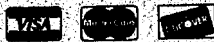
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appliance doctor

## Law would end 10 years frustration



JOE GAGNON

want to tell anyone.

The reason for such behavior was that people would tell him how there were ripped off by a serviceman. He got tired of defending his industry because he knew that many of these customers were correct in their assumptions. The service industry did have those who acted unethically, and certain homeowners were taken advantage of.

I was that man, folks, and I took a course of action that created a lot of controversy in the service industry and as well with our state legislators. State Rep. Perry Bullard wrote the Appliance Repair Act some 10 years ago, and it has failed to pass through legislation even after it was reintroduced by State Rep. Lyn Bankes.

All these years, and it has always gone through committee with flying colors and yet been voted down in the House.

This past week I met with Sen. John Schwarz from the 24th District, and we talked about the Appliance Repair Act being reintroduced again in the year 1999. This senior senator in Lansing gave me a more confident feeling that this act could pass and be voted into law. I hope that, after all these years, it proves true.

The Appliance Repair Act is needed for just one reason: The way service invoices are given to the homeowner today for work performed on their major home appliances, in some cases, are rip-offs.

Invoices from those unethical service companies in my industry say very little that informs the consumer as to exactly what they are paying for. When looking at a service invoice, you as a homeowner do not have a clue as to what amount of labor you're paying for or even what the part number is on what was replaced.

A long time ago there was a serviceman who was ashamed to tell anyone that he fixed major home appliances. Every time he went to an event or occasion where people would ask him what he did for a living, he didn't

**■ The biggest influence in getting a law passed to protect consumers is you. Please write to Sen. John Schwarz, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing MI 48909-7536**

Some invoices have proven to equate to a labor charge, which amounts to dollars earned by specialists in the medical field. You as a consumer do not have a clue when this kind of fraud is created by the pen.

The Appliance Repair Act is simple in that it mandates that a service company will break down a service invoice so that it tells the consumer what the charges are for. Service call charge, labor charge and part number(s) are all valid expenses. With a proper invoice, you can understand what you are paying for.

Will the Appliance Repair Act pass in 1999? That's the big question.

You may ask why such a simple bill has not passed in the past 10 years, and I ask that question every day. Is it because the lobbying groups financed by the unethical service companies have that much influence on government?

I don't have to answer that question: You know the answer.

Here's hoping that this nice senior Sen. Schwarz can accomplish what others have failed to do. I know that my friend Sen. Bill Bullard has offered to cosponsor the bill, and Gov. John Engler shakes while he listens to my radio show. Maybe I'm getting my own influence factor developing in Lansing without being a lobbyist.

But the biggest influence in getting this law passed to protect consumers is you.

Please write to Sen. John Schwarz, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing MI 48909-7536. Enclose your appliance story for him, and let the rolling of wheels begin. Stay tuned.

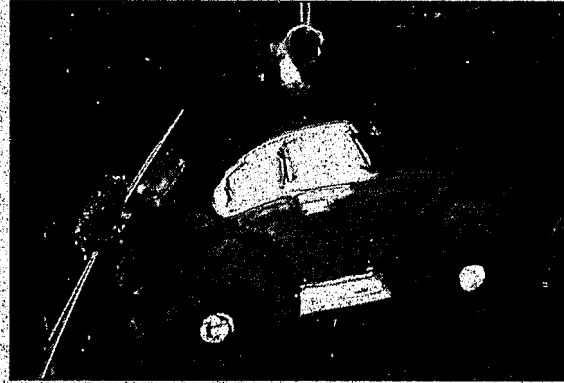
Joe Gagnon was the president of Carmack Appliances for 20 years and is today a week-end talk show host on 760 WJR. He can be reached at (313) 873-9789. His book, "First Aid on Appliances" is available in book stores and at Damman Hardware.



## marketplace

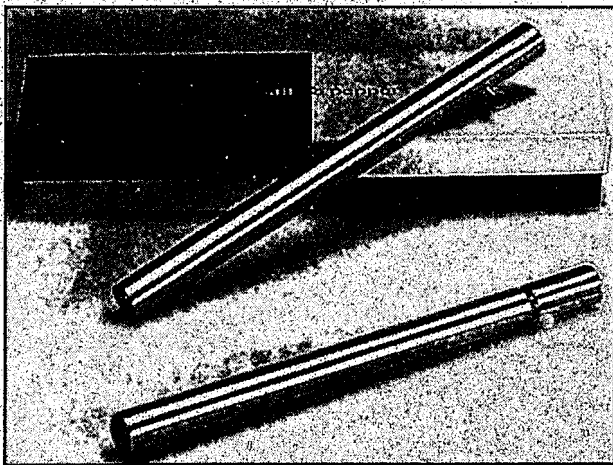
### Tree topper

**Angelic overview:** Angels are said to look down from on high. You can place this angel on the top of your Christmas tree. It sells for \$19.98 at English Gardens.



### What's bugging you?

**Beep, beep:** The new Volkswagen Beetle has been a hot item and now you can have one for your tree. This hand-blown and hand-painted ornament is accented with a festive wreath and skis on the rear. The ornament sells for \$25 at English Gardens stores.



### Spicey surprise

**Classy shakers:** These stainless steel salt and pepper shakers were designed by David Klinger and Judy Vilmain. The artists wanted to create a product with mechanical parts. These shakers have a sliding lever that reveals the three holes. The shakers are available at the Print Gallery, 29173 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield.

### The shining season

**Silver glitter:** This selection of items by master silversmith Christofle sells for \$45 to \$350 at the Duty Free Stores of the Ambassador Bridge.



**AT HOME, Mary Klemic, editor (248) 901-2569**  
We are looking for your ideas for At Home and for the Marketplace roundup of new ideas. Send your comments to: **Mary Klemic, At Home, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009**



## garden spot

# From sprouts big things grow



MARTY FIGLEY

Big things come in small packages, and that is certainly true when it comes to plants.

One day this fall, Lori Becker of Birmingham called to tell me about her very tall sunflower. I checked the heights of the winning sunflowers when we held our contests, and our tallest one was 12 feet, 7 inches. Lo and behold, this sunflower beat them all, standing at 13 feet, 4 inches tall! The Beckers did nothing special to make this one grow, but they have surely enjoyed the attention it has garnered.

Later this fall, a friend of Myrtille and Jake Hagman of South Lyon called and said they had grown a very large sweet potato - a whopping 6 pounds, 6 ounces. Jake verified the weight at the post office. Jake set his little 6 inch sprouts on a

hill in soil rich in compost; watered well and, "I watch 'em grow, hopefully." He explained the growing season is too short, with hot Michigan summers to grow the potatoes from seed. By the way, his sweet potato was 11-11-1/4 inches long and 16-3/4-17 inches in circumference.

A volunteer castor plant sprang up in our back garden and grew to a very tall 8 feet, 5 inches, with leaves 30 inches wide. I did nothing but watch it grow, but it was fun to see the progress as it reached its full height.

Mother nature was in her glory this year. I love it when you contact me about your success with plants that I can share your stories with others.

Marilyn Pachota of Livonia shared this recipe with me and you may want to try it. It's very easy to make.

Here's the recipe for Marilyn's Pumpkin slices, I call it Pumpkin Roll-up.

Batter  
2/3 cup pumpkin  
3 beaten eggs

1 cup white sugar  
3/4 cup flour  
1/2 tsp. cinnamon  
1 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. soda  
1/2 cup chopped nuts (I used English walnuts)

Filling  
8 oz. cream cheese  
1 cup confectioners sugar  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 tsp. margarine  
Soften cheese, add remaining ingredients; blend well

Grease a jell-roll pan and line with waxed paper - grease again. Pour batter on top of waxed paper and spread to the edges - sprinkle with nuts and bake at 350 degrees for 12-15 minutes. Remove from oven and turn upside down on a linen towel that has been sprinkled with powdered sugar - remove wax paper and sprinkle with powdered sugar again. Roll batter up in towel and put in refrigerator for 1 hour. Unroll and spread with filling and roll up again.

Please see Figley, page 5



Under the sun: Samantha Becker, right, and her friend Emily Held are dwarfed under the Becker's giant sunflower plant.

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Figley  
from page 4

Keep refrigerated; it freezes well. Slice. Makes 18-20 servings.

Poinsettias are a tradition that herald the Christmas season as sure as Santa and Christmas trees. Their bright red bracts (as well as pastel and white ones) bring a note of cheer to any setting. Now the bright flowers are depicted on everything imaginable, from dinnerware to underwear, napkins to neckties. Just in time for Christmas, the book "Poinsettias, Myth & Legend - History & Botanical Fact," by Christine Anderson & Terry Tischer (Waters Edge Press, \$21.95) is a delight as well as beautifully done. The history, legends and historical occurrences related to poinsettia are fascinating. Care of the live plant is included. Available in better book stores or by phone at (415)435-2837, fax at (415)435-2404. Credit card orders may be made at (800)247-6553. Receive a nice discount for five or more copies. Note: National Poinsettia Day is Dec. 12.

Correction: From the Dec. 3 column: The EZ Reach Pruning Stik from Fiskars is now called Fiskars Pruning Stik.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1859. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.



focus on photography

# Holidays great for family shots



MONTE NAGLER

I've often written about photography during the holidays because at no other time of the year are more pictures taken to record treasured family memories.

The best kind of "people" pictures to take at holiday time are casual ones, even candid.

Rather than pose everyone stiffly in a line, have family members and friends sit or stand casually. Use your self-timer so that you can get in the picture, too.

Snap the kids as they happily unwrap new presents under the tree. They won't even know you're there, and you'll be able to obtain spontaneous expressions. Fill the frame for impact and watch the background for distractions or unwanted reflections from mirrors and windows.

Use flash and slow speed film. This way, your shots will be sharp, clear and fine grain so that you can have

quality enlargements made.

Don't forget other holiday subjects that will add variety to your shots. A close-up of a sparkling ornament, the wreath on the front door or the Christmas dinner table all will pay off with fine yuletide pictures.

Holidays are perfect for capturing dramatic winter scenes on film. Photo opportunities after a snowfall abound.

Need some gift ideas for the camera buff in the family? How about one of the many fine photography books or quality photography calendars that are available? The stores have many selections and they could be just the thing to keep the photography interest stimulated throughout the year.

Another idea is to "give" a photography class or workshop to the aspiring camera enthusiast in the family. Check your local newspaper or inquire at your camera shop for class schedules.

Buy a gift certificate for a family portrait at a local studio. This is a personal and unique gift for special relatives, friends or neighbors.

And at holiday time, we're usually deep in nature's blanket of winter



Winter wonderland: Monte Nagler shot this snowy scene in the Upper Peninsula.

snow. So bundle up both you and your camera to capture some exciting winter scenes on film.

Monte Nagler is a fine art photographer based in Farmington Hills. You can leave him a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then his mailbox number, 1873. His fax number is (248) 644-1314.

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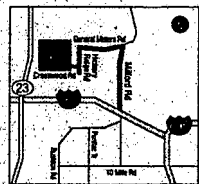


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# Decorating blends mem

BY VIVIAN DEGAIN  
Special Writer

**Themed trees:** This year features sophisticated designs in pink and lavender Victorian or crystal glass, as well as whimsical themes for kids of all ages or the rustic outdoors man. These holiday photos were taken at Frank's in Rochester Hills.



Glitter, glimmer, sparkle and smile, it's the season to be bright. Holiday decorating this season, both inside and outside the home, is expected to raise spirits to an all-time luminescence. From Novi to Rochester, design experts say that unseasonably warm weather, technology, a very strong economy, the baby-boomer's next-generation, and the remarkable real estate market will add up to a record holiday light bill this season.

Tinsel and icicles are passé on the inside tree.

Dangling light icicles are the rage for the outside.

Decorating with a theme or design has intensified from one themed tree in the family room to a whole-house theme presentation. From the entrance to the bath, a theme now begins from the outside decoration and continues to a focal point in every room used for holiday entertaining. Home fashion, like all fashion this year, incorporates design elements from the traditional to the Victorian to the Pop-Sixties. Contemporary holiday accents sparkle in metallic silvers, golds and mixtures of both.

There are fiber optics in new artificial trees and ornaments. There are new tiny shapes, sizes and intensities to light strings for inside and out.

Cass Kulas, Trim-A-Tree corporate buyer for national leader Frank's Nursery & Crafts, said people today want to incorporate their favorite holiday memories with a contemporary presentation.

"As the baby-boomer population gets more sophisticated, holiday decorating and trees get more sophisticated," Kulas said.

"Years ago, people used multi-colored lights, tinsel and icicles to make a traditional tree. Now, people can afford to become more personalized with their decorating, using color tones or themes, such as tree trims in a crystal-ice theme, or in a rustic out-doors-man theme," he added.

As homes are built with more rooms, higher ceilings, fireplaces and accent railings, space allows for more than one tree in the home. Kulas said real trees and greens are combined with artificial. This year, artificial trees are available in heights up to 12-foot, and wreaths, garlands and poinsettias come in a variety of textures, colors and materials.

Designer Jacquie Traub, of Rochester, prefers fresh flowers and greens and uses them to accent tabletops, windows, and in places not expected. She also uses design themes, color, texture or pattern throughout the home to accomplish a finished look.

"Whether you prefer a romantic theme or a whimsical theme, appropriate design elements make the most of your point. A whimsical theme focuses on things children love about Christmas—elves, reindeer, a favorite story. A romantic theme uses beautiful fabrics and ribbons of rich color and festive texture that glimmer and shimmer," Traub said.

"Gorgeous fabric ribbons are available in assortments of width and degrees of quality. Use strands of ribbon outside in a wreath on the door, and carry the colors and patterns to a focal point of each room, so that it is one of the first things you see as you enter the room," she said.

She also recommends candles and reflective lighting to create different elevations within a room, and to create a scene. But she stresses common sense for holiday fire

**On the cover:**

**New ornaments:** This year's new ornaments include beaded bulbs in every color palette and clear bulbs that can be swirled with paints from inside for individuality.



As demand for time and responsibility grow for holiday preparation, experts suggest the use of service contractors to help busy homeowners.

Services include decorating, cleaning, cooking, shopping, wrapping, and holiday landscape decorating.

Jacquie Traub Interiors of Rochester, a designer for 23 years who has used outside light contractors, offers these suggestions for a professional and exciting look to the outside of your home.

"Be generous with lights. You can be as dramatic, as festive as you like for the holidays. Be creative. You don't want to see a pattern. Like any accent, lights should complement the architecture and design of your home. Use the elements already developed. Complement the colors of your brick and paint work. Accent the different elevations and faces," Traub said.

In addition to decorative lighting, she recommends the use of reflective lighting to enhance outdoor holiday scenes, but "for the season, turn-off the landscape lighting to keep the focus on the whole picture."

## Too busy? Hire a

**Selecting just the r**

safety in the c

Mary Ante holiday decor

"I love the a room or ma have been in. porate what t

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# Memory, trends



**Choosing a tree:** Each year families practice the ritual of choosing a Christmas tree.

careful use of candles and electric lights.

Anterucci, designer-on-call for the Michigan Design Center in Troy, also specializes in decorating. She said this time of year allows everyone to feel like a kid.

"I especially love the look on my clients' faces when I have finished a room for the holidays. We begin with those favorite old decorations that may have been in the family for years or generations, or we begin with the brand-new. We can incorporate already have and add the finishing touches," Anterucci said.

For example, one client has a Victorian home in a rural setting. She has antiques and authentic items left in the structure of the home. For her, it's important to keep with Victorian materials and ornaments," she said.

Victorian elements include lace, pastel colors in pink and mauve, and the use of items that were available in that time period, such as dried natural pinecones and flowers like baby's breath and artificial or dried fruits tied into bundles with raffia - a twine that has a silvery texture and natural smell.

Generally, designers recommend using the smells of the holidays to invoke memories, and the excitement for the holidays. Aromas of pine, spruce, cinnamon, cloves, and bayberries can be created with simmering cider, candles or dried potpourri.

## decorator

Traub offers these tips while hiring a contractor to do the holiday outside lights:

- Contract early in the fall season for the setup date and the

own date.

Establish the cost based on the size of your home, the amount of lights you will be using, and the contractor's availability for problems that arise in the winter.

Establish how to contact the contractor for unexpected situations, like weather storms that might require after-weather repairs. How well will the contractor service you?

Remember when you are dealing with live landscaping, you have to add more plants of lights each year because trees and shrubs grow and change.

Contractors typically begin with the customer's own lights, and add to them according to the contract, as needed. The customer usually buys the lights and the contractor will keep them to be used again.

Traub recommends Karl Spegemann of Oxford, a contractor she has worked

**Poinsettia:** The popular red plant has long been a symbol of the season.



## Frank's designates tree money to help fight breast cancer

This holiday season, Frank's Nursery & Crafts, a national trim-a-tree leader, celebrates the tradition of giving for the holidays.

For every fresh-cut Christmas tree that Frank's sells, \$1 will be donated for breast cancer research.

John Cummo, of Frank's corporate headquarters in Troy, said the company expects to contribute more than \$150,000 to the Susan G. Komen Foundation, the largest national foundation that focuses on breast cancer.

"We are committed to helping increase the awareness of this deadly disease," Cummo said. He added that as Frank's

celebrates a 50th anniversary this year, it was one way to thank customers and share success with the greater community.

Nancy Brinker, founding chairwoman and sister of the late Susan G. Komen, said, "While we continue to fund research to find a cure, a significant amount of the money raised stays in the local community to help our friends and loved ones fight the disease today."

Frank's 254 stores located in 16 states will also distribute information about breast health, expected awareness and advertising will reach over 22 million people.



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inviting ideas

# Pie-eyed for holiday sweets



RUTH MOSSOK JOHNSTON

Menus for the holidays are being fine-tuned - concentrating on appetizers, entrees and side dishes, but none seem quite as important as the desserts. At my holiday gatherings, I've never been the dessert maven. Dessert is the one thing I've let other people bring when they come to my home for the big holiday feast. I always have my friend Betty the "Queen of Pies" make at least one of her fabulous crusted treats: Last year I really had it planned - I had my friend Donna Brown (currently the sous chef at Duet) bring two fabulous desserts - both pies (each served 12), and my neighbor brought a wonderful apple pie. Dessert assignments went out accordingly, and needless to say, we had sweets in abundance. This year everything has changed, well, not everything.

I'm still making the feast - but desserts, too.

I've become pie-eyed with sweets. The motivation: Challenge mostly and the aid of a new toy - the PieDart. The PieDart comes all the tools you will need: plastic sheeting (which only needs to be wiped clean with a paper towel), the scootee (measuring tool), the scoofor (mixing tool), the pushier (rolling tool) and a storage bag.

Interestingly enough, this pie gadget really does work and makes a wonderful dough.

For further information on the \$29.99 PieDart, check out their internet site: [www.piedart.com](http://www.piedart.com) or contact REGEMA Inc at (561) 398-2330; fax (561) 220-2448; 13 Riverview Drive, Stuart FL 34996.

Reggie Hammerstein of REGEMA knows her pies, and so does Marion Ryan, former director of "Electric Living" at Detroit Edison, cookbook writer, and host of the first TV cooking show in Detroit. Marion has been making pies for a very long time. She has graciously shared her crust recipe with us.

## MARION'S PIE PASTRY

2 cups all-purpose flour  
3/4 teaspoon salt  
10 tablespoons Crisco  
6-8 tablespoons ice water

Sift flour before measuring, then after with salt. Cut in the Crisco with dough blender until it has the appearance of coarse corn meal. Add ice water gradually. Mix well with a fork. When dough gathers together so the mixing bowl is clean, the dough is ready to chill. Lightly dust a square of wax paper with flour. Place dough on wax paper and wrap around dough. Chill in the refrigerator for 10 minutes. Roll out dough on a floured pastry cloth or board. Place in pie pan. This dough recipe will yield two 9-inch shells or one double crust (9-inch) pie.

Cook's note: Avoid excess handling of dough.

Now that you've got the crust ... here are some interesting pies for the holidays:

Please see Johnston, page 9

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**Johnston**  
from page 8

**GINGERED PEAR PIE WITH SULTANAS AND TOASTED PINE NUTS**

**Yield: 8 servings**

6 firm bosc pears, peeled, cored, sliced into 1/8-inch-thick rounds or slices

3/4 cup sultanas (yellow raisins)

1/4 cup crystallized ginger, minced

1/4 cup pine nuts, dry toasted (in a frying pan with no oil - careful not to burn)

1/2-3/4 cup sugar (to taste)

2 tablespoons butter, melted

2 tablespoons all-purpose flour

2 tablespoons fruited tea, iced or boiling, depending on what crust you make (or pear nectar)

1 heaping tablespoon fresh lemon zest, packed

2 pie crust dough disks (any double-crust recipe or prepared crusts)

Egg wash (egg and milk whisked together), optional

Coarse sugar for top pie crust

In a bowl, combine pears, sultanas, crystallized ginger, toasted pine nuts, sugar, melted butter, flour, liquid of choice, and lemon zest. Set aside. Preheat oven to 400

degrees F. Prepare pie crust as desired, roll out to a 13-inch round (about 1/8-inch thick). Place dough in a 9-inch-diameter glass pie plate and press gently into form. Trim edges, leaving 1/4-inch overhang. Spoon filling into crust, mounding ingredients in the center. Prepare second crust disk; roll out as before. Place top crust over pie filling; trim edges, leaving equal overhang. Fold overhang of top crust under edge of bottom crust and pinch edges to seal (making as decorative border as desired). Optional: reroll any remaining dough scraps and cut out with decorative cookie cutters (pear shape, hearts, stars, etc.), brush egg wash on each cut-out (like glue) and place on crust. Regardless of top design, make several slashes in top crust to let steam escape. Top crust with coarse sugar. Place pie in oven on baking sheet. Bake pie at 400 degrees F. for the first 15 minutes, turn oven down to 350 degrees F. and bake until fruit is tender and crust is golden brown (40-45 minutes longer). It may be necessary to cover crust edges with an aluminum foil collar if it browns too quickly. Remove pie from oven to cooling rack - cool slightly and serve with or without your favorite ice cream.

\* Cook's notes:

■ Crystallized ginger can be purchased in bulk at Middle Eastern markets, Asian markets and some specialty produce stores

■ Crystallized ginger is minced easily in a food processor fitted with the steel "s" blade

**PECAN PIE WITH KAHLUA AND CHOCOLATE CHUNKS**

**Yield: 8 servings**

1/4 cup (1/2 stick) unsalted butter, softened

1/2 cup sugar

1 tablespoon all-purpose flour

3/4 cup dark corn syrup (or treacle - golden syrup with a tablespoon of molasses)

1/4 cup Kahlua (or any coffee-flavored liqueur)

1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract plus the scrapings of one vanilla bean

3 large eggs, lightly beaten

1 cup chopped pecans

1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chunks (use good-quality chocolate or your favorite solid chocolate candy bar)

1 (9-inch) pie crust

**For the Topping:**

1 cup chilled whipping cream

1 tablespoon Kahlua

Superfine sugar (to taste)

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. In the bowl of a mixer, beat butter and sugar until smooth and fluffy; add flour. Gradually beat in corn syrup, Kahlua, vanilla extract and vanilla bean scrapings. Add eggs and beat to incorporate. Remove whisk, and with a rubber spatula add chopped pecans (you don't want to break them up any more than they are).

Place chocolate chunks in bottom of pie crust; pour filling over chunks and place in oven to bake. It may be necessary to cover crust edge with aluminum foil collar if it browns too quickly. Let pie bake until filling is puffy around edges and just set (firm) in the center - 40-45 minutes. Transfer pie to rack and cool completely. While pie is cooling, prepare whipped cream in a chilled mixing bowl with chilled beaters; beat whipping cream; As cream is whipping, add Kahlua and superfine sugar (as sweet as desired). Beat until peaks form and whipping cream is stiff enough to hold shape. Serve flavored whipping cream with pie.

Cook's notes: Call Kitchen Glamour to see if the are carrying the PieDart.

Ruth Mossok Johnston is an author and food columnist who lives in Franklin. To leave a Voice Mail message for Ruth, dial (734) 953-2047, mailbox 1902.



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# Adopt-a-pet

**Ambrosia:** This adorable Dwarf Rabbit is only 3 months old and loves attention. Rabbits make great pets if you don't have a lot of space, and "Abby" is used to living with kids and being held. Ambrosia (No. RO98011) and other pets are available for adoption at the



Michigan Humane Society Rochester Hills Shelter, 3600 Auburn Road, (248)852-7420, noon to 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday.

## Train rolling into Novi Dec. 26

On Dec. 26-27, a display of model railroading that has been touring the U.S. and Canada will come to the Novi Expo Center for the Toy & Hobby Expo.

The display, featuring toy and model trains, is listed in the Guinness record book and is contained in a 46-foot custom trailer with bullet-proof windows.

"The Wonderful World of Toy Trains" is a family activity.

Hours for the show are 3-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children 4-12, and park-

ing is \$4. For more information, call the Novi Expo Center at (248) 348-5600.

The trains travel in and out of tunnels and cross over bridges, as they pass through all four seasons. Unique to the exhibit, in addition to its size, is the theater-like sound system with digital recordings of real trains to let visitors hear and feel the roar of the trains.

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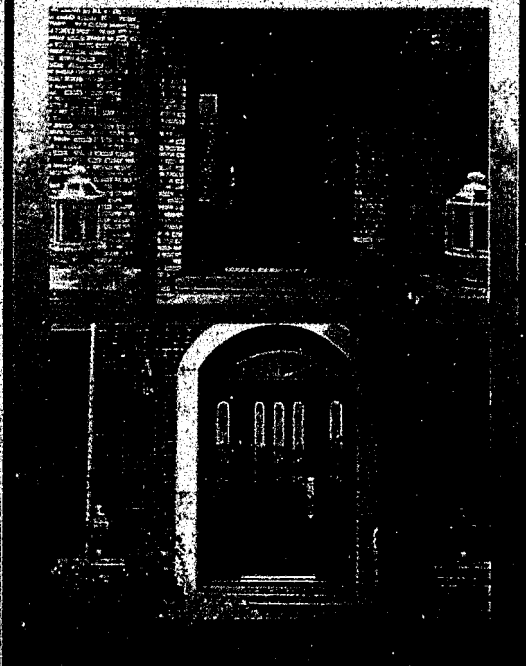
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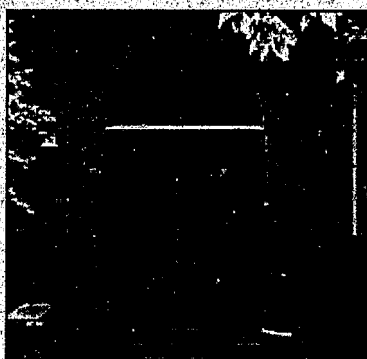


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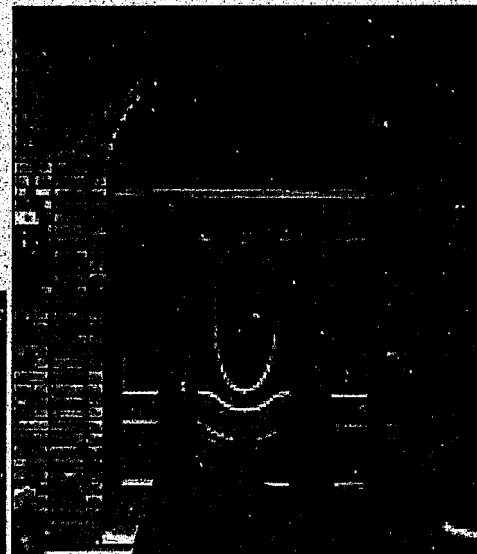
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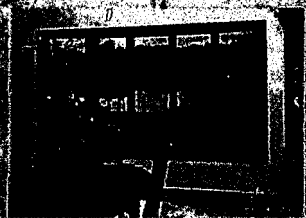
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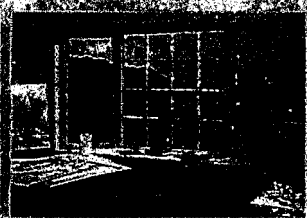
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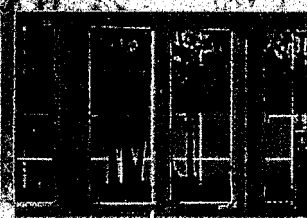
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## THE WEEKEND

### FRIDAY



## SHORTS

Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Players present "Shorts - A Theatrical Potpourri," featuring works by Edward Ablee, Robert Harling, Louis Phillips, Neil Simon and Tom Topor, 8 p.m. at the Orchard Ridge Campus, Orchard Lake Road at I-696. Tickets \$8 adults, \$5 students, available at the door, or call (248) 471-7667.

### SATURDAY



Join Alabama for a Country Christmas 8 p.m. at the Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. Tickets \$24.50, (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100.

### SUNDAY



St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook presents "The Sleeping Beauty," 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. at the playhouse, 400 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets are \$6 per person, call (248) 644-0527.

## HOT



Detroit Symphony Orchestra presents "The Nutcracker," with Ballet Internationale, featuring ballet stars from around the world and opulent new sets and costumes. Over 35 young dancers from their Detroit area will also appear in the production. Tickets \$15-\$20 at the door, \$10-\$20 in advance. Call (313) 576-1111 or (313) 576-1111 for more information.

# STOCKING STUFFERS

## Pop music's top acts celebrate holidays

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO  
STAFF WRITER  
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

A quarter-filled St. Andrew's Hall looks dank. Stage lighting reveals gum stuck on the hard wood floors, the sticky film of spilled drinks, and a thin haze of swirling smoke.

The first of Cheap Trick's three nights at the club were sparsely attended, but Grosse Pointe native Gregg Alexander took it as an opportunity to show Detroit why he left home.

Alexander, singer/songwriter/producer of the pop band New Radicals, ran away from home, as the story goes, about 10 years ago to pursue a music career. After two failed albums, Alexander is finally getting his due.

St. Andrew's Hall showed new life the minute his scantily clad, background singer, former child actress Danielle Brisebois, took the stage reciting lines from the New Radicals' sprightly hit "You Only Get What You Give."

Alternating between jumping around the stage and stretching out his long arms, the gangly, bald Alexander seemed at home pounding out a four-song, half-hour set that included two renditions of "You Only Get What You Give." Alexander, Brisebois and their five-piece band had all the energy of a veteran pop band playing to a sold-out arena.

One of Alexander's fondest memories of Detroit is seeing the rock band Almighty Strut open for Cheap Trick. Heading downstairs to the Shelter after the set, Alexander was greeted by Cheap Trick singer Robin Zander. Alexander's career had come full circle.

According to Alexander, he ran away at age 16 because he "couldn't take the Grosse Pointers," whom he compares to the cast of "The Truman Show" with "an extra \$50,000 per year in disposable income." With his parents' blessing, he went to California.

"Specifically I told my dad I was running away and he said, 'Fine, be back by September.'"

He didn't come back.

"I wanted to have some adventures and make rock 'n' roll records and cause some trouble," he said.

His first album, "Michigan Rain," was recorded under the name Gregg Alexander for A&M Records in 1990.

"I made an album that came out amongst the hype of grunge that got lost. It didn't make me too bitter or anything. You can't blame yourself if your record doesn't get through the myriad of 35,000 records that come out a year," said Alexander who splits his time between California, New York City and London.

Two years later, he signed with Epic Records who re-released "Michigan Rain," and put out his follow-up "Intoxification," which also flopped.

Staying at the home of a friend who was out of town, he fooled around in the recording studio putting to tape "magic moments of a difficult time."

"When I was done with the songs, I was listening and thinking, 'God, I hope these things get heard by people.' I played it for a few friends and pretty soon

Please see STUFFERS, E2



Stocking photos above

**A. Returning home:** Former Grosse Pointe Gregg Alexander returns to town with his band the New Radicals to play "The River's Cool Yule '98" at the Detroit Opera House on Dec. 30.

**B. Rare appearance:** Swedish pop stars Ace of Base - from left, Linn Berggren, Ulf Ekberg, Jenny Berggren and Jonas Berggren - make a rare live appearance on Saturday, Dec. 12, as part of WDRQ's "Freeze for All" concert at the Royal Oak Music Theatre.

**C. Holiday fete:** The Goo Goo Dolls - from left, drummer Mike Malinin, guitarist/vocalist Johnny Rzeznik, and bassist/vocalist Robby Takac - are set to play Cobo Arena as part of WPLT-FM's "Holiday Hootenanny" concert on Friday, Dec. 11.

## Take note

This year's stocking is stuffed with radio station-sponsored holiday concerts. Here's a nice tidy Christmas list to prepare you for the season. Tickets for all concerts are available at Ticketmaster outlets, by calling (248) 645-6666 or by visiting <http://www.ticketmaster.com>.

### "Holiday Hootenanny"

SPONSORED BY WPLT-FM (96.3)  
features the Goo Goo Dolls, Christian rappers DC Talk, Semisonic, Better Than Ezra and Edwin McCain, at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Cobo Arena, Detroit. Tickets are \$15.96 and \$25.96 for the all-ages show. For more information, visit <http://www.planet963.com>.

### "Rockin' for the Hungry"

SPONSORED BY ANN ARBOR'S WQB-FM (102.9)  
features Candlebox, The Hunger and Blue Plate Special, at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at the Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$21.03, \$27.50 limited superfan seating includes afterparty ticket. For more information, call (734) 763-TKTS.

### "WDRQ Freeze for All"

SPONSORED BY WDRQ-FM (93.1)  
features 98 Degrees, Ace of Base, Voices of Theory, Monifah, L.F.O., Inoj and C Note, at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. The show is sold out. Call (248) 546-7610 for more information.

### "Holiday Concert for a Cure"

SPONSORED BY WKQI-FM  
features Bryan Adams and Sixpence None the Richer at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. The concert, open to those 21 and older, is sold out, but Q95 is conducting on-air contests to win tickets. Visit <http://www.q95.com> for a complete line-up. Net proceeds benefit the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute.

### John Berry and JoDee Messina

SPONSORED BY WYCD-FM (99.5)  
perform as part of radio station WYCD-FM (99.5) Christmas show at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets are \$25 for the all-ages show. For more information, visit <http://www.wycd.com>.

### "A Smooth Jazz Christmas"

with Dave Koz, David Benoit, Brenda Russell and Peter White, begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at the State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets are \$20 and \$25 for reserved theater seating. For more information, call (313) 961-5451.

### "The Night 89X Stole Christmas"

SPONSORED BY CIMX-FM (88.7)  
features performances by Beck, Garbage, Everlast, Placebo and Marcy Playground, and is emceed by Kid Rock, at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, at Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit. Tickets are \$20.89, \$25.89 and \$30.89 for the all-ages show. For more information, visit <http://www.89x.com>.

### "The River's Cool Yule '98"

SPONSORED BY CIDR-FM (93.9)  
features performances by Rusted Root, New Radicals and Susan Tedeschi, at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets are \$22.50 in advance. Visit <http://www.theriver939.com> for more information.

## THEATER

### 'Resident Alien' visits Jewish Ensemble Theatre

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER  
kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

Repeating the magical words "there's no place like home," Dorothy escapes the alien Land of Oz and returns home to her beloved Kansas in "The Wizard of Oz."

Dorothy always knew her heart and home was in Kansas, but playwright Stuart Spencer, who also grew up in a farming community, felt like an alien.

"I remember being four or five and telling my mother we ought to move to the city, and I didn't even know what it was," said Spencer, whose play "Resident Alien" is being presented by the Jewish Ensemble Theatre through Jan. 3 at the Aaron DeRoy Theatre on the lower level of the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield. "We lived outside of a

Please see ALIEN, E2

## On Stage

WHAT'S Jewish Ensemble Theatre presents "Resident Alien" by Stuart Spencer

WHERE'S Aaron DeRoy Theatre, lower level, Jewish Community Center, 8800 W. Maple Road (corner of Maple and Drake Roads), West Bloomfield

WHEN'S Continues through Sunday, Jan. 3. Performances 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday; 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. Additional matinee 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23.

TICKETS: \$13-\$23, call (248) 788-2800 or <http://commnet.org/jet> for more information.

IN THE HIGHLIGHT JET will present two special New Year's Eve performances of "Resident Alien," 6:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31. Tickets for the 6:30 p.m. show \$35 per person includes hors d'oeuvres, champagne, and party favors. Tickets for the 10 p.m. show \$50 per person includes champagne, party favors, and breakfast. Call number listed above for reservations/information



Playwright: Stuart Spencer wrote "Resident Alien." Jewish Ensemble Theatre is presenting the Michigan premiere of his work at the Aaron DeRoy Theatre on the lower level of the Jewish Community Center.

## Alien from page E1

small town in Wisconsin, there wasn't even a neighbor nearby. I used to make up friends as a young child."

"Resident Alien" is a play about what it feels like to be an alien — different from everyone else. "It never occurred to me that this was a universal feeling," said Spencer. "I'm delighted that others see themselves in it." Spencer says the play just

"kind of evolved." Michael, and the Alien, are the main characters.

"Michael is who I am had I stayed behind in the town I grew up in," said Spencer who left to attend college, and later moved to New York.

He began by imagining himself as Michael the town crackpot who enjoys listening to Beethoven and reading

Kierkegaard. He's divorced and the father of a son, Billy, who is abducted by aliens as the two are walking through the woods at twilight.

How does Michael explain this to his ex-wife Priscilla? Her husband, Ray, or the Sheriff? Then there's the matter of the Alien, the green man who stays behind for a vacation. Like Michael, the Alien feels like an outcast on his

planet.

"Resident Alien" is a comedy and a story about friendship with some serious undercurrents. "The Alien fits in, Michael doesn't belong," said Spencer. The Alien is surprised people are upset by his green skin. "We base our feelings about people on superficial things like skin color," said Spencer. "I tried to take it to its conclusion, I thought it was honest."

For Spencer, home is "finding where you belong — home is the place where you're centered and belong."

"Resident Alien" is about people searching for home, who are not where they belong.

Evelyn Orbach, artistic direc-

tor of Jewish Ensemble Theatre, saw Spencer's play at the Humana Festival of New American Plays in Louisville, Ky. in March, and helped bring it to the Aaron DeRoy Theatre.

"In a sense it's the lightest thing we've done," said Orbach. "It was the funniest thing I'd ever seen, but it's also about prejudice, racism and people who feel alienated from society. What happens to one person can happen to any person."

John Siebert is making his directing debut at Jewish Ensemble Theatre with "Resident Alien."

Jewish Ensemble Theatre and Meadow Brook Theatre collaborated on this production. Peter

Hicks of Meadow Brook designed the set, Reid Johnson the lighting, and Brett Rominger the sound.

"Collaboration is on the increase," said Mike Vigilant, public relations manager for Meadow Brook Theatre. "Everyone is working hard to build a theatre audience in metro Detroit. We're constantly sharing information and resources."

"Resident Alien" features Scott Screws as Michael, Greg Trzaskoma as the Alien, Sarah Kamoo as Priscilla, Jim Shanley as the Sheriff, John Michael Manfredi as Ray, and Scott Goci as Billy.

Ring in the New Year at the Jewish Ensemble Theatre.

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## WILD LIGHTS

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## Stuffers from page E1

20 labels were pounding on my door.

The result is "Maybe You've Been Brainwashed Too" (MCA), an amalgamation of pop, R&B, funk and dance. "You Get What You Give" he explained, is a hit because the lyrics hit close to home for so many people.

"There's certain aspects of the song that are hitting a core with people's lives. I sing the lyrics 'Health insurance rip-off lying/FDA big bankers buying/Fake computer crashes dining/Cloning while they're multiplying.' The lyrics of the song cover a lot of bases," Alexander explained.

"It touches upon this overall feeling of frustration about the big machine that society has built around us. The machine known as society. The song is saying don't let go, we have something that the machine doesn't have — heart, spirit, flesh, tangible gooey things."

### Expanding audience

New Radicals is one of more than 30 bands coming to town to celebrate Christmas with local radio station listeners. Alexander's band performs as part of "The River's Cool Yule '98," while Beck, Garbage and others play Joe Louis Arena for "The Night 89X Stole Christmas."

Last year there were only a handful of holiday shows. Now

there's nary a pop station that hasn't gotten involved. (See sidebar for more information.)

WPLT-FM gets extra points for its diversity at this year's "Holiday Hootenanny." Pop superstars the Goo Goo Dolls are co-headlining with Christian rockers DC Talk, who until now hadn't received airplay on the station. (see story inside)

English/American androgynous pop act Placebo is a baby band compared to the acts with whom it is sharing the Joe Louis Arena stage for 89X's festival. Bassist Stefan Olsdal sees radio station shows as a way of broadening Placebo's audience.

"We're getting across to a lot of people who haven't heard you. Plus, the radio station's gonna play your records. That's what we're doing this time," he said.

### Detroit debut

The voice of Ace of Base member Ulf Ekberg is being gradually drowned out by the sounds of bongo drums. He's trying his best to speak louder into a friend's cell phone but a cold is getting the best of him.

"I'm on the stage now. Our band is performing but they're singing some other songs though," Ekberg said with a raspy laugh. "They're waiting for me to finish."

Ace of Base decided to do a few radio shows in untouched mar-

kets at the suggestion of its record company. So the Swedish quartet cancelled a European jaunt and scheduled a handful of shows, including WDRQ-FM (93.1)'s "Freeze for All."

"We're planning on doing a world tour next summer. This is a touch of how it feels to be performing in the United States."

Is Ekberg a little nervous about the tour? "You want to do the best you can. It's good to be a little bit nervous and have some ants in your stomach."

The album "Cruel Summer" marks the first time the band has worked with non-Swedish producers. With acclaimed producers Cutfather and Joe, Ace of Base expanded its sound with background singers, which Ekberg refers to as "choirs," and orchestras. The reliance on electronic music has lifted.

"We worked more with live instruments, live orchestras and choirs. I think we're a little bit more open-minded for people's ideas. We didn't want the same old routine. We felt like now we've done that and done it all," Ekberg explained.

"Now see we do it in a different way. The rest of the world's work was completely black. Now we started to see that. On the fourth album (due in fall 1999), which we've already started, you will hear the next step."

## The "Where Will I Be On New Year's Eve?" contest

# Ring in the New Year at Detroit's Best Night Out!



## The Second City and THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS

invite you to send a postcard to the "Where Will I Be On New Year's Eve?" Contest. Six winners will be selected to receive a pair of tickets to The Second City's Fifth Anniversary Revue, "Daimlers Are A Girl's Best Friend", at 7:30pm. Winners will be welcome to stay around at The Five Hole after the show, to ring in the New Year.

Entries must be received by 12/14 @ 5pm with the winners notified on 12/15 between 9am - 5pm and published on 12/17 in the Observer & Eccentric classified section.

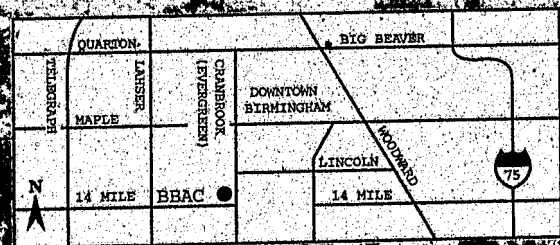
### Contest Rules

- You must be 21 and over
- Employees and their families of the Observer & Eccentric & The Second City are not eligible. (\*Dinner & drinks not included).
- One entry per household

### Send postcard entry to:

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**THEATER**

Avon Players presents "Forever Christmas IV: Home Again! 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, December 11-12 and 18-19; 2 p.m. Sunday, December 13; and 8 p.m. Thursday, December 17. The theater is on Tienken Road Rochester Hills. Tickets \$13, discounts for students, senior citizens and groups for Thursday and Sunday performances, (248) 608-9077.

BY JON KATZ  
SPECIAL WRITER

There are many marvelous performers in town who will tell

you that their most satisfying stage experience was being part of a production like Avon Players' thoroughly wonderful "Forever Christmas IV-Home Again!"

AP's John (JD) Deierlein created "Forever Christmas" as a small holiday diversion seven years ago. Today, being selected for the bi-annual production is like making a Dream Team. Indeed, the twelve performers, including Deierlein, work so well together that you might wonder if the Rochester Hills playhouse is just the current stop on a

national tour; they're that good.

The set is a cabin family room, Christmas tree all aglow upstage center. Three branches of an extended family gather to celebrate the season. As one member explains, "We have many traditions in our family. Like, we sing... A LOT!" The line gets a laugh, but certainly no complaints.

"Forever Christmas" brings back the warmth of TV specials with the King Family, or Andy Williams and the young Osmonds. And like watching little Donny, you'll gush over two

ten-year-olds, cute Dennis Strach and cut-up Andrew Danowski. They team up for a funny "Rudolph..." and Dennis shows a beyond-his-years vocal ability in his second act solo, "I'll Be Home For Christmas."

The medleys are edited and executed most creatively, but it's the individual and often less familiar numbers which stand out. Lesa Bydelak's sensitive "Heirloom," Debbie Schlutow's plaintive "My Christmas Tree" and Tom Russell's powerful next-to-closing "O Holy Night" shine

brightly. A.J. Brooks bear duets impressively with Deierlein on Christian songwriter Steven Curtis Chapman's "Christmas Is All in the Heart."

Nupur Kanodia blends quite nicely with Russell on "Silent Night." And talented teenagers Renee Turner and Matt Soisson deliver a gorgeous "In the Bleak Mid-Winter," supported by Stacy Svenkesen's lilting soprano and the low-end passion of Jeff Stillman.

Tight harmonies and superb sound mixing make "Forever

Christmas IV" as joyous as the season, most evident on "Let There Be Praise" and the big finish, "Do You Hear What I Hear." Cast-member Stillman's story line weaves a thread that's just this side of sappy, and Mary Pagnani's choreography is appropriately and deceptively informal.

The production is about families and traditions. Perhaps it will make you more thankful for your own family, but it will surely make you thankful for the tradition that is "Forever Christmas."

# Area theater productions designed with children in mind

The 1998 holiday theatrical calendar is brimming with musicals and traditional productions of many of our old favorites, brought to life by some of the area's finest children's theaters.

**ONCE UPON A SHOE**

Tinderbox productions present a holiday musical for the family — Once Upon a Shoe, Dec. 12 and 18 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. Performances will be hosted at The Cathedral Theatre, Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit.

Tickets are \$10 at the door, \$8 in advance. Guest performances by the Tinderbox Show Choir, the Tinderbox Jazz/Swingers, and FOOTWORK, featuring top notch tap dancers from the Detroit High School for the Fine and Performing Arts. For group rates and other information please call (313) 535-8962 and leave a message.

**ICICLES & SNOWFLAKES**

The junior actors of the Ridgedale Players present "Icicles and Snowflakes" and meals with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 12

at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 13 at 1 p.m.

"Icicles and Snowflakes," written by Suzanne Barcewicz, and directed by Barcewicz and her daughter Shauna, tells the tale of three siblings who build a snowman which comes to life. A variety of winter characters come to show the snowman how to have fun. The "Heart Miser" attempts to ruin their fun by melting them.

Tickets are \$6.50 and includes the play, a meal and a visit and gift from Santa. Reservations are a must. Call (248) 988-7049. Visa and Mastercard accepted. Ridgedale Playhouse is at 205 W. Long Lake between Crooks and Livernois in Troy.

**PUPPETART'S CINDERELLA**

PuppetART is bring back its popular performance of Cinderella, featuring classical marionettes with music by Tchaikovsky. Performance dates and times are Saturday, Dec. 12, 19 and 26 at 2 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 27 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. and Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 28 and 29 at 2 p.m.

All performances will be held at PuppetART's new home the Detroit Puppet Theatre, located at 25 East Grand River (between Woodward and Farmer) in downtown Detroit.

Tickets are \$6.50 for adults and \$5 for children. Special holiday family ticket packages are available for \$20 - includes two adults and two children. Call (248) 557-8599 for tickets.

**THE SNOW QUEEN**

Stagecrafters Youth Theatre will present five performances of Hans Christian Andersen's classic, The Snow Queen, Dec. 10-13 at the historic Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. All proceeds from the Dec. 11 performance will be donated to the Give-A-Christmas-Year-Round campaign. Patrons are also asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy to benefit the Salvation Army's Toy Drive for needy children.

All tickets are \$5 and all seats are reserved. Call (248) 541-6430. Dates and times include: Dec. 10, 7 p.m.; Dec. 11, 7 p.m.; Dec. 12, 11 a.m.; Dec. 12, 3 p.m.

and Dec. 13, 1 p.m.

**CINDERELLA**

A musical adaptation of the classic tale of Cinderella will entertain festive audiences this holiday season at the Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main Street, Northville. Performance dates and times are: Saturdays, Dec. 12, 19, and 26, and Jan. 2 at 2 p.m.; and Sundays, Dec. 13, 20, 27 and Jan. 3 at 2:30 p.m. Week-days performances are Monday through Thursday at 2:30 p.m. Dec. 28, 29, 30 and 31. Tickets to all general performances are \$6.50.

**THE SNOW QUEEN**

The New Millennium Youth Theatre Company production of The Snow Queen will be performed Dec. 12 and 19 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5, general admission or \$4 groups of 10 or more. Sponsored by Hudson's, this production of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale was adapted for the stage by Ben Martin.

Located at 15600 J.L. Hudson Drive, Southfield. Call (248) 552-1225 for information.

## St. Dunstan's presents 'Sleeping Beauty'

Families can count on the St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook to deliver another spectacular children's production this holiday season.

Under the leadership of Director Peggy Lee, a "quirky" translation of the classic tale, The Sleeping Beauty, will debut Dec. 11, 12 and 13 with half of the proceeds for ticket sales benefiting the Old Newsboy's Goodfellow Fund

of Detroit.

According to Lee, three special performances have been scheduled, in addition to six public show's, for 600 inner city school children.

"Last year we were able to donate \$2,000 to the cause, and I really hope to top that this year," said Lee. Knowing that we are helping them. (Goodfellows) out is a great feeling for all."

Geared for children ages 3 and up, the 10-member cast of colorfully clad fairies, King and Queen, jester, magician and gypsy play out an hour-long interactive production that lives up to the reputation St. Dunstan's has established since their first children's Theatre performance four years ago.

The Goodfellows use the proceeds gathered from the week-

end production to purchase warm clothing, books, dolls, candy and toys so that "no child goes without a Christmas."

Performances are 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11; 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12; 12:30 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Tickets are \$6 per person. Call (248) 644-0527 for information.

"It is a great family-outing and it helps fund a wonderful cause."

**JOSEPH/AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT**

The Dearborn Family Theatre will perform Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Dec. 11-13 at 8 p.m., at Edsel Ford High School (20601 Rotun-

da Drive, 1.5 miles west of the Southfield Freeway).

Tickets for the show are \$10 general admission and \$9 for senior citizens. Group rates are available. Call (313) 561-0599.

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Monday Dec 14th <b>OPEN 10-9</b>	Tuesday Dec 15th <b>OPEN 10-9</b>	Wednesday Dec 16th <b>OPEN 10-9</b>	Thursday Dec 17th <b>OPEN 10-9</b>	Friday Dec 18th <b>OPEN 10-10</b>	Saturday Dec 19th <b>OPEN 9-10</b>	Sunday Dec 20th <b>OPEN 9-8</b>
Monday Dec 21st <b>OPEN 9-10</b>	Tuesday Dec 22nd <b>OPEN 9-10</b>	Wednesday Dec 23rd <b>OPEN 9-10</b>	Thursday Dec 24th <b>OPEN 9-5</b>	CLOSED Merry Christmas		Sunday Dec 27th <b>OPEN 10-6</b>

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# 8 days a week

A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

## THEATER

**DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE**  
"Ad Altera Del (Unto the Alter of God)," John Shea's play about faith, beauty and a priest who uses a hockey stick to straighten out sinners, through Dec. 31, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 8:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. \$15. (313) 868-1347 or DetRepTh@aol.com

**GEM THEATRE**  
"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change," through Jan. 3, at the theater's new location, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays (\$27.50), 8 p.m. Thursdays (\$27.50), 8 p.m. Fridays (\$32.50), 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays (\$32.50), 2 p.m. Sundays (\$27.50) and 6 p.m. Sundays (\$19.50). (313) 963-9800

**FISHER THEATRE**  
"You're a Good Man, Charley Brown," Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 16-27, at the theater, 3011 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit. 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 22, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. \$26.50-\$49. (248) 645-6666/(313) 871-1132

**JET**  
"Resident Alien," an intergalactic comedy of love and acceptance by Stuart Spencer, through Sunday, Jan. 3, at the theater, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. (248) 788-2900 or http://comnet.org/jet

**MEADOW BROOK THEATRE**  
"A Christmas Carol," continues to Sunday, Dec. 27, Wilson Hall, Oakland University campus, Rochester. \$25-\$36. (248) 377-3300

## COLLEGE

**EMU THEATRE**  
"Gifts of the Magi," based on stories by O. Henry, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturdays, Dec. 11-12, and 19, and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays, Dec. 12-13 and 19-20, at the Spönberg Theatre on Eastern Michigan University's campus, Ypsilanti. \$7 Thursdays, \$12 Fridays-Saturdays, and \$10 Sundays. (734) 487-1221

**ORCHARD RIDGE PLAYERS**  
"Shorts: A Theatrical Potpourri," featuring works by Edward Albee, Neil Simon, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 10-11, in Smith Theater on the Oakland Community College campus, Orchard Lake Road and I-696, Farmington Hills. \$8, \$5 students. (248) 471-7667

**WSU BONSTELLE THEATRE**  
"Little Women," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Saturday, Dec. 12, at the theater, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8-\$10, ages 5-12, \$6. (313) 577-2960

**WSU HILBERRY THEATRE**  
"Scapin," in rotating repertory to Feb. 3; Charles Dickens' classic "A Tale of Two Cities," opens Friday, Dec. 11, and runs in rotating repertory to March 4, at the theater, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$17. (313) 577-2972

## DINNER THEATER

**BACI ABBRACCI ITALIAN CHOPHOUSE**

"Tony n' Tina's Wedding," an interactive theatre show with patrons having an Italian dinner, and dancing to a live band performing traditional Italian wedding songs, has an open-ended run, at the restaurant, 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays. \$50 Thursdays and Saturdays, \$55 Fridays and Saturdays. In advance at 8 W. Lawrence St., Pontiac. (248) 745-6668/(248) 645-6666

**GENITTI'S HOLE-IN-THE-WALL**  
Live interactive children's theater program, "Santa's Workshop," Friday, Dec. 11, and Saturday-Wednesday, Dec. 12-23, at the restaurant, 108 E. Main St., Northville. \$9.95 for children, \$11.65 adults, includes lunch, show, tax and gratuity. (248) 349-0522

## YOUTH

**MARQUIS THEATRE**  
"Cinderella," through Jan. 3, at the theater, 135 E. Main St., Northville. 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 12, 19 and 26, and Jan. 2; 2:30 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 13, 20, and Jan. 3; and 2:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Dec. 28-31. \$6.50. (248) 349-8110

**ST. DUNSTAN'S THEATRE GUILD**  
"Sleeping Beauty," 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at the playhouse, 400 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$6 per person, fifty percent of net profits from all six performances benefit the Old Newboy's Goodfellow Fund of Detroit. Call (248) 644-0527 for tickets and information.

**PAPER BAG PRODUCTIONS**  
"Cinderella," Saturdays-Sundays through Dec. 20, Historic Players Club, 3821 E. Jefferson, between Mount Elliott and McDougall, Detroit. Saturday programs start with lunch at noon and performances at 1 p.m., Sundays with lunch at 1 p.m. and performances at 2 p.m. \$7.50; \$6.50 groups of 20 or more. (313) 662-8118

## PUPPETRY



**Holiday tradition: Ballet Internationale, featuring ballet stars from around the world, with choreography by former Kirov Ballet star Eldar Aliev, performs "The Nutcracker," with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and 85 young dancers from the metro Detroit area, through Sunday, Dec. 20 at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit (at the corner of Madison Ave.) Performances 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 10-12; Dec. 17-19; with additional performances 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19; 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20. Tickets \$16 to \$35, call (313) 576-5111. Ticketmaster (248) 645-6666, Detroit Opera House, (313) 874-SING or online at www.detroitssymphony.com**

"Cinderella," 2 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 12, 19 and 26, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27, and 2 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 28-29, at the Detroit Puppet Theater, 26 E. Grand River, between Woodward Avenue and Farmer Street, Detroit. (313) 961-7777

**STAGECRAFTERS YOUTH THEATRE**  
"Hans Christian Andersen's classic tale, 'The Snow Queen,'" 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10-11, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. \$5, all seats reserved. Patrons are also asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy to benefit the Salvation Army's Toy Drive for needy children. (248) 541-6430

**TINDERBOX PRODUCTIONS**  
"Once Upon a Shoe," a musical for children about children who live in a shoe with Mother Goose and are about to lose their home to a new building in Mother Goose Land, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and Friday, Dec. 18, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, The Cathedral Theatre, Masonic Temple, 500 Temple Dr., Detroit. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. (313) 535-8962

**WILD SWAN THEATRE**  
"The Cricket in Times Square," through Saturday, Jan. 2, Anderson Theatre at Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn. (734) 763-TKTS/(734) 995-0530/(248) 645-6666

## HOLIDAY EVENTS

**"A HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR"**  
Featuring a sing-a-long, and a winter wonderland of G-Gauge trains (30 ft. by 9 ft. layout) in the Orchestra pit, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Historic Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser Road at Grand River, Redford. \$8. (313) 537-2560

**"A LIVING NATIVITY"**  
An enactment of the birth of Jesus with actors in costume, live animals, and full-size creche, 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 11-13, in the lower public courtyard of First Baptist Church, on Ring Road at the corner of Willis and Bates, Birmingham. Free. (248) 644-0550

**COBO CARNIVAL**  
Featuring a full-scale midway including games, rides and family entertainment, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Cobo Conference and Exhibition Center, Detroit. Free admission but a charge for rides and games. \$15 ride-all-day wristband. (313) 877-8111

**DIA WASSAIL FEAST**  
Holiday feast 6:30-10 p.m., Thursdays-Saturdays, Dec. 10-12 and 17-19, in the Kresge Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave. \$135 Thursdays, \$150 Fridays-Saturdays, proceeds to benefit the museum's general operating fund. (313) 833-4005

**"EXPLOSION OF HOLIDAY MUSIC"**  
Featuring Motor City Brass Band, and the church's chancel choir with soloist Thoretta Davis in John Rutter's "Gloria" and Jackson Berkey's "The Glory of His Majesty," 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, 8825 East Jefferson, in Detroit's Indian Village. \$10. (313) 822-3456

**"FOUR TICKETS TO CHRISTMAS"**  
A drama musical with live orchestra, Victorian costumes, Barber Shop Quartet, and chorus presenting Broadway and ragtime style music along with traditional Christmas carols,

also live nativity and petting farm for children, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Northville Christian Assembly, 41355 Six Mile, west of I-275, Northville. Free. (248) 348-9030

**"HOLLIDAZE"**  
Featuring more than 40 metro Detroit retailers selling their wares, along with a holiday wine sampling, DJ dance music, and live music performances by The Wild Bunch, Immigrant Sons and The II V I Orchestra, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$5, \$4 with donations to the second annual Santa Paws Pet Supply Drive to benefit the Humane Society, Anti-Cruelty Society, Greyhound Connection and the Leader Dog School for the Blind. (313) 961-5451 or http://www.ticketmaster.com or http://www.radioedge.com

**DEXTER'S VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS**  
Featuring free street performances, horse-drawn sleigh rides, carolers and musicians throughout town, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in the village, northwest of Ann Arbor. (734) 426-5514

## CLASSICAL

**BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE CHORALE ENSEMBLE**  
Under the direction of Judith Premin perform Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols" with guest harpist Allegra Lilly 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Central Woodward Christian Church on the southeast corner of Adams and Big Beaver roads. Free. A festive tea follows the concert. (248) 475-5978

**JANE CHEVALIER**  
Hammered dulcimer player performs 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial, west of Sheldon Road, south of M-14, Plymouth. \$7, \$5 students/seniors, \$18 family. (734) 453-5280

**"CLASSICS ON THE LAKE"**  
With Alexander Zonjic and Ervin Monroe, principal flutist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Margaret Kapasi, concert pianist, Peggy Dwyer, soprano, and Barb Ogar with her Student Flute Choir, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Shrine Chapel, St. Mary's College, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake. (248) 683-1750

**LIVONIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
With Alexander Zonjic and Ervin Monroe, principal flutist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Church Hill High School, 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia. \$15 adults, \$12 children. (734) 421-1111

**LYRIC CHAMBER ENSEMBLE**  
Performs opera choruses that have a sacred theme 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, scenes will be introduced by Dr. Wallace Peace, a frequent lecturer for the Michigan Opera Theatre, at Christ Church Detroit. \$15, \$12 seniors/students. (248) 357-1111

**"A SYMPHONY OF TOYS"**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, a concert featuring the Rochester Symphony Orchestra, Rochester High School Choirs, Rochester Community Chorus, and the Oakland Youth Singers, at St. Andrew Church, Rochester. \$15, please bring an unwrapped toy for the Marines "Toys for Tots" program. (248) 654-4188

**WARREN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
With the Glass Act Singers and St.

Edmund Handbell Choir, as part of a "Christmas Jubilee" concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at St. Edmund Church, 14025 12 Mile Road, east of Schoenherr. \$18, \$16 seniors, \$10 college student with ID, \$5 ages 17 and younger. (810) 754-2950

## BRASS

**RIVER CITY BRASS BAND**  
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road. \$15, \$10 seniors/students. \$25 a family. (248) 424-9022/(248) 616-9725

## POPS/SWING

**"CHRISTMAS WITH MANTOVANI"**  
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

**DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
With maestro Erich Kunzel, narrator Huel Perkins, the Madrigal Chorus of Southfield, the Highland Park Baptist Choir, and the Boys and Girls Choir of Christ Church of Grosse Pointe, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, 8:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, and 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$17-\$45, \$65 box seats; "Colors of Christmas" concert with the symphony, Philip Bailey, Sheena Easton, Jeffrey Osborne and Deniece Williams, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, at Orchestra Hall. \$25-\$52, \$75 box seats. (313) 576-5111

**LIVONIA SYMPHONY**  
With Alexander Zonjic and Ervin Monroe performing "Piper's Holiday," 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Church Hill High School's Carl Auditorium, 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia. \$15, \$8 for children ages 12 and younger. (734) 421-1111/(734) 464-2741

**"WAYNE NEWTON CHRISTMAS"**  
7:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 14-15, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$39, \$35 students and seniors, \$43 gold circle. (810) 286-2222

**SWING SYNDICATE**  
9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. 19 and older. (734) 998-8555 (swing)

**T. TURNER**  
Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, at D.L. Harrington's Roadhouse, 2086 Crooks Road and M-59, Rochester Hills. (810) 852-0550

**ANDY WILLIAMS CHRISTMAS SHOW**  
8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$32.50. All ages. (248) 377-0100

## AUDITIONS

**EDE CENTER FOR DANCE**  
Swing Workshop with Kristin Taylor 7-8:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Dec. 14-16, ages 14 and up, no partner needed, at the dance studio, 1541 Hamlin Road, Rochester Hills. \$40, \$75 a couple. (248) 852-5850

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY CHORALE**  
Holding auditions for 1999 season from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, with artistic director Marilyn Jones. Beginning in January, the rehearsals for the chorale will be 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Tuesdays at Howell High School. (810) 229-2712.

**NOVI THEATRES**  
Auditions for ages 7-97 for "The Wizard of Oz," 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. Once cast, all actors must pay a \$125 participation fee. For performances March 5-6 and 12-13. (248) 347-0400

**VOCAL ARTS ACADEMY**  
Auditions by appointment only for second semester 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in Varner Hall, Room 134 at Oakland University, Rochester. (248) 625-7057

## CHORAL

**EMU WOMEN'S CHORUS**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Holy Trinity Chapel, 511 West Forest, Ypsilanti. Free. (734) 487-4380

**FARMINGTON COMMUNITY CHORUS**  
"Once Upon a December" program, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, Mercy High School auditorium, at 11 Mile and Middlebelt roads, Farmington Hills. \$8 in advance, \$6 for seniors 65 and older or a student; \$10 at the door. (248) 473-9670/(248) 788-5322

**"HOLIDAY FAVORITES"**  
A Cantata Academy concert of music of the season including the Robert Ray Gospel Magnificat and works by John Rutter, 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 16 Lakeshore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic Church, 2215 Opyke Road, Bloomfield Hills. \$15, \$12 seniors/students. (248) 358-9869

**OAKLAND UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY CHORUS**  
Yuletide concert of more than 100 voices performing Mozart's "Vespers," and Charpentier's "In Nativitatem" featuring soloists Barbara Bland, Kim Lozon, Lisa Agazzi, Raymond Roberts, and John Paul White 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, also on the program is Robert Shaw's "Many Moods of Christmas" the accompanying orchestra is comprised of musicians from around the Detroit metropolitan area, in Varner Recital Hall on the Rochester campus. \$10, \$8 seniors, \$5 students. For reservations, call (248) 370-3013/(248) 645-6666

**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHOIR**  
"Festival of Lessons and Carols," featuring the choirs of St. Andrew's, and nine lessons telling the story of mankind's fall and redemption from the Old and New Testaments, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 306 N. Division, Ann Arbor. Free-will offering benefits the Shelter Association of Ann Arbor, and the St. Andrew's Breakfast Program. (734) 663-0518

**ST. VALENTINE CHORAL**  
Christmas choral, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at St. Valentine's Church, 14841 Beech Dale, Redford. Free. (313) 535-8364

**SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR**  
Holiday concert, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road, between Merriman and Middlebelt roads, Livonia. Donations accepted during intermission. (734) 462-4435

**"THE FATHER'S GIFT OF LOVE"**  
A Christmas choral drama presented by the Celebration Choir, soloists and drama ministry of Calvary Baptist Church of Canton, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, at the church, 43065 Joy Road, between Lilley and Sheldon, Canton. Free. (734) 455-0022

## JAZZ

**DWIGHT ADAMS TRIO**  
8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Dec. 10, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (trumpet/piano/bass)

**JUDIE COCHILL TRIO**  
8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Fridays, Dec. 11 and 18, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocals/piano/bass)

**COLEMAN-RHODES DUO**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue at Mack, Detroit. Reservations (313) 831-3838 (r & b)

**EXPLOSION CEREBRAL**  
9 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

**BUDDY GRECA AND ANNA MARIA ALBERGHETTI**  
4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

**HEIDI HEPLER & MICHELE RAMO**  
6-10 p.m. Mondays at Too Chez, 27155 Sheraton Dr., Novi. (248) 348-5555; 7-10 p.m. Wednesdays to Saturdays at Encore in the Quality Inn, 1801 S. Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 335-3790; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays, at Vic's Market, 42875 Grand River Ave., Novi. (248) 305-7333 (vocal/piano/bass)

**JUBILATION RUN**  
The Dixieland Jazz Band and the New Windsor/Detroit Jazz Club offers Jazz/ragtime, 3-6 p.m. Saturdays, at Steak 'n Ale, 32750 Concord St., east of I-75 north, south side of 14 Mile, Madison Heights. \$3. (248) 588-4450

**KATHY KOHNS**

8-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, and 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, Giovanni's Cafe Italiano, 31 N. Saginaw St., at Lawrence Street, Pontiac. Free. All ages. (248) 334-5241; 8 p.m. Tuesdays in December, Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave. at Mack Avenue, Detroit. (313) 831-3838

**SHEILA LANDIS AND RICK MATLE**  
9:30 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Dec. 10, Rochester Mills Beer Co., 400 Water St., Rochester. Free. 21 and older. (248) 650-5080; 7:30-10:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, The Coffee Beanery, 152 N. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 646-6022

**MATT MICHAELS TRIO**  
With Louis Smith, trumpet 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, with Larry Nozoro, sax, 8-11:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at the Botsford Inn, Farmington Hills. (248) 474-4800

**MUTUAL ADMIRATION SOCIETY**  
8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, and Wednesday-Saturday, Dec. 16-19, at Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., at Mack Ave., Detroit. (313) 831-3838

**SHAHIDA NURULLAH TRIO**  
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocals/piano/bass)

**JOHNNY O'NEAL**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19; Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$10. 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

**ROBERT PIPHO**  
8 p.m. Mondays in December, Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Avenue at Mack, Detroit. (313) 831-3838

**"A SMOOTH JAZZ CHRISTMAS"**  
With Peter White, Dave Koz, David Benoit and Brenda Russell, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$20 and \$25. All ages. (313) 961-5451

**PAUL VORNHAGEN TRIO**  
8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Dec. 17, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (vocals and sax/piano/bass)

**URSULA WALKER AND BUDDY BUDSON**  
With Dan Kolton, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays at Forte, 201 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 594-7300

**SUNNY WILKINSON**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley St., Ann Arbor. \$5, 21 and older. (734) 662-8310

**ALEXANDER ZONJIC**  
9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, and Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, Baci, 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac. Free. All ages. (248) 253-1300

**GOSPEL/CHRISTIAN**

**ORTHEIA BARNES-KENNERLY**  
7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Unity of Livonia Church, 28660 Five Mile Road, Livonia. \$15. (734) 421-1760

**GAITHER CHRISTMAS HOMECOMING**  
With Gaither Vocal Band, Janet Paschal, Larry Ford, The Happy Goodmans, Anthony Burget, The Martins, Candy Christmas, Jake Hess, Amy Lambert, Mark Lowry, Ben Speer, Bob Cain, Jessy Dixon, The Easters, and others, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. \$17.50 reserved, Superfan seating is available. Seniors ages 60 and older receive \$3 off reserved seating and children ages 12 and younger receive \$8 off reserved seating. Group rates are also available. (248) 377-0100 or http://www.palacenet.com

**WORLD MUSIC**

**KLEZMER CONSERVATORY BAND**  
The Jewish Community Center present the group's performance of a combination of Jewish ragtime, dixieland and jazz music, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the West Bloomfield High School Auditorium. \$10 members, \$15 non-members. (248) 661-7649

**PINO MARELLI**  
7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, and Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 15-16, at Luciano's, 39031 Garfield, Clinton Township. (810) 263-6540; 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Benedetto's, 15505 15 Mile, Clinton Twp. (810) 790-1010 (English/Italian/Spanish)

**"WILL MILLAR'S CELTIC CHRISTMAS"**  
Former Irish Rover with Robbie O'Connell and Aengus, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$24, \$22 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

## POETRY/SPOKEN WORD

**THE REV. DANIEL BERRIGAN**  
Poet and peace activist reads from his new collection of poems with Detroit poet Joan Gartland and Plymouth poet, the Rev. Rod Reinhardt, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at Central United Methodist Church, 23 E. Adams St., at Woodward Avenue, Detroit. (313) 267-5300, ext. 338/(313) 965-5422

**M.L. LIEBLER**  
And the Magic Poetry Band, poetry you can dance to, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at the Scarab Club, 217



# 8 days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Christina Fuoco; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

### Continued from previous page

Farnsworth, behind the Detroit Institute of Arts. \$2. (313) 831-1250

### DANCE

**ARGENTINE TANGO WORKSHOP**  
With Tango Master Ruben Terbalca, 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Troy Dance Studio, 4963 Rochester Road at Long Lake Road, Troy. (248) 689-3393

**CONTEMPORARY CIVIC BALLET**  
Rose Marie Floyd's with Christopher Stowell of the San Francisco Ballet. 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Scottish Rite Cathedral Auditorium in Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit. \$5; 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at Troy High School. \$8. (248) 641-9063/(248) 546-7484

**DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
With Ballet Internationale dance "The Nutcracker" Thursdays-Sundays, Dec. 10-13, and Dec. 17-20 at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. \$16-\$35, \$12-\$23 for children and seniors. (313) 576-1111 or <http://www.detroitssymphony.com>

**EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE**  
"Holiday Dance Extravaganza," 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, Lake Orion High School Performing Arts Center, 495 E. Scripps Road, Lake Orion. Tickets available at the Lake Orion Community Education Office, 455 E. Scripps Road, Lake Orion. (248) 693-5436

**ANN ARBOR CONTRA**  
English Country Dancing, 7-9:45 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Chapel Hill Condominium Clubhouse, 3350 Green Road, north of Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 662-5158

**FULL CIRCLE DANCE COMPANY**  
Annual children's dance concert, "Food for Thought, Song and Dance Revue" by "Top Banana," 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, in Adray Auditorium, MacKenzie Fine Arts Building, Henry Ford Community College, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. \$5. (313) 845-6314

**LAKES AREA CIVIC BALLET**  
With guest artist James Toth of the Winnipeg Royal Ballet in Manitoba, Canada, Saturday, Dec. 12 (\$8.50-\$10), and school group matinee Thursday-Friday, Dec. 10-11 (\$5) at West Bloomfield High School, 4925 Orchard Lake Road, (248) 666-1971

**LIVONIA CIVIC BALLET COMPANY**  
"The Nutcracker," 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Clarenceville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, south of Eight Mile Road, Livonia. \$12, \$9 seniors/students, \$6 children ages 5-9. (734) 427-9103

**OAKLAND COUNTY TRADITIONAL DANCE SOCIETY**  
Contra and square dances with Steve Gold and Golden Griffon, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, First Baptist Church, 309 N. Main St., Royal Oak. \$7. No partner or experience is required. (248) 542-2093

**PLYMOUTH CANTON BALLET COMPANY**  
More than 150 musicians from the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and the Plymouth-Canton Ballet perform "The Nutcracker" with guest artists Dawnell Dryja and Cameron Caldwell from the Cincinnati Ballet Company, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, and 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 12-13, at the Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road, Canton. \$17, \$10 students K-12th grade, \$5 Sugar Plum Tea. (734) 451-2112

**RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR**  
Featuring the Rockettes, through Wednesday, Dec. 30, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$52.50. (248) 645-6666

**"SPIRIT OF THE DANCE"**  
Featuring Irish routines, jazz funk, Russian Cossacks, Flamenco dancing and tap dancing, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. \$29, \$26 students and seniors. (810) 286-2222

**WOLVERINE SILVERSPUR DANCERS**  
7:30 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Dec. 12, Italian American Cultural Center, 28111 Imperial St., Warren. \$7, \$6 WSD members. (810) 573-4993

**JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB**  
Ross Amlicucci, Jim Hamm and Rich Higginbottom, Thursday, Dec. 10 (\$12); Jeff Dunham and Joey Blaskas, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12 (\$20); Kirk "Fabio Man" Noland, Keith Valentine and Rich Higginbottom, Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 17-19 (\$14), at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia, 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

**JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S**  
John Di Grosta, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner show package), and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 (\$10, \$22.95 dinner show package); at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

**MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE**

Bob Zany and Mark Boyd, Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 10-13; Tom McTigue and Gary George, Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 16-20, at the club, 299 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays (\$5), 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays (\$6), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays (\$12), and 7:30 p.m. Sundays (\$6). Prices subject to change. (248) 542-9900 or <http://www.comedycastle.com>

**SECOND CITY**  
"Dalmiers are a Girl's Best Friend," a fifth anniversary celebration show retrospective, 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays with additional shows at 10:30 p.m. on Fridays-Saturdays through Feb. 7, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. (313) 965-2222

**MUSEUMS AND TOURS**

**DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM**  
"Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901," formerly known as "Furs to Factories," with a new Land Office, a "Wheel of Fortune" style land acquisition interactive, three new video-screen interactives, a documentary video, a new Heavy Industry section and a display explaining Detroit's move from "Stove Capital of the World" to the Motor City, automobile capital of the world, opens Dec. 5. "The Fantasy World of Doll Houses," through Jan. 31. "Remembering Downtown Hudson's exhibit," at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805

**DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER**  
"Art from the Fuzzy and Famous" continues to Dec. 11; IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest" at 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, "Special Effects" at 1:10 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" multiple showings seven days a week at the center, 5020 John R. (at Warren), Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4. (313) 577-8400

**GREENMEAD HISTORICAL VILLAGE**  
Tour 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13; with free concert by St. Paul's Lutheran School Bell Choir at the church in the village, 20501 Newburgh Road, south of Eight Mile, Livonia, \$2, \$1 children. (248) 477-7375

**CHARLES H. WRIGHT MUSEUM**  
"The Buffalo Soldier," through Jan. 3, 315 E. Warren Ave., Detroit. \$5, \$3 children ages 17 and younger, free for members and children younger than 5. (313) 494-5800

**GREENFIELD VILLAGE & HENRY FORD MUSEUM**  
Traditions of the season continues through Jan. 3, lots of holiday activities in the museum and village located in Dearborn at Oakwood Boulevard and Village Road west of the Southfield Freeway; Admission \$12.50 adults, \$11.50 senior citizens 62 and older, \$7.50 kids 5-12, children under 5 and members admitted free, call (313) 271-1620 for information.

**POPULAR MUSIC**

**ALL HAIL ME**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Lill's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5; 21 and older. (313) 875-6555 or <http://www.lills21.com> (rock)

**THE ALLIGATORS**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Karl's, 9779 Gottfredson Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 455-8450; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (248) 625-3900 (blues)

**JOCELYN B. AND DETROIT STREET PLAYERS**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard (at Van Born), Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340 or <http://www.siskos.com> (blues)

**BUGS BEDDOW BAND**  
10 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Shark Club, 6650 Highland Road, Waterford. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 666-4161; 8-11 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 16-17, Bad Frog Tavern, 555 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 642-9400; 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, Bachelor's, 1967 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor. Free. 21 and older. (248) 682-2295 or <http://www.bugsbeddow.com> (blues)

**GORDON BENNETT**  
9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Thursdays, Dec. 10 and 17, Hamlin Pub North, 741 S. Lapeer Road, Lake Orion. Free. 21 and older. (248) 814-8109; 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, Hamlin Pub, 1988 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. Free. 21 and older. (248) 656-7700 (rock)

**JOHN BERRY**  
With JoeDee Messina, perform as part of radio station WYCD's Christmas show, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. \$25. All ages. (248) 645-6666 (country)

**BIG DAVE AND THE ULTRASONICS**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, Karl's, 9779 Gottfredson Road, Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 455-8450 (blues)

**BLACK BEAUTY**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, Bobby J's Music Cafe, 29 Front St., Lake Orion. Free. 21 and older. (248) 814-8550; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford Road, Westland. Free. 21 and older. (734) 721-8609 (rockabilly)

**"BLIND PIG SHOWCASE"**  
With The Arthur White Experience, Lunar Crush, 52 Static and Echo Park, 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Free. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (variety)

**BLUE SUIT WITH ALBERTA ADAMS**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Bad Frog Tavern, 555 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 624-9400; 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**BILLY BRAGG AND THE BLOKES**  
With Corey Harris, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Tickets at Ticketmaster. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.a2ark.com> (pop)

**SKEETER BRANDON**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Amer's First Street Grill, 102 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. 21 and older. (734) 213-6000 (blues)

**BROADZILLA**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Lill's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5. 21 and older. (313) 875-6555 or <http://www.lills21.com> or <http://www.detroitmusic.com/broadzila> (rock)

**BUFFALO TOM**  
With Jack Drag, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$9.50 in advance. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (pop)

**BUSTERS BLUES BAND**  
9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursdays, Dec. 10 and 17, Giovanni's Cafe Italiano, 31 N. Saginaw St. (at Lawrence Street), Pontiac. Free. All ages. (248) 334-5241 (R&B)

**CANDLEBOX**  
With The Hunger and Blue Plate Special, perform as part of radio station WJQB's "Rockin' for the Hungry" concert, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. \$21.03, \$27.50 limited superfan seating includes afterparty ticket. (734) 763-TKTS/(248) 645-6666 (rock)

**JOHNNY CHAN**  
With New Dynasty 6, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 832-6873 or <http://www.gold-dollar.com> (rock)

**JAMES CLOYD GROUP**  
Hosts electric blues jam, 9 p.m. Thursdays, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard, Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340 or <http://www.siskos.com> (blues)

**COLEMAN-RHOADES DUO**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Duet at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave. at Mack, Detroit. (313) 831-3838 (R&B)

**"A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS STARRING ALABAMA"**  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. \$24.50 reserved, Superfan seating available. Groups of \$20 or more receive \$2 off \$24.50 tickets. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (country)

**WES CUNNINGHAM**  
With Shaken Not Stirred, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Mill Street Entry below Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. \$5. 21 and older. (248) 333-2362 or <http://www.961melt.com> (pop)

**DUKE DANIELS**  
8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$6. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 (rock)

**DIVESPIRE**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-9292 (rock)

**DOMESTIC PROBLEMS**  
With Fat Amy and Big Sam, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$6. 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicbag.com> (rock)

**THE DOPES**  
With Superfiction, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-9292 (rock)

**E.A.R.**  
Experimental Audio Research with Sonic Boom, 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

**EARTH CRISIS**  
5:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$11. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

**GLEN EDDIE**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Duggan's Irish Pub, 6722 Dixie Highway, Clarkston. Free. 21 and older. (248) 625-3900; 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec.

17, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**THE REV. MARC FALCONBERRY**  
Hosts acoustic blues jam, 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard (at Van Born Road), Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340 (blues)

**DEAN FERTITA**  
With Cloud Car, The Sights and Fletcher Pratt, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (313) 833-P00L (pop)

**PETE "BIG DOG" FETTERS**  
8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**FIELD TREE**  
With Elbise and Cloud Car, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom> (pop)

**JULIE GENEVIVS**  
8:10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Espresso Royale Cafe, 214 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 668-1838 (rock)

**GHETTOBILLIES**  
With Joey Skildmore, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom> (rock)

**HAL 9000**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.golddollar.com> (hardcore rock)

**HAPPENSTANCE**  
With J.D. and the B.B.'s, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 334-9292 (rock)

**AL HILL AND THE LOVE BUTLERS**  
9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 451-1213

**MICHAEL HILL'S BLUES MOB**  
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, First Street Grill, 102 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance. 21 and older. (734) 213-6000 (blues)

**"HOLIDAY HOOTENANNY"**  
Featuring The Goo Goo Dolls, DC Talk, Semisonic, Better Than Ezra and Edwin McCain, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Cobo Arena, Detroit. \$15.96 and \$25.96. All ages. (248) 645-6666 or <http://www.ticketmaster.com> or <http://www.planet963.com> (pop)

**THE HOPE ORCHESTRA**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Cafe Zola, 112 W. Washington St., Ann Arbor. Free. All ages. (734) 769-2020; 10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Woody's, 208 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 543-6911; 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Borders Books and Music, 30995 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 737-2225 or <http://www.concentric.net/~hopeorch> (pop)

**LISA HUNTER**  
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, Six String Coffeehouse inside the Michigan League, University of Michigan campus, Ann Arbor. Cover charge. All ages. (734) 763-4652; 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, Lonestar Coffee, 207 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 642-2233 (acoustic rock)

**JIMMIE JACKSON AND THE BLUES CONNECTION**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

**JELLY'S PIERCED TATTOO**  
With Kristiva and Masaline, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom> (rock)

**THE KINGSNAKES**  
10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Mr. Sports, 13090 Inkster Road, Redford. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 534-7420 (rock)

**THE KINSEY REPORT**  
10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, First Street Grill, 102 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$8 in advance. 21 and older. (734) 213-6000 (blues)

**KNEE DEEP SHAG**  
With Sugar Buzz, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (funk)

**LOVERBOY**  
With Blue Oyster Cult, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. \$10 and \$15. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

**MAN OR ASTROMAN**  
With Causey Way and Gravity Well, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Magic Stick in the Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8. 18 and older. (313) 833-P00L or <http://www.961melt.com> (space rock)

**DAVE MATTHEWS BAND**  
With Maceo Parker, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. Sold out. All ages. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palacenet.com> (rock)

**MIND CIRCUIS**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or

<http://www.alvins.xtcom> (rock)

**STEVE NARDELLA**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Duggan's Irish Pub, 6722 Dixie Highway, Clarkston. Free. 21 and older. (248) 625-3900 (rockabilly)

**NEW BOMB TURKS**  
With The Helicopters and The Quadrajets, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Magic Stick in the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$8. 18 and older. (313) 833-P00L or <http://www.99music.com> (alternative rock)

**ROBERT NOLL BLUES MISSION**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Bad Frog, 555 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 624-9400 (blues)

**TED NUGENT**  
50th birthday bash, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$45, \$60, and \$75. \$75 tickets include wild game dinner, 18 and older. Partial proceeds to charity wild game dinner. (313) 861-5451 (rock)

**OVER THE RHINE**  
Special Christmas show, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$10 in advance. All ages. (734) 761-1800 (pop)

**POOTINANNY**  
With Gravel Train and Sovines, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.golddollar.com> (roots-rock)

**PROPELLER**  
With Kuz and The Triggers, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

**QUEEN BEE**  
With Silencers and Poppa Wheelie, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.golddollar.com> (melodic rock)

**THE REV. RIGHT TIME WITH THE FIRST COUSINS OF FUNK**  
With Heavy Weather, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$4. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555; With Heavy Weather, 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom> (funk)

**ROOT DOCTOR**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Amer's First Street Grill, 102 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door. 21 and older. (734) 213-6000 (blues)

**SAINT ANTHONY**  
With Fletcher Pratt and Atomic Numbers, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. All ages. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com> (pop)

**SAX APPEAL**  
8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (pop)

**GO SECOND CRUSH**  
With The Motor Dolls and Plume, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Lill's, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. \$5. 21 and older. (313) 875-6555 or <http://www.lills21.com> (rock)

**SKINFLOWER**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5. 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom> (rock)

**STEVE SOMERS BAND WITH VALERIE BARRYMORE**  
9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Duggan's Irish Pub, 6722 Dixie Highway, Clarkston. Free. 21 and older. (248) 625-3900 (blues)

**JON SPENCER BLUES EXPLOSION**  
With Alex Chilton, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, Clutch Cargo's, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. \$12. All ages. (248) 333-2362 or <http://www.961melt.com> (alternative rock)

**TEAPROOT**  
With El Topo and Powerface, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555 (rock)

**KOKO TAYLOR AND HER BLUES MACHINE**  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$18 in advance, 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicbag.com> (blues)

**TOEMASS**  
With Five-Way Mirror, 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Gold Dollar, 3129 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 833-6873 or <http://www.golddollar.com> (rock)

**RANDY VOLIN AND THE SONIC BLUES**  
9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, Bobby J's, 29 Front St., Lake Orion. Cover charge. 21 and older. (248) 814-8550; 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 11-12, Hamlin Pub North, 741 S. Lapeer Road, Lake Orion. Free. 21 and older. (248) 814-8109 (blues)

**WAILIN' INC.**  
9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 18-19, Sisko's, 5855 Monroe Boulevard, Taylor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 278-5340 or <http://www.siskos.com> (blues)

**"WDRO FREEZE FOR ALL"**  
With 98 Degrees, Ace of Base, Voices of Theory, Monifah, L.F.O., InoJ and C. Note, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. \$19.93. All

ages. (248) 546-7610 (variety)

**JAY Z**  
With Divine, Xscape, Tela and Cam'Ron, postponed from Friday, Dec. 4, to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 18, Cobo Arena, Detroit. \$27.50, \$37.50, \$47.50 and \$50. (248) 645-6666/(313) 983-6616 (R&B)

**CLUB NIGHTS**

**ALVIN'S**  
The Sugar Shack, ladies only dance night, 10 p.m. Sundays; The Hush Party with resident DJs Melvin Hill and DJ Cent, 10 p.m. Mondays; and Club-3 Color, featuring funk and disco, 8 p.m. Wednesdays (free before 10 p.m.), at the club, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5; 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvins.xtcom>

**BLIND PIG**  
"Swing-a-billy" night with dance lessons from 7-9 p.m. Sundays with DJ Del Villarreal, at the club, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. \$5; "Solar" nights, 10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at the club. \$6. 19 and older. (734) 996-8555

**CLUTCH CARGO'S/MILL STREET**  
"Flashback" night with "The Planet" WPLT on level two (Clutch Cargo's), old school funk on level three, and techno and house on level four, 8:30 p.m. Saturdays, at the club, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Free before 9 p.m. 21 and older; Alternative dance night, 8 p.m. Wednesdays in Clutch Cargo's. 18 and older. (248) 333-2362 or <http://www.961melt.com>

**THE GROOVE ROOM**  
Funk, hip-hop and top 40 with DJ Mac D, Thursdays. Women admitted free; "Love Factory" alternative dance night; Fridays; Alternative dance with DJ Matt Saturdays; Alternative dance Tuesdays; Gothic, industrial and retro with DJ Paul Wednesdays. Free at the club, 1815 N. Main St. (at 12 Mile Road), Royal Oak. Free before 10 p.m. nightly. 21 and older. (248) 589-3344 or <http://www.thegrooveroom.com>

**MAJESTIC THEATRE CENTER**  
"Good Sounds," with music by The Tonehead Collective and images by Thomas Video, 9 p.m. Fridays at Magic Stick. 18 and older. Free; "Work Release," Rock 'n' Bowl happy hour with bowling, music and complimentary food from the Majestic Cafe, 5-8 p.m. Fridays at Garden Bowl. \$6. 18 and older; "Rock 'n' Bowl" with DJ Del Villarreal, 9 p.m. Fridays at Garden Bowl. Free. 18 and older; "The Bird's Nest," punk rock night with live performances, 9 p.m. Mondays at Magic Stick. Free. 18 and older; "Soul Shakedown" with DJ Big Andy, 9 p.m. Tuesdays at Magic Stick. Free. 21 and older. (313) 833-9700

**MOTOR LOUNGE**  
"Back Room Mondays," service industries employee appreciation night, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Mondays. Free. 21 and older; "Community Presents" with resident DJs, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tuesdays. \$3. 18 and older; "Maximum Overload," 9 p.m. Fridays. \$6. 18 and older; "Divine" with DJs Mike Clark, Mark Flash and Brian Gillespie, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturdays. \$6. 21 and older, all at the club, 3515 Canfield, Hamtramck. (313) 396-0080 or <http://www.motordetroit.com>

**ONE X**  
"Men 4 Men" New York-style dance party with DJ St. Andy spinning high-energy, progressive house, 10 p.m. Fridays; "Family Function Internal Groove" DJ Alton Miller, 10 p.m. Saturdays, at the club, 2575 Michigan Ave., in Detroit's Corktown area. Cover charge. 21 and older. (313) 964-7040

**ST. ANDREW'S/THE SHELTER**  
"Three Floors of Fun" with hip-hop and rap in St. Andrew's Hall, alternative music in The Shelter with DJs Diana and Quig, and techno and dance in the Burns Room, 10 p.m. Fridays. \$3 before 11 p.m., \$5 afterward. 18 and older; Alt X2K dance night, 10 p.m. Saturdays; "Incinerator," 9 p.m. Wednesdays in The Shelter. \$6. 21 and older. St. Andrew's and The Shelter are at 431 E. Congress, Detroit. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com>

**STATE THEATRE**  
"Ignition" dance night, 9 p.m. Saturdays at the club, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Cover charge. 18 and older. (313) 961-5451

# New twist to old favorite is heartwarming, enchanting

BY JON KATZ  
SPECIAL WRITER

*Frosty the Snowman*  
Was a fairy tale they say.  
He was made of snow.  
But the children know  
How he came to life one day.

Inspired by the song's lyrics, "Jack Frost" will doubtless go on to do some inspiring itself. It's a motion picture that's as warm as its lead character is cool, and has the staying power to become, if we dare employ the overused expression, a Christmas classic. Did we say cool? Young Charlie Frost's dad is the coolest! But not right away, Jack Frost (Michael Keaton) is a Colorado-based blues singer whose band is

about to break out, as they say in the business. This necessitates his being away from home, missing out on things like the 12-year-old's hockey games.

"Someday he's gonna score his first goal," cautions wife Gabby (Kelly Preston), "and you're gonna miss it — like the time he got the measles or stuck a jelly sandwich in the toaster."

To appease them both, Jack builds a snowman with Charlie (Joseph Cross), then gives him an old harmonica, telling his son that it has magical powers.

"Whenever you play this, no matter where I am, I can hear it," Jack promises. Driving to a big gig on a blustery Christmas eve, he abruptly turns around, realizing that his priorities are

back home. He never makes it.

A year later, Charlie is not over his dad's death. But one fateful blow on the harmonica changes all that, and Jack comes back ... as the front lawn's snowman!

Well let's stop right there. You can get the rest of the story from Scrooge, 'cause we're not telling. With dad as a "Wizard of Blizard," however, it's safe to say there are liberal elements of "E.T.," "Mr. Ed" and "Harry and the Hendersons" which means that your kids will do a lot of giggling, and you'll be grateful for a holiday film that really delivers the goods, with nothing more objectionable than an occasional double entendre on the rotund one's anatomy — or lack of one.

Michael Keaton is a delightful dad in both incarnations, but it's the snowman, not the man who has the best lines ("As if I don't have enough problems with these stick arms and a huge butt"). Kelly Preston ("Jerry Maguire") is an appealing and ever-understanding wife/mom out of the "Leave It To Beaver" mold, and young Joseph Cross ("Desperate Measures") is just marvelous as Charlie; he gamely resists multiple opportunities to go for the broad reaction, doing wonders with tender looks and inflections.

The film's star, of course, is Frost, the amazing animatron from Jim Henson's Creature Shop and George Lucas' ILM special effects lab. Five specialized puppeteers operated over 60 different combinations of the big guy, giving him life and limbs with which to throw snowballs at super-speed, play a mean goalie and even cry on cue.

First-time director Troy Miller and veteran director of photography Laszlo Kovacs provide refreshingly creative shots throughout, getting only a bit too gimmicky with early demonstra-



Enchanting: Charlie Frost (Joseph Cross) with his dad Jack Frost, who has returned to life as a snowman, in Warner Bros.' heartwarming family comedy, "Jack Frost," starring Michael Keaton and Kelly Preston.

tions of Frost's newfound mortality. Former Yes bandmember Trevor Rabin furnishes a wonderful score, supported with a soundtrack that includes Hanson, Stevie Ray Vaughn and a

superb use of Fleetwood Mac's "Landslide."

Holiday cheers for "Jack Frost." It will warm the heart, light up a smile and melt the winter blues.

## Holiday gems

### Share classic movie favorites

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
STAFF WRITER  
Irogers@oe.homecomm.net

With shopping, parties and other assorted merrymaking, the holidays can be a very hectic time.

Sometimes it's nice to take a breather — to put your feet up and relax with a video. Movies, seasonal or not, are part of our collective memories.

There are some obvious traditional films people enjoy watching around the holidays. Like "It's a Wonderful Life" or "Miracle on 34th Street" — the latter a particular favorite of mine since childhood. There are the myriad of "A Christmas Carol" adaptations — my personal favorite is the one with George C. Scott, although my seven-year-old niece was quite amused by the Looney Tunes version.

Some of the other choices may not be so obvious. Another Christmas season favorite in our family was "The Shop Around the Corner." The 1939 romantic comedy starring James Stewart and Margaret Sullivan tells the story of bickering co-workers who don't realize they're lovelorn pen pals. (The e-mail version "You've Got Mail" is due in theaters shortly.) Everything gets

resolved on Christmas Eve.

Another fun holiday movie is "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" the 1987 comedy in which uptight businessman Steve Martin and shower curtain ring salesman John Candy encounter all sorts of obstacles, calamities and annoyances in an effort to get back to home for Thanksgiving. The version shown a television is very funny but the uncut video version is even funnier.

While probably not a film that immediately comes to mind around the holidays, there is always "Meet Me in St. Louis," the 1944 musical that manages to hit most of the major holidays during the year leading up to the opening of the 1903 World's Fair. Among the terrific songs is Judy Garland singing "Have Your Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

An important rule in life is "know your audience." That's especially true if you are going to show a movie to a collection of friends and relatives of varying ages and tastes. I recall spending a holiday with friends when one of the siblings pulled out a copy of "Angel Heart," a terrific but quite violent film. As one synopsis summed it up "Absolutely not for the squeamish or children." A

shockingly bad choice for a family gathering.

We'd like you to share your memories and thoughts about your favorite holiday movie viewing over the years. Send your comments with your name, age and hometown to kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net or fax at 734-591-7279 no later than Dec. 17. We'll run a sampling of your responses in our Dec. 24 edition.

### COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 11.

**"JACK FROST"**  
Fantasy adventure about a man who becomes a real father after returning to life as a cooler guy than he ever imagined possible — below freezing to be precise. Stars Michael Keaton, Kelly Preston.

**"STAR TREK: INSURRECTION"**  
The ninth entry in the "Star Trek" motion picture franchise finds Captain Picard saving the Federation from itself. Stars Patrick Stewart.

**"WAKING NED DEVINE"**  
A comedy fable about the true meaning of fortune. Someone in a small Irish town wins a lottery and the towns people want to share.

**"HARD CORE LOGO"**  
Exclusively at the Landmark Main Art Theatre. The story of four characters who struggle to reconcile their mythic punk rock past with the hangover realities of the present. A tale of lost dreams, the lure of the open road and memories of youth that fade in the rearview mirror.

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 18

**"THE LAST EMPEROR"**  
Re-release of Bernardo Bertolucci's director's cut of the Academy Award-winning drama based on the life of Puyi, the child who was the last emperor of China.

**"THE PRINCE OF EGYPT"**  
Feature-length animated musical about the life of Moses from Egypt's prince to delivering the Hebrews. Voice talents of Val Kilmer, Ralph Fiennes, Sandra Bullock, Michelle Pfeiffer.

**"YOU'VE GOT MAIL"**  
A romantic comedy about two book store owners, rivals who accidentally fall in love in cyberspace with Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan.



Networking: Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan in Warner Bros.' comedy-romance, "You've Got Mail."

Scheduled to open Wednesday, Dec. 25

**"DANCING AT LUGHNASA"**  
Exclusively at the Landmark Maple Art Theatre. The film adaptation of Brian Friel's 1991 Tony Award-winning play about five lonely sisters living a hard-scrabble life in rural Ireland whose world is shaken when their brother, a priest, returns from Africa a broken man. Stars Meryl Streep.

**"DOWN THE DELTA"**  
An emotional and riveting story where big city meets small town, young meet old, parents reconnect with children, and life for everyone becomes something unexpected.

**"THE FACULTY"**  
Science fiction thriller that blends teenage angst, cutting edge comedy

and out of this world special effects as the students of Herrington High School struggle to save the world from alien domination.

**"SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE"**  
Witty and fast moving comedy set in 1593 that follows the trials and tribulations of Will Shakespeare, a struggling young playwright who's suffering from a terrible bout of writer's block until he falls in love. Stars Joseph Fiennes, Gwyneth Paltrow, Geoffrey Rush.

Scheduled to open Friday, January 16

**"THE THIN RED LINE"**  
The story of an American rifle company during several months of one of the fiercest struggles of the twentieth century — the Battle of Guadalcanal. Stars Sean Penn, George Clooney, Woody Harrelson, and John Travolta.

## GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

### National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

**Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14**  
2150 N. Opdyke Rd.  
Between University & Walton Blvd  
810-373-2660  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows Until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat.

PSYCHO (R)  
BABE (G)  
BUG'S LIFE (G)  
HOME FRIES (PG13)  
JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)  
VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
AMERICAN HISTORY X (R)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
RUGRATS (G)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
WATERBOY (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### Showcase Dearborn 1-8

Michigan & Telegraph  
313-561-3449  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows Until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Fri, Sat, & Sun.

PSYCHO (R)  
BABE (G)  
BUG'S LIFE (G)  
HOME FRIES (PG13)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
WATERBOY (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### Showcase Pontiac 1-5

Telegraph Sq. Lake Rd. W Side of Telegraph  
810-332-0241  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows Until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily

BUG'S LIFE (G)  
VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
WATERBOY (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### Showcase Pontiac 6-12

2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of Telegraph  
810-334-6777  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows Until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Fri, Sat.

PSYCHO (R)  
BABE (G)  
HOME FRIES (PG13)  
JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)  
RUGRATS (G)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### One Venue

Warren & Wayne Rds  
313-425-7700  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows Until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat.

PSYCHO (R)  
BUG'S LIFE (G)  
JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)  
VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)

### ANTZ (PG)

ALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### Showcase Westland 1-9

6800 Wayne Rd.  
One blk S. of Warren Rd.  
313-729-1060  
Bargain Matinees Daily  
All Shows Until 6 pm  
Continuous Shows Daily  
Late Shows Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat.

BABE (G)  
ELIZABETH (R)  
HOME FRIES (PG13)  
RUGRATS (G)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
WATERBOY (PG13)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### Star Theatres

The World's Best Theatres  
Bargain Matinees Daily 9:00 AM  
Shows Starting before 6:00 pm  
Now accepting Visa & MasterCard  
"NP" Denotes No Pass Engagement.

Star John R  
at 14 Mile  
32289 John R. Road  
810-585-2070

No one under 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm.

BABE: PIC IN THE CITY (PG13)  
NP JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)  
NP HOME FRIES (PG13)  
RUGRATS (G)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
CELEBRITY (R)  
SIEGE (R)  
WATERBOY (PG13)  
PLEASANTVILLE (PG13)  
ANTZ (PG)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### Star Rochester Hills

200 Barclay Circle  
853-2260

No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm.

NP PSYCHO (R)  
NP ELIZABETH (R)  
NP HOME FRIES (PG13)  
NP VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)  
THE SIEGE (R)  
I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)  
ANTZ (PG)  
THE WATERBOY (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### Star Southfield

12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, Off I-96  
248-353-STAR

No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm.

NP PSYCHO (R)  
NP A BUG'S LIFE (G)  
NP BABE: PIC IN THE CITY (PG)  
NP HOME FRIES (PG)  
NP VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
NP ENEMY OF THE STATE (R)  
RUGRATS: THE MOVIE (G)  
CELEBRITY (R)  
I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)  
MEET JOE BLACK (PG13)  
I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (PG)  
WATERBOY (PG13)  
THE SIEGE (R)  
ANTZ (PG)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### Star Winchester

1136 S. Rochester Rd, Winchester Mall  
248-656-1160  
No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP A BUG'S LIFE (G)  
NP BABE: PIC IN THE CITY (PG)  
NP JERRY SPRINGER: RINGMASTER (R)  
RUGRATS (G)  
CELEBRITY (R)  
AMERICAN HISTORY (R)  
PLEASANTVILLE (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### United Artists Theatres

Bargain Matinees Daily, for all shows starting before 6:00 PM.  
Same day advance tickets available.  
NV - No V.I.P. tickets accepted.

### United Artist Oakland

Inside Oakland Mall  
248-988-0706

I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R) NV  
BELOVED (R)  
RUSH HOUR (PG13)  
WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (PG13)  
PRACTICAL MAGIC (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### United Artists 12 Oaks

Inside Twelve Oaks Mall  
248-349-4311

A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV  
VERY BAD THINGS (R) NV  
RUGRATS (G) NV  
THE WATERBOY (PG13) NV  
THE SIEGE (R) NV  
ANTZ (PG)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

### United Artists West River

9 Mile  
2 Block West of Middlebelt  
248-788-6572

PSYCHO (R) NV  
A BUG'S LIFE (G) NV  
HOME FRIES (PG13) NV  
VERY BAD THINGS (R) NV  
ENEMY OF THE STATE (R) NV  
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VERY BAD THINGS (R)  
NP THE RUGRATS MOVIE (G)  
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STREET SCENE

# 'Hootenanny' pairs biggest Christian, secular acts



CHRISTINA FUOCO

DC Talk has won multiple Grammy Awards, sold millions of records and packed The Palace of Auburn Hills. The trio is considered superstars in the Christian rock world, yet, it's probably the least known band of Friday's "Holiday Hootenanny" line-up of Goo Goo Dolls, Edwin McCain and Semisonic.

While it might seem hard for DC Talk to win over secular music listeners, band member Toby McKeehan says he just stays focused on the music.

"When we're invited by a radio station we pretty much play our music and let our music speak for who we are and what we're about. We're definitely concerned with social issues, and obviously we're spiritual and our faith is very important to us," he said.

"But we try not to be preachy. When a radio station invites us to play a gig, the music's what got us invited there and we try to be respectful."

In this case, it was the song "My Friend (So Long)," a musical nod to Blur's "Parklife" album. The lyrically acerbic song tears into a Christian band that turned secular to get attention: "I saw your video on VH1/Looks like they spent a ton/How does it feel to be the flavor for a spell/And I remember when

you used to say/ 'Jesus is the way.'" The song came about during a songwriters' retreat at a chateau in France owned by Miles Copeland.

"We wrote it with Dominick Miller, who is Sting's guitarist, and Mark Hudson of the Hudson Brothers' Variety Show. It was 9 in the morning, we were all tired. We'd been writing every day for five days and this song comes out," he said. "We love it. It's a quirky little number. It's Queen meets the Beatles meets Grease."

Like most of DC Talk's material, it has full crossover potential — just look at the numbers.

"Detroit is our No. 1 market. The biggest show of our tour was at The Palace. I think we had between 10,000 and 12,000. Our opening gig after we got a record deal was at Cobo opening for DeGarmo and Key. We're looking forward to going back to Detroit. Detroit has been very, very good to us."

Soundtrack stars

The way Goo Goo Dolls guitarist/vocalist Johnny Rzeznik sees it, there's two types of musicians.

"They're either dumb or they're jerks. With this album, I was determined to have a good time because I'm miserable. I'm usually a miserable jerk," explained Rzeznik, who was unusually jovial.

Recording the Goo Goo Dolls' latest album "Dizzy Up the Girl" (Warner

Bros.) wasn't so miserable, he said, thanks to new drummer Mike Malinin. "Until Mike came into the band, it was always difficult. It had nothing to do with (the former drummer's) skill at playing the drums. He was a fine drummer. Mike would just cast a whole vibe on our situation. Mike really injected new life into the band," Rzeznik said.

Part of that "new life" included Rzeznik using an effects pedal with his guitar for the first time. Besides that, there's a more upbeat feel on the album, take the single "Slide," for example. Rzeznik attributed that to Malinin and the hits "Iris," from the movie "City of Angels," and "Name."

"It shocked the hell out of me," Rzeznik said about the success of "Iris."

"I'm on a record with Alanis Morissette and U2 and Peter Gabriel. I take my hat off to (soundtrack producer) Danny Bramson. He thought about making an actual soundtrack for once instead of slapping a bunch of songs on a CD and none of them are in the movie."

Banking on that success, the Goo Goo Dolls, which also includes bassist/vocalist Robby Takac, brought in Jack Joseph Puig to mix "Dizzy Up the Girl." He also mixed "Iris."

"He's got the most unbelievable studio. We camped out there for a month with him," Rzeznik explained. "We made out additions to it. I believe they're still there. I bought a bar. I installed a bar

too. It was so much fun at 2 in the morning. We'd walk out of the control room and then you could just go out to the bar. I'd mix some drinks for the boys and sit around and talk."

The Goo Goo Dolls are veterans of radio station promotional shows. Last month the band played a show for WXDG-FM (The Edge) at the 7th House in Pontiac. Now the trio will return to play WPLT's "Holiday Hootenanny" at Cobo Arena on Friday.

"I enjoy doing those shows. Occasionally we wind up taping those shows because they wind up being the coolest."

Big party

Stefan Olsdal of the androgynous Brit pop band Placebo has a different take on radio gigs. It's one big party — even if it does mean missing the acts he would like to see. At a recent East Coast show, Placebo was on the bill with former House of Pain rapper Everlast. But he and his band were much too busy to watch Everlast.

"We were having a disco in our bus. We just got this great bus with a really good sound system. We played some Barry White and got down."

Olsdal, Placebo and Everlast will come together once again to play "The Night 89X Stole Christmas" at Joe Louis Arena on Dec. 20. Placebo is touring in support of its sophomore effort "Without You I'm Nothing" (Virgin). The first single, "Pure Morning," which

debuted on the UK singles chart at No. 4, almost wasn't.

"We went into the studio to record some b-sides and 'Pure Morning' was part of the b-sides session. We brought in a guitar loop that we would never think we would ever use, laid down some bass and drums. By the end of the day, Brian (Molko, lead singer/guitarist) had some lyrics and vocals," Olsdal explained.

"When we were done, we thought it was way too good for a b-side. This has got to be a single. We gave it to the record company and they said, 'OK, Let's put it out.'"

Although "Pure Morning" has made Placebo stars in the UK, it has merely broke the band in the United States.

"We've been playing really small clubs. We played Aerosmith's club in Boston to like 50 people. The day before we played in Paris, France, to 2,000 screaming fans. We're going back three years to the type of clubs we used to play."

Christina Fuoco is the pop music reporter for The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have a question or comment for her, you can leave her a message at (734) 953-2147, mailbox No. 2130, or write to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

ANIMATION FESTIVAL

The 6th Annual Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation debuts Wednesday, Dec. 16 — Sunday, Jan. 3 Admission is \$6 at the door. All doors open at 7:30 p.m. / film 8:00 p.m. shows 18+. All doors 10:00 p.m. / film 10:30 p.m. shows 21+

South Park creators unleash Frosty\* in latest Sick and Twisted Animation Festival!

Determined to outdo the sold-out success of last year's festival, the folks at Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation have compiled over a dozen brand new cartoons (plus old favorites) for their latest compilation, including "Frosty," a never-before-screened cartoon from the creators of "South Park."

"Frosty" was the first cartoon made by animators Trey Parker and Matt Stone, about the battle between a homicidal snowman and baby Jesus. It features early versions of the characters who later appeared in their follow-up "Spirit of Christmas" short and eventually the high-rated "South Park" television show. "Spirit of Christmas," which will be shown again this year after highlighting last year's festival, finds Santa and a grown-up Jesus in a Kung Fu battle to the death while the profane grade schoolers of South Park stand by.

Essentially a pilot for "South Park," it's extreme rudeness makes it impossible to show on television.

Also on this year's bill: Floss: A humorous look at the many uses for dental floss.

Beyond Grandpa: A sick caricature of a typically benevolent family figure.

Monica Banana: A lewd take on the relationship between President Clinton and Monica Lewinsky.

Coco, the Junkie Pimp: In which marionettes engage in prostitution and drug use. Animalistic Times: The latest from the creator's of last year's gross-out squirm-fest, Sloaches Fun House.

Boris the Dog: About a happy-go-lucky dog who will do anything — and we mean anything — to get to the big city.

Sick and Twisted Special Games: Where bad taste meets people with special needs.

How to Get Pronged: In which the hapless Lloyd (who's self-mutilation antics have made him a festival favorite) gets a girlfriend. Plus: new episodes of No Neck Joe.

The Magic Bag began hosting the Sick and Twisted festival in 1993, unleashing Beavis and Butt-head for the first time on

unsuspecting Detroit audiences. Spike and Mike are California-based cartoon connoisseurs who have been producing and showcasing new animation for the past 20 years. The Sick and Twisted show plays to sold-out houses regularly around the country. The festival runs Wednesday, Dec. 16 through Sunday, Jan. 3. Tickets are \$6. For more information, visit: <http://www.sickandtwisted.com> spike.com/sick.html

The upcoming schedule:

Wednesday, Dec. 16 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 P.M. / Film 9:30 P.M. 18+

Thursday, Dec. 17 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 p.m. / Film 9:30 P.M. 18+

Sunday, Dec. 20 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 p.m. / Film 9:30 p.m. 18+

Monday, Dec. 21 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 p.m. / film 9:30 p.m. 18+

Tuesday, Dec. 22 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 P.M. / Film 9:30 p.m. 18+

Wednesday, Dec. 23 - 1 Show

Doors 8 P.M. / Film 9:30 P.M. 18+

■ Closed Christmas Eve  
Friday, Dec. 25 - 1 Show  
Doors 8 p.m. / film 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 26 - 2 Shows  
Doors 8 p.m. / Film 9:30 p.m. 18+ & Doors 10 p.m. / Film 10:30 p.m. 21+

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UNITED ARTISTS COMMERCE TWP. 14	UNITED ARTISTS 12 OAKS	UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER

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GENERAL CANTON	MJR SOUTHGATE 20
SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS	SHOWCASE DIARBORN
SHOWCASE BENTONVILLE 12	SHOWCASE PONTIAC
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MIL.	STAR SOUTHFIELD
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# What are you doing New Year's, New Year's Eve?

BY ELEANOR HEALD  
SPECIAL WRITER

The musical question "What are you doing New Year's, New Year's Eve?" has been asked for many decades. It's time to answer it for this year.

Whether you want a quiet dinner, one that includes romantic dancing or a grand party with midnight champagne toast and party favors, one of the following restaurants is sure to please. Please note that some restaurants require tickets paid in advance. But if you wait until the last minute to reserve, you'll most likely be disappointed just about anywhere.

■ **Andiamo West** - 6676 Telegraph Road, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 865-9300.

Gala New Year's Eve party in lower-level banquet facility beginning 8 p.m. at \$125 per person including tax and gratuity featuring open bar, six-course dinner, champagne at midnight, favors, band, special snack at 12:30 a.m. and breakfast at 2:00 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance for round tables seat-

ing 10, minimum of four guests.

■ **Big Rock Chop & Brew House** - 245 S. Eton, Birmingham (248) 647-7774.

A la carte menu including appetizers, soup, salad, main courses (ranging \$19-30), vegetable accompaniments and dessert. With any entree, one-half pound Alaskan King Crab Legs or lobster tail can be added for an additional charge. For reservations 10 p.m. or later, enjoy the music of Reggie Braxton on the Stone Terrace and ring in the New Year with champagne toast and party favors at no additional charge. Big Rock's fabulous upper level Got Rocks lounge is first come, first served, but be advised, it was packed last year at midnight.

■ **Cafe Bon Homme** - 844 Penniman, Plymouth (734) 453-6260.

From 5 p.m. to midnight an all a la carte menu has eight entree selections ranging \$29-33 and includes seafood, duck, lamb, veal, steak and Wellington of beef.

■ **Cafe Cortina** - 30715 W. 10 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills (248) 474-3033

Early diners can choose from the open menu beginning at 4:30 p.m. Starting at 9:30 p.m. there's a special package, \$85 per person including antipasto, pappardelle with pomodoro and basil, winter salad, choice of entree from among salmon, veal medallions, filet mignon or French-cut veal chop, and completed with Napoleon dessert. Also included are DJ dancing to top 40s, party hats and champagne at midnight.

Cafe Cortina is also offering a Christmas Eve Dinner with live holiday music, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24. The cost is \$65 per person. Entree choices include Rack of Lamb with roasted peppers and garlic, Filet of Sole "Meuniere" or Veal Medallions "Limone" Imported Artichokes. Call for information/reservations.

■ **Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro** - 26053 Town Center, Novi (248) 380-8460

Want dinner with quiet jazz music? That's on tap at Diamond Jim's between 4 p.m. and midnight. Five special entrees

accompanied by a salad range \$15-19. Start with an appetizer at \$8 and add dessert for \$7.

■ **Excalibur** - 28875 Franklin Road, (corner of 12 Mile Road and Northwestern Highway), Southfield (248) 358-3355.

New Year's Eve party (reserved seating by prepaid tickets only) with dancing and entertainment by The Warren Commission begins 9:30 p.m. at \$100 per person (not including liquor, tax or gratuity). Menu includes appetizer medley, mixed salad and choice of an entree from 2-pound lobster, veal porterhouse, sauteed chicken breast, swordfish or filet mignon, completing with dessert medley.

At the banquet center between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. at \$125 per person, same as restaurant menu but dancing and entertainment by The Jerry Ross Band.

■ **Fox & Hounds** - 1560 North Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, (248) 644-4800.

Regular menu selections with entrees ranging \$18-25 will be offered. Reservations 10 p.m. and later will have party favors

and midnight champagne toast. Pub entertainment throughout the evening.

■ **The Lark** - 6430 Farmington Road, West Bloomfield (248) 661-4466.

Two seatings for the fine dining we've come to expect at the Lark are 6 and 9 p.m. for the regular menu and prices.

■ **Opus One** - 565 East Larned Street, Detroit (313) 961-7766.

Two seating periods 5 or 5:30 and 7:30 or 8 include offerings from the regular menu. A 9:30 or 10 p.m. seating at \$75 per person includes a four-course dinner from a special expanded menu. Also, at this time, you can listen and dance to the smooth sounds of B&B. Price includes party favors, but not beverage, tax or gratuity.

■ **Pike Street Restaurant** - 18 West Pike Street, Pontiac (248) 834-7878.

Seatings at 5:30, 7 and 9:30 p.m. for four course prix-fixe menu (including appetizer, salad, main course and dessert) at \$75 per person. Live music in the tavern beginning at 7 p.m. Late

seating diners receive complimentary champagne to ring in the New Year.

■ **Townsend Hotel Rugby Grille and Regency Ballroom** - 100 Townsend Street, Birmingham (248) 642-7900.

Several options are available at The Townsend. Seatings in the Rugby Grille are 5, 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Special dinner menus range \$65-85 per person and include choice of appetizer, salad, choice from among six entrees including Chateaubriand for two and dessert selection.

Beginning with a lavish hors d'oeuvres and chilled seafood display at 8 p.m. in the Regency Ballroom (black tie optional), \$150 per person or parties of six or more \$130 per person, the evening proceeds to dinner buffet at 9 p.m. including beef tenderloin, lamb chops, selected seafood, pasta and salad stations and ending at midnight with a world-class array of pastries, desserts and a flambe station. Until 1 a.m., DNR provides musical entertainment and dancing from jazz, swing, top 40 to oldies.

## Archie's celebrates anniversary, thanks customers



STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

Happy holidays: George (left) and Tom Palushaj in the newly renovated dining room at Archie's. Broiled N.Y. Steak, Braasted Chicken with mashed potatoes, and Greek Salad are among the many dishes you'll find on the menu at Archie's.

**Archie's**  
Where: 30471 Plymouth Road, (between Middlebelt & Merriman), Livonia, (734) 525-2820.  
Hours: 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Closed Sunday. Will be open until 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve, closed Christmas Day, Open 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. New Year's Eve, open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. New Year's Day, Jan. 1.  
Menu: Upscale family restaurant.  
Credit Cards: All majors accepted.

BY KEELY WYGONIK  
STAFF WRITER  
kwygonik@ec.homecomm.net

Open since 1981, Archie's in Livonia has been renovated three times. "We remodeled almost from the ground up; at least that's what the checkbook feels like," said Tom Palushaj of Farmington Hills who runs the kitchen of the family owned and operated restaurant. "You get into a project, and make changes as you go."

"We're established here, people know us," added his brother George of Livonia who manages the restaurant. "You've got to put money back into the business. From the beginning we had the relentless pursuit to become the

best restaurant on the west-side. We have the best service, the best food, and now we have the best atmosphere."

1996 with the new, expanded parking lot. To thank customers, and celebrate their anniversary, Archie's is offering 25 percent off, excluding alcoholic beverages, on Monday, Dec. 21.

The light fixtures, booth coverings, floor and kitchen are new. Oak-trimmed doorways, booths and tables, and glass etched accents help create a comfortable dining atmosphere.

Architect Robert J. Tobin of Tobin Associates in Troy

designed the upscale contemporary exterior of the restaurant. The bathrooms were also remodeled.

"The good news for customers is that prices were raised very little. "We want to make sure we keep our prices affordable for families," said Tom.

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CYMBAL GRATTITUDE STEEL BAND

**ONE FREE SANDWICH** with purchase of any item of equal or greater value. Sun. - Thurs. w/coupon. Dine-In Only. Jamaica Joe's. Expires 12-30-98.

**ONE FREE DINNER** with purchase of any dinner entree of equal or greater value. Sun. - Thurs. w/coupon. Dine-In Only. Jamaica Joe's. Expires 12-30-98.

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Charles Dickens' **A Christmas Carol**  
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November 21 - December 27

**Meadow Brook Theatre**  
Oakland University's Professional Theatre  
For tickets call **Meadow Brook Box Office (248) 377-3300**  
Tickets also available at all Ticketmaster locations (248) 645-6666

Supported by **Observer & Eccentric**

**SEATS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THESE DATES!**

Thursday, Dec. 3, 8:00 p.m.	Saturday, Dec. 19, 2:00 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 4, 8:00 p.m.	Saturday, Dec. 19, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 5, 2:00 p.m.	Sunday, Dec. 20, 2:00 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m.	Sunday, Dec. 20, 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 6, 2:00 p.m.	Tuesday, Dec. 22, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m.	Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 10, 8:00 p.m.	Wednesday, Dec. 23, 8:00 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 11, 8:00 p.m.	Thursday, Dec. 24, 2:00 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12, 2:00 p.m.	Saturday, Dec. 26, 2:00 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12, 6:30 p.m.	Saturday, Dec. 26, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 17, 8:00 p.m.	Sunday, Dec. 27, 2:00 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 18, 8:00 p.m.	Sunday, Dec. 27, 6:30 p.m.