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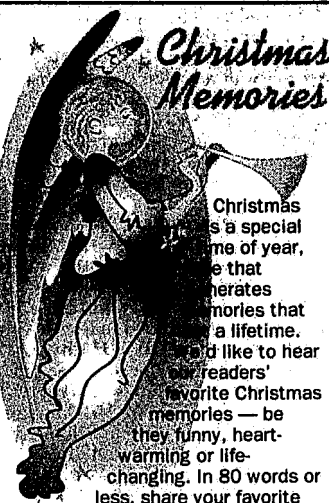
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Christmas Memories



Christmas is a special time of year, one that generates memories that last a lifetime. We'd like to hear from readers' favorite Christmas memories — be they funny, heart-warming or life-changing. In 80 words or less, share your favorite Christmas memory with us (neatly written or typed) and send, fax or e-mail it to our office by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17. Please include your name, address and daytime phone number for verification. (We will print only your name.)

We will select some of the best responses for publication in our Christmas edition.

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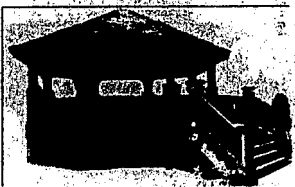
INDEX

Calendar	A16
Clarkston Life	A13
Classified Index	E5
Crossword	E8
Employment	E11
Entertainment	C
Obituaries	A2
Op-ed	A11
Police News	A2
Real Estate	E5

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VINTAGE



CLARKSTON

Last week we began looking at how villages in the area got their start. An intelligent, hard-working founder seems to be what every successful town had in common. Saline, west of Ann Arbor, also fits the bill.

Saline was founded by a man named Orange Risdon. He was a surveyor from New York who tried to survey a main road across Michigan. That road was known at the time as the Sauk Trail. It has also been called the Military Road, the Chicago Road, and finally Michigan Avenue (US-12), as it is today. Risdon built his house on a hill that overlooked both the Saline River and the new road. Though Risdon did not build any mills, he did, like San Dexter of Dexter, Mich., offer land to any churches who wished to build a congregation. He also used his house as a post office and allowed a man named Silas Finch to open a store there as well. It was the Chicago Road (Michigan Avenue), as well as the railroad which came through in the 1870s, that helped the town to grow. The railroad even helped establish the first bank in Saline. A man named William Davenport had a grocery store with a safe in it. When people came through on the train, they asked him to allow them to put their valuables in his safe, while they were in town. Eventually, he had more and more to put into his safe, and his store evolved into a bank.

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

Businessmen may start new bank



A group of Clarkston business owners wants to form a new community bank with branches in Clarkston and/or Independence Township. The entrepreneurs believe local banks serve the needs of residents better than national banks.

BY CAROLYN WALKER
STAFF WRITER

Spurred to action by the recent closing of the downtown Clarkston branch of National Bank of Detroit, seven area businessmen have decided to launch a new community bank.

The drive to start up the bank is being spearheaded by Food Town owner Ed Adler, who conceived the

idea, former banker and First of America President Dave Harrison, an Independence Township resident and owner of Trophy Homes, and Clarkston Chrysler/Plymouth dealership owner Chuck Fortinberry.

The three said at a press conference, held last week in Adler's downtown Clarkston office, that they have not yet decided on a location for two branches they hope to open in June 1998 but the

branches will be located within Independence Township or the city of Clarkston. It is possible that a third branch will be offered in the future.

Service to the local community — its residents and business owners — is their goal, they agreed, with Harrison observing that large national banks tend to focus on internal needs and problems and not on the people they serve.

The new bank will provide low-interest loans to business people with dependable track records, savings and checking accounts, home and auto loans, home equity loans, safety deposit boxes, financial advice and the

like. "It seems to us over the past couple of years that the level of local service hasn't been what one would like it to be," Harrison said. "In a local sense we can understand the needs of this community better... and develop a service delivery system that deals with those. It's not going to be an enormous bank. The purpose is to serve the financial needs of the community."

A large public outcry went up when banking officials notified the community they would be closing the Main Street NBD branch earlier this year.

Please see **COMMUNITY BANK**, A6

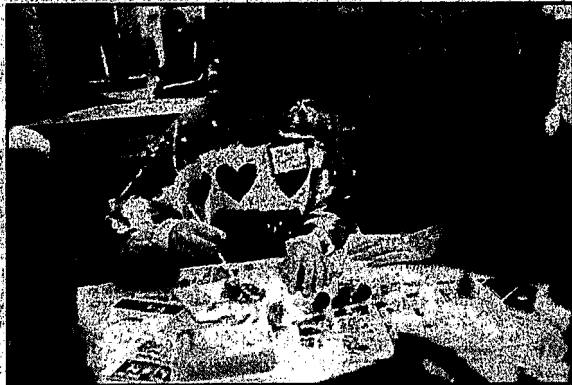


Christmas craft: Katie Vanderveon glues together her Christmas craft during the Super Saturday day program held Dec. 6 at Bailey Lake Elementary School in Clarkston.

Super Saturday another success

For seven years, Clarkston Community Education has offered kindergartners through fifth-graders the chance on the first Saturday in December to craft homemade holiday gifts for their parents and other loved ones.

This year's Super Saturday program, held Dec. 6 at Bailey Lake Elementary School, drew 200 youngsters who got to make three Christmas crafts each, said Chris Smith, youth enrichment coordinator for community ed. The youngsters chose from 24 craft projects. One mother liked the program so much, she paid the \$20 fee for both her daughter and herself, turning the morning into a special time together, Smith said.



Helping hand: Beth Anderson (right) helps Jessica Goyke paint a Christmas ornament.

Meeting called over school construction concerns

BY JAN BAKER
SPECIAL WRITER

Clarkston's school board has invited the Independence Township, Springfield Township and City of the Village of Clarkston boards to a joint meeting Jan. 19 to resolve road concerns at Clarkston's new high school.

The board also expects to and discuss sites for a new elementary.

Board president Karen Foyteck announced the invitation Monday night during a prepared response to recent local newspaper stories in which

several Independence Township representatives criticized the school board's actions on its new construction projects. Foyteck urged trustees from local municipalities to work cooperatively and communicate with the schools to reach the best solutions for the community and its students.

The district has been listening to concerns and gathering data from the very beginning of new construction planning (for the new high school), she said. "Some of the (road and traffic)

concerns that have been raised are not within our governance to decide. And so that information has been passed to the appropriate agencies for their information and consideration.

"There is no way to construct a school in a vacuum. And there is no perfect site. The representatives of Clarkston schools have made a deliberate and conscious effort to communicate with our local officials to openly discuss issues that affect us all."

Contrary to reports that problems

continue to plague the high school construction, only two serious concerns have been brought forward: The storm and sanitary sewer issue and (the potential effect of increased traffic on) Flemings Lake Road. We have complied with the township's request regarding the requirements for the installation of the storm and sanitary sewers. And we are currently completing the traffic study requested by the Oakland County Road Commission in

Please see **MEETING**, A7

School bank interests pupils in saving money, for a change

BY CAROLYN WALKER
STAFF WRITER

Fresh out of the nippy morning air and just ahead of their school day, several Clarkston Elementary School students cast their coats onto the lobby floor in preparation for action Dec. 31.

"By the looks on some of their faces, you would think they were casting away their fortunes as well as they stepped up one by one and handed over cash to open new savings accounts

offered through the school in cooperation with National Bank of Detroit.

No need to worry. Their investments will pay off later, the adults around them agreed, even as the students owned up to the fact that they were, indeed, having fun.

Several "Mm-hmms" could be heard. "It helps students learn how to save, and they also learn how a bank operates," said Scott Smith, NBD vice presi-

Please see **SCHOOL BANK**, A5



High finance: Daphne Jordan (right) hands over a deposit to teller Angus Jordan, who happens to be her brother. Looking on are Liz Piper, customer service rep for NBD, and fellow student Josh Yoss.

Staff Photo by Dave Connolly

DAR citizenship award goes to 'top-notch kid' from Clarkston

BY CAROLYN WALKER
STAFF WRITER

Samantha Hardenburgh runs her fingers through her long, brown hair and with a tip of her head admits that even she does not know how she manages to do it all.



"Sam" Hardenburgh

"I would like to help people," she says simply, after some thought. "I always wanted to be with people. I always liked to work with people —

to work toward a common goal." The 17-year-old's vision and character were just two of the elements that helped her to secure one of this year's Good Citizen awards from the local chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Samantha was honored for the award during a luncheon Dec. 4. Awards have been given to high school senior annually by the NSDAR since 1934, except during the years of World War II. In 1975, senior men also

became eligible for awards.

Local recipients, selected at participating high schools, then compete at the state level with essays and the state winner goes on to the national level, where three winners are chosen for scholarships. The NSDAR is a patriotic organization made up of female descendants of Revolutionary War veterans, said Donna Himmelsbach, publicity chairwoman for the Sashabaw Plains chapter that gave Hardenburgh her award.

Hardenburgh was one of seven seniors in north Oakland County and southern Genesee County to receive an award from the chapter.

Hardenburgh, an Independence Township resident and Clarkston High School senior, is active in numerous school activities including student council; the Blue and Gold Club; Wolf, the principal's leadership group; National Honor Society; varsity girls' softball and basketball; and the senior executive board of the student government. She was selected by the senior class to receive the award after being nominated by teacher Paul Sabbag, the senior class sponsor.

"I thought she would be a good choice because she's just a top-notch kid — very responsible, very involved, just a hard work-

er," he said.

As for Hardenburgh, she credits her good friends with making her involvement easy.

"They're all great clubs," she says, shying away from personal acclaim. "I feel comfortable leading. I like helping people."

Hardenburgh, the daughter of Kenneth and Melissa, says she was surprised to learn that she had been selected for the award.

"Mr. (Brent) Cooley called me down during my first hour and I didn't have a clue," she says, remembering the day the high school principal notified her she had won the award.

"Automatically, I was like, 'Oh, no,'" she recalls.

"He said, 'You've won the DAR award.' He just told me it was an honor and I was elected by the staff and I was surprised because I didn't really know the criteria. I didn't know anyone noticed."

This year's essay topic was about the responsibility to preserve American heritage, Hardenburgh says. Hardenburgh's essay, like those of other local winners, will be reviewed at both the state and national levels before three national winners are selected to receive one \$3,000, one \$1,000 and one \$750 scholarship.

OBITUARIES

William Burton Willits

William Burton "Burt" Willits of Clarkston died Dec. 7, 1997, at age 72.

Mr. Willits worked in construction for W. J. Stewart in Waterford. He enjoyed bowling at Cherry Hill Lanes and gardening.

He is survived by his wife, Bonnie (Goffnett); daughters, Debbie (Mike) Fox of Colorado and Pam (Nick) Palaian of Rochester; and son, Dave (Carri) of Davisburg. He is also survived by seven grandchildren; a broth-

er, Beryl Hinz of Clarkston; and a sister, Marjorie Hickman of Hawaii.

Funeral arrangements and services were entrusted to Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home in Clarkston. Memorials may be made to the Rainbow Connection, 527 Pine Street North, Rochester 48307.

Robert E. Cole

Robert E. Cole of Clarkston died Dec. 2, 1997, at age 67.

Mr. Cole retired as senior designer in the engineering

department of C.P.C. (Pontiac Motor) and later worked for Chrysler.

He is survived by his wife, Patsy; daughter, Catherine (Steven) Chumler of Clarkston; two grandchildren; and a sister, Doris McLaughlin of Lake Orion.

Funeral arrangements and services were entrusted to Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home in Clarkston. Memorials may be made to American Heart Association, Clinton Valley Region, P.O. Box 721129, Berkeley 48072.

POLICE NEWS

The following incidents were reported to police and fire agencies in Clarkston, Springfield and Independence townships the week of Dec. 1-8.

Clarkston Police

For the first time in recent memory, a city of Clarkston home was broken into over the weekend while the residents were sleeping, said city police Chief Paul Ormiston on Tuesday. A woman's purse was stolen but no one was injured, he said.

In the Dec. 7 incident, officers responded to a West Church Street residence, where a woman said she had heard footsteps in her kitchen area in the early morning hours. Thinking it was her husband, she didn't respond. When the couple awoke later that morning, they found someone had entered their home, possibly using a credit card to slip a door lock, and removed her purse from the kitchen counter, Ormiston said.

The responsible person had also entered a vehicle in the garage and removed a cell phone and entered a vehicle parked in the couple's driveway.

Officers believe the same perpetrator entered at least two other vehicles in Independence Township and one other on Surrey Lane in Clarkston, said Ormiston.

"It's the first incident of this type in recent history," Ormiston said, referring to the breaking and entering of the residence.

Some credit cards from the woman's purse were later found by a jogger and were returned to the woman. In addition, someone saw an unknown walker place the stolen purse in a trash can on North Holcomb near I-75. Police would like to talk to the jogger and walker as a part of their investigation. Neither is a suspect, Ormiston said.

On Dec. 4, officers responded to an East Washington Street business on a medical call. A male patient was having low blood pressure problems. He was treated at the scene by the Independence Township Fire Department.

On Dec. 6, officers stopped a vehicle that was driving errati-

cally on Main Street near Princess. The driver, a 44-year-old Clarkston man, was arrested for drunken driving after a Breathalyzer test showed a reading of 0.10. He was lodged at the Oakland County Jail. Bond was later posted for him. He is to appear within the next 15 days for arraignment in 52/2 District Court.

On Dec. 8, officers arrested a disorderly person in front of a Main Street business. The man, who gave an Independence Township address and who was in violation of a parole order, was intoxicated and agitated, according to Chief Paul Ormiston. He hurled threats at passersby but no one was injured. The man was transported to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital for treatment. He was charged with disorderly conduct and has 15 days to appear for arraignment in 52/2 District Court.

Springfield Police

Thefts

On Dec. 1, a fax machine and computer were reported stolen from a business on Andersonville Road.

On Dec. 1, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Dixie Highway.

On Dec. 5, two televisions and speakers were reported stolen from a residence on Softwater Woods.

Trailer Fire

On Dec. 4, officers responded to a report of a fire at a camping trailer parked on Dixie Highway. There were no injuries.

Independence Police

Thefts

On Dec. 1, a briefcase was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Eastview.

On Dec. 1, a cellular phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Mary Sue Street.

On Dec. 2, a cellular phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Snowapple.

On Dec. 2, a cellular phone and cash were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Strawberry Lane.

On Dec. 3, a cellular phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Ranch Estates.

On Dec. 5, a lawn ornament was reported stolen from a residence on Scenic Pines.

On Dec. 5, a briefcase containing cash and papers was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Clinton Road.

On Dec. 7, a cellular phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Hillside.

On Dec. 7, a cassette disc player and cellular phone were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Deer Hill.

Vandalism

On Dec. 4, windows were reported damaged on a vehicle parked on Oak Park.

On Dec. 6, a windshield was reported damaged on a vehicle parked on Dixie Highway.

On Dec. 7, a rock was reported thrown through a window at a business on M-15, damaging a parked vehicle and light fixture on the business building.

Peeping Tom

On Dec. 1, a woman reported to police that a man peeped into a window at her residence on Sunnydale.

Independence Fire

During the week of Dec. 1-8, firefighters responded to 38 calls. Among them were 23 medical runs, 10 personal-injury accidents and one carbon monoxide investigation. The calls included:

On Dec. 1, firefighters assisted a 68-year-old man who was having a possible stroke at a residence on Wellesley Terrace.

On Dec. 2, firefighters assisted a 2-year-old child who was having respiratory problems at a residence on Mockingbird.

On Dec. 5, firefighters attended a patient who was unconscious from a diabetic reaction at a residence on South River.

On Dec. 5, firefighters attended a patient with hand burns at fire station No. 2 on Sashabaw Road.

On Dec. 5, firefighters assisted an unconscious diabetic at a residence on Old Cove.

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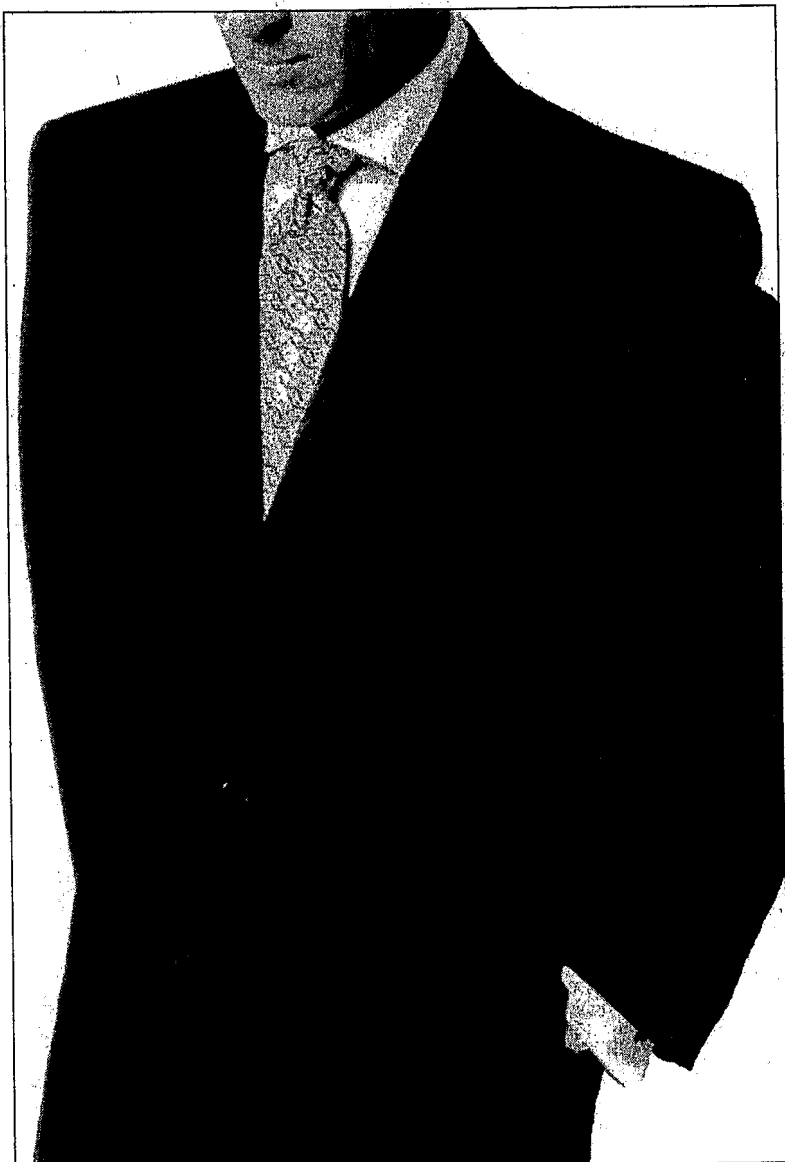
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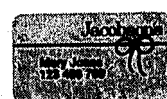
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Schools replace D.A.R.E. with their own drug education class

BY JAN BAKER
SPECIAL WRITER

So long, DARE.
Hello, WISE.

A new "in-house" drug abuse education program will be incorporated into the Clarkston schools' fifth-grade health classes next semester, according to Dave Reschke, the district's assistant superintendent of elementary operations.

In a presentation before Clarkston's school board Monday night, Reschke said the new program — which the district's health specialists will teach — has been tentatively named, "WISE" (Winning in Substance Education). It will replace the more costly and nationally-known DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program, which was instructed by an uniformed police officer. (The district paid that law enforcement instructor about \$20,000 a year to conduct the program.)

Though the instructional approach will look different with a home-grown and teacher-guided program, merchandising will still play a major role in generating enthusiasm among students, Reschke said. For example,

CLARKSTON

pupils are expected to be given the opportunity to create the district's WISE owl logo. And that mascot could become the symbol of drug abuse education in Clarkston schools. Someone in the district may also be recruited to don a WISE owl costume at district events.

According to health specialist Carla Teare, who is spearheading the new program, a portion of DARE's instructional content is expected to reappear in WISE "with a few adjustments."

Teare told the board Monday night that many details were investigated to get the WISE owl off the ground in Clarkston. "We looked at adequate funding for the resources, student materials, graduation, a mascot, the use of police officers as co-teachers for specific lessons, the rearranging of some class times for the flexibility we may need, and the cross-curricular approach — tying in art and music," she said.

Currently, Teare said no police officers had been secured as co-teachers for the program.

However, Teare reported that

WISE may contain some instructional elements that DARE lacked. One of those additions is parent involvement.

"That wouldn't necessarily take away from the teaching time that we have with students, but it would offer an opportunity for our health people to give the parents workshops and send home materials that can help parents interact with students," Teare said.

The new program may also include a "cross-age peer approach," the health specialist said. "In that sense, we can have the fifth-graders come and work with some of our first-, second- and third-graders. And we can have our eighth-graders work with our fifth-graders and be role models," she said.

According to Reschke, the district's health specialists were "ready to roll" and "really excited about doing our own project." However, he emphasized that instruction of drug abuse awareness is not limited to the fifth-grade project. "Our message to the community is that we're teaching these skills throughout the health curriculum," he said. "But this is where we're headed in fifth-grade."

Holiday party



PHOTO BY LEE SMITH

At the library: Children's entertainer Maureen Schiffman engages a group of children in song during the annual holiday party sponsored by the Independence Township Library and the Clarkston Area Optimist Club. Held Saturday, the party also included refreshments, a free book and a North Pole visitor.

German, 'high-tech' engineering classes among offerings at new Clarkston High

BY JAN BAKER
SPECIAL WRITER

When Clarkston's new high school opens next year, students there will run an on-site store, count in German, learn the back stroke, hone their writing skills in a specialized work area and program robots.

(After they get lost in the building a few dozen times, that is.)

According to Dave Reschke, the district's assistant superintendent who oversees curriculum adoptions and revisions, at least nine new or revamped offerings — including a marketing and retailing shop, introductory German, advanced placement U.S. history, swimming, a full-time

Trustee Janet Thomas commented that she was especially pleased with the increased toughness of some new and revised academic courses.

communication arts center, a "rigorous" psychology I and II, and a "high-tech" engineering sciences program — will unfold with the new building.

Reschke recommended the additions and changes before Clarkston's school board unanimously approved them Monday night.

"Though we're not moving into the building until next year," Reschke said, "these are prompted by the fact that we're going to have a better facility, a more technologically-advanced facility and a facility that has space for more kids."

After Reschke's 90-minute presentation, trustee Janet Thomas commented that she was especially pleased with the increased toughness of some new and revised academic courses. She also lauded the return of German, which Reschke said would become a four-year program, as long as student interest in the language supported two sections of instruction. Currently, the high school offers French, Spanish and Japanese.

School to start charging for driver's education

BY JAN BAKER
SPECIAL WRITER

Students who enroll in driver training through the Clarkston School District in 1998 will have to pay a \$60 fee.

Clarkston's school board unanimously approved the first-time instructional charge Monday night.

CLARKSTON

Dr. Mike LaBay, deputy superintendent of middle school/high school operations, recommended the fee because of a change in driver education funding from the state. "Until this year, state law required that the district

provide driver training to all eligible students without fees," LaBay said. "District program costs were about \$51,000 and were offset by a state payment of about \$21,000."

The new law allows the district to charge a student fee after state payments are matched by district expenditures, LaBay explained. "We estimate that the 1998 state payment will be \$60 per student," he said. Assuming a \$60 Clarkston match, it is estimated that students could be assessed a fee of up to \$60.

After the board vote was taken, secretary Sheila Hughes reminded the audience that private driving instruction still far exceeded the Clarkston schools' fee. "I think it's around \$250," Hughes said.

Superintendent Al Roberts agreed with Hughes' estimate. "When you compare it to private instruction, it's still a bargain," he said.

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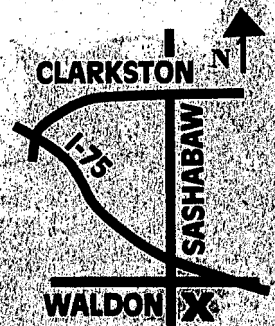
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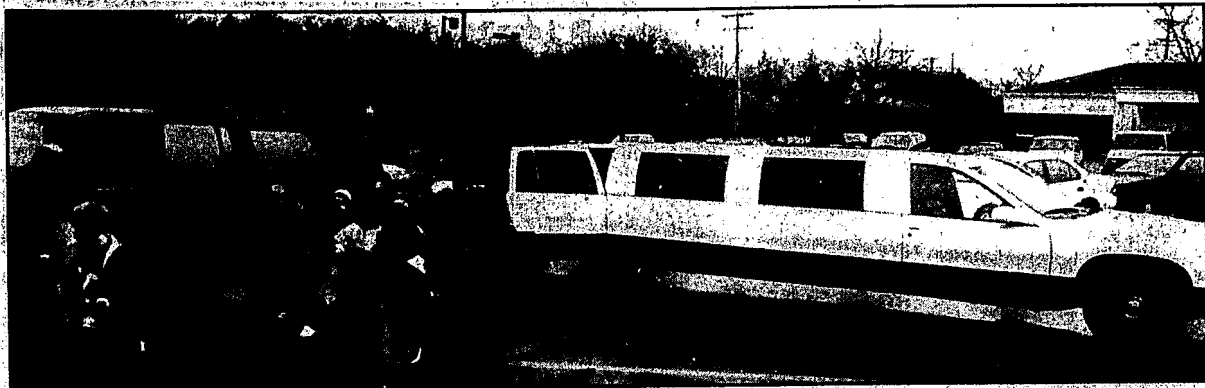
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STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Limo ride: Sixty-two students from Pine Knob Elementary School in Clarkston went out to lunch in style last week when they took turns riding in a limousine to Burger King on Dixie Highway in Independence Township. The students won lunches and limo rides after selling at least \$200 each during a recent fund-raiser sponsored by the school's PTA. The fund-raiser, which netted about \$17,000 for the school, involved the sale of products from Frankenmuth, including cheese, sausage and candy.

Committee to investigate downtown studies

BY CAROLYN WALKER
STAFF WRITER

There seemed to be a more upbeat tone at this week's Clarkston City Council meeting as its members, a few residents and several business owners conferred on how the city could improve its image and business district, with many people volunteering to help.

In recent weeks tempers have flared while the council agonized over how to rejuvenate the downtown district following the loss of some businesses including a bookstore and a bank and the threatened loss of a downtown grocery.

Following a presentation by Councilman David Savage about two consulting firms available for assistance in refurbishing small down towns, the council voted unanimously to appoint a subcommittee made up of one resident, two business owners and three council members.

They will investigate the costs and services of the two companies, called Main Street and HyettPalma Inc., and what they might have to offer Clarkston. They will also seek the advice of the city's planners, McKenna

CLARKSTON

Associates Inc., and report back to the council at its Jan. 12 meeting.

The subcommittee will be made up of council members Dan Colombo, David Savage and Karen Sanderson; business owners Robert Eshhaki and Shirley Wilson; and Leif Gruenberg, a new Main Street resident.

In June 1996, Savage brought HyettPalma Inc. to the attention of council members. On Monday night, he introduced Main Street, a consulting company that was recently profiled in Time magazine in an article about Americans' love for small towns.

Both agencies provide advice to government officials, residents and business people on how to establish downtown priorities. They also recommend ways to attract desirable businesses, restore buildings and host events that will bring in shoppers.

Council members Anne Clifton and Walt Gamble suggested that improvements could be made to the downtown district using experienced people from within the community, while others,

including Savage and Colombo, said the advice of professionals may be a necessity.

"We can't just adopt a program without knowing what we are going to try to do," said Gamble, who advocated formulating a vision for the city first. "We have to decide in our own minds, with the public, what is our course of action."

In attendance at the meeting were several business owners including Ed Adler, who owns the Mills Mall; Wilson, who owns The Parsonage; Buck Kopietz, who co-owns Tierra Arts and Designs; and Eshhaki, a co-owner of Rudy's Quality Market.

Kopietz, Adler and resident Jennifer Radcliff said it is important to seek the advice of outside facilitators, who have experience and knowledge in their fields.

"Nobody's had experience trying to bring a downtown back," Kopietz said. "I hate to try and spend time doing something ourselves when, at least the first part, they'd come in and do."

"I really think it would be money well spent," agreed Adler, who also said he believes the city should seek the uniqueness that will set it apart and make it attractive to visitors.

"I see it being specialized," he said of the business district. "Smaller stores that are unique enough that it would bring people to the downtown."

Savage has told the council in the past that it could cost as much as \$8,000 to \$10,000 to hire HyettPalma and he asked that the council contribute half of the cost. Thus far, the council has not allotted any money.

In an impassioned plea, Eshhaki asked council members, business people and residents to come together for the good of the community.

Last fall, Eshhaki said he and his partner would be moving Rudy's out of the city in about a year and a half. He said at the Monday night meeting that even if he moves the grocery business, he will keep the building and continue to have a vested interest in the community.

"We need to find our niche," he said. "We need to decide as a community what our niche is and go forward. If we all want to progress, move forward, we all have to put one foot forward. People want leadership. They'll follow, but you have to give them something."

NOTABLES

Bill Crystler of Clarkston has been promoted to regional vice president overseeing franchise operations in the West for Little Caesar Enterprises Inc., based in Detroit.

In his new position, Crystler assists Little Caesar franchisees with their operations and growth. He joined Little Caesar in 1991 in the franchise operations area, and, most recently, served as director of franchise services for the South region. He has more than 20 years of food service experience including 10 years of resort/hotel management.

BEI Consulting, a learning support and human resources consulting company based in Clarkston, recently completed a comprehensive customer service training program for Grace & Wild Inc. of Farmington Hills, which specializes in studio productions.

The program, entitled "Professional Service Works" and created by Carlson Learning, consists of five modules covering topics such as understanding and adapting to customer behavior, managing special service situations and problems, and improving productivity.



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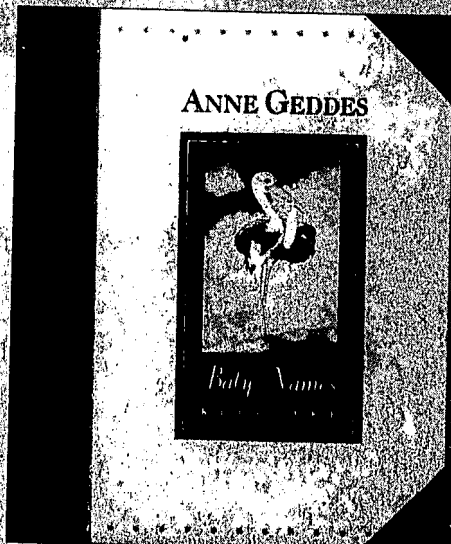
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Condos from page A1

single family and that the expressway and large business atmosphere contributed to the hardship. Birtsas has long contended that condominiums would provide a good transition between the commercial district and existing residences.

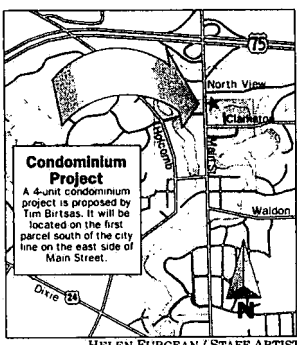
Because he was able to get the variance for his building without changing the parcel's zoning, as outlined by the new city master plan, Birtsas called the decision a "win/win situation" for himself and the city.

"The ZBA felt it was a legitimate request," said acting Chairman Jim Huttenlocher after the meeting. "The people there presented the most forceful arguments for the change. They did a good job arguing their position."

"The meeting was loaded on behalf of Tim. The village planners didn't really present a strong case against it," Huttenlocher continued. "I've lived in the village for 64 years and that lot has been vacant for 64 years. Some use ought to be gotten out of it."

Several neighbors also spoke in favor of the development.

Birtsas, a former professional baseball player turned developer, first proposed the condominiums last January. He took the project to the planning commission and city council this summer and was denied a change in zoning after McKenna Associates Inc., the city planners, recom-



HELEN PURCEAN / STAFF ARTIST

mended that the parcel's zoning class be maintained as single family residential in the city's new master plan.

City officials have been ardent in their efforts to maintain residential zoning and the historic integrity of the community, believing that changes in zoning could pave the way for future developers, accusations of spot zoning and lawsuits.

By obtaining the use variance, a change in zoning was not needed.

After the meeting, Lori Leland-Kirk, a planner from McKenna who was at the meeting, said they still recommend the lot for a single family.

"He can put two units on his lot without a use variance and we feel that you have to prove a hardship," she said. "We did not

feel that he proved a hardship. We're also concerned about other properties in the village that are bordering commercial."

"Basically, we feel that it sets a bad precedent."

In August, the planning commission formally adopted a new master plan for the community, recommended by McKenna and Associates, that maintained single family zoning for the Birtsas property, as well as property at Miller Road and Main Street, Waldon Road and Main Street and south Main Street.

The Waldon Road/Main Street corner has been proposed for an office building by Bob and Deanna Olsen. The Miller Street and south Main Street sites have existing homes. McKenna and Associates have expressed fears that at some future date, a developer might want to change zoning at those locations.

Now that he has the use variance under his belt, Birtsas needs to present a site plan to the planning commission and city council. He said he intends to work closely with those two governmental bodies as well as the city historical society.

Birtsas has said he would pattern his condo building after a large, pillared home on Main Street.

He intends, he said, to maintain Clarkston "character" in the development. He estimated previously that the condominiums will sell for \$250,000 to \$300,000 and be about 2,000-square-feet each.

"We want it to conform," he said, "because I just want to make this thing right."

Harrison, Adler and Fortinberry believe their bank can help fill the void created, even if they don't locate within the city limits.

"One hand serves the other," said Fortinberry. "We would help feed the growth here whether or not our bank is in downtown Clarkston."

And Adler added, "I don't think we're going to solve all the problems of downtown, but this could be a help."

Clarkston Mayor Sharron Catallo, who fought desperately to save the NBD branch, said of the proposed bank, "Obviously, anything that's going to benefit the community is a good idea. It's a great idea. It has a nice ring to it. It's a monumental undertaking."

The process of founding a new state-chartered bank involves making a dedicated application to the state Financial Institution Bureau. In that dedicated application the men will have to detail where the money is coming from to organize the bank — they will be putting up \$200,000-\$400,000 combined — and they must submit to background checks and provide a business plan outlining why the proposed bank will be a success.

In addition, the men have to have the bank insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, which includes a background investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a part of their founding procedure.

All of the men involved in the creation of the bank (there are no women founders) live or own

'I don't think we're going to solve all the problems of downtown, but this could be a help.'

Ed Adler
Clarkston businessman

businesses in the market area it will serve, except for one retired investor, Bruce McIntire, who resides in Orchard Lake. He was brought on board to give balance and perspective to the project, the men said.

Other founding members, called "primary incorporators," include Bob Olsen, an investment counselor; Lou Beer, an attorney; and Bill Clark, a general manager for Coldwell Banker Professionals.

The men, many of whom will sit on the board of directors, are putting up the initial funds for starting the bank, and stock will eventually be sold to the public, Harrison said. They anticipate that there will be women on the board of directors and in managerial positions, he added.

Fortinberry called large national banks a "monster that is difficult for a local business person to do business with. My interest is as a business person. I recognize the definite need for a service of this type."

Fortinberry said many large banking organizations charge high interest rates, service charges and banking fees, including charges for using

tellers, as a part of their business practices. And those practices discourage patrons.

"As these banks have gotten bigger, they're typical of people that have a monopoly," said Adler, noting that managers make their own rules. "A great myth in the world is that bigness means you can do things cheaper. They don't do things cheaper. What they do is develop a monopoly and they raise the prices."

A community bank, the men contend, has more flexibility and can tailor loans to the individual needs of local business people which, in turn, can help to stimulate local businesses and the economy. A community bank would also provide jobs for area residents, who they anticipate would stay on their jobs for long periods of time and who would be acquainted with the people who do business there.

In that manner, the men believe they can help promote business efforts in downtown Clarkston.

"We have a sense of community in Clarkston. When people say they live in Clarkston, they say it with pride. Without a community bank, it's difficult for the community," Harrison said.

He said the men would like to hear from community residents about whether they agree there is a need for the bank and whether they would patronize it.

"If people in this community don't agree, then we shouldn't be doing this," Harrison said. "If people in this community think this can be done, then we want them to tell us."

Community bank from page A1

School bank from page A1

dent of the Dixie-Maybee branch.

Armed with everything from \$1 to \$30, 30 fourth- and fifth-grade students took advantage of the offer to open accounts or contribute to existing accounts their parents had previously opened through NBD on their behalf.

An additional 15 fifth-graders opted to work as managers, tellers and security guards, all in an effort to learn about how the banking world operates.

"It's a nice habit that they can carry on until adulthood," said parent volunteer Sandra Jordan, whose son Angus was happily working as a teller, accepting his sister Daphne's money. "It's good for the kids."

"If (parents) encourage their

kids to save their allowances or even 50 cents, over time that 50 cents is going to build up."

Schools officials intend to have the bank open every Wednesday morning before school and may offer third graders the opportunity to participate at some future date if the program proves successful with fourth- and fifth-graders.

According to Smith, NBD, as a part of its pledge toward community involvement, has a number of in-school banking programs throughout the metro-Detroit area. This is the second time the program has been introduced at Clarkston Elementary. There is a similar program in place at North Sashabaw Elementary School, Smith said.

Cash sought for book donations

In keeping with the spirit of the holidays, a "Friends" Christmas Donation Tree is on display in the Springfield Township Library. All cash donations received will be used to purchase books as gifts to be distributed to children through Davisburg's

"Neighbor for Neighbor" program. If you can't visit the library, checks may be mailed to the "Friends," Springfield Township Library, 10900 Andersonville Road, Davisburg 48350. Please indicate "Books for Children" on your check.

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Festival Singers



Coming to Clarkston: The Festival Singers, who are appearing every weekend through Dec. 27-28 during the Old Tyme Dickens Festival in downtown Holly, will perform 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, in the Clarkston Cafe in downtown Clarkston. Dinner reservations may be made by calling 625-5660. During the Dickens Festival, the Festival Singers perform an audience-participation adaptation of "A Christmas Carol" and sing a cappella arrangements of favorite holiday tunes and carols. For festival information, call 248-634-1900.

Meeting from page A1

an effort to reach appropriate action to resolve the questions related to traffic concerns."

At a Nov. 18 Independence Township board meeting, trustee Neil Wallace expressed ongoing concern about the expected traffic increase on Flemings Lake Road because of the high school's opening in August of 1998. Aside from potential congestion on that two-lane dirt road, he pointed to a probable circulation crunch on Clarkston Road, which curves at Flemings Lake Road.

Wallace, who served as a planning commission chairperson in the 1980s, said the schools held a track record for ignoring issues that affect the township. "...The proof is in the history. They have disregarded, time and again, our legitimate concerns," he said. During that same meeting, Wallace — and fellow trustee Jeff McGee — voted that the district be legally made to abide by township planning procedures when locating and building new schools in the future. That vote was defeated 5-2.

Currently, the state inspects and approves site plans for school districts.

Under that legislative mandate, schools are not required to apply to a township for site-plan

consideration or special land-use permits.

According to Foyteck, the schools have nonetheless acted as responsible and receptive community partners. She said district officials have met regularly with Independence Township representatives "more than 16 times since July of 1996." Those discussions related to construction topics such as: storm and sewer, water connections, roads, fire suppression and possible sites for a new elementary school. During the same period, Foyteck said the board also convened with the road commission and Springfield Township officials.

Moreover, she pointed out that Clarkston's school board actively encouraged communication by inviting the three municipal entities to meet in a four-board session last July. "Unfortunately, they were not able to attend on the date that we chose," she said.

Jim Wenger, Independence Township treasurer and a former Clarkston teacher, attended the school board meeting Monday and gave his reaction to the January joint session. "Hopefully, it's an attempt by both groups to communicate and cooperate," Wenger said. "It's one thing to have a meeting, but another thing to resolve issues — and there are issues to resolve. It's difficult because there is a past history and most of the people who are on the boards now were not a part of that history..."

School board member Janet Thomas — a trustee for more than 20 years — said at the end of Monday's meeting that even though all four boards hold different responsibilities and perspectives, they must be able to agree on a shared vision in order for the community and its schools to progress. "We have to be positive and go forward for the common good," Thomas said.

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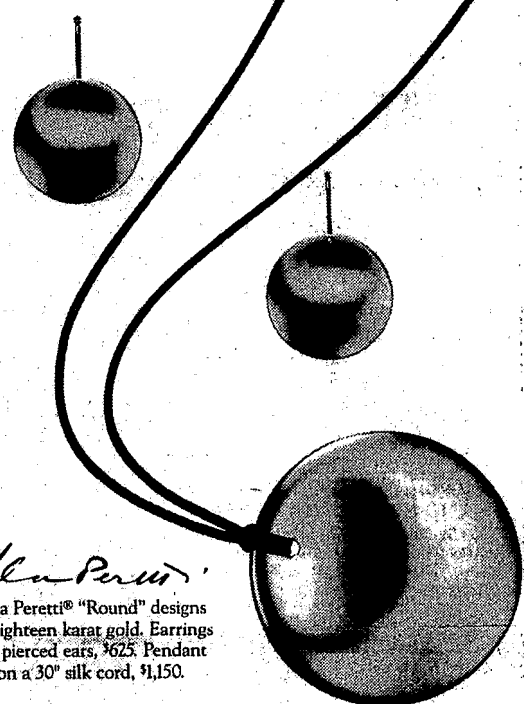
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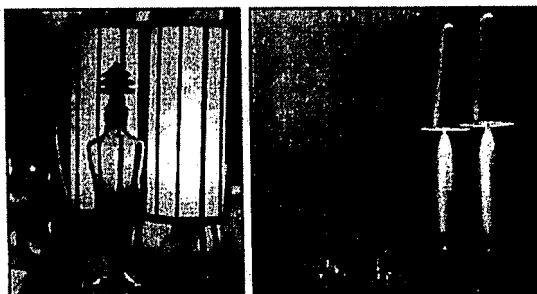
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Clarkston dancers



'Nutcracker Ballet': Clarkston-area members of the Lakes Area Civic Ballet will perform "The Nutcracker" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, in the West Bloomfield High School auditorium. Dancers are: (front row, left to right) Ashley Shaw, Jennifer Cloutier, Katie Marie Tuson; (middle row) Rachael Lunn, Gretchen Bretz, Amanda Cummings, Jenni Colbert, Diana Kring; (back row) Jessica Lewis, Megan Baker, Kelly Dobbins, Maggie Ness and Allison Moss. Tickets may be purchased by calling 666-1971.

Independence Library offers free access to Internet for card holders

BY DIANE BALDWIN
SPECIAL WRITER

In a month's time, residents of Independence Township dial into the Internet more than 4,000 times — free of charge — via the Independence Library, and you can, too.

All you need is identification (a driver's license), a valid library card (free of fines) and an application (available at the circulation desk). The service allows you to access the Internet from the library terminal or from your home computer — with a free local-access phone number. Not only will you have unrestricted access to the Internet, you will also be able to access the library's online catalog and full text databases via the 16-line modem pool. (The service does not provide free e-mail, but it is available for \$10/month; however, the library provides a list of sources that offer free e-mail.)

If you are leery of trying the Internet without the visual guides that other online services provide (i.e. CompuServe or AOL), the library also offers free classes that help orient new users on accessing the Internet using Netscape Navigator. If the

The service allows you to access the Internet from the library terminal or from your home computer — with a free local-access phone number. Not only will you have unrestricted access to the Internet, you will also be able to access the library's online catalog and full text databases via the 16-line modem pool.

whole Internet concept is new and a bit scary to you, the class "Libraries Sure Have Changed" may help get you repped up to cruise the Information Super Highway.

Once you are online, the Independence Library home page can be found at <http://MetroNet.lib.mi.us>. The site is a consortium of libraries where visitors select "Independence Library" from the menu. The Independence Library home page was designed to provide users with links to the following: the subscription database, a section on children's resources, the materials catalog and the Michi-

gan Electronic Library (MEL). The MEL has an array of links to other Internet sites and is organized by subject. The site is monitored and updated regularly by librarians at the University of Michigan and is "a valuable resource tool," said Library Director Mollie Lynch.

Why would you want to access the library's home page, you ask? Lynch thought of a few reasons. "When your child needs to do a book report or you need a particular book on a book list, you can dial into the materials catalog to see if it is available. If it isn't, it can save you a trip," she said. And, for avid readers who run to the library in hopes of checking out a book on the current bestsellers list, you can dial in to place a hold on the book, she added.

The library has recently received a grant that will help to establish a community information network via their home page that will offer information in the following five categories: Clarkston history, newspapers, community resources (i.e. directories for local organizations and businesses), local government resources (i.e. minutes of the city council and town board meetings) and census and demographics. Some of the categories above are in the development stage and will be completed over the next three to five years.

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ON THE AGENDA

These Santas fly to bring good cheer

Springfield Township
650 Broadway
Davisburg
625-4802, 634-3111
Board of Trustees Meeting
7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11
Tentative Agenda

Call To Order
Roll Call
Agenda Additions and Changes

Public Comment
Consent Agenda:

a) Approval of Minutes: Nov. 13, 1997 Regular Meeting
b) Acceptance of November Treasurer's Report
c) Receipt of November Reports: Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Litigation, Fire and Ordinance.

d) Authorize payment of bills as presented
e) Consent to entry of judgment vacating south portion of Jardine Street. (Portion never constructed. Abandoned by Road Commission.)

f) Establish 1998 Township Board regular meeting schedule for second Thursday of each month, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Springfield Township Hall.

g) Designate Clarkston Eccentric and Oakland Press as Springfield Township legal publications for 1998

h) Authorize Supervisor and Clerk to execute Transportation Services Contract with Independence Township

i) Deny Stulberg rezoning request from R-1 to R-2 and RM-1 for 113 acres at northeast corner of Dixie and Rattalee Lake Road because Mr. Stulberg has submitted a PUD rezoning request for the same property.

j) Reappoint Harry Kirk and Skip Wendt to ZBA for three-year terms

k) Support concept of prototype tornado shelter and possible local match for funding if project grant becomes available for construction/expansion at a township facility.

l) Receipt of Communications:
-Receipt of letter and resolution from Holly Area Schools
-Receipt of Road Commission letter and Supervisor's response on 1998 Tri Party

Public Hearing:
CDBG Reprogramming: 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996

Old Business:
1. Consumers Energy Franchise Ordinance
2. Fountain PUD-Continuation of First Reading

New Business:
1. CDBG Reprogramming: 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996

2. 1998 Gravel
3. Year-End Budget Amendments and Transfers

4. 1998 Salaries
Public Comment:
Adjourn:

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

Planning Commission
7:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 11
Tentative Agenda

Roll Call:
Public Comment:
Public Hearing:
File No. 97-1-059
Mr. George Kohs, Petitioner, Requests special land use approval for home occupation in R-1R Zone, Reese Road, 10 acres, 08-07-451-006

File No. 97-1-056
Bridge Lake Properties, Petitioner, Requests rezoning from R-1R (Rural Residential) to R-1A (Single Family Residential), Waterford Road, 20 Acres, 08-33-251-001.

Old Business:
File No. 96-1-029
Sandy Mahery, Petitioner, Requests final site plan approval for Pine Tree Place, Assisted Living Residence for Elderly, Parview, 4.6 Acres, 08-29-377-019

File No. 94-1-007
Victoria Martinez, Petitioner, Requests extension of final site plan approval granted 10/27/94 and extended 1/23/97, Sashabaw Road, Lot 7, Supervisor Plat No. 8, 08-34-201-010

File No. 96-1-031
Elderly Housing (Set date of Public Hearing)

New Business:
Approval of Minutes: October 23, October 30, and November 13.

Continuing Review:
Planner's Review:
Staff Report: Pontiac Coil — Signage

Committee Report:

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

Township Board
7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 16
Meeting at Independence Township Fire Station No. 1, 6500 Citation Drive

Tentative Agenda
Call To Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call
Opening Statements and Correspondence

Approval of Agenda
Minutes of Previous Meeting
Approval of Accounts Payable Check Run
Approval of Purchase Orders

Public Forum
New Business
1. Cairns Iris Infrared Imaging-Fire

2. Discussion on Proposed Inline Deck Hockey Rink-Sashabaw Plains

3. AFLAC-Section 125
4. Appointments to Committees and Commissions

5. Request to Hire Clerk-DPW
Only those matters that are listed on the agenda are to be considered for action. A majority of the Board members may add or delete an agenda item.

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

Zoning Board of Appeals
7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 17
Tentative Agenda

Case No. 97-0130
Michael Furneaux, Petitioner, Requests variance to effectuate splitting of property, Old Cove Road, Lot 242, R-1A, Lake Oakland Woods No. 3, 08-34-251-031.

The above request may be examined at the Independence Township Building Department during regular hours Monday through Friday until the date of the public hearing. For further information, call 625-8111.

BY SANDRA ARMERUSTER
OAKLAND COUNTY EDITOR

Santa Claus isn't the only one taking to the skies this holiday season. More than 200 pilots zoomed out of Oakland County International Airport in Waterford Saturday, bearing gifts for children around the state.

"It's really a good thing," said pilot Dale Cason, an Oakland County Sheriff's Deputy working out of the Lake Orion subpost. "It gets bigger every year."

Known as Operation Good Cheer, the project began in 1971 with a group of volunteers who wanted to share with children less fortunate. Cason joined the program in 1989 and has been a yearly participant ever since.

This was the first year that pilot and Sheriff's Deputy Mike Wickham joined a friend to fly a Piper Archer to Harry Brown Airport, about seven miles southeast of Saginaw. The two men are part of flying club at the airport.

"It's a good program with a way to get a couple of hours flying in plus help out kids who don't get much of a Christmas," said Wickham, who has been a deputy for 24 years and currently works in the traffic division in the main sheriff's office on Telegraph in Pontiac.

In the first year of Operation Good Cheer, 66 children were

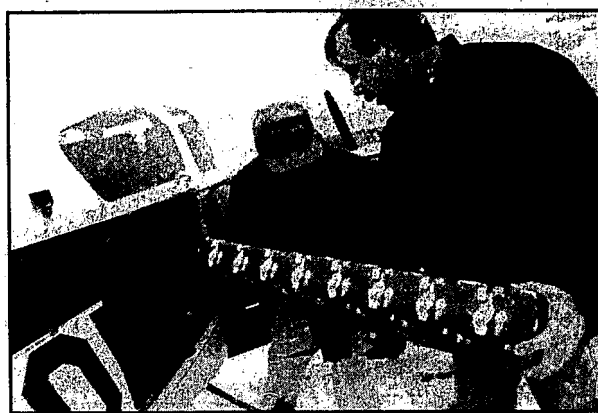
helped. In 1997 that number has jumped to 2,592 foster care children, teenagers and developmentally delayed/disabled adults participating. Some clients have minimal family contact, while others have none.

This year's program involves 26 private, non-profit agencies participating, 55 donor groups, trucks that delivered 3,500 gifts and, of course, the pilots who delivered 4,500 gifts to 17 airports.

Pilots munched donuts and sipped coffee Saturday as they waited for clearance to take off. Only instrument-certified pilots were allowed to fly, due to Saturday's untimely snow storm.

The snow was no problem for Cason on his way to a Washtenaw location. "At 5,000 feet, the sun was shining," he said.

Wickham's destination was "not too far and just far enough" with the snow and ice in the



Upward bound: Carl Schultz (left) helps Dale Cason load gifts for children onto Cason's plane for a Washtenaw County destination. The event was called Operation Good Cheer.

Besides serving as a sheriff's deputy, he has been a commercial pilot for four years and a flight instructor for three years. "I enjoy teaching," Cason said. "I always mention when I have students that, hey, you can participate, too."

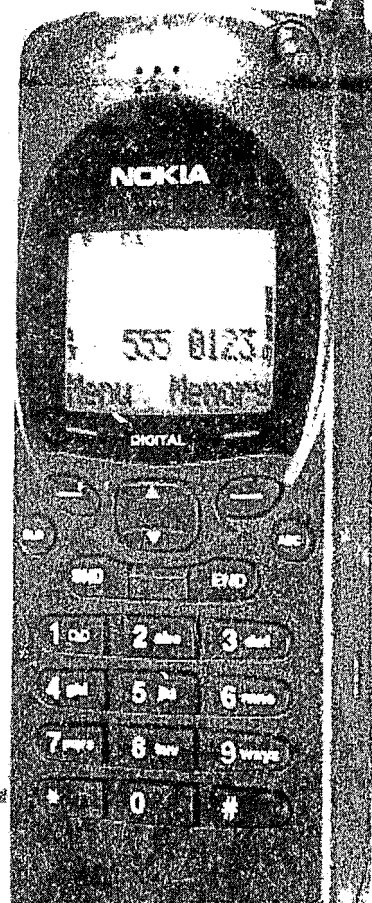
Like Cason, Wickham now has a commercial pilot's license and instrument rating. Flying, said Wickham, is "good stress relief. I laugh at people in long lines on I-75."

Another large part of Operation Good Cheer is the Children's Entitlement Fund. It enables foster children and youth to have needs met throughout the year. In 1996, more than \$11,500 was distributed to foster care youth.

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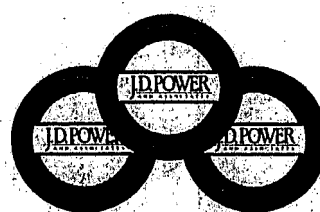
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Clarkston Eccentric®

OPINION

A10(CL)

7151 ORTONVILLE ROAD, SUITE 2, CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN 48346

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1997

Banking business

Competition benefits Clarkstonites

A group of business people is planning to open a new bank in Clarkston. Though they don't know yet where they'll put their bank, they do know that they want to serve the community in a way they think big banks no longer do.

Their announcement came three months after NBD closed its downtown Clarkston branch because there was no room to expand or install a drive-through. (NBD has two remaining locations in Independence Township.)

The intended founders of the new Clarkston bank have the philosophy — one they undoubtedly hope will bring them lots of businesses — that the big banks serve themselves, as opposed to their customers or the community. They point to big banks' excessive and high banking fees as evidence of their self-serving attitudes.

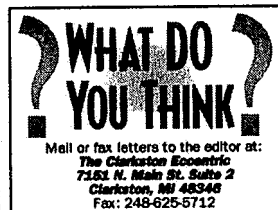
The new Clarkston bank intends to offer low-interest loans to local businesses, as well as checking and savings accounts and home equity loans to residents. Local folks would serve on the bank's board of directors.

The intended founders of the new Clarkston bank would like to hear what Clarkston-area business people and residents think of their idea. They want to know if folks would support their bank by patronizing it.

We're not sure if a new bank in Clarkston would make it or not. We'd like to hear, by way of letters to the editor of our newspaper, what our readers think. However, we do have a couple of observations to make:

■ We've noticed that big banks can also be community-oriented. For example, Jeanne Hart of National Bank of Detroit and Cathy S. Priest of First of America

volunteer as members of the board of directors of the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce. NBD also sponsors a



school bank in local elementaries and has committed to helping the Clarkston Community Historical Society open a local history museum.

■ There are a lot of small local banks already serving the Clarkston community. While none is headquartered in Clarkston, these small banks have branches in Clarkston and Independence Township. At the risk of missing some, we'll name a few of the obvious: State Bank, which has a branch in Food Town in Independence Township; Oxford Bank, which has a branch just north of downtown Clarkston; and the new Republic Bank, which opened in downtown Clarkston across the street from the now-closed NBD branch.

We wish the group of business people well in their endeavor. After all, competition is a good thing — and that, probably more than anything else, is what motivates any business, big or small, to put customers' needs ahead of their own.

Organ donor bills deserve OK

Three bills are plodding through the Michigan Legislature to strengthen the state's organ donor program.

Grim as it is to contemplate death, realistic adults should consider ways to donate organs and tissue, in the event of their sudden demise, to patients whose lives could be extended.

Michigan currently ranks 45th among the 50 states in per-capita donation rate. Michigan has 17 donors per one-million residents versus a national average of 21 per million.

It's not that Michiganders are stingy. Many just don't know about the program. Currently, Michigan drivers may affix an optional sticker to the back of their driver's licenses indicating they wish to become organ donors. It's a good system, but it could be better.

When hospital personnel determine there is a potential donor, they contact Gift of Life, an organization which checks its registry to see if there is someone in need.

"The single most frequent response we hear when families are asked about donating organs and tissues from a loved one, is 'We never talked about it; we'd better say no,'" said Tom Beyersdorf, executive director of the Gift of Life Agency in Michigan.

But when the wishes of the deceased are known, family members invariably honor those wishes. That makes common sense.

There are five organs that medical people can transplant to patients. In Michigan each year, there typically are more than 270 kidney

transplants, 100 or so livers, more than 40 hearts, 30 pancreas and 35 lungs.

The state House of Representatives has passed three bills by votes of 102-0 and 105-0 to ease organ donations. Sponsors are Democrats Lynne Martinez of Lansing and Lingg Brewer of Holt.

The concept is supported in the Senate by Republican John J.H. Schwarz of Battle Creek. "On any given day," said Schwarz, "nearly 2,000 Michigan patients are waiting to receive a vital organ; 150 of those will die this year because no organ became available. These deaths are senseless," said Schwarz, a physician and surgeon who should know.

The bills, currently awaiting Senate action:

■ House Bill 4029 would allow a donor to sign a consent sticker on the reverse side of his or her driver's license that would be sufficient permission to remove organs in case of death.

■ HB 4030 would require the secretary of state to ask applicants of licenses whether they would like to make an anatomical gift. This is tie-barred to HB 4029, meaning both must be passed for either to become law.

■ HB 4031 is the same as 4030 except that it would apply to applicants for a state identification card.

Use those bill numbers when you write to your state senator, Mat Dunaskiss, a Republican, in care of: State Capitol, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

What do you hope Santa will bring you this Christmas?



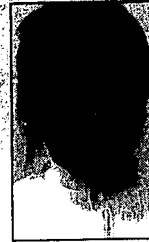
"Legos. Star Wars stuff."
Nick Marshall, 7



"Super Nintendo with the Scooby-Doo game. A real talking Bubba. It's a little teddy bear."
Heather Arnold, 7



"It's a bear that you clap and it snores."
Whitney Francis, 7



"A real dog. A golden shepherd."
Melissa Fitzpatrick, 7

This question was asked at North Sashabaw Elementary School in Clarkston.

LETTERS

Burger King did it right

Thanks to Myron Grosz and the wonderful employees at the Burger King on Dixie Highway, all 62 children had a great time. This is my first year doing fund-raising for Pine Knob Elementary and this special day could not have gone so smoothly without the friendly and helpful service that Burger King showed us. I look forward to next year.

Renae Billups
Independence Township

Pension debate has 2 sides

The article regarding the Oakland County Sheriff's Department command officers' pension in the Nov. 27 Eccentric lacked a few important facts.

Did you know that...

■ Deputies currently have a higher pension benefit than the command officers who supervise them.

■ Out of 184 deputies eligible to test for the rank of sergeant, only 22 chose to take the test at the most recent opportunity.

■ There are sheriff's department sergeants willing to accept a voluntary demotion to deputy, not due to the duties involved, but due solely to the more desirable pension received by deputies.

■ The command officers have agreed to contribute 5 percent of their wages into the pension fund in order to offset the cost of funding the awarded pension benefit.

■ A senior deputy accepting a promotion to sergeant also accepts a \$3,000 decrease in annual pay since the command officers have not received a pay raise since 1995.

■ Taxpayers' dollars are being spent to appeal an arbitrator's award, which is described by state law as "binding arbitration." Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson chooses to ignore this law, which is the same law making it unlawful for public safety officers to strike.

■ There are currently 21 command officers eligible to retire who are unable to do so until this issue is resolved.

We merely ask you to print all of the facts of this important issue, not just those given to you by Patterson.

Lt. Joseph Quisenberry,
Rochester Hills station commander
Detective/Sgt. Joseph Duke,
Rochester Hills station

Solutions 'not yet novice'

It should come as no surprise that there are parents who are confused and upset about the High School Proficiency Test. These parents put their faith in the public schools and ended up with children the state of Michigan certified as "not yet novice." I suppose it's only natural for some parents to blame the state's test, not themselves or the schools. They wondered where were the district's teachers? Why didn't they let parents know what was happening? Were they too frustrated or just too burnt out in their overcrowded classrooms to get personally involved with these students and parents? These teachers knew what needed to be done. Smaller class sizes, and more planning time, a saner learning environment that allows for more interaction with parents. Michigan ranks 47 in the nation in terms of overcrowded classrooms and 38 in the number of college graduates. In Michigan only 18 percent of our population is prepared well enough to earn a four-year college degree. Obviously, it's the Michigan State Legislature that should be stamped "not yet novice." They failed to listen to their teachers. They failed to study the needs of schools before they gave the test. After the test was given, they failed to provide resources and solutions to deal with the weaknesses that the test revealed. Finally parents wisely withdrew their children in mass from the HSPT, correctly pointing out the test was of no admission value and that all it did was label kids. The state then failed to admit the test was a complete failure. As for the state giving the most gifted students a hundred dollars for the highest scores on the HSPT, that demonstrates what the state thinks of gifted students. Thomas Jefferson, the father of American public education, believed that the youth with the most gifted potential regardless of social class should be given a free university education at public expense. In modern America the gifted student has been out of favor for over 30 years. Less than a 10th of 1 percent of the hundreds of million dollars spent on special programs goes to gifted students. Is it any wonder the parents of the gifted feel forced out? What we have today in Michigan Public Education is politicians that are only capable of proposing average standards and below-average solutions in overcrowded schools.

Eric Borregard
Parent/Advocate for the Gifted and Talented
Farmington Hills

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, Michigan 48346

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POINTS OF VIEW

Kids' first notes not always music to parents' ears

There comes a time in every child's life when he comes face-to-face with a musical instrument.

Sometimes it happens very early, like when the child is 3 or 4 and mother decides she would like to grace the living room with a piano.

In most cases it happens around the time the child is in the third or fourth grade when the music teacher at school tries to encourage her charges to learn to play an instrument so they can play in the band.

To show the power of some music teachers, a lot of little boys start off playing or misplaying the violin. I know because I had the experience.

The most popular instrument among boys is usually the drums, but since each band only has one drum-

mer, a smart teacher has to steer her students into other instruments that are needed to make up the band.

One little guy we know couldn't make up his mind. His teacher suggested the trombone.

He talked it over with his parents and they decided he should try the clarinet.

The next day the little guy came stumbling off the bus with a huge suitcase containing a trombone.

He explained to his father that the teacher had convinced him that because he would be the only trombone player, he would get "individual instruction."

The instrument was so big for him that he couldn't get the slide out to the seventh stop so he would practice with a pillow in front of him and when

ECCENTRICITIES



HANK HOGAN

he came to that note, he would shove the slide all the way out, bouncing it against the pillow and his little sister would come over and push the slide back for him.

One way or another when a child finally selects an instrument, the con-

tracts have to come face-to-face with the "Music Man."

Remember the Broadway hit of a few years back where the super salesman goes to each town to drum up interest in a town band so he can sell musical instruments?

Well, the technique is much more refined today.

On the appointed night, the instrument salesman arrives with all his equipment, including an installment sales contract.

For a mere \$10 or so a month (twice as much if your son wants to play the saxophone) you can take a nice shiny instrument home.

If your child gives up the instrument within three months, they'll take the instrument back, treat your payments as rent and cancel the con-

tract. You really can't ask for anything more, but it does indicate the novelty span of most children and their new instruments.

But whenever your child starts his adventure and whether he stays with it until he becomes a concert grand master or not, even a light brush with a musical instrument makes the child appreciate music more.

And since later on in life we know that every child finds out the baser things in life, it is nice to have them touch the beautiful side, even if it is just lightly.

Hank Hogan, former publisher of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, lives in Independence Township. He works as a Realtor on Main Street in downtown Clarkston.

Best parents set limits, trust kids to adhere to them

A 17-year-old girl I've known for several years has a weekend curfew of 11 o'clock and a week night curfew of 8 o'clock. On top of that she can't drive her own car out of the suburban town she lives in. She is six months away from her 18th birthday and she can't even leave town without an adult. Let's be realistic! Next year she will be attending a state university. That ought to be a great experience. After sheltering her daughter for 18 years, mom shoves her child, who doesn't know a thing about the real world, off to college.

Overprotective parents give their children a disadvantage over children who are allowed to make mistakes. The over protectiveness cuts children off from a fun-filled period of experience called adolescence. This is the stage of growing that starts with puberty and ends with acceptance into adulthood. Of course the age varies from person to person but it is all in the same time frame — a time

of learning, growing and, yes, even making mistakes. My dad once said, "A man who never made a mistake never did anything," after I had broken a rule. Once I had been punished, he hoped I would learn from my mistake and make better judgment in the future. Cutting teens off from making natural mistakes only hurts them. The ability to learn from mistakes is essential in the growth process of becoming an adult.

Peer pressure, for example, is something teens learn as they grow up. In order to learn how to say no to things like smoking, drugs and alcohol a teen actually has to have it offered to them. If teens are taught to stand up to peer pressure but never get a chance to use their skills, what is the point of teaching it to them? Allowing teens to go to parties and other risky activities gives them the chance to show their parents what they have learned from them. Parents who trust their kids are confident



KRISTIN FRENCH

they have taught their children right from wrong and hope they will make the right decisions when they are on their own.

Being overprotected can cause some teens to rebel. Jamie* (name changed to protect privacy), a junior, says her strict mother won't even let her see an R-rated movie even though she's old enough to get into it by herself. "I lie to her and say I'm going to the movies to see something she would approve of but then I see what I want." She goes on to say her mom

won't let her do anything without adult supervision. "When I ask if I can go to a party she asks who, what, when, where, why and how. She always asks if parents will be there. If there are no parents home, she won't let me go and if I say yes, she always checks. She doesn't even give me a chance to prove that I am trustworthy — she just follows me around and asks a million questions." Cases like Jamie's are everywhere. Some parent don't even give teens the chance to mess up. Instead they ask prying questions and say no to everything but the zoo.

Other parents neglect their teens, letting them run wild. These parents are so wrapped up in their own lives they don't realize what their teen is doing. Robert* claims that his parents have no clue what goes on in his life. "My parents have no idea what I do. I could tell them I'm going to a party and they are too busy with their busi-

ness to ask me any questions. Half the time they aren't even home. It's kinda cool to do what I want, but it gets old after awhile. I get in a lot of trouble now because my parents aren't there to tell me what to do." Again, these teens are common. Kids with all the freedom they want tend to forget what is right and wrong, often giving in to peer pressure or getting into trouble.

No matter what age we are, we still make mistakes. The best parents allow their teens room to grow and at the same time take an interest in their lives. Their children have been taught right from wrong, responsibility and the value of making mistakes.

Kristin French is a student at Clarkston High School. Her column alternates with a column written by Clarkston Schools Superintendent Al Roberts.

Mayor Young wrote important chapter in history of Michigan

Frankly, I was astonished at the enormous amount of attention the news media paid to former Detroit Mayor Coleman A. Young's death.

Part of it, of course, was nothing more than media hype.

Confronted for once with an honest-to-goodness big, breaking story, members of the Detroit media community nearly foamed at the mouth in anxiety to outdo each other.

Live reports from the line at the Museum of African-American History, where Young's body lay in state! Helicopters over Greater Grace Temple, where the funeral service was held! Breaking news when it happens! Film at 11!

Upon reflection, though, there was more content to the mayor's passing than elevated media blood pressure.

Coleman Young was a remarkable man who lived a remarkable life. His career will certainly become an important part of Michigan's history, rising far beyond the domain of current events.

Thomas Carlyle, the great 19th century historian, argued that "the history of the world is but the biography of great men." And certainly the great-man theory of history seems at first glance to have found persuasive evidence in Coleman Young's life.

From his refusal to endure segregation and mistreatment in the Air Force to his leadership in the Michigan Senate and, finally, to his unprecedented five terms as mayor of the largest city in the state, Coleman Young seems as though destined specifically to play a path-breaking role.

He was smart, cunning, rough, willing to play the race card when necessary but realistic enough to realize that separatism cannot work in 20th Century America.

Certainly his greatest accomplishment was to raise the hopes and shape the ambitions of the black majority in the city of Detroit.

Remember, you didn't hear much about black folks and their contributions when Al Cobo was mayor, or even Jerry Cavanagh. Coleman Young personified the established demographic fact that black Americans represented a majority of Detroit's population.

Detroit's current mayor, Dennis Archer, caught this point perfectly in his eulogy, suggesting that Mayor Young's "most important legacy was not the bricks and mortar of Detroit, but the spirit and soul of Detroit that he embodied."

So was Coleman Young himself the cause of all the changes that we associate with his



PHILIP POWER

career?

Thucydides, the ancient Greek historian, introduced in his "History of the Peloponnesian War" the distinction between what might be called the proximate cause and the real cause. Proximate causes include things like the outcome of battles, the death of kings, the winning of elections.

Real causes, on the other hand, have to do with underlying factors over the decades such as the stately swing of demography over the decades, the spread of technology, the relationship between geometrically increasing population and linearly increasing food supply.

Looked at in this context, what we see at work are underlying trends — causes, if you will — at work throughout this century that finally expressed themselves in Coleman Young's election as mayor.

The good jobs at good pay that accompanied the rise of the automobile manufacturing plants around Detroit provoked the largest mass migration — from the rural South to the urban North — in American history. Later, after World War II, the automobile made possible the growth of the suburbs and the means by which families — originally white, but later of all races — moved out of the center city.

These factors drove the dynamics of demography and, gradually, made Detroit an increasingly black city. And it was only a matter of time until a special kind of black politician turned up that the black majority would express itself in an election.

That special kind of politician turned out to be Coleman Young. And the future of our state never will be the same.

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network, Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (313) 953-2047, ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@online.com

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Cold weather has stopped most road construction projects in Oakland County. Work on the following will continue next year:

■ **Farmington Hills** — Expansion of the Haggerty Connector (M-5) has closed 14 Mile Road, between Haggerty and Welch, until October 1998. A detour routes drivers along 13 Mile.

■ **Novi** — Expansion of the Haggerty Connector (M-5) has closed 14 Mile Road, between Haggerty and Welch, until October 1998.

■ **Orion Township** — Joslyn Road at Flintridge was widened to include a center left turn lane from northbound Joslyn to westbound Flintridge. Final asphalt layers will be added.

■ **Rochester Hills** — Hamlin Road is being reconstructed to a four-lane boulevard from M-59 to Crooks Road. The project, which is expected to be com-

pleted by the spring of 1998, will include the completion of the east-west link from the new M-59 ramp to various business facilities. The roadway is closed, except for local traffic, with detours across M-59 and Avon Road. Final layers of asphalt will be added to June and Tamm roadways.

■ **Southfield** — Ten Mile, between Beech and Inkster roads, was paved due to deterioration and Holy Sepulchre Archdiocesan Cemetery, between Inkster and Telegraph, was given a new approach. Resurfacing will continue.

NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, detours are unknown or not planned.

Source: Local, county, city and village road officials.

— Compiled by staff writer Sara Callender

Most jobs still are in automobile industry

By TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

"Diversity" is the word they use not only in university admissions but in the economy. For two generations, politicians and economists have said Michigan is too dependent on the auto industry and needs economic diversity.

After 20 years of downsizing, however, the auto industry still is the mainstay of Michigan's economy, according to a first-of-its-kind report from the state Senate Fiscal Agency.

One of every 15 employees in 1996 worked directly in the motor vehicle and equipment industry — 6.5 percent versus a high of 12.2 percent in 1973. That was 280,000 auto-related jobs of 4.3 million in the state.

In wages, the auto industry is doubly important, paying \$1 of every \$8 earned by all workers. Auto, light truck and automotive equipment workers were paid \$140 million or 13 percent of all wages.

The SFA report was compiled

by Rebecca Ross, economist and fiscal analyst, with charts prepared by Karen Hendrick. SFA serves the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The market is nearing saturation. In 15 years, the number of vehicles per capita in use has inched up from 0.82 per person to 0.97.

Other highlights, as of 1996:

■ Imports as a percentage of total U.S. auto sales rose from 15 percent in 1970 to a high of 31 percent in 1987. By the early 1990s, however, imports shrank below the 15 percent mark. Reason: "Transplants" — foreign-owned car companies operating in the U.S. — grew from zero in 1970 to 1984 to more than 26 percent of the current market.

■ Michigan's share of total U.S. auto production peaked at

35.8 percent in 1988. In 1996, Michigan accounted for 30.5 percent of total U.S. output.

■ Analysts no longer think of "autos" and "trucks" separately. Light trucks — pickups, minivans and sport-utility vehicles leaped to 45 percent of the market — 6.6 million of a total domestic "light motor vehicle" sales of 15 million — from less than 20 percent in the early 1970s.

■ Leasing is popular. In 1984 just 1.4 percent of sales were leases; currently 21.2 percent.

■ Average price of a domestic new car was a shade below \$17,000; of an import, more than \$27,400; of total cars, \$18,565.

■ Cars are getting older on

average. In 1970, average age was 5.6 years; since 1991 the age has risen from 8.1 to 8.5 years. Average age of trucks was more stable — 7.3 years in 1970, 8 in 1996.

■ Fuel economy is waning in consumer interest. Domestic in 1978 averaged 18.7 miles per gallon; by 1996 the average was 27.9 mpg — a drop of 0.4 mpg from the previous year. Imports got 27.3 mpg in 1978 versus 30.1 last year.

■ Michigan production remains concentrated in the southeastern part of the state — eight plants in Wayne County, two in Macomb, three in Oakland, two in Flint and one in Lansing.

OLHSA starts charter school

A charter school has been initiated by the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency and chartered by Saginaw Valley State University.

New Directions Institute, is for low income students who have dropped out of high school. The students will learn careers in high-skilled, high-wage jobs.

Students will gain hands-on training in either the automotive or building trades while earning their high school diploma.

Job training and education are two of the ways OLHSA says it fulfills its mission of promoting self-sufficiency to area low-income residents.

The school is currently accept-

ing applications in the ninth through 12th grades. Applications will be accepted through January 1998. Seats are limited. To apply call (248) 452-9283, or visit the school location at 196 Oakland Avenue, Pontiac 48343.

The new semester starts Jan. 26, 1998.

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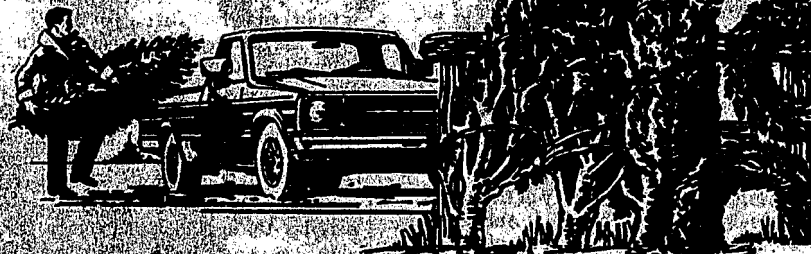
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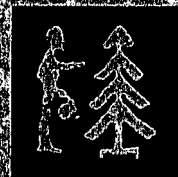


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Clarkston Life

The Eccentric

INSIDE:
Carolyn Walker, A16
Community Calendar, A16
Page 13, Section A

Karen Hermes Smith, Editor 248 625 1900

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

Thursday, December 11, 1997



KAREN HERMES-SMITH

*Take your time
growing up, kids;
I'm in no hurry*

*A mother holds her children's hands
for a while, their hearts forever.
— Country saying*

Not long ago, when my 5-year-old nephew was visiting my home, I helped him to put on his shoes. As he sat on the floor, and I went through the familiar motions of pulling the laces taut and tying the bow tight, I remembered the thousands of times I had tied my own children's shoes over the years. But I couldn't recall, no matter how hard I tried, the very last time one of my children needed or asked me to tie her shoes.

Having three children in a five-year span, I looked forward to the day I could yell to all three of my children, and expect them to do it, "Get your shoes on. We're leaving in five minutes."

That day must have arrived at some point a couple years ago — my youngest is now 8 — but it slipped by unnoticed by all of us.

We parents are eager to help our children achieve independence. That is our goal — to work ourselves out of a job. And we applaud and celebrate their big milestones — baptisms, birthdays, confirmations, graduations, weddings.

But we usually don't pay much

Please see **GROWING UP**, A16

Clarkston book: The tales of 15 citizens

■ Fifteen longtime Clarkston residents share their recollections of the town they love in *The Way We Remember It*, a new book published by the Clarkston Historical Society.

BY CAROLYN WALKER
STAFF WRITER

With her hard work behind her, Catherine Passmore can now look forward to the publication of her first book — and what she hopes will be its long shelf life, especially here in the Clarkston area.

Passmore has completed *The Way We Remember It* — a collection of memories gathered during the past year from longtime Clarkston-area residents.

Published by the Clarkston Community Historical Society, the gold-embossed hardcover book will have its official unveiling at an autograph party on Dec. 18. Members of the public are invited to attend the party to be held at 7 p.m. in the Independence Township Library Heritage Room, to meet Passmore and to have her sign a book.

"We've had a lot of people expressing interest in the book already. It should be a good one," said Historical Society Vice President Kim Huttenlocher.

"I love history and that's why I did it," said Passmore on Tuesday. "To me, history isn't the dates... It's a personal thing."

The interviewing and writing process proved to be a thrill for the former journalist, who said she enjoyed meeting with 15 current and former Independence Township and Clarkston residents ages 70 to 96. With their oral history, they brought to life for her old stories about fires in downtown Clarkston, the breaking of the Mill Pond dam, Henry Ford, the burning of the Caribou Inn, the war years, the great tornado, local characters and their lifestyles and a host of other topics. Passmore also listened to taped inter-



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Local author: Writer Catherine Passmore poses at the Mill Pond in downtown Clarkston, the scene of stories told to her by longtime Clarkston residents for the book, *The Way We Remember It*.

views previously conducted with residents who are now deceased or who were unable to meet her in person as a part of her research.

"As I was interviewing the people they'd say, 'As I remember it' and then they'd tell me a story," she said, explaining how she conceived the book's title. "I thought it would be appropriate for this collection."

Passmore began her task in September 1996 and finished the writing process in April. Two rewrites done in June in cooperation with the historical society resulted in the deletion of nearly half the material she acquired. There was simply too much, she said, adding that there is discussion about

turning that half into another book.

In describing the interviewing process, Passmore waxed romantic about her dealings with Clarkston's senior citizens.

"I'd meet them and they're just the cutest things on earth. And they're so excited that anybody cares. It was worth every second of doing it," she said. "They have a whole different perspective. That was really fun to hear."

"I got some really good interviews and met some amazing people that I'd wanted to meet my whole life. People should really talk to elderly people much more than they do. They are an untapped resource."

Passmore, who was raised in Inde-

pendence Township, said her family's heritage in the community dates back to World War II and that she or other family members were familiar with the names of many of the people she interviewed.

"It was so nice to find out the history of where I grew up. Not just the second-grade tour version but the history of the people who actually lived here."

The people who told stories for *The Way We Remember It* include Bob Jones, Virginia Walter, Gladys Porritt, Charlotte Maybee, Elizabeth Ronk and Bill Kelley, who owned Clarkston Lumber and who died in November. Kelley regaled Passmore with six hours worth

Please see **BOOK**, A16

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Clarkston High School Honor Roll for First Quarter 1997-98

Clarkston High School Honor Roll 1997-98 First Quarter

Freshmen

4.0

Barnett, Scott
Dixon, Andrew
Findora, Alicia
Greve, Patricia
Hendren, Jessica
Hill, Laura
Holody, Daniel
Karnes, Christopher
Kraut, Joseph
Lynch, Allison
Sampson, Christie
Sisk, Natalie
Suffridge, Jamie
Whisner, Ryan
Wilke, Erin

3.9-3.7

Arremony, Melodie
Baker, Vincent
Banycky, Kiley
Bartley, Keith
Bazely, Tovah
Benner, Lauren
Blanchard, Christine
Blower, Shayla
Bolten, Christopher
Brandt, Lindsay
Broadwater, Raina
Calaman, Douglas
Calcaterra, Carmen
Carlile, Heather
Chesney, Austine
Claus, Daniel
Davis, R. Patrick
Dietz, Melissa
Dobbins, Kelly
Dodich, Marcia
Duddles, Adam
Evans, Matthew
Fitzpatrick, Nicole
Flores, Rebecca
Garcia, Garrett
Gauthier, Lisa
Gebus, Adam
Genord, Jonathan
Ginn, Laura
Gravenstreter, Jonathan
Harley, Erin
Hart, Rebecca
Honey, Tracy
Humphreys, Angela
Jackman, Andrew
Janowiak, Stephen
Jordan, William
Julian, Katherine
Kampe, Paul
Katnik, Micheal
Kerney, Marja
Klemm, Peter
Knoerr, Kari
Koch, Robert
Kosbab, Kevin
Kreager, Lauren
Kruk, Jennifer
Lenhardt, Christopher
Linenger, Carrie
Mahnkens, Peter
McCleary, Lyndsey
McGregor, Scott
Medina, Megan
Mikola, Matthew
Moehlig, Aaron
Moss, Allison
Murphey, Heather
Nelson, Felicia
Nico, Tara
O'Dea, Andrea
Petrulis, Adam
Phillips, Chelsea
Piechura, Lance
Pocs, Meghan
Reatherford, Beth
Reid, Keith
Rodriguez, Nicholas
Sadowski, Shannon
Schiermerhorn, Rebecca
Schneider, Amber
Shanks, Jonathon
Stanton, Ryan
Stapleton, David
Swendsen, Dustyn
Thorndycraft, Jonathon
Tomkiewicz, Ryan
Tyler, Aaron
Verlinden, Craig
Voss, Sarah
Walsh, Leah
Whetstone, Melanie
Whittington, Annette
Williams, Tiffany
Witt, Allison
Woloson, Laura

3.6-3.0

Ahnen, Steven
Antonazzo, Torre
Bailey, Melissa
Baker, Ryan
Banas, Caitlin
Banworth, Benjamin
Beck, John
Bell, Johana
Bemis, Jonathon
Brandt, K. Andrew
Breitfeld, Steven
Brown, Brooke
Brown, Ryan
Bryan, Robert
Burlingame, Kimberly
Butora, Andrew
Caldwell, Aaron
Carlson, Matthew
Carroll, Ryan
Chadrick, Craig
Chenet, Jonathan
Chicalas, Amanda
Christopher, Joseph
Clavette, Jessica
Colbert, Kacie
Collins, Jennifer
Collins, Christopher
Collins, Stephanie
Conley, Robert
Cook, Caylan
Crawford, Courtney
Crawford, Tara
Crawford, Cheryl
Darsell, Sarah

DeClerck, Krystal

Delasko, Paul
DuFresne, Jessica
Endreszl, Bryan
Erkfriz, Karyn
Falck, Kristen
Ferguson, Lisa
Fike, Rustin
Fish, Jerod
Fogg, Sarah
Fonseca, Kristen
Fox, Nichole
Friedline, Jennifer
Funk, Kate
Gallentine, Lisa
Garrison, Monique
Getty, Matthew
Gomez, Katrina
Gower, Andrea
Grech-Cumbo, Christine
Green, Anna
Habermas, Katherine
Haggard, Kelly
Haladik, Jennifer
Hall, Sarah
Harrison, Matthew
Hathcock, Aaron
Heard, Lindsey
Hershey, Edward
Hillman, Elisabeth
Hoekstra, Jeffrey
Hoffmeister, Nicole
Holman, Jessica
Hortstman, Benjamin
Hunter, Mary
Jackson, Angela
Jackson, Jade
Jambriska, Thomas
Jenks, Kevin
Jerdon, Brett
Jerger, Kathleen
Jones, Justin
Joseph, Terri
Kiestler, Gregory
Kluwe, Gwendolyn
Knapp, Courtney
Krause, Justin
Lambert, Lindsey
Larson, Sarah
Lawler, Jill
LeMarbe, Jason
Licatovich, Amy
Logozzo, Susan
Lovelace, Anita
Malaga, Michael
Manuel, Trevor
Manvel, Jennifer
Mathieu, Daniel
May, Leslie
McEvoy, Gregory
McIntyre, Travis
McLean, Matthew
Messing, Heather
Miller, Jennifer
Miller, Shawn
Moczerad, Hillary
Moor, Ana
Morgan, Sarah
Morton, Kelli
Muniz, Joyce
Nagel, Steven
Newman, Daniel
Nini, Chad
Nuckolls, Aime
O'Brien, Michael
O'Hearn, Joseph
Olson, Robert
Olson, Shane
Orris, Kelly
Owens, Michelle
Parker, Michael
Parsons, Jessica
Pegg, Kyndale
Perna, Kristina
Peters, Nichole
Pierce, David
Ramsey, Ian
Robbins, Laura
Robinson, Erin
Rogers, Kyle
Ruggirello, Anthony
Schneider, Christian
Schornak, Ann
Seibert, Nicole
Sunkyr, Cody
Simko, Lindsay
Sprung, Ardis
Stamper, Adam
Stankus, Adam
Staunton, Nicola
Strebby, Nicholas
Strutz, Gary
Sturgill, Jamie
Sweeney, Sarah
Talbot, Lindsey
Tegler, Jennifer
Thomas, Amanda
Thorstensen, Andrew
Thrift, Nicole
Tovar, Cassandra
Trapp, Eva
Valentino, Jocelyn
Vercauteren, Michael
Villalla, Joseph
Villiere, Nicole
Walker, Justin
Warchuck, Mary
Wawruck, Shawn
Webb, Amber
Westover, Amy Jo
Weverstad, Alexis
Whaley, Zachary
Wheatley, Erik
Wheaton, Ryan
Wherry, Danielle
Wills, Angela
Wilson, Jessica
Wingett, Jessica
Winter, Christopher
Worley, Kevin
Zerba, Mark

Sophomores

4.0

Brewer, Britanni
Bui, Ryan
Freed, William
Fuller, Carly
Griffith, Brent
Jones, Heather
Knoebel, Alice
Kraier, Comin
Schwab, Ryan
Winiwiski, Thomas
Zarzycki, Kathryn

3.9-3.7

Amble, Sandra
Barr, Shaunna
Bates, Courtney
Bauer, Eric
Booth, Sarah
Churay, Mark
Decker, Derek
Denstaedt, Geoffrey
Douglas, Michelle
Doyle, Jessica
Fischer, Nicole
Ginn, Jeffrey
Giordano, Lauren
Greve, Laura
Heber, Patrick
Henderson, Erin
Hess, Timothy
Hines, Kacie
Hodges, Francis
Jacobson, Michael
Jorgenson, Daniel
Judds, Daniel
Kalush, William
Kroepelin, Suzanne
LaBrie, Jillian
Leininger, Ryan
Logozzo, William
Lynch, Rebecca
Manojlovich, James
Marchio, Jennifer
Mazzeo, Laura
McMillen, Lauren
Milam, Elizabeth
Newman, Thomas
Ogg, Melissa
Ogle, Pamela
Olive, Rebecca
Randall, Jill
Rea, Jesse
Robinson, Jonathan
Sage, B. David
Salata, Jenni
Schmerhorn, Brent
Schornak Jr, Steve
Schubring, Courtney
Sloan, Adam
Smith, Lisa
Smith, Matthew
Szykula, Andrew
Tate, Emily
Thomas, Ryan
Treder, Mary Ann
Uchman, Rachel
Walters, Jeffrey
Weaver, Jenilee
Zynda, Karen

3.6-3.0

Alee, Jaime
Anderson, Brian
Arakelian, Phillip
Aranosian, Anna
Armstrong, Beth
Baer, Diana
Baird, Misty
Balhorn, Autumn
Bond, Courtney
Booker, Chad
Bowman, Stacy
Brewer, Courtnei
Brose, Donald
Cable, Kristen
Cabra, Rebecca
Campbell, Jessica
Carpenter, Jeff
Carter, Ryan
Casper, Derek
Cloutier, Jessica
Coe, Blake
Coleman, Dustin
Combs, Mercedes
Cooke, Michelle
Cozadd, Aaron
Crandall, Bryan
Craner, Donald
Crawford, Brett
Currie, Dana
Curry, Adam
Curry, Michelle
Curtis, Andrew
Cushing, Ellen
Cyr, Katrina
Davenport, Joseph
Davies, Simon
DeClerck, Tiffany
DeLeon, Rachel
Douglas, Jacqueline
DuFort, Scott
Earl, Brandon
Elert, David
Enders, Jeannine
Epifano, James
Evans, Crystal
Facione, Anthony
Fair, Kristin
Forst, Thomas
Fox, Meghan
Garcia, Matthew
Gay, Justin
Gerowitz, Michael
Gove, Bret
Graj, Megan
Gravensreter, Tara
Gray, Erin
Guelde, Brandon
Hakim, Bethany
Hamilton, Adam
Hartz, Derek
Haverstick, Steven
Herzog, Janelle
Hool, Katie
Hudson, David
Hurley, Kristin
Jenkins, Robert
Johnson, Arthur
Jones, Eric
Jones, Maureen
Kenerson, Erik
Kennedy, Kathleen
Kilbourne, Sarah
Knoerr, Rodney
Komorowska, Paulina
Krey, Colleen
Kulis, Joshua
Kyle, Stefanie
Larsen, Aaron
Leonard, Kenneth
Licata, Michael
Linenger, Jennie
Litra, Jacqueline
Lucken, Ryan
Major Jr, Michael
Marino, Ryan
Martello, R. Ross

Masters, Sean

Mazza, Toni
McEvoy, David
McIsaac, Timothy
McManaman, Brian
Melone, Eric
Mohlman, Nicole
Mohney, Sara
Moore, James
Moore, Matthew
Moran, Ashley
Morearty, Melany
Morgan, Candace
Olinger, Allison
Owens, Joseph
Petrinec, Nicholas
Pfeifer, Kristina
Plante, Kelly
Pritchard, Heather
Prudhomme, Lindsey
Przybylski, Erin
Ratloff, Leah
Reider, Truly
Rezmer, Tesia
Risdon, Jeremie
Roberts, Courtney
Roby, Jason
Ronk, Andrea
Ruth, Kristi
Schapman, Adam
Serra, Hannah
Shaw, Kelly
Skrisson, Elizabeth
Sleep, Michael
Smith, Stephanie
Snyder, James
Sommers, Tamra
St Croix, Khara
Stalker, Kevin
Stapp, Benjamin
Steele, Andrea
Steen, Heidi
Stout, Lauren
Stutzman, Natalie
Sutherland, Jennifer
Szilvagy, Jennifer
Teichman, Andrew
Thomas, Jessica
Tippett, Sidney
Tripi, Katherine
Vasil, Billie
Verla, Adrienne
Wall, Christopher
Warbington, Amy
Watson, Adam
Watson, Laura
Way, Jennifer
Weber, Christopher
Webster, Melinda
Wellington, Melissa
Whipp, Megan
Wicklund, David
Winn, Jennifer
Witkowski, Brian
Zasacky, Amy
Zeile, Eric
Zess, Jessica

Juniors

4.0
Dixon, David
Gifford, Jennifer
Jensen, Mindy
Krull, Scott
Lytle, Kimberly
Moniaci, Jonathan
Oostdyk, David
Parrott, Jeremy
Savas, Michael
Torrone, Erin
Walsh, Justin

3.9-3.7

Anderson, Beth
Baker, Megan
Baldiga, Joseph
Bartley, Breanna
Bartley, Brian
Bills, Katherine
Bogart, Lauren
Bolten, Thomas
Cabra, Jason
Clark, Sarah
Cooley, Courtney
Curtis, Robert
Dees, Lindsey
Dew, Priscilla
Emick, Karen
Forney, Cara
Frericks, Lindsay
Hart, Eileen
Holody, Deanna
Hopman, Amy
Hynes, Spencer
Jones, Jonathon
King, Kathryn
Klotz, Michelle
Knowlden, Jessica
Kolody, Alison
Kopac, Kathryn
Lenhardt, Michael
Lloyd, Holly
Lukens, Melissa
Matkosky, Tara
Meyer, Neil
Moore, Diana
Moore, Michael
Motto, Erin
Murphy, Laura
Myers, Adam
Parrott, Russell
Reatherford, Adam
Robinson, Kristina
Romein, Eric
Seal, Jody
Sisk, Trevor
Taylor, Audrey
Teberian, Takouhy
Thorndycraft, Catherine
Tolbert, Ronald
Trager, Adrienne
Uchman, Sarah
Umscheid, Chad
Wilder, Rachel
Williams, Jessica
Wilson, Michelle
Winiwiski, Marc
Worthy, Colin
Whittington, Elizabeth
Woloz, Regina
Williams, Alexis
Wright, Jessica
Yovich, Nicole
Zimmerman, Ingrid

Auten, Andrew

Baetens, Catherine
Baker, Matthew
Balhorn Jr, Michael
Barger, Jodie
Barnes, Derek
Bartlebaugh, Cheryl
Bassett, Adrian
Batz, James
Bellefeul, Adam
Bennett, Shawn
Berendt, Julie
Bergkoetter, Kara
Bernard, Daniel
Beutler, Bryon
Bohn, Amanda
Bradford, Steven
Brown, Charity
Burgess, Tiffany
Burrell, Beverly
Carline, Jennifer
Cischke, Katherine
Claus, Jennifer
Colosimo, Nichole
Crigger, Matthew
Cryer-Keck, Nicole
Davis, Jessica
Davis, Scott
DeLeon, Emily
DeVries, Phillip
Deacon, Lorne
Detkowski, Brittney
Detkowski, Rachelle
Deuel, Brent
Dise, Sandra
Dolzynski, Kellie
Dolzynski, Kristen
Drallio, John
Erickson, Rebecca
Falk, Michael
Fenton, Heidi
Fitzgerald, Brian
Fonseca, Jenae
Forbes, Elizabeth
Freeman, Joseph
Garlitz, Brandyn
Grah, Meredith
Gray, Benjamin
Green, Steven
Groeneveld, Robert
Groh, Justin
Haller, Allyson
Hanel, Kristi
Hayashi, Mai
Hermes, Melissa
Hill, Eric
Hill, Sheila
Himburg, Christopher
Hodges, Meghan
Hunt, Rudy
Husereau, Nicholas
Jaikins, James
Kalso, Jason
Kanipe, Deana
Keiser, Jeremy
Kerney, Jennifer
Kilton, Melinda
Knakal, Lisa
Kuculain, Candace
L'Amoreaux, Ryan
LaCasse, Lisa
Leech, Adam
Leigh, Lauren
Lewis, Lisa
Loveless, Timothy
Lowery, John

Mauti, Daisy

McIlrath, Peter
McIntyre, Corinne
Milechik, Kristen
Minton, Candice
Mizusawa, Jennifer
Morgan, Stephanie
Morris, Christine
Morris, Kevin
Murphy, Jennifer
Murphy, Margaret
Naboychik, John
Nanney, Justin
Ness, Benjamin
O'Brien, Sarah
O'Dea, Michelle
Oliver, Jeffrey
Orris, Kristin

Pattison, Nicole

Pelletier, Mary
Piechura, Katy
Pohl, Erich
Powell, Klinton
Preston, Corey
Rager, Tiffany
Reinke, David
Richards, Kathleen
Richardson, Laura
Robeson, Andrew
Roeding, April
Roeding, Christina
Roeding, Jennifer
Rose, Christina
Runkle, Jessica
Sartell, Zachary
Scheiderer, Brandon
Schilling, Mackenzie
Schmidt, Brandon
Schoeneweg, Melissa
Schwarz, Michael
Scott, Sarah
Simonds, Andrew
Smith, David
Smith, Lisa
Smith, Meghann
Sokolnicki, Kristyn
Sprung, Andrew

Treder, Monica

Underwood, Anne
Upchurch, Nicholas
Upperstrom, Kara
Vaughn, Amy
Wallace, Sarah
Warner, Heather
Wegman, Elisha
Wells, Ronald
Wells, Ryan
Worthy, Colin
Whittington, Elizabeth
Woloz, Regina
Williams, Alexis
Wright, Jessica
Yovich, Nicole
Zimmerman, Ingrid

Seniors

4.0
Arremony, Jennifer
Banas, Kyle
Bannasch, Derek
Bomier, Courtney
Conley, Melissa
Coryell, Jason
Dean, Barbara
Fiorillo, Angela
French, Kristen
Prystash, Justin
Purall, Jacqueline
Steiner, Stacey
Verlinden, Shawn
Webster, Heather

3.9-3.7

Agha-Bee, Vanessa
Anderson, Richard
Babcock, Kevin
Bailey, Brad
Bauer, Jennifer
Belcher, Stephanie
Benson, Genevieve
Bernard, Claire
Bertram, Jason
Blair, Andrea
Blue, Kristin
Budry, Sarah
Buma, Daniel
Caputo, Daniel
Cook, Elizabeth
Cooper, Sasha
Dennig, James
Edwards, Matthew
Facione, Danielle
Garcia, Yanin
Giroux, Aimee
Graves, Adam
Groh, Jacob
Haggard, Bryan
Hanna, Kelly
Haverstick, David
Helms, Tracy
Hensley, Misty
Holst, James
Hool, Sarah
Hopman, Jeffrey
Hunter, Heather
Iezzi, Shannon
Joseph, Michelle
Kammer, Erin
Kendrick, Tracie
Knas, Brooke
Koval, Julie
Krull, Courtney
Kuckoff, Britta
Kunkler, Leslie
Lamont, Erin
Landry, Heather
Lenk, Leah
Lichty, Christina
Liskey, Tracie
Little, Michael
Lloyd, Lindsey
Magerman, James
Manning, Shaun
Mason, Kevin
McLeran, Aaron
Mitchell, Amber
Mosher, Maria
Muniz, Leah
Perkins, Marie
Pfeifer, Elizabeth
Pitser, Gretchen
Polley, Joshua
Portscheller, Kristi
Rieman, Jeffrey
Schulte, Jessica
Seifert, Kelly
Simonelli, Andrea
Sitko, Jeffrey
Smith, Christopher
Srogi, Ryan
Strugis, David
Stapleton, Annette
Tatu, Laura
Teran, Brett
Teran, Jason
Tharrett, Shelli
Tippen, Kristine
Tomkiewicz, Tracy
Veit, Eric
Vezina, Alisha
Whitfield, Heather
Ziegenfelder, Scot
Zuccarini, Laura

3.6-3.0

Adair Jr, Michael
Anand, Ravi
Angel, Tamara
Baker, Leigh
Bania, Keith
Bennett, Russell
Bergkoetter, Brenton
Bodle, Kelli
Bolam, Andrea
Brewer, Curtis
Brewer, James
Brewer, Scott
Brown, Adrienne
Brown, Dustin
Brown, Heather
Brown, Heidi
Buck, Nicole
Burklow, Jonathan
Cantrell, Michael
Cantrell, Megan
Carl, Danielle
Carnes, Lisa
Carry, Shannon
Case, Jessica
Case, Jessica
Castle, Neil
Caudill, Bryant
Chamberlain, Katherine
Clark, Joshua
Cox, Denise
Curtis, Natasha
Daris, Rita
DeWitt, Mara
Dehring, Lindsey
Dionne, Justin
Dixon, Sarah
Dudek, Ryan
Dunlap, Andrea
Edmondson, Norman
El-Chaar, Amy
Erkfriz, Tina
Fahy, Karl
Ferrell, Angela
Fibla, Lisa
Fike, Stacy

3.6-3.0

Olafsson, Heidi
Oliver, David
Peteuil, Adina
Phalen, Bradley
Plante, Megan
Pochmara, Danielle
Pope, Laura
Preston, Jessica
Pruner, Phillip
Reis, Jamie
Renzi, Whitney
Romig, Byron
Russell, Kaitlin
Sailor, Aaron
Schaefer, Amy
Schoemer, C. Conor
Schroeder, Meagan
Schultz, Robert
Scott, Erin
Senkyr, Georgia
Shields, Jennifer
Simons, Andrea
Simonson, Michael
Sinclair, Donna
Skipton, Nathan
Slusher, Stephanie
Snapp, Leah
Sommers, Nathan
Spinweber, Elizabeth
Staszak, Natalie
Steinke, Heather
Stewart, Amy
Surre, Jeremy
Sutherland, Andrew
Talbot, Paul
Taylor, Ronald
Terryah, Joshua
Thomas, Jared
Thompson, Elaine
Thomson, Angela
Tolbert, Courtney
Tripi, Jacqueline
Trollman, David
Turner, Ryan
Underwood, Michael
Venegoni, Marc
Vollett, Danielle
Wandschneider, Brooke
Warchuck, Julianne
Watson, Scott
Weatherburn, Jared
Webster, Christopher
Weingust, Kori
Wheatley, Kristen
Whipp Jr, David
Wiley, Abby
Will, Patricia
Witt, Reggie
Witt, Sarah
Woolfenden, Patricia
Woolley, Jaime
Yarber, Amanda
Yarberry, Marie
Youness, Jamie
Zulinski, Stephen

Growing up from page A13

attention to, or even notice, everyday evidence of their growing up — the first time a child gets hurt but doesn't cry, the last time a child brings his mother a bouquet from the back yard, the first time a child drinks milk without getting a moustache, the last time a child asks a parent to watch him do a cartwheel.

What's worse than not celebrating or noticing these signs of maturity in the hustle and bustle of everyday living, I have come to learn, is hurrying children to grow up for our own convenience.

I remember an occasion when my oldest was in kindergarten, and he had a classmate over to visit. The classmate was the youngest in his family. When his mother came to pick him up when the visit was over, she literally picked him up, carrying him out the door and to the car.

I was aghast that someone would actually carry a child old enough to walk on his own! At the time, I had a 3-year-old and an infant in addition to a kindergartner. Since I always held the baby in one arm and used the other arm to keep hold of my 3-year-old, my kindergartner had to walk on his own. Even on the rare occasions I was alone with him, I considered him such a big boy in comparison to my other

children that I never would have dreamed of carrying him to the places we went.

A friend of mine told me a story about her son, who's now a grown man in his 30s with three children of his own. When he was about 12, he still wanted his mother to tuck him in at night, but my friend decided he was getting too old to be tucked in so she insisted he put himself to bed. Now knowing how fast children grow up and leave home, she regrets not spending those quiet moments with him for as long as he would have liked.

I have learned to relish the last days of my children's vanishing dependency.

My 8-year-old still occasionally likes me to carry her out of bed in the morning. Not every day, but about once a week, she'll lie there after I have told her to get up and call me back from the kitchen, where I am preparing breakfast, to come carry her to the breakfast table. These requests are becoming less and less frequent, but until she stops asking, I'll gladly sweep her into my arms and hold her — and her childhood — tight.

Karen Hermes Smith is editor of the Clarkston Eccentric. She can be reached at 625-1900.

Mothers are in a class of their own

When I was a young pupil at university, as they say, my roommate and I devised a scientific theorem in our off-hours that we, in hindsight, must have foolishly figured would never apply to ourselves.

And then, again, maybe we were afraid it someday would.

Our theorem said: "Surely, if women want to become mothers, they must attend The School In The Sky For Mothers — where they learn reams of really useless notions."

We proposed our theorem because we discovered after just weeks of living with one another that our mothers shared some very bizarre, obviously acquired and similar traits — like nit-pickiness, compulsive phone-itis and worry-wartness.

We supported our theorem with a lot of evidence our zany mothers unwittingly provided. For example, they worried that we might actually like our dates. They phoned to make sure we were cleaning our room regularly. And they perseverated over the fact that we might, one weekend, drive across the state during a raging blizzard.

We just didn't get it.

Then came university graduation, marriage and children, followed by middle-age and the reflective period.

Sadly, I've lost touch with my roommate over the years. But I would give anything to know her views on the following rules, which I ended up studying while at the School In The Sky and which, I'm sure, my roommate must have, by now, studied too. (And with which our mothers were most definitely, deeply familiar.) To wit:

■ Don't Sleep Under Motel Blankets (from Motelphobia Class 101). Since the time when



CAROLYN WALKER

our mothers instructed us not to go to motel rooms, in general, and not to sleep under motel blankets if we did — because of the potential for picking up some obscure germ — there have actually been professional studies undertaken, and televised, that prove our mothers were right!

Gadzooks! The things you could find in a public bedspread if you had a microscope and time on your hands.

■ Don't Go Barefoot In Motel Rooms (also from Motelphobia Class 101). If you're going to protect yourself and not sleep under public blankets, you might as well go all out and wear socks when you're walking on motel floors — even if you anticipate a midnight dash. Warts on the feet, you know.

■ Do Not Sit On Public Toilets (from Public Toilets Are An Endless Source Of Trouble, Class 205). A mother scarcely knows where to begin when issuing the directives about proper toilet usage. Flushing is a given. Disinfectants should be a requirement. Boys should stand back as far from the toilet as the stall door will allow. Girls should learn to model boys, if possible. Fail-

ing that, girls should learn how to securely wrap a toilet seat in toilet paper. This is an acquired skill and sometimes requires an independent study separate from class 205. Knot-tying — The Seminar, can be a prerequisite.

■ Don't Try On Hats In Stores (from The Bugs Aren't Just On The Floor, Class 316). Anybody who's ever been through a case of head lice knows you don't try a hat on in a store. At least, not if you don't have a plastic bag handy. If you have to actually buy a hat, you're in a world of trouble. You know that eventually you're going to have to put it on your head. Don't Try On Hats In Stores is akin to Don't Use Other People's Combs.

■ Don't Touch Hand Railings Or Put Your Lips On Water Fountains (also from The Bugs Aren't Just On The Floor, Class 316). I think you get the picture.

■ Don't Pick Pimples On Your Face (from Delicate Topics In Motherhood, A Class For Senior Students). This class requires a strong stomach but its lessons are legion. Pimple-pickers can die from the resulting infections.

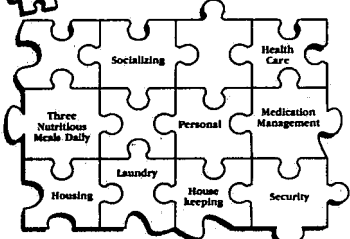
■ Don't Kiss Boys On A First Date (from A Retrospective: Topics In "I Wish You Could Have Been There" — a study for aging mothers who are out-of-touch or who want to sideline as stand-up comics, A Graduate Class). This Sky School class is for optimistic mothers everywhere.

And to think that I thought I "learned it all" while at university!

Carolyn Walker is a staff writer for the Clarkston Eccentric. She lives in the city of the Village of Clarkston.

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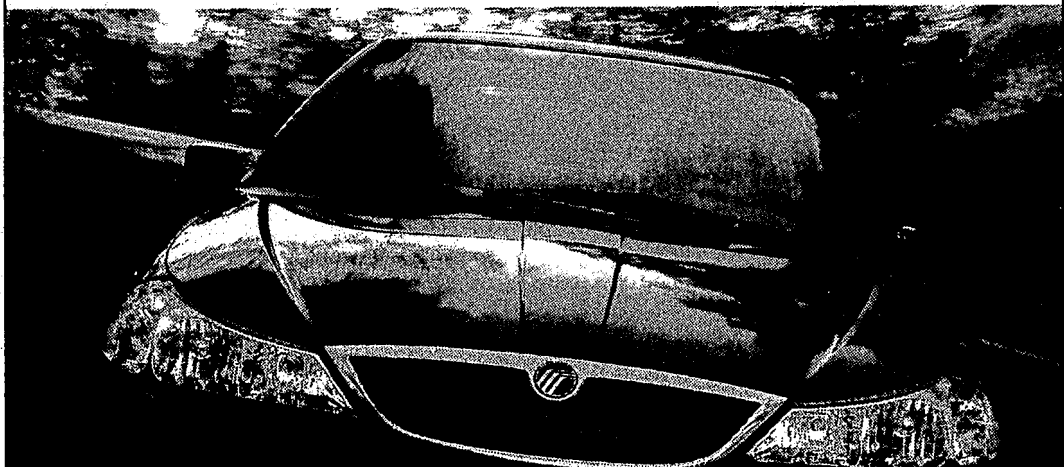
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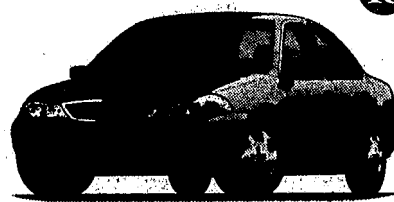


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(810) 939-6000

TROY
Bob Borst

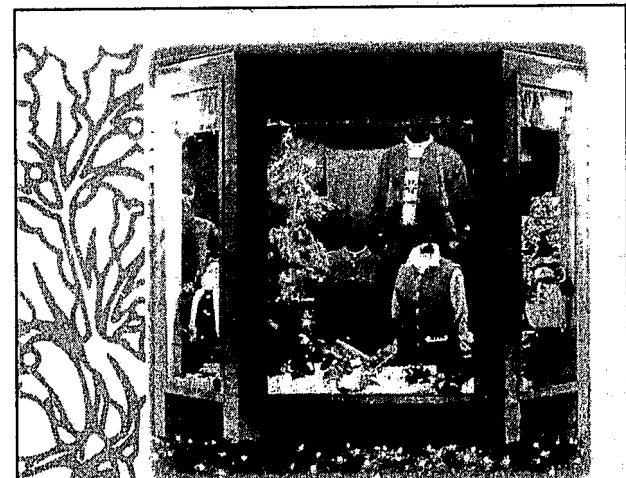
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Yuletide Luncheon

Friday, December 12 • 11-2 pm

This year, our annual complimentary lunch includes a trunk show with a sensational spring collection from Canvasbacks and the latest leather goods from Brighton.

Horse Drawn Carriage Rides

Saturday, December 13 • 12-3 pm

It's rumored that a jolly, bearded guest will be hosting free rides at the Peppertree. Our shutterbug will capture the glee from noon to three.

Gentleman's Choice

Thursday, December 18 • 6-10 pm

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Holiday Hours

Mon - Fri 10-9 • Sat 10-6 • Sun 12-5



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Book from page A13

of Clarkston stories but sadly didn't live to see them in print, she said, noting how much he wanted to see the book published.

"(He) was just the coolest interview in the world. He was just a wonderful storyteller," she remembered.

Passmore said she couldn't help but coincidentally note, as would be expected in a small old town, that the people quoted in the book shared common relatives.

"Everybody was related to somebody who was related to somebody," she said, laughing. "Everybody had a story about the Caribou Inn burning down. That was a riot."

"A lot of them in hindsight think it was the best thing that ever happened to the village."

The book also features excerpts from Oliver Beardslee's diary and never-before-published photos from private collections.

Passmore said one of her favorite stories from the collection is about a car owner who bought his car when automobiles first became available and who, when it quit running, took it to two repair shops to try and find out what was wrong. It turned out the car had run out of gas.

"It was so new that nobody knew when they were supposed

to fill up the gas tank," she said. "That's one of the stories I just love."

Compiling the book turned out to be a more complicated process than she imagined. "I was very surprised," she said. "But it's a good learning experience."

Before taking on the task, Passmore researched local history through newspaper clippings and she read a book on how to interview older people. She had some standard questions that she asked everyone but also allowed conversations to flow naturally, relying on old photos to help trigger memories.

"I also just kind of let it go with whatever they were talking about," she said. "I just kind of let it go wherever it went."

"I'd always wanted to do a book before I was 30," Passmore said. She hopes this one will be around for people to study when she is a senior citizen, herself — and even beyond.

Refreshments will be served at the book signing. The Independence Township Library is on Clarkston Road. The books will sell for \$20 and will also be available at the Union General store on Main Street and through the historical society.

The autograph party is free to the public.

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, Mich., 48346 or fax to 248-625-5712. Deadline for calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper.

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

HOLIDAY DIME AUCTION

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road in Clarkston. Light supper available. Drawing at 8 p.m. 10 tickets, \$1. Featuring Beanie Babies and holiday items.

FRIDAY, DEC. 12

SPAGHETTI DINNER

5-7 p.m. Independence Township Senior Center, 5980 Clarkston Road in Clintonwood Park. All-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner including tossed salad and garlic toast. Proceeds go directly to the senior center. No registration

required. Cost: \$4 adults, \$2 child. Dessert is 75 cents extra.

SATURDAY DEC. 13

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Independence Township Parks and Recreation. Boys and girls ages 10-17 play in age-appropriate divisions for a 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Registration necessary. Call (248) 625-8223.

BRUNCH WITH JOSEPH

11 a.m., First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road, Clarkston. Bring your child, grandchild or a young relative for brunch. Listen as Joseph explains the true meaning of Christmas. Call the church at (248) 394-0200 for reservations. Bring a camera to take picture of your child with Joseph.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

3 p.m., Clarkston High School Auditorium, 6595 Middle Lake Road off Waldon Road in Clarkston. Clarkston Community Band presents its second annual concert of the Christmas season. Join in on a sing-a-long and maybe even a visit from Santa. Refreshments following concert. Free admission.

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, DEC. 13-14

WASSAIL FEAST

7 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston. Entertainment by Chancel Choir, Jubilate Bells and various instrumentalists from the church. Entree will be a choice of chicken or pork with various other foods of Renaissance times. Performers will be costumed and program will end with a sing-a-long caroling with the bell choir. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under. Call the church at (248) 625-1611.

SUNDAY, DEC. 14

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

3 - 4 p.m., Girl Scouts from all of the Clarkston schools will be Christmas caroling in Depot Park on Depot Road in Clarkston. Mittens and hats will also be collected at this time for Lighthouse North.

FRIDAY, DEC. 19

SENIOR CENTER CHRISTMAS DINNER

6 p.m. Independence Township Senior Center, located in Clin-

tonwood Park, 5980 Clarkston Road in Clarkston. The night will include a buffet dinner, entertainment, prizes and a visit from St. Nick. Cost: \$7 per person. Reservations are limited. Call the center at 625-8231.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, DEC. 19-21

JERUSALEM REUNION MUSICAL

8 p.m. Friday and 6 p.m. Sunday, Mt. Zion Church, Clarkston. A Broadway-style musical, "Jerusalem Reunion," will portray the Bible story of Jesus, who as a boy, was left on the streets of Jerusalem, followed by his cousin, John the Baptist, and greeted by various characters along the way. Admission is free, but tickets are required due to space limitations. Call (248) 391-6166.

SATURDAY DEC. 27 -

SUNDAY, JAN. 11

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Independence Oaks County Park on Sashabaw Road, 2 1/2 miles north of I-75, near Clarkston and Springfield Oaks Activity Center, 12451 Andersonville Road in Davisburg. Free. Call (248) 858-0906.

Christmas Tree Guide

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New Farm This Year
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From Nov. 28, 1997
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Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. or by appt.
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*All proceeds benefit the Nature Center
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TASTE

Something 'special' can also be something simple

BY KEELY WYGNOK
STAFF WRITER

Food — one size fits all — it's the perfect gift. "If you're on a budget, it can be very cost effective," said Martha Gill, a graphic designer, and author of *Modern Food Gifts*, (Longstreet Press, 1997, hardcover \$18.95). "It's more personal. It shows you went out of your way to do something special."

Gill who is the creative director, principal and owner of Gill Design in Atlanta, began giving food gifts out of necessity. "I was trying to say thank-you to clients, but I didn't have a lot of time, or money."

Her gifts were so popular that clients started calling to ask if she could put gifts together for them. Clever packaging is her secret — "freshening-up food gifts and taking them into the new millennium."

Instead of wrapping shortbread in aluminum foil with a ribbon, Gill puts them into a pretty ceramic teapot. "If you want to spend your whole Saturday baking that's fine," she said. "Or, you could go to the bakery."

"The book also has a resource guide that tells you where to get everything so you won't go nuts trying to find everything," she said. "Use the book as a jumping off point for your own creativity."

Her list of "favored merchants" includes a number of stores in your neighborhood — Ace Hardware, The Home Depot, Linens 'N Things, Michaels Arts & Crafts, Pier 1 Imports, Inc., Starbucks Coffee, Target and Williams-Sonoma.

"Remember, keep it simple and give the gift your own personal style," she writes. "Please don't make yourself crazy if you can't find the exact ribbon; a loosely tied shoestring will look great."

Flavored sugar — made by layering white or raw sugar with flavoring ingredients such as split vanilla beans, candied citrus fruits, and cinnamon sticks — is an example of what Gill calls "the quintessential modern food gift."

Namely, that simple, inexpensive ingredients

Suggestions

Here are some ideas from Martha Gill author of *Modern Food Gifts*:

■ **Confections in a Tin** — You can have some serious fun gathering and mixing lemon drops, gum balls, peppermints, jelly beans, and hard fruit candies. Pour them into round metal containers.

■ **Parmigiano-Reggiano In A Knot** — Tie a wedge of Parmigiano-Reggiano in a square of cheesecloth, package with a cheese slicer/grater.

■ **Fruits and Nuts in a Crate** — Put an eclectic assortment of dried fruits, pistachio nuts, and shredded coconut into individual pouches made of paper or fabric. Package in a wooden crate and tie with a large silk ribbon.

and everyday items can be combined in inexpensive ways to produce objects of wit and style."

"Flavored sugar is a good office gift," said Gill. "It's a small luxury. You can stir it into tea or coffee. Everyone's like 'oh we have flavored sugar.' It's special."

Modern Food Gifts is available at Williams-Sonoma, Barnes & Noble and other bookstores. Every gift idea is beautifully illustrated. It's a thoughtful gift by itself, or packaged with a gift certificate for one of the stores listed in the book.

Home Made in the Kitchen: Traditional Recipes and Household Projects Updated and Made Easy, by Barry Bluestein & Kevin Morrissey, (Penguin Studio, 1996) is another source of creative gift-giving ideas.

"In an era of dissatisfaction with the manufactured and the mundane, *Home Made in the Kitchen* offers simple, quick and inexpensive ideas for entertaining with grace, creating unique gifts, and adding elegant personal touches to the dinner table and buffet," write the authors.

"Everyone loves something baked for the holi-

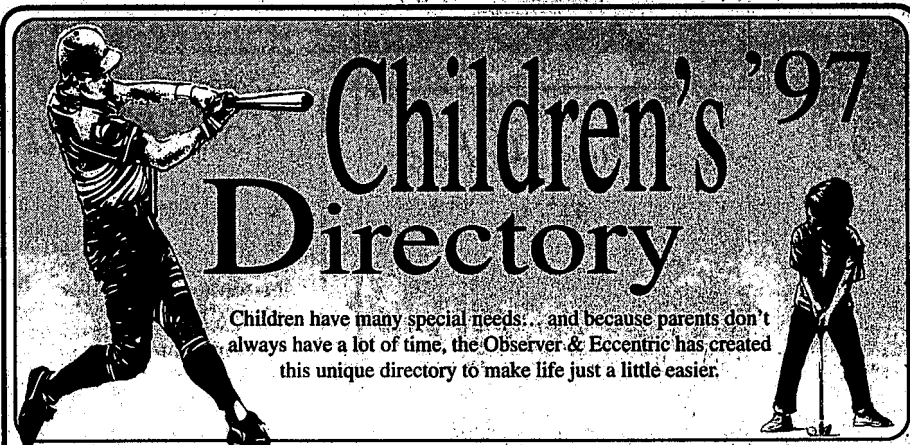
days," said baker-author Ken Haedrich who starts his holiday baking the first weekend after Thanksgiving.

"I know the weeks right before Christmas will be extra busy, so I turn to tried and true favorites that freeze well," he said. Quick breads, made with pumpkin, walnuts and pecans, fresh and dried cranberries, apples and pears are at the top of his make-ahead gift ideas.

Loaf-type breads, said Haedrich are actually bet-

ter baked ahead because their flavors meld and they become easier to slice. Bake your favorite quick bread in disposable mini foil pans from the grocery store, and freeze. Quick breads have a shelf life of 3 to 5 days.

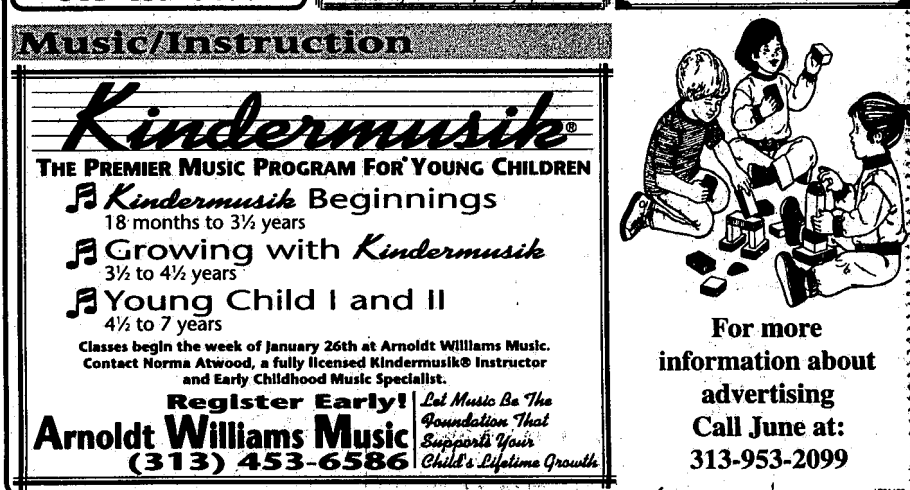
For gift-giving Haedrich recommends wrapping mini quick bread loaves in clear cellophane gift bags which are available in party and stationery stores. Tie with a bow and attach a tiny ornament or fresh holly.



Children's '97 Directory

Children have many special needs... and because parents don't always have a lot of time, the Observer & Eccentric has created this unique directory to make life just a little easier.

Activities Skatin' Station II Canton OPEN SKATING 1 pm-4 pm December 22-January 2 313-459-6400	Child Care New St. Mark Montessori Educational Center 12 mos. - 5 yrs. 7 am - 6 pm (313) 541-4410 • 24331 W. Eight Mile Latchkey Available: January 5, 1998	UNITY MONTESSORI AND DAY CARE Ages 8 weeks - 6 yrs. 7am - 6pm Computers, math, phonics, certified and trained staff (248) 338-8383 1830 W. Square Lake • Bloomfield Hills
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'Modern Food Gifts' show you care

Recipes from "Modern Food Gifts" by Martha Gill.

FLAVORED SUGAR

What you need

White sugar and/or raw sugar
Selection of flavoring ingredients, such as organic rosebuds, crystallized ginger, citrus fruits, cinnamon sticks, and split vanilla beans

Containers such as sugar dispensers, vinegar and oil cruets, flour shakers and bottles with stoppers
Fabric ribbons

Pour sugar into a container to a depth of half an inch. Add a small amount of your chosen flavoring ingredient. (If using cinnamon sticks to flavor the sugar, break

the sticks into small pieces). Continue layering the sugar and the flavoring, ending with the sugar 1/4-inch from the top of the container.

Replace lid. Loosely tie a ribbon around the neck or top of the container.

CRANBERRY CHUTNEY

3 pounds of cranberries
Zest and juice of 2 oranges and 1 lemon

3/4 to 1 cup sugar
1/2 cup distilled vinegar
2 teaspoons chopped fresh ginger

1 to 2 teaspoons each of ground cumin, ground coriander seeds, and red pepper flakes
1 fresh mango, peeled and

chopped into 1/4-inch chunks, or other fruits such as blackberries or strawberries

Wash cranberries and place in a medium saucepan. Add 1 cup of the sugar, the vinegar, and the zest and juice. Bring to a low boil and cook just until the berries burst. Add the ginger, spices, and mango or other fruit and stir once.

Taste, adding additional sugar if necessary. (Mixture should be a little tart). Allow to cool. The chutney will keep for 1 week in the refrigerator. Makes about 3 cups.

How to package it — Pour prepared relish into jam jar. Put lid and spoon in place. Tie a ribbon around the lid.

Stop in and see our selection of holiday gift items!

We Bring a Lot to the Party!

Stock Up On These Favorites For Your Holiday Party!

Prices effective through January 4, 1998

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561568 GFS 31-40 ct. per lb. \$13.99 Regular Price \$14.89	546461 GFS MARKETPLACE RELISH PACK Carrots and celery sticks and broccoli buds. 5 lb. package. Regular Price \$8.95 \$8.49	610151 GFS TURTLE ELEGANCE TORTE Fluffy, light cake filled with rich caramel butter-cream filling and dark chocolate ganache. 18 slices per 12" torte. Regular Price \$22.25 \$20.99
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726265 COHENS SELECT ASSORTED HORS D'OEUVRES Bake & serve. Approx. 20 each: potato puffs, beef & mushroom turnovers, egg rolls, cocktail franks, spinach & potato puffs. Regular Price \$20.40 \$19.49	475076 GFS FRESH COOKED PRIME RIB USDA choice. Cooked to rare. 6 lb. average piece. Regular Price \$6.09/lb. \$5.99/lb.	BRIGHTON (810) 229-0110 FARMINGTON HILLS (248) 474-1990 MOUNT CLEMENS (810) 792-7600 ROCHESTER HILLS (248) 656-8000 TAYLOR (313) 291-0360
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TASTE

Golden delights:
Making a big batch of Cornmeal Biscotti takes barely 30 minutes, and if need be, they can be shipped cross country.



Cookie swaps make sweet connections

When friends and family get busy, it's hard to stay connected, even around holidays. A cookie swap is a special way to get together with the people you'd always like to see but seldom do.

In a cookie swap, people bring a tin filled with one kind of cookie and leave with it refilled with a variety of the treats everyone else brought. Cookies for a swap should be easy to make. Spice cookies, fig bars, jumbles, or biscotti are ideal.

CORNMEAL BISCOTTI

1 1/2 cups yellow cornmeal
1 1/2 cups flour
1/2 cup sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder
9 tablespoons butter
3/4 cup currants or dried blueberries
2 eggs, lightly beaten
Grated zest of 1 lemon, optional
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 tablespoons water

In a food processor, pulse together the flour and cornmeal to blend. Cut the butter into 9 pieces and add to the food processor. Pulse until the butter is blended into the dry ingredients. Transfer to a bowl and mix in the currants.

Beat the eggs, lemon zest (if using), vanilla and 2 tablespoons water into the dry ingredients. Divide the dough into 3 parts.

Place the dough pieces on a non-stick baking sheet. Shape each piece into a long rounded-top, flat-

tened log, 2 1/2-inches by 8-inches by 1-inch.

Bake at 350°F. for about 20 minutes, until the dough is a light gold. Let cool 5 minutes. Cut each log diagonally into 3/4-inch slices. Place the slices, cut side down on the baking sheet.

Bake the biscotti 5 minutes. Turn them over, and bake 5 minutes longer, until they are firm. Transfer the cookies to a rack and cool. Store the biscotti in a covered tin. They will keep 1-2 weeks.

Baking substitutes can help cut sugar and fat

This is the season for cooking and baking. But what happens if you run out of an ingredient for that special tasty delight?

Your choices are to go to the store or substitute one ingredient for another. There are many substitutions you can make when baking, however you may end up with a somewhat different product. The taste, moisture content, texture and weight of a product can be affected.

A frequent question is, "What can I substitute for cream of tartar?" The answer is, there is not a good substitution. If cream of tartar is used with baking soda in a cake or cookie recipe, omit both and use baking powder instead. One teaspoon baking powder is equivalent to 1/4 teaspoon baking soda plus 5/8 teaspoon cream of tartar. It may just be better to make that trip to the store for cream of tartar.

Sugar substitutions are a little easier. Granulated white sugar can be substituted for brown sugar, however, this changes the color of the product. To get brown color, use a cup of granulated sugar plus 1/4 cup unsulfured molasses.

One cup of corn syrup can be used for regular syrup, but you'll need to reduce other liquids by 1/4 cup. Sugar can be reduced by 1/4 to 1/3 in quick breads, cookies, pie filling, custards, puddings and fruit crisps. Do not reduce sugar in yeast breads as it acts as food for the yeast.

Here are some rules to remember when making sugar modifications to a recipe:

■ Do not over bake, bake until firm on the

outside and soft in the middle.

■ Products with less sugar are less brown. ■ Add applesauce, additional cinnamon or vanilla to enhance sweetness. Non-fat dry milk can replace up to 1/4 of the sugar.

■ If you want to use a non-sugar sweetener substitute, find and use a recipe designed especially for them. Some non-sugar sweeteners do not react well to baking or cooking.

■ Many cookie recipes do not take too well to sugar and fat reduction.

Reducing fat

Fat provides flavor, richness, improves texture, tenderness and flakiness in baked goods. You can substitute oil for shortening in a recipe to reduce the fat by 1/4 to 1/3. For example, if the recipe calls for 1 cup hydrogenated shortening, try 2/3 cup oil. As a general rule, for minimal fat content in cakes and cookies, use no more than 2 tablespoons fat (oil or margarine) per cup of flour.

In quick breads, muffins or cookies, substitute applesauce for up to 3/4 of the margarine or oil. Prune puree or low-fat yogurt can be used in place of butter, margarine or

oil. Look for margarine where liquid vegetable oil is the first ingredient listed on the label. Don't use tub margarine or lower-reduced fat margarine when baking cookies.

Skim or low-fat milk can be substituted for whole milk, or use evaporated skim milk. Salt can be reduced by half or omitted.

Find a reliable cookbook for a complete list of substitutions. Making a rich butter cookie is a real challenge if you aren't using butter or margarine. When you reduce or eliminate an ingredient you'll have to experiment with recipes to get a product that is acceptable.

Instead of a regular pie crust, use a phyllo crust or graham cracker crust. Serve angel food cake rather than pound cake. Use a dusting of powdered sugar instead of thick frostings, or if a recipe calls for a large quantity of chocolate chips, cut down the amount.

Since substituting sugar and fat is an "iffy" thing at best, it may be a better idea to make the original recipe with all the ingredients and just eat less of your favorite.

Lois M. Thieleke of Birmingham is an Extension Home Economist for the Michigan State University Extension-Oakland County.

Low-fat cookies taste better if eaten fresh. Keep them in an airtight container for only a few days or freeze for longer storage. Thaw only what you need.

Storing Cookies

To store cookies for short term (1 week)
■ Cool cookies completely after baking.
■ Do not mix soft and crisp varieties in the same container or the crisp cookies will soon become soft.
■ Store soft cookies in a container with a tight-fitting lid.
■ Store crisp cookies in a container with a loose-fitting lid.

■ Store bar cookies in the pan in which they were baked; cover pan tightly with aluminum foil or plastic wrap.

Freezing Cookies

To freeze cookies for six months
■ Arrange cooled cookies in a container with plastic wrap or foil.
■ If layering the cookies, put waxed paper between layers.
■ Keep varieties separate so they maintain their best flavor.
■ Seal containers tightly, label and freeze.
■ To thaw, let cookies stand loosely covered for 20 minutes

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OU taps new director for research institute



On the job: Janet Blanks has taken the reins as new director of Oakland University's renowned eye research institute. Blanks said the university's close working relationship with William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak was one of the factors that drew her to the position.

Janet Blanks, the new director of Oakland University's Eye Research Institute, looks to the future with optimism. As perhaps the only woman in the United States who heads an eye institute, Blanks brings to OU a research project in gene therapy, a cutting-edge technology. She also plans to attract more faculty to the institute and build on its collaboration with Beaumont Hospital.

Blanks succeeds Venkat Reddy, who founded the institute in 1968 with Everett Kinsey. The institute is one of the few eye research centers in the United States that is not affiliated with a medical school.

Before coming to Oakland, Blanks directed the Doheny Eye Institute's Electron Microscopy Laboratory in the University of Southern California's School of Medicine. She was also a professor in that school's Departments of Ophthalmology and Anatomy & Cell Biology.

Blanks brings with her a \$1 million National Eye Institute grant to study the use of gene therapy in the treatment of inherited retinal diseases such as Retinitis Pigmentosa. She's among a handful of researchers in the country studying this therapy to treat the retina, the light-sensitive tissue of the eye. The retina receives the image formed by the eye's lens and converts it into chemical and nervous signals that reach the brain through the optic nerve.

Blanks' research involves using a virus to place a gene from a normal mammalian cell into a mutant mouse retina, where such a gene is missing or inactive.

"It's hoped that if you can target the degeneration cells in the retina, you could possibly either cure or slow retinal degeneration," Blanks said. "This research may lead to more ideas about how to target cells in the brain that die during Alzheimer's disease."

■ Blanks brings with her a \$1 million National Eye Institute grant to study the use of gene therapy in the treatment of inherited retinal diseases such as Retinitis Pigmentosa. She's among a handful of researchers in the country studying this therapy to treat the retina, the light-sensitive tissue of the eye.

Blanks said one reason she came to Oakland is that Beaumont Hospital has a very strong group of retinal surgeons who could help in this research.

"There is a very large ophthalmology practice at Beaumont," Blanks said. "They have some of the largest clinical trials in the nation in macular degeneration and other eye diseases. I feel that we can do a lot together. There already is some exchange, but I think there's room for a lot more."

"I'd like to get some of the faculty here who are interested in different parts of the retina — anatomy, physiology, chemistry, molecular biology — and have us form a focus group to work toward determining the cause(s) of macular degeneration," Blanks said.

The institute's state-of-the-art research, which rivals

research on big medical school campuses, also drew her to Oakland.

"There's a lot of very sophisticated equipment (at the institute)," she said. "That includes a scanning electron microscope, amino acid analyzer, DNA sequencers."

She said she also values the institute's opportunities for undergraduate students to work in research laboratories. Such experience is a tremen-

dous advantage for students who want to go to medical school, she said.

Blanks' other goals include securing funding from private eye foundations and strengthening the relationship between the institute and Beaumont Hospital.

Meanwhile, the native Californian, her son and their Labrador retriever and pug are adjusting to the Michigan winter. Blanks bought a house in Rochester and is settling in with her son, Adam, 14. Her husband, Robert, is a professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology at the University of California Irvine School of Medicine, and is planning to join her soon. Their daughter, Meggan, 20, is finishing her second year of college in California.

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Judge values role in family court

BY JUDITH DONER BERNE
SPECIAL WRITER

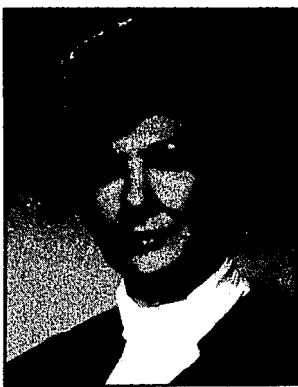
It's late on motion day in Judge Joan Young's courtroom and Oakland County Circuit Court's newest judge is exhibiting the listening skills and evenhandedness that she made a reputation for during her years as a probate judge.

Peering out over her granny-style reading glasses, Young works hard to mediate a case in which the ex-wife wants absolutely no contact with the ex-husband as their small child bounces between their homes. But the new child drop-off point the woman wants isn't feasible. So Young accepts a plan posed by the father that avoids contact — except for emergencies. "I'll just have to trust that if an emergency arises you'll act in the best interest of the child," she concludes.

In several pretrial motions in a dispute between two providers of funeral services, Young is patient throughout a lengthy presentation.

"People won't be happy if I have to go through more..." the plaintiff's attorney tells Young, referring to those attorneys and their clients still waiting for their day in court. "They're not happy now," Young quips.

Young's pleasant demeanor reigns in spite of the pressure she feels as a circuit judge. Although she has thoroughly enjoyed the variety of cases she has heard in the nearly nine months since her appointment, she says the stress of such a



Joan Young
new circuit judge

"tremendous case load" is more unrelenting than in her eight years on the probate bench that included a stint as chief judge. And it came as a surprise, even though she had been circuit court administrator for six years before that.

Adding to her workload are extra duties as chief judge of the 52nd District Court, the behemoth of a court with four divisions that she has administered since August 1996. When she was a probate judge, "I know I had a lot more time to reflect on what I was doing. I'm hoping the new family court will have that same atmosphere."

In fact the new family division of circuit court, set to debut in January, is where Young is headed. That was part of the incentive for her to fill the circuit

court vacancy, created when Judge Hilda Gage was appointed to the Michigan Court of Appeals. "I really felt it was important to have a voice in how it was created," Young said.

In circuit court "criminal cases take priority and often the domestic cases get short shrift," she says. "The family court will give priority to issues that affect families. That's clearly where we all learn all values, where we get the strength to go out into the world."

Divorces, custody hearings, personal protection orders and other family matters are already being assigned to the four circuit and 2 1/2 probate judges who will form the new court. But she warned, "We're not going to think of everything by Jan. 1. It will be an evolutionary process."

Young's path into law was not a straight one. As an undergraduate Spanish major and psychology minor, she began as a social worker who represented families and youngsters in probate court. That was where "I discovered ultimately there's a lot more you can do from the bench."

After attending Wayne State University law school, she joined a private practice until named deputy court administrator and then court administrator of Oakland County Circuit Court.

"It's hard," Young says, echoing the difficulties of women who have both a career and a family. "The things that are pulling you at the office bother you at home." She says she owes a lot to her "wonderfully supportive husband," attorney/certified public

accountant Thomas Schellenberg, as well as her secretary of 15 years, Janet Chiappelli. "First we raised her children," Young says, "then we raised mine."

Daughter Andrea is a junior at Seaholm High School interested in science, maybe marine biology. And daughter Katy is a junior at Indiana University, who has reversed her mother's undergraduate interests, majoring in psychology and minoring in Spanish. "She's assured me she's not going to law school," Young says, with a smile.

In trying the variety of cases in circuit court, Young gets high praise from attorney Jeff Lieb, whom I ran into in her courtroom. Lieb, a West Bloomfield resident who practices law in Southfield, says Young's background and experience are very apparent on the bench.

"She has a good level head, is courteous, has great temperament and is very considerate," Lieb describes. "She hasn't let the position go to her head."

As for Young, she wishes more people felt a stake in their county court system. "It would be really nice if people were interested enough in their courts to vote for their judges," she says.

(Young is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Reading to Reduce Recidivism and the Oakland County Bar Association's American Inn of Court. She is also a trustee for the Michigan Opera Theatre, director emeritus of HAVEN and serves on the Advisory Board of Parents of Murdered Children, Inc., Metro Detroit Chapter.)

OAKLAND JOURNAL

Oakland Journal is a roundup of Oakland County news and notes from government, school, civic, community and neighborhood sources. Please write: **Oakland Journal**, c/o Oakland County editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Our fax number is (248) 644-1314.

NICELY SETTLED

The Oakland County Circuit Court and Friend of the Court's Divorce Settlement Week, which ran Oct. 27-31, brought resolution to more than 300 domestic cases — more than 60 percent of the cases originally scheduled to be heard. The joint effort was intended to clear out the backlog of old divorce cases in time for the start of the new Family Division of Circuit Court on Jan. 1.

MONEY SAVER

Oakland County's Weekend Alternative for Misdemeanants Program has been a resounding success during its first four months of operation, says Bob Dustman, media and communications spokesman for County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. Since beginning in August, a total of 210 nonviolent offenders have gone through the program and performed such tasks as clearing 20 miles of county park trails, washing and waxing road commission vehicles and painting the 50th District Court building. The program has resulted in a cost savings to the county of \$84,864 so far in 1997.

CHRISTMAS WISHES

Contributors are needed to pur-

chase, wrap and send highly treasured gifts (with a value of about \$30) to the Judson Center in Oakland County or the holidays. Children at the Royal Oak-based center have suffered abuse or neglect and wish to have a happy and whole family. When this can't be achieved, the best way to give a child hope is to grant them a special gift wish for Christmas. More than 200 supporters have made this program successful in the past. To participate, call the development office at (248) 837-1217.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Oakland County Retired & Senior Volunteer Program seeks volunteers 55 and older to become involved with community agencies that need assistance. Varied opportunities are available at schools, hospitals, libraries, human service organizations and cultural institutions throughout Oakland County. Benefits include supplemental accident and liability insurance, mileage reimbursement and the chance to make a difference. For further information and assistance in finding the right volunteer spot, call Edna Thoms at (248) 559-1147.

Volunteers are needed by St. Joseph Mercy - Oakland, with openings in the gift shop, surgical lounge among other areas. Call the hospital at (248) 858-3035 to set up an appointment for a November orientation. The hospital is at 900 Woodward Avenue, just north of Square Lake Road, in Pontiac.

The Maplegrove Center in West Bloomfield needs volunteers with openings in the gift shop, business office, medical records and as patient greeters. Call the volunteer department at (248) 661-6198 to set up an appointment for an interview. Maplegrove is at 6773 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield.

Volunteers are needed to be a positive adult role model for a child between the ages of 5 through 16, who need a one-to-one mentor. Training will be held Saturday, Dec. 13 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Oakland County Courthouse (North Entrance) at 1200 North Telegraph in Pontiac.

PENNIES-A-POINT

Grant Hill and the Detroit Pistons will again team up with Oakland County Special Olympics for the "Pennies-A-Point" program for the 1997-98 season. The program entails pledging pennies (one cent, five cents or 10 cents) for every point that Grant Hill scores for regular season games. Pledge proceeds go to Oakland County Special Olympics for training, competition, uniforms, equipment and other costs throughout the year. Pledge cards are available at the Special Olympics office by calling (248) 674-4924. Oakland County Special Olympics offers 18 year-round sports for children and adults with mental retardation.

AMI RAFFLE

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Oakland County will hold its ninth annual limited ticket raffle. Grand prize is a 1998 Corvette or \$30,000 cash. Other prizes include a TV, VCR and camcorder. Tickets are \$100 and only 1,200 tickets will be sold. Drawing will be 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 23, at the Jack Cauley Dealership in West Bloomfield. Proceeds from the sale help support research, education, support groups, housing and advocacy for the needs of individuals with mental illness and the needs of their families. For ticket information, call (248) 557-6440.

BUCKET BRIGADE

With a twist on the traditional bucket brigade, Einstein Bros. Bagels will bring the community together to help fight hunger instead of fires with sales of its bagel buckets. Three percent of its holiday bucket sales through Dec. 31 will be contributed to Second Harvest. Employees will get into the spirit by wearing "Fight Hunger" T-shirts and orange ribbons — the official symbol for hunger awareness. Area Einstein locations include 176 South Woodward, Birmingham; 4089 W. Maple, Bloomfield Township; 8366 Richardson, Commerce Township; 29191 Southfield Road and 29525 Northwestern Highway, both in Southfield; 3043 Crooks, Troy; and 6540 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

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OU honors students for writing excellence

Oakland University's Department of Rhetoric, Communication and Journalism recently honored student winners of the 1996-1997 Writing Excellence Awards Contest.

Undergraduates submitted papers written as assignments in Composition I and Composition II. Students were honored Nov. 13 during a luncheon at historic Meadow Brook Hall. First place winners received \$100; second place \$75 and third place \$50.

Recognizing the winners were OU President Gary D. Russi; Dagmar Cronn, vice president, Academic Affairs, and provost;

Mary Beth Snyder, vice president, Student Affairs; David Downing, dean, College of Arts and Sciences; OU trustees Louis Grech Cumbo and Ann Nicholson; Wallis Andersen, chair, Department of Rhetoric, Communication and Journalism, College of Arts and Sciences, and the students' instructors.

"We were impressed by the skillful and thoughtful writing in the more than 70 papers submitted," said Ronald Sudol, profes-

sor and selection committee chair.

"The winning papers represent an impressive variety in style, format, voice and subject. They were a pleasure to read."

The winners: In the exposition and narration category for papers written in Composition I:

First place — Aaron Abdullah of Bloomfield Hills, "River of Dreams;" Second place (tie) —

Sheri Wagnier, Harrison Township, "Mental Disorders: Definition Versus Life;" Matthew DeWitte, Negaunee, Mich., "What Time Is It Anyway?" Third place — Michael DeLorean, Bloomfield Village, "The Parking Lot Battlefield."

In the research category for papers written in Composition II:

First place — Kathleen I. Bethell, Rochester Hills, "Giving It All Away: Private Book Collec-

tors as Public Benefactors;" Second place — Leah Beth Inabnit-Troy, "An Argument For The Ordination of Women in the Catholic Priesthood."

Third place (tie) — Beth Kouba, Sterling Heights, "A Solar and Wind Powered Future;" Cynthia McGee, Warren, "Parental Involvement: Essential for Children;" and Liv Rainey, Farmington Hills, "Homosexuality and the College Environment."

November school election bills await Senate action

By TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

School elections would be held in November instead of June under a package of bills awaiting state Senate action.

"It will dramatically increase voter participation," predicted Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, sponsor of one of the bills.

"Elections should be limited to a few days each year," said Sen. Glenn Steil, R-Grand Rapids, lead sponsor of the package. "Voter turnout needs to be increased, and we must ensure that voters are fully aware of the issues before them."

In general, the bills seek larger voter turnouts by moving school elections to November. Currently, June voter turnouts are as little as 3 percent and, unless there's a major controversy, rarely more than 15 or 20 percent.

They also seek to reduce the number of special elections on money issues.

School districts are expected to resist the call for November elections, particularly in even-numbered years when partisan issues and constitutional amendments crowd the ballot.

At last count, Michigan has 555 K-12 school districts and 57 intermediate districts (sometimes called county service areas). They held 1,074 millage elections in 1994 and 641 in 1995.

The bills would:

- Require that school elections be held in November beginning in 2002. At least one school board member would have to be elected in every November election.

- Place conduct of school elections in the hands of cities and townships. No longer would school districts conduct them or have to pay for them. In some areas, voters would go to their city or township precincts for all elections, not a separate school precinct.

To municipal clerks' worries that their election burden would be increased, Bennett said, "As a former township clerk, I don't see it as a problem — just a matter of printing additional ballots."

Steil added that the change "would free schools to focus on educating our children."

- Limit school elections to three dates each year: one in April, one in August and the November general election.

- Require the school district seeking approval of a bond issue to include on a ballot proposal the estimated annual tax cost.

- Require the ballot language to include the per-pupil and per-classroom costs for the facilities for which the bonds are issued.

- Hike the cost of special elections by requiring the school district to pay the city and/or township 106 percent of the actual cost of conducting a special election.

Conducting special elections is a virtual science among school districts. For example, March is considered a good time to run a money proposal. Tactics include phone banks that target "school people" such as parents and school employees.

The House has worked on a different set of ideas but produced no bills for floor action.

House members have talked of reducing the number of total elections to three or four a year and requiring schools to use one of those elections for money questions.

Historically, Michigan has run school elections mostly in May and June, so that newly elected members could vote on the budget before the fiscal year starts on July 1.

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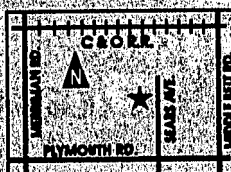
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Lawmakers like changes in high school proficiency test

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

State senators eloquently praised House members and even Democrats as the Michigan Legislature inched toward revisions of the High School Proficiency Tests.

"It's a good package, especially because all diplomas will be the same," said Sen. Robert Geake, R-Northville. "But if a student wants to order a transcript to send to an employer or to a college, then the state endorsement will be entered."

Both chambers passed different versions of the bills. Geake said the Education Committee chairs — Joanne Emmons, R-Big Rapids, in the Senate, and Sharon Gire, D-Macomb County — agreed that the House should concur in the Senate amendments.

That would mean it's unlikely the bills would go to a joint House-Senate conference committee and face more delay.

Senate passage came Dec. 4 on a 33-2 vote. All area senators voted yes except Mike Bouchard, R-Birmingham, who voted no, and Bill Bullard Jr., R-Milford, who was absent.

Bouchard's district includes Birmingham and Troy, where many juniors skipped the HSPT, fearing bad marks would hurt their college admission chances and good marks wouldn't help. Bouchard likened the HSPT to a sow's ear that couldn't be patched into a silk purse.

Main points of the agreement:

- The tests will be given at the end of the 11th grade, instead of the beginning of the 12th grade.
- There will be no labels — just test scores.

'Higher standards'

"The HSPT has had a lot of criticism, but it's bringing higher standards," said Emmons. "I'm very pleased at the bipartisan cooperation."

Gire's House committee held extensive public hearings around the state before producing the bills in answer to parental complaints. HSPTs are taken in the 11th grade and cover math, science and communications skills. In 2000, a social studies test will be added.

"There was a negative connotation to the labels (proficient, novice and not yet novice)," Emmons said. "You get the label even if your score was one point below excellent. We'll leave it to the Department of Education to set the standards."

"Another complaint was that the tests were scored in another state. We want Michigan teachers to score the test," she said.

Senators agreed to a Democratic floor amendment making the scoring subject to the approval of the elected State Board of Education instead of department employees.

Some changes the seven-bill package makes from past HSPT tests:

- Tests will be given during the last 30 days of 11th grade with scores returned at the beginning of the 12th grade. Currently they are administered in late January and early February of the 11th grade.

- The four tests, including social studies, will be limited to eight hours. Some districts currently report the tests take 10 hours or more.

- HSPT scores would be included in school accreditation reports.

- Michigan teachers would be hired to score the non-mechanical portions of tests. Currently reading and writing portions are

scored in North Carolina.

- Students in 11th and 12th grade may take college courses in areas where they have achieved HSPT proficiency. Currently, a student must be proficient in all areas to take part in "dual enrollment."

- Students may repeat the test without charge later in the school year or after graduation. Only the latest score will be

posted on the transcript.

Purpose of the HSPT is to encourage use of the state model core curriculum.

Mainstream lawmakers resisted attempts to eliminate the HSPT altogether.

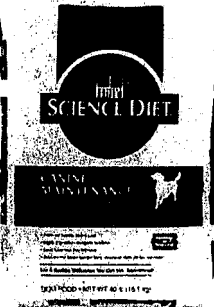
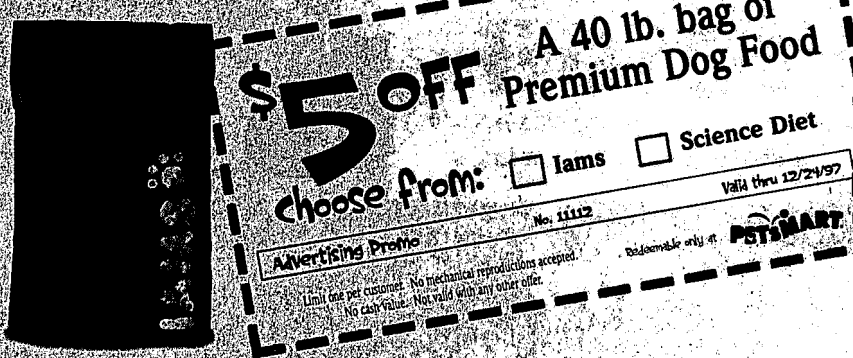
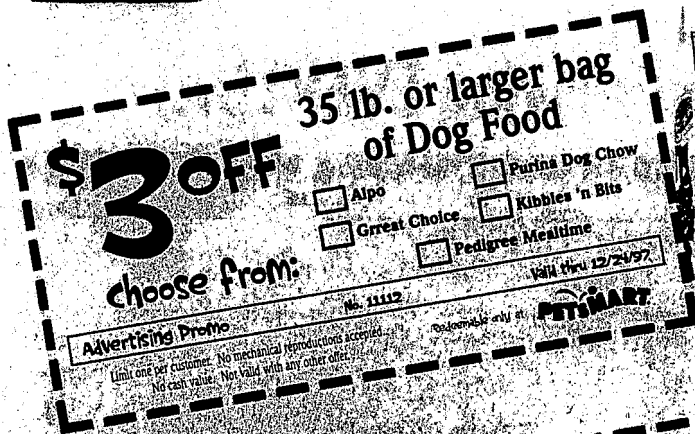
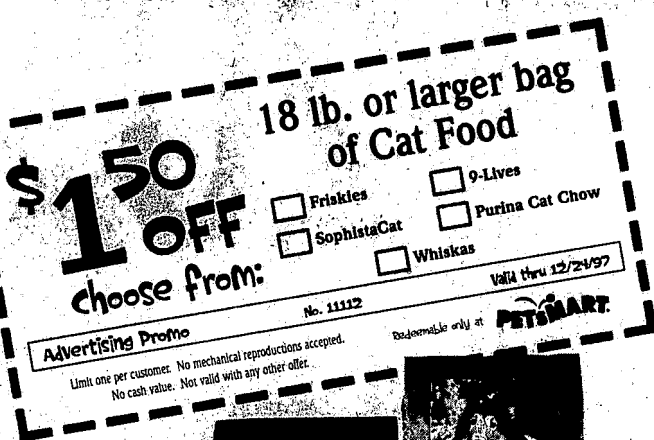
Response to business

"Memories are short," said Dorothy Beardmore, a State Board of Education member from Rochester. "Both the public and the media seem to have forgotten why the HSPT was developed in the first place, so they overlook that it is doing exactly what it was supposed to do."

Both business people and (college) admission officers had complained about poor preparation of some high school graduates," she recalled. The response was an "endorsed diploma," an idea that came out of a state aid bill several years ago.

When educators and parents objected to state interference in the diploma process, the compromise was "an endorsement on a diploma, as evidence that a student met high standards in specific areas," said Beardmore. "The proficiency test itself was developed by Michigan educators, assessment experts, parents, business and industry people and professionals in the areas covered in each specific test area."

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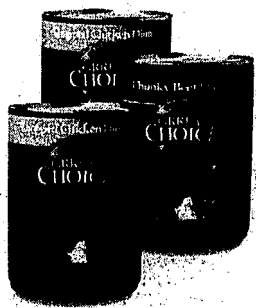
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MADD holding annual vigil tonight

The Oakland County Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving is conducting its annual Candlelight Vigil at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, at the First Congregational Church of Royal Oak, 1314 Northwood Boulevard, located between 12 and 13 Mile roads off Crooks Road.

The vigil is open to all to attend and support victims' families. Those who will attend should call the MADD chapter at (248) 623-8233.

A reception follows the vigil service, and everyone is invited to attend.

Sports & Outdoors

Clarkston
Eccentric

INSIDE:

Wrestlers 2nd, B2
Hockey wins 4th straight, B3

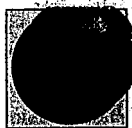
Page 1, Section B

Brad Kadrach, Editor (248) 693-4900

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

Thursday, December 11, 1997

Wolves' seniors spark OT win in opener



Clarkston survived an injury to star guard Dane Fife and celebrated the debut of transfer student Angelo Taylor, and still had to beat back a spirited effort by the Bluejays to win.

BY MIKE SCOTT
SPECIAL WRITER

Tuesday night's season-opening boys' basketball game had a little bit of everything: thunderous dunks, clutch shooting and overtime, but it also had one thing which almost made the collective

hearts of all Clarkston fans stop.

The Wolves defeated visiting Southfield 69-65 in overtime before a packed house at The Jungle, but there was concern following the game about the status of senior guard Dane Fife's left shoulder. The Indiana University-bound Fife visibly

separated his shoulder after making a key block with approximately 20 seconds left in overtime. The block helped preserve the victory.

Fife writhed in pain for more than 10 seconds as a mad scramble for the ball ensued. The Bluejays (0-1) ended up turning it over, but hardly anyone in the gym seemed to notice.

Clarkston head coach Dan Fife then popped his son's shoulder, one which has given the 6-foot-4 guard problems in the past, back into place. After an extended time-out, Fife was fouled and drained both free throws to seal the victory.

"It was a fully dislocated shoulder," a pacing Fife said of his son's injury. "(Dane) is pretty crushed about it. Right now I'm worried about his shoulder."

Fife also indicated surgery was a possibility for his son following the season. He could not comment on his son's status for Friday's game at West Bloomfield.

The win was big for the Wolves (1-0) since it came against another highly-regarded Oakland County team. Clarkston led throughout the game, but was unable to shake Southfield, despite getting 36 points, eight rebounds and six assists from Fife and 23 points and 20 rebounds from forward Angelo Taylor.

The Bluejays made a 4-0 run to tie the game 52-52 with 3:16 left in regulation, but were able to get back into the game in large part because Clarkston missed the front end of three

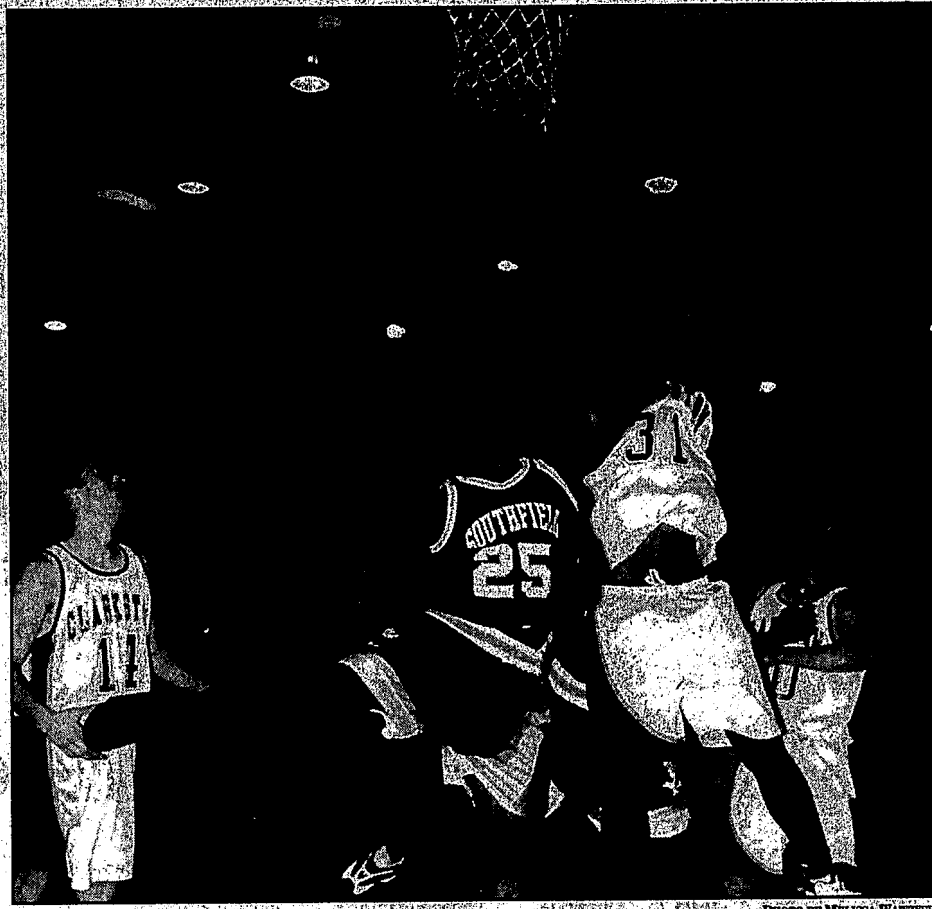


PHOTO BY MELISSA WAWZYKO

Dunking debut: Clarkston's Angelo Taylor (31) drives to the hole against Southfield's Clarence Powell during the Wolves' 69-65 overtime prep basketball win Tuesday at The Jungle. Taylor, who transferred from Pontiac Northern before the season began, scored 23 points and grabbed 14 rebounds.



PHOTO BY MELISSA WAWZYKO

In charge: Clarkston's Dane Fife (12) drives the baseline past Mike Proffett of Southfield during the Wolves' 69-65 win. Fife finished with 36 points.

See HOOPS, B4

Athletically inclined

Lacking size, Clarkston turns to skills for net gain

BY BRAD KADRACH
SPORTS EDITOR

The Clarkston Wolves hope to make up for the loss of height and physical strength with more athleticism on the volleyball floor this season.

In fact, coach Gordie Richardson is counting on it.

Gone are big hitters like Kammy Powell and Megan Bjurman, but the Wolves return a quick, athletic group of players who should be able to lift Clarkston out of the Oakland Activities Association Division I basement.

"I think we're pretty good athletically," said Richardson. "We're still as tall, but not as experienced and physically mature. We're just as tall, but not as strong."

The Wolves' attack will center primarily around senior Georgia Senkyr, who matured a great deal on the court last year and is ready to step into the role as key player this season. Senkyr will try to attack from the middle but, failing that, can also hit from either side. She can play in front, she's developing into a solid back-row player and she's a good server.

"Georgia is just an outstanding athlete," Richardson said. "She's an outstanding front row player, and she can be a good back row player with just a little better understanding of the game. If we could, we'd set her in as many places as we could get her in. The problem is you have to have great passing to do that."

Senior Aimee Giroux will play the left side, coming back for her final season, and bringing her trademark grit and determination. Giroux, a three-sport star for the Wolves, can hit from the front row and is an excellent server. But her best attribute may be her toughness.

"She's probably as hard-nosed as anybody," Richardson said. "She will play hard all the time. And she's a great server. That's something she really brings us on the court."

Senior Jenny McCue could be the team's best defensive player, and Richardson is searching for ways to keep McCue on the court all the time. McCue is excellent in the back row and she can do some setting when called upon. She isn't the biggest hitter on the team, but Richardson loves her attitude.

"She's probably our leader right now," the coach said. "I'd be nice if we can keep her on the court because she gives us a lot. She's a great team person."

The team's biggest question is how many dependable setters are available.



Back for more: Senior Aimee Giroux (left) is one of the athletes coach Gordie Richardson is counting on as the Wolves try to escape the OAA I cellar.

Seniors Kelly Hanna and Hope Manuel are vying to fill the shoes left vacant by the graduation of Stephanie Vogler. Each has her advantages — Hanna is taller, Manuel maybe quicker — and Richardson may decide to use both of them.

"They're either battling to be the only setter in a 5-1 (attack) or they're proving we have two good setters," Richardson said. "If someone makes a breakthrough, that may make a difference."

Other names in the mix include seniors Amber Mitchell, a 5-foot-9 front-row player who Richardson feels could come through, and Nicole Nelles, a 5-foot-6 utility player.

"Amber has enough height she can help us up front," Richardson said. "Nelles is valuable because we need someone who is going to be consistent. She'll give us good, steady play."

The Wolves will need that if they want to advance in the OAA-I standings. Although Clarkston did win a

The Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
12-13	Waverly	9 a.m.
12-15	Kimball	6:30
12-17	Troy	6 p.m.
1-3	WL Central	9 a.m.
1-5	W. Bloom	6 p.m.
1-8	Adams	6 p.m.
1-17	G. Blanc	6:30 a.
1-19	Lake Orion	6 p.m.
1-26	Seaholm	6 p.m.
1-29	Kimball	6 p.m.
1-31	Clk Invite	9 a.m.
2-2	Troy	6:30 p.
2-5	W. Bloom	6 p.m.
2-7	Garber Inv.	9 a.m.
2-9	Adams	6:30
2-12	Lake Orion	6 p.m.
2-19	Seaholm	6:30 p.
2-28	OAA meet	TBA
Home games in bold		

district championship last year, the Wolves finished last in the division, a trend they hope to reverse this year.

Richardson said defending champion Birmingham Seaholm is still the team to beat, but that schools like Troy, Kimball and Lake Orion could also figure into the race. Richardson said the big advantage for most of the division's teams, more than the players they return, is the coaching staff.

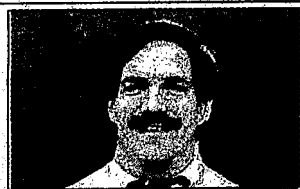
"One of the real strengths in the league is there isn't any coach in the division who can't find a way to beat a team on any given day," Richardson said. "It'll probably Seaholm, then a toss-up."

In order for his Wolves to compete, Richardson said Clarkston must improve its defense and not rely on Senkyr so much offensively.

"We have to play a little better defensively," Richardson said. "And we have to get offense from someone other than Georgia."

"They're either battling to be the only setter in a 5-1 (attack) or they're proving we have two good setters. If someone makes a breakthrough, that may make a difference."

Gordie Richardson
Clarkston volleyball coach



BRAD KADRACH

'Dynamic Duo' gets Wolves off to thrilling start

Clarkston's "Dynamic Duo" of Dane Fife and Angelo Taylor had quite the auspicious beginning Tuesday.

The pair combined for 59 points and 22 rebounds in Clarkston's 69-65 overtime win over Southfield. It was a dramatic win because it was the season opener, Dane Fife was injured and Taylor was making his Clarkston debut.

Still, anyone who thinks the arrival of Taylor automatically makes Clarkston a state title contender is probably only half right.

They've got the state-title contender part correct. It's the "automatic" that might be off a bit.

There's no question Taylor, a rebounding machine, makes the Wolves that much tougher. And he was spectacular Tuesday, especially in the first half, tossing in 23 points and grabbing 14 rebounds.

But Taylor, a 6-foot-4 senior forward who transferred from Pontiac Northern, is going to have some adjustments to make. Clarkston is a much more structured offense than the one Taylor was used to in Pontiac, and the Wolves will ask more defensively of their newest player.

"Angelo will have more responsibility here," Clarkston coach Dan Fife said. "People are thinking he's going to come and score a bunch of points, and that might not happen. He's got some adjustments to make."

Even Taylor admits he's got some growing to do. "I've definitely got a lot to learn," he said recently. "I've got some bad habits I've got to get rid of. It's more structured here."

With Taylor pounding away inside, and even able to hit the outside jumper occasionally, teams won't be able to focus all five of their defenders on the Wolves' star attraction, the Indiana-bound Dane Fife.

Fife is a magician with the basketball, the leading candidate for Michigan's Mr. Basketball award. Taylor could become the next Junk Yard

See KADRACH

Oxford steps in as replacement host of mat meet

BY BRAD KADRICH
SPORTS EDITOR

Lake Orion's wrestling loss could be Oxford's mat gain. Oxford High School will host the first day of the Oakland County wrestling tournament, along with South Lyon High School, when the tournament opens Dec. 19.

Lake Orion had been scheduled to host the tournament, which is moving from a four-site format last year to just two sites this year in an effort to make better matches. The Dragons' new facility, however, is not completed, and the gym at the old high school is not big enough to accommodate such an event.

Rochester High School athletic director Dick Ulrich called Oxford AD Don Maskill to see if the Oxford gym, which is huge, would be available and whether the Wildcats would be willing to host.

"He said, 'I know it's a big task' and asked if we'd do it," Maskill said of Ulrich, who was Maskill's football coach at Rochester about a zillion years ago. "I told him I'd have to think about it."

At issue was whether the tremendous volunteer effort

that would be needed to host such an event could be pulled together so quickly. Volunteers will be needed for various tasks, from ticket-taking to running the clocks at individual scoring tables to announcing.

"I wanted to make sure this meet continued, because it's been such a strong meet for such a long time," Maskill said. "I certainly didn't want the meet to go down because no one would pick it up."

The Wildcats also get a slight advantage because they won't have to travel. Other schools at the Oxford site for the first day include Lake Orion, Clarkston, Troy and Troy Athens, Rochester, Holly, Milford, Auburn Hills, Avondale, Pontiac Central and Northern, Birmingham Groves and Seaholm, Waterford Mott and Kettering, Bishop Foley, Madison Heights, Madison, Bloomfield Hills, Andover and Lahser and Clawson.

Oxford also hosts the seeding meet set for Dec. 18. The Wildcats will then host three championship rounds and three consolation rounds Dec. 19.

Grapplers open with 2nd at Jenison

BY BRAD KADRICH
SPORTS EDITOR

The Clarkston Wolves are fielding a young wrestling team this season, and if Saturday's Jenison Invitational is any indication, the Wolves will be served quite nicely by youth.

The Wolves, ranked ninth in the state in Division I, finished second at the Jenison with 179-1/2 points, behind only eventual champion Middleville Thornapple Kellogg. The Trojans, who wrestled in the OK Conference Blue Division, are Division II's top-ranked team.

The Wolves finished ahead of such state powers as Grandville, ranked a few spots ahead of Clarkston, and Traverse City. The Wolves, who last year fell to

Bedford in the state quarterfinals, got four individual champions and 11 medals in 14 weight classes.

And the youngsters prevailed. Seven of Clarkston's 11 medals came from underclassmen, including both of their nationally-ranked wrestlers.

"Eleven medals in a tournament of this quality is good," Clarkston coach Mike DeGain said. "We've got a young team, and most of our high placers were young guys."

'Eleven medals in a tournament of this quality is good. We've got a young team, and most of our high placers were young guys.'

Mike DeGain
—Clarkston wrestling coach

The Wolves finished with four individual champions, led by junior A.J. Grant, who finished first at 112 pounds. Grant breezed through the Jenison, with two pins and a technical fall among his victories.

Sophomore Pat DeGain, who is bouncing back from a season plagued by shoulder problems, was the individual champion at 189.

The other two champions were Ryan L'Amoreaux, who beat Kellogg's Kyle Brauer, who medaled at the state meet a year ago, at

103 pounds, and Andy Auten at 152 pounds.

Senior Chris Gomez finished second at 130, while sophomore Jon Robinson was second at 275.

Sophomore Bubba Clement, wrestling in the first tournament of his career, finished third at 215 pounds.

"He wrestled extremely well," DeGain said of Clement, who played basketball as a freshman before turning to wrestling this year. "I think he's figured out where he should be."

Ryan McAleer was the Wolves' other bronze medalist, finishing third at 119 pounds.

Seniors Aaron Sailor (145 pounds), Josh Lafferty (160) and Matt Edwards (171) all finished fourth.

Wolves qualify for Junior Olympic cross country

BY BILL PARKER
STAFF WRITER

The high school cross country season may be over, but for three members of the Clarkston High School boys squad the competition continues this weekend.

Clarkston's Dave Sage, Matt Haver and Dan Burk have all qualified for the USA National Junior Olympics Cross Country Championships, which will take place Saturday in Portland, Oregon. When not racing for



David Sage

the Vikings the trio runs with the Raptor Racing Team, which they will be representing at nationals. Squads from the Raptor

Racing Team has qualified for nationals in the 15-16 age division and the 17-18 age division.

Mobley runs on the 15-16-year-old squad. Walled Lake Central's Nate Stoll, Jason Babcock and Todd Mobley, Plymouth Salem's John Little and Matt Anderson and Livonia Franklin's Josh Burt are also members of the 15-16-year-old squad, which qualified for nationals by winning a regional competition Nov. 15 at Calvin College in Dayton, Ohio. The top

three teams and the top 20 individuals at the regional meet qualify for the nationals. The Raptor's 15-16-year-olds also won the state championship in a race earlier this year in Southfield.

"Todd, Dave and Matt are three of the top sophomores in the state," said Stoll. "They have a good chance of winning it all."

Mobley paced the Raptors in both the state and regional races by placing first and fifth as an individual, respectively.

Stoll and Babcock run on the Raptor's squad for 17-18-year-olds along with Japir-Gil and Jason Lancaster of Ann Arbor Pioneer, Jon Berman of North Farmington, Adam Barbara of Plymouth Salem and Jamie Peraino of Redford Union.

The Raptor's 17-18-year-old squad qualified for the national championships by placing third at the regional meet. They qualified for the regional by placing second at the state championships.

School board member asks Orion to look at pay-to-play

BY BRAD KADRICH
SPORTS EDITOR

The cost of playing sports in the Lake Orion school district could drop next year if at least one school board member gets his way.

Board member D'Arcy Gonzales has asked the school administration to review the district's pay-to-play policy when the 1998-1999 school budget is considered next spring.

Athletes currently pay \$50, or a family maximum of \$300 a year, to participate in sports. Gonzales, who has two children in the district, would like the administration to look at the possibility of lowering, or eliminating, that figure.

"In talking to other districts I found the majority of people are not charging anything at all," said Gonzales. "I'm in favor of lowering it, but I want the administration to look at it."

The pay-to-play policy was put in place in 1992, when the school district had fallen on hard times. It calls for families to pay \$50 per sport, per athlete.

That means a three-sport athlete, of which there are many in Orion, would pay \$150 per year. There is a maximum cap on the cost to parents, though. Once a family hits \$300, the fee stops.

"I can afford to do it, but there are other people out there who can't, and it really adds up," said

Gonzales, whose son Nick plays soccer and runs track.

"I know at the time it was put into effect we needed to do it. But now things have turned around and I think we can revisit it."

The proposed 1997-98 budget for the district listed \$41,868,023 in revenues and \$41,779,432 in expenditures, a surplus of . The athletic department budget was \$598,451 for 1997-98.

But athletic director Darin

Abbasse said the pay-to-play funds are a necessary addition to the general fund budget.

"One nice thing about athletic fee here is the money is not put into the general fund, it goes directly into athletics," Abbasse said.

"That's where we feel we get a lot of opportunities (for improvements) like a batting cage, fencing for fields at the middle school and purchasing of new equipment or uniforms for our teams

from middle school up. There's never enough money to budget."

Abbasse said he has already lowered the fee at the middle school. It was \$50 at that level, too, when he arrived in 1996-97, and Abbasse got it cut in half.

"I saw their season was half the season of the high school and I couldn't justify charging \$50 so we dropped it to \$25," Abbasse said

Kadrich from page B1

Dog," grabbing up all the junk left over from Fife and the outside shooting of guys like Mike Maitrott. Look for Taylor to average about 16 points and eight or nine rebounds a game. If he does that, he'll be doing his job, and that alone will make

Clarkston tough to beat.

■ AJ Grant just keeps going and going.

The "Energizer Bunny" of the wrestling team, Grant, a junior, picked right up where he left off last season, when he went 50-1 and finished third at the individ-

ual state meet.

Grant won all his matches at Saturday's season-opening Jenison invitational, including two pins and a technical fall. Grant is ranked sixth in the nation by USA Wrestling among juniors, and might be as flawless as they come.

He's great on his feet (a school record 176 takedowns last year), can finish when he wants to (22 pins) and has the right attitude.

His loss in the state tournament last year fueled a summer in which he placed in the nationals, and it will fuel a state championship when the wrestling season ends in March.

■ For those wondering if the Clarkston volleyball team is going to be any better than last year's, here's a prediction:

Your guess is as good as mine.

The Wolves will certainly be entertaining, and they're more athletic. Georgia Senkyr grew into her position as a leader during her junior season, and should reap the benefits of that growth in her final year. Coach Gordie Richardson has a problem: he'd like to get Senkyr as involved as possible in the attack, but he knows his Wolves will need more than just Senkyr.

"We've got to play a little better defense, and we've got to get offense from someone other than just Georgia," the long-time Clarkston coach said.

The Wolves, who include tremendous athletes such as Aimee Giroux and Jenny McCue, got tested early with a match Monday at Royal Oak Kimball and Wednesday at Troy.

Richardson said he heard Kimball coach Dick Nash "pooh-poohing the plight of the Knights, but disregards it and regards Kimball as a threat. The veteran coach also said Troy lost some players to graduation, but 'they always play hard and they're fundamentally sound.'"

Seaholm still looks to be the class of the division, but the Wolves should rise from this bottom. Prediction: Third place.

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Michigan State vs. Michigan Tech • 6:30pm

Sunday, December 28

Third Place Game • 1:30pm

Championship Game • 5:00pm



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KADRICH
DITOR

3:22 remaining in Tues-
ockey game between
on and Lahser, the
Derek Hool stopped a
th his foot in front of
goalie Justin Holmes.

is went down to stop the
d all Hool had to do was
ver the prone Holmes to
the Wolves a 6-2 lead on
ay to a 7-3 win over the
s, Clarkston's fourth
win.

lay was a microcosm of
ne for both sides. Hool
did game with a goal and
t, and Holmes was basi-
less to stop the talent-
es, who stretched their
o 5-1-1. Their only loss
Brother Rice, and they
tland.

ay's win, which came in
h of four games in five
asn't particularly pretty,
rkston coach Rick Row-
he'd take it.

one fell into the ugly
y," Rowden said after.
But it was a win, and
e it."

s a close game through
s periods. Lahser's Eric
scored when his shot
l left in the game car-
f Hogan's arm and into
cutting the Clarkston
-2.

s the wake-up call the
were waiting for. Clark-
red four times in the
ee minutes, an outburst
the Knights wondering
them.

■ **'That one fell into the
ugly category. But it
was a win, and we'll
take it.'**

Rick Rowden
—Clarkston hockey coach

Josh Babe got the rally start-
ed, beating Holmes through the
five-hole on a nice leave from
Adam Leech with 5:47 remain-
ing to make it 4-2. Eleven sec-
onds later, Jason Stoecker
scored when the Wolves' three-
man rush pushed Holmes back
into his own net. Bill Kalush and
Bret Postal got the assists, and
it was 5-2.

Hool scored his goal (he also
had an assist) with 3:22 left, and
Anthony Facione got the Wolves'
final goal with 2:33 left, getting
help from Hool and Ben Gray.

Postal got the Wolves on the
board with 11:19 left in the first
period, taking a great cross-ice
feed from D.J. Thomas and
streaking up the left side, blow-
ing a low shot past Holmes for a
1-0 lead.

Lahser's Mark Wills, who
spent a large part of his day in
the penalty box, had time to
knot the score just 1:13 into the
second period. Ryan Peters
untied it with 9:40 left in the
period, one-timing a nice pass
from Leech past Holmes for a 3-
1 lead.

Hool finished with a goal and
an assist, while Postal scored
twice and had one assist. Leech
and Thomas each chipped in two

assists. Hogan was credited with
eight saves as the Wolves out-
shot Lahser, 33-11.

Clarkston is off until Dec. 20,
when the Wolves host Royal Oak
Schools at Lakeland Arena.
Game time is 2:20 p.m.

**Dec. 7 — Clarkston 11,
Waterford Mott 3:** Facione, the
Wolves' top scorer, notched four
goals and an assist, and Postal
chipped in four assists as the
Wolves outshot the Corsairs 32-
19.

Tom Newman had a goal and
an assist, Kalush scored once
and assisted on two others, and
Thomas added three assists.
Steve Badger stopped 16 shots to
earn the win.

**Dec. 6 — Clarkston 5, Bir-
mingham 4:** Facione scored the
game winner with 23 seconds
left in the second period, and
five different Wolves got on the
scoreboard as Clarkston won
again.

Postal, Kalush, and Ron Well
each had a goal and an assist.
Hool had the other goal, while
Hogan made 18 saves to get the
win. Clarkston outshot Birming-
ham 23-22.

**Dec. 5 — Clarkston 13,
Southfield 0:** In their easiest
win of the season, Clarkston got
goals from eight different play-
ers while ripping Southfield.

Leech (three assists), Postal
(two assists), Josh Babe (1
assist) and Facione (one assist)
all scored twice. John Bemus got
his first career goal, and Pat
Cook made eight saves for the
win. Clarkston peppered the
Southfield net with 55 shots.



Kick save: Clarkston goalie Ryan Hogan stops a shot by Lahser's Shane Austin during the Wolves' 7-3 prep hockey win Tuesday at Lakeland Arena.

Bronco bound



ge bound: Clarkston's Josh Clark signs to play baseball at Western Michi-
as mom Laura Clark and coach Roy Warner look on. Clark is the third
Clarkston athlete this fall to sign with a college, joining Dane Fife and Tiffany
ey.

ion drops re opener

THEISEN
WRITER

ake Orion Dragons did-
e an easy opponent to
e prep boys' basketball
having to travel to big-
more athletic Pontiac
n.

ne Dragons didn't quit in
Oakland Activities Asso-
crossover loss, and that
left coach Dave Collins

played hard and made
earn the win," Collins
they're a very talented

Huskies led throughout
ne, but didn't dominate
the third quarter, when
scored the Dragons 18-2
the game wide open.

Dragons came out spirit-
ready for the challenge.
Smith made an inside shot
eing fouled and hit the
ent free throw for a tie
short time later. Darren

started a great slashing
om the 3-point line down
bucket, using a nice knee
backboard for the layup.
continued his strong
lay, scoring eight of his
high 10 points in the
arter.

wore us down but we
ed to play hard," Collins
e did well."

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Allen wins Kiwanis honor

Dan Fife

"You don't realize how much the crowd helps until you play here and they cheer you," said Taylor, who added two dunks of his own. "I was nervous to start, but (Southfield) worried more about Dane, and the way I look at it, I've always got his back when he needs me."

Clarkston had some trouble with the Southfield half-court trap, which was made even more effective with the quick hands of Bluejay guards Mike Mitchell and Shepard. The Wolves never pressed the entire night, and played their traditional half-court man defense.

Shepard finished with a team-high 22 points and Clarence

"I thought it was quite an honor to be nominated, but to be selected I look at as a blessing from God," said Allen, who this week makes a visit to Anderson College in Indiana. "I was surprised."

gan; Pam and Paul McGee of Flint Northern, who were on the 1984 Olympic gold-medal women's basketball team; and Tonya Edwards, a two-time women's MVP in the national tournament. She attended Flint Northwestern.

Kenny Allen
—Oxford athlete

"To be a starter is one thing, (but) to be a leader at Oxford, which week in and week out plays at the highest level of competition, that was one of the things to me that grabbed my attention."

Wolfpack hoops

Teams in age divisions 16-under, 15-under and 14-under will try out from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Teams in age divisions 12-under and 13-under will try out from 3:30 to 5 p.m.


Questions should be directed to Clarkston High School girls' varsity basketball coach Ann Lowney, 625-0900.

3-on-3 tourney

The Independence Township Parks and Recreation Department hosts the 1997 Winter 3-on-3 basketball tournaments Dec. 13 at Springfield Plains Elementary.

Games will run from approximately 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., depending on how many teams enter. Team fee is \$24 per four-person team, and pre-registration is a must. Tournaments will be conducted in age divisions 10-11, 12-13, 14-15, and 16-17 for boys and girls.

For information or to register, sign up at the parks and recreation department, 90 N. Main Street in Clarkston, or call 625-8223.



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Early estimates show '97 harvest fell short of expectations

Preliminary deer harvest estimates by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources indicate that the 1997 firearms harvest fell slightly short of last year's total and this year's preseason expectations. The DNR predicted a harvest of 290,000 for the firearms season. The results of an annual survey of southbound hunter traffic during the recently completed 16-day firearms season showed an estimated harvest of 282,000 white-tails. The final harvest numbers, which are determined by a mail survey of licensed hunters, won't be available until July.

"We recognized early that the 1997 harvest would be lower than last year and these figures confirm our expectations," said DNR deer specialist John Urbain. "We definitely are encouraged by the harvest in the southern Lower Peninsula. The antlerless harvest of 58,000 deer in this part of the state was up

22 percent over last year."

The buck harvest in the southern Lower Peninsula (Zone III) was down from 74,360 last year to an estimated 72,000 this year. Urbain attributes this decline to the large antlerless harvest in southern Michigan and increased amounts of standing corn in the fields throughout the firearms season.

In the northern Lower Peninsula (Zone II) the buck harvest slipped from 77,350 last year to 68,000 this fall. The overall harvest in Zone II was down from 116,325 in 1996 to 106,000 this year.

Many hunters in the northern Lower Peninsula commented that there was a lower incidence of buck rubs and scrapes. The possible reduction of buck activity may have resulted in less movement of the deer.

"The herd in this part of the state was also noticeably older than in past years," said Urbain. "There may have been fewer firearms deer hunters afield due to early reports of lower deer numbers, but hunters were seeing deer and hunting longer."

The harvest in the Upper Peninsula (Zone I) was down from a record 85,118 in 1995 to

Zone	1997	1996	1995
Zone I (UP)	85,118	85,118	85,118
Zone II (NL)	106,000	116,325	116,325
Zone III (SL)	72,000	74,360	74,360
Total	259,118	275,803	275,803

an estimated 56,000 this year, which is a direct reflection of back-to-back severe winters, which caused many young deer to starve to death. There was a significant drop in the number on one-and-a-half-year-olds harvested this year because many deer in that age class were lost last winter.

Despite the drop, this was the seventh largest harvest on record. The top six harvests were 334,940 in 1989, 319,289 in 1995, 316,400 in 1990, 299,319 in 1996, 294,310 in 1988 and 293,710 in 1991.

"Deer season is far from over

and we anticipate hunters will use the additional late season opportunities to harvest deer," said Becky Humphries, acting chief of the DNR's Wildlife Division. "A significant number of deer are expected to be taken during the remaining deer seasons, especially antlerless deer on private land in agricultural areas as the corn harvest continues."

Successful hunter reports

Success reports continue to filter in from Observer & Eccentric readers. If you or a hunting friend had a successful season

let me know. My phone and fax numbers and mailing address are listed at the bottom of this column.

• The "bug" is back for Mike Manoogian.

"I was a dedicated deer hunter for many years, but lost interest for the past three years and spent my Novembers surf fishing in Florida," explained the Bloomfield Hills resident. "However, this past year my two sons, Michael and Ralph, begged me to join them for deer hunting up north."

Now, Manoogian is wondering if his sons will invite him back next year since he shot the only buck in camp this year — a "big" 6-pointer.

"The bug is back and I'm already preparing for next season," said Manoogian. "Yes, I'm inviting my two sons."

• Art Duprey has been waiting 24 years to shoot a buck big enough to hang on the wall of his family's cabin. The wait ended this past season as the Livonia hunter shot a beautiful 8-point buck at 7:25 a.m. on November 16th while hunting on the family property in Iosco County.

• Clarkston's Robert Bonham filled his first firearms tag on

■ 'Deer season is far from over and we anticipate hunters will use the additional late season opportunities to harvest deer.'

Becky Humphries
—DNR Wildlife Chief

opening day when he dropped a 3-point while hunting state land in Emmet County. He was hunting private land in Cheboygan County on Nov. 28th when he filled his second tag by bagging an 8-point.

• Darrell Hagen tagged his first buck in 10 years of hunting when he shot a 5-point on Nov. 29. The Troy resident was hunting in a fence row along a cut corn field in Oakland County.

• Lake Orion residents Steve Sims and Todd Carrothers each arrowed a doe on the opening weekend of the bow season while hunting on private land in Ogemaw County.

Anglers and hunters are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (810) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (810) 901-2573.

Bill Parker is an Oxford resident.

WLC senior commits to Cornerstone

BY BILL PARKER
STAFF WRITER

Todd Negoshian dreams of playing in a national college basketball tournament. Cornerstone College has an up-and-coming men's basketball program that has its sights set on a berth in the national NAIA tournament.

With that in mind, Negoshian, a senior point guard at Walled Lake Central, made a verbal commitment earlier this week to continue his basketball career next year at Cornerstone College near Grand Rapids. Negoshian decided to join the Golden Eagles after narrowing his choices to Cornerstone, Rochester Christian College, Lake Superior State and Northwood University.

"I chose Cornerstone for a few reasons," explained Negoshian. "First, I want to have a chance to play in a national tournament and Cornerstone is ranked 20th in the NAIA and they have beaten the top-ranked team twice. Second, I have a good relationship with the coach. I've got along with him since the first time we met. And I wanted to play somewhere that my brother (Ryan) could come and watch me play. He'll only be 45 minutes away at Western (Michigan University) so that was nice."

Negoshian got his first taste of life at Cornerstone when he worked at a youth basketball camp held at Cornerstone over the summer.

"They invited me up to work a camp for the kids over the summer," said Negoshian. "We played some pick-up games and I got high respect from all the guys."

Cornerstone coach Kim Elders was elated to get a commitment from Negoshian, who averaged 22 points, six assists and four steals per game as a junior. (Central begins the 1997-98 campaign tomorrow when it hosts Chippewa Valley.)

"To get a kid of his caliber this early is just phenomenal for us," said Elders. "He was definitely out top recruit. We were looking for a point guard and he was our first choice."

Elders said Negoshian will have a good chance to earn some quality playing time as a freshman.

"He's a good kid. He's a competitor. He understands the game very well and he comes from a great program," said Elders. "He is a smart basketball player with good skills. He can shoot the three and he distributes the ball very well. He's a very unselfish player. He has all the tools. His competitiveness and the fact that he understands the game so well was very appealing to us."

"I think he could work in immediately. I never promise anyone a starting position, but I see him working into the rotation right away and getting a lot of minutes," added Elders.

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Outdoor Calendar

DATES/DEADLINES

DEER

Firearms season runs through Sunday, Nov. 30. The second archery season runs Dec. 1-Jan. 1 statewide. Muzzleloading season runs Dec. 5-14 in Zone I and Dec. 12-21 in Zones II and III. A special late antlerless only season will run Dec. 20-Jan. 4 on private land only in Zone III.

DUCKS

Duck season runs through Dec. 2 in the North and Middle zones and through Dec. 9 in the South Zone.

GOOSE

The second part of the Canada goose season runs Nov. 27-Dec. 7 in the South Zone outside the five Goose Management Units. Check the 1997 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide for dates of the season in the GMU's.

PHEASANT

A special late pheasant hunt will once again be offered in southern Michigan Dec. 1-15. Check the 1997-98 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide for exact boundaries of the hunt area.

SQUIRREL

Fox and gray squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

RABBIT

Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

NATURAL HERITAGE GRANTS

December 1 is the deadline to apply Natural Resource Natural Heritage Program small grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. To receive an application contact the DNR at P.O. Box 30180, Lansing MI 48909-7680 or e-mail your request to sargen12@state.mi.us. The grant application and examples of past grants awarded are also available on the DNR Wildlife Division web site at: <http://wildlife.dnr.state.mi.us/home->

pages/Natural_Heritage/.

FISHING CLUBS

CLINTON VALLEY BASS ANGLERS

Clinton Valley Bass Anglers is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. The next meeting is slated for 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 11. 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 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Citizen's Center in the Livonia Civic Center. Call Jim Kudej at (313) 591-0843 for more information.

FISHING BUDDYS

Fishing Buddys Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. Call (810) 656-0556 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Dearborn Civic Center. Call (313) 676-2863 for more information.

ARCHERY

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic

Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 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.

3D LEAGUE

A 3D league begins Wednesday, Dec. 3, at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

CLASSES

FIRST AID

Learn to be aware of and prepared for outdoor emergencies such as hypothermia, dehydration, frostbite and sprains during this program, which begins at 7 p.m. Thursday at REI in Northville. Call (248) 347-2100 for more information.

FLY TYING

Bueters Outdoors in Northville still has openings for its fall fly tying classes. Call (248) 349-3677 for more information.

OUTDOOR CLUBS

SOLAR

The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation, 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.

SHOOTING RANGES

BALD MOUNTAIN

Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to dusk on Saturdays and Sundays and noon to dusk on Wednesdays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd. (three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 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 (810) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 22 are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (810) 693-6767 for more information.

POINTE MOUILLEE

The rifle and pistol range at the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area in Rockwood has been closed due to environmental concerns. Call (313) 379-3820 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: 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 per-

mits are \$15 and \$8 for senior citizens. The annual boat launching permits are \$18 and \$9 for senior citizens. Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

ARIZONA DESERT

Join parks naturalist Tom Smith on a picture journey of Arizona's Sonoran Desert during this program, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Stony Creek.

WINTER'S A COMIN'

Learn how wildlife prepares for winter during this naturalist-led walk, which begins at 2 p.m. Sunday at Kensington.

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.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Create hand-made gifts for the holidays during this craft session, which begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Independence Oaks.

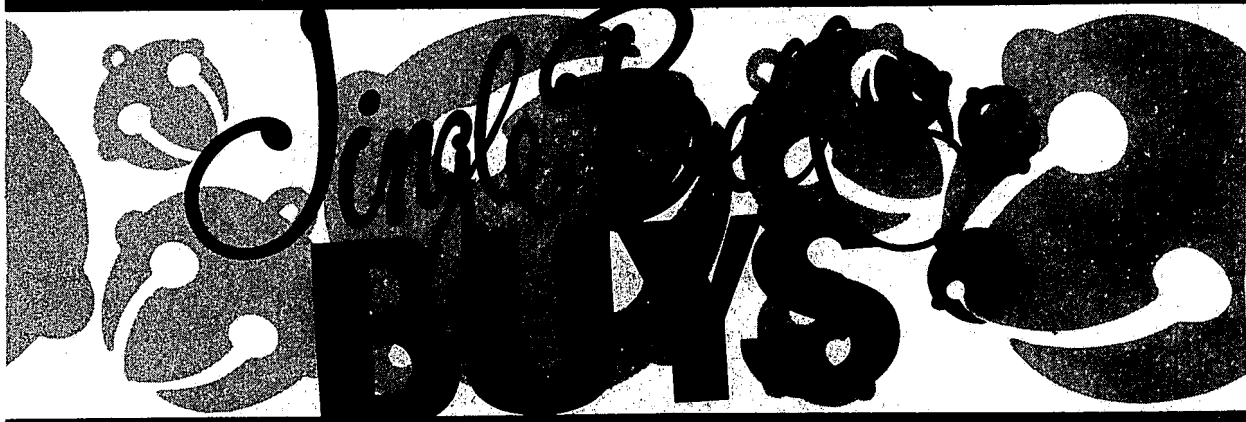
STATE PARKS

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.



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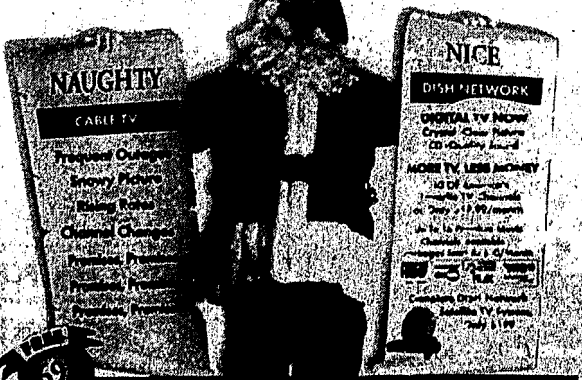
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JEWELERS**

3773 Baldwin • Lake Orion,
391-6813

FREE BASIC INSTALLATION FOR DECEMBER

**MAKING A LIST AND
CHECKING IT TWICE...**



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1-888-384-3474

Count Down to Christmas Sale

Country Cords

Clarkston Stride Rite
**SALE STARTS THURS., DEC. 11th
and Ends Wed., Dec. 24th**

25% OFF ALL Winter Clothing and Sleepwear
30% OFF ALL Nylon Winter Outerwear
25% OFF ALL Wool Dress Coats, Snow Bibs, and Pants
(Excludes layaways, previous purchases, samples & layette)
25% OFF ALL Cowboy Boots, L.A. Gear Shoes
(Including Lights) & Converse Touch EFX

**FREE
DRAWING**

*For every purchase made during the sale, you
can enter our drawing for a complete set of 5
new Beanie Babies. Drawing at noon on Dec.
24th. You need not be present to win.

HOLIDAY HOURS:
MON.-THURS. 10-8
FRI. 10-7
SAT. 10-5
SUN. 11-4

RITTER COUNTRY SQUARE
6678 Dixie Hwy.
625-1019

Help Wanted

500 Help Wanted General

LIMO DRIVER

Drive company owned limousine for owners of private company in Southfield/Novi area. Part-time varied hours, usually in evening. Good pay plus gratuities. Chauffeur license required, good driving record. Additional duties may be available to right person. Ideal position for College Students or Retirees. Call Kevin or Peggy at (248) 594-0500

LOAN SPECIALIST

FHB Funding Corp., a well established non-conforming lender, is seeking a loan specialist for its Troy branch. To qualify you must have two years experience in mortgage processing, with a strong knowledge of income, credit and appraisal analysis. Interested candidates must have good communication skills and attention to detail. We offer competitive salary, excellent benefits package and 401K. Send resume to: FHB Funding Corp. Attn: Jim Hackett, Suite 260 Troy, MI 48064 or Fax to: 248-616-3265

TIME WARNER CABLE

Looking for customer service rep. Part time, 20 hrs, 3pm to 7pm, Mon thru Fri. Entry level. Must have good phone & customer service skills. Apply in person, Mon. thru Fri. at 37735 Enterprise Ct., Suite 100, Farmington Hills, MI 48334. An EOE/AA Employer (m/f/d/v)

MACHINE & GAGE ASSEMBLER

Experienced in close tolerances. Permanent, overtime, good benefits. Apply at: K. J. Engineers, Inc., 42300 W. 9 Mile Rd., Novi, MI 48375

MACHINE MAINTENANCE

2-5 years experience with strong electrical background. Company paid benefits. Send resume to: Machine Maintenance, 12350 Belden Court, Livonia, MI 48150

MACHINIST WANTED

for job shop. Livonia area. Wages based on experience & skill level. Benefits include medical & retirement. Call: (313) 262-9390

MADONNA COLLEGE BOOKSTORE

has temporary part-time positions available immediately. These positions will have responsibilities in many areas of the store including Cashiering and Customer Service during our busiest time of the year. Cashiering experience is preferred and excellent customer service skills are a must. Please stop in for application, 36600 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia.

MAIL CLERK

Farmington Hills Co. seeks reliable person with valid driver's license, who is able to lift 50 lbs. regularly. This person will have office mail distribution experience, and is computer literate. Starting salary \$21,000 plus benefits. If qualified, send resume with cover letter detailing credentials and salary history to: HR Dept. 34375 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334

MAILROOM/OFFICE SERVICES

Responsibilities include picking up mail at post office, sorting and delivering mail to busy 100+ staff office. Dispatch outgoing mail, process UPS packages, order and deliver supplies. Main repairs of office equipment, setup and move office furniture, restock beverage machines. Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm. Benefits package. Send resume to: Lafarge Corporation, 10000 W. 12 Mile Rd., P.O. Box 687, Southfield, MI 48037

MAINTENANCE

A progressive sub-assembly and sequencing automotive company has an opening in our Maintenance Department. We are looking for an individual with experience in the following areas:

Pneumatics, hydraulics, welding/fabricating, machine shop, belt and pulley systems, electrical wiring and rigging and industrial safety, installation of compressors, pumps, bearings, and all related equipment.

If you possess these qualities and wish to be part of a growing and talented team, please mail or fax your resume with salary history to: Mackie Automotive Systems, Inc., H.R. Dept., P.O. Box 429, Oxford, MI 48371 Fax: 248-969-2505

MAINTENANCE PART TIME

Full-time live on campus available at Westland Apt. Community. Experience preferred. Call Midge at 248-568-6880

MAINTENANCE

Full time position. Must have knowledge of all trades in single family homes. Salary commensurate with experience. A skill level. Send resume to: Martin & Co., 6000 Whitehall, Westland, MI 48185

MAINTENANCE

Full time, day time position. Must have experience in electrical, plumbing, draft & carpentry. Previous hotel experience preferred. Energetic, and self starter. Good starting salary. Apply in person. 17123 N. Laurel Park, Livonia.

MAINTENANCE PART TIME

Federal APD, Inc. is a leading worldwide supplier of parking control systems. We are hiring a part-time Maintenance Technician. Candidates must be able to perform basic plumbing, electrical wiring & repairs, carpentry, grounds work, and basic HVAC system diagnosis & repair. 2nd shift, 5:00pm to 1:00am, M-F. If you meet these qualifications & have a competitive salary history, please mail or fax your resume & salary history to: FEDERAL APD, Inc., Human Resources, 34775 Nine Mile Rd., Novi, MI 48375 Fax: (313) 274-3775

MAINTENANCE PERSON FOR PART TIME

Must have experience in Romulus. Must have experience with apartment maintenance, have valid driver's license, and be a resident of the 48134 area. 15001 Brandt, Romulus, 48174. EOE

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500 Help Wanted General

MAINTENANCE PERSON

For large Farmington Hills apartment community. Apply in person: MUIRWOOD 35255 Muirwood Dr. Farmington Hills, MI 48334

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Must have knowledge of Allen Bradley programming & troubleshooting & proven ability to supervise & train staff - work in shifts. Minimum 3 yrs. industrial maintenance experience (minimum 1 yr. leader experience) and good communication skills. Resume: 3850 Howe, Wayne 48184

MAINTENANCE MECHANICAL

Vinyl window manufacturer is looking for maintenance employee with ability to diagnose problems, repair, and perform preventative maintenance on electrical and pneumatic production assembly equipment. If you are interested in a career with a division of F.W. FASHIONWALL, 29755 Beck Road, Livonia, MI 48150

MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION MANAGER

A leading condominium management company has an Association management position in the Novi Suburbs. The qualified candidate must be a self-starter, proven leader, effective communication skills. Bachelor degree is preferred. Mail resume: Traid Management, 7115 Orchard Lake Rd., Ste 310, W. Bloomfield, MI 48108. Or fax to Carol: (248) 539-2676

MANAGER/TRAINER

ARE YOU? Interested in sports, enthusiastic & fun, can give outstanding customer service, enjoys retail, looking for a career? IF SO, we offer: complete training, great working environment, free sports equipment, complete benefit package, salaries from \$15,000-\$35,000.

INTERESTED? Fax resume to:

248-682-4423 or call: 248-682-4335

MANICURISTS

Are you making all the money you want? Unlimited potential. Now in salon. Great location 248-748-3703

MATERIAL HANDLER

Accepting applications for full time warehouse person. Excellent wages and benefits program. Must have high school diploma, minimum 1 year prior experience, valid hi-lo operators license. Send resume to: Castrol Industrial, 28300 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI. No phone calls please.

MECHANIC

Heavy & light. Must be certified, 5 days per week. Paid Blue Cross, vacations & holidays. Hourly rate. Must know Big 3 autos. Call: 313-422-0320

MECHANIC

Well established background contractor seeks experienced mechanic for maintenance and repair of heavy equipment. Extensive experience & self-motivated. Call: 248-685-1500

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500 Help Wanted General

MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICER

Fast paced mortgage broker/lender seeks motivated professional with finance and/or sales experience. Mail or fax resume to: Innovative Mortgage Company, 39555 Orchard Hill Place, Suite 500, Novi, MI 48375 (248) 380-8166

MORTGAGE PROCESSOR

Experienced processor/loan officer. Exclusive mortgage company paying highest commissions. Call for confidential interview. (248) 521-0212

MORTGAGE PROCESSING

A mortgage bank is seeking a hard working processor with at least 1 year processing experience. This position offers the opportunity for a career path in a growing mortgage company. Very good working conditions. Position: Fax resume to (248) 353-2818

MORTGAGE REPRESENTATIVES

FHB Funding Corp., a well established non-conforming lender, is seeking a mortgage loan officer. Must have 2 years experience in mortgage processing, with a strong knowledge of income, credit and appraisal analysis. Interested candidates must have good communication skills and attention to detail. We offer competitive salary, excellent benefits package and 401K. Send resume to: FHB Funding Corp. Attn: Jim Hackett, Suite 260 Troy, MI 48064 or Fax to: 248-616-3265

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500 Help Wanted General

PLANNER I

The City of Rochester Hills is accepting applications for the full-time position of Planner I. Bachelor's degree in Urban Planning or related field with up to two (2) years work experience. \$14,400-\$18,000 per year plus excellent benefits. Applicants may apply in person Mon-Fri, between 8:30 and 4:30 PM, or mail a resume with cover letter identifying position to the Human Resources Dept., 248-656-7339; Address: City of Rochester Hills, 1000 Rochester Hills Dr., Rochester Hills, MI 48309-3033

PLASTIC FABRICATORS

needed for Wixom area tooling manufacturer. 5 yrs. experience. Blue print reading. Laminating and Epoxy application. Traveler Transfer Tooling background. 401K, BCBS, Cafeteria Plan, Paid Vacation. Fax resume to 248-360-3000 or mail to Tool Shop Manager, 48556 Liberty Drive, Wixom, MI 48393

PLASTIC INJECTION MOLDING SMOEMAN

1st shift. Must have supervisory skills and hands-on experience. Excellent pay & benefits. Call Brighton Molded Plastics (810) 225-1700 or Fax to (810) 225-0779

PLUMBER

Experienced in service work/ construction. Full-time, benefits. 313-455-7474

PLUMBER

High pay, benefits, insurance and paid vacation. (810) 499-0255

PLUMBERS

Full or part time, steady work. Must have experience. License preferred. 12085 Dixie Road, Redford, MI 48239

PLUMBERS WANTED

Plumbers wanted for residential work. Apply at Long Plumbing 190 E. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167

PRESSMAN (M/F)

Immediate opening for a motivated, quality oriented pressman. Top pay with excellent benefits. Apply at or send resume to: 12085 Dixie Road, Redford, MI 48239

Observer & Eccentric

Brings you:

Christian Singles Network™

Dedicated to bringing local area Christians together

FREE Print ad
FREE Personal Voice Greeting
FREE Message Retrieval once per day

To place your **FREE** ad
 and be matched instantly
 with area singles, call
1-800-739-3639
24 hours a day!

To listen to area singles
 describe themselves or
 to respond to ads, call
1-900-933-1118
ONLY \$1.98 per minute. Charges will appear on
 your monthly telephone bill. You must be 18 years of age or older and
 have a touchtone phone to use this service.

Females Seeking Males

Call 1-900-933-1118

\$1.98 per minute

You must be 18 years of age or older
to use this service.

END MY SEARCH

DWF, 35, 5'6", mom, N/S, educated,
 outgoing, enjoys films, theatre, classi-
 cal music, comedy clubs, seeks N/S,
 SWM, 35-45, to share same interests.
 Ad# 6171

ADVENTUROUS

SWF, 33, 5'5", brown hair/eyes, N/S,
 enjoys the outdoors, golfing, boating,
 fishing, concerts, seeks SWM, 28-37,
 for friendship, possible relationship.
 Ad# 5264

DEEP BELIEFS

Independent SBF, 27, 5'5", full-figured,
 Protestant, employed, enjoys bible
 study, movies, sports, boating, opera,
 classical music, seeking never married
 Christian SWM, 28-35. Ad# 8201

A BRIGHTER SIDE

Easygoing SW mom, 23, 5'2",
 Catholic, enjoys meeting new people,
 dining out, quiet times with someone
 special, seeks SM, age unimportant.
 Ad# 1739

GOOD VALUES

DW mom, 42, 5'2", professional,
 Catholic, participates in bible study,
 youth ministry, enjoys camping, family
 activities, the outdoors seeks family-
 oriented Catholic SWM, 35-49, children
 okay. Ad# 5515

WHAT MORE DO YOU NEED?

SWF, 47, 5'4", shy, college educated,
 enjoys concerts, plays, dining out, sail-
 ing, seeks educated, SWM, 45-53,
 Ad# 1964

GENUINE INTENTIONS

SWF, 64, 5'5", outgoing, N/S, enjoys
 the finer things in life, seeks SWM, 64-
 75, N/S, who is financially secure, to
 share same interests. Ad# 8100

WISHING UPON A STAR

SWF 32, 5'8", outgoing, enjoys travel-
 ing, long walks, music, line dancing,
 movies, quiet nights at home, seeks
 SWCM, 28-35, to share same inter-
 ests. Ad# 2732

LOVER OF LIFE

Artistic, creative DW mom, 43, 5'1",
 participates in bible study, N/S, non-
 drinker, loves playing the guitar, look-
 ing for enjoyable S/DWCM. Ad# 4283

WANT TO KNOW MORE? CALL!

Catholic SW mom, 33, 5'1", interests
 are animals, horseback riding, music,
 movies, reading books, TV, games,
 seeks family-oriented SWCM, 28-42,
 N/S, for a serious relationship.
 Ad# 5564

LOVE ANGEL

Catholic SWF, 48, 5'2", 118lbs., green-
 eyed blond, caring, N/S, enjoys barbe-
 ques, going to church, seeking spiritu-
 al, tall, active, down-to-earth SM, N/S.
 Ad# 6258

A BRIGHTER SIDE

Friendly WWBFC, 47, 5'6", enjoys
 going to church, seeking easygoing,
 sincere, level-headed SBM, 40+, for
 friendship. Ad# 2346

VERSATILE

SW mom, 24, 5'9", enjoys dancing,
 reading, movies, photography, seeking
 a SWM, 24-32, with high morals.
 Ad# 3237

LOVES THE LORD

Active, carefree, professional SWCF,
 38, 5'11", 140lbs., blonde hair, blue
 eyes, seeks tall, enthusiastic SWCM,
 friend, to enjoy all that life has to offer.
 Ad# 6755

SOUTHERN BELLE

Educated SWF, 54, 5'7", 125lbs., plat-
 inum blonde, green eyes, lives in Oak
 Park, enjoys cooking, antiques,
 movies, art, seeking a SJWMM, 50+.
 Ad# 2020

LOOK MY WAY

Catholic DWF, 45, 5'2", no children at
 home, from Oakwood County, hobbies
 are dancing, long walks, candlelit din-
 ners, the beach, concerts, hoping to
 meet a DWCM, 41-49. Ad# 2234

MARRIAGE-MINDED

Catholic SWF, 28, 5'5", outgoing,
 friendly, from the Oak Park area,
 employed, enjoys traveling, shopping,
 the casino, concerts, seeks SWCM,
 26-35, for serious relationship.
 Ad# 9811

NEW CHAPTER

SWF, 70, blonde hair, enjoys long
 walks, quiet evenings at home, danc-
 ing, seeks caring SWM, 62+, for com-
 panionship. Ad# 8255

SOUND INTERESTING?

Protestant SWF, 23, 5'7", blonde hair,
 brown eyes, friendly, enjoys sports,
 movies, fishing, computers, seeking
 congenial SWM, 23-30. Ad# 1273

INSPIRED?

Catholic WWBF, 47, 5'5", full-figured,
 gracious, from Detroit, loves Bingo,
 current events, singing in the choir,
 attending church, seeks Catholic
 WWBMM, Ad# 3190

ROMANTIC & SPIRITUAL

DWCF, 46, 5'5", full-figured, dark hair,
 green eyes, bright, pretty, down-to-
 earth, professional, seeks sincere,
 sociable, fun-loving SWCM, 42-52, for
 possible long-term relationship.
 Ad# 7455

SHE'S THE ONE

Friendly DWCF, 47, 5'6", long blonde
 hair, blue eyes, enjoys singing, seeks
 SM, 35+, for friendship first. Ad# 2285

FOCUS HERE

Catholic SWF, 34, 5'6", reserved, enjoys
 traveling, movies, classic car shows,
 dining out, seeking SWM, 29-36, for
 possible relationship. Ad# 5656

ONE OF THE FINEST

Catholic SWF, 47, 5'9", sort of shy, edu-
 cated, employed, looking for Catholic
 SWM, under 49, who is optimistic and
 understanding. Ad# 2250

FAITH & HOPE

DWCF, 48, 5'4", 112lbs., reddish-blond
 hair, brown eyes, sociable, self-
 employed, lives in Rochester Hill, likes
 dining out, jazz, concerts, plays, seeks
 well-balanced, spiritual SWCM, 45-52.
 Ad# 7777

EXTRA NICE

Sociable DW mom, 26, 5'3", resides in
 Garden City area, participates in Bible
 study, seeking SWM, 27-38, for possible
 relationship. Ad# 2429

FUN-LOVING GAL

Protestant SWF, 37, athletic, lives in
 Rochester, employed, loves dogs,
 enjoys animals, enjoys travel, seeks
 happy, Protestant SWM, 30+, who has a
 positive attitude. Ad# 1514

PATIENT & LOVING

Born-Again-DWC mom, 44, 5'2", resides
 in Troy, enjoys Bible study, science fic-
 tion movies, Star Trek, seeks compas-
 sionate, honest, Born-Again SWCM, 38-
 53, Troy area preferred. Ad# 2948

ACHIEVER

SWCF, 26, 5'6", 125lbs., never-married,
 career-oriented, likes hockey, football,
 dancing, movies, seeks clean-cut, edu-
 cated, confident SWCM, 24-30, without
 kids. Ad# 1564

DON'T WAIT TOO LONG

Catholic WWWF, 68, 5'4", honest, lives
 in Sterling Heights, enjoys golf, dancing,
 travel, easy listening music, seeks
 SWM, with similar qualities. Ad# 5569

WORTH THE CALL

Catholic SWF, 27, 5'10", brown hair,
 hazel eyes, friendly, enjoys running,
 camping, dancing, seeks secure, pro-
 fessional SWCM, 27-38, with a positive
 attitude. Ad# 3267

CHILD OF GOD

Religious DWF, 38, 5'3", 165lbs., red
 hair, brown eyes, affectionate, kind,
 enjoys long walks, movies, the country,
 seeks down-to-earth, caring, humorous,
 loving SWM, N/S. Ad# 1000

LIFE'S LITTLE WONDERS

Baptist SWF, 26, 5', sincere, honest,
 enjoys hockey, the theater, movies,
 singing, reading, seeks SWCM, 25-36,
 with similar qualities and interests.
 Ad# 1526

SPEND TIME TOGETHER

Catholic SW mom, 24, 5'4", lives in
 Canton, enjoys volleyball, tennis, hock-
 ey, movies, playing cards, seeks SWM,
 24-32, for friendship first. Ad# 8848

SWEET & CUTE

Outgoing, never-married SBFC, 23, 5'6",
 student, enjoys outdoor activities, seek-
 ing understanding, sensitive SCM, 25-
 33. Ad# 8044

LOVING AND CARING

Protestant DWF, 53, 5'4", N/S, warm,
 witty, fun, happy, enjoys dining
 out, cooking, day trips, music, seeks
 neat, professional SWM, for friendship,
 possible long-term relationship.
 Ad# 3334

CLASSY

SBF, 42, 5'8", well-educated, compas-
 sionate, God-fearing, enjoys the theatre,
 opera, aerobics, tennis, the outdoors,
 ethnic cuisine, seeks easygoing, caring,
 loyal, non-deceptive, SWM, 40-60, with
 children at home. Ad# 4020

LIGHT UP MY LIFE

Catholic DWF, 58, 5'2", 118lbs., brown-
 eyed brunette, lives in Livonia, seeks
 honest, romantic, trim SWCM, 54-62,
 who enjoys dancing, travel, movies,
 concerts, fine dining and conversation.
 Ad# 3355

HAVE TIME FOR ME?

Catholic DWF, 45, 5'3", medium build,
 enjoys concerts, barbecues, amuse-
 ment parks, dancing, museums, the
 beach, quiet times at home, seeks
 DWCM, 40-49, children welcome.
 Ad# 7259

END MY SEARCH

DW mom, 43, 5'8", 160lbs., friendly,
 down-to-earth, witty, serious, partici-
 pates in Christian activities, seeks
 humorous, trustworthy, sensitive, faith-
 ful, honest, employed SWM, 40-55.
 Ad# 3845

SUPER WOMAN

Protestant SWF, 58, 5'4", upbeat, loving,
 laid-back, kind, hobbies include walks,
 reading, golf, religion, seeks honest,
 open SWM, 57-77, integrity a must.
 Ad# 5557

RELIGION IS THE KEY

Baptist SB mom, 33, 5'7", outgoing,
 intelligent, attractive, lives in Detroit,
 likes movies, working out, quiet times,
 seeks good-hearted, compatible SBM,
 27-39, with good morals. Ad# 1938

GOD COMES FIRST

SWF, 45, 5'5", blonde hair, blue eyes,
 outgoing, friendly, hobbies include Bible
 study, family activities, seeking SWM,
 40-50, for friendship first. Ad# 3257

HARDWORKING

Attractive SWCF, 35, 5'10", sociable,
 employed, enjoys spending time with
 her child, seeking easygoing, hand-
 some, physically fit SWCM, N/S.
 Ad# 3876

NEW DIMENSION OF LIFE...

DWCF, 49, 5'6", from Commerce, ready
 to make a commitment, in search of an
 educated SWCM, 47-56, N/S, light
 drinker preferred. Ad# 3569

TEDDY BEAR TYPE?

Methodist DWF, 62, 5'6", full-figured,
 blue eyes, from Belleville, romantic,
 enjoys stamp collecting, reading, cud-
 dling, crosswords, seeks honest SWM,
 for possible long-term relationship.
 Ad# 1934

LET'S TALK

Energetic, pleasant SBF, 19, 5'6", goal-
 oriented, enjoys biking, dancing, watch-
 ing sunsets, seeks SBM, to share great
 times, lots of laughter. Ad# 4610

A WARM WELCOME

Professional DWF, 40, 5'7", slim, brown
 hair, blue eyes, marriage-minded, owner
 of dog and parrot, seeks SWM, 35-48,
 for relationship, kids okay. Ad# 3957

MEANT TO BE?

Catholic SWF, 23, 5', shy, honest,
 romantic, from Royal Oak, enjoys
 rollerblading, movies, dancing, seeks
 N/S, childless, Catholic SWM, 23-27,
 with similar interests. Ad# 4808

TIRED OF GAMES?

SWF, 24, 5'3", full-figured, enjoys camp-
 ing, cooking, the theatre, children, seek-
 ing honest, sincere, commitment-mind-
 ed SWM, under 30. Ad# 2572

LONG-TERM?

Fun-loving, open-minded SWCF, 19,
 5'3", lives in Canton, seeks childless,
 compatible SWM, 21-29, who has never
 been married. Ad# 3842

COLLECTS TEDDY BEARS

Friendly SWCF, 22, 5'6", enjoys biking,
 walks, movies, concerts, camping, writ-
 ing poetry, seeks sweet, kind, caring
 SWCM, 23-35, with same interests.
 Ad# 4545

HONESTY COUNTS

Catholic SWF, 50, reserved, practical,
 enjoys skating, walking, photography,
 dancing, music, theatre, looking for sup-
 portive SM. Ad# 3839

VERY FRIENDLY

Catholic SWF, 21, outgoing, attends
 Christian activities, enjoys the outdoors,
 seeks honest, sincere, romantic
 Catholic SM, with a good sense of
 humor. Ad# 1572

Males Seeking Females

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to use this service.

MARRIAGE MINDED

SWM, 40, outgoing, sincere, athletic,
 romantic, well educated, seeks slender,
 SF, age unimportant, to spend quality
 time with. Ad# 4567

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

SWCM, 30, 5'9", professional, educat-
 ed, outgoing, honest, sincere, enjoys
 hockey, sporting events, movies, out-
 doors, seeks SWCF, 24-34, to share
 same interests. Ad# 3229

TIME FOR A CHANGE?

Well-educated, physically fit, Catholic
 professional SWM, 42, 5'8", brown hair,
 blue eyes, likes bicycling, jogging, the
 outdoors, music, seeks slender, educat-
 ed, emotionally available SWF.
 Ad# 1717

WARM & LOVING

SWM, 43, 6', 220lbs., brown hair/eyes,
 handsome, outgoing, seeks honest, sin-
 cere SWF, 38-46, with a zest for life.
 Ad# 9781

BELIEVE IN LOVE

Loving, caring, sensitive, SAM, 26, 5'6",
 170lbs., black hair, blue eyes, Catholic,
 seeks commitment minded, Catholic
 SWF, 18-35, children welcome.
 Ad# 5275

HERE'S TO NEW BEGINNINGS

SWM, 45, 5'11", 195lbs., blond hair,
 blue eyes, professional, college educat-
 ed, physically fit, outgoing, enjoys
 music, movies, theatre, dining out, seeks
 SF, 38-51, with good sense of humor,
 down-to-earth. Ad# 3638

FOR THE FUTURE

Outgoing SWM, 50, 5'10", 175lbs., pro-
 fessional, lives in West Bloomfield,
 enjoys dining out, dancing, special
 times, seeking SWF, 35-55. Ad# 9999

FOLLOW YOUR HEART

SBM, 26, 5'6", hardworking, outgoing,
 enjoys church, baseball, shooting pool,
 movies, quiet evenings, travelling, seeks
 SF, 18-24, to share same interest.
 Ad# 9062

LEAVE A NUMBER!

Catholic SWM, 40, easygoing, open-
 minded, lives in Redford, employed,
 enjoys outdoor sports, seeks slender
 Protestant SWF, under 43, for possible
 long-term relationship. Ad# 2225

NEVER ENDING ROMANCE

SWM, 28, 5'11", shy, enjoys watching
 sports, playing saxophone, skiing, the
 theatre, acting, the outdoors, seeks sen-
 sitive, caring, SWF, 23-33, for friendship,
 possibly more. Ad# 6685

ONE OF THE FINEST

DWM, 51, 5'11", professional, outgoing,
 social drinker, enjoys dining out, sym-
 phony, opera, seeks SWF, 46-65, to
 share same interests. Ad# 7098

WARM & OPEN

Loyal Catholic SWM, 38, 6', 190lbs.,
 brown hair/eyes, employed, lives in
 Detroit, likes sports, seeks slender
 Catholic SWF, 28-37, without children,
 for loving, long-term relationship.
 Ad# 2037

A HAND TO HOLD

DWCM, 45, 5'9", lives in Brighton, likes
 most music, long drives, the beach, pic-
 nics, dancing, movies, dining out, seeks
 SWCF, 35-49, N/S, without children at
 home. Ad# 1469

WELL EDUCATED

Professional SWCM, 62, 6'188lbs.,
 sincere, intelligent SCF, 50-62, outgo-
 ing, slender, fit, adventurous, for possi-
 ble relationship. Ad# 3344

YOUNG-AT-HEART

Catholic DWM, 53, 5'10", brown hair,
 blue eyes, N/S, open-minded, likes
 sports, movies, walking, seeks warm-
 hearted, caring, monogamous Catholic
 SWF, 40-53, without kids at home.
 Ad# 2740

BELIEVE IN US

Baptist DWM, 57, 5'8", N/S, sensitive,
 caring, likes family events, concerts,
 walking, flea markets, craft shows,
 seeks special SWCF, 35-50, for honest
 commitment. Ad# 1490

GOOD TIMES

SWCM, 29, 6'1", medium build, student,
 interests include sports, the outdoors,
 reading, people watching, and many
 more, seeks SCF, under 29. Ad# 3374

SINCERELY

SWM, 25, 5'9", 160lbs., brown
 hair/eyes, likes poetry, writing songs
 and good conversation, seeking com-
 patible SWF, under 36. Ad# 7458

REBUILDING

Kindhearted, well-rounded DWCM, 46,
 in search of attractive, caring and
 mature SWCF, 20-46, for compani-
 onship. Ad# 7404

ONLY THE BEST FOR YOU

Patient, understanding DWCM, 34, 6',
 participates in youth ministry, lives in
 Rochester Hills, seeking an attractive
 SWCF, under 49, who believes in God,
 family and honesty. Ad# 2677

HEART TO HEART

SBCM, 34, 5'5", perceptive, energetic,
 enjoys Bible study and more, from the
 Detroit area, seeks kind-hearted SWCF,
 26-35. Ad# 1573

INSPIRED?

Catholic SWM, 27, 5'8", 150lbs., brown
 hair, blue eyes, N/S, professional, from
 Redford, enjoys biking, dancing, movies
 and rollerblading, seeks active, slender
 and commitment-minded SWF, 21-30.
 Ad# 4445

SOLID RELATIONSHIP

Catholic SWM, 45, 6'1", brown hair, blue
 eyes, lives in Plymouth, professional,
 enjoys walking, the theater, seeks edu-
 cated, sensitive, romantic, fit SWCF, 34-
 45, who is down-to-earth. Ad# 7450

DECENT MAN

Protestant DW dad, 35, 6'1", brown hair,
 blue eyes, easygoing, from Garden City,
 participates in Bible study, enjoys bike
 riding, movies, dining out, seeks SWCF,
 30-45, for long-term relationship.
 Ad# 1944

YOUNG WIDOWER

Catholic WWMM, 39, 5'7", 160lbs., pro-
 fessional, honest, educated, no depend-
 ents, home in Livonia, enjoys dining,
 movies, dancing, sports, seeks SWF,
 under 43, N/S, who has good values.
 Ad# 1002

Nail-biters, blowouts dot opening night of prep hoops

West Bloomfield overcame a 17-point halftime deficit Tuesday to make a winner out of head coach Barry Bershad, 49-46 at Rochester, in his debut as head coach of the Lakers basketball team.

The Falcons (OAA Division I) grabbed leads of 24-16 after the first quarter and 38-21 at half-time before the Lakers (OAA Division II) outscored them 28-8 in the second half to capture a three-point victory.

Brandon Grant paced West Bloomfield (1-0) with 25 points and Randy Wexelman added 12 in coach Barry Bershad's debut.

Scott Cunningham scored 15 points to lead Rochester while Jeff Buelow dropped in 10.

West Bloomfield hosts another Division I opponent, Clarkston, on Friday.

The Falcons (0-1) visit Royal Oak Kimball on Friday.

GROVES 63, LAMPHERE 48: Four players reached double figures as host Birmingham Groves won its season opener Tuesday with an OAA crossover win over Madison Heights Lamphere.

Junior forward Jamal Lamb scored 14 points, senior guard Josh Pfennig scored 11, senior forward Eric Easter registered 10 points, seven rebounds and five assists, and senior forward Brian Schaffer had 10 points and 10 boards for the Falcons, who led 36-17 at halftime.

Junior guard Jake Barber scored 13 for Lamphere.

Groves will visit Madison Heights Madison Friday.

RICE 56, CARMAN-AINSWORTH 55: Nothing like a barn-burner to start the season.

Birmingham Brother Rice edged host Flint Carman-Ainsworth by a point on Tuesday.

Ron Austin paced the Warriors (1-0) with 16 points. Jamyon Small and Jon Poyer tossed in 11 apiece.

Carman-Ainsworth (0-1) was led by Calvin Sims' 15 points.

Rice visits Birmingham Detroit Country Day, one of the state's top-ranked teams, tomorrow.

KETTERING 74, ANDOVER 38: Bloomfield Hills Andover suffered a shaky start to its season with this Oakland Activities Association crossover defeat at the hands of Waterford Kettering on Tuesday.

Junior Matt Johnston led Kettering (Division III) with 16 points.

Senior guard Eric Hauss scored 11 points to pace Andover (Division IV).

Kettering opened with a 28-6 first-quarter advantage and grabbed a 41-16 halftime lead.

Then, a dismal third quarter led to Andover's demise as Kettering (1-1) outscored the Barons 25-1.

Andover (0-1) hosts Auburn Hills Avondale tomorrow.

CRANBROOK 68, ARMADA 58 (OT): Junior forwards Tyrell Smith and Adam Partridge proved to be the difference as host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood opened up the season Tuesday with this overtime win over Armada.

Smith scored a game-high 24 points and added 10 rebounds, while Partridge twined 14 points and snagged 11 rebounds for the Cranes, which went on an 11-1 run in overtime. Smith and Partridge scored all of Cranbrook's points in the extra session.

Senior forward Chad Loak topped Armada with 17 points.

Cranbrook will travel to Metro Conference rival Hamtramck tonight.

S. CHRISTIAN 73, GREATER LIFE 25: Host Southfield Christian opened its season Monday in fine fashion with this convincing triumph over Pontiac Greater Life Academy.

The Eagles, who had three players finish in double figures, jumped out to a commanding 40-10 lead at halftime and were never threatened.

Senior forward Matt Ford topped Southfield Christian with 13 points, while senior forward Ben Edwards and senior guard Kyle McAllister chipped in with 12 and 11 points, respectively. Sophomore center Bryant Curry also notched 10 rebounds for the Eagles.

Senior forward Dan Dumas led the Cougars (0-1) with seven points.

Southfield Christian will visit Royal Oak Shrine while Greater Life will entertain Saline Christian Friday.

R.H. CHRISTIAN 63, OXFORD CHRISTIAN 54: Junior guard Tony Purdy displayed a fine all-around floor game with 15 points, seven rebounds, three steals and three assists as host Rochester Hills Christian defeat-

ed Oxford Christian Monday in a Fundamental Baptist Athletic Conference crossover match.

Senior forward Josh Haynes supplied 14 points and nine rebounds, junior point guard Troy Dirden had six points, three steals and three assists, and senior guard Dan Allen came off the bench and added nine points for the Eagles (2-2), who trailed 40-39 heading into the fourth quarter before closing with a 24-12 run.

Senior forward Brian King

scored 23 points and sophomore guard Chris Wenzel added 18 for Oxford (0-4).

The Eagles will travel to Troy Bethany Christian tonight for the FBAC Division A opener for both teams. Oxford Christian will host Garden City United Christian Friday.

SPRINGFIELD CHRISTIAN TIP-OFF CLASSIC: Rochester Hills Christian finished seventh out of eight teams at the 15th annual Springfield Christian Tip-Off Classic Friday and Saturday in

Clarkston.

On Friday, the Eagles dropped their opener to Lake Orion Shalom Baptist, 62-58. Tony Purdy scored 22 and Josh Haynes added 15 points and 12 rebounds for the Eagles. Senior guard Nathan Heatherly scored a game-high 28 points for Shalom (2-1).

In the consolation bracket on Saturday, Rochester Hills Christian dropped a 54-52 decision to Warren Life Summit Christian as senior guard Nathan Backus

registered a steal and scored off a lay-up with five seconds left. Backus scored 13 points for Life Summit (2-2), while Haynes (seven rebounds) and Purdy (eight steals) both notched 17 points for the Eagles.

In the seventh-place game later on Saturday, the Eagles finally broke into the win column for first-year coach John Goldworthy as they posted a 65-50 decision over Oxford Christian.

Haynes scored 18 points and

grabbed five rebounds and Purdy notched 17 points and collected four steals.

Brian King and Chris Wenzel both scored 23 for Oxford Christian.

TROY 81, OAK PARK 53: The host Colts, which advanced to the regional finals last season, picked up right where they left off with this 28-point OAA crossover triumph Tuesday over Oak Park. Senior forward Jim Essian registered 16 points.

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 (248) 643-6000

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Entertainment

The Eccentric

Page 1, Section C

Keely Wygonik, Editor 313 953 2105

on the web: <http://ob.eccentric.com>

Thursday, December 11, 1997

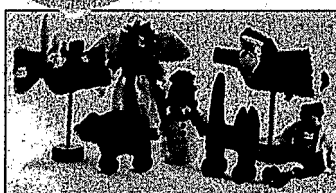
THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Orange 9mm, featuring drummer Matt Cross, formerly of Detroit, performs at The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Doors open at 6 p.m. for the all-ages show. Tickets \$5 in advance. (313) 961-MELT.

SATURDAY

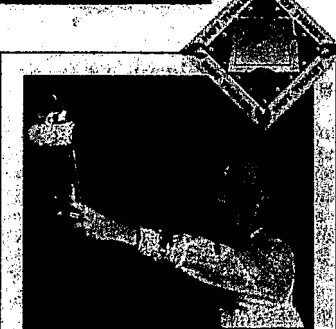


Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association Holiday Sales Show - Gifts of Art, offers a variety of handcrafted items. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 1516 S. Cranbrook Road (northwest corner of 14 Mile Road), (248) 644-0866.

SUNDAY



Take "A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline," 2 p.m. at the 7th House in downtown Pontiac. Tickets \$22, call (248) 335-8101.



Hot tip: Local dance groups, including Rose Marie, Floyd's Contemporary Civic Ballet Company featuring Kathleen Ott of Rochester Hills as Clara, will be presenting "The Nutcracker" this weekend. See complete listing inside.

Barenaked Twistin' Tarts and other New Year's Eve

By CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER

This is a call to Detroit Red Wings player Brendan Shanahan - Tyler Stewart drummer for the Canadian pop band Barenaked Ladies is personally inviting you to his band's New Year's Eve show at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

"Brendan Shanahan, I know that he's a Ladies fan. When he played in St. Louis, my good buddy is Curtis Joseph, the then goalie in St. Louis, and Shanny was in charge of the music in the dressing room. In 1993, he played the whole 'Gordon' album to get ready. Maybe if they were listening to Metallica, they could have gone further," Stewart said with a laugh.

"I also know that Chris Osgood, Chris Draper and Darren McCarty are fans. They came to our show last Christmas time."

(Much to the Barenaked Ladies chagrin, The Detroit Red Wings will be busy until about 10 or 11 p.m. The Stanley Cup champions take on the St. Louis Blues at 7:30 p.m. The game is sold out.)

Stewart said choosing the Detroit area for its New Year's Eve concert was a no brainer. After all, some of the band's biggest shows have been here at Pine Knob and The Palace, and songs like "Brian Wilson" and "If I Had \$1,000,000" have inundated the radio.

The main floor and a significant portion of the lower bowl for the New Year's Eve show were sold out within 10 minutes. Tickets, \$25, still remain. Call (248) 377-0100 or (248) 645-6666 for more information. The Irish pop band The Devlins open the show at 9 p.m.

"Detroit Rock City has been very good to the Ladies. What a great night to sort of celebrate the city's support of us. We're really looking to blow out all the stops. You can look for surprises, of course. There's always surprises for Barenaked Ladies shows," Stewart said slyly.

It's no surprise, however, that going along with past practice The Palace of Auburn Hills will not allow any kind of macaroni and cheese - not just Kraft - into the venue. Fans routinely throw that and stuffed monkeys during the Ladies' trademark song "If I Had \$1,000,000."

If the Barenaked Ladies aren't your cup of tea, there's plenty of other options this New Year's Eve.

Royal Oak funksters The Howling Diablos and the local ska band the Parka Kings will perform at the Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Doors open at 9 p.m. for the 21 and older show. Tickets are \$20

and include hors d'oeuvres and party favors. Fans can count down to 1998 with Dick Clark's "New Year's Rockin' Eve" shown on a 500-square foot TV. (248) 544-3030.

Local rockabilly bands The Twistin' Tarantulas and Nobody's Business, along with the Detroit Music Award-winning blues band Mudpuppy take over the second floor of Fifth Avenue Billiards, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. The \$35 individual ticket includes a complimentary glass of champagne, while the \$60 per couple ticket price includes a complimentary bottle of champagne. A light buffet and party favors come with both options. The lower level of Fifth Avenue will operate as usual. Only those 21 and older are permitted into Fifth Avenue. (248) 542-9922.

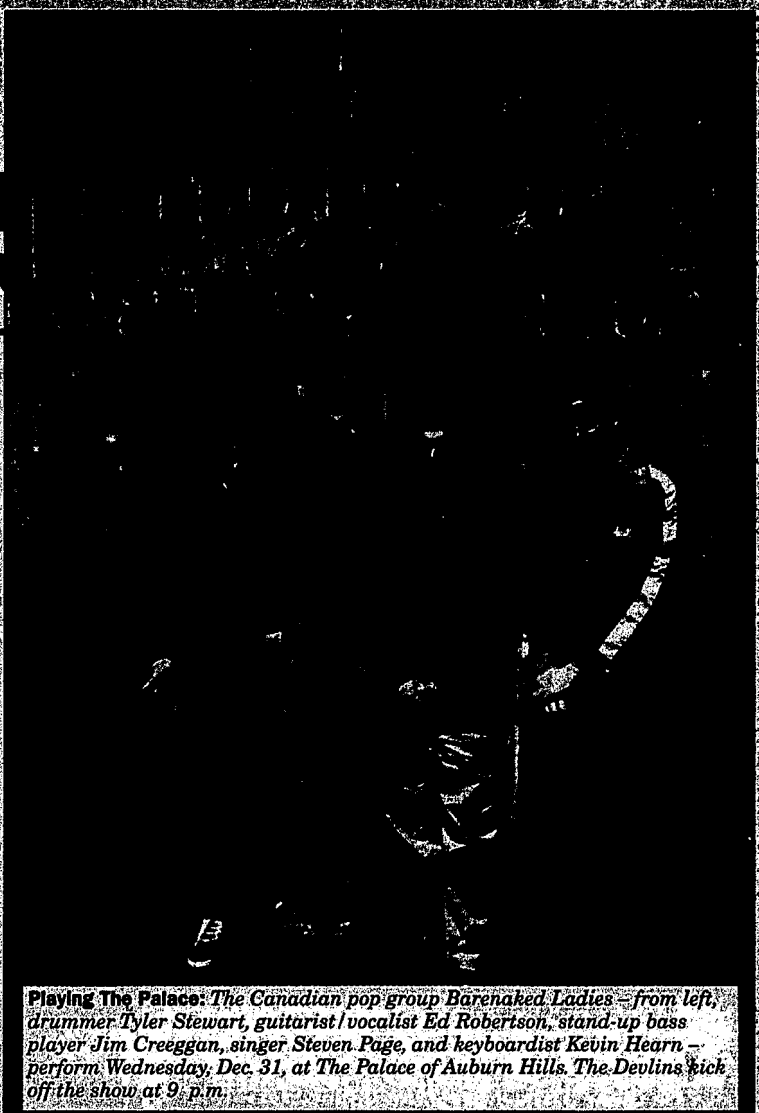
Former Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' Bands of the Year Speedball and Big Block will perform along with Hoarse at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door for the 18 and older show. (313) 961-MELT.

Classic rock fans will be let down to hear that there will be no "Whiplash Bash" with Ted Nugent this year. About 3,000 of those fans can take refuge at the State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit, where Detroit native Alice Cooper will bring his show. Tickets are \$45 for the all-ages show. (313) 961-6451. Then there's always Dokken, Devil's Night and Illegal at The Palladium, 17580 Frazho, Roseville. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door for the 18 and older show. (810) 778-6404.

First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willits (at Bates Street), is hosting "Chase the Blues! Night" with Little Sonny and the Detroit Rhythm Band from 9:30-11:30 p.m. Sponsoring "Chase the Blues" is an effort to continue the alcohol-free New Year's Eve momentum in downtown Birmingham due to the major funding loss and subsequent cancellation of the popular First Night. After a short break, at 11:45 there will be a 20-minute closing, non-sectarian worship service. Tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 children. (248) 644-0550, or fcb@wvnet.com or <http://members.aol.com/churchwww/first.htm>.

Acid jazz act Groove Collective performs at the Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Doors open at 9 p.m. for the 18 and older show. Tickets are \$20. (313) 833-9700.

Local swingers Imperial Swing



Playing The Palace: The Canadian pop group Barenaked Ladies - from left, drummer Tyler Stewart, guitarist/vocalist Ed Robertson, stand-up bass player Jim Creeggan, singer Steven Page, and keyboardist Kevin Hearn - perform Wednesday, Dec. 31, at The Palace of Auburn Hills. The Devlins kick off the show at 9 p.m.

Orchestra spends its New Year's Eve at the Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$10 for the 19 and older show. Doors open at 9:30 p.m. (313) 996-8555.

For the sixth year, the city of Ypsilanti is hosting the drug- and alcohol-free family event New Year Jubilee. A variety of performers ranging from storytellers to jazz artists to choirs to reggae bands play in a dozen different venues throughout Ypsilanti's historic Depot Town. For children, the Wild Swan Theatre will present "Frog and Toad." Sam from Gemini will perform. LaRon Williams will tell stories, and Derby the Clown will make an appearance. Advance tickets, \$10, \$5 for children ages 6-12, are available at Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti-area Busch's Valu-Land beginning Friday, Dec. 12. Admission is free to children ages 5 and younger. Tickets are \$15 at the door. (313) 483-4444 or (313) 484-6820.

A variety of nightclubs are holding their own parties. Fourth Street inside the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak, is having its annual celebration for those 21 and older hosted by radio station WKQI (95.5). Tickets are \$45 and include dinner, champagne, party favors, and breakfast. From midnight to 4 a.m., tickets are \$15 and include breakfast. (248) 546-7610. The New Year's Eve party at The Groove Room, 1815 N. Main St. (at 12 Mile Road),

Royal Oak, is free from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. There will be a cover charge afterward. Free champagne and party favors will be offered. (248) 589-3344.

Local halls will once again fill for the holiday. Included in that is the VFW Hall at Nine Mile and Telegraph roads in Southfield where the Rochester Hills rock band Sensitive Clown will perform. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door, both of which include beverages. (248) 652-6346.

The City of Pontiac is expecting more than 10,000 celebrants this year at Times Square II New Year's Eve Celebration held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in downtown Pontiac. The free, non-alcoholic outdoor celebration features music and dancing in the street, food and beverage vendors and party favors. At the stroke of midnight, an illuminated ball will hit the top of a 100-foot pole located at the front of the Phoenix Center. A fireworks display follows. Numerous nightclubs in the area - Industry, Clutch Cargo's, Diamonds and Spurs - will have special events. (248) 857-5603. The swing/jump band Atomic Fireballs will perform at the 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (248) 335-8100.

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra is hosting "A Singing, Dancing Gala for 1998" at 9 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit, during which the orchestra will perform J.

Please see NEW YEAR'S, C2

YOUTH THEATER

Stages set for entertaining youth productions

By KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER

Toys, toys, toys is what most kids are thinking about now, but the real acting up is happening not at home, but on stages throughout metro Detroit.

There are many choices this weekend for parents seeking a little diversion from the holiday countdown. A variety of youth productions to be presented by children and adults for children of all ages are sure to please.

Dearborn Youth Theatre

Greg Wiklanski of Westland stars as Joseph in the Dearborn Youth Theatre production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Friday, Sunday, Dec. 12-14 at Edsel High School in Dearborn.

In October, Wiklanski portrayed Rolf in the Nancy Gurwin Presents staging of "The Sound of Music" at the Aaron DeRoy Studio Theatre in the Jewish Community Center, West Bloomfield.

"Being cast as Joseph was a real blessing for me," said Wiklanski, 20, sophomore at Christian-focused William Tyndale College in Farmington Hills. "I couldn't say enough how important God has been to me. He is the foundation of my life."

A 1995 graduate of Livonia Franklin High School, Wiklanski was in three plays there, all musicals. He then took a year off from theater. Wiklanski's only performing was with the Christ Ambassadors, the college's choir, which sang during services at area churches.

He returned to theater this past summer, performing in "Carousel" with Music Theatre of Michigan in Livonia and "The Sound of Music."

Theater just started in high school as something fun to do. It's become more and more serious. Now, it's more like a passion. I'd like to make a living out of theater someday," Wiklanski said.

At William Tyndale College, he is majoring in vocal performance, as well as working on obtaining his secondary education teaching certificate.

Steve Bell of Bloomfield Hills is also

Playing one of the brothers is Kean Cronin of Bloomfield Hills.

In the children's chorus are Rachel Westphal-Gaddy, Georgene Wojciechowski, and Maria Szatkowski and Matthew Thayer of Livonia; Julia Fitzpatrick and Erin Fitzpatrick of Redford; Sarah Grace of Bloomfield Hills; and Paul Kittenger of Farmington Hills.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" is being staged by Dearborn Youth Theatre in cooperation with the Dearborn Recreation Department.

Youtheatre

New York's Theatreworks/USA brings the story of "Charlotte's Web." E.B. White's story of friendship between a small pig named Wilbur and a gray spider named Charlotte, to Music Hall, Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 13-14.

You'll meet Wilbur, the pig who desperately wants to avoid the butcher; Fern, the little girl who understands what animals say to each other; Tem-

Youth Theater Productions

Dearborn Youth Theatre
"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" - 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12-13; and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14, at Edsel Ford High School, 20601 Rotunda Drive (1 1/2 miles west of the Southfield Freeway) in Dearborn. Tickets \$10 general admission and \$9 for senior citizens; call (313) 561-0599 for reservations.

Youtheatre at Music Hall
"Charlotte's Web" presented by New York Theatreworks/USA - 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 at Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door. No one under the age of 5 will be admitted to the theatre.

Pre-show Playshop will be conducted 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, preceding the 11 a.m. show. This hands-on workshop will explore creative dramatics with youngsters ages 5 and above. The workshop costs \$5 per person, and reservations can be made when placing ticket orders with the Music Hall Ticket Office. (313) 561-0599. (248) 335-8100.

New York Theatreworks/USA
"Charlotte's Web" presented by New York Theatreworks/USA - 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 at Music Hall, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door. No one under the age of 5 will be admitted to the theatre.

Please see PRODUCTIONS, C2



On stage: Don Donnelly as Aladdin (left to right), Sultan, Robert "Bobo" Lozelle, Princess Jasmine (Kathleen Coleman), Jasmine (Sarah Wiercioch), bottom left to right, and Myra (Sarah Greenfield) are featured in "Aladdin."

'Ice Storm' takes complex, cold look at the 1970s

TICKETS PLEASE



JOHN MONAGHAN

Mom is frigid. Dad is having an affair. Fourteen-year-old Wendy diddles with two neighborhood boys while her older brother thinks that all of life's answers come from the pages of "Fantastic Four" comic books.

The family drama of "The Ice Storm," set over a Thanksgiving weekend in Connecticut WASP country, could be the stuff of any number of Harold Pinter plays. But the new movie, currently at the Star Southfield and Maple, is a complex and subtle adaptation of novelist Rick Moody's confessional account of growing up in the land of Valium and wife swapping.

Though set in 1973, this is no nostalgic lark. Only a few songs of the era grace the soundtrack. Instead, haunting music by Mychael Danna underscores a rather somber study of how the Sexual Revolution of the 1960s has left mom and dad as confused as the kids in how to act sexually.

The movie relives the "key party," where upscale couples arrive for a dinner party but, through a lottery with car keys,

leave with someone else's spouse. Hood father Ben (Kevin Kline), meanwhile, engages in an old-fashioned affair with a sexy neighbor (Sigourney Weaver) presumably because his wife is such a cold fish in bed.

Daughter Wendy (Christina Ricci) is routinely left home alone to get into her own mischief in between reruns of "The Time Tunnel." Though usually linked with Mikey (Elijah Wood), she is later caught in the bathroom playing doctor with his little brother Sandy (Adam Hann-Byrd).

"The Ice Storm" is directed by Ang Lee, who brought such energy to "Sense and Sensibility" and "The Wedding Banquet." He uses a more classically Asian film aesthetic here. The movie unfolds at an almost painfully slow pace, awash in a palette of blues, whites and blacks to give it an appropriately cold feeling.

This inherent frostiness translates to the characters as well, who interact with each other but without any genuine emotion. When Ben fixates on his golf game after sleeping with his mistress, she coolly reminds him that she already has a husband to listen to this kind of mindless banter.

Ben's wife Elena (Joan Allen), meanwhile, is on her own journey. After seeing her daughter looking so free on her bicycle,

she starts riding one herself and even engages in a little drug store larceny just to prove that she can do it.

The most stable element of the Hood family turns out to be son Paul (Tobey Maguire), the 16-year-old who goes to a prep school and has a crush on a girl there. He knows his attempts to politely court her will be upstaged by his hipster roommate, who has slept with virtually every girl at school.

It takes a natural phenomenon (the ice storm of the title) to make the characters realize that they really have very little control of their destinies.

The cast of "The Ice Storm" is uniformly good, but I still have trouble believing Kevin Kline in a serious role. He's all right in comedies like "A Fish Called Wanda," where he flounders when called upon to do anything dramatic, even a role that essentially requires him to look lost throughout.

Ultimately, the movie is about people ill-equipped to communicate. Perhaps the entire thing is summed up in an oral report given by 14-year-old neighbor kid Mikey, who describes the effect that molecules (like the characters) have as they bounce off of each other in space.

It's the seemingly banal moments like this that add up in "The Ice Storm" and keep you



ADGER W. COWANS/FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

Drama: Kevin Kline and Joan Allen as husband and wife in Ang Lee's "The Ice Storm."

thinking about it long after. Though in limited release, it's a movie you might hear from again, especially around Oscar time.

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To leave John a voice mail message, dial (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1866.

Kids, win an 'Anastasia' activity book

Kids - what would you do if you were a princess or prince, and had the power to do anything? Would you try to help others, or buy a lot of toys?

The first 100 children to respond will receive an activity book from "Anastasia," Fox's first full-length animated feature film, now playing at metro Detroit movie theaters. We also have 18 child-size T-shirts to give away to the first readers to respond. We'll share our favorite responses with readers in an article on Thursday, Dec. 25.

Send your - "If I were a prince or princess" answer, and T-shirt

size preference - small, medium or large to: Attn: Keely Wygonik, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax responses to Wygonik at (313) 591-7279.

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STREET SCENE

Local musicians pay tribute to 'Broken Wings'



CHRISTINA FUOCO

A group of local musicians have banded together to pay tribute to injured Detroit Red Wings player Vladimir Konstantinov and trainer Sergei Mnatsakanov who were severely injured in a Friday, June 13, car accident.

The song "Broken Wing: A Tribute" — the brainchild of Caryn Ciesielski and Jim Gentry, creative partners for McCann Erickson Advertising — features vocals by Graham Strachan of Redford and music written and performed by Strachan and Michael Kudreiko, both of whom are in the local band Robb Roy.

Former DC Drive members Brian and Mark Pastoria of the Harmonie Park Creative Group in Detroit produced and played drums and keyboards, respectively, on "Broken Wing." Jason Kuehn and Chris McCall, both of Thunder Harp Choir, also played on the song.

Kudreiko explained that the

music came quickly when the Pastoria brothers showed him and Strachan Gentry's lyrics.

"We went down to their studio and jammed on it. It didn't take that long. You know how people say they channel things? Well this whole project is falling in place one step after another," said Kudreiko, a Dearborn resident.

The melancholy 3:59 ballad includes the lyrics: "In our hearts we have the power/In our strength we hold the key/Together we will move mountains/We can mend this broken wing."

The musicians are celebrating the release of the CD and cassette with a performance of "Broken Wing" at noon Friday, Dec. 12, at Harmony House, 30830 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. The week ending Nov. 30 "Broken Wing" hit No. 1 on the cassette/CD singles chart at Harmony House stores above Huff Daddy, Boyz II Men and Elton John.

Profits from the sale of the cassette and CD, priced at \$3.99, will be donated to William Beaumont Hospital's Rehabilitation of brain trauma injuries, and the trust funds for the families of Konstantinov and Mnatsakanov.

It is not sanctioned by the NHL.

Kudreiko said that this project was right up his alley.

"I'm a big Red Wings fan and Graham has become a big Red Wings fan the last couple of years. ... I play beer league hockey, local hockey, and so it's near and dear and Konstantinov was a lot of people's favorite player and he definitely was mine."

He added that he and Strachan also chose to participate so they could give something back to the community.

"Basically, we felt it would be a good thing for the city. We wanted to give something back. Some people go to soup kitchens and dole out soup once a year and that makes them feel good. I haven't done anything like that as a musician so this is something that we can do."

For more information about the project, see their web page at <http://members.aol.com/mend-wing/wing>

■ The pop band Huffamoose is pretty thrilled about playing The Palace of Auburn Hills on Friday, Dec. 12, as part of radio station WPLT's sold out "Holiday Hootenanny" concert.

"I'm excited, definitely," said vocalist/guitarist Craig Elkins. "It's our first arena-sized gig. We opened for Toad the Wet Sprocket for a little bit. We played 3,000-seat places, but it's as big as we've gotten so far."

Elkins said the key to arena shows is not to get nervous.

"The best way to prepare for something like that is not to think about it. You kind of live your life. If you do get nervous about those things, you'll get super nervous and worked up. If that happens for me, at least, I always end up falling on my face."

The Philadelphia band's debut album "We've Been Had Again" (Interscope) is a punchy look at the world according to Elkins, whose vocals jump all over the music scale, and lead guitarist Kevin Hanson.

The hip-swaying first single "Wait," written by Hanson, is "about my girlfriend being a really good dancer. When we get out there, everybody else clears the floor. And all the other guys with the hip moves check her out — and I feel like a jerk."

Filled with fuzzy guitars, the Dinosaur Jr.-esque title track, another Hanson song, politely

■ 'Basically, we felt it would be a good thing for the city. We wanted to give something back.'

Michael Kudreiko

disses the music industry.

In "Buy You a Ring" Elkins longs for the simplicity of being a kid. "I wanna be in the fifth grade again. I wanna worry about poison ivy. I wanna worry about getting beat up after school. I wanna send you a note," he sings.

For the album "We've Been Had Again," Huffamoose did the "typical go to Los Angeles and record" thing. After a falling out with the producer, Huffamoose returned to Philadelphia and completed the project at The Chill Factor Studio in Ardmore, Pa., with producer Erik Horvitz.

"The funny thing is we all thought it would be so cool to do it in Los Angeles, but it had the opposite effect. When I'm home, the most creative atmosphere is your bedroom," Elkins said with a laugh.

"My bedroom is some place that I'm super familiar with. When you record in those big scary studios, it's so sterile and

the mood just isn't creative. We recorded in this little tiny studio and it really worked for us."

The second annual Holiday Hootenanny features Huffamoose (6:35 p.m.), Duncan Sheik (6:55-7:40 p.m.), Big Head Todd and the Monsters (8:45 p.m.), Toad the Wet Sprocket (9-10 p.m.) and The Cure (10:30-11:30 p.m.), Friday, Dec. 12, at The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr. (I-75 and Lapeer Road), Auburn Hills. The show is sold out. For more information, call (248) 377-0100.

If you have a question or comment for Christina Fuoco, you may leave a message for her at (313) 953-2047, ext. 2130, or by writing to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150, or via e-mail at CFuoco@aol.com. Listen to Christina Fuoco's rock music report every Friday at 5 p.m. with Millen during the "K-Rock Report" on WKRC-FM (97.1).

'Christmas Carol' retains its holiday lustre

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

Backstage Pass is on break for Detroit Public Television's Winterfest '97 Pledge Drive, so you'll have to hunt around for "It's A Wonderful Life." What a switch! Remember a few years back when you couldn't turn on a television between Thanksgiving and New Year without surfing past another airing of "Life?" Now, it's a great movie. Capra flexes his directorial muscles. The acting is strong throughout. And, as George Bailey, Jimmy Stewart displays the enormous talent and charisma that made him one of the premier actors of his era.

But it got to the point where if I had to listen to Zuzu singsong her way through "Teacher says whenever a bell rings, an angel gets his wings" one more time, I'd tell her what to do with her stupid petals. I started rooting for George to see the world and build his bridges. Besides, Potteryville looked like one swinging town.

See what happened? Gross overexposure had soured me to one of the sweetest movies of all time. So I got to wondering if the same danger lurked in the repeated seasonal productions of "A Christmas Carol." Are we getting to the point where audiences will start rooting for Scrooge to stay his cold, miserly, nasty self?

As usual, when I have a question regarding theater, I called on our Backstage Pass theater correspondents to enlighten me.

This time, it was Gary Anderson who had to field my neurosis. "Gary," I asked, "why so many productions of 'A Christmas Carol?'"

Sure, enough, Gary had the answer: "It's a guaranteed money-maker. It's a family-oriented holiday experience. It's familiar, so nobody will question the content or subject matter, and at this time of year people are looking for things to do as a family. Also, without dealing with religion directly, the play tackles issues of redemption, so it touches on certain quasi-religious issues, which makes it more palatable." Aha! A once-a-year show with no downside.

Is it my imagination, or is it the most theatrically adapted novel of all time. "Well, you have Cecily Tyson doing an African-American version. There were two other feminine versions, one

of them with Susan Lucci. Then there are the British film versions. The George C. Scott made-for-TV version which was done by CBS was one of the most faithful productions to the book that's been done in a long while ... it it's not the most use story, it's one of them."

Beyond getting produced into the ground, is it even a good play? Gary says, "That depends on the production, and on the script. There are several different versions, many adaptations for the stage. Some are more successful than others at rendering the best elements of the book into an enjoyable theater experience." How about the source material? "The book is great. The story itself is good." Well, what about that Pollyannaish resolution? Isn't there a growing legion of folks getting disillusioned with the gross commer-

cialism of the season?

Gary set me straight. "The play's message is contrary to the way the season has gone. If you listen carefully to the story, it's about a man who was busy acquiring wealth at the expense of having a life. His only nephew doesn't even know him. And he finds out at the end that it's more important to care about others than to acquire wealth, contrary to what the world seems to think."

"But there is a growing commentary on the commercialization of the season. There's a stage play called 'Inspecting Carol.' It's a satire about a company that puts up 'A Christmas Carol' every year. You're watching people who show no compassion for their common man, and yet they're doing a play where the main theme is just that!"

OK, I'm sold! "A Christmas

Carol" is one of the season's great traditions, and Wayne State's Bonstelle production shouldn't be missed. But how about some alternatives, Gary? "There are the tried and true religious options — church choirs, Handel's 'Messiah,' 'The Nutcracker,' all of those." A personal recommendation? "'The Harlem Nutcracker' by the University Musical Society in Ann Arbor. It's Duke Ellington's adaptation of Tchaikovsky's 'The Nutcracker.' It goes back and forth between modern-day and 1920s Harlem, and the choreography is by former Detroiters Donald Byrd. It plays for five performances this weekend only."

There are plenty of options, so don't be a humbug! Enjoy some theater this holiday season! And remember, Backstage Pass will return next week at 9:30 p.m. on Detroit Public Television.

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Whilms Insurance — <http://rochester-hills.com/whilms>

INTERACTIVE CD ROM PUBLISHING

Interactive Incorporated — <http://www.interactive-inc.com>

JEWELRY

Haig Jewelry — <http://rochester-hills.com/haigj>

MANUFACTURED HOUSING

Westphal Associates — <http://rochester-hills.com/westphal>

MORTGAGE COMPANIES

Mortgage Market

Information Services — <http://www.interest.com/observer>

Village Mortgage — <http://www.villagemortgage.com>

NEWSLETTERS

GAGGLE Newsletter —

520 Help Wanted Part-Time

FUN, FRIENDLY, SMOKE FREE
ATMOSPHERE
Flexible hours, part time positions
available. \$8 an hour.
Knightsbridge Arms Mail, Ltd.
42905 W. 7 Mile Rd.
Northville, MI 48167
810-344-7200

32315 Grand River
Farmington, MI 48336
248-471-8944

MAINTENANCE PART TIME

Federal APD, Inc. is a leading world-
wide supplier of parking control sys-
tems. We are hiring a part-time
Maintenance Technician. Candidates
must be able to perform basic
plumbing, electrical wiring & repairs,
carpentry, grounds work, and basic
HVAC problem diagnosis & repair. 2-
years experience desired. Hours are
from 2:30 PM to 8:00 PM, M-F. If you
meet these qualifications & have a
commitment to excellence then join
us at Federal APD. We offer a drug-
free environment & competitive com-
pensation. Some benefits available.
Mail or fax your resume & pay history to:
FEDERAL APD, INC., Human
Resources, 42775 Nine Mile Rd.,
Novi, MI 48375. FAX 248-374-9650.
No calls. EOE

PART-TIME, DIRECTOR of Christian
Education, beginning Jan., 1998,
approximately 20 hours per week,
teaching experience required, church
experience helpful. Call Meadow-
brook Congregational Church,
(248) 348-7757

RECEPTIONIST
For Real Estate office in
Canton. Evenings and weekend
hours, approximately 15 hours
per week. Excellent phone man-
ners and communication skills
required to handle calls and set
appointments. Computer skills a
definite plus. Competitive
wages. Call: 313-454-4400

524 Help Wanted-Domestic

ELDERLY woman needs live-in help.
2-3 days per week. Good wages &
benefits (including health insurance).
Call 9-5pm: 248-477-4848

HOUSEKEEPER - needed in W.
Bloomfield area for general cleaning
& ironing, 2 days per wk. Must
be careful, reliable & thorough. Own
transportation & car. Call before 9pm
248-661-0434

LOVING, RESPONSIBLE DAYCARE
Nanny to care for 6 mo. old (start Jan
1). Non smoker, own car. Experience
& references. Novi. 248-380-7080

EMPLOYMENT/INSTRUCTION SERVICES #500-598

MANAGER COUPLE
For 60-unit, well-maintained Lansing
apt. Community. Must be willing to
relocate. (248) 474-9500

530 Entertainment

HO! HO! HO!
Have Santa visit your home or busi-
ness. Call: (313) 254-0995

LIVE MUSIC & available DJ for all
occasions. Last minute our specialty!
MERIDIAN ENTERTAINMENT
(313) 562-0185

SANTA FOR HIRE
Jolly Old Fellow. Santa & Home
visits. Information (313)422-5948

534 Jobs Wanted-Female/Male

CLEANING SERVICES - Commercial
& Residential. Experienced. Ref-
erences available. Very meticulous.
Call Lynn @ (313) 382-6222

HOUSECLEANING
By experienced lady who
takes pride in her work.
Call 248-681-0139

536 Childcare Services-Licensed

AWESOME CHILD CARE, licensed
16 yrs, 24 hrs. Low cost. Holiday
shopping ok. FIA okay. (248) 335-0052

IN-HOME CARE at Fair Prices. 2
mos to 4 yrs. CPR certified. Meals,
Fun & Love provided. Westland. Call
Munchkin Land. (313) 728-5102

**LICENSED AFTER SCHOOL & Even-
ing Child-care.** Over-nights wel-
come. Homework supervision,
dinner, snacks, baths. Call
248-349-8255

LICENSED HOME DAY-CARE has
immediate openings for children
on Christmas break. Also day care
openings for all ages beginning
Jan. 1, 1998. (248) 349-8255

537 Childcare/Babysitting Services

HOME QUALITY BABY SITTING,
ages 2 & up. Mon-Fri. 7-9:30PM. Full
part time, Lashes & 1 mile. (248) 352-6268

MOTHER OF happy 2yr old, looking
to care for children part-time or full-
time. Love, meals, organized activi-
ties. Oxford area. 248-969-2065

538 Childcare Needed

BABY-SITTER to care for 2 cod-
dles in my W. Bloomfield home. Non
smoker. Experienced with refer-
ences. Call (248) 363-0656

CHILD CARE in my W. Bloomfield
home. 2 children ages 6 & 3. Own
transportation. Non smoker. Refer-
ences. Call (248) 551-4568

CHILD CARE PROVIDER needed in
my Farmington Hills home for 5
month old infant. 3 days/week. Your
choice of days. No Fridays! Good
pay! References required.
248-489-5151

DAYCARE PROVIDER needed in
my home. Immediate position. Mon-
thru Fri. Teachers work schedule.
Commerce Twp. area. (248) 685-2922

ENERGETIC CAREGIVER, Mon-
Wed-Fri 8-5. For 2 & 6 yr old boys.
Bloomfield. Car required, non-
smoker. 248-626-9625

Help needed after school.
Some weekends. Must drive.
Call Billie: (248) 681-4224

LIVE IN Nanny/housekeeper Berkley,
fraternal, mature, person, references
required. 1 child in school. Salary
plus room, board, car. (248) 541-1478

LOOKING FOR that special person
to care for my 2 & 5 yr. olds in my Birm-
ingham home, 3 days a week. Non-
smoker, w/transportation & refer-
ences required. 248-647-1369

MATURE CAREGIVER needed 3-5
days/week, 3pm-6pm, for 2 sons.
Transport from Bloomfield Hills
school to upscale Detroit home (7
Mile/Woodward). \$10/hour. Leave
detailed message. (313) 345-6686

MATURE WOMAN to babysit in Lake
Orion for 3 school age children, after
school 3-6pm. Good pay.
Call: 248-373-7740 After 5pm

MOTHERS HELPER, 3 mommings a
week. Experience & references. Non-
smoker. Spanish speaking a plus.
(248) 360-6867

NANNY needed in our home. Profes-
sional African American couple seeks
experienced & references. Non-
smoker. Individual to help with 3 yr. old & new-
born. Call for details: 248-559-2764

NEEDED, CARING, reliable & fun
sitter for 4 year old and/or 1 year old
girls in Northville home. 3-6 hours per
week. (313)420-3053

PLEASE JOIN our loving family. Live-
in help needed for cleaning & house-
sitting child care. Please leave
message at 248-909-1244

SITTER WANTED: Loving, respon-
sible person to care for my 8 & 10 yr
old children in my home. Transportation
6-8:30am. References required.
Call 248-628-8904 after 6pm.

W. BLOOMFIELD family needs after
school part time care/housekeeper for
8 & 9 yr old. Non smoker, needs car.
Some cooking. (248) 737-0005

540 Elderly Care & Assistance

AFFORDABLE HOME CARE
24 HOUR LIVE-IN Personal Care,
cooking, housekeeping and errands.
Experienced, caring, dependable
& bonded. (248)808-8217

CAREGIVER FOR ELDERLY WOMAN
live-in only, work up to 7 days per
week. Good wages and benefits.
Call 9-5. Mon-Sat (313)462-6912

Let United Home Care
Services Help You
Remain Independent in
Your Own Home

Services provided by UHCS
are ideal for people needing
assistance with personal care,
meal preparation, light house-
keeping, and companionship.

Other services include:
• Care of the Chronically ill
• Alzheimer's & Respite Care

For more information, call:
United Home Care Services
(313)422-9250

Established in 1982

560 Education/Instruction

Free Cash Grants!
College, Scholarships, Business,
Medical, etc. Call: 1-800-219-9000 Ext. G-3673

562 Business/Prof. Services

ORGANIZING SPECIALIST LTD.
From closets to kitchens we will keep
you organized. Save your time, let us
put away those holiday decorations.
Call for an estimate (248) 408-4920
(248) 889-8929

570 Attorneys/Legal Counseling

APPEALS AND DIVORCE/CUSTODY
Laurette Tiedje, 313-397-8818
Aggressive Representation

574 Business Oppt. (See Class 590)

FOR SALE - Vending location in
Livonia. Snack/po machine, \$3,500.
Leave message: (313) 427-5615

**HAVE A REAL ESTATE
LICENSE BUT WORKING IN
ANOTHER FIELD?**
YOU COULD BE MAKING
EXTRA MONEY!

Schwitzer Referral Service
Company is a real estate referral
company for individuals who
have earned real estate licenses,
but are not actively working in the
real estate business. Our mem-
bers enjoy earning top \$\$\$ for
their referrals. Call for details
at 1-800-466-MOVE for details
on how to join and start making
\$\$\$ today!

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Leave message: (313) 427-5615

574 Business Oppt. (See Class 590)

INDEPENDENT DISTRIBUTORS
needed. Growing co. needs help
earn from \$499 Part-time to \$799 full-
time. Free booklet (800) 436-8568

LOOKING FOR a home based, part-
time business? Join the many inde-
pendent representatives of the 29th
fastest growing privately held corpo-
ration in the U.S. Become a fine and
fashion jewelry gift consultant and
earn high commissions. Potential is
unlimited! Loretta @ 248-391-2469
or Linda @ 248-373-8860. Please
leave message if no answer.

S. LYON - Super commercial oppor-
tunity. Building on 1 acre, currently
used as a retail business. \$349,000.
ERA Rymal Symes 248-437-3800

TANNING & NAIL SALON
Newly remodeled in Livonia area.
Large clientele, small shop.
Call Sam-Symes: (313) 458-5114

VOICE MAIL Service Bureau
System. Home based possible. Good
\$3 potential. Affordable. Financing
available. (248) 305-5500

CLASSIFIED ADS
Bring People Together
With Solutions For Their Needs!
#700-778

CLASSIFIED ADS
Work!
#700-778

DISPLAY CASE, glass & wood,
approx. 3 ft. high x 4 ft. long. You
pick up. (313) 261-2415

FIREWOOD - UNSPLIT,
(248) 851-0047

WHITE GE 4 burner electric range,
full size, storage underneath, good
oven, free for taking. 248-334-6916

WOOD CHIPS free a bushel or a
Ton, clean, fresh cut, near Farm-
ington Rd & 11 Mile. 248-744-1825

702 Antiques/Collectibles

A FANCY GARAGE SALE
At a Fine Art Gallery. Huge discounts
on all lower priced paintings, sculp-
tures & antique furniture. Dealer prices
on 1-8pm, Thurs., Fri., & Sat.
McGuire's E. Main, Northville
(248) 348-5550

AFF LEFF - Sing & Snore Ernie's!
Also Beanie Babies Make offer.
(248) 471-2720

A FREE HOLIDAY ANTIQUE SHOW
Fri. Dec. 12th, 10am-6pm
Sat. Dec. 13th, 10am-5pm
Merillwood Collection & Guest
Antique Dealers
(248) 471-2720

30 dealers featuring antique gift
ideas. Country & formal furniture,
jewelry, cowboy & Indians, silver,
glass, trunks, primitives, porcelain,
lighting, purses, candles, books,
Stallworth, Quimper, books,
Merillwood Collection & Guest
Antique Dealers
(248) 471-2720

ANTIQUE CAROUSEL HORSES
from the 1890's. Excellent condition.
(810) 757-8078

ANTIQUE SALE
Dealer going out of business. Deep
discounts. Dealers welcome. West-
land. 1514 N. Berry, W. of Wayne, S.
off Ford. Fri. & Sat. 10am-4pm.
800-833-4440

AN UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?
Adoption is a wonderful, caring
choice. A baby would be loved &
cherished by our family. We can help
you. Call 800-816-8876. We can help
each other.

636 Lost & Found

FOUND - CAT, white/orange/gray,
white. Half-breed between 12-13 lbs.
248-681-1684

FOUND - Possible Beagle/Colie mix,
male, approx. 25 lbs., Lake Orion/
Oxford area. Call: (248) 814-8408

long hair, orange & white cat lost
near Beverly Hills. Has white flea
collar. (248) 824-8046, 248-733-0688

LOST DOG \$3,000 cash reward.
Lost 11-15 in Dryden/Gardner, Metamora
area. 6 yr. old female Aus-
tralian Shepherd. Tri-color
(mostly black). No tail.
Answers to Penny. No ques-
tions asked for safe return.
(810) 678-2342 or (810)
678-3355

LOST DOG. Cocker Spaniel. Male.
Blond/white. Brown collar with bells.
25 lbs. (248) 358-4538

LOST MALE Dalmation on 12-6.
Napier/Warren area. Needs medical
attention. spotted collar 313-451-0850

LOST SPOTTED FROM Syria name
W/Imam. Dark coat with black
Oxford County area. Second public
advertisement. Call 248-476-1118

LOST PUG PUP - Female, 12wks.
Owner handicapped & heart-broke.
Everett St. Reward! 248-443-5297

638 Tickets

AMERICAN WEST Airline Vouchers
\$3,000 for all, valued at \$1500.
(313) 266-1961

ROUND TRIP ticket to Phoenix, AZ.
Leave 12-28. Return 12-30 on North-
west. \$400. Please call, leave
message. 313-387-0626

640 Transportation/Travel

DRIVE MY car to S.E. Florida, week
of 12-22. Pay expense to Florida

745 Hobbs/Conat Stamps

CHRISTMAS COIN & STAMP SHOW, Bonnie Brook Country Club, on Telegram, 3, of 6 Mile Rd. Fine Admission, Refreshments. Contact Martin P. Ehrhardt (248) 353-1045

FOR SALE: Lot of wax casting machine, kiln, & metal working hammers. Like new. (248) 544-2712

FULL line of carpenter tools. Marx electric train set, 1927 gauge. Lionel train N.W. 1976 Spirit of America. 1927 gauge. Lionel Train Allegory the Mighty Sound of Steam. 1927 gauge. (248) 853-0057

HO TRAIN SET - 4x12 table, many extras. Over \$1500 invested. \$1000 firm. Days: 248-34-2549

746 Hospital Equipment

ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR with electronic reclining back, \$6500. Amigo car, \$1800. Hydraulic lift, 300 lb. 1 bedside commode, \$125. Sturdy shower chair, \$500. 810-228-3639

SCOOTER with mechanical lift. Lark. Like new. \$1800 (313) 261-5430

WHEELCHAIR - 4 mos old, like new. Deluxe Invacare 900SL. Cost \$3500. Asking \$650. (313) 261-5430

747 Jewelry

3/4 CARET Marquise wedding ring & band, appraised at \$6500. Sell \$4200/best. 248-515-5052

DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT RING. 47 points. Appraised: \$1035. Sell For: \$525. (313) 453-0314

DIAMOND SOLITAIRE Ring - 74 ct. Marquis, 1 VS1. Fine make with or without setting. 248-347-0303

LADIES diamond cluster ring, 83 cut diamonds, 2.3 cts, appraised at \$4500-asking \$2000. 313-663-5751

MEN'S ROLEX - 18 karat President, sapphire crystal, quick set, mint with box. \$8000. (313) 584-8566

WEDDING RINGS - 1 man's gold w/diamonds; 2 women's - 1 round set, 1 marquise set. 313-421-1786

748 Lawn Garden & Snow Equipment

INGERSOLL 22 tractor, 44" mower, snow blower, chains, weights. \$2,300 (810) 228-7345

LAWN TRACTOR - John Deere model LX 178, trailer, mulcher, & bagger. \$3500. 248-699-1547

MEYERS SNOW Plow - Excellent condition, lots of extras. \$450. Must sell. 313-722-4933

749 Miscellaneous For Sale

SNOW BLOWER - excellent condition. \$1000. 248-706-1084

SNOWBLOWERS - Bolens 2 stage, 32" x 50" snowblower, \$850. Craftsman 2 stage, 36" x 50" snowblower, \$550, or best offer. 313-261-3452

SNOWBLOWERS, SALTERS, Plow Trucks and other Trucks, Snowblowers, Southold Company. (248) 354-3213

WRIGHT TOOL Company Clearance Sale. We will be having an end of the year sale on Dec. 13, 1997, 7:00am-5:00pm. All items will be marked to sell. Call: 248-643-5666 x 199 1738 Maplelawn, Troy.

750 Miscellaneous For Sale

A GREAT buy! Spree Entertainment Books below cost! Mint Christmas gift \$17. Call Pat (313) 261-8788

BEANIE BABIES. Over 2,000, new and retired. From \$12 to \$1,000. Can be seen at 4038 Grange Hall Rd. Holly, Dec. 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 21, 22, from 8:30am to 6:30pm. Grange Hall Rd. across from the State Bank. For directions call (248) 634-2604

CHRISTMAS Commercial Displays - lighted 17' pine tree \$700; lighted train set \$400; 3' high lighted Merry Christmas \$400; 2' high lighted Seasons Greetings \$200. (248) 689-5611

CLASSIC VIDEO & pinball machines for sale. Nicest games in town. * (248) 544-4755

DINNERWARE: JAPANESE Wheel pattern. Complete service for 10. \$1200. (248) 398-5789

FISH TANK - 90 gallon & wood cabin box. \$250. Black oval glass top table/4 chairs-needs some work, new \$1500, sell \$110. Dorn refrigerator \$45. Decorating misc 248-648-1968

GOLF MEMBERSHIP for sale. Plum Hollow Country Club. For information call: (248) 932-9345

MINK - like new mahogany, long size 8, new \$4500, sell \$225. FLUTE silver open hole, re-conditioned w/new case, \$550. 313-420-0402

NORDICTRAK SKIER - \$225. like new. (248) 624-3815

PACESAVER SCOOTER, holds 300 lbs. Includes hydraulic hoist & battery charger. \$1900. (248) 437-8417

POOL TABLE w/approximately 20 cue sticks, 2 stands, repair kit. \$500. Call Weekends (248) 357-1737

SEAGER - Bernette 43D. Like new. Asking \$150. (248) 879-9591

SHELVING - Huge quantity, many sizes/styles, desk, file cabinets, snow plow, traffic light, new bikes. Must sell! Cash & Carry! (313) 886-6003

SING AND SNORE Ensembles. Limited quantity. Best offer. (810) 227-0537

SING & SNORE for sale! (248) 852-8530

751 Musical Instruments

ABANDON YOUR SEARCH! Arriving daily! More quality used pianos. Hurry, while they last! \$799 & up. Michigan Piano: (248) 648-2200

ABBEY PIANO CO. 248-541-6116

Kawai 511 "Ebony", "Mint" \$7200

Yamaha 52" Ivory "Mint" \$7500

Knabe 59" Walnut, "Mint" \$7800

BABY GRAND PIANO - Good tone & touch, \$1990. Also dark wood Spinet, \$790. Many more! Michigan Piano Co. (248) 648-2200 Call any time!

BALDWIN CONSOLE Piano w/horn, excellent condition, \$1000 Clarkson. 248-625-7037

BALDWIN CONSOLE Piano - Dark finish w/bench. Well maintained. \$950. 248-391-3024

ELECTRIC GUITAR - 2 month old, Peavey Raptor. Amp, straps, cords, case, books. \$300. 248-391-8832

HAMMOND ORGAN - Full size good condition, \$300/best. (248) 648-1652

752 Sporting Goods

SCHIMMEL PIANOS German, hand built since 1885. Finest Quality. A step up from \$1000. Like new. 1-800-544-2186

VIOLINS - Viola, Bow for professionals or students. Fine instruments. \$150 to \$5000. 248-541-0699

YAMAHA CONSOLE piano, model P202, oak, original owner, mint condition. \$2500. (248) 948-6460

YAMAHA E70 full corset, 25 pedal, manual organ, mint condition. \$1550. (810) 254-7874

753 Sporting Goods

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824 Mini-Vans

AEROSTAR 1991 Eddie Bauer EXT - AWD, low package, 150,000 miles, no rust, \$4400/best. 248-223-0640

AEROSTAR 1994 XL - 104,000 hwy miles, loaded, New brakes/tires. Great shape \$5,750. 313-513-8112

AEROSTAR 1993 XLT, including warranty, excellent condition, well maintained, white, \$7,700. (313) 420-0004

AEROSTAR 1993 XLT Ext., loaded, new tires/brakes, excellent condition, like new, \$7350/best. (313) 427-5521

AEROSTAR 1989 XLT, good condition, well maintained, records, runs excellent, \$1800. (313) 522-1439

AEROSTAR 1991 - XLT, Mint Condition, many new parts. \$4500. Must Sell! (248) 426-7616

AEROSTAR 1995, XLT, regular cab, 42,000 miles, willow green with pin-striping. Excellent condition. \$9,600/best. (248) 349-3277

AEROSTAR 1992 XLT V6, Loaded, 72,000 miles extra clean. Runs perfect. \$4500/firm (248) 380-0610

ASTRO 1993 - CL, extended, air, power windows/locks, fm stereo, fully loaded, \$6750. (313) 528-9016

ASTRO, 1995, conversion package, all power, air, cassette, newer tires, good deal, \$13,500. 313-277-3415

ASTRO LT 1996, 8 passenger, Clean, well equipped, 18,000 miles, \$17,500. (313) 937-0868

CARAVAN, 1993, SE, air, am/fm cassette, highway miles, excellent condition, \$5500. (313) 274-6725

CARAVAN 1995, SE, Sport, 7 passenger, V6, power, clean, 1 owner, 46k, \$10,500 firm (313) 420-2885

CHEVY ASTRO 1994 EXT - loaded, cab, w/cap, 4 Liter. Looks & runs great. \$3800. (248) 628-7511

DODGE CARAVAN 1994 conversion - excellent condition, front/rear heat & air, tv, vcr. \$8000. (248) 363-2735

DODGE CARAVAN 1993 - V-6, air, all power, cruise. Excellent condition, \$6100. (248) 960-1329

DODGE 1991 Grand Caravan LE, all wheel drive, 2 tone gray, very nice shape, loaded, 78,000 miles, \$12,300. (248) 349-6795, after 5pm.

GMC 1992 Safari SLT extended, AWD, 8 passenger, rear dutch doors, loaded, \$8000. (313) 464-3835

GRAND CARAVAN 1992 LE: All options, excellent condition, 63,000 miles. (248) 651-5279

GRAND CARAVAN 1996 - LE, 3.8L V6, drivers' side slider, cassette, CD, \$15,750. (248) 669-2192

GRAND CARAVAN 1993, SE, Loaded, Child seats, 97,000 miles, \$6,295. Witom: (248) 669-2192

GRAND CARAVAN 1995 SE-loaded, quad buckets, rear heat & air, 39,000 miles, \$13,750/best. 313-326-8994

GRAND CARAVAN 1994 SE Sport: Loaded, 64,000 miles. Excellent! \$9,750/best. 313-451-0563

GRAND VOYAGER, 1993, excellent condition w/warranties, 1 owner, 98,000 miles, \$6,150. 313-459-9167

GRAND VOYAGER 1989 - LE, Loaded, 110,000 miles, new transmission, red wood, Excellent! \$4000/best. (248) 474-2998

GRAND VOYAGER 1995 LE, loaded, excellent, \$12,600/best offer. Must sell. (248) 652-0359

RAM 1989 - Wagon Van, 8 passenger, V8, air, cruise, automatic, power steering/brakes, runs well! \$3100. Rochester, (248) 652-1697

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840 Chevrolet
MONTE CARLO 1995, LS, 51,500 miles, leather, CD, 50,000 miles, super clean. (248) 525-0774

842 Chrysler
CHRYSLER 1995 V-6, power windows, leather, only \$11,995. (313) 525-7604

844 Dodge
AVENGER 1995 ES, Automatic, leather, CD, power roof, 44,000 miles, \$11,995. (313) 451-3461

846 Eagle
TALON 1992, red, 65,500 miles, air, power, moon roof, cassette, new tires & rims. \$6900/best. 248-693-9949

848 Ford
CONTOUR 1995, SE, leather, loaded, moonroof, 5 speed, excellent condition. \$6250. 313-454-0585

848 Ford
CROWN VICTORIA 1995 LX 7 ABS, loaded, 31,400 miles, excellent condition. \$14,000. *****SOLD*****

848 Ford
TAURUS 1995, V-6, light blue, 50,000 miles, 1 owner, excellent condition. \$6900/best. (313) 455-5566

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TAURUS 1995, V-6, light blue, 50,000 miles, 1 owner, excellent condition. \$6900/best. (313) 455-5566

852 Honda
ACCORD 1992 LX, Excellent condition, deal maintained, must sell. \$6200 or best offer. 248-541-6316

852 Honda
ACCORD 1995 LX, Loaded, auto, air, low miles. Must Sell \$12,985. (248) 626-8132

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852 Honda
ACCORD 1995 LX, Loaded, auto, air, low miles. Must Sell \$12,985. (248) 626-8132

852 Honda
ACCORD 1995 LX, Loaded, auto, air, low miles. Must Sell \$12,985. (248) 626-8132

856 Lincoln
LINCOLN 1995, LS, 51,500 miles, leather, CD, 50,000 miles, super clean. (248) 525-0774

856 Lincoln
LINCOLN 1995, LS, 51,500 miles, leather, CD, 50,000 miles, super clean. (248) 525-0774

856 Lincoln
LINCOLN 1995, LS, 51,500 miles, leather, CD, 50,000 miles, super clean. (248) 525-0774

856 Lincoln
LINCOLN 1995, LS, 51,500 miles, leather, CD, 50,000 miles, super clean. (248) 525-0774

856 Lincoln
LINCOLN 1995, LS, 51,500 miles, leather, CD, 50,000 miles, super clean. (248) 525-0774

860 Mercury
COUGAR 1994, XR7, leather, V-6, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition, original owner. \$8800. After 5pm. (810) 231-0025

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COUGAR 1994, XR7, leather, V-6, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition, original owner. \$8800. After 5pm. (810) 231-0025

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COUGAR 1994, XR7, leather, V-6, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition, original owner. \$8800. After 5pm. (810) 231-0025

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NOVALE 1994, 12,000 miles, white, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition. \$14,000. (810) 777-6670

864 Oldsmobile
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864 Oldsmobile
NOVALE 1994, 12,000 miles, white, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition. \$14,000. (810) 777-6670

864 Oldsmobile
NOVALE 1994, 12,000 miles, white, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition. \$14,000. (810) 777-6670

868 Pontiac
TRANS AM 1994, 12,000 miles, white, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition. \$14,000. (810) 777-6670

868 Pontiac
TRANS AM 1994, 12,000 miles, white, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition. \$14,000. (810) 777-6670

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868 Pontiac
TRANS AM 1994, 12,000 miles, white, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition. \$14,000. (810) 777-6670

878 Acura Under \$4,000
ACURA 1994, 12,000 miles, white, power windows/locks, automatic, sunroof, cassette, air, excellent condition. \$14,000. (810) 777-6670

878 Acura Under \$4,000
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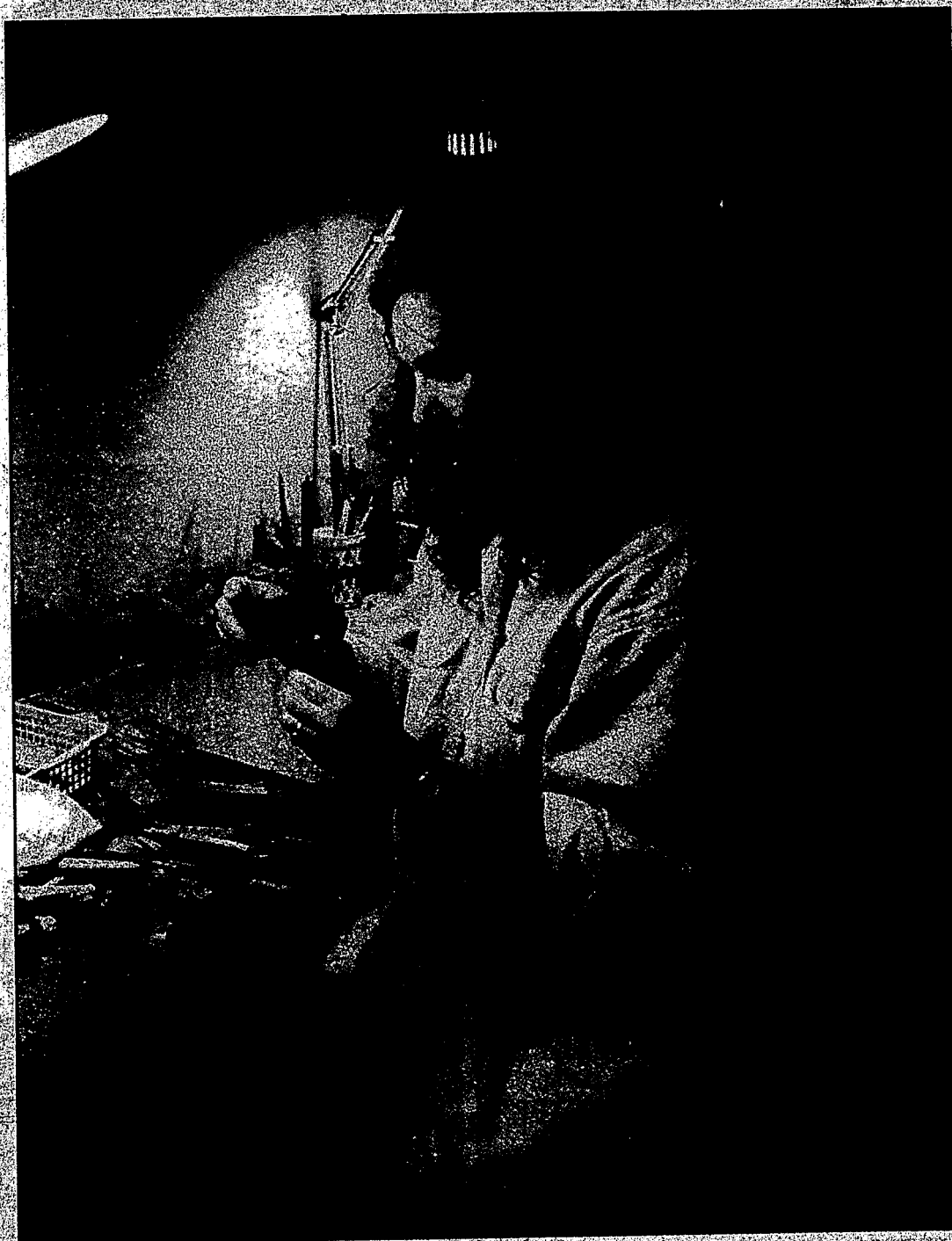
398 & Up

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1997 • THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC® NEWSPAPERS

AT HOME

COVER STORY: Wax creative with candles, Page 6



Inside: **Garden Spot**, Page 4 • **Appliance Doctor**, Page 9 • **Focus on Photography**, Page 10



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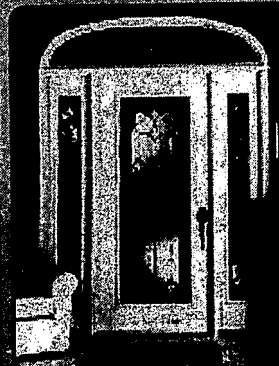
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Ranger: This 3-month-old Shepherd mix is alert, friendly and ready to begin obedience school. He was found as a stray, so he needs a safe home. Ranger (No. RO80178) and other pets are available at the Michigan Humane Society, Rochester Hills Shelter, 3600 Auburn Road, (248)852-7420, noon to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.

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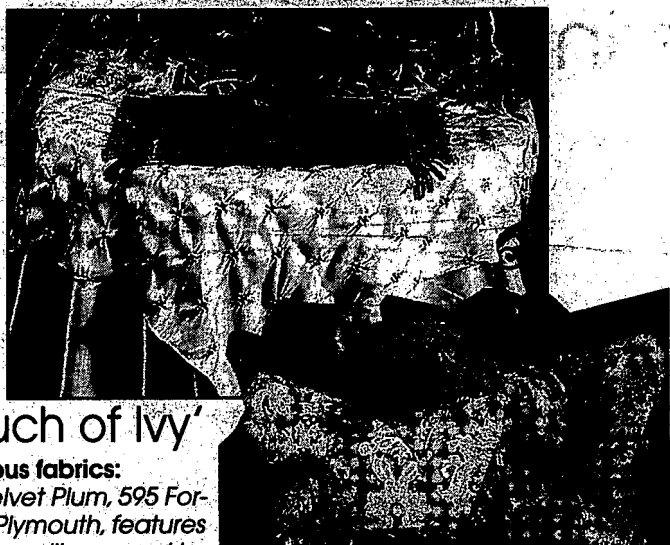
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marketplace



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Soft touch

Pillow talk: Handpainted and embroidered pillows by Eastern Accents feature colorful Christmas motifs. Each pillow measures 13 by 13 inches. "Santa Special Delivery" and "Santa North Pole" are \$89 each; "Christmas Tree with Hearts and Stars" is \$64. Available at Scott Shuptrine Fine Furniture Showrooms in Troy and Novi.

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

Touched by an angel

Garden guardian: This guardian angel of the garden, first in a series of limited edition ornaments designed exclusively for English Gardens, is a true representation of this season of giving. A portion of proceeds from every angel sold goes to support breast cancer research. A short story explaining the background of "Daisy, Angel of Bountiful Flowers" accompanies the ornament. It retails for \$39.98 at each of English Gardens' four locations, including the West Bloomfield store at 6370 Orchard Lake Road. Call (248) 851-7506.



Tree-mendous

Holiday hangups: Heslop's in Livonia, Rochester, Troy and West Bloomfield offers a variety of ornaments to make the holiday special. Celebrate Christmas with the magic of Winnie the Pooh and his friends. From the Classic Winnie the Pooh Collection, these silver-plated ornaments feature scenes from the beloved Hundred Acre Woods and have arrived just in time for Baby's first Christmas. From Lunt Silversmiths, each item is of the finest craftsmanship. Costs are \$48 for Pooh, \$40 for Christopher Robin and Friends and \$25 for The Honeytree. Christmas is a family holiday and pets are part of the family, too. To help the whole family celebrate, Lenox introduces fine china commemorative ornaments from the Cherished Ones Collection. These ornaments also celebrate people as well as pets and are available in different styles. Costs are \$28 for "For My Sweetheart," \$26.50 for "For My Kitty" and \$28 for "For My Best Friend."



garden spot

Read on for interesting garden gifts



MARTY FIGLEY

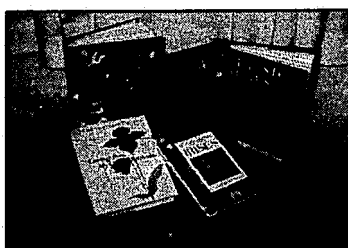
The Genus Ilex," Fred Galle (Timber Press, \$59.95).

Holly has been an important plant since the Druids, and was used by many people through the years as well as by American Indians in medicine, magic, superstition and science. Legends abound about the plants, still used as traditional holiday decoration.

Hollies are very versatile plants that grow in many forms, from tall trees of 60 feet to those that are only 12 inches high and grow along the ground.

In keeping with gift ideas given in this edition of the newspaper, the following books would make excellent additions to a list. You know, books are even easy to wrap!

It's also fitting, at this time of year, to read about "Hollies:



MARTY FIGLEY

Wrap it up: You can't go wrong with a gift book.

Divided into four parts, the book encompasses landscaping and orchards, botany and morphological characteristics, a large encyclopedia of cultivars and species, and techniques on hybridizing and propagation. Galle has written an excellent book that describes more than 800 species.

Subject is roses

"Classic Roses," Peter Beales (Henry Holt, \$55 until Jan. 1, 1998, \$65 thereafter), is a revised and enlarged edition from the one published in 1985. It contains more than 600 new, lush, full-color photographs.

Three rose experts from the United States give insights into rose rustling, mosaic virus and pests and diseases found here. The book "identifies and describes all the species, cultivars and varieties that have stood the test of time."

To help with selection for any landscape situation, Beales has updated height and color charts. The choice then would be to decide whether to choose those with interesting fruit and foliage, or those with marvelous blossoms. The book also includes horticultural information, sources, societies and gardens, country by country.

I've had fun browsing through "Garden Junk," Mary Randolph Carter (Pen-

guin Studio, \$29.95), and getting new ideas. Carter takes us on a shopping spree like no other. Although her "finds" are mostly from New York and other Eastern states, we could find like items here.

In one part of the book she shares how she has furnished her "garden hutte" with outcasts and other junk, making it a welcome and interesting retreat. Her examples for displaying and embellishing things from old chairs to tools to garden hats are clever and innovative. Ideas abound.

"The Gardener's Guide to Growing Irises," Geoff Stebbings (Timber Press, \$29.95), is beautifully illustrated with drawings and photographs that aid in correct identification. Irises are very varied in their appearance and growth habits and the genus is large and complex, but this book manages to sort it all out.

Please see Figley, page D8



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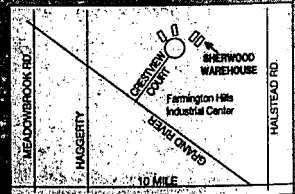
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and drapery as well as previous purchases). Now's the time to buy on time!
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Percentage off suggested retail. Bedroom furniture available but not on display at Gorman's Southfield. Excludes lamps, pictures, accessories, window designs, some Studio of Design lines, "Best Buy" items and prior sales.

Wax creative: Light into style w

BY MARY KLEMIC
At Home Editor

Candles are a special way to wax creative when it comes to decor.

Just ask the Newcomb family of Clarkston, whose Creative Carving business has been producing beeswax candles in a variety of floral shapes and shades for 13 years.

Working out of their home, Roger and Sherry Newcomb and sons Nicholas, 16, and Jon, 13, design and form the candles. Their artistic waxworks have been featured at craft shows around the area.

"Candles are very popular right now," said Roger, who works at a post office during the day.

Creative Carving's flower candles feature petals and leaves curling gracefully outward, and soft colors. You almost expect to detect a fragrance and drops of dew. They fit in any tapered candle holder.

The shapes include daffodils, daisies, lilies, irises, poppies, orchids

and hibiscus. Roses and gladioli are the biggest sellers — along with poinsettias at this time of the year.

"Christmas and candles go together," Sherry said.

Roger and Sherry make the candles from beeswax they buy in sheets. Sherry handpaints the delicate coloring.

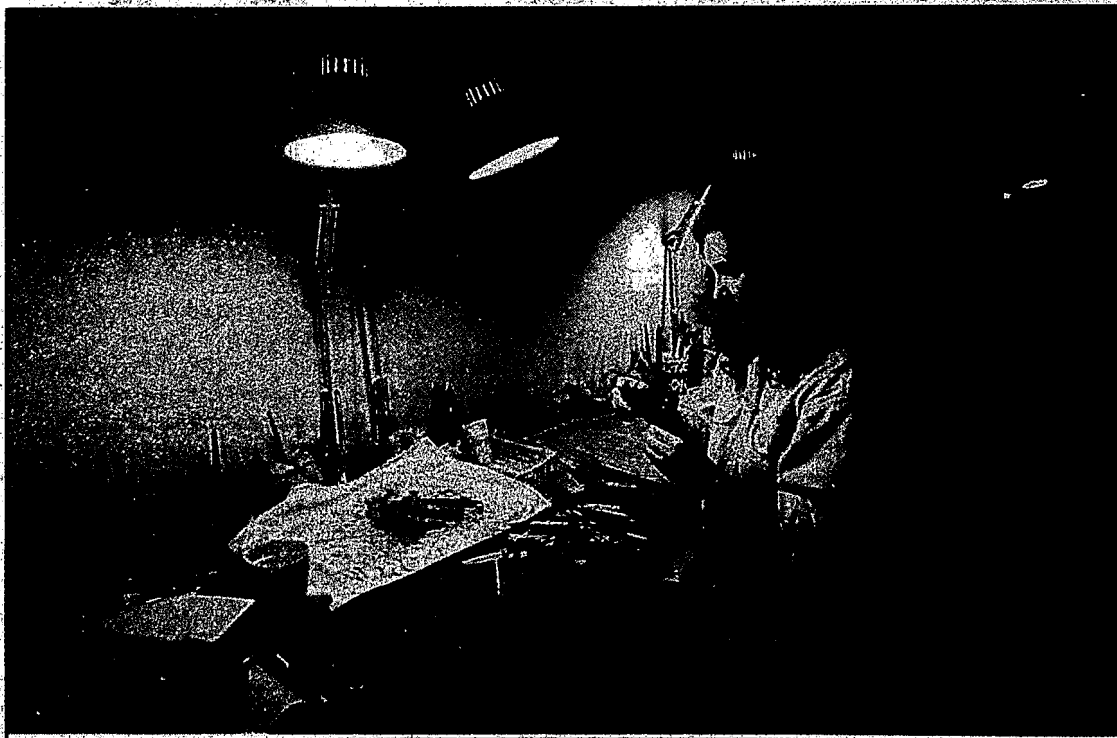
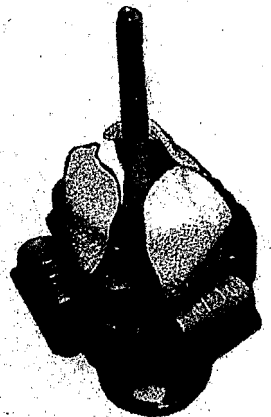
The candles don't require special care.

"Don't put them in direct sunlight or near a hot vent or fireplace," Sherry said.

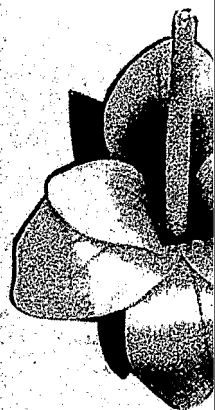
The Newcombs are planning a show of their work 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at their home. Call Creative Carving at (248) 628-1288 for information.

Other candles sold around the area aren't just the slender tapers.

"There has been a big resurgence in candles the last year," said Scott Bartshe, director of Gorman's Studio of Interior Design, Telegraph at 12 Mile in Southfield.



Touch of color. Shown above and on the cover, Sherry Newcomb handpaints the beeswax shapes in the various delicate colors popular with candle fanciers.



Creative bouquet
Newcombs' Creative Carving business has been producing beeswax candles in a variety of floral shapes and shades like those above for



over story

with candles

you see a lot of candles in sizes - three-inch, four-inch, six-inch diameter. They're going much chunkier."

Candles are always nice centerpieces, Bartshe said. He suggested an arrangement of chunky candles in different heights. And candles are used in new places as well as not around the holidays.

"They're nice for screened-in porches, or outside, around a pool."

Bartshe recommended

neutral colors for candles, such as blue, green, white and off-white.

"Candles are used for ambience.

"Even at the holidays, keep 'em neutral."

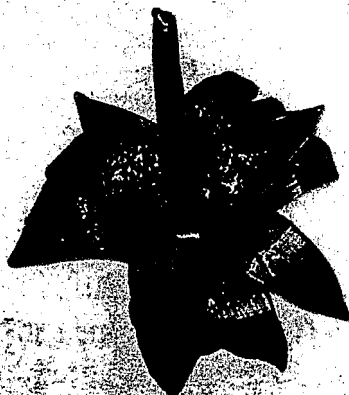
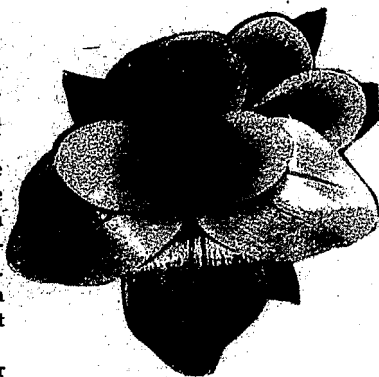
The Davisburg Candle Factory, 634 Davisburg Road in Davisburg, does a brisk business making stylish candles in almost any shape imaginable. Owner Mary Tebo offered many reasons for the popularity of candles.

"They add elegance, they're pretty, people collect them... they add the finishing touches," she said.

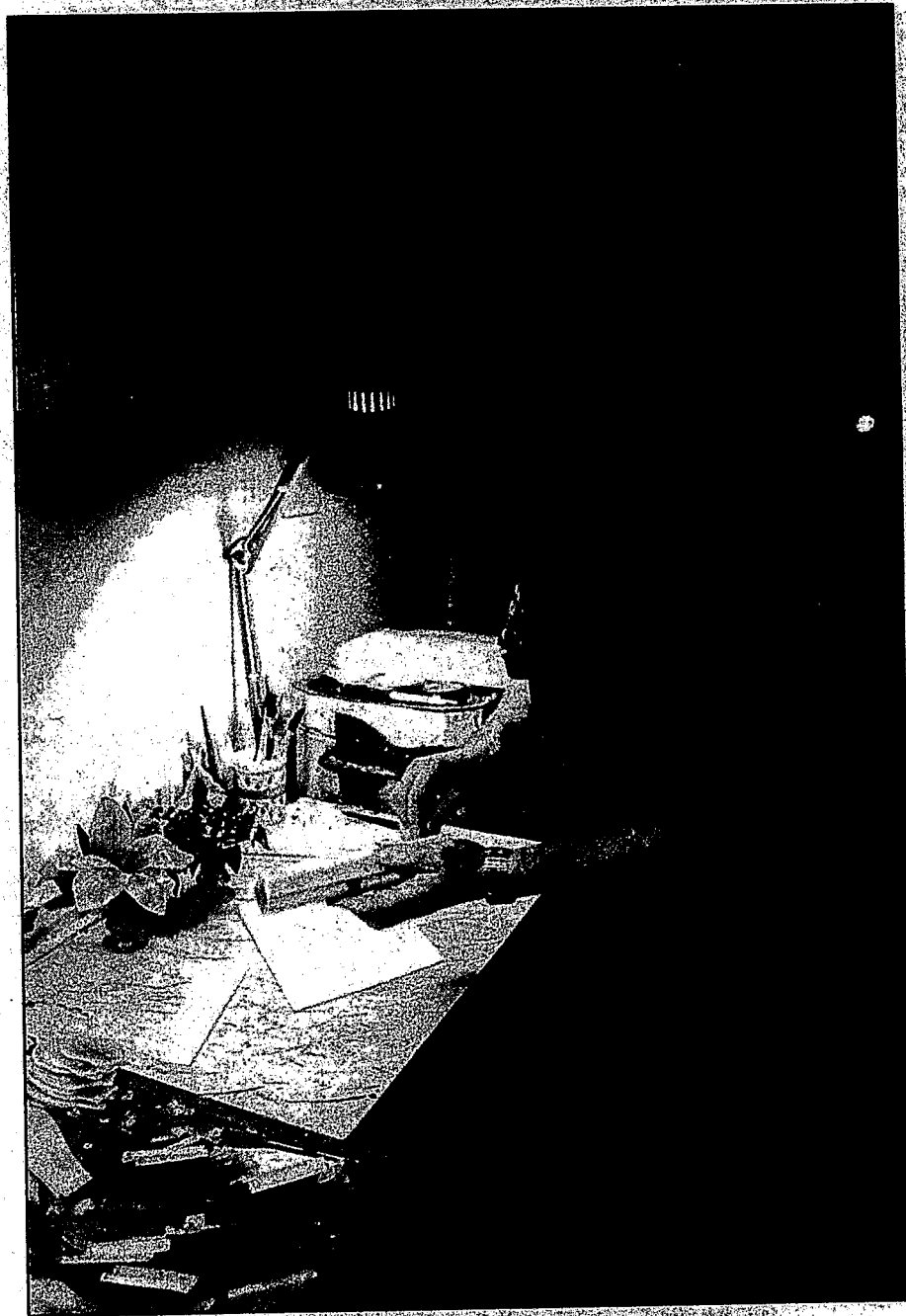
"Everything goes. We're seeing a lot in the darker colors - burgundy, hunter green."

Candlesticks are popular items at the Knightsbridge Antique Mall, 22315 Grand River in Farmington.

"We sell a lot of three-armed candleholders, silver plated," said Bruce McKenzie, Knightsbridge owner.



et: The
ative Carving
en producing
es in a variety of
d shades such as
13 years.



Waxing artistic: Roger Newcomb prepares to make another artistic candle at the family's Clarkston home. The shapes include daffodils, daisies, lilies, irises, poppies, orchids and hibiscus. Roses and gladioli are the biggest sellers - along with poinsettias at this time of the year.

Staff photos by Stephen Cantrell.

Find gifts for pets through Animal Crafters

Looking for a gift for your rottweiler or cocker spaniel? How about a doggie bandanna or a homemade dog biscuit? Brighten up your cat's nine lives with a catnip toy.

Maybe you have some pet lovers on your shopping list.

Animal Crafters, a non-profit organization in Bloomfield Hills, has an attractive assortment of pet-related gifts. The group helps thousands of metro area animals, as proceeds from its sales go for spay/neuter operations for the pets

of low-income families and the elderly.

Animal Crafters gifts are available at the Animal Odyssey in Plymouth and the Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio on the corner of Long Lake Road and Rochester Road.

They will also be available at a special Christmas bazaar 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, at the home of the group's founder and president, Jean Marx, 430 Malibu in Bloomfield Hills.

For more information, call (248) 851-1433.

Figley from page D4

Stebbins has each plant grouped in its correct classification and suggests which plant will work best in particular garden situations: water, shade, rock, or border gardens. Advice on cultivation, propagation, pest and disease control assures proper handling of these "flowers of the rainbow."

Garden 'cuttings'

"Cuttings From My Garden Notebooks," Graham Stuart Thomas (Sage Press, \$39.95), is a book of essays cultivated from Thomas' earlier writings. This venerable plantsman and writer evokes the spirit of gardening while at the same time slipping in practical advice.

Many subjects are covered, i.e. "The word 'greenhouse' grew up because the early glass shelters which supplanted the opaque-roofed orangeries were used to house the many newly discovered 'greens' as they were called."

Here are some others randomly selected: Use neighboring landscapes for back-grounds, use the proper tools for each job, use mostly pastels in small gardens, don't mix yellow-hued and red-hued colors, there is a wide selection of plants for

knot or parterres.

The appendix lists each plant and includes USDA hardiness zones, flower and/or seasonal color, plant type and more. Thomas poetically describes a garden scene and a particular plant with extreme clarity.

The 1998 edition of "The Garden Tourist: A Guide to Garden Tours, Garden Days, Shows and Special Events," Lois Rosenfeld (\$16.95 plus \$3 shipping and handling) is available from the publisher now. Call (212) 874-6211.

The book contains a huge amount of information with everything organized for easy use. It is arranged by state, alphabetically by city/town, and by calendar date. Take this excellent book along when you travel so that you won't miss a garden thing!

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1859. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

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appliance doctor

Appliances today aren't the same



JOE GAGNON

In my travels around town and meeting people every day I'm finding a new question popping up from consumers. It comes from homeowners who have recently purchased a new appliance and discover what they feel is a problem. It's just

not doing the job the way the old one did and they've called for service only to be told there is nothing wrong with the product. This question is coming to me more and more all the time, and folks, I don't have the answer, or maybe I do.

Let's refer to Sussie Fezzey who had a new kitchen installed last summer. During Thanksgiving dinner she complained that her new convection type range didn't cook the food products completely through. One side of the turkey was not cooked and she was dis-

appointed with the performance in general. After having the factory service technician check it out twice, the oven is operating just the way it was designed. Sussie now has resigned herself to read the operating instruction book and follow it to the letter. She also understands that this new range does not cook like her old one did. Next Thanksgiving, I know Sussie will have had a successful experience with holiday cooking. She will have had a whole year to become accustomed to her range.

Lisa Baron asked me two weeks ago why her new dishwasher was not drying the dishes as well as her old one. She wasn't doing anything different and yet the dishes weren't drying at the end of the cycle. I offered to check it out but she informed me that it was still under warranty and the technician was coming out to check it over. When I saw her this past Sunday she told me the technician told her to start using Jet Dry in the dispenser. Again, it's a matter of the consumer becoming accustomed to a new product. The list goes on and on and it's

endless as new designs by the appliance industry dictate to us.

The following is a small sample of comments made to me personally by people with a question. The pop and beer are never as cold in my refrigerator,

like they used to be. I get so much more lint in my washer that I can take out and

Please see Gagnon, page D11

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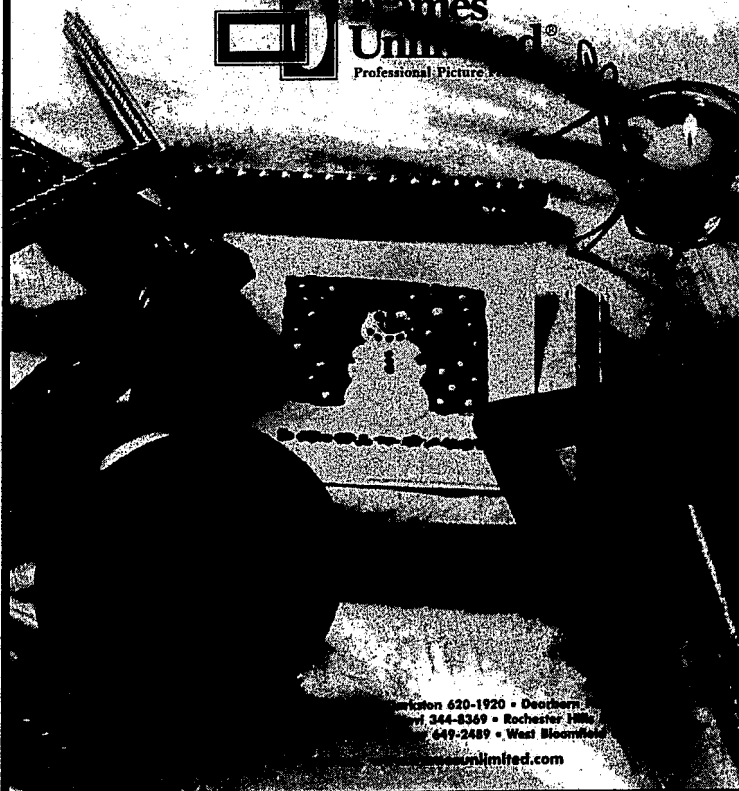
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Holidays offer photo possibilities



MONTE NAGLER

I like to write annually on probably the best time of the year for recording treasured family memories with your camera — the holidays. So here goes with this year's advice and recommendations.

Christmas and children go hand in hand so let's begin with them. Remember to move in close to fill the frame and get down on their level. Concentrate on candids as the kids unwrap their presents under the tree and begin to play with their new toys. Your photos will appear natural because in all the excitement the children won't even know you're there.

But don't forget other family mem-

bers. For group shots, have everyone sit or stand around informally rather than stiffly posed. Even try some candids as you did with the youngsters. Try including yourself in the picture by using the self-timer and placing the camera on a tripod or steady table.

As always, check your backgrounds for unwanted or distracting objects. And watch out for undesirable reflections from windows, mirrors or picture glass that may ruin a treasured shot. Most often, a slight adjustment in camera angle eliminates this problem.

Keep alert for other Christmas subjects that will add variety and interest to your holiday pictures. A colorfully filled stocking, a beautifully wrapped present, or a sparkling tree ornament will all reward you with a fine yuletide shot.

Please see Nagler, page D10



Winter wonderland: The holidays offer the perfect time to head outdoors to capture dramatic winter scenes on film. This snow-covered house with a holiday "flavor" was shot by Monte Nagler in Minneapolis.

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Voted Best Of Detroit 1996

Nagler from page D10

Take advantage of today's fast films. Using 1000 or 1600 speed films, try lighting some scenes only with candlelight. Your dinner table or a family member lit only by candles will produce that unforgettable romantic shot. An exposure of f-2 at 1/30 second is all that's needed.

Need a last-minute stocking stuffer? How about one of the Fuji or Kodak disposable panorama cameras? They're inexpensive and produce surprisingly good results. A supply of film, a new camera bag or a beautiful photo-filled 1998 calendar will please any photographer.

Here's another unusual gift idea. "Borrow" Dad's old home movies - you know, the ones collecting dust on the top shelf - and have them video transferred. And at holiday time, we're usually ankle deep in nature's blanket of winter snow. So bundle up both you and your camera to capture some exciting winter scenes on film.

Happy holidays to all my readers and friends.

Monte Nagler is a fine art photographer based in Farmington Hills. You can leave him a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone; then his mailbox number, 1873. His fax number is (248) 644-1314.

Zoo shares holiday lighting tips

As the Detroit Zoo prepares for its annual holiday light display, it offers homeowners a list of 10 easy, do-it-yourself lighting tips that will transform any home into a festive holiday home.

■ Any color goes. Mix and match light colors to enhance your trees and bushes. Avoid using just one color, which can result in a bland look.

■ String white lights around the outside of a bush or tree and blue lights in the center to achieve a "diamond effect."

■ Don't be skimpy with strands of lights. Make sure that each bush and tree are fully covered. It is better to

string a lot of lights on one tree than a few lights on many trees. Make sure there are no holes with wires showing.

■ When stringing large evergreen trees, don't string lights too tightly because they will form straight lines. The key is to string lights randomly so spectators cannot see the placement of each strand.

■ Consider using green lights when decorating your evergreen to achieve a soft look.

■ Don't be afraid to use a lot of color - just use a consistent theme to achieve balance between each tree or bush.

Gagnon from page D9

clean. My new garbage disposer sure doesn't chew up things like my old one. My dishwasher is so loud I can't hear the phone ring. My new toilet has to be flushed three times to get rid of everything. Visitors think I'm taking a shower upstairs whenever I have to go to the bathroom. The outside of the stove gets too hot when I'm cooking and I had to buy a whole new set of pots and pans to accommodate my new burners. The refrigerator is too noisy and runs too much. After they installed a new furnace, the heat coming out of the registers is no longer hot. Folks, I could go on and on

but let me wrap it up. We as consumers must accept what they produce and what we pay for. We have no choice but to get used to the way the products do the job. The life expectancy is less than in the past and nobody seems to care. I guess that we can only do one thing - get accustomed.

Joe Gagnon, the Appliance Doctor, will answer your questions about maintaining and repairing large appliances. Gagnon is president of Carmack Appliances in Garden City and does a weekly radio program on WJR-AM. He is author of "First Aid from the Appliance Doctor," available at area bookstores.

INTERIOR IDEAS

with Larry Parnes, A.S.I.D.

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A valance adds the finishing touch to the top of such window treatments as draperies and miniblinds. Its overall size is comprised of three elements: the width, the return, and the length. In the absence of trim, a valance should extend about 1 inch beyond each side of the window. If other treatments are hung behind the valance, it should be 1-2 inches wider than the undertreatment. The return (the part that wraps around the end to meet the wall) should be 3 - 3 1/2 inches without an undertreatment, 5 - 5 1/2 inches if the valance will hang over draperies or outside-mounted blinds. The length should be about one-sixth the measurement from the floor to the top of the valance.

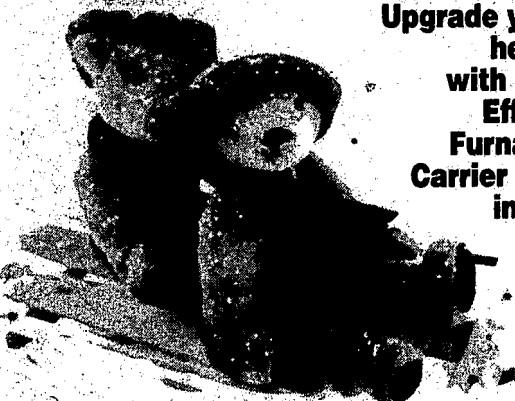
This week's column provides some helpful tips on how to add a valance to the top of draperies and miniblinds. Improve the look and feel of your home this holiday season by visiting us at 977 E. 14 Mile Rd., Troy, (248) 616-3585 or 43606 W. Oaks Drive, Novi (248) 349-0044. We can aid you in selecting and color coordinating window treatments with other elements of the room. Founded in 1927, we are proud to be one of Michigan's most prestigious fine furniture chains offering a wide selection of beautiful and affordable furniture. Business hours are M, T, Th, & F 10-9, W & Sat. 10-6, and by appointment. This weekend only, take advantage of a no-interest, no payments for 1 year offer.

NOTE: If a valance will hang over a double treatment (such as sheers on a rod and draperies on a second rod), the return should be about 7 - 7 1/2 inches.



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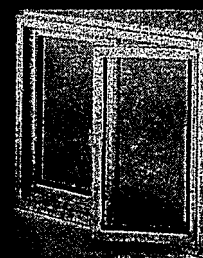
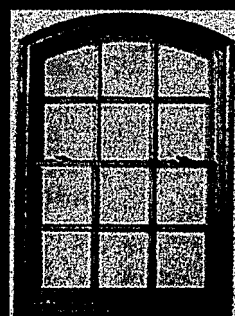
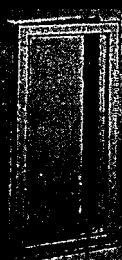
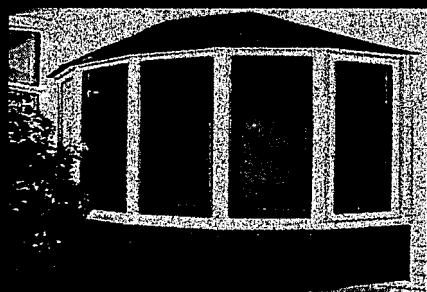
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INSIDE

Real Estate Briefs, Page A1
Homes Sold, Page A1

NO Page 1, Section 2

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Holidays may be best time to buy or sell a home

BY DOUG FUNKE
STAFF WRITER

The period between Thanksgiving and New Year isn't the best of times for real estate sales, Realtors report. On the other hand, it isn't the absolute dregs, either.

"It's definitely slower than the summer, but not completely dead to where there's no activity at all," said Craig Lescoe, a Realtor with Remerica Family in Westland.

"They kind of quiet down a little bit," said Melinda Allen, a Realtor with Hall & Hunter in Bloomfield Hills.

"At this time of year, you get real serious buyers, real serious sellers. People who want more space, divorces, primarily transferees, persons whose situation dictates they have to move now," Allen said.

"I encourage sellers, if they're serious, to put their house on the market now," she said. "They all look good decorated."

"Most families aren't interested in moving kids at Christmas," said Robert Conklin, a Realtor with Chamberlain Troy. "You do see a slight increase in transferees whose company wants them to start the new year in a new location."

According to Realcomp II, a multi listing service, 4,240 houses and condominiums were available for sale as of Dec. 31 last year in Oakland County, and 1,422 sales were recorded that month.

That compares to 5,397 homes available for sale at the end of July with 1,842 sales during the month.

Corresponding figures for Wayne County were 2,402 homes available for sale as of the end of December with 1,164 sales during the month, 2,827 homes available for sale on July 31 with 1,226 sales that month.

In spite of less inventory and fewer sales, the holiday season can present good opportunities for both sellers and buyers.



"A lot of times a less-than-outstanding house will show very well at Christmas," Conklin said. "Part of it is people have made a conscious effort to get rid of clutter. They've made a conscious effort to make space for the Christmas tree."

Emotionalism of the season — a house, home, coziness, family — can affect prospective buyers. But there's more to it than that, Conklin said.

"It favors buyers because there's fewer buyers to compete for available inventory. In spring, you have the greatest competition," he said.

Dale Moser, a Realtor with Mayfair

in Livonia, doesn't hibernate during the holidays.

"Sales, yeah, you're not showing as many, possibly. It's just that you're finalizing deals that started in October or November, holding their hands, so to speak. You've got papers to put together."

Moser also contacts previous clients with promotional materials such as calendars at this time of year in an effort to get referrals.

And, yes, holiday decorations always spruce up a house, even though sellers might not be in the mood to do so, Moser added. "I can't always talk peo-

ple into it. It does help. It adds to atmosphere."

Lescoe recalled selling a listing he had the day after Christmas a couple years ago.

Parents from out of town who had said they would help one of their children finance a purchase happened to be in the old neighborhood where the house was located.

It probably wouldn't have happened for that particular buyer if mom and dad hadn't returned home for the holidays, Lescoe said. The sellers, retirees, could list during the holidays because they had no encumbrances

■ 'A lot of times a less-than-outstanding house will show very well at Christmas. Part of it is people have made a conscious effort to get rid of clutter. They've made a conscious effort to make space for the Christmas tree.'

Robert Conklin

Realtor with Chamberlain Troy

with jobs or school.

"Sellers in the market now don't get as much traffic, but people looking are much more serious, much more motivated," Lescoe said.

Allen also will touch base with previous clients during the holidays. She also drums up interest in her listings by hosting open houses, perhaps including lunch, not directly for prospective buyers, but other Realtors who may be working as buyer representatives.

November and December have been good sales months for Allen.

"Maybe people (buyers) I'm working with feel the holidays are approaching, they've looked at a lot of houses, say, 'Let's do it. Let's pick one and go with the flow,'" she said.

Family obligations during the holiday season slow down some Realtors, just like the rest of us.

"You're working a little less because you're doing other things, also — shopping, personal needs," said Marilyn Mayberry, a Realtor with Century 21 Elegant Homes in Southfield.

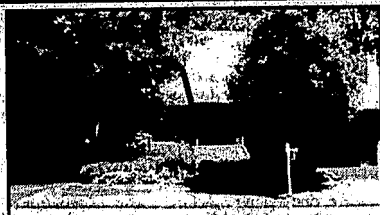
And that's not all bad.

"Yesterday, I was done with work at about four o'clock," Lescoe said. "In summer, I usually work until seven or eight."



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OFFICES CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN WEST BLOOMFIELD, ANN ARBOR, LIVONIA, UNION LAKE, BRIGHTON and SOUTH LYON

74991

HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded November 17 - 21 at the Oakland County Register of Deeds Office and compiled by Alysia Helling. That Works, a Bloomfield Township company, tracks deed and mortgage recordings in southeastern Michigan. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Auburn Hills

2838 Genes Dr. \$111,000
637 Highway Dr. \$265,000
868 Vincetown Rd. \$113,000
6369 Almond Ln. \$190,000
6151 Ascension St. \$120,000
7766 Coddington Ct. \$143,000
6318 Crest Forest Ct W. \$123,000
6644 Deer Ridge Dr. \$295,000
6162 Flemings Lake Rd. \$154,000
2660 Mann Rd. \$80,000
5715 Mary Sue \$123,000
5955 Maybee Rd. \$125,000
16809 Holcomb St. \$180,000
5088 Onelda Dr. \$135,000
71205 Bluewater Dr. \$139,000
6548 Snow Apple Dr. \$143,000
6842 Strawberry Ln. \$400,000

9627 Susin Ln. \$168,000
5178 Timber Ridge Trl. \$148,000
5050 Whipple Lake Rd. \$127,000
451 Alexander Dr. \$206,000
8459 Artis St. \$195,000
2160 Blue Stone Ln. \$218,000
5230 Bridge Trl W. \$252,000
1060 Drakeville Dr. \$203,000
3000 Glangary Rd. \$300,000
4218 Rebecca Cir. \$138,000
5360 Riverwalk Trl. \$60,000
900 Seager St. \$337,000
1311 Sleeth Rd. \$135,000

Clarkston

10585 Enterprise Dr. \$63,000
11894 Jersey Ct. \$63,000
23918 Cass St. \$107,000
31831 Grand River # 6. \$34,000
30290 Grand River # 9. \$75,000
33149 Kirby St. \$132,000
20929 Lakespur St. \$147,000
31565 Lee Ln. \$120,000
30274 Astor St. \$107,000
32285 Bantree Rd. \$179,000
37901 Bradley Dr. \$293,000
25368 Carrollton Dr. \$262,000
31232 Country Way. \$100,000
29240 Fieldstone. \$259,000

28478 Green Willow St. \$169,000
28104 Greening St. \$175,000
27155 Hampstead Blvd. \$420,000
26834 Holly Hill Dr. \$69,000
31451 Hull Ave. \$135,000
35540 Lancashire Dr. \$383,000
28850 Leamington Dr. \$177,000
30311 Meadow Ridge S. \$219,000
21121 Parker St. \$112,000
21560 River Ridge Ct. \$186,000
24967 Toddy Ln. \$217,000
23244 Tuck Rd. \$120,000
29850 W 12 Mile # 506. \$51,000
30042 W 12 Mile # 51. \$71,000
30186 Walnut Ct. \$245,000
25573 Wessex St. \$200,000

Farmington

27649 Westcott Cres. \$157,000
25457 Witherspoon St. \$238,000
30126 Woodbrook Ct. \$224,000
30700 Kirk Ln. \$220,000
1664 Beechmont St. \$90,000
2235 Maddy Ln. \$87,000
3024 Summers Rd. \$79,000
26 Eagle Ridge Rd. \$193,000
82 Eagle Ridge Rd. \$41,000
718 Fernside Ave. \$108,000
1177 Forest Lake Dr. \$74,000
2715 Fox Hollow Ct. \$75,000
2775 Fox Hollow Ct. \$60,000
348 Gan Eden Dr. \$232,000

2675 Gemini Dr. \$181,000
736 Heights Rd. \$85,000
1645 Hillside St. \$90,000
1015 Indian Pipe Rd. \$292,000
58 Indian Trl. \$275,000
3830 Kossuth Rd. \$225,000
329 Newton Dr. \$37,000
2672 Orbit Dr. \$194,000
1126 Ridge View Cir. \$215,000
27470 Evergreen Rd. \$100,000
18550 Glenwood Blvd. \$194,000
26791 Meadowbrook. \$265,000
27250 Rainbow Dr. \$322,000
17553 Roseland Blvd. \$166,000

Lathrup Village

22500 Amberlund Ct. \$150,000
22190 Antler Dr. \$80,000
23677 Broadmoor Park. \$422,000
42956 Clay Ct. \$254,000
25745 Cody Ln. \$335,000
31177 Columbia Dr. \$143,000
39510 Country Ln. \$140,000
41541 Fawn Trl. \$318,000
44147 Grand River Ave. \$128,000
23710 Hickory Grove Ln. \$259,000
41760 Independence Dr. \$165,000
45725 Jasslyn Ln. \$329,000
44836 Lightway Dr. \$29,000
41951 Park Rdg. \$146,000
22180 Pondview. \$117,000
41447 Reindeer Dr. \$260,000
21609 Shadybrook Dr. \$184,000

23475 Stonehenge Blvd. \$97,000
22420 Sunrise Blvd. \$261,000
30996 Tanglewood Dr. \$208,000
24118 Trafalgar Ct. \$383,000
23285 W Le Best. \$148,000
24036 Westmont Dr. \$338,000
24143 Westmont Dr. \$337,000
25390 Wikom Rd. \$202,000
3190 Orion Rd. \$190,000
4097 Bandury Dr. \$53,000
3317 Pin Oak Dr. \$209,000
1060 Hillcrest Dr. \$71,000
5750 Sandstone Dr. \$195,000

Orion Township

147 Albertson St. \$193,000
1879 Beaver Creek Dr. \$65,000
1926 Beaver Creek Dr. \$241,000
1945 Beaver Creek Dr. \$278,000
1682 Chase Dr. \$266,000
3346 Landview Dr. \$268,000
816 Loggers Cir. \$320,000
155 Maywood Ave. \$173,000
4214 Oak Tree Cir. \$475,000
5961 Oakland Valley Dr. \$356,000
421 Pine St. \$145,000
805 Plate St Unit 203. \$45,000
605 Quarter St. \$126,000
958 River Mist Dr. \$245,000
4140 Sheldon Rd. \$194,000
5184 Stonehenge Dr. \$80,000

311 Taylor Ave. \$92,000
612 W University Dr. \$280,000
309 Antoinette Dr. \$215,000
3899 Beechcrest. \$289,000
1072 Bembridge Dr. \$238,000
587 Bolinger St. \$199,000
3614 Charter Oak Dr. \$300,000
1584 Charter Oak Dr. \$98,000
196 Cloverport Ave. \$112,000
262 Dalton Dr. \$144,000
963 Downhill Ln. \$215,000
741 Eastbridge Ct. \$145,000
1991 Fairfield Dr. \$204,000
3147 Fairgrove Ter. \$408,000
2205 Hickory Leaf Dr. \$220,000
1384 Lakeview Dr. \$365,000
271 Marmoor Ct. \$227,000
1960 N Fairview Ln. \$200,000
1436 Oakbrook E. \$99,000
1195 Oakwood Ct # 45. \$175,000
1409 Otter Dr. \$295,000
3359 Paddington Ct. \$261,000
1229 Pepper Tree Ln. \$205,000
1829 Reis Ct. \$175,000
2711 Roseview Dr. \$85,000
3151 Salem Dr. \$288,000
1300 Tiverton Trl. \$229,000
2095 Wayward Dr. \$230,000
2709 Wayward Dr. \$127,000
2941 Weaverton. \$128,000

Rochester

28480 Aberdeen St. \$107,000

18712 Addison Dr. \$145,000
29433 Brentwood St. \$126,000
16016 Fairfax St. \$147,000
16195 Fairview Cres. \$142,000
24900 Glenbrook Dr. \$127,000
20265 Harbor Ln. \$121,000
25547 Ingleside Dr. \$150,000
24850 Martha Washing. \$200,000
19346 Middlesex Ave. \$119,000
20160 N Greenway St. \$201,000
17200 Nadara St. \$147,000
27000 Pebblestone St. \$88,000
28225 Ranchwood Dr. \$135,000
17259 Redwood Ct. \$96,000
29211 Rock Creek Dr. \$128,000
28201 San Marino Dr. \$199,000
21998 Seminole St. \$54,000
22131 Seminole St. \$84,000
28704 Sutherland St. \$57,000
23565 Valley View Dr. \$147,000
20240 Woodburn Dr. \$156,000

Southfield

2305 Cheltenham St. \$184,000
2148 Pontiac Dr. \$162,000
2839 Berkshire Dr. \$149,000
2590 Elmbrook Dr. \$205,000
2124 Cumberland Dr. \$175,000
1107 Fairways Blvd. \$185,000
2378 Hidden Pine Dr. \$393,000
1789 Hopdale Dr. \$60,000
127 Kenyon Dr. \$115,000
1097 Kirts Blvd. \$128,000

2565 Marcus Dr. \$185,000
5495 Marina. \$244,000
271 Miracle Dr. \$192,000
100 Ottawa Dr. \$155,000
400 Redwood Dr. \$127,000
2948 Sankle Dr. \$184,000
1425 South Blvd W. \$128,000
725 Sylvanwood Dr. \$140,000
683 Thurber Dr. \$206,000
2134 Tuscany Dr. \$147,000
283 W Square Lake Rd. \$141,000
4613 Walden Dr. \$292,000
4632 Walden Dr. \$320,000
4743 Walden Dr. \$283,000
4080 Walnut Hill Dr. \$188,000
4289 Wintergreen Dr. \$390,000

Sylvan Lake

2305 Cheltenham St. \$184,000
2148 Pontiac Dr. \$162,000
2839 Berkshire Dr. \$149,000
2590 Elmbrook Dr. \$205,000
2124 Cumberland Dr. \$175,000
1107 Fairways Blvd. \$185,000
2378 Hidden Pine Dr. \$393,000
1789 Hopdale Dr. \$60,000
127 Kenyon Dr. \$115,000
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2565 Marcus Dr. \$185,000
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2948 Sankle Dr. \$184,000
1425 South Blvd W. \$128,000
725 Sylvanwood Dr. \$140,000
683 Thurber Dr. \$206,000
2134 Tuscany Dr. \$147,000
283 W Square Lake Rd. \$141,000
4613 Walden Dr. \$292,000
4632 Walden Dr. \$320,000
4743 Walden Dr. \$283,000
4080 Walnut Hill Dr. \$188,000
4289 Wintergreen Dr. \$390,000

Westland

104 Chestnut Rd. \$51,000
6282 Carroll Ln. \$375,000
4845 Cliffside Dr. \$475,000
5847 Clifside Dr. \$183,000
4387 Fieldbrook Rd. \$245,000
6829 Forestview Ct. \$132,000
1530 Fumwall St. \$99,000
2943 Greenbrook Ln. \$222,000
2952 Greenbrook Ln. \$222,000
7461 Heather Heath Ln. \$215,000
1734 Herber. \$147,000
1534 Huntwood Park. \$128,000

5963 James Head Ct. \$123,000
6263 New St. \$198,000
7650 Linden Dr. \$286,000
7493 Millwood Dr. \$286,000
3033 Moon Lake Dr. \$172,000
5491 Nardo Ct. \$221,000
6521 Post Oak Dr. \$175,000
5640 Putnam Dr. \$380,000
4682 Rolling Rd. \$373,000
5313 Simpson Lake Rd. \$206,000
6055 Simsbury Ct. \$338,000
6561 Tanager Dr. \$200,000
4820 Thimble Dr. \$214,000
5847 Three Ponds Ct. \$212,000
2853 Tryburn Ln. \$262,000
2390 Walnut Lake Rd. \$390,000

White Lake

11384 Brigham Ln. \$39,000
4429 Concord Pkwy. \$219,000
516 Coastal Dr. \$187,000
9085 Cooley Lake Rd. \$113,000
150 Granada Dr. \$185,000
208 Horizon Rd. \$140,000
9087 Maplewood St. \$107,000
1090 S Williams Lake. \$141,000
8924 Sandy Ridge Dr. \$187,000
8710 Scenic Bluff Ln. \$262,000
8959 Sussex St. \$167,000
784 Laguna Dr. \$145,000
2529 Marcher Dr. \$115,000
2236 Montone St. \$110,000
2281 Terrapin St. \$123,000

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.

Write: Real estate briefs, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, 48150. Our fax number is (313) 591-7279.

REAL ESTATE INVESTORS

The Real Estate Investors Association presents a program on how to negotiate the purchase of a property and negotiate with tenants 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, at the Southgate Holiday Inn,

17201 Northline one block east of I-75.

Presenter: Fred Richter, property management expert.

Cost is \$10 for non-members. Beginning landlords interested in a free introductory package may contact Wayne Koehler, president, at (313) 277-4168.

CORRIGAN MOVING

Corrigan Moving Systems has announced plans to build a 109,000-square-foot office/warehouse in Novi for its Corrigan Record Storage Co. subsidiary.

The facility will be built on Grand River between Taft and Novi roads at a projected cost of

\$4.3 million. A June move is anticipated.

"The 15-acre site is perfect geographically," said David Corrigan, president of the family business. "It's convenient for customers accessing corporate office records and furniture storage, as well as providing easy access to highways for our van operators."

The architect is MacMullen Architect PC with construction by Schonscheck Inc.

RE/MAX WEB SITE

RE/MAX International, a real estate franchiser, has added two features to its World Wide Web

Internet site, www.remax.com.

First, consumers can now locate and make contact directly with a chosen real estate agent rather than initiating the process through the office or broker.

The second new feature, with aid from MapQuest, allows the visitor to pinpoint the location of any agent in any RE/MAX office in any city in the U.S.

"Searching for a home or other real estate investments on the Internet is becoming a common practice," said Bruce Benham, RE/MAX vice president of information technology.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

This column highlights promotions, transfers, hirings, awards won and other news within the real estate, construction, architecture and mortgage communities.

Send a brief summary including town of residency and black and white photo to Real Estate Movers and Shakers, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, 48150.

Our fax number is (313) 591-7279.

J o a n n Cacciarelli, a Realtor with Prudential Great Lakes Realty in Bloomfield Hills, has acquired the professional designation of Certified Residential Specialist.

Cacciarelli, a 13-year real estate veteran, is president of the Women's Council of Realtors Birmingham-Bloomfield Chapter.

She lives in Bloomfield Hills and is a Leadership Training Graduate.

McNabney & Associates, a commercial real estate firm in Bloomfield Hills, announces two appointments.

Lori B. Barton joins the firm as an office/medical specialist and will concentrate on leasing and selling properties in north Oakland County. She's also assistant to the firm's president, David McNabney.

Kay Cline joins the firm as a

property manager. She has 3-1/2 years experience in the field and has developed a co-owner handbook and five-year grounds maintenance program for a condominium association.

The Associated Builders & Contractors of Southeastern Michigan has elected **Jeff Bourdeau** of JB Electrical and **Cameron Freeman** of Technical Hot and Cold to its board of directors.

Daniel Flanders of Daniel Electric and **Frank Mamat** of Clark, Hill were reelected trustees.

Laurel M. Johnson, a project engineer with Soil and Materials Engineers in Plymouth, has successfully completed Part II of the professional engineering registration and has become a registered Professional Engineer in Michigan.

Johnson holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Michigan Technological University and an M.S. in Civil Engineering from Wayne State University.

Robert J. Pliska, president of The Detroit Area Commercial Realtors and president of Property Services Group in Birmingham last month attended the National Association of Realtors Annual Convention and Trade Exposition in New Orleans.

Industry experts joined government officials at the 90th NAR convention in New Orleans to discuss a range of issues facing the commercial real estate market including economic forecasting, tax reform and technology issues.

Taubman buys 2 malls

Taubman Centers Inc. of Bloomfield Hills announced the acquisition of The Falls shopping center in Miami, Fla. and the agreement to buy The Limited Inc.'s interest in The Mall at Tuttle Crossing, a Taubman property in Columbus, Ohio.

"These transactions crown a year of significant growth in our company's assets," said Robert S. Taubman, president and chief executive officer of Taubman Centers.

In addition to these acquisitions, Taubman Centers' growth has been driven in 1997 by the opening of The Mall at Tuttle Crossing in Columbus in July,

the completion of the expansion at West Farms in West Hartford, Conn. in September.

ber, the acquisition of Regency Square shopping center in Richmond, Va. in September, the debut of Arizona Mills in Tempe, Ariz. in November, and the opening of the new mall shops at Biltmore in Phoenix, Ariz. throughout the year.

The Falls is an open air, one-level, 824,000 square foot regional center in affluent Dade County. The center is anchored by Bloomingdale's and Macy's and is well situated to capitalize on both the local area's continued growth as well as greater Miami's strong tourist trade.

Taubman's ownership interest in The Mall at Tuttle Crossing is subject to a long-term participating lease with Columbus-based retailer, The Limited Inc. Taubman will buy all of The Limited Inc.'s interests in the lease for \$76.3 million in cash and take fee simple title to the underlying land and buildings. The transaction is scheduled to close by year end.

CLARKSTON

Rise Above the Rest

BRIDGE LAKE BLUFFS

WELSH HOMES, INC.

Bridge Lake Bluffs, limited to just 38 spacious, 1-acre Country Estate homesites, has been thoughtfully arranged within 67 acres of natural countryside.

- Spectacular lake views
- Walk-out lots available
- Just minutes from I-75
- Clarkston schools

Bridge Lake Bluffs is located off Bridge Lake Road, South of Holcomb Road

INFORMATION CENTER AT BRIDGE VALLEY
off Holcomb Road, between Ellis & Reese Roads
(248) 620-6603
Open Wed.-Sun. 1-5 pm or by appointment

A KIRCO DEVELOPMENT

CLARKSTON

Discover BRIDGE VALLEY

Spectacular 1-1/2 acre homesites available to create your own custom country estate.

GARDELLA HOMES, INC.

Home packages may be purchased from \$500,000

J.E. HEMPHILL, INC.

Homesites may be purchased from \$123,000

BRIDGE VALLEY

Information Center (248) 620-6603
Open Wednesday-Sunday 1-5 or by appointment
Bridge Valley is located off Holcomb Rd. just northwest of the Village of Clarkston
Brokers Welcome A KIRCO Development

TRI MOUNT ANNOUNCES

grandest OPENINGS & finale!

Come see these outstanding values on gorgeous new homes as two exciting new communities debut and one successful community enters its grand finale. Prices will never be this affordable again. Tri-Mount was first to offer a two year warranty.

INDEPENDENT TOWNSHIP

GRAND OPENING

STONE MEADOW

(248) 393-2573

On Mayfield Road, east of Seahawke.

Single-family homes from the '200'

Ranch, Colonial, Cape Cod and Great Room plans in a beautiful setting with acres of nature preserves, walking distance to Morgan Lake Golf Classic

NEW PHASE NEW MODELS

SILVERBELL

(248) 377-4414

Off Silverbell Road between M-24 and Adams

Single-family homes from the '270'

An array of luxury homes up to 3,500 square feet with brick on four sides, some with immediate occupancy. Wooded and walk-out homesites available.

GRAND FINALE

TRIMOUNT

(248) 391-3472

West side of Joseph Road, 2 miles north of I-75

Single-family homes from the '180'

Don't miss this opportunity! A limited but extraordinary selection of Ranch, Colonial and Cape Cod homes remain in this beautiful wooded site with four nature preserves.

The HOGAN TEAM - North Oakland Area

DRAMATIC CONTEMPORARY Clarkston Bluffs Condos \$224,900

CONTEMPORARY TUDOR IN DEER LAKE FARMS Clarkston Schools, 3172 square feet \$329,000

If you are interested in buying a home or you just want to find out what your home is worth.

Call

770 Main Clarkston (631-6500)

STEPHENSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Well Crafted Homes at 1,600 Sq. Ft.
2 1/2 Bath, Three Bedrooms, Air Conditioning, Main Level Laundry, Fireplace, Partial Brick Exterior, Concrete Drive & Sidewalk, Nothing else to finance. Includes Deck, Landscaping, Sprinklers.

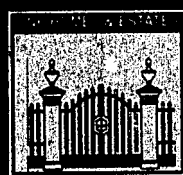
CALL TODAY! 248-620-0650

APPROXIMATELY PRICED AT \$129,000

Are you interested
in a career in real estate?
Join us Wednesday for
an informative session.
(Reservations needed)

Century 21 ASSOCIATES

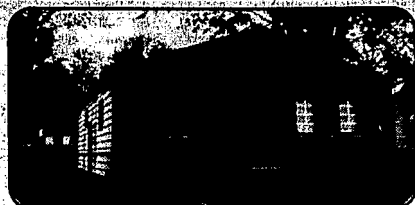
Century 21 Real Estate
Services
1-800-221-2000



MLS



EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY
OWNED AND OPERATED



BRICK FRONT RANCH: Conveniently located 3 bedroom home located in Berkley. Extra large kitchen with eating area, full basement with great potential. \$113,900 (11THO) 248-280-4777



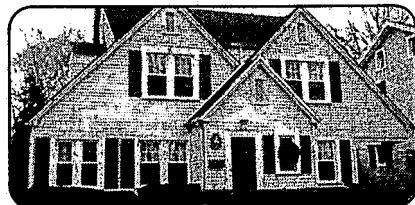
BE IN BY CHRISTMAS. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath ranch featuring 3 sided fireplace, formal dining room, first floor laundry and master suite with oversized Jacuzzi tub and stand-up shower. Basement and 2 car side entry garage. All on 2 acres. Additional adjacent parcels \$240,000 (OE43HA) 248-299-6200



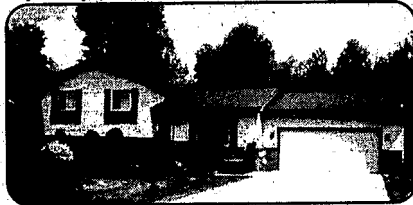
FABULOUS CONTEMPORARY. Gorgeous one of a kind home, very open, lots of windows, very high ceilings, skylights, marble fireplace, great room, custom mirrors, neutral decor, wet bar, Jacuzzi, large bedrooms and lots more. \$499,900 (COB37ROY) 248-626-8000



NEWER TOWNHOUSE IN NOVI. Decorated in neutral colors. 2 bedrooms with separate full baths, master with walk-in closet, full size basement ready for finish. Large eat-in kitchen. \$131,900 (247BAS) 248-349-6800



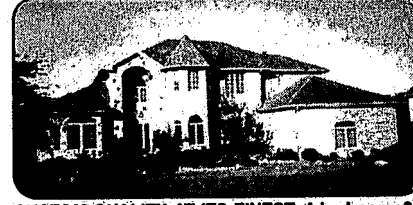
STATELY AND ELEGANT best describes this vintage 1925 Colonial in the Shrine area of Royal Oak. Lots of natural woodwork, hardwood floors, formal dining room, expansive living room, French doors to expansive sunroom. \$234,900 (12GLE) 248-280-4777



A BEAUTIFUL PRIVATE LOT backing to wooded area. Multi-level deck. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining room, wonderful large family room with fireplace, Jacuzzi tub. New windows in 1996, central air and more. \$155,000 (OE38SHE) 248-299-6200



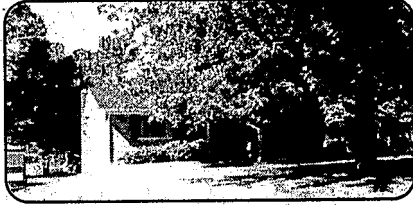
HIGHLAND HIDEAWAY. 2 story Colonial on 5 rolling, wooded acres. Full glass southern wall, extensive use of oak and glass, 6 panel doors and lots of closets. All the right touches for modern living. \$269,900 (COB60OLT) 248-626-8000



CUSTOM QUALITY AT ITS FINEST. 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial in prestigious "Hills of Crestwood" sub. Premium lot, extensive use of oak hardwoods and ceramic tiles. A true masterpiece that you must see. Many custom features! (173ROL) 248-349-6800



WELL-UPDATED TWO BEDROOM HOME featuring: new furnace, newer roof and copper plumbing. Refinished hardwood floors, updated electrical, plus fresh interior and exterior paint. \$61,900 (38SYM) 248-280-4777



WOODED 2.5 ACRES frame this charming ranch with finished walk-out basement. Recently updated decor and mechanical. Super clean and well maintained. \$182,900 (OE24ROH) 248-299-6200



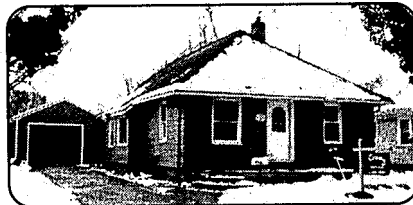
EXCELLENT BRICK RANCH - DON'T MISS OUT! With updates: furnace, central air, hot water heater, entry doors, carpeting and hardwood floors. 1 1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, finished lower level with rec room 31x19 plus storage room, laundry room, garage, patio. \$103,900 (COB74SAN) 248-626-8000



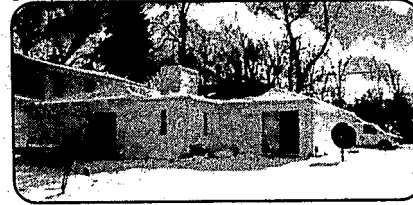
3 BEDROOM BRICK RANCH, 1 1/2 baths, finished basement, new roof, remodeled kitchen and 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, above ground pool and oversized yard. Asking \$147,900 (291ORI) 248-349-6800



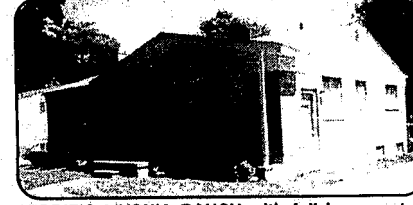
LARGE BERKLEY COLONIAL. Over 1,900 square feet of living space. Five bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, fireplace in living room. Great price for the square footage. \$129,900 (75CAT) 248-280-4777



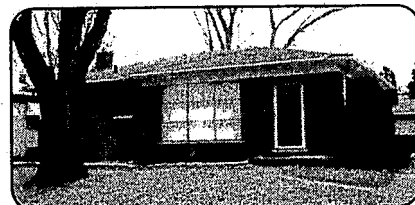
TONEY TOUCHES INCLUDE DECK. Aluminum-sided facade, tranquil shady street, near schools. Easy commute. Stained woodwork, newly painted interior, 3 bedrooms, gas heat, new furnace. Patio, new roof, custom landscape, city water. \$132,900 (OE7REN) 248-299-6200



EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY IN W.B. Completely updated ranch in the heart of W. Bloomfield, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. \$144,900 (COB40BRO) 248-626-8000



TERRIFIC LIVONIA RANCH with full basement, 3 bedrooms, large kitchen with pantry. Beautifully clean and contemporary. Great floor plan, with lots of updates. Hard to beat this location with access to shopping and freeways. \$117,900 (200MAP) 248-349-6800



WELL MAINTAINED. Three bedroom, two bath, all new kitchen with granite countertops. Living room, dining "L", newer air conditioning and furnace. Finished basement. \$99,900 (10RID) 248-280-4777



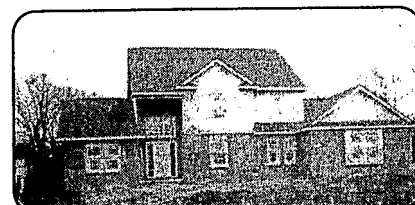
1,600 SQ. FT. on beautiful country lot. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Formal living room, 18x15 vaulted ceiling family room with fieldstone gas fireplace. 2 doorways leading to decks and park-like yard. Minutes from expressways, schools, and downtown Rochester. \$139,900 (OE26HAR) 248-299-6200



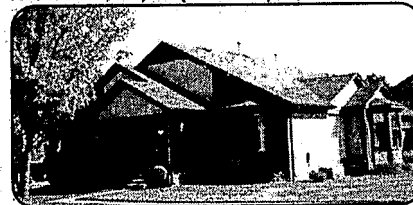
THREE BEDROOM BRICK home located in Historic Boston Edison District. Finished basement, 2 car garage, large living room with fireplace, 2 dens or study, library. \$89,900 (COB75LON) 248-626-8000



CONTEMPORARY TOWNHOUSE in popular Potomac Town sub. Walkout from living room and dining room to very private deck. Fireplace in living room. Finished basement, 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, 1,500 sq. ft. master with walk-in closet, semi private bath. \$137,500 (622AND) 248-349-6800



NEW CONSTRUCTION IN N.W. TROY. Premium cul-de-sac location. Quality brick Colonial with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 3 car garage. Family room and breakfast room. First floor library and laundry room and much more! \$314,900 (61PRE) 248-280-4777



ROCHESTER HILLS RANCH. Condo with garage and finished basement, hardwood floors, bay windows and more. Immediate occupancy. \$138,900 (OE30MED) 248-299-6200



MACEDAY LAKE CANAL FRONT. 22' canal front 1 home from main lake, open floor plan. View of main lake from kitchen, living room, dining room, great room and master bedroom, freshly painted, carpeted, wood floors redone. Huge deck for summer enjoyment. \$339,000 (COB58WHI) 248-626-8000



LIVONIA'S MOST DESIRABLE AREA, 3 bedroom brick ranch. 2 car brick garage, basement and many updates: kitchen, some windows, roof, hardwood floors and more. Your Livonia dream home! (363ELM) 248-349-6800



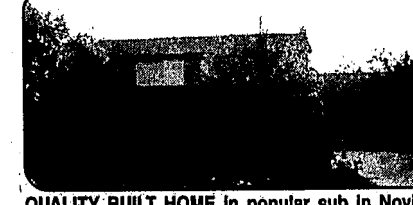
THREE BEDROOM BRICK BUNGALOW IN ROYAL OAK, Beverly Hills Sub. Double lot on corner. 2 1/2 baths, refinished hardwood floors, newer windows, partly finished basement, central air, 2 car attached garage. \$204,900 (36SHE) 248-280-4777



FABULOUS WOODED SETTING on historical Winkler Mill pond. Exquisite interior of unsurpassed quality - custom and neutral throughout. Carriage house, sunken gardens, circular drive, cedar decking, 3 doorways and more. \$495,000 (OE19WAS) 248-299-6200



DON'T MISS THIS ONE! 4 bedroom brick home with 1st floor bedroom or home office. Updated kitchen and baths, formal dining room, central air. Newer vinyl windows. \$159,900 (COB44INK) 248-626-8000



QUALITY BUILT HOME in popular sub in Novi. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, full basement, neutral color. Many updates include furnace, dishwasher, hot water heater. 2,300 sq. ft. Asking \$219,900 (222CAS) 248-349-6800



1453 HOLIDAY LAKE ORION LOVELY RANCH! New windows in '94, new C/A in '97, 1st floor laundry. State land near by for hunting & skiing. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, lake privileges to Long Lake, partly finished basement, deck, shed, & fenced yard, stove, refrigerator, microwave included. \$114,900 (14HOL) 248-620-7200



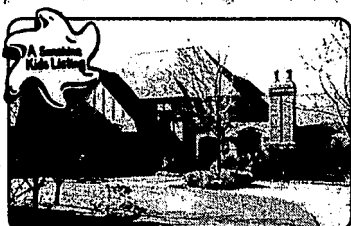
WATERFORD RANCH! Hurry and look at this 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home. Features include large natural fireplace, large master bedroom, freshly painted, new 1/2 bath, large laundry room, fenced in backyard, 2 car detached garage. Priced to sell at \$107,280 (10LYN) 248-620-7200



WHITE LAKE - GORGEOUS LAKEFRONT! Almost 120' of frontage on all sports Pontiac Lake, this 2 bedroom with plenty of room for expansion, 3 decks, pontoon boat, boat slip, and sandy bottom swim area included. Updated kitchen and bath. This home is well maintained. \$129,900 22 WIG 620-7200



HOLLY CUSTOM CONTEMPORARY! This home is a gem! Home features include 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, basement, 2 car garage and on 1.9 acres of beautiful landscaped yard. Built in '94. Don't wait on this home! It won't last long. Priced to sell at only \$198,000 (10BRA) 248-620-7200



BLOOMFIELD - EXCLUSIVE GATED COMMUNITY

- Elegant custom Gardella built Colonial in prestigious gated Heron Bay - Quality millwork throughout!
- Light spacious rooms w/ views of terraced landscape overlooking wildlife sanctuary & waterfront
- Lower level custom fitness area, absolutely gorgeous!

\$1,875,000 Asking For: Gwen Williamson 646-6089



SPRINGFIELD - CONVENIENT ACCESS TO I-75

- Prestigious Stonegate Estates 1992 built Colonial
- Immaculately maintained with 2,700 sq. ft. plus basement and oversized three car garage
- 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, patio & central air (NO915)

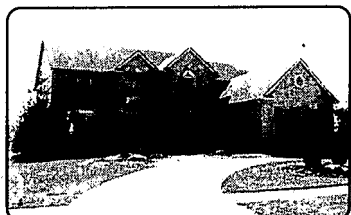
\$299,900 625-5700 751066



WEST BLOOMFIELD - DRAMATIC CEILING LINES

- Enjoy the view from your 3 season sun room
- Fresh decor in neutral buff & white, circular staircase
- Hardwood floors, fireplace highlights family room
- Still time for you move in for the holidays!

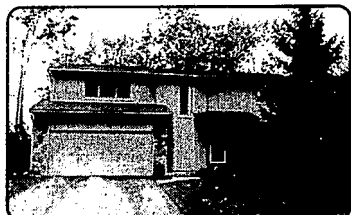
\$279,900 626-9100 766380



NOVI - TRANSITIONAL BEAUTY

- Proudly overlooks custom landscaped lawn
- Oversized palladian window, dramatic 2-story foyer
- Bay window in living & dining rooms, front & rear staircase, white gourmet island kitchen, 3 car garage

\$264,900 626-9100 719165



WATERFORD - EXCEPTIONAL CONTEMPORARY

- Built in 1990 with large deck and private rear yard
- Full finished basement with storage & Jacuzzi
- Vaulted and cathedral ceilings, recessed lights
- Minutes from I-75, professionally landscaped

\$245,900 683-8900 762631



BLOOMFIELD - READY FOR YOUR MOVE

- Newer kitchen, neutral decor, ready for your move!
- Fireplace in living room, 3 bedrooms, almost 1,500 sq. ft. plus large deck on 2/3 acre lot
- Appliances in kitchen stay, private setting

\$189,000 646-6000 753363



ROYAL OAK - LOVINGLY MAINTAINED CAPE COD

- Ever dreamed of that home with the picket fence?
- Here it is & it's ready for you with white kitchen, sizzling fireplace for cool fall evenings & 3 bedrooms
- Finished basement, 2 full baths, on a large lot

\$159,900 Ask For: Colleen Hood 646-4024



ROYAL OAK - ACT QUICKLY!

- Berber carpet throughout the brick bungalow
- Many updates include kitchen, bath, doors, finished basement, water heater, doorwall, deck & windows
- Three bedrooms plus two car garage

\$136,900 688-8900 7758793



ROCHESTER AREA - ONCE IN A LIFETIME

- Most charming "Winkler Mill" waterfront cottage styled home offers decking, walkways & landscaping
- Four fireplaces, 3 car garage plus 2 story carriage house with fireplace-all on gorgeous 2.31 acres finished walk-out lower level, 1st floor master suite

\$749,900 Ask For: Anna Pearcy 646-6000



ROCHESTER HILLS - MAJESTIC NEW BUILD

- Captivating Colonial in Falcon Estates
- Walk-out lower level with bay window in nook
- Wet bar off dining room, connecting bath between 2nd & 3rd bedrooms & private bath off 4th bedroom
- Additional homesites available

\$485,000 689-8900 772652



ROCHESTER HILLS - ELEGANT TUDOR

- Magnificent oak study, soaring 2 story ceilings in foyer and great room, 9 ft. ceilings throughout
- Open and spacious kitchen, large master with cathedral ceiling and luxurious bath with Jacuzzi and separate shower

\$473,000 689-8900



FRANKLIN - "THE EDENBOROUGH" MODEL

- Light & bright ceramic foyer, spacious rooms with almost 3,600 square feet quality amenities thru-out
- Fireplace in 2 story family room, large deck, daylight windows and premium elevation already landscaped
- Oversized 3 car garage, Birmingham Schools

\$439,900 626-9100 740903

Farmington Hills - Country Ridge Beauty

Featured Fine Home

- Over 3,200 square feet Colonial
- Impressive foyer with sweeping circular staircase
- Vaulted ceiling in sunlit family room
- Finished lower level with wet bar and 3rd bath
- Jetted tub in master suite, island kitchen

\$584,000 646-6000 759553



WHITE LAKE TWP. - BEAUTIFUL CONTEMPORARY

- Offering four bedrooms with full basement walk-out to large pond for fishing or skating - TWO ACRES!
- Quality woodwork throughout, master suite with 3 walk-ins, Jacuzzi and more!

\$280,000 683-8900 763385

Prudential Great Lakes Realty

OUR COMMITMENT TO SERVICE SETS US APART!

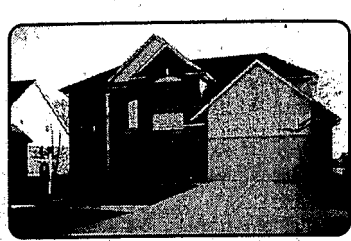
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ROCHESTER - ATTRACTIVE COLONIAL W/FLAIR

- Designer interior appointments, dramatic 2 story great room with bridge and columned den
- Kitchen nook & formal dining with bar, 4 bedrooms
- Better than new, 2 1/2 baths, move-in condition

\$276,500 Ask For: Dan Kearns 656-4408



SOUTHFIELD - PREMIUM LOCATION

- Entertaining is a pleasure with formal dining
- Fireplace in great room, sun room & master bedroom
- Exquisite carved wood oriental French doors
- Seller will consider offers between \$255,000-265,000

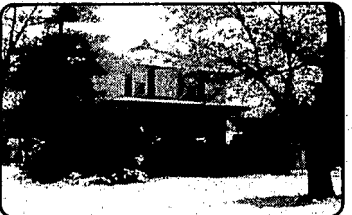
Ask For: Robyn Lewis or Geof Leach 625-8151



ROCHESTER AREA - PRIVATE CUL-DE-SAC SETTING

- Custom built shelving & cabinetry in library
- Marvelous Colonial offers some hardwood floors
- Family room with fireplace & spacious living room
- Oversized 2 car garage & full basement

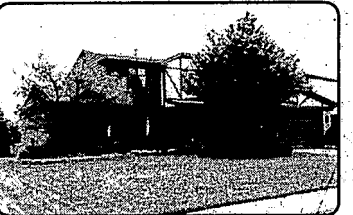
\$244,500 Ask For: Juanita Mallmann 656-4405



WEST BLOOMFIELD - FULL OF CHARM

- Like Prudential - Solid as a Rock!
- Large deck off breakfast area, full basement
- Three bedrooms, oversized 2 car garage plus shed
- Main floor laundry, situated on over 1/2 acre

\$129,900 683-8900 769757



TROY - WALK TO LEONARD ELEMENTARY

- Great location with super value
- Family room with fireplace & wet bar
- Main floor laundry, new furnace & humidifier in '97
- Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths plus a home warranty!

\$219,900 683-8900 738447



WHITE LAKE - SETTLE IN BEFORE THE NEW YEAR

- Exceptional 2,000 sq. ft. home on 1+ acre corner lot
- Park-like setting with 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths
- Formal dining, fireplace in family room, island kitchen
- Vaulted foyer, 2 1/2 car finished garage. (JE568)

\$204,900
 Ask For: Kim Harrison-Echlin 625-5704, 763-1256



BLOOMFIELD SCHOOLS - A CHARMER IN FOX HILLS

- Curb appeal comes along with this 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath Tri-Level offering new furnace and water heater
- Newer roof shingles, updated kitchen, large living & dining areas, close to Chrysler & GM Tech Center

\$186,900 646-6000 766420



WEST BLOOMFIELD - OVER 1,400 SQ. FT.

- Spacious ranch with additional 550 sq. ft. in finished lower level with wet bar and bedroom
- Marvelous Locklin Pines free standing condo
- Handicap accessible, deck & 2 car garage

\$169,999 683-8900 771092



ROCHESTER TOWNHOUSE NEAR EXPRESSWAYS

- Super location & wonderfully maintained
- Three bedrooms, formal dining plus breakfast room
- Partially finished basement, central air, deck
- Neutral decor, lots of storage!

\$169,900 Ask For: Mary Ellen Haan 656-4424



CLARKSTON - ONE+ ACRE

- Beautiful decor & plush master with whirlpool tub
- Vaulted ceilings, ceramic fireplace in family room
- Home theatre wired for surround sound, Jacuzzi deck, paver walks, manicured landscaping

\$167,900 Ask For: Kimberly Harrison-Echlin 625-5704



UTICA SCHOOLS - PREMIUM CUL-DE-SAC LOT

- New oak kitchen in 1993 includes appliances
- Natural fireplace, bedrooms plus den, deck
- Central air plus ceiling fans, newer roof, siding and windows, 2 full baths, security system

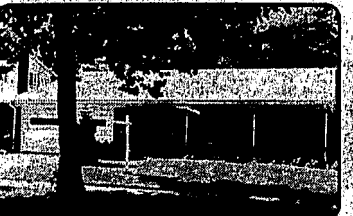
\$155,000 688-8900 323188



BIRMINGHAM - LIGHT, BRIGHT & AIRY

- Super clean with newer white kitchen, bath, paint and wall paper, doorwall leads to deck
- Hardwood floors, 3 bedrooms, beautiful tree lined street with sidewalks, walk to school and shops

\$149,900 646-6000 727895



LIVONIA - GREAT LOCATION! GREAT VALUE!

- Spacious open floor plan with updated baths
- Doorwall to deck, laundry facilities in unit
- Hardwood floors in bedrooms, over 1,300 sq. ft.
- Family room, patio, two car attached garage
- Great landscaping with lots of perennials

\$144,900 626-9100 766841



ENJOY ROOM TO ROAM IN THIS WIXOM RANCH

- Family room offers doorwall to large deck & gazebo
- Natural fireplace w/custom mantel, hardwood floors
- Master bedroom with large walk-in closet, full bath in basement, new roof plus security system

\$139,900 Ask For: John J. Emerson 539-8150



KEEGO HARBOR - LAKE PRIVILEGES

- Enjoy the lifestyle without the big price tag!
- Neat & clean with newer kitchen & carpeting
- Two bedrooms, large living room, separate dining
- Two car garage, basement - Great investment!

\$119,000 683-8900 771222



SOUTHFIELD - PLUMB HOLLOW ESTATES

- Hardwood floors throughout & classic coke ceilings
- Bow window overlooks yard, updated kitchen with newer appliances, fireplace in family room
- Vinyl exterior, attached garage

\$95,000 648-8000



AUBURN HILLS CONDO - UPPER LEVEL RANCH

- Super value with newer carpet & fresh paint
- Doorwall to deck, laundry facilities in unit
- One bedroom, one bath, pets welcome!
- Access to clubhouse, pool & stocked pond

\$49,900 651-8850 749071



ROCHESTER HILLS - SPACIOUS BRICK RANCH

- Newer roof, furnace central air
- 2,250 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths
- Two fireplace, full basement
- Large corner lot, in-ground pool

\$198,500 651-8850 772228

Observer & Eccentric Community Classifieds

Where You will find...

ANNOUNCEMENTS	600-690	Page C6
Autos For Sale	800-878	Page C7
Help Wanted	500-576	Page E11
Home & Service Guide	001-245	Page C7
Merchandise For Sale	700-754	Page C6
Pets	780-793	Page C7
Real Estate	300-398	Page E5
Rentals	400-464	Page E9

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SUNDAY REAL ESTATE	5:00 P.M. THURSDAY
SUNDAY ISSUE	5:00 P.M. FRIDAY
THURSDAY ISSUE	6:00 P.M. TUESDAY

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Internet Address	http://oeonline.com



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Our 3-2-1 SOLD! offer is just what you need when you have things to sell for under \$200.

Here's how it works:

1. You get 3 lines to describe your item. (remember, you have to be taking less than \$200)
2. You get to run your ad 2 days (one week)
3. You get 1 low price - just \$19.26. That's only \$3.21 per line!

You Could say our 3-2-1 plan is as easy as 1-2-3!

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Important Information:

Real Estate for Sale #300-388

Homes.....300

BY CITY

Ann Arbor	304
Auburn Hills	336
Belleville	349
Birmingham/Bloomfield	306
Brighton	306
Canton	308
Clarkston	309
Commerce	348
Dearborn	311
Dearborn Heights	311
Detroit	312
Farmington Hills	314
Garden City	317
Grosse Pointe	318
Hamburg	319
Hartland	320
Highland	321
Holly	322
Huntington Woods	337
Lake Orion	331
Lathrup Village	339
Livonia	328
Millard	328
Northville	327
Novi	329
Oak Park	337
Orchard Lake	344
Orion Township	331
Oxford	331
Pinkney	333
Plymouth	334
Redford	335
Rochester	336
Royal Oak	337
Salem/Salem Twp.	340
Southfield	340
South Lyon	341
Troy	341
Union Lake	342
Warren	348
Wayne	345
West Bloomfield	344
Westland	342
White Lake	342
Wyand	348
Ypsilanti	349
Union Lake	348

BY COUNTY

Livingston	352
Macomb	353
Oakland	354
Washtenaw	355
Wayne	357
Acresage	362
Apartment for Sale	371
Cemetery Lots	388
Condos	372
Country Homes	381
Duplexes/Townhouses	373
Lakefront/Waterfront Homes	385
Land Contracts	385
Lease	384
Lots, Vacant	382
Manufactured Homes	374
Mobile Homes	375
Money to Loan/Borrow	386
Mortgage	385
New Home Builders	370
Northern Property	375

Option to Buy

Other Suburban Homes	359
Out of State Homes/Property	360
Family	363
Horse Farms	383
Real Estate Service	384
Real Estate Wanted	387
Time Share	383
Southern Property	381

Commercial/Industrial #390-398

Business & Professional Buildings for Sale	391
Commercial/Retail Sale or Lease	392
Commercial/Industrial-Vacant Property	396
Garages; Mini Storage	430
Income Property	393
Industrial-Sale Lease	394
Investment Property	397
Land	398
Office Business Space-Sale/Lease	395
Warehouse-Sale or Lease	392

Real Estate for Rent #400-444

Apartments, Unfurnished	400
Apartments, Furnished	401
Condos, Townhouses	402
Conventional, Nursing Homes	480
Duplexes	403
Hall, Buildings	420
Home Health Care	482
Homes	405
Lakefront, Waterfront Homes	406
Living Quarters to Share	412
Miscellaneous for Rent	484
Mobile Homes, Rentals or Lease	407
Residence to Exchange	421
Rooms	414
Southern Rentals	409
Time Share Rentals	410
Vacation Resort Rentals	411
Wanted to Rent, Rental Property	442

Employment/Instruction #500-578

Attorneys, Legal Counseling	570
Business Opportunities	574
Business & Professional Services	582
Childcare, Babysitting Services	536
Childcare Needed	538
Education, Instruction	589
Elderly Care and Assistance	590
Entertainment	530
Financial Services	584

Help Wanted

Clerical, Office	502
Couples	526
Dental	504
Domestic	524
General	502
Health and Fitness	510
Professional	511
Medical	506
Part-time	520
Part-time Sales	522
Restaurant, Food, Beverage	508
Sales	508
Seasonal Services	566
Summer Camps	550
Tax Services	572

Announcements #600-690

Adoptions	623
Bingo	646
Cards of Thanks	630
Death Notices	626
Happy Ads	602
Health Nutrition	642
Holiday Potpourri	610

In Memoriam

Insurance	844
Legal Notices, Accepting Bids	622
Lost and Found	711
Meetings	620
Miscellaneous Notices	624
Personals	600
Political Notices	626
Seminars	620
Seniors	686
Single Parents	688
Sports Interests	684
Tickets	638
Transportation, Travel	640
Wedding Chapels	641
Weight Loss	642

Merchandise #700-754

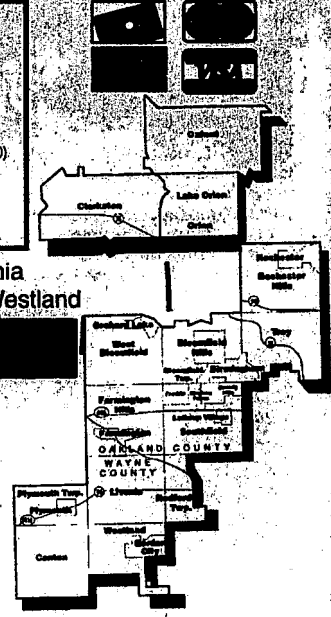
Absolutely Free	700
Appliances	718
Antiques, Collectibles	702
Arts & Crafts	704
Auction Sales	706
Bargain Buys	720
Bicycles	721
Building Materials	722
Business & Office Equipment	724
Cameras and Supplies	726
Clothing	714
Computers	732
Electronics, Audio, Video	734
Estate Sales	710
Farm Equipment	738
Farm Produce; Flowers, Plants	740
Flea Market	708
Garage Sales (Oakland County)	711
Garage Sales (Wayne County)	712
Garden Equipment	748
Hobbies-Coins-Stamp	745
Household Goods	716
Hospital Equipment	747
Jewelry	747
Lawn & Garden Materials	749
Lawn Equipment	748
Miscellaneous for Sale	750
Musical Instruments	751
Moving Sales	713
Office Supplies	726
Restaurant Equipment-Commercial, Industrial	730
Rummage Sale	708
Snow Removal Equipment	748
Sporting Goods	752
Trade or Sell	753
Video Games, Tapes, Movies	736
Wanted to Buy	754

Animals, Pets, Livestock #780-793

Animal Services	780
Breeder Directory	781
Birds	782
Cats	783
Dogs	784
Farm Animals, Livestock	785
Horses and Equipment	786
Horse Boarding, Commercial	787
Lost & Found (see Announcements)	793
Pet Grooming/Boarding	789
Pet Supplies	790
Pet Services	791
Pet Training	792

Autos/RVs #800-878

Airplane	800
Antique/Classic Collector Cars	832
AUTOMOBILES	
Financing	818



Miscellaneous

Parts and Service	816
Rentals; Leasing	817
Wanted	819
Autos By Make	
Acura	834
Buick	836
Cadillac	838
Chevrolet	840
Chrysler	842
Dodge	844
Eagle	846
Ford	848
Geo	850
Honda	852
Lexus	854
Lincoln	856
Mazda	858
Mercury	860
Nissan	862
Oldsmobile	864
Plymouth	866
Pontiac	868
Saturn	870
Toyota	872
Volkswagen	874
Autos over \$2,000	876
Autos under \$2,000	878
Auto Storage	880
Boats/Motors	882
Boat Docks	884
Boat Storage	886
Campers	888
Construction; Heavy Equipment	890
Imported	892
Insurance, Motor	894
Jeeps, 4-wheel Drive	896
Junk Cars Wanted	898
Marinas	900
Mini-Vans	902
Motorcycles, Mini Bikes, Go-Carts	904
Motorcycles; Parts, Service	906
Motor Homes	908
Off-Road Vehicles	910
Recreational Vehicles	912
Sports	914
Snowmobiles	916
Trailers	918
Trucks for Sale	920
Vans	922
Truck Parts and Service	924

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300 Homes

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CANTON OPEN SUN. 1-4PM
42592 Lifford Pointe, S. of Ford Rd.,
E. of 275. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo.
Properties. 313-282-1920

COMMERCIAL TWP. Open Sunday

Noon-Sun. 1380 Woodcrest Lane,
Huron Hills Sub. 2-story split con-
temp. 2,850 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms,
huge walkout in back of split sur-
rounded by woods. W. of Bogie
Lake, N. of Commerce. \$323,500.
By owner 248-363-5598

303 Open Houses

Clarkston
OPEN SUNDAY 1-5
53 WALDON
N. WALDON & EMAIN ST.
CURRIER & IVES
1800's Glee Revival In The Vil-
lage. Completely renovated plus a
new addition with master suite
and heated attached garage. 4
bedrooms, 3 full baths. Over 2700
sq. ft. Shaker Pine kitchen with
wood floors. 1st floor laundry.
Charming home on 1 acre.
\$369,900.
Call Brett Maddipati (610)309-7887

COLDWELL BANKER Schweitzer Real Estate

FRANKLIN - Open Sunday, 12-4pm.
Beautifully renovated ranch, 2700
sq. ft., 3-4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2 fire-
place, gourmet kitchen, fresh paint.
31020 McKinney, 13 Mile & Franklin.
Move-in now! \$369,900.
Marilyn Homes. 248-620-6599

--FRANKLIN-- OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

Spacious family ranch with nearly two
acres. Bright and open with vaulted
ceilings, recessed lighting, floor-to-
ceiling fieldstone fireplace opening to
both family room and living room.
Updated kitchen with new appliances.
Plan to see 32875 ROWSEY ROAD
(S. of 14 Mile & E. of Franklin).
\$449,000. (RM329)

HANNETT-WILSON & WHITEHOUSE

(248) 646-8200

LIVONIA - Open Sun. 1-5, 28241

Partly, N. of 196, E. of Middlebelt.
1,650 sq. ft. Colonial, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2
baths, finished basement, attached
garage, central air. Updated
throughout. \$174,000. 313-421-3013

303 Open Houses

FRANKLIN OPEN SUN. 2-4PM
32440 SUSANNE
S. of 14, W. of Telegraph

IRIS GOLDSTEIN

248-851-6900
Ralph Manuel Realtors

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 1-4pm

Bloomfield Township
Serenity awaits you! Beautiful 1990
home on 1.21 gorgeous acres. 1st
floor Master, Full basement, Orange
Lake privileges. \$449,000. Take
Hickory Grove between Lahser &
Telegraph. Follow signs to 3140
Chickadee Circle.
Call SANDRA LADD
(248) 646-5000 x248
Ralph/Max in the Hills

OPEN SUN. 2-5, 4293 Sawgrass Dr.

(Long Lake/Middlebelt) Luxurious 5,
Walkers 4 bedroom walk-out Condo.
Designer decorated, in-law/teen
suite. Under \$350,000. 248-737-3976

WEST BLOOMFIELD

OPEN SUN. 1-5pm
6344 ODESSA, W.B.
S. of Greer, W. of Hiller
Outstanding 4 bedroom contempo-
rary 2 story move in perfect. Large
almond formal kitchen with bay
window, family room with fireplace,
central air, speakers, HW, Bloomfield
schools.
Call MARSHA THIMAS
RALPH MANUEL ASSOC. WEST
248-851-6900

303 Open Houses

W. BLOOMFIELD
OPEN SUN. 1-4PM
Dynamite executive style home in
1989. 3171 Park Forest - South of
Commerce E. of Green Lake Rd.
2900 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths.
Sunlit family room with 2 story cathe-
dral ceiling, bridge, sunrooms, 3 full
baths, 1st floor laundry, Master
bedroom with access to main bath.
Spacious bedrooms. \$159,900.
(511E)

THIS YOU'VE GOT TO SEE

Stunning 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial
with family room, kitchen/den, formal
dining room and living room. Hard-
wood floor covering. Loaded with
upgrades. \$222,500. (659D0)

BRAND NEW AND READY TO OCCUPY!

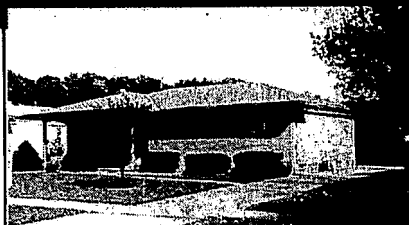
This 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial has
2140 sq. ft. Master suite, vaulted
ceiling with walk-in closets and
master bath. Family room with fire-
place, 1st floor laundry, full basement
and 2 car attached garage. \$209,900
(432N0)

REACH

CENTURY 21 America CENTURY



FAMILY NEIGHBORHOOD - Lovely 3 bedroom home in popular family neighborhood. Fabulous 550 sq. ft. cedar deck. Central air, private yard. \$167,900 (63WAR) 248-652-8000



TROY - 3 bedroom brick ranch with 2 full baths. Finished basement with full kitchen workshop. Family room with fireplace. Nicely landscaped yard. One year Home Warranty included. \$155,400 (16ROW) 524-1600



HOME FOR THE FUSSY BUYER! Many updates, state of the art kitchen, most appliances built in. 2 lighted collection centers, bar & fireplace in family room, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, full finished basement. \$189,000 (25MAP) 363-1200



OAKLAND TOWNSHIP - Lovely, 3 yrs. old, 1.5 story w/vaulted ceilings. 1st floor master suite. Lower level, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, custom window treatments. Open airy floor plan. Great room, formal dining room. Close to I-75, M59 & Auburn Hills Tech. Large white kitchen. \$209,900 (98SIL) 248-652-8000



TROY - 3 bedroom brick ranch with maintenance free exterior. Newer roof and doors. Eat in kitchen opens to family room with fireplace. Full basement. Troy schools. \$136,000 (57RAI) 524-1600



MAGNIFICENT LAKEFRONT on over 400 acres of all-sports lake. 4 bedrooms, 3 bath, approximately 3,600 sq. ft. entry level master suite, finished walkout lower level w/2nd kitchen, 3 1/2 car garage. \$459,900 (96TER) 363-1200



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Rustic contemporary with fieldstone/cedar design in Echo Park. Over 6000 sq. ft., 5 bedroom, 4 1/2 bath, living room, family room, library, white formica kitchen. Acre wooded setting overlooking Minnow Lake. Walkout lower level. \$859,900 (61COP) 642-8100



ROCHESTER SCHOOLS - Lovely colonial in Chichester sub. Freshly painted. Loaded with amenities including 2 fireplaces & hot tub. 4 bedrooms, home warranty. \$224,900 (45ROY) 248-652-8000



TROY - 4 bedroom Colonial with 2 1/2 baths. Cathedral ceilings in family room. 2 story foyer. Master bath with garden tub and separate shower plus much more! \$269,900 (56RUB) 524-1600



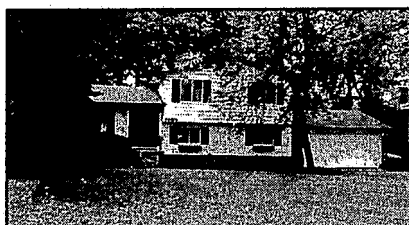
BLOOMFIELD HILLS ...KIRKWOOD SUB. Extremely well maintained 4 bedroom Colonial. Gorgeous wooded lot, overlooking pond. Bright, sunny home. Outstanding family room w/brick wall fireplace. Immediate possession & priced to sell. Don't miss this one. \$277,950 (57RA) 248-626-8800



FARMINGTON HILLS - 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, fantastic colonial. Great room w/vaulted ceiling, library, finished lower level, secluded yard w/in ground pool. Wood floors, French doors, lots of windows & beautifully maintained. \$414,900 (29HA) 626-8800



PICTURESQUE LOT - You will be charmed by this 2 story colonial nestled on a treed rolling lot. 4 bedroom home w/ gleaming hardwood floors in many areas. Great family room set up w/fireplace & wood stove, built in shelves, sliding doors to patio. Convenient location. \$212,900 (95LAK) 248-652-8000



100 FT. LAKEFRONT RETREAT - Treat yourself to great-affordable lake living. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, hardwood floors. New shingles/furnace, central air. Buy now and enjoy this 4 season home! \$204,900 (60CAP) 363-1200



WEST BLOOMFIELD-OPEN, FLOWING FLOOR PLAN. 2 story contemporary. Gated courtyard entry. Wooded backyard w/deck. Freshly painted, carpet cleaned. Birmingham schools, Walnut Lake privileges. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Newer central air, D/W, humidifier '95. \$143,900 (54IN) 248-626-8800



PEACEFUL CONDO - Community including bedroom w/sitting area, outside balcony, walk-in closet & private bath. Spacious living & dining room w/fireplace & sliders to outside treed lot. Fabulous white kitchen w/corrian counter. Like new! Must See! Call for private showing. \$179,900 (94JEN) 248-652-8000



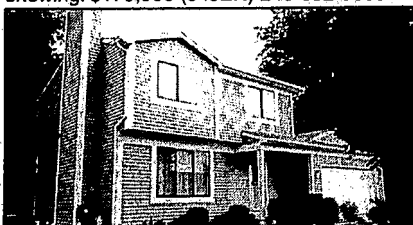
LAKEFRONT WALK-OUT RANCH on a beautiful sloping lot w/southern exposure. 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 2,200 sq. ft., 2 1/2 car attached garage, central air, Walled Lake Schools, all-sports lake. \$239,900 (65COO) 363-1200



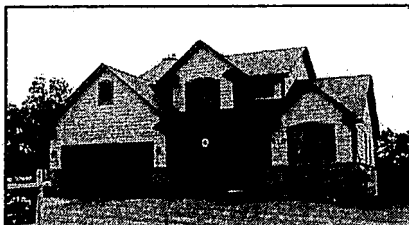
COMMERCE-MUST SELL!!! This great ranch built in 1988 is in mint condition. Full finished basement. Attached garage. Cathedral ceilings, deck, open spacious floor plan. Price reduced! \$164,900 (21PA) 248-626-8800



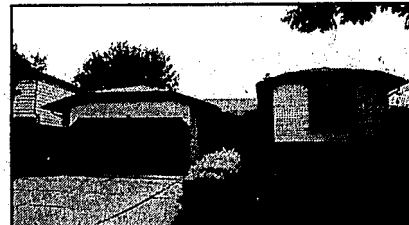
LEASE ONLY TROY - 3 bedroom brick ranch with 2 1/2 baths. Finished basement. 2 car garage. No Pets! \$1,900 per month (58HUB) 524-1600



ROCHESTER HILLS - Beautiful Colonial with newer carpet - '97. Finished basement with rec room & office. Painted in '97. Rochester Hills Schools. Home Warranty! \$169,900 (01DAL) 524-1600



WHITE LAKE NEW CONSTRUCTION - 1877 sq. ft. colonial, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath. Walk out basement. Ceramic foyer, main & master bath. Fully landscaped w/sprinklers. Large lot. Brick & wood quality construction. \$233,900 (57CAR) 363-1200



TROY - Popular sub, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath quad level home. Large family room w/fireplace & wet bar. Updated kitchen, newer carpeting and decor. Troy schools. \$179,900 (16CR) 248-626-8800



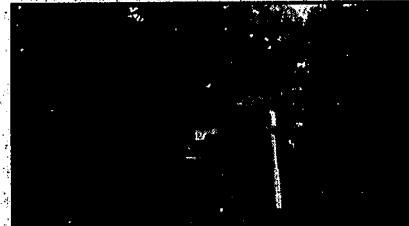
SHARP! 3 bedroom Troy ranch with large kitchen. Open floor plan is great for entertaining. Private deck. Master bath. 1st floor laundry. Newer carpet and paint. Troy schools. \$183,900 (82FED) 524-1600



TROY - 3 bedroom brick ranch on .145 lot. 1200 square feet. Finished basement. Newer roof, furnace, windows, finished basement with bath. Oak kitchen & a home warranty! \$150,000 (75TRA) 524-1600



TERRIFIC LOCATION - \$89,900 Great starter home or investment opportunity in need of some TLC. Home sits on extra large lot, has privileges on Cedar Island Lake and Walled Lake Schools. \$89,900 (65TOW) 363-1200



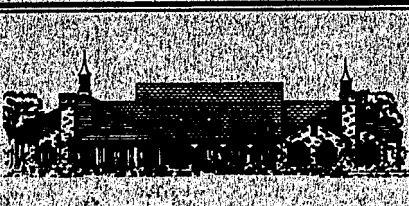
FARMINGTON HILLS - 3 bedroom ranch w/great location in popular Kendallwood Sub. Family room w/fireplace, hardwood floors, newer furnace & central air, newer roof. (32OL) \$159,000 248-626-8800



WEST BLOOMFIELD Nearly new 1 1/2 story home with a first floor master suite. Great room, library, 2 1/2 baths, basement. Professionally landscaped yard, a car attached garage. \$349,900 (70WAT) 524-1600



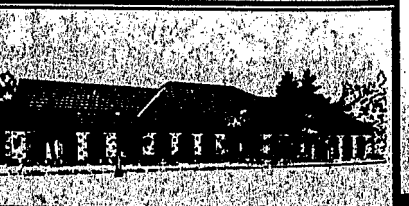
(248) 612-8100



(248) 524-1600



(616) 430-2300



(248) 652-8000

own & Country ca's #1 21 Firm!



ELEGANT EXECUTIVE HOME locate din Rochester Hills offers a gourmet kitchen with sitting area & fireplace. Master suite on 1st & 2nd floor. 2 story great room & formal dining room. Finished basement with full kitchen & oak bar area. Call Today! \$449,900 (95PHE) 524-1600



3,680 SQ. FT., 5 BEDROOM TUDOR in executive area. Extra's include 2 fireplaces, security system, intercom, 2 full and 2 half baths, 2 level deck and 3 car garage. \$364,900 (39GLE) 652-8000

turn 21 Country



BLOOMFIELD - Spacious end unit with versatile floor plan! 3 bedroom, 3 bath (1st floor master bedroom or library). Finished lower level with family room, full bath, bonus rooms. Neutral immaculate decor. Move-in condition. Immediate occupancy. \$159,900 (28SOU) 642-8100



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Fabulous 2 story Contemporary with 3,600 sq. ft. and a dynamite 1st floor master bedroom suite with fireplace, library, terrific white Formica kitchen. \$449,900 (83ROY) 642-8100



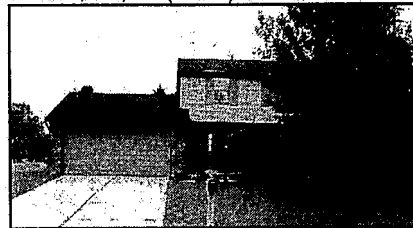
BERKLEY - Adorable 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath Bungalow with 1/2 bath in upper master bedroom. Hardwood floors, great Florida room. This won't last! \$129,900 (17OAK) 642-8100



ROCHESTER HILLS - 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2500 sq. ft. colonial. Open floor plan. Some updating. Large private lot with beautiful landscaping and large deck. \$209,900 (14DEN) 652-8000



OAKLAND TOWNSHIP-ROCHESTER 3 year old 1.5 story w/1st floor master bedroom. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Full walkout lower level. Bright & cheery w/many unique windows. Backs to nature area of trees, flowers wetlands for beautiful view. Easy access I-75 & M59. \$215,500 (32BRI) 652-8000



LOVELY COLONIAL in popular family sub. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, neutral, clean, air, sprinklers. \$185,900 (77DRE) 652-8000



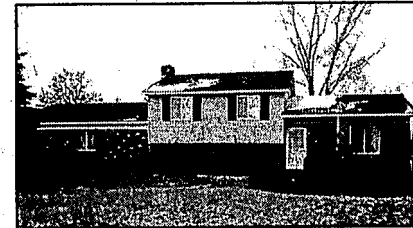
WALK TO PARK from this well-maintained 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home, locate din Rochester Hills. Home backs to wooded commons and park. Central air, gas fireplace in family room, neutral. Finished basement, deck, all appliances included. A reasonable price of just \$179,900 (81BOL) 652-8000



HOME SWEET HOME - 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 1300 sq. ft. ranch with full basement & 2 plus car garage. A sunny open floor plan w/new windows, central air, furnace. Brick fireplace with oak mantle. A great community! \$143,900 (50CON) 363-1200



PACK UP AND MOVE IN 1850 SQ. FT. - 3 bedroom, 2 bath with walk-out lower level, 2 plus car garage, hardwood floors, brick exterior, original owners, Golf Manor sub., new roof, furnace, central air. Large yard. \$149,700 (48BUC) 363-1200



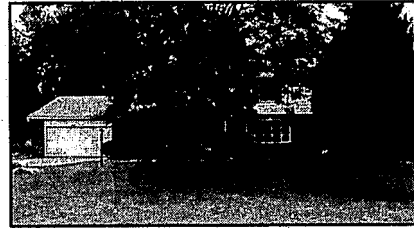
PARK LIKE SETTING - .83 acre, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 plus car garage. A rare find! Bright open floor plan of quality, easy access to I-96 & shopping. Appliances & move-in condition. \$159,500 (66PEA) 363-1200



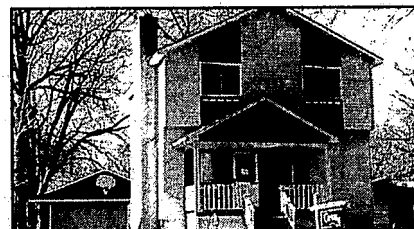
WATERFORD CONTEMPORARY 2 STORY - Beautiful cathedral ceiling overlooking family room and kitchen. Master bedroom & bath, main floor, 4 bedrooms. \$178,900 (23TAN) 363-1200



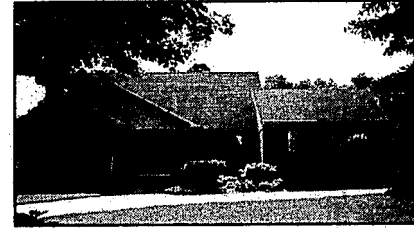
BEAUTIFUL LOCKLIN PINES - Well cared for free standing ranch will full finished lower level. Large open great room with fireplace. Lower level offers large family room, workshop and third bedroom. \$179,900 (20BLU) 363-1200



MILFORD COLONIAL - This home features 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, walkout basement, 1st floor laundry, family room with fireplace and much more! Great potential! \$197,900 (94Com) 363-1200



COMPLETELY UPDATED - ROYAL OAK home with 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths. 4th bedroom in basement. Waling distance to downtown Royal Oak. One year home warranty! \$163,900 (16KAY) 524-1600



FINE QUALITY & WORKMANSHIP THRU-OUT!!! Immaculate condition and all extras. 2 story foyer, circular staircase, his & her lighted closets in master bedroom. Walk out lower level with wet bar & fireplace, e 2nd kitchen and more! \$350,000 (30SU) 626-8800



FARMINGTON HILLS-CHARMING COLONIAL! All the work has been done in this 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Beautifully wooded lot and conveniently located. Be in by the Holidays. \$239,900 (31BY) \$239,900 248-626-8800



FARMINGTON HILLS-PRICED TO SELL Immediate occupancy, neutral throughout! Living room, family room with fireplace, e library, built in 1992. Dining room with bay window, master bedroom with jacuzzi & walk-in closet. \$249,900 (24RI) 248-626-8800



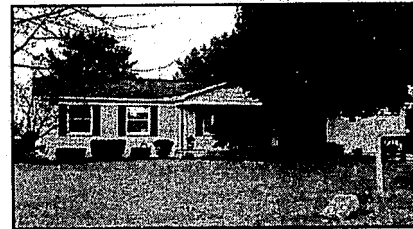
WIXOM- DON'T MISS THIS BEAUTIFUL HOME Built in 1995. Excellent family neighborhood. Features include: attached garage, fireplace, security system, central air & intercom. Fabulous floor plan. \$189,500 (14PO) 248-626-8800



WEST BLOOMFIELD - 5 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath 2 story Contemporary in Mission Springs. 4,500 sq. ft. of great living space. Fabulous setting! Beach association, park and pond. \$349,900 (37BEA) 642-8100



LATHRUP VILLAGE - Wonderful Lathrup Village ranch on double lot. Many updates throughout. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, finished basement, hardwood floors, cove ceilings, 2 fireplace. 2 car attached garage. Lovely decor. \$164,500 (81ELD) 642-8100



FARMINGTON HILLS- EXTRA SPECIAL 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch with family room, deck, 1st floor laundry, excellent neighborhood, location and immediate occupancy. \$174,500 (17ARD) 642-8100



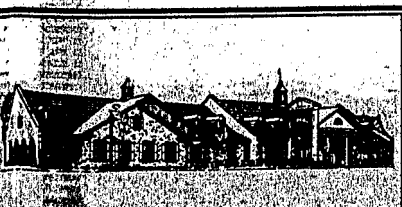
ROYAL OAK - This 4-5 bedroom in town Dutch colonial features hardwood floors, living/dining room set-up with fireplace in living room, built in china cabinet in living/dining room, large kitchen and lots of natural wood work throughout home! \$209,900 (08BAL) 642-8100



WEST BLOOMFIELD - 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath contemporary, Bloomfield Hills schools. Great room, library, dining room, white formica kitchen, master bedroom suite w/new master bath, his & her walk-in closet, finished basement, newer windows & roof, circular drive, redecorated in/out. \$387,900 (80STR) 642-8100



BLOOMFIELD - Dynamite 3,861 sq. ft. home with contemporary flair! Open, great flow for entertaining. Many professionally designed updates: newer state of the art kitchen '94, some ceramic floors. Immaculate! Master bedroom with dress area. Lower level walkout to cozy yard. \$495,000 (98DAR) 642-8100



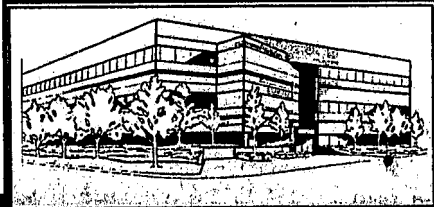
(416) 286-6000



Urban Lake Road, Commerce Twp
(248) 363 1200



18680 Van Dyke Avenue, Shelby Twp
(810) 731-8180



7125 Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield
(248) 626-8800



BUILDING A
NATION OF NEIGHBORS

• Call for more information (810) 731-8180 • Complete Sales Group (248) 626-8800

345 Westland/Wayne
WAYNE - \$124,900
Brick colonial, 1783 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, family room, fireplace, eat-in kitchen, 3 car garage, corner lot on tree-lined street of individual homes. FHA/VA loans. \$131,500. Call Carol Heinlein (313) 545-7890.

WESTLAND - 3436 Azzio. Immaculate 1 1/2 in Tanqueh Sub. Over 1500 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, eat-in kitchen, 2 car garage, just listed for \$134,900. Call Carol Heinlein (313) 545-7890.

WESTLAND - 5902 Carlson. Real Doll House. Great starter! 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, hardwood floors, 2 car garage, just listed for \$119,900. Call Carol Heinlein (313) 454-9535.

Westland
LIVONIA SCHOOLS
You'll fall in love with this 3 bedroom brick home with an open floor plan and neutral decor including 1 1/2 baths on the main floor, partially finished basement, 2 car garage, just listed for \$119,900. Call Carol Heinlein (313) 454-9535.

354 Oakland County
BUILDER CLOSEOUT LAKE FOREST VILLAGE
By Delcor Homes
Unique Waterfront Community in a spectacular natural setting including walking trails, nature sanctuary, beach and picnic areas.
3 Spectacular Model Homes Now For Sale!
OR
Select your favorite home to be built on one of 4 Spectacular Wooded Homesites
(248) 698-4888

354 Oakland County
START PACKING
Dedicated to the "new" home buyer. Many updates such as roof, windows, gutters, new floor and more! \$22,900 (40% off)
LARGE HOME
The 4 bedroom home even has study and 1 1/2 floor laundry on main floor. 2 full baths, 2nd floor laundry, large kitchen, new ceramic floor in kitchen andoyer. Full partially finished basement. Very beautiful! \$179,900. Call (313) 454-9535
REACH US ON THE INTERNET
http://www.coldwellbanker.com
COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred Realtors
313-459-6000

372 Condo
COUNTRY-KING CONDO
11850 W. 12 Mile Rd.
2 Bedrooms, 2 baths, upper, lower level, 950 sq. ft. Lowest priced condo in area! \$91,000. Agents: R/MAX Executive Properties 248-641-5300.

NORTHVILLE - 654 East St.
Land contract, 2 bedrooms, 3 baths, immediate occupancy. \$159,900. Meadow Management, Bruce Lloyd 248-348-5400.

Downtown Royal Oak Condo
Main Street - Square townhouse built in 1994. Charming Georgian exterior & fabulous open floor plan with soaring ceilings, open staircase, loft with skylight, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room with fireplace, large balcony deck, 1st floor laundry, 1380 sq. ft. attached garage. Only \$169,900. Call Janet Baum 248-547-2001 ext 318 (pager) Chamberlain, Realtors

375 Mobile Homes
NOV. 14 & 15, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Newer carpeting, all appliances. Nov. school. \$12,600. (248) 478-7588.

NO LOT RENT FOR 1 FULL YEAR & NO DOWN PAYMENT!
Located in Windsor's new community, COMMERCE MEADOWS. Live in this 2 bedroom, 2 full bath SCHULT home for only \$170 per month! 700 sq. ft. on 1/2 acre lot with garden lot, and french doors in the master suite, skylight ceiling, central air conditioning, garage disposal, dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, matching storage and new gas water heater. Call \$16,900. Must see, sales tax.
Park Associates
(800) 391-3011.

382 Lot's & Acreage/Vacant
LAND AUCTION
Tuesday, Dec. 10, 7:30pm
Beard Rd., Byron, Shiawassee County
Approximately 40 acres.
3 parcels sold individually OR in any combination.
Inspection: Sun., 1-3pm
196 to Howell/Pinkney exit #137 north on Michigan Ave./Oak Grove Rd. west 1/2 mile to Durand Rd. north 3 1/2 miles to Beard Rd. west 3/4 mile to property.
Auction held at: Hunter's Ridge Golf Course 8101 Byron Rd., Howell #96 to Howell/Pinkney exit #137 N. on Michigan Ave/Oak Grove Rd. 3.5 miles to Oak Grove Rd. west 1/2 mile to Byron Rd. north to auction.
\$5,000 cash or certified funds deposit due day of auction. Other terms & conditions apply.
Tim Nahl Auctioneer 1-800-594-5995

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HOLIDAY SAVINGS \$\$\$\$
Our Low Move-In Cost Will Help You Through The Holidays!
Security Deposit Only \$200 Plus \$200 Off 1st Month's Rent.
Ranch Style Apartments mean quiet living.
We offer:
• Private Entrances/Patios
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• A/C Storage
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Special 1 Bedroom rate Only \$545/mo.
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Ford Rd. & I-275, S. on Hagerty Equal Opportunity Housing

400 Apartments/Unfurnished
GRAND RIVER-MIDDLEBELT GREAT LOCATION CEDARIDGE
Deluxe 1 & 2 Bedroom Units From \$540
Newest Carpeting, Modern appliances, security system, storage within apartment. Enter on Tulare, 1 block W. of Middlebelt on the S. side of (Grand River). Near Bedford, Novi, Livonia, Mail & downtown Farmington.
(248) 471-5020
Model Open daily 1-6 Except Wednesday
Office: (610) 775-8206

400 Apartments/Unfurnished
Imagine!
12 unique floor plans. Extra spacious apartments. Beautiful landscaped grounds. Extra-large storage areas. Close to all major freeways. Extra-large health club. Full size washers & dryers. 24 hr. monitored gatehouse.
MULWOOD
(248) 478-5533
Located at corner of Grand River & Drake Rd.
http://www.rent.net/direct/mulwood

346 Whitmore Lake
FOUR BEDROOM, 2 1/2 baths, 1,850 sq. ft., 2 car attached garage, hardwood floors, decks, jacuzzi, on 1 acre 1/4 miles to 16 Mile Rd. By owner.
(610) 231-1383

357 Wayne County
UNIQUE
Large corner lot with 3 bedroom brick home. Many new updates, including new 2 1/2 car garage, security system, updated kitchen, master enclavation. Seller motivated. Being offered! CHERYL BUNTING, Century 21 Flow (313) 494-7111.

WATERFRONT IN GREEN OAK
Wow! What detail! 2 story foyer, extensive Oak woodwork throughout, 10 ft. ceilings on 1st floor and walk-out w/ way to lake. Huge private lot, 2 furnaces and central air, central vacuum, bonus room over 3 car garage. Awesome master bath, dynamic finished walk-out, better carpet throughout, ceramic tile in foyer and kitchen. \$424,900. (0408R)

NOVI RANCH WITH IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY!
Simon's 1/2 chard ranch with finished basement. Screened porch to enjoy exceptional backyard landscaping. Woodburning fireplace. Spectacular great room w/ fireplace, ceramic tile in foyer, hall and kitchen. Hurry! \$169,900. Call (313) 454-9535
REACH US ON THE INTERNET
http://www.coldwellbanker.com
COLDWELL BANKER
Preferred Realtors
313-459-6000

358 Lakefront/Waterfront Homes
LAKE FRONT WITH PRIVATE BEACH!
2 large great rooms w/ fireplace, bar, multi level decking, 4 bedroom, many updates, sellers new home is ahead of schedule! (dramatic!) reduced! \$209,900. (50205TP)
TIM PHILLIPS
Century 21 Flow (313) 494-7111

379 Northern Property
ELK RAPIDS Waterfront Condo on Elk Lake. Close to Traverse City. 2 bed, 2 bath, upper unit. By owner: \$179,000. 517-366-739

NORTHERN LEEANAU County
70 acre farm, pond, woods, and rolling hills with lake view. Scenic 2400 sq. ft. home and out building. \$520,000. By owner: (616) 388-7506

379 Northern Property
TAWAS/OSCODA AREA
Lake Huron cottages, resorts, year round homes, inland lakes, wooded areas, 2 bedroom ranch, carpet, tile, investment properties and business opportunities.
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Both Numbers TOLL FREE
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WEST BRANCH: Wooded 38 acres lower 700 on River. Build your dream home. Camp, fish, hunt, canoe. \$79,900 248-478-1856

383 Time Share
RCI to red weeks, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, sleeps 6, deeded ownership. \$3900/total. Must sell 702-698-5002

384 Lease/Option To Buy
REDFORD - 2 bedroom ranch, garage, appliances, fenced, newer everything, \$700/mo plus security, w/option to buy. (248) 473-0876

385 Mortgage/Land Contracts
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388 Cemetery Lots
2 CEMETERY lots, Knollwood Memorial Park, 1299 Ridge Rd., Canton \$780 each. (610) 784-8034

OAKLAND HILLS Memorial Gardens, 3 plots in rugged cross Section. \$3,000. (613) 484-9090

2 SIDE by side lots in Glen Eden Lutheran Memorial Park in Livonia, 1,600/bath. (517) 545-1510

UNITED MEMORIAL GARDEN - 2 plots in The Garden of Faith. \$500 for both. (313) 387-7850

WHITE CHAPEL - Commandment Section. 2 lots for \$1,900. 248-437-2741

348 Wixom/Walled Lake/Commerce
YOU CAN SEE THE DIFFERENCE
Iovag care makes in this spotless 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with 3rd dramatic cathedral ceilings, skylights, 2 fireplaces, and country kitchen with bay window in nook. Upgrades and extra galore! 2 car attached garage. Central air. Picture perfect and only 2 years old! \$169,900.

MARY MCLEOD
PAGER: (313) 980-7649
(248) 347-3050 ext. 402

349 Ypsilanti/Belleville
LOOKS ARE DECEIVING
Definitely not a drive by! 1100 sq. ft. ranch. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath with large eat-in kitchen. Really cozy and comfortable. Bring offers! Price includes refrigerator, stove and dishwasher. 11032. \$85,000
730 Savage Road, Van Buren

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372 Condos
BIRMINGHAM - 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, oak kitchen, new carpet, \$89,900. Bloomfield Realty 248-647-8080

BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Townhouse. New windows, doors, furnace, air, kitchen & appliances. Beautiful ravine view. \$179,900 Owner 248-647-6521

BLOOMFIELD HILLS - 1,947 sq. ft., 2 car attached garage, full basement, large corner lot. Select your carpet and kitchen flooring. \$165,630. (248) 698-4888

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ANN ARBOR AREA Superior
This sharp waterfront end unit townhouse has the beautiful setting, convenient location, and wonderful features. Hurry to see this 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath gem with cozy FIREPLACE, finished basement and neutral decor throughout. \$72,500.

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BERKLEY - 3 bedrooms, basement, garage, too many updates to mention \$129,900, 1555 CAMBRIDGE (N. 11/2 of Cambridge)
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354 Oakland County
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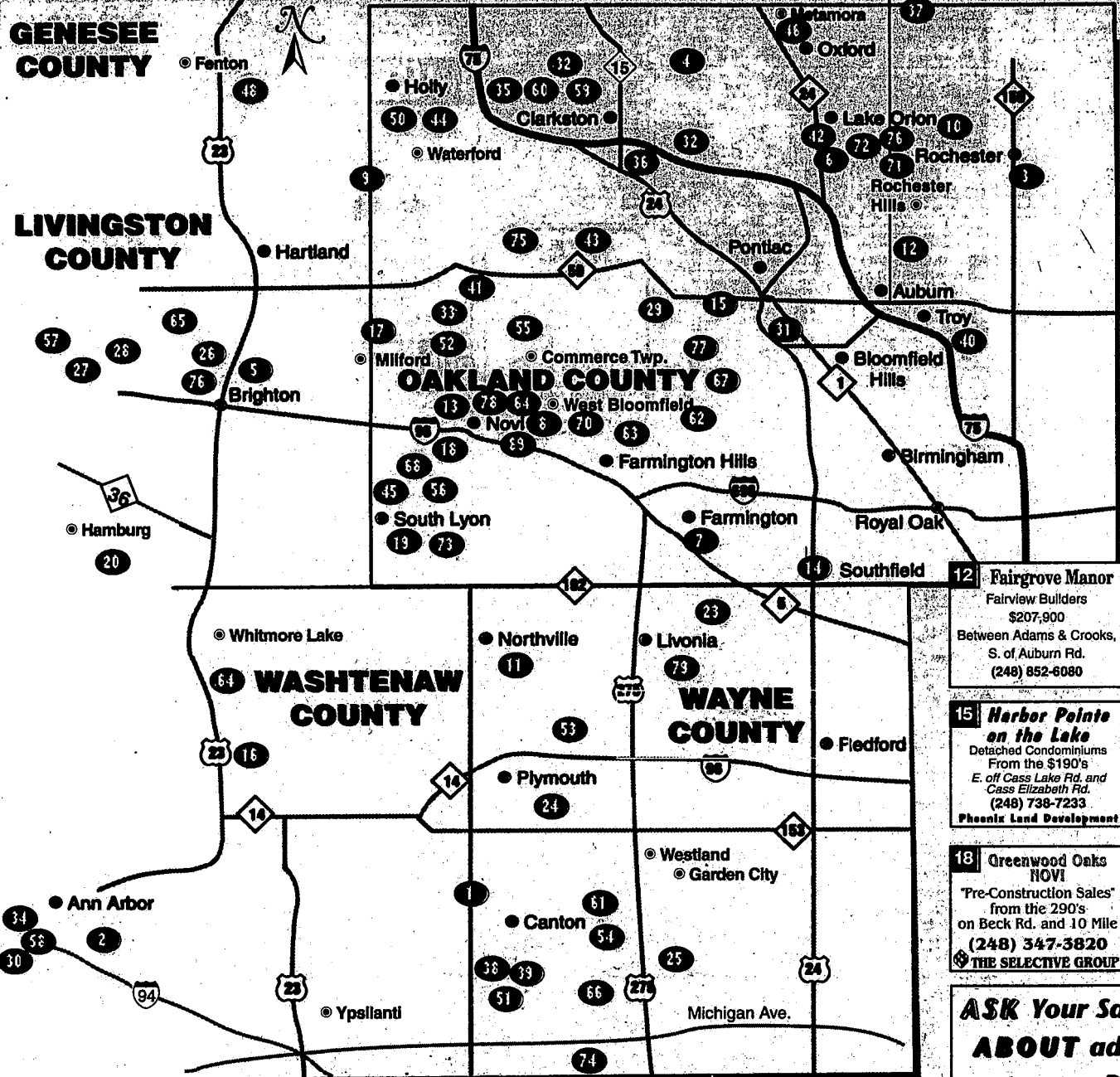
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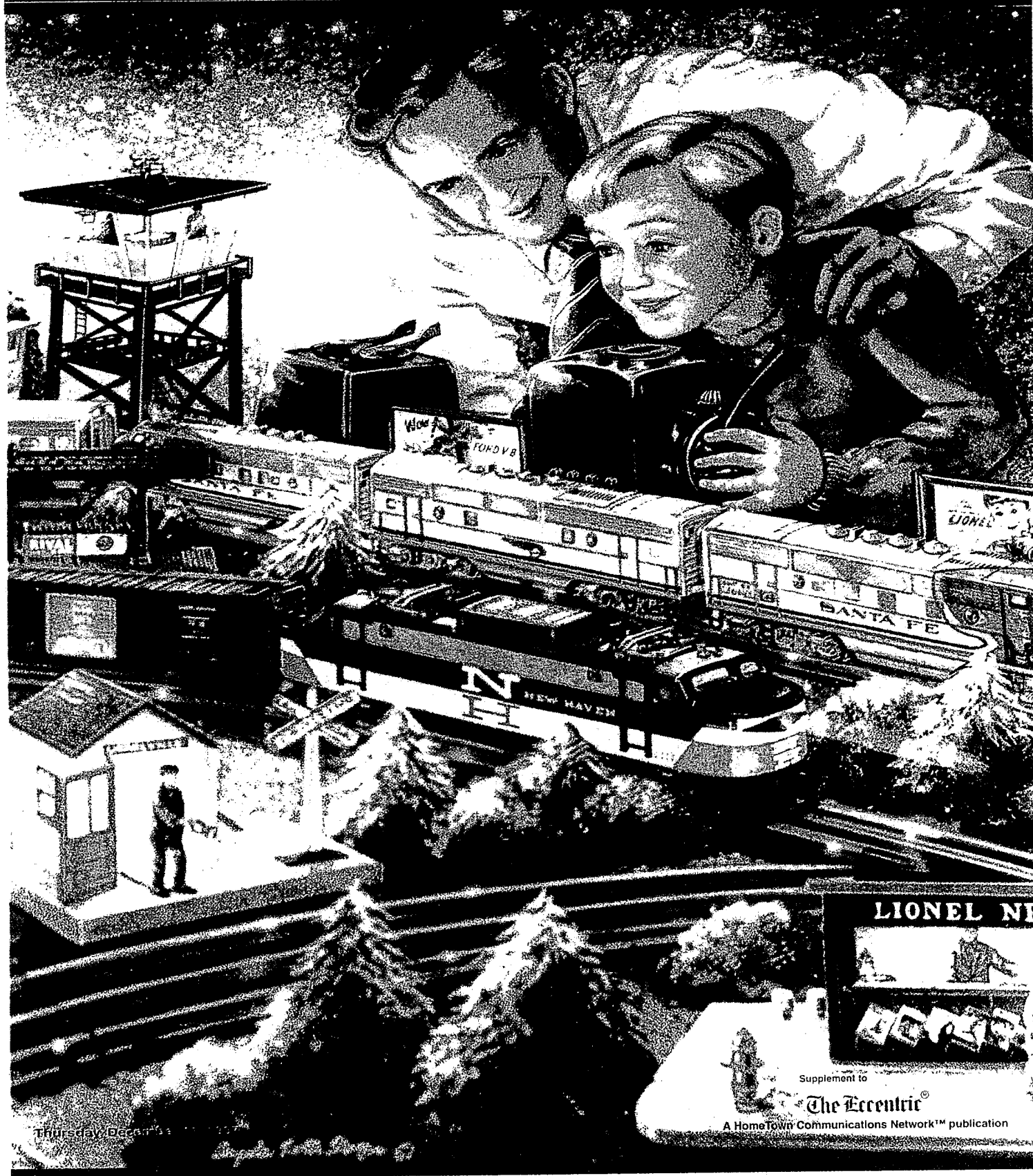
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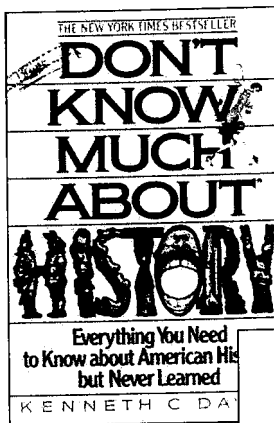
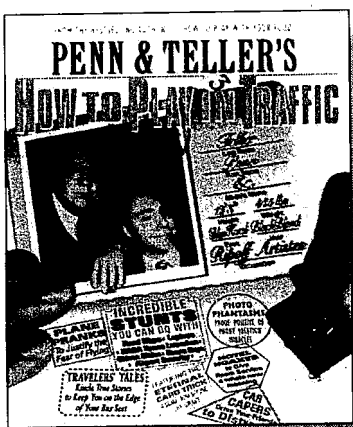
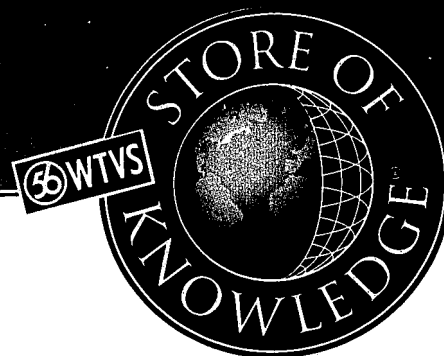
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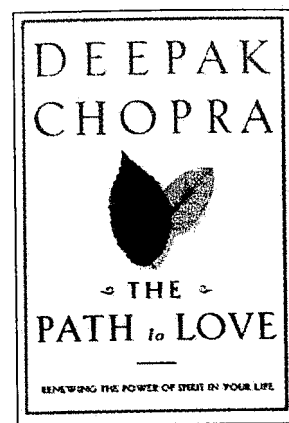
A HomeTown Communications Network™ publication

Thursday, December 14, 1995

SMART GIFT IDEAS *for everyone on your list.*

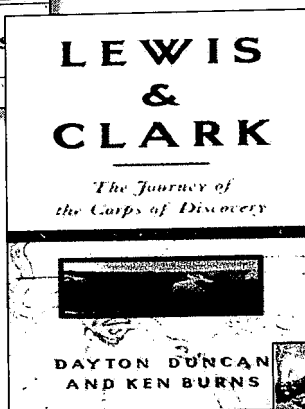
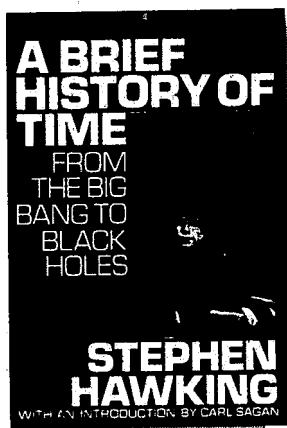


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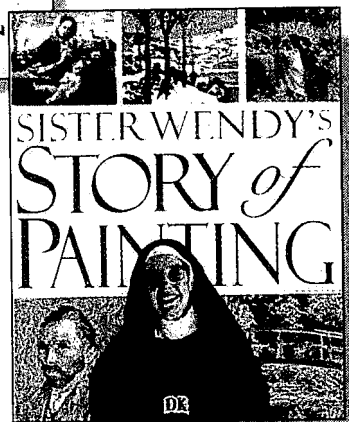
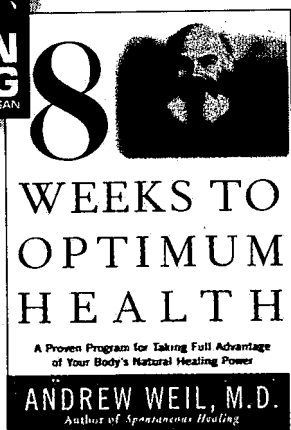
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On the cover: The Great Train Store at Somerset Collection North in Troy, carries wonderful train prints, including this poignant father and son lithograph by artist Angela Trotta Thomas for Lionel Trains, \$199.99. The Great Train store welcomes inquiries at (248) 816-9803. To reach the Lionel Train Factory direct, dial 1-800-4-LIONEL.

Making Memories

A guide to holiday gift giving

Among my most cherished possessions are two tiny handprints of plaster and sand that my sons made for me one Christmas in kindergarten more than a decade ago. Today they serve as paperweights on my desk — a constant reminder of how fast time flies, and how fragile and special are the sweet days of youth...

The holidays, filled with homecomings, family traditions and sentimental gift-giving, are a wonderful time for making memories. So inside this gift guide, we tried to shop for gifts and gadgets that help families make merry memories.

We added some recipes from readers, a list of the best places in town to try out new skis, skates and toboggans, and sought out photographic tips from professionals to make sure each "shot" counts.

In addition to the many gift ideas, we found several crafty ways you can assure that your kids leave their "prints" for you to treasure through the years.

Enjoy the season and Happy New Year!

Susan DeMaggio
Retail editor

Credits

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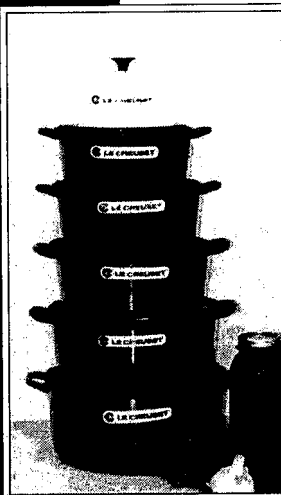
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Say cheese!

Smile, You're on granddad's camera!

BY LINDA BACHRACK
SPECIAL WRITER

Mom's hiding her morning face behind her super-sized coffee mug. Grandma scurries from the room every time she hears "smile," the kids are knee-deep in boxes and bows, and stick out their tongues if you come anywhere near them with a camera.

But it's Christmas morning and, by golly, you're determined to capture the moment on film, even if every picture is a blur of green and red chaos.

How do you make your holiday photos look like they jumped off the pages of Life magazine? Editorial and advertising photographer Steve Kovich, has some time-honored tips taken from his years of professional experience plus a bunch of Christmas mornings snapping candids of his 20-some-odd nieces and nephews.

First things first, he says. Buy a decent point-and-shoot camera. You want an auto-focus feature, not a fixed lens camera, and make sure it has a glass, rather than a plastic lens. A zoom setting will aid in composing your pictures. A slow sync is an added feature that would be a real asset early on a Christmas morning.

"A slow sync is great for flash photos because it gives a low light background a more natural look. You'll see the tree and lights, but your subjects also will be sharp."

Kovich recommends the Nikon Nuvis 125 or the Canon Elph, both priced around \$275. Both are APS (Advanced Photo System)-format cameras, meaning they use an APS cartridge rather than standard film, and they give you a choice of print size: classic, wide-angle or panorama.

When you're trying to get good candids, says Kovich, don't use the red-eye

reduction feature on your camera. "It just doesn't work, and the double flash often ruins the spontaneity of the moment."

Don't forget to be the observer. Back away and use the zoom. In-your-face photography never works.

If you're confused about film, Kovich says you can't take a bad picture with Kodak Pro 400 or Royal Gold, or Fuji's new Reala film.

Use 400 ASA for indoor photos. "Fuji is known to hold greens really well, so it might be the best bet for Christmas. Your tree will look spectacular."

Where are the best camera stores in town? Camera Mart in Pontiac and Adray in Dearborn, advises Kovich. "No contest."

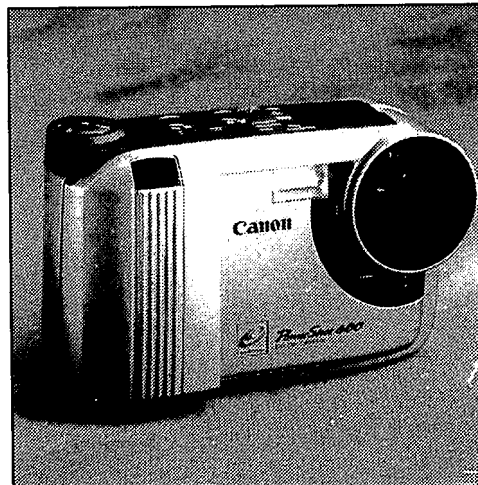
And, although most photo processing is OK, he recommends Photofast in Birmingham and Profoto in Royal Oak or Hite Photo Onsite in West Bloomfield.

"No matter where you get your film developed, if the pictures are not saturated and rich in color, make the lab redo them."

Now that you've excelled in Holiday Photography 101, show off your work in a handmade album. "It's really fun and easy to make your own album," says Kovich, "and it makes a great gift."

He uses a woodgrain laminate or heavy corrugated paper for the front and back covers, and watercolor paper inside. Simply take a three-hole punch and pierce the covers and the paper sheets, then secure with twine. Spray mount your pictures directly onto the paper. There's no need to worry with photo sleeves. Find all of your supplies at Sheets in Royal Oak.

Now smile. You've made memories with the touch of a button!



Personal portraits:
Create a professional family photo with Canon's PowerShot 350 digital camera, \$599. Shoot, display and print instantly without film. Available at fine camera stores.

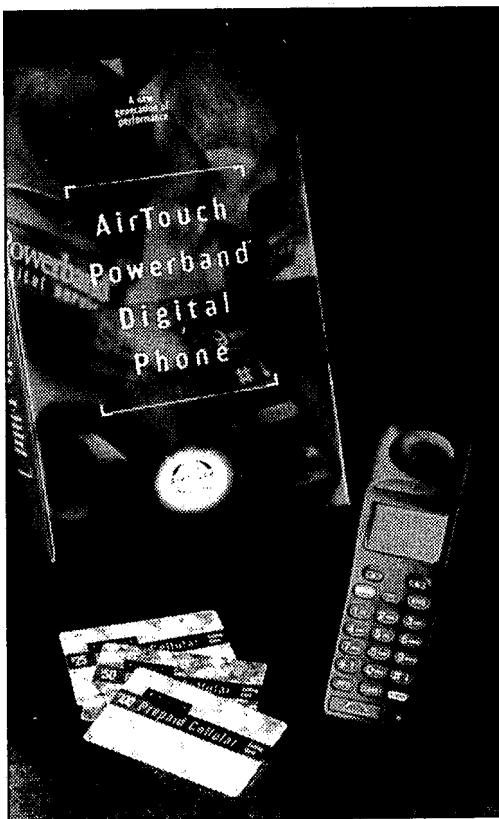
Practical gift ideas help small business-owners stay on track

Socks, a sweater and a new inkjet printer? The Hewlett-Packard Company has some practical gift ideas — from magazine subscriptions to personalized screen savers — for the small-business owners on your holiday gift list.

- **Small-business guidebooks or a subscription to magazines** geared to small-business users, offer articles on topics ranging from management advice to national business and financial trends.
- **Time Management Seminars.** Treat a small-business owner to an all-day professional time management seminar that will provide fundamental skills, needed to organize and manage limited time. Time management companies such as Franklin Quest, (www.franklinquest.com), can provide individualized information seminars and other time management tools, such as Day Planners.
- **Small-Business Equipment.** Equipment custom-made for small businesses saves time, money, and increases productivity. The HP ScanJet 5s scanner, about \$199, allows users to scan in bills and receipts for easy record keeping, or input company logos and graphics and text to avoid retyping documents.
- In addition, the HP LaserJet Companion, also available for about \$199, can add fax, file and copy capabilities at the touch of a button when used in conjunction with a LaserJet printer. The HP OfficeJet family of all-in-one products provides users with an integrated device combining color printing, copying and scanning along with fax capabilities for prices starting at about \$400.
- **Stress Relasers.** CD-ROMs such as "Workstation Wellness," offer tips on relieving computer workstation stress and repetitive motion injuries. Hand-held "squishy balls" are also a great gift idea for relieving stress.
- **Ergonomically Correct.** To minimize back tension and hand strain, new, ergonomically correct chairs and keyboards enable users to sit and type comfortably. In addition, many companies will customize equipment to the owner's measurements. If this is beyond your price range, consider a wrist pad for their computer desks, or a privacy screen to keep private documents confidential.
- **Screensavers.** Customize a screensaver that expresses the personality of your company or the small-business on your gift list. The screensaver can be the company logo, an inspirational message or scanned-in photos of family and friends.

For the small-business owner, the best gift is one that makes life easier by saving time and effort.

This holiday season, consider giving the gift of technology.



Let the kids know you're running late: *The lines are always open when the family's got your number. Keep them close at hand with this digital technology phone and prepaid cellular cards, with or without contracts. AirTouch Powerband Digital Phone, \$399; and prepaid cellular cards, available in \$25, \$50 and \$100 worth of service; from AirTouch Cellular Easy Store locations in Birmingham and Troy.*

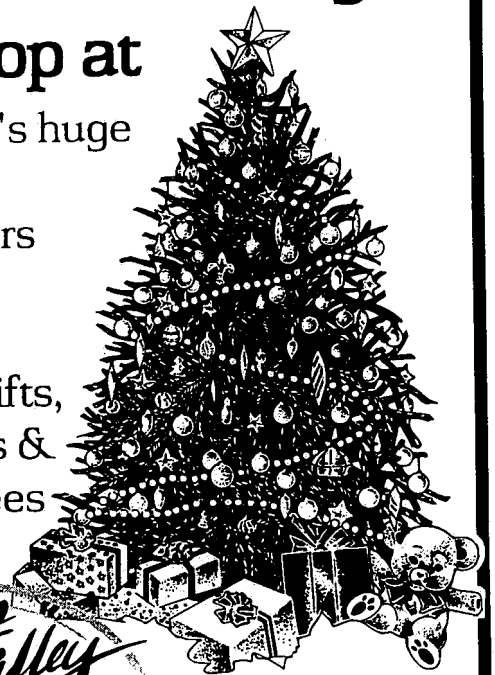
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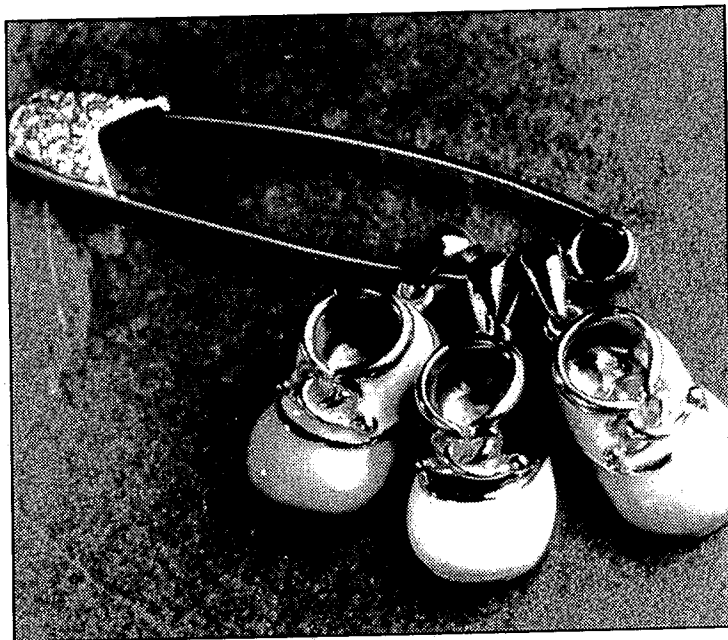
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One for the baby and one for me: Pin your good luck charms all together in the Bootie Pin, featuring a diaper pin and baby shoes, available at Jules R. Schubot Jewellers, in Troy.

Keepsake jewelry abounds at the holidays

BY LINDA BACHRACK
SPECIAL WRITER

In Isak Dinesen's short story "The Pearls," a dashing young Dane gives his family's heirloom pearls to his bride on their wedding day. "He asked her to wear the pearls every day. Jensine had never had a string of pearls before, and she was proud of hers."

Such romantic tales reflect a long tradition of pearls as "the gem which dims the moon," as Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote. They are the foundation of the velvet jewelry box, and they are traditionally handed down from mother to daughter, along with precious memories of prom dates, graduation days and anniversaries.

This holiday season may be the perfect time to consider a gift of jewelry that has personal meaning.

"We have an entire line of keepsake jewelry that we call Your Pride & Joy," says Stephanie Kroot of Tapper's in West Bloomfield. Included are baby and children charms, initial and name jewelry.

One new trend is to collect tiny

baby shoe charms that can be hung from a necklace or bracelet, or from a gold or sterling silver safety pin. The shoes come in sterling silver, mother-of-pearl, enamel and 14kt. gold with diamonds.

Prices range from \$95-\$420.

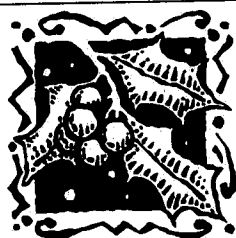
Grandma might love a 14kt gold pin (\$155) suspended with the names of her grandchildren (\$87 each name). Or consider a boy or girl cutout charm with the child's name engraved down the leg or across the bottom of the skirt.

Traditional I.D. bracelets are all the rage again, as are initial rings and diamond name bracelets.

Grand dads and fathers also treasure the moment they hand down that special pocketwatch to the next generation.

But for a lasting memento, nothing could have more meaning than your old silver charm bracelet or the locket your aunt bequeathed to you, or even the tiny birthstone ring that you received as a child.

Pass these along to the next generation and share the memories they hold.



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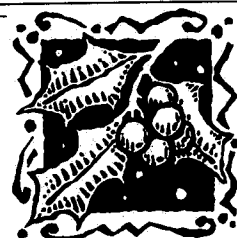
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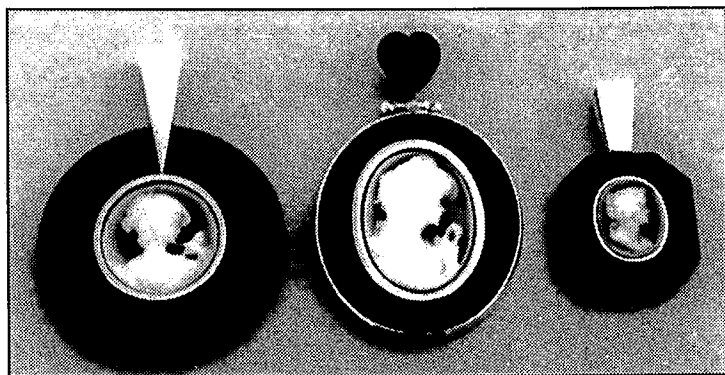
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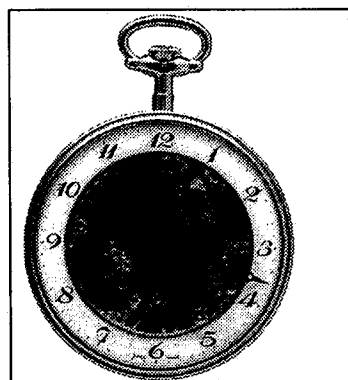




Carved in timeless memory: Cameos capture the essence of feminine and family heritage, as captured in these three pins or pendants framed in black and gold. From Halina Fuchs Gallery, Birmingham.



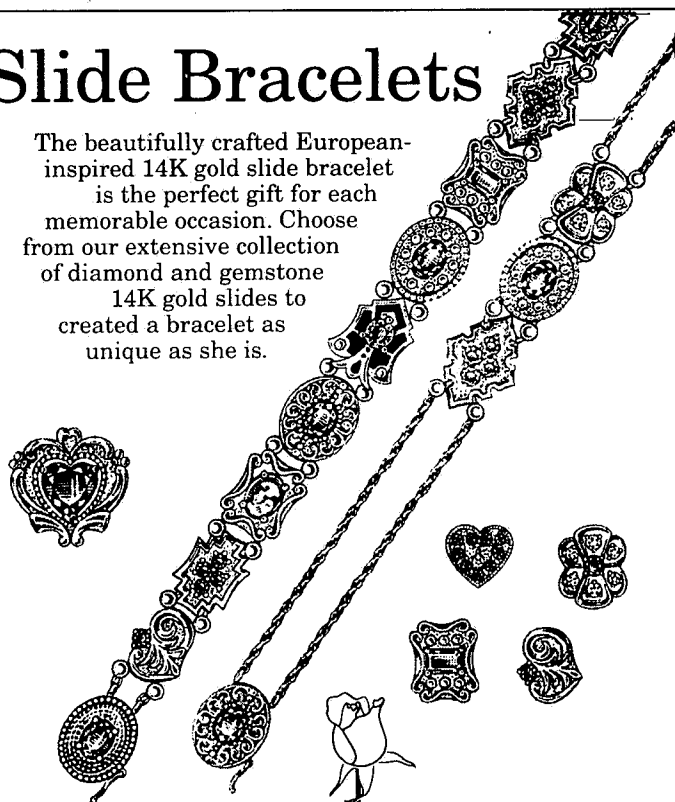
A glimmer of affection: There's nothing like original design jewelry in precious stones to capture a memory that will be evoked with each use. The artistic family at Massoud Jewelers presents a one-of-a-kind perfume bottle necklace, in platinum 18 kt gold with tanzanite and yellow and white diamonds. Massoud Jewelers, Troy.



Gears for all time: Pocket watches from Tissot feature the best of traditional Swiss watchmaking in designs and styles for every taste, since 1853. This see-through model shows every tick, \$795, from Triple Crown Watch Company, East Maple, Troy.

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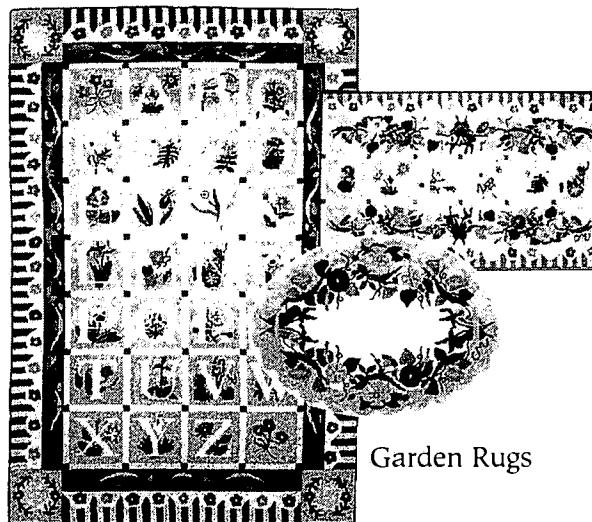


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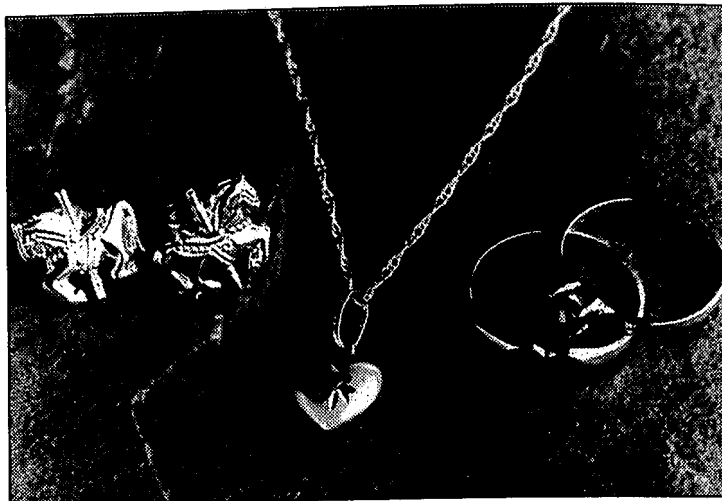
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Tips for buying a time piece

- **Don't judge a piece by its price.** Price is related to the numerous functions of a watch and the materials from which it's made. Other cost factors include design, number of designs made, and collector's value.
- **Put the best face forward.** Watch size and shape should match the wearer. Smaller-boned people match smaller-faced watches. Large, chunky watches make a great fashion statement for those who can carry the look. Round faces are classic. Square or geometric faces are trendy.
- **Own more than one watch.** Fit a watch to match your lifestyle, sporty for casual, digital for sporty, classic for business.
- **Try it on.** A watch is also a piece of fine jewelry and accessory. Put it on, look in the mirror, check out the fashion.
- **Take care.** Keep your watch in good repair and maintenance and have it serviced occasionally.

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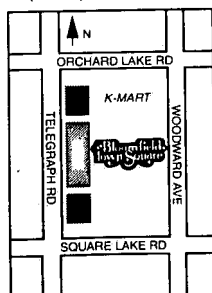


For Daddy's Little Girl: For the lady in your life, her very own 14 K gold jewelry to wear and collect for a lifetime of make believe. Merry-go-round horse earrings, \$25; heart-shaped necklace and pendant, \$45; heart signet ring, \$45; amethyst stone ring, \$45; all from Jacobson's.

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Best video games feature robots, aliens... and rappers

The top 10 videogames by Sony PlayStation this year-end, as selected by the editors of the nine most influential videogame publications, include gladiators, entertainers, missions and music.

Here's the select list from Sony:

Music. *Parappa The Rapper* combines hip-hop with a musical "Simon Says" game. The player must repeat the rapping sequence of one of dozens of rapping masters, in the same order, rhythm and musical timing.

Sports. *Madden NFL and NFL Game Day.* *Madden NFL* lists 100 past and present teams, wild 3-D graphics of custom stadiums, multiple camera angles and John Madden in the broadcast booth. *NFL Game Day* is the first 3D polygonal football video game with realistic graphics, stadiums, players and motion.

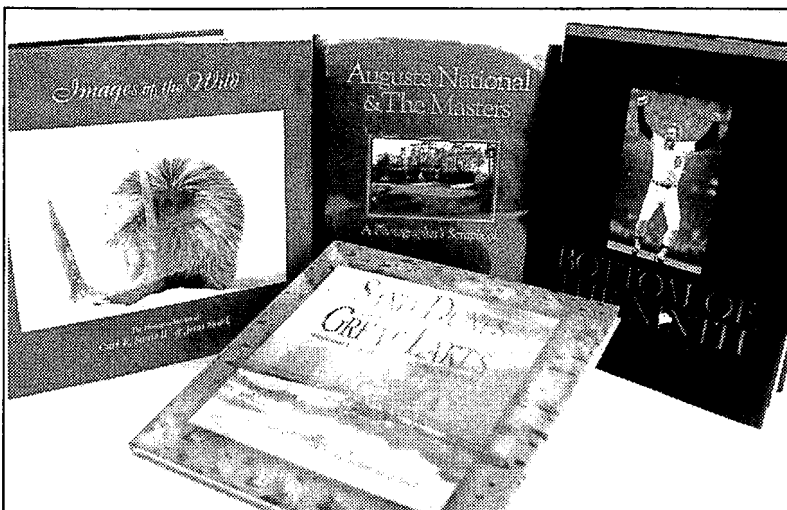
New releases. *Oddworld: Abe's Oddysee* and *Colony Wars.* *Oddworld: Abe's Oddysee*, is a fight against human meat-processing. The technology puts real-time conversation between characters and tracks players' choices throughout the game and scores their balance between ethical and non-ethical choices. *Colony Wars* is a galactic adventure in a non-linear, 3D space combat with five realistically-modeled and scaled solar systems, 50 intelligent space craft, and 70 missions.

Returning series. *Tomb Raider II*, *Castlevania*, *Street Fighter EX*, *Crash Bandicoot 2*, *Final Fantasy VII*. In *Tomb Raider II*, Lara is looking for an artifact hidden in an ancient emperor's palace within the Great Wall of China. She must find her way through the palace, Venice, Tibet and an underwater shipwreck, with the help of hidden doors and clues. In *Castlevania*, players assume the identity of Alucard, half-vampire and half-human, who must explore Dracula's castle and attempt to end his evil fathers reign. *Castlevania* celebrates its 10th anniversary with 140 different enemies, bosses and ghostly creatures.

Street Fighter EX, a decade-old series, returns with old favorites and new characters. The game boasts 23 playable bosses and street fighters in seven different play modes for one or two players, training, survival, team battle and time attack.

Crash Bandicoot 2, *The Cortex Strikes Back*, revives the best-selling platform game exclusively for PlayStation. The game offers a lush cartoon world, fun characters and a big sequel to Crash's hidden levels, secret paths and puzzles.

Final Fantasy VII, one of the most anticipated videogames of the year, captures 50 hours of non-stop game action that spans across three CDs. *Final Fantasy* is a world where magic and technology collide in action sequences that include motorcycle racing, snow boarding, and the top of a runaway train.



Memorable Images:

Leave it to *Sleeping Bear Press of Chelsea* to publish books that are perfect for a long winter's night in front of a roaring fire. These titles are available at Jacobson's and many local bookstores: "Augusta National & The Masters: A photographer's scrapbook," \$45; "Images Of The Wild" by renown wildlife photographers Carl Sams II and his wife Jean Stick, \$45; "Sand Dunes of the Great Lakes," by photographer C.J. Elfont with prose by Edna Elfont, \$34.95; and former Detroit Tiger star Kirk Gibson's "Bottom of the Ninth," \$35.

New shop is chilihead paradise

Hot salsas, barbecue spices, marinades and hot sauces from around the world are available from right around the corner, at the Caribbean Spice Co. in Rochester.

Specializing in gift baskets for individuals or corporations, Caribbean Spice will assemble and deliver your choice of Hot! Hot! Hot! to reflect your "warmest wishes."

Fiery gourmet foods, including mustards, oils, vinegars, chocolates, pasts and jellies are available in all heat ranges. Gift boxes include, Michigan Products, Hot Sauce Sampler and other Variety packs.

Caribbean Spice Co. is located in the MeadowBrook Village Mall, Rochester Hills.



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Outdoor memories begin with a sense of fun

BY LINDA BACHRACK
SPECIAL WRITER

Sometimes the best gifts are the ones that remind you what holidays are all about...

You might be thrilled to unwrap a new digital camera on Christmas morning, but the real joy will come when you share the images with family and friends. The photos become keepsakes that remind you for years to come of the joy you experienced on that day.

Dreaming of new ice skates under the tree? Buy a pair for each member of the family and spend winter Sundays learning graceful moves together on the frozen neighborhood pond. Now you've made memories that will last forever.

Huddle up

They say the family that plays together stays together. Makes sense. Who can argue with teamwork, sportsmanship, camaraderie and a shared love of the game? This winter, huddle with the kids and make the call that will score a hit for the entire family. Choose a sport or activity, preferably out-of-doors, gather the appropriate equipment and treat the whole team to winter weekends together... it's a win-win situation.

Local winter camp sites

Pack up the tent and your warmest mittens and head to the following campgrounds for a night of s'mores and fireside ghost stories:

Addison Oaks County Park - Leonard
Bald Mountain State Park - Lake Orion
Brighton State Park - Howell
Groveland Oaks County Park - Holly
Highland State Park - Milford
Holly State Park - Holly
Metamora-Hadley State Park - Metamora
Ortonville State Park - Ortonville
Pontiac Lake State Park - Pontiac

Head for the nearest ski hill

Outfit the family in downhill skis and boots and furry parkas, then take off for:

Alpine Valley - White Lake
Mt. Brighton - Brighton
Mt. Holly - Holly
Pine Knob - Clarkston

Cross-country style

Don't be surprised when the kids shush ahead of you on the cross-country ski trail. In fact, don't be surprised if you spend some time in the snow before

you finally get the hang of the walk/ski motion. Once mastered, however, cross-country skiing will captivate the whole clan. It's energizing and peaceful at the same time.

X-country trails:

Addison Oaks County Park - Leonard (ski lessons and rentals)
Bald Mountain Recreation Area - Lake Orion
Bloomer Park - Rochester Hills
Glen Oaks Golf Course - Farmington Hills (ski rentals)
Highland Recreation Area - Milford (ski rentals)
Independence Oaks County Park - Clarkston (ski rentals)
Indian Springs Metropark - Clarkston (ski rentals)
Kensington Metropark - Milford (ski lessons and rentals)
Lincoln Hills Golf Course - Birmingham (ski rentals)
Metamora-Hadley Recreation Area - Metamora
Orion Oaks County Park - Lake Orion
Ortonville Recreation Area - Ortonville
Paint Creek Trail - Rochester
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area - Waterford

Springfield Oaks Golf Course - Davisburg

Stony Creek Metropark - Washington
West Bloomfield Trail Network - West Bloomfield

White Lake Oaks Golf Course - Pontiac (lessons)

Snowmobiling anyone?

If you splurge on a snowmobile this season, christen it at the Cadillac Net Ride '98 on Jan. 17 and 18 in Cadillac. With three group levels, local guides, cool T-shirts and hearty meal stops, it's an event for the entire family and a way for all to enjoy the outdoors while meeting lots of other snowmobile fans.

Ice-skating adventures

Don't want to pack the kids and their skates into the car for a journey to the nearest frozen pond? Build your own ice rink with NiceRink, a Wisconsin-based do-it-yourself backyard pond-in-a-kit. The ultra-strong polyethylene liner holds water in any shape that you create. It's great for hockey practice, figure skating and just plain fun. Liners cost from \$100 to \$2,000 depending upon size and quality. Call 1-888-Nicerink for more information.

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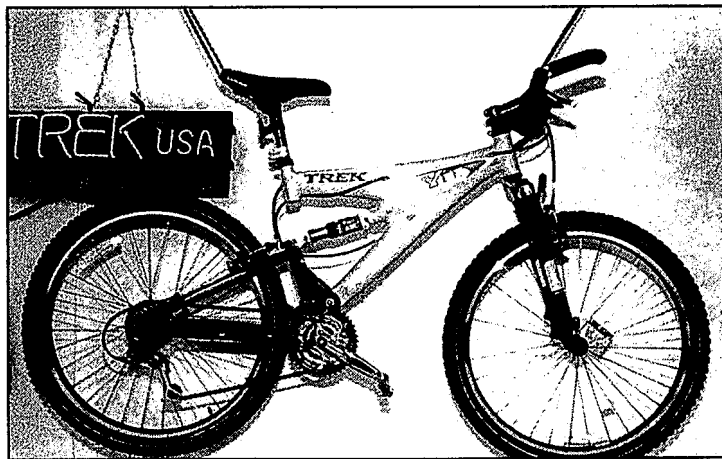
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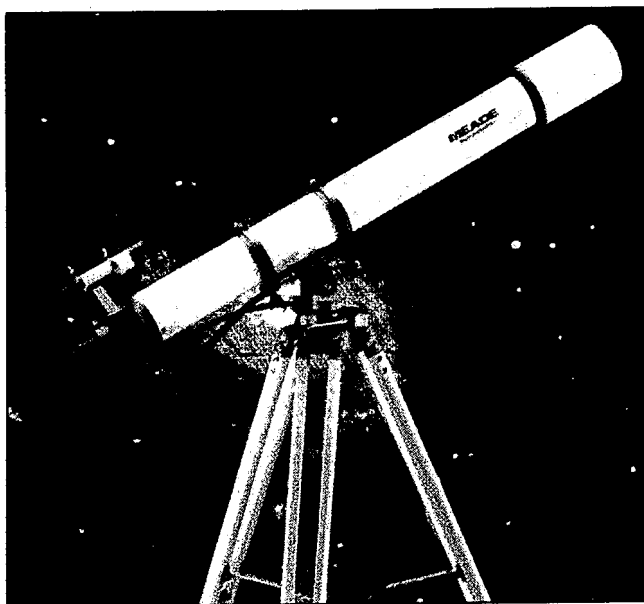
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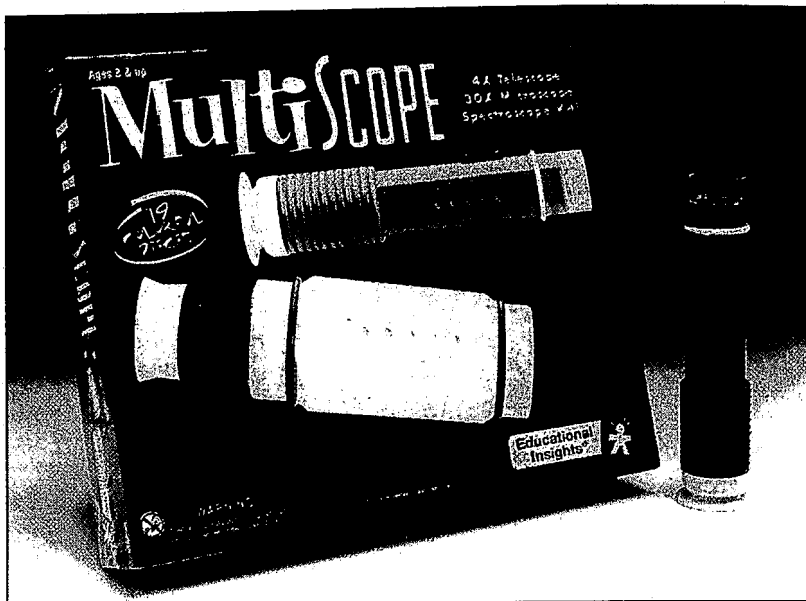
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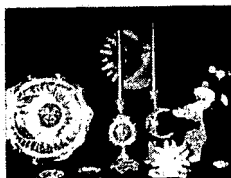
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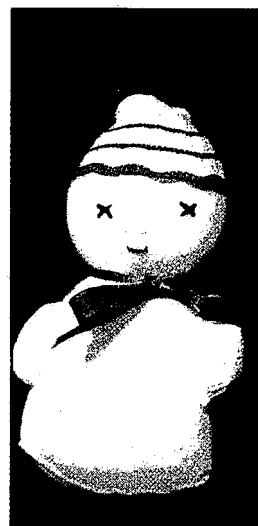
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A keepsake from grandma's sewing box

This easy-to-make sock-doll snowman can be personalized across the hem with baby's name and the year. It can be given to children as a toy, or saved from year-to-year to trim the tree. Simple to make a bunch!

Items needed: Little girl's ankle with lace trim, cotton balls or fiberfill, heavy thread or string, ribbon, fabric paint or needle and embroidery thread.

Directions: Fill the sock half-way with stuffing. Use a long piece of heavy thread to securely tie the sock in the middle to keep in the stuffing. Fold down the cuff to form a bonnet. Tie ribbon around to form neck and head of doll. Fashion doll's eyes, nose and mouth with fabric paints and a thin paint brush - or use needle and embroidery thread.



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His limited edition "Little Golden Hood" will be exclusively available at this event. Come see all of Christopher's magical creations that can turn any room in your home into a Christmas Celebration!

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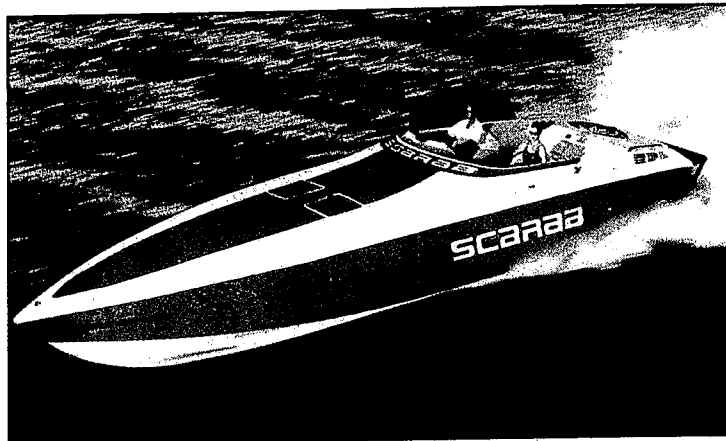
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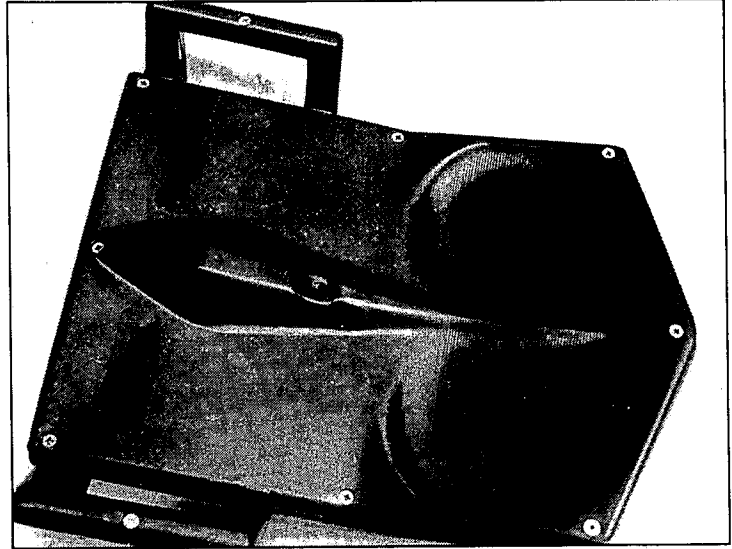
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Generations of good stuff: Nothing brings families together like the sweet smells from the kitchen at holiday time.

Holiday help in the kitchen from our readers to you!

We asked our *Malls & Mainstreets* readers to send us their quickest, easiest *Munchie Recipes* so harried holiday hostesses could have dishes to pass on a moments notice.

We received about three dozen suggestions and chose these to share with our gift guide readers. Enjoy!

— Susan DeMaggio
Editor

Veggie Squares

2 pkgs. Pillsbury Crescent Rolls:
Spread rolls out on jelly roll pan or cookie sheet and bake according to package. Cool.

Topping:

12 oz. cream cheese
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1 teaspoon dillweed
salt & pepper

1 tablespoon minced onion

Mix above ingredients and spread over cooled crescent roll base.

Next assemble finely-cut carrots, peppers, tomatoes, cucumbers, celery and other veggies as desired. Evenly spread veggies over top of cream cheese. Top with 8 oz. (or more as desired) grated cheddar cheese. Chill, cut in squares or bigger.

Donna Young
Farmington Hills

Sugar and Spice Nuts

1/4 cup margarine
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
1/2 lb. walnuts & pecans (mixed)

Microwave margarine on High until melted. Mix brown sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg in melted margarine. Microwave on High 1 1/2 minutes. Add nuts and coat with mixture. Microwave on High 3-4 minutes. (Stir 2-3 times). Cool on wax paper.

Judy Patton
Troy

Great Group Snack

1 large pkg. plain M&M's candies
1 large pkg. peanut M&M's candies
2 (16 oz.) pkgs. salted peanuts (no hulls), or mixed nuts of choice
1 (14-16 oz) pkg. stick pretzels
1 box Cheese Nibs
1 or 2 pkgs. candy corn
1 box Corn Chex
1 box Wheat Chex

Combine all ingredients in large bowl; mix well. Store in airtight container. May substitute appropriate candy and colors for the occasion. Makes great snacks for lunches, at home, school parties, work, or just about anywhere. Yield: 30 servings.

Cathy Midgard
Reading

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Double chocolate oatmeal cookies

1 1/4 cup sugar
1 1/4 cup flour
1 cup margarine
1/3 cup cocoa powder
1 egg
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 cup water
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
3 cups oatmeal
6 oz. chocolate chips

Mix and cream the butter and margarine, add the slightly beaten egg and water and vanilla, mixing well. Mix all the dry ingredients except the chocolate chips and gradually add to the sugar mixture, mixing well. Stir in the chocolate chips.

Drop by teaspoon onto lightly greased cookie sheet. Bake 10-12 minutes in 350 degree oven. Makes six dozen.

Lou Demrick
Bloomfield Hills

**Hot Chicken & Artichoke**

2 cups chopped cooked chicken
1 can (14 oz.) artichoke hearts
drained/chopped
1 cup mayonnaise
1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1 garlic clove, crushed
Dash of cayenne pepper

Preheat oven 350 degrees. Mix all ingredients together. Spoon into buttered casserole dish. Bake until hot and bubbling. Serve with tortilla chips or small pita bread triangles or cocktail bread.

Carolyn Madden
Keego Harbor

Kid Pleasing Cupcakes

1 yellow cake mix
3 eggs
1 1/4 cup water
1 pkg. instant pistachio pudding
1/3 cup oil
1 cup chocolate chips
ready-made cream cheese frosting
M&M's

Mix first five ingredients until combined, beat on medium speed 3 minutes. Fold in chocolate chips. Fill cupcake papers in cupcake tin 3/4 full. Bake at 350 degrees, 30 minutes. Cool & frost. Top with M&M's. Serves 36.

Michelle Swigert
Oakland Township

Spinach Appetizer

10 oz. package frozen spinach
cooked per directions.
2 eggs
1 cup milk
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
Mix all ingredients with spinach.

Cube 10 oz. Monterey Jack cheese and add to mixture. Put into a 8x9 greased pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes or until lightly browned on top. Can be served warm or cold.

Joan Ruhl
Rochester Hills

No Bake Chex Mix

1 box Chex cereal
1 jar dry roasted nuts
1 cup butter popcorn oil
1 teaspoon dried dill
1 bag salted goldfish
1/2 bag pretzels (small or sticks)
1 envelope Hidden Valley Ranch dressing

Mix top 4 ingredients in a very large bowl. Sprinkle dill and ranch dressing over ingredients. Pour popcorn oil over all. Mix with a large spoon. Let sit, then mix again. Do this several times until oil is absorbed in mix. Distribute mix into gift containers.

Rosemary Dirksen
Troy

Nuts & Bolts

2 pounds mixed nuts
1 package Cheerios
1 package Rice Chex
1 package Wheat Chex
1 package butter flavor pretzels
1 package Pepperidge Farms original goldfish
2 tablespoons garlic salt
1 tablespoon Mazzola oil

Mix all ingredients in a large roasting pan and gently mix. Bake in 250 degree oven for 2 hours, stirring gently every 15 minutes. Makes 8 quarts. Store in airtight container.

Linda Hall
West Bloomfield

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No Bake Cookies

2 cups sugar
1/2 cup milk
1 stick butter
1/4 cup cocoa
1/2 cup peanut butter
pinch of salt
3 cups of oats
1/2 cup - 1 cup chopped nuts
1/2 cup - 1 cup coconut (option)
1 teaspoon vanilla

In a large sauce pan combine sugar, butter, milk and cocoa. Heat, stirring frequently until mixture comes to a boil. Boil one or two minutes. Stir in peanut butter, vanilla and salt. Mix well. Add oatmeal, nuts, (optional) and coconut (optional). Drop by spoonfuls onto wax paper. Let cool until hardened. Makes 3-4 dozen.

Michele Dalton
Redford

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Homemade, is always best

BY LINDA BACHRACK
SPECIAL WRITER

We didn't wait for special occasions to bake cookies at my grandma's house.

It was a Saturday night ritual, one that we repeated over and over until my sister and I were too big to sit on the counter and take turns rolling out the sugar dough.

But Christmas did call for a few changes in the routine. Red and green sprinkles replaced the chocolate ones, little silver balls decorated Christmas trees and our favorite star-shaped tin cookie cutters took precedence over the moon and the bunny.

What I remember most about those nights in my grandmother's kitchen was the sense that we were living out our own traditions. And all because of a sweet little ball of dough saturated with bits of sugar and the memory of that particular place.

I don't suppose any of us who grew up to the sound of the rolling pin trundling across the kitchen table or the smell of just-baked cookies cooling atop the stove, will ever be able to think of the holidays without a frosted

snowman... or a wax paper-wrapped ball of sugar and flour in the fridge.

The sense of the familiar, especially at Christmas time, seems to bind us to the past. But whether my daughter and I bake her favorite snickerdoodles (same dough, but no fun shapes) or just mix up a box of Duncan Hines chocolate chip cookies, the familiar smells, the conversation we share and the guilty pleasure we receive from pinching the dough and licking the bowl, all take me back to the little kitchen table in Grandma's house.

And I know why we continue this cookie-baking ritual. It is not so we remember, it is so we don't forget.

Create your own memories with crafts that you make with your children or grandchildren. Make tree ornaments or window decorations. Remember reindeer clothespins and cotton ball snowmen? Or give a gift that inspires hours of creativity. Look for kits that supply the makings for tie dye T-shirts, doll furniture, science projects, sand art, trinket boxes, stained glass, jewelry, puppets and paper collage. All you supply is a little imagination and some together time.



Remember when?
Special events, from the first day of school, to the gang at the office, can be collected for everyone's posterity and hilarity. Design your own scrapbook with the Memory Book Kit from Pastime, \$29.99 at KMart, Toys R Us and Target.



Quilted with love: Paige Stanton Handmade in Franklin, will take your treasured photos and scan them onto fabric for one-of-a-kind quilt and pillow gifts. Inquires are welcome at (248) 855-3286.



I made it by myself, Mom: Kits like this candle-maker from Pastime, are available from Toys R Us and Target, in several price ranges. They keep kids busy for hours.



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SP50051

Menswear gifts revisit color and glamour

BY SHARON MOSLEY
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

Think martinis, cigars and a whole lotta swing, and you've got the mood for men's fashions this season. Designers are singing the fashion tunes that made Frank and Bing the elegant crooners that they were.

"There is definitely a return to casual elegance," said Larry Hotz, spokesman for Hugo Boss Fashions Inc. "It's a mix of the past and the future. It's taking traditional patterns and designs and transforming them with new colorations and proportions."

This return to tailored fashion with a dressier edge has even the casual Friday buffs out shopping again.

"Men have discovered how good it feels to get dressed up again," said Leon Hall, a fashion consultant who regularly appears on TV dishing out the trends.

Hall also feels men are becoming smarter about their wardrobes.

"You know now there are so many more choices out there," he said. "Men have a habit of wearing the same thing over and over. We used to buy a suit and wear it with the same shirt and the same tie every time we put it on. Not anymore."

With the sales of shirts and ties on the rise, according to Hall, men are buying much more than the traditional white shirt and repp ties.

"Color is blowing out of the stores," Hall insisted, who regularly visits his favorite Saks to check out the designer shirts and ties that are so "hot" this year in pink, lime, blue and orange. "A bright shirt with a little bit of iridescent sheen can update a suit instantly," he said.

Watch for these color-saturated shirts and ties to be the perfect counterpoint to fall's gray-toned pin-stripes. Darker, tone-on-tone shirts and ties are more conservative options.

Hall also predicted men will begin "wardrobing" more this winter by adding turtlenecks and polo sweaters to wear under suits.

"Once you start wearing knits, you know just how good they can feel," he added.

Comfort is key, said Hotz. Stretch fibers blended with traditional fabrics and patterns, including Donegal tweeds and wool flannel emphasize the new shape of tailored clothing. But don't let the slim look fool you. In innovative fabrics, the new suits may still look pared down, but in reality they are softly shaped to provide a linear silhouette that is comfortable, not restrictive as the more body-conscious looks of the past few years.

The two-button jacket with a higher gorge signals a new trend this fall, along with a high-buttoning double-breasted version. One of the trendiest jacket styles don't feature any buttons at all. Hidden by plackets, the no-button dressing is found not only on jackets, but coats and shirts as well. Pants are still streamlined in single-pleat and flat front styles.

And since the new "corporate" look is taking over menswear again, it's no surprise that the power color of the moment is gray, said Hotz.

"The grays are seen in tailored clothing in several shades," he said, often accented with pale or bright blue.

Brown is still a player in men's tailored clothing this fall, from chocolate to sandy hues. Expect to see the uptown browns in leather jackets, cashmere sweaters, wool suits and lots of brown shoes.

Green leads the pack for menswear, according to the Pantone Color Report for winter, in every imaginable tone from the forest piney greens to the deep olives, sage and loden. And, yes, there is a "green glow" to fashion in a decidedly bright yellow-green color.

But the most interesting way to put it all together when it comes to color this winter is "controlled contrast," according to Hotz. As the monochromatic dressing of the past few seasons wanes, the darker shades of black and blue are contrasted with deep browns and burgundies.

With the return to refined dressing taking center stage for the holidays, watch for luxurious fibers and fabrics to take off, too. Velvet jackets are as at home over denim jeans as they are over a cashmere turtleneck and wool trousers. Unadorned and spare, often in shorter versions this fall, suede and leather jackets are soft and weightless, a great alternative to the quintessential sport coat.

But where have all the mall rats and the surfers and skaters gone? Hip-hop has grown up, said Jack Herschlag of the National Association of Men's Sportswear Buyers. The "in your face" attitude is still there, but the latest youth wear has been jazzed up. NAMSMB dubs it "punk preppy."

Jeans wear and sportswear are combined with repp ties, argyle cardigans and classic pullovers.

Designers are merging street and sports-active clothing with classic designs — sweaters with retro stripes, glazed leather, fitted T-shirts and jackets with logos.

Watch for golf wear, a la Tiger Woods, to be a major influence.

Frank and Bing would approve, don't you think?

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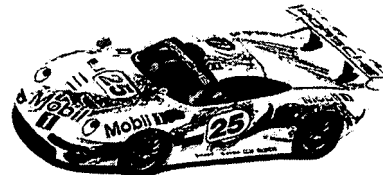
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Grin and bear it: Exclusive mink teddy bears, outfitted for a day on the greens, make a lasting treasure for any bed or mantle. The 12" tall bears, complete with golf bag and clubs, are dressed in traditional Victorian attire with a straw hat on hers, and Tam O'Shanter on his, \$198 each, from Jacobson's.

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Year after year: American families are busier than ever, but 93 percent of households make time to decorate for the holidays, according to a survey by Department 56, a leading maker of holiday collectibles. In this model, "Natural Beauty," birch logs create a back-to-nature theme with a scene from a ski chalet or Smoky Mountain retreat. From Department 56, in fine gift and card shops everywhere. Or on the Internet at www.department56.com.

Double gifting for charities

Holiday shoppers at Hudson's may purchase special gifts that will return a portion of their sales to national charities.

Through a special holiday arrangement, six organizations that assist sick or dependent children and adults, will benefit from the project.

- Every cent of the \$13 retail price of M.A.C. Viva Glam and Viva Glam II lipsticks are donated to the fight against AIDS.

- Two cookbooks, exclusive to Hudson's, will benefit the United Way, *Potluck* for \$3,000, \$10.95 and *With Warmest Regards*, \$11.95.

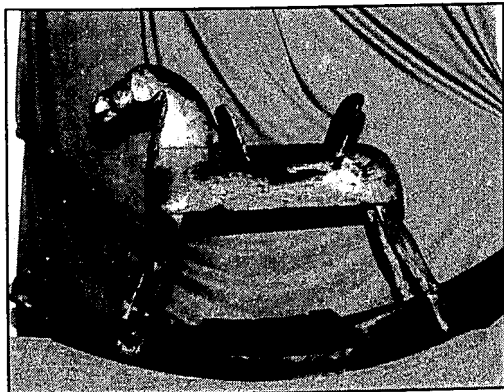
- *Save the Children* sterling silver jewelry, \$20 - \$30, donates a percentage of the profits to *Save the Children*, an international fund.

- These Christopher Radko holiday

ornaments each benefit a different cause: *A Caring Clown*, \$36, benefits AIDS Awareness; *Kitty Cares*, \$30, benefits 1997 Pediatric Cancer research, and *Watch Over Me*, \$28, benefits the Polish Children's Home.

- The Ronald McDonald House ornament, \$7.50, benefits the "house that love built" for children with lengthy illnesses and their families.

- Through a special program between Hudson's and Help Me Grow, each P. J. Huggabee teddy bear purchase buys two. You can brighten a child's smile in your life as well as a foster child in need of a smile. Every time there is a purchase of P. J. Huggabee, \$20, another bear will be given to a child entering the foster care system in their state.



History horse: This wooden rocking horse dates from the Civil War period in its original paint, \$675, from Troy Corners Antiques in Birmingham, upper level, Merriewood Collection, Birmingham.

Gifts to help the needy

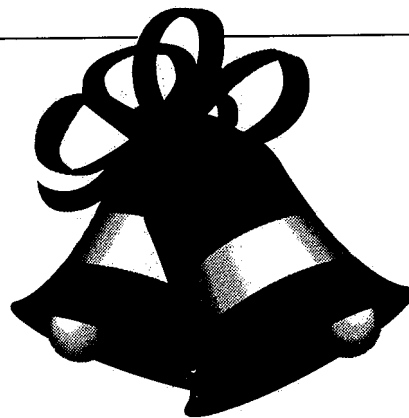
Perhaps this year, Uncle Elmer doesn't need another tie. Maybe a business associate would really prefer something other than canned ham, mixed nuts or fruitcake.

If making a gift of charity would make the holiday more meaningful, there is a international relief organization, Alternative Gifts International, of Pasadena, California, that offers food, job training, medicines, eye surgery, solar cookers and even adoption of rain forest acreage.

AGI helps organizations, churches and schools develop alternate markets to sell trees, medicine, food, livestock, handmade crafts, tools and more. The gifts that donors give in honor of family and friends may bring new life and hope to people in the developing world and to people living in poverty in the United States.

Donors receive a gift card with their gift inscribed, to be mailed to the recipient of their choice.

For more information, call AGI at 1-800-842-2243.



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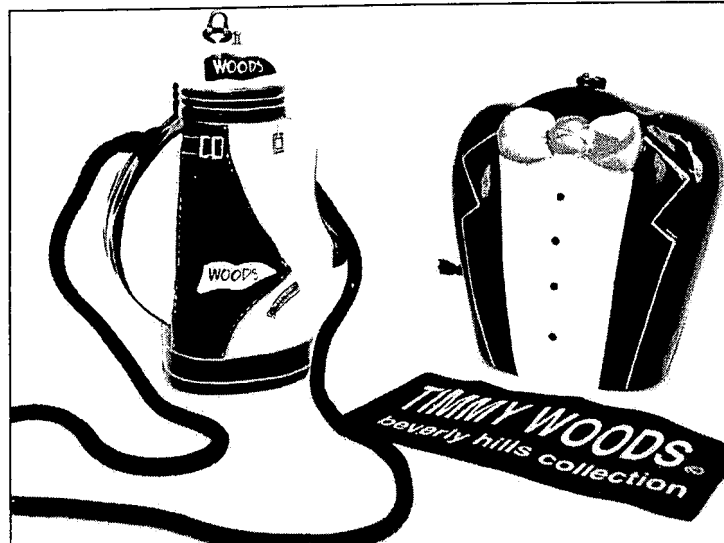
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Blustery day and fluff-ery cuddles: You loved him as a child, now give your little ones their own lasting memories with classic cuddles from the Winnie the Pooh Collection, 13" Pooh \$40; beanbag friends, including 2" Pooh, Eeyore, Tigger and Piglet, \$12 each; dome storage trunk \$48; all from Jacobson's.



Handbags to smile for: From Kathryn Scott in Birmingham, a collection of "art bags" for evening and daytime, created by Timmy Woods of Beverly Hills.

HopScotch Cookies

Melt over hot (not boiling) water, 1-16 oz. pkg. of butterscotch morsels. Add 1/2 cup of peanut butter.

Take off heat and stir in a 3 oz. can of chow mein noodles. Add 1/2 can salted peanuts. Drop a teaspoon full at a time onto a cookie sheet covered with waxed paper and refrigerate until set. (I put mine in the freezer and they were ready in about 15 minutes).

Sally Sawyer
West Bloomfield

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An after dinner tip

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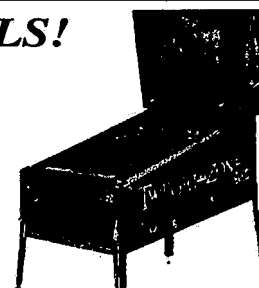
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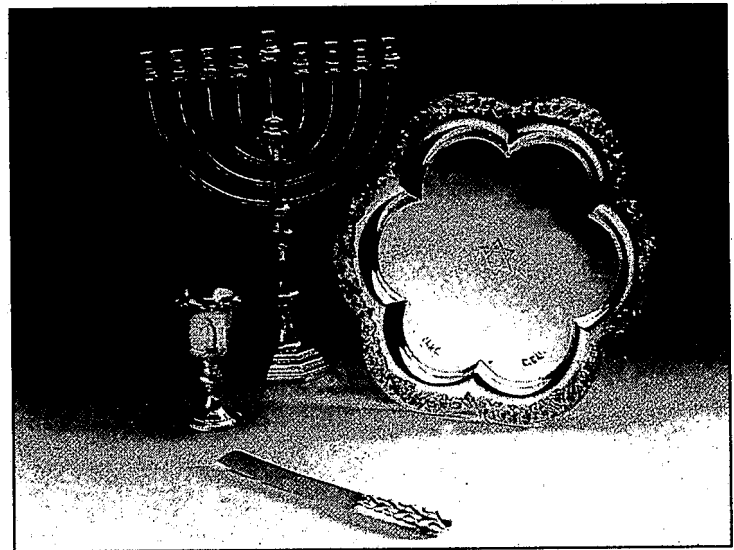
LF4925A



Boxed beauty: Enamel boxes capture special moments. Pop the question with Will You Marry Me? box, \$95. Reminisce with Baby's First Tooth box, \$80; For the collector, The Christmas 1997 box, \$175; all from Jacobson's.



Welcome St. Nick: Start a family tradition with Father Christmas trimmed in seasonal gifts from nature and myth. These 16" Santas are \$35 each from Jacobson's.



Hanukkah heirlooms: Family treasures become legendary in designs by Tiffany & Co. This sterling silver Menorah, Seder plate and Kiddush cup are all classic examples of Tiffany's 160 years of intricate silversmithing. Menorah in two sizes, \$2,700 and \$3,900; Kiddush cup, \$595; and Seder plate, \$3,450; all from Tiffany & Co., The Somerset Collection South, Troy.

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