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Clarkston Eccentric

Serving Clarkston, Independence and Springfield

Schools rethink strategic plan

■ Should Clarkston schools teach businesses skills? Or should they teach literature and other basics of a traditional education? These are some of the questions the school board is asking as it revamps its strategic plan for 1998 and beyond.



BY CAROLYN WALKER
STAFF WRITER

The winds of change blew into Clarkston Monday night as members of the Clarkston School Board gathered with Superintendent Al Roberts to brainstorm ideas for a new district-wide strategic plan.

Faced with the prospect of a new high school opening in the fall of 1998,

along with an increase in the availability of modern technology, the board began to lay the foundation for a plan they hope will allow teachers more "creativity" in their classrooms in the future.

The school board adopted its current strategic plan in 1991, but the advent of the new high school and computers mean it is time to address strategies for learning again, said Roberts, during

the three-hour meeting.

When the new strategic plan is implemented in 1998, there will be a change in the delivery of education but not the curriculum, he said, adding that the board and administrators will encourage staff to "step out of the box" and examine teaching alternatives that address different styles of learning.

It is anticipated that the new strategic plan will encourage creative, innovative teaching techniques while supporting what Roberts called a "basic core" of necessary skills.

Roberts told the board he hopes the strategic planning sessions, soon to result in a steering committee made up

of representatives from the district's many schools and other buildings, will also include input from community members. After the steering committee has done its job, site-based teams will go into action, evaluating and implementing work at their own buildings in an effort to keep the district in focus, Roberts said.

"We want to make sure the district team is really broad-based," he added. During their meeting, board members examined and attempted to define several topics including academic excellence, fiscal responsibility, personal growth and quality service.

Please see **SCHOOLS**, A4

THIS WEEK

Patched up: Independence Township firefighters rescued a beloved family pet, Patches, from icy Whipple Lake. /A16

SPORTS

Picking right up: The Clarkston Wolves beat West Bloomfield by 10 points, then hammered Royal Oak Kimball as they picked up the chase for another OAA Division I title. /B1

Dance: "Tap Dogs" proved so popular last February that it is back again at Detroit Opera House, Dec. 26 to Jan. 4. /C1

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Over the past few weeks we have looked at area towns and the men who founded them. But what about the women? In 1919, the Northville (Michigan) Record published a piece about pioneer women. Read on, and be thankful it is 1997!

"And the women pioneers of that time (1876), who shall record the part they played? They came as helpers and right and nobly did they perform their help ... to clear the land, plant and hoe corn and potatoes, dig the potatoes, husk the corn, make maple sugar, boil up the sap, and drag up the wood for the fire from the woods with growing bears and howling wolves for their forest companions, and in addition to this, single-handedly and alone, look after a half dozen small children, nurse the baby, cook, wash, mend and iron for eight to 10 in a family.

"(They would) card and spin the wool; hatchel it, and spin the tow and flax to make the cloth to clothe the family and make the bed clothes, weave the cloth and color it, make their own dresses, and the pants, vests and underwear for the men and boys. How they accomplished all these labors — these diversified Herculean tasks — is a marvel to the present generation. Yet they did, and many of them survived it. All honor to the pioneer women of Michigan. The annals of all time furnish perhaps no parallel to their courage and exhausting toil."

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

Family holiday fest



Snow fun: Ryan Kneisel of Clarkston does the splits on skis at the Family Holiday Fest at Bay Court Park in Independence Township on Sunday.



Holiday music: The Clarkston Community Band (above) performs as a girl (right) prepares to sled. The family fest featured a 'North Pole' playground, sleigh rides and visits with Santa.



Clarkston man, 70, faces charges of cocaine delivery

BY CAROLYN WALKER
STAFF WRITER

A 70-year-old Independence Township man was arrested Tuesday in Royal Oak on felony charges of conspiracy to deliver between 50-225 grams of cocaine, second offense; criminal racketeering; and six counts of delivery under 50 grams of cocaine, second offense.

The man, who served time in prison on similar charges in the 1980s, was arrested by the Oakland County Fugitive Apprehension Team while driving his car, according to Oakland County

Assistant Prosecutor James Halushka. His arrest came after a four-month investigation by the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team, during which time he allegedly sold cocaine six times to undercover officers at an Orion Township bowling alley, Halushka said.

A former Orion Township and Waterford Township businessman, he was expected to be arraigned on the charges in 52/3 District Court in Rochester Hills on Wednesday. While awaiting arraignment, he was housed at the Oakland County Jail.

A 35-year-old Waterford Township man, who worked at the bowling alley, was also arrested and was expected to be arraigned on similar charges Wednesday, as well.

According to a press release issued by Halushka's office, the Independence Township man was sentenced to 20 to 30 years in prison in 1981 after pleading guilty to conspiracy to deliver 225-650 grams of cocaine. A 20-year sentence is mandatory in such cases unless a judge can find extenuating circumstances, Halushka said.

The man's attorney then appealed

his guilty plea in circuit court and, after the man had served eight years of his sentence, his plea was set aside by a second judge. Prosecutors then brought charges against the man a second time for the same offense, as was their option, Halushka said. The man pled guilty a second time in 1990 and the court released him from prison, giving him credit for time served.

Apparently that was not a good idea, Halushka said during a telephone interview Wednesday. Halushka

Please see **SUSPECT**, A3

Grief counselor offers tips for enjoying not-so-perfect holiday

BY JAN BAKER
SPECIAL WRITER

In a Norman Rockwell vision of Christmas, every miniature light in that 100-bulb string successfully glows — even after it's attached to the highest gable of the house. And in family gatherings everywhere on Dec. 26, heavenly perfection beams just as brightly.

■ Your deceased loved one (parent/spouse/sibling/child) is alive

and seated at the dinner table.

■ Aunt Jean doesn't ask your 13-year-old nephew if he's seen a dermatologist yet.

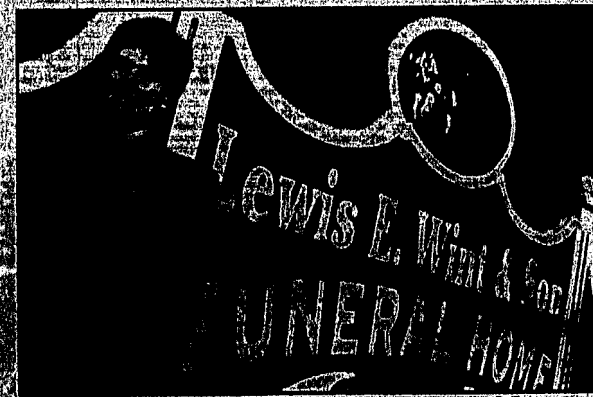
■ Your sister-in-law allows children in her living room.

■ Uncle Stan doesn't knock over the tree trying to grab a pine cone.

■ Cousin Phil doesn't guzzle Scotch and spit catalysts.

■ Your husband's cousin's wife does

Please see **HOLIDAY HELP**, A4



Holiday help: Chris Spencer, the new grief counselor at Wint Funeral Home, says feelings of loss compound holiday stress.

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM ROFFENBERG

OBITUARY

Leslie G. "Les" Reeve

Leslie G. "Les" Reeve of Clarkston, formerly of Rochester, died Dec. 11, 1997, at age 68.

Mr. Reeve retired from Pattern Guild in Auburn Hills as a pattern maker.

He is survived by his wife,

Catherine, a daughter, Gillian (Clay) Albertson of Oxford; and two sons, Richard and Jeremy, both of Clarkston. He is also survived by three grandchildren and four sisters, Eileen (Robert) Melville and Valerie (David) Keys of Australia and Davis Reeve and Patricia Gibson of

England.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home in Clarkston. Memorials may be made to Hospice of SE Michigan, 16250 Northland Drive, Suite 212, Southfield 48075.

Suspect from page A1

said the man's age was taken into consideration by the judge who released him after time served.

"One of the reasons the judge reduced his sentence was because of his advanced age," Halushka said.

Halushka said a newly formed forfeiture unit put in place by county prosecutor David Gorcey would play a significant role in the man's case. Fourteen search warrants were issued against businesses the Independence man is affiliated with, along with numerous search warrants

and orders to freeze bank accounts affiliated with the man.

Raids conducted by the police this week resulted in the confiscation of more than \$1 million and hundreds of diamonds allegedly stored in safes by the 70-year-old, Halushka said.

"It's going to be a painstaking task over the next few days," he said. "We are going to bring forfeiture action against him."

Halushka said bringing forfeiture action against large-scale drug dealers is an effective way of curbing their activity. Many expect to do time in prison as a

sort of on-the-job hazard. Losing large sums of money and property is actually more painful to drug dealers, he said.

"We want to make Oakland County a hostile environment for drug dealers," he said.

The conspiracy to deliver charge, second offense, carries a penalty of mandatory life in prison upon conviction. The criminal racketeering charge is a 20-year felony and the delivery of under 50 grams of cocaine, second offense, is a two- to 40-year felony.

POLICE NEWS

Independence Fire

During the week of Dec. 8-15, the Independence Township Fire Department responded to 23 incidents. Among them were the following:

On Dec. 8, firefighters assisted at the scene of a minor accident on M-15 at Dixie Highway.

On Dec. 10, firefighters assisted a man who had fallen at a residence on Peach Street.

On Dec. 12, firefighters assisted a teacher who had slipped and fallen at North Sashabaw Elementary School on Maybee Road.

On Dec. 12, firefighters assisted a 54-year-old man who had fallen on ice at the Farmer Jack's on Dixie Highway. He was transported to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital by ambulance.

On Dec. 13, firefighters assisted a patient with severe abdominal pain at a residence on Long Lane.

On Dec. 14, firefighters assisted a 4-year-old child who had burned her hand on a space heater at Bay Court Park on Andersonville Road.

Clarkston Police

On Dec. 13, officers responded to a Middle Lake Road residence with the Independence Township Fire Department, where a resident was ill with a severe case of the flu and high blood pressure. He was transported by ambulance to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital.

On Dec. 14, officers responded to a report that jewelry had been taken from an East Washington Street residence a week earlier, during a real estate open house.

On Dec. 13, officers responded to the scene of a car/deer accident on White Lake Road. There were no human injuries, but the deer had to be destroyed because of its injuries.

During the week of Dec. 8-15, police and fire agencies in Independence Township and the city of Clarkston responded to the following incidents:

Independence Police

Thefts

On Dec. 8, money was reported stolen from a business on Dixie Highway.

On Dec. 8, a cellular phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Havelock.

On Dec. 8, a refrigerator was reported stolen from a house under construction on Devin's Ridge.

On Dec. 8, painter's equipment was reported stolen from a construction trailer on Devin's Ridge.

On Dec. 8, a case of smoke detectors was reported stolen from a house under construction on Devin's Ridge.

On Dec. 8, medicine was reported stolen from a dentist's office on Sashabaw Road.

On Dec. 9, a belt sander and change were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Flemings Lake Road.

On Dec. 9, hubcaps were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Middle Lake Road.

On Dec. 9, musical equipment was reported stolen from Clarkston Middle School on Church Street.

On Dec. 9, a ladder was reported stolen from a construction trailer on Wyngate.

On Dec. 10, a day planner and cash were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Pine Knob Road.

On Dec. 10, a car stereo was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on M-15.

On Dec. 10, jewelry, a camera, a shotgun and Christmas presents were reported stolen from a residence on Pine Knob.

On Dec. 10, a briefcase and

glasses were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Clinton Road.

On Dec. 12, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Mohawk Boulevard.

On Dec. 13, a cellular phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Deerhill.

On Dec. 13, a cellular phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Allen Road.

On Dec. 13, a snow board and radio equipment were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Hillside.

On Dec. 13, radio equipment was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Allen Road.

On Dec. 13, a cassette disc player was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Deerhill Court.

On Dec. 13, a cellular phone and Christmas presents were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Reese Road.

On Dec. 13, a briefcase and cassette discs were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Allen Road.

On Dec. 13, a cassette disc player was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Minnewana.

On Dec. 13, a cassette disc player was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Deerhill Court.

On Dec. 13, a pager, radar detector, cellular phone and spot light were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Cranberry Lake Road.

On Dec. 14, a toolbox was reported stolen from a residence on Pine Knob.

Vandalisms

On Dec. 8, a mirror was reported broken off a vehicle parked on Ortonville Road.

On Dec. 13, a window was reported broken on a vehicle parked on Deerhill.

WATERBED MART

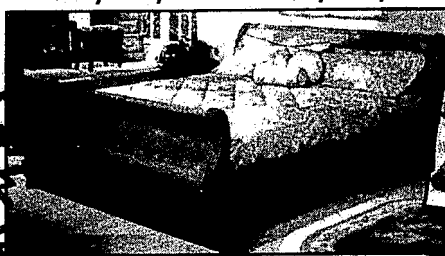
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Author Michael Shiels

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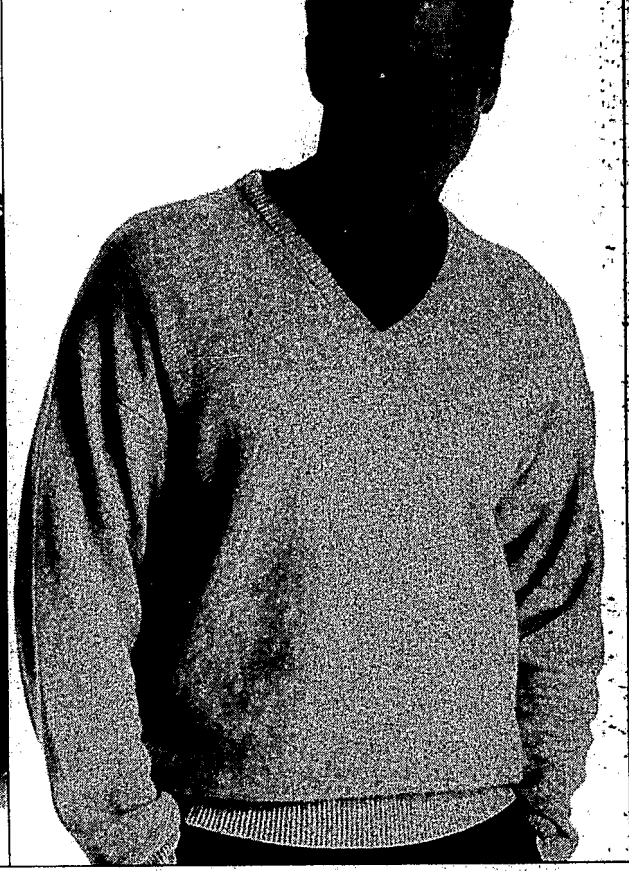
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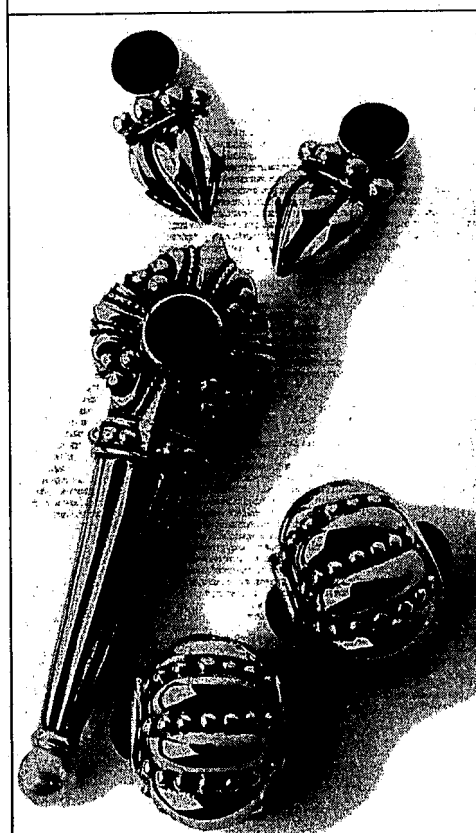
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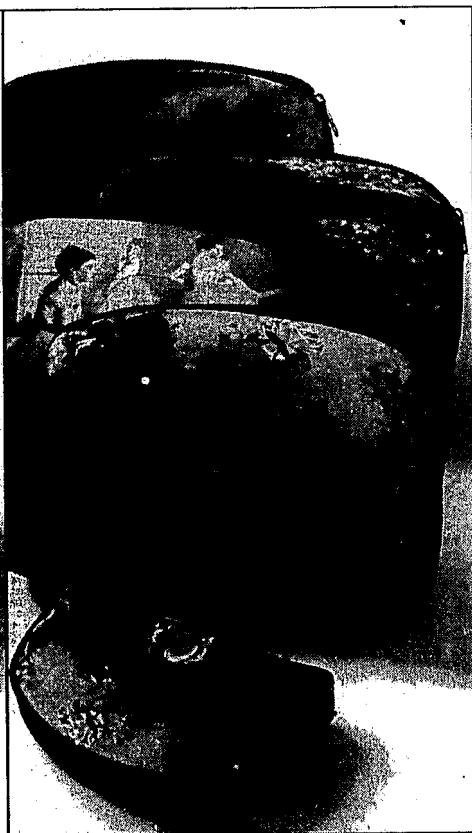
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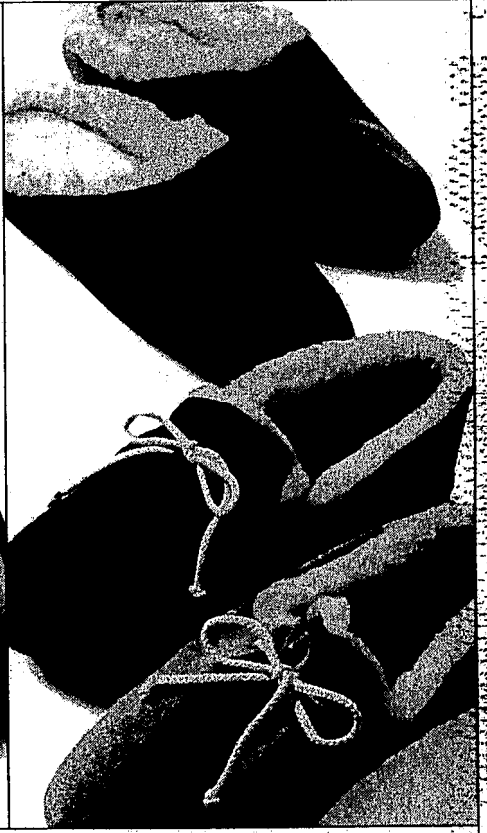
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Schools from page A1

Much of their discussion was philosophical, theoretically examining the schools' responsibility in such areas as counseling, after-school care, community involvement and similar areas.

The board did not take any formal action, but members agreed in general that the school district should provide a safe, challenging learning environment for students in grades kindergarten through 12th and that the district should stay competitive with other school districts.

Early in the meeting, the board members grappled with defining who their customers are. They agreed that the schools' primary responsibility is to elementary through high school pupils, and they posed questions about what they owe to taxpayers and the public at large. community education, latchkey, extracurricular activities, transportation, parent/teacher associations and the like.

"We're responsible to a lot of people, but they're not all our customers," said Janet Thomas.

"In my opinion, the school district is one of those services that affects a broad base of customers," countered Mary Ellen McLean. The board agreed that

teaching approaches should respect individual differences and that technology would be used where appropriate.

Board member Rick Crigger expressed a concern that subjects such as penmanship are taking second place to computer technology and said he felt the school district should better prepare students to go into the business community by seeking the advice of business leaders about what skills they want in their employees. Others felt there should be a return to basics.

"We've become so focused on the end product," said President Karen Foyteck. "There are some things that well-educated people know — literature, social skills that help you present yourself. If we just focus on those skills that are required to do the job, then we lose those other things."

"We should be educating people so they can get past us," responded Thomas.

Roberts said a typical strategic plan takes three to five years to implement. He said he is not suggesting that the board take that long. He said he hopes to draft the new strategic plan and implement it at the beginning of the next school year.

Holiday help from page A1

n't sell Amway.

■ Uncle Frank doesn't start snoring until after dessert.

■ And Aunt Frieda remembers your name.

Unfortunately, however, we don't live in a Norman Rockwell vision of Christmas. And according to Chris Spencer, grief counselor at Clarkston's Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, coping with the unrealistic societal expectation that all things must be perfect during the holidays can actually make a lot of people feel more pressured and sad at this time of year than at any other period.

"The whole concept of the family together at this holiday time, the peace, the joy, the comfort, the serenity that are supposed to come along with this season doesn't always hold true," Spencer said in a recent interview. "People who are grieving the death of a loved one have that extra added stress of dealing with the loss of this person and the roles that he or she played in the traditions of the holidays. The deceased person may have been the one who strung the lights or the one who cooked the turkey."

As a result, the counselor said

a grief-stricken family member may feel obligated to carry on with the usual holiday spread so as not to disappoint others. And many times, the griever doesn't have that kind of energy to expend.

Spencer pointed out that sadness over a not-so-recent loss can resurface with Christmas traditions, as well. "Even though our society fosters the attitude that, 'Oh yeah, you can have three-to-five days off for bereavement leave,' there is no particular time limit on grief," she said. "People don't automatically stop grieving after one year. It can take years."

Aside from the grief and loss people associate with death, Spencer said major change of any kind in a person's life — even happy change — produces a certain amount of grief which can become magnified in the glaring lights of front-lawn wise men.

"Consider people who have retired this year," the counselor said. "They may be looking forward to this as a time that they'll be able to do all the things they wanted to do. But with that, they may also have lost a certain meaning in their

lives — a lot of the validation that they had from their work environment. Or maybe they had a support system at work and now that's not really there any more."

Even new babies and the joys they bring to families produce a stress and sadness most people don't want to acknowledge during the holidays, Spencer remarked. "Everybody's so happy about that first child being in the house at Christmas," she said, "but for a couple, it's also a time of loss. There's a sense of 'Oh my gosh, we don't have each other any more. We have this child. What's going to happen to our relationship?'"

Graduations, job transitions, changes in relationships and serious illnesses of loved ones also can make people feel blue amidst a red and green extravaganza of expectation.

"We would all like to be living the media-created dream of the holidays," but it's just not true for many, many people, Spencer said. "And the expectation of that dream sets us up for feeling low during this time. We tell ourselves, 'If my life isn't meeting the perfect picture of what the holiday should be like, then what's wrong with me?'"

The solution? Skip the custom-imprinted greeting cards and the power-shopping. Bag the bone china. Leave that 15th line of lights in the basement. Cut Aunt Frieda some slack. And take a deep breath and count to 20 around Cousin Phil.

"We have to find our own peace inside of ourselves," Spencer said. "A lot of the additional stress that we feel at this time of the year comes from extra social obligations and extra financial obligations so simplifying life in those two key areas are good places to start. People are often raised to believe that

they must keep all of the traditions that they were brought up with and sometimes that can be overwhelming — especially if they're going through some changes.

"We need to give ourselves permission to slow down — to let go of some of the things that may seem important on the surface, but maybe aren't really that important after all. We need to nurture our own spirits. Some people do that by taking a walk outdoors. Some do it through meditation or prayer — or keeping their faith. Others do it by making a phone call to someone who's lonely."

Spencer said that while a Norman Rockwell Christmas is almost impossible to pull off without a residual eye-twitch, a Norman Bates Christmas isn't the only other option. "As great as a lot of families are, there's still going to be some conflict and dissension here and there," she said. "You're not going to change your relatives on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Most likely, you're never going to change anybody — that's their job. You can control how you respond, however. And you can change your attitude and expectations."

Though people who are grieving the death of a loved one need time and understanding to deal with their loss in their own way at Christmas time, the rest of us just need to lighten up a little and accept the perfectly respectable, imperfect Christmas we have, Spencer said.

"I just got two baby cats," the counselor said. "The other day, I walked into the room and one was nesting near the top of the Christmas tree. I just laughed and said, 'O-o-kay, Chris. Let it go. It's not going to be a Norman Rockwell Christmas!'"

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SEMCOG to negotiate road control

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Local officials are ready to negotiate rather than do battle with Gov. John Engler's administration over a state plan to take over 9,600 miles of county and municipal roads.

They asked the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments to be the focal point in a regionwide discussion of which roads should be controlled by the state and which should be local.

"There's a real desire to get into a dialog," said SEMCOG executive director John Amberger, summing up the reaction from local meetings. SEMCOG had sponsored meetings in every county — Wayne, Oakland, Livingston, Macomb, Washtenaw, Monroe and St. Clair — to hear responses to the Engler-DeSana plan.

SEMGOG's Executive Commit-

tee unanimously passed a resolution asking MDOT to join it in "a comprehensive needs study as a necessary precondition to any discussion of road jurisdiction transfers."

Rochester Hills Mayor Kenneth Snell won approval of an amendment to make SEMCOG the negotiating focal point for the seven-member counties.

Specifically, SEMCOG members are asking about:

■ A specific funding formula. If jurisdiction is changed, the state Legislature will have to revise the complex formula contained in Public Act 51 of 1951.

■ Agreements covering repayment of county and municipal investments and debts for roads taken over by the state.

■ Agreements for covering local obligations for tort liability.

■ Plans for levels of service the state would maintain and

improvements the state would make.

"There are some good ideas and some not so good," said Andrew Wardach, Brighton Township supervisor and chairman of SEMCOG's Transportation Advisory Council. "But there's just not enough information" from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in Lansing.

"I haven't had one community say they're for this," said SEMCOG's transportation manager Carmine Palombo.

"We've proposed that roads handling 85 percent of commercial travel be transferred to the state," said MDOT planner Theresa Petko, who attended the SEMCOG Executive Committee's Dec. 12 meeting in Detroit.

Petko added MDOT has had "some positive response" to what MDOT director James DeSana called a "rationalization plan" for state jurisdiction. But she declined to name communities.

"They're asking questions about how many times will you snowplow, and how many times will you mow?" Petko said.

The administration's plan, as outlined by DeSana on Oct. 2 but never formally given to SEMCOG, is to take over 9,600 more miles of roads. As Engler put it during an October forum in Southfield: State government controls only 18,000 of the 118,000 miles of roads, "but we

get 90 percent of the calls."

Engler's showcase exhibit: the Davison Freeway in Wayne County, which MDOT took over, rebuilt and reopened in October. "The Davison is fabulous. It was a county road all these years (about 50). We took it three years ago and fixed it," Engler said.

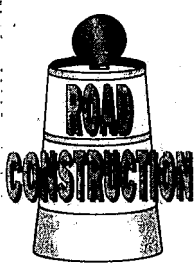
Engler first floated the idea in May when he unveiled his gasoline tax hike plan to improve roads and bridges. Legislators passed the tax but balked at the administration's effort to take over more local roads.

Local officials had been miffed that MDOT showed them only the takeover plans for their cities and villages; that they weren't shown maps for neighboring communities; and that townships were left out entirely.

1998 work plans

Engler last week said MDOT "would put our tax dollars to work" with \$26 million in road and bridge improvements as soon as the winter weather breaks.

Among projects scheduled for southeastern Michigan is a project in Troy — 14 Mile at I-75 from Stephenson Highway to John R — widen and resurface two-thirds of a mile, including street lighting and traffic signals; \$1.13 million. Contractor is Dan's Excavating. Completion: late summer of 1998.



Oakland County's snowy weather has halted work on area road construction projects. The Observer & Eccentric road construction updates are concluding for the interim and will resume when work begins again.

'The rush is on' at local Post Offices

If you want your cards, letters and packages to arrive in time for the holidays, there's no time to waste. That's the word from Thomas Newman, Royal Oak district manager of the post office. The district includes Oakland, Macomb and St. Clair counties.

Besides mailing early, Newman offers this advice: "Saturday and Sunday are the best days to drop off cards and letters in collection boxes. During the holiday season, we pick up mail from collection boxes seven days a week. And with the decrease in business

mail on weekends, we can speed up the time in which your mail is processed."

During the holiday season, as many as seven million pieces of mail are processed in the Royal Oak facility.

Offering Sunday hours are Clarkston, 5886 Ortonville Road, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 21; and Royal Oak, 200 W. Second Street, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 21.

Gifts sent via express mail or priority mail at Southfield Post Office, 22200 W. 11 Mile Road, can be wrapped in the lobby. A donation is requested, with proceeds going to the

purchase of gifts and food for the post office's adopted families in the area.

Letters written to Santa by Dec. 18 will receive a handwritten response from Santa on official North Pole stationery. Letters received after Dec. 19 will also receive a written response, but it may not arrive until after the holiday.

Be sure to use Santa's complete address: Santa Claus, 1 Candy Cane Lane, North Pole, Michigan 48068-1234. Be sure to include your return address, including zip code, on the envelope or letter.

Winter deadline looms for OCC registration

Final walk-in and telephone registration for Oakland Community College's Winter 1998 semester is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 7, Thursday, Jan. 8, and Friday, Jan. 9. Registration hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. Classes begin Monday, Jan. 12.

Students may register in person at the following campus locations:

■ Auburn Hills, 2900 Featherstone Road, Auburn Hills, (248) 340-6572.

■ Highland Lakes, 7350 Cooley Lake Road, Waterford,

(248) 360-3069.

■ Orchard Ridge, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 471-7628.

■ Royal Oak/Southfield, 739 S. Washington, Royal Oak, (248) 544-5574.

Applications are now being accepted. New students should contact the admissions office at the campus of their choice for a schedule of classes and more information on admissions procedures. There is no charge to apply.

■ Please note: The college will be closed for the holidays from Wednesday, Dec. 24 until Monday, Jan. 5.

FEET HURT?

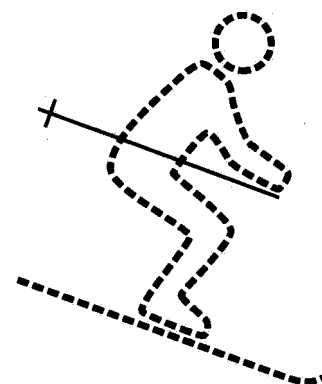
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Sunday 11 am - 5 pm
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Santa's been around awhile and he knows something about saving time. Like you, he can't spend hours at huge, impersonal and inconvenient malls this time of the year. Instead, Santa's spending even more time this season at MeadowBrook Village Mall!

Between visits with children in his beautiful "Winter Village," Santa's also visiting MeadowBrook's excellent selection of stores and services. From fashions and accessories to toys and home furnishings, you'll find the perfect gifts while enjoying MeadowBrook's festive, friendly and old-fashioned atmosphere.

So, visit the Village this season and discover why Santa loves it here too!

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Clarkston Eccentric® OPINION

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1997

Dear Santa

Here is our wish list for Clarkston

Dear Santa — After you've filled the stockings of all the good little boys and girls in Clarkston on Christmas Eve, we were wondering if you would grant a few of the Clarkston Eccentric's holiday wishes for the Clarkston community.

Perhaps you could sprinkle some of your magic dust over the entire Clarkston area to make our wishes come true for 1998.

Here they are:

■ That the Clarkston city council and downtown business owners work cooperatively for the betterment of the city.

■ That the downtown Clarkston businesses find what it takes to draw shoppers into the village — Elvis, a spaceship, \$2 Beanie Babies or a miraculous water stain that looks amazingly like ... Brad Pitt.

■ That the Clarkston School Board receives seven stress dolls and a bottle of industrial-strength Tums to get through two years of school construction and renovation.

■ That the community supports the non-profit foundation being set up for capital improvements in downtown Clarkston.

■ That Clarkston school officials and Independence Township officials work congenially — and put the past behind them.

■ That Clarkston Schools Superintendent Al Roberts be given a fleet of magic carpets to fly Clarkston kids to and from the new state-

of-the-art high school without messing up traffic on the roads.

■ That adults in the Clarkston community support the new Clarkston Christian Association teen center by volunteering to supervise activities there.

■ That Independence and Springfield townships somehow hold onto their rural character despite inevitable development.

■ That all Clarkston educators who mispronounce the word "kindergarten" as "kindy-garden" be given a phonics lesson followed by chocolate milk and a time out.

■ That Clarkston elementary schools' PTAs/PTOs receive 25 entertainment pass-books, 60 school sweatshirts and all the fundraising sausages and chocolates you can eat — on the Space Station Mir.

■ That someone opens a gourmet food market in Independence Township.

■ That the county quits squabbling over well testing and arsenic mapping and looks for ways to ensure safe drinking water in northern Oakland County.

■ That whoever is responsible for fixing the roads fixes them!

■ That all of the bad guys stay out of Clarkston, Independence and Springfield.

■ That everyone in the Clarkston area has a safe holiday and a happy and healthy new year.

Lighthouse signals good will

It's a beacon of help, hope and encouragement for people in need of succor or refuge. Its mission is basic: to confront the potent effects of poverty — hunger, homelessness, lack of medicine.

Lighthouse Emergency Services, a United Way of Oakland County agency, has issued a clarion call for help so it can help low-income families, seniors and individuals this holiday season in Oakland County. It responds to people who desperately need food, medicine, transportation, utilities or shelter. Last year, its Pontiac and Clarkston branches brightened the holidays for 3,165 county residents. The Holiday Giving Program hotline, (248) 745-6442, is open through Friday. In short supply are items for men and seniors like socks, mittens, hats and gloves. For year-round donation information, call (248) 335-2462.

Some donors adopt low-income families or seniors and furnish wish-list items. Others give food, new clothing, toys or gifts, which go into holiday packages for needy folks who aren't adopted. Many contribute money for the Good Neighbor Fund to help those who have special needs like emergency medications.

Despite its standing as the country's third wealthiest county, Oakland is home to 274,000 people who qualify for low to moderate emergency assistance.

Lighthouse Emergency Services is part of Lighthouse of Oakland County, Inc., a non-profit human service agency that extends emergency relief via three subsidiaries. In addition to Lighthouse Emergency Services, there's Pontiac Area Transitional Housing (PATH), which creates a safe, supportive environment for homeless women and their children, and Unity Park, a neighborhood revitalization and home ownership program for first-time buyers with low incomes.

It got its start as an ecumenical ministry of a Pontiac church. Today, Lighthouse of Oakland County assists 82,000 people a year. Last year, it fed 22,750 clients and gave emergency clothing or household and personal need items to 16,000. Significantly, 21,000 of those helped last year were seniors or disabled. Help came in various ways, including rides to and from the doctor, wintertime fresh fruit and vegetable delivery, nutrition support and

OAKLAND WATCH



BOB SKLAR

home repairs.

Lighthouse of Oakland County, which spawned the Food Bank of Oakland County in 1982, is in its 25th year of moving people from poverty and crisis to independence and self-sufficiency. About half of those who look to Lighthouse are among the working poor. They're having a tough time making ends meet because of minimum wages, mental illness, a disability or a crisis triggered by domestic violence, urban renewal or illness.

Funding sources for Lighthouse of Oakland County include a Troy-based Kresge Foundation endowment, donations, government funding and fund raisers. Only 10 percent of Lighthouse's \$4.5 million budget goes to administration and fund development; 90 percent goes to client programs. The 60 employees draw support from hundreds of selfless volunteers representing the religious, civic, service, school and business communities. "It's nice to see so many people with big hearts willing to make it happen — good people who want to help us. And I think that's exciting," said Joyce Russell, Lighthouse of Oakland County director of marketing and development.

In the spirit of the holidays, please consider a donation to Lighthouse Emergency Services. Help light the way for less-fortunate Oaklanders caught in a darkened world — hungry, homeless or unable to fill necessary prescriptions. Help restore their self dignity.

Bob Sklar is managing editor of The Eccentric Newspapers.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

Do you think parents have a right to slap their children?



"I don't think they should beat them, but once in a while they might need one or two slaps to let them know who's boss."

Joan Wells
Independence Township



"Yes. Spare the rod, spoil the child."

Geri Ig
Independence Township



"I think they have a right to swat them on the butt...maybe once. I have a 13-year-old, and he's never been hit."

Bridget Slade
Independence Township



"No. I don't think it's right for them to smack them, but they need to discipline them."

George Crouch
Independence Township

This question was asked at the Clarkston Post Office.

LETTERS

Dances for kids can't be beat

Dance the night away! I believe "organized functions" could greatly help with the current alcohol and drug problem in Clarkston, and what better place than at school. It's a fact that busy kids stay out of trouble; idle kids look for trouble. Not to mention the wonderful memories school dances could create for kids who might not attend the prom, Snowcoming or Homecoming. Offering volleyball etc. would also attract other kids who might not often socialize in a dance atmosphere. Once a month, there were dances in Grosse Pointe during the late '60s and they created memories that I still cherish. What fun! I say, go for it, well supervised, of course!

Claudia T. Koziarski
Independence Township

Firemen saved family pet

On behalf of my family, I want to express our sincere appreciation to the Independence Township Fire Department for rescuing our dog, Patches, from the icy waters of Whipple Lake this past Thursday night. Their response was swift, and their conduct was very thorough and professional. Three firemen went into the water in thermal suits to bring him to safety, and several others attended to my husband who had gone into the water in an attempt to reach the dog prior to the arrival of the Fire Department.

We feel very fortunate to reside in an area with such a conscientious and well-trained emergency response team. Thanks to these very brave men, my children won't have to face a Christmas without their precious pet. Words simply cannot express our gratitude adequately, but we want to try anyway. Thank you, Independence firefighters!

Dana L. Fortinberry
Clarkston

School sites need review

I write this letter to clarify some misstatements of fact in recent local newspaper articles regarding the problems caused by school construction.

First, it is not correct that "currently, the state inspects and approves site plans for school districts." Although the law gives the superintendent of public instruction in Lansing the exclusive jurisdiction for site-plan review, that office actually does not do any review. Of course, this means no one is doing the review and indicates the need for review. Next, it was wrong to say that there is a

legislative mandate that the schools are not required to apply for special land-use permits. One of the township attorneys specifically reported to the township board that special land-use requirements could be imposed by the township. This would mean that the siting of a new school would have to be reviewed by the township's planning commission to determine its appropriateness with regard to considerations such as roads, sewers, safety and other general community concerns.

The proposal that I made for township input in school construction decisions would not and was not intended to affect the high school. Rather, it is the problems with the high school that have pointed out the need for the township's input.

Next, that representatives of the schools have had to meet with representatives of the township shows the need for township review. Similarly, the school's expenditure of \$15,000 to "study" the road problems with the high school demonstrates the value of township review to avoid or minimize such problems. Both of these things have occurred after the event and are a result of poor planning.

In your article, representatives of the Clarkston Schools have said that there is no perfect site. This common fallacy (the lack of a perfect alternative) is a very poor argument. But it does show the need for site plan review. If there is no perfect site, then site plan review is all the more necessary to lessen the impact of school construction and do all that we can to make certain our schools "fit" in the plans we have so carefully made for our community. Just because state law precludes site plan review, school officials are not prevented from voluntarily submitting their plans for review by the township planning commission. Certainly it is the kind of cooperation that would be an excellent example to the children we have entrusted to the schools.

The proposed Jan. 19, 1998, meeting can, and I hope will, be a positive step for this community. That will only happen if the school board is willing to exert control over the administration to make certain that needed changes are made.

Neil E. Wallace
Independence Township

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

'Business hours' often suit businesses, not customers

Most retail businesses have a little sign hanging up near their front door that says "Business Hours."

You normally don't pay attention to this sign unless the store is closed and you want to buy something.

From a marketing point of view, most "business hours" are set for the convenience of the owner of the store, not for his or her customers.

The typical store is open from 9 a.m. till 5:30 or 6 p.m. This gives the store owner a chance for a leisurely breakfast or time to get the kids off to school and get home in time for dinner.

In this day and age, supposedly all able-bodied men and 67 percent of women are employed.

They work from 8:30 or 9 a.m. to 5 or 5:30 p.m. depending on their lunch

schedule.

Now if you subtract the kids in school and the people in jail or hospitals, experts tell us that only 11 percent of the population is not engaged in something during the day on a regular basis and about half of them are unemployed.

So who is the merchant with regular business hours trying to attract?

Since most workers have a lunch hour, at least the store is open at that time. But many times the store employees are out to lunch at the same time and service is not the best.

Of course, there is always Saturday.

Some more progressive merchants stay open one night a week. They pick a night that doesn't interfere with their social schedule.

The small merchants complain that they are being clobbered by the big

ECCENTRICITIES



HANK HOGAN

discount stores, but if you study the operations of the bigger stores, you'll notice that they have longer hours to fit into working people's schedules.

If you think about it, a store really doesn't have to open before 11 a.m. unless it provides an emergency service like a drug store does.

It should not let its employees take a lunch break during typical lunch

hours (11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) so they are staffed to meet their customers.

They should stay open to at least 7 p.m. so people can shop after work.

The post office and banks should consider this schedule.

Someone always has to leave the office early to get the mail to the post office before 5 p.m. In Clarkston the post boxes in front of the post office are emptied at 4:45 p.m.

It is very difficult to deal with a personal problem at a bank if you are regularly employed.

The banks are trying to solve this with ATM machines, but they are only capable of limited transactions and some banks are adding fees for their use.

You'll probably never notice a "Busi-

■ The small merchants complain that they are being clobbered by the big discount stores, but if you study the operations of the bigger stores, you'll notice that they have longer hours to fit into working people's schedules.

ness Hours" sign at a merchant who truly understands his customers needs because he or she will be open when you want to shop.

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

Safety drives decision of calling off school for bad weather

As we enter the busiest time of the year for many families, the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations often include keeping one eye on the Weather Channel. It's not uncommon to recall past holidays when travel plans had to be delayed or discontinued because of large amounts of the feathery "white stuff." Your school district also keeps a constant eye on the Weather Channel. Because we often get questions about snow days and about the factors that influence our decision to call school off, I thought I'd anticipate the bad weather early and give readers a glimpse of our procedures.

First and foremost, the safety of the children drives that decision. I must admit it is a challenge to decide how to handle transportation for more than 6,700 youngsters. It may sur-

prise you to know, however, that sending them home in bad weather is not always the safest decision. Early dismissals for poor weather can create havoc for a family, especially if no one is home to greet the youngsters. Caretakers and parents may be caught unaware or be out of reach. Often the best decision is to keep the children at school where they are warm, comfortable and supervised. Another safety issue must consider the large number of individual vehicles going to the high school and the relatively limited experience of those young drivers.

When weather develops overnight, calling off school altogether is not just a matter of waking up and looking outside. As early as 4 a.m., we will have employees out on our roads trying to assess whether buses can maneuver, traverse and pass on our



AL ROBERTS

widely varying system of roads. If you've lived here for any length of time, you know just how wide that variance can be! In the Village of Clarkston, salted and cleared roads may be merely wet but out on the rural unpaved sections, packed snow quickly becomes treacherous. When warmer temperatures bring rain after a snowstorm, extreme hazardous conditions may last for days on gravel

roads.

After assessing road conditions and weather forecasts, the district has to consider its employees who live in other towns or suburbs. If they are unable to get in to properly supervise our children, we will have a problem even if the kids can get to school.

Once the decision is made, it is quickly broadcast to local television and radio stations so parents and children can be informed as soon as possible. Clarkston consistently uses the public services of TV-4 and TV-2 as well as radio stations WKQI (95.5 FM), WJR (760 AM) and WWJ (950AM).

If you have other ideas for us, please call our hot line, 620-7350, or drop a line to the administrative offices. I finish with the fervent hope that our community enjoys a happy

■ As early as 4 a.m., we will have employees out on our roads trying to assess whether buses can maneuver, traverse and pass on our widely varying system of roads. If you've lived here for any length of time, you know just how wide that variance can be!

and healthy holiday and a joyful New Year. And may we have just enough snow to keep the skiers happy, the youngsters active, the landscape pretty, and all of us free from the shovel!

Al Roberts is superintendent of Clarkston Community Schools. His hotline number is 620-7350.

Legislature makes the grade in correcting high school test

It's easy to take a poke at the Michigan Legislature. "There are two things you don't want to watch being made too closely: sausage and legislation," goes the old saying. Legislators respond to an enormous number of influences: lobbyists, interest groups, constituencies, donors, friends, even voters. And when the Legislature is divided — one house controlled by Republicans, one by Democrats — partisan considerations come automatically into play.

So it's easy for columnists, me included, to make the Legislature as a whole look bad.

Fairness (amply mixed with the holiday spirit), however, does require when the Legislature does something sensible, even wise, that it be duly noted and praised.

Such is the case with modifications to the High School Proficiency Test (HSPT), which passed the Legislature last week with solid, bipartisan majorities in both houses.

The HSPT has been the center of controversy ever since a bunch of parents, mainly in Birmingham and Troy, kept their kids from taking the test. Some argued that the nomenclature for the endorsements on graduation diplomas — "proficient," "novice" and "not yet novice" — was demeaning. Others found it implausible that children with stellar grade point averages might score badly in the test and so jeopardize college admission chances. Still others objected to the length — 11 hours — of time taken up by the test.

Lurking behind all the objections was a streak of right-wing, paranoid thinking that holds that any assessment of educational performance is an assault on parents' rights and the first step in a government-imposed curriculum. Some activists figured that complaints about the HSPT might be a maneuver to get rid of any kind of state standard in education.

Operating in the best legislative tradition of fact-finding, the House Education Committee, chaired by Sharon Gire of Macomb County, held extensive public hearings to listen to parents, students, educators and the general public.

"There was a negative connotation to the labels," said Sen. Joanne Emmons, chair of the Senate Education Committee. "Another complaint was that the tests were scored in another



PHILIP POWER

state (North Carolina). We want Michigan teachers to score the test."

Corrective bills were introduced in both the Senate and House. "The HSPT has had a lot of criticism, but it's bringing higher standards," said Emmons. "We have made every effort to keep the spirit of this reform bipartisan," said Gire, as the House agreed to adopt final legislation incorporating the Senate's version.

Changes were sensible:

■ The HSPT will be given at the end of the 11th grade instead of 12th, and it will take only eight hours, instead of 11.

■ Results will be expressed numerically, not in the hated labels, and will be printed on students' transcripts, not their diplomas.

■ Scoring will be done by Michigan teachers.

■ Students, parents and teachers will get prompt feedback on results, which will be used as indicators of school improvement and student achievement under the state school accreditation program.

In the end, the legislative process worked precisely as the civics textbooks say it should. Those advocating radical change were resisted; timely corrective legislation was passed.

The Legislature, especially committee chairs Gire and Emmons, deserve a round of congratulations. Students, parents, teachers and employers will all benefit from a corrected and improved HSPT.

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

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STATE CAPITOL CAPSULES

State Capitol capsules:

Locals affected

Sen. Bill Bullard Jr., R-Milford, has renewed the suburban effort to regionalize control of the Detroit Water and Sewer Board. The seven-member board includes suburban members, but all are appointed (and removable at any time) by the mayor of Detroit.

Detroit's department serves 78 communities and four million customers. Bullard promises public hearings soon. The Detroit water board

has been the target of regionalization bills since the late 1960s.

Meanwhile, Rep. Barbara Dobb, R-Union Lake, is co-sponsoring House Bill 5410 to require that state environmental protection suits be filed in the circuit court where the defendant is located. Current law allows the state to sue in Ingham County or the defendant's home county.

The House has made bipartisan amendments to the Senate-passed bills modifying Michigan's "650 drug lifer law." Reported out by the House

Judiciary Committee last week, the bills are on the House calendar for action.

FAMM (Families Against Mandatory Minimums) praised the efforts of Reps. Ted Wallace D-Detroit, and Michael Nye, R-Litchfield, chair and minority vice chair of the committee.

SB 280-281, as amended, will:

■ Give judges discretion in sentencing by eliminating mandatory minimum sentences versus a 25-year mandatory minimum in the Senate version. The current law mandates life in prison without hope of parole for anyone dealing in 650

or more grams (2.2 pounds) of drugs.

■ Allow parole after 15 years for those currently serving non-parolable life sentences. The Senate version required the convict to produce evidence against dealers, even after many years, and gave much discretion to prosecutors and police.

■ Establish criteria for the parole board to use in barring parole for "drug kingpins." A major criticism of the current law is that it has netted small-time "mules" rather than big-time "kingpins."



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Clarkston Life

The Eccentric

INSIDE:
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Community Calendar, A11

Page 9, Section A

Karen Hermes Smith, Editor 248 625 1900

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

Thursday, December 18, 1997



ROCHELLE SMITH

'Improvements' don't always make life better

It's time someone spoke out against improvements. Don't get me wrong. Some improvements are fine, but there's an old saying that, although grammatically incorrect, sums up my feelings on the situation: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

The world seems to be on an improvement kick. Everywhere you look things are new and improved, or are they? Not all change is an improvement. I think every grocery store in the greater Clarkston area has had a major renovation within the past year. These constant improvements have not improved my shopping experience. The days of running into the store quickly to pick up an item are gone. Every time I go to the grocery store, it's like I'm starting all over again. The bread is where the pop used to be. The soap is where the soup once was. These are not improvements; they are complications. Isn't life complicated enough without adding another hurdle to the track?

The unnecessary improvements don't stop at the check-out counter. Half of the food we bring home from the store has been new and improved. In most cases I can't see any change in the taste, but the packaging is another story. The packaging on some foods has been improved so

Please see IMPROVEMENTS, A11

Program a PLUS for mentors, teens

■ Clarkston-area professionals are making a difference in the lives of young people by befriending them through Clarkston Youth Assistance's PLUS Program.

BY DIANE BALDWIN
SPECIAL WRITER

Many people would agree that a lot can be accomplished if you devoted just one hour a week to a project. You could mow your lawn, bake cookies, have lunch with a friend, grocery shop, exercise, return phone calls, go on a family outing or attend church. But, two Clarkston-area professionals choose to spend one hour a week mentoring Clarkston youths.

Greg DiPietro, owner of J & J Refrigeration in Clarkston and a CHS alumni, has been involved for 10 years with the Clarkston Youth Assistance PLUS Program (People, Listening, Understanding, Sharing). In that time he has been matched with three youths: Vincent, 14; Jake, 17; and David, 24. Although the suggested time commitment is one hour a week for one year, DiPietro has invested more.

He and the boys have flown kites, eaten dinner out, played Monopoly, watched movies, played with remote-control cars, visited a motorcycle swap meet and, of course, chatted. When interacting with the boys, he said, "I try to recall my teenage years, like my parents, school and problems," he said.

The kids treat him like "a father, a friend, a brother," he said. He tries to pass on the wisdom that he has gained through his years and enjoys being able to help out kids, he added. He got involved because he "wanted to give something back to the community ... instead of (always) taking," he said.

Jennifer Nuss, a social worker for Clarkston Schools, concurs. Although she is a new PLUS program volunteer, she has wanted to get involved for quite a while. "I did some volunteer



PLUS party: Greg DiPietro (left) watches as Vince (center) and Jake wrap presents during the PLUS program Christmas party Saturday at Independence Township Hall.

work in high school and college ... it's nice to know you can be there for someone if they need you," she said. Her match is 12-year-old Danielle.

The role of Clarkston Area Youth Assistance is to help prevent juvenile delinquency, child abuse and neglect in children, according to case worker Fred Morden. "The PLUS Program is a real tool for early intervention for a child," he added. The program is similar to the Big Brother/Big Sister program and is

available to Clarkston-area children ages 7-17. Children are enrolled in the program either by a recommendation of a school staff member or via parental intervention.

At 24, DiPietro's oldest match, David, is an adult. DiPietro continues to befriend him because he believes he can still offer support and friendship to David even though he is beyond the high school years.

Nuss has long-term aspirations as

well. She hopes to help Danielle learn to "be happy and make good decisions ... adolescence is harder now than when (I) was growing up," she said.

The Clarkston Area Youth Assistance PLUS Program is the largest in Oakland County, said Morden. The Youth Assistance program has been in existence in the Detroit area for more than 40 years and was established in Clarkston in 1970. "We accept dona-

Please see PLUS, A10

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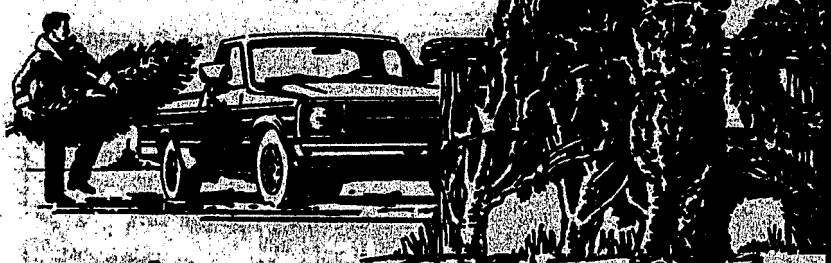
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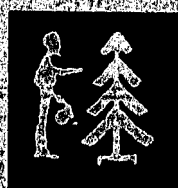
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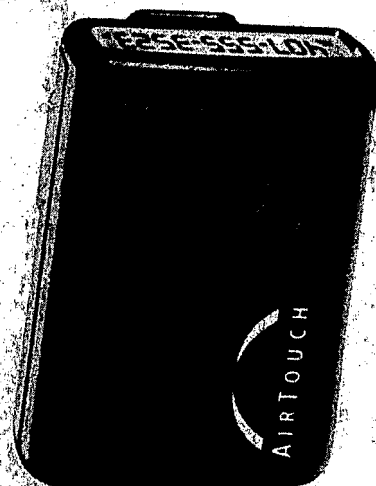
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Boy's question about pumpernickel gets a rise out of Mom

Interview With A Mother

Boy: Did you know whenever you take a bath or shower it burns 2 percent of your body fat?

Mother: I have two theories about that: A) There is no truth to that rumor. If there were, given the number of showers I take, I would be a 90-pound weakling. B) I should get so lucky!

Boy: Do you hate it when you have three places that itch at once?

Mother: Yes, I do. Especially if those three places happen to be: A) my innermost inner ear. B) the bottom of my foot when it's in a shoe. C) that hard-to-get-at spot on my back.

Boy: What is "pumpernickel" named after?

Mother: I am shocked! I looked "pumpernickel" up in my Webster's dictionary and it said "pumpernickel" is a German word named for *pumpen* (flatulence) and *nickel* (goblin).

Boy: What is "goblin flatulence?"

Mother: It's a concept-and-a-half, that's what it is!

Boy: What is a hiccup, anyway?

Mother: What I want to know is: Do goblins get those, too?

Boy: What is a spasm?

Mother: A spasm is a thing a mother gets in her stomach when she has to answer questions like the above. It is akin to a hiccup.

Boy: Why are ice cubes so slippery?

Mother: I don't know for sure but that is a good question. Can you imagine if ice cubes were, say, prickly or furry, instead? Maybe they're slippery so they come out of the tray easier. It's just a thought.

Boy: What would you do if you ran the world?

Mother: Banish goblins?

Boy: What does the word "hatred" mean?

Mother: "Hatred" means we have an intense, almost volatile, dislike for something. If I ran the world, there wouldn't be any hatred. I figure things could only get easier from there.

Boy: What does heartburn feel like?

Mother: Heartburn is a burning sensation in the chest. That's why it's



CAROLYN WALKER

named for the heart. Just think, the heart gets blamed for burning and credited for loving — and it doesn't have anything to do with either one!

Boy: Why do they make whips if we don't need them?

Mother: It seems to me that in our society there are many things that we don't need. Whips are one. Bathing caps are another. People make things for money, you know?

Boy: How do you become an orphan?

Mother: Mothers hate to answer orphan questions. Let's talk about something more upbeat.

Boy: What is the devil up to?

Mother: That's upbeat?

Boy: If you had a choice to be a kind of animal, what kind would you be?

Mother: That's easy. I would be a dolphin. They're smart and they like to swim — my ideal life!

Boy: Why is it I have that song stuck in my head?

Mother: Songs are like heartburn. They get stuck in the darndest places.

Boy: Do you know what being afraid is?

Mother: Mothers don't like to discuss fear either.

Boy: What if we were half animal and half human?

Mother: Some people/animals think we already are. Our human side spends a lot of its time apologizing for what our animal side does.

Boy: Why is it animals don't blink?

Mother: They don't blink because they're afraid they'll miss something. Mothers should take their cues from animals.

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

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.

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PLUS from page A9

tions of tickets to sporting events, concerts or whatever so that we can pass them on to our volunteers," Morden said. "It helps offer something different for them to do with the kids. We also offer continued support to our volunteers so they don't feel like they are all alone," he said.

Morden encourages participation by adult volunteers who are single as well as those who are married. "If you are married, the match can become part of your family... you can be a role model not only as an adult but as a family-oriented person," said DiPietro about combining volunteer efforts with family responsibilities. "As long as the child (and his/her parent) desires it, family activities can be combined with one-to-one activities," said Morden.

Currently, the PLUS Program has three boys waiting for adult male matches and three adult female volunteers waiting for female youth matches who want to be involved with the program. A training session is required as well as a background investigation and references.

People who live or work in Clarkston are eligible to volunteer and can call the office of the Oakland County Volunteer Program at 858-0041. Parents who would like more information about getting their children involved with the PLUS Program can contact Morden at Clarkston Area Youth Assistance, 625-9007.

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CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

FRIDAY, DEC. 19

SENIOR CENTER CHRISTMAS DINNER

6 p.m., Independence Township Senior Center, Clintonwood Park, 5980 Clarkston Road, Clarkston. Buffet dinner, entertainment, prizes and a visit from St. Nick. Cost: \$7 per person. Reservations limited. Call 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 por-

tray 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 & SUNDAY, DEC. 20 & 21

A LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE

7 p.m., Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road, Clarkston. Celebrate the miracle of Christmas through lights and music. Featuring the Christmas cantata "I Have Seen the Light" by Deborah Craig-Claar.

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Donate \$5 or more to the Friends of the Springfield Township Library and they will match your donation to purchase new books to be included in Christmas baskets and distributed by Neighbor for Neighbor to needy children this holiday season. For more information, call the library at 625-0595 or mail your contribution to 10900 Andersonville Road, Davisburg 48350.

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY, DEC. 23-24

LIVE NATIVITY

6-9 p.m., Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road, Clarkston. Live outdoor nativity scene.

MONDAY, DEC. 29

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

7:30 p.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6490 Clarkston Road, Clarkston. Memorial service open to all members of the community and especially those who have lost children of their own. Open to all people of any religious persuasion as well as those who have no spiritual home. For further information, call (248) 625-2325.

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. Program is sponsored by Oakland County Parks, Bor-

ding's Better Blooms and the Detroit Hoo Hoo Club, a lumber industry organization. Independence Oaks will accept trees through Jan. 26. For more infor-

mation, call (248) 858-0906.

SUNDAY, JAN. 4

WILDLIFE WINTER WARDROBE

2 p.m., Indian Springs Metropark. Learn how animals survive Michigan winters. Registration required. Call (248) 625-7280 or 1-800-477-3192.

Improvements from page A9

much, they will now last forever. That's because it's impossible to get them open. By the time you work your way through the zip-open box (which never zips where it should), the pressure-sealed heavy plastic wrap (which has cute little perforation marks that falsely lead you to believe it will tear) and the tamper-resistant bottle that will not cave under the pressure of any can opener known to man, you have earned the nagging headache that often follows. Whatever you do, don't think taking an aspirin will be the solution. The packaging geniuses hit that area with a frenzy. Now the bottles are not only child proof and tamper proof, they are old lady proof, young adult proof and, possibly even, explosion proof.

This morning I found another area where "new and improved" was not an improvement. While taking my oldest son to school in the heavy traffic that usually covers Maybree Road at 7:30 each morning, I experienced the same surprise that I have experienced several times this school year. In the early morning hazy darkness, I suddenly realized that there was something blocking my view of the oncoming car headlights, which had previously danced across my windshield. It was two figures in the middle of the road — the crossing guard and a student. Although I was still far enough away to stop without any problem, it concerned me that the only way I knew they were there is the fact that they blocked my view of the oncoming car lights. This is certainly a situation that could use some improvement. When I returned home I decided to call the school and find out who is responsible for the crossing

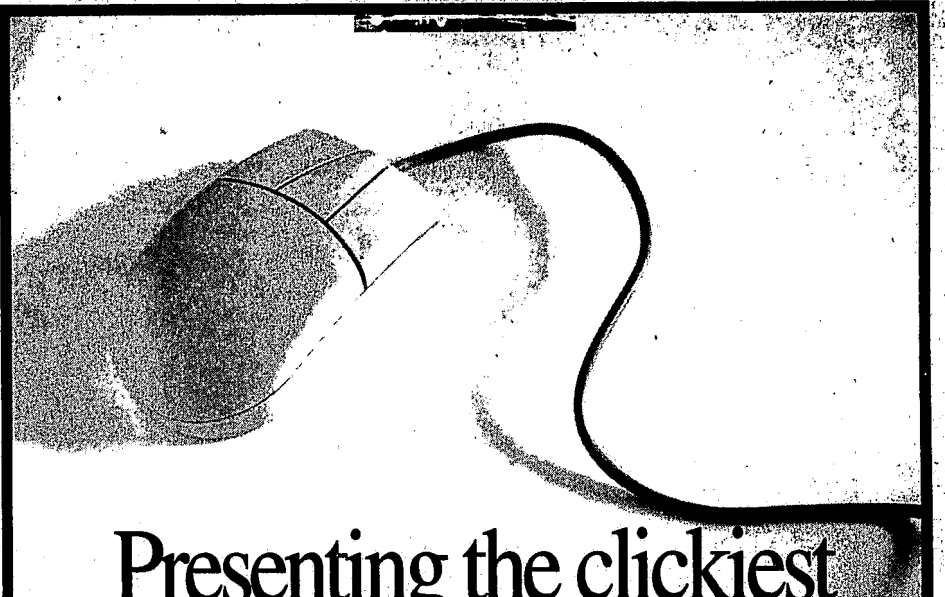
guards so I could make my own suggestion for improvement — a light on the little stop sign the crossing guard carries. Calling the school was no problem since I am one of those mothers who has the school on my telephone speed dial. The school informed me that the crossing guard I was concerned about was under the supervision of Independence Township. A quick call to Independence Township should do the trick.

Remembering that we had received a new and improved North Oakland telephone directory only a few weeks ago, I knew I would have to search a little harder to find the phone number for the township, but I was not concerned. With the shiny new cover picture of a sunset on the water and all the new categories with the pretty color pages, I was rather looking forward to searching for my first number in those crisp new pages. I first searched the white pages. No "Independence Township offices." Then I searched through the "government guide."

No listing that starts with "I." While there was a listing for Clarkston, since I was not calling the police or the township treasurer, it did not help. Perhaps the "Business" section? No, it's not there. As a last resort, I checked the yellow pages. No Independence Township offices in the yellow pages, either.

How can a new and improved phone book have fewer listing than the old and unimproved version? Search as I may, I never found a listing for the Independence Township offices. My only hope for that poor crossing guard is that someone out there reading this column knows their number and can pass on my suggestion for improving his stop sign by adding a flash light to the handle. Granted, it's a small improvement, but it has to be better than the one made to the new telephone directory.

Rochelle Smith, who lives in Clarkston, writes a column every other week in this space. Her column alternates with Karen Hermes Smith's column.



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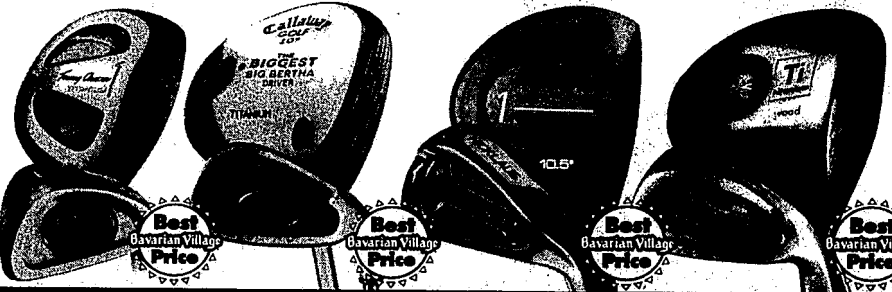
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TASTE

Holiday food race not won without preparation

BY PEGGY MARTINELLI EVERTS
SPECIAL WRITER

The holiday season brings challenges and opportunities. Many of us look forward to spending time with family and friends, dressing up our homes and offices, and eating wonderfully prepared meals.

We need not look at holiday meals as a chance to "pig out" or worry that we'll lose con-

trol with all of the additional pressures that we face during this time of year.

I prepare for holiday eating

Canapes on the right track

PRUNE PORT
CANAPE SANDWICH

8 very thinly sliced pieces of Canadian bacon (1/2 ounce slices)
2 cups port wine
1/2 cup dried prunes
1 boneless, skinless chicken breast
16 slices party rye bread
1/2 teaspoon salt
Pepper to taste
1 tablespoon olive oil

Bake the Canadian bacon on a baking sheet at 350°F. until crisp. When finished,

drain on a clean towel.

Combine the port wine and prunes in a sauce pan and cook about 15 minutes until the prunes have softened. Remove the prunes and mash to a paste with one tablespoon of the port the prunes were cooked in.

In a sauce pot, simmer the remaining port until thickened and reduced to approximately 1/4 cup, set aside.

Season the chicken breast with the salt and pepper and then grill until done. Slice the chicken breast on

the bias into eight pieces. Brush the bread with olive oil and place under broiler until lightly toasted. Spread the prune mixture on half the bread slices on the oiled side. Place a slice of chicken on top. Add a slice of Canadian bacon. Drizzle the port wine sauce over top. Finish with another slice of rye to make a sandwich. Secure with a toothpick. Serves 8.

Nutrition information per serving: Calories 200; protein 7.52g; Fat 4g.

Recipe from HDS Services.

Good Holiday Snacking

- Raw vegetables (very light on the dip)
- Shrimp cocktail (in moderation)
- Raw fruit slices with low-fat yogurt dip
- Pretzels
- Jordan almonds (in moderation)
- Nuts in the shell that you have to crack to eat
- Baked tortilla chips and salsa
- Grapes

the way a long distance runner prepares for a race.

Before the race, a runner needs to practice, practice, practice. The same is true before holidays; practice eating sensibly. Build up your arm muscles so you have strength to push yourself away from the table. Practice eating seasoned vegetables and new combinations of fruits, beans or grains.

The runner prepares mentally for the race. She thinks about how she will feel running in the competition. Before a holiday party, imagine yourself eating with restraint, enjoying each delicious mouthful and lots of wonderful conversation.

The runner chooses clothing that is comfortable. For the holidays choose clothes that fit rather than the biggest, baggiest ones. If you wear

clothes that are too loose, you won't notice your belly expanding from over eating.

The day of the race, a runner chooses food carefully. Before you go to a party, eat a good meal so you're less likely to graze uncontrollably all evening.

During the race, a runner drinks plenty of water to keep well hydrated. The same is true for holidays; never underestimate the power of water. Enjoy plenty of cool, clear water before, during and after the party. Water keeps your skin clear and helps flush impurities from your body. Drink water liberally especially when you're indoors in dry, heated places. Find the biggest, tallest glass you can, fill it with ice water, and sip your way through any holiday get together.

The runner puts her whole

heart and soul into the race; always aware of her body and what it's doing. During a party, think about what you've been eating and how much. Listen to your body's internal signals. Breathe deeply and maintain control. Move yourself away from the food source, help with dishes, play with the children or take the dog for a walk.

After the race, the runner evaluates what she did right and where she may need to intensify her efforts. After the party think about what you ate that was especially satisfying and whether you feel you successfully "managed" your food intake. Congratulate yourself for eating vegetables, fruits, grains and for drinking water.

Relax, and then, prepare yourself for the next "holiday" run.

Peggy Martinelli-Everts of Clarkston, is a registered dietitian and director of clinical operations for HDS Services, a Farmington Hills-based food service and hospitality management company.

Company's
Coming

Here are some holiday entertaining tips from the American Dietetic Association/National Center for Nutrition and Dietetics.

Appetizers

- Serve hummus with pita wedges
- Make fruit kebabs with pineapple chunks, melon balls, and ripe strawberries
- Create a cheese board with some newer low-fat varieties and an assortment of crackers and breadsticks
- Spread reduced-fat or nonfat cream cheese on reduced-fat or nonfat crackers. Garnish with: sun-dried tomatoes; cucumber slices, pimento; or smoked salmon and dill
- Rely on low-fat or nonfat varieties of plain yogurt, ricotta cheese, or sour cream for dips. Flavor with dry onion soup mix, salsa, chopped cooked spinach, or chutney.
- Bake miniature vegetable quiches using low-fat cheese and egg alternative.

Side Dishes

- Marinate red and yellow pepper pieces, onion slices, baby carrots, and whole mushrooms in reduced-sodium soy sauce, ginger and a little olive oil. Gently cook
- Sauté onions, mushrooms, and red pepper in a moderate amount of margarine. Add this mixture to prepared wild rice, barley, couscous, or buckwheat (kasha)

Fat-reducing Tips

- Use reduced-fat or nonfat dressings or spreads for vegetables instead of butter, cheese, and cream-based sauces
- Skim fat from drippings before using in gravies or to flavor grains and vegetables
- Cook stuffing and roast vegetables away from bird to avoid contact with dripping fat
- Bake with fruit juice rather than meat drippings
- Choose lean cuts of meat, trim visible fat
- Broil, boil, poach, or steam - don't fry



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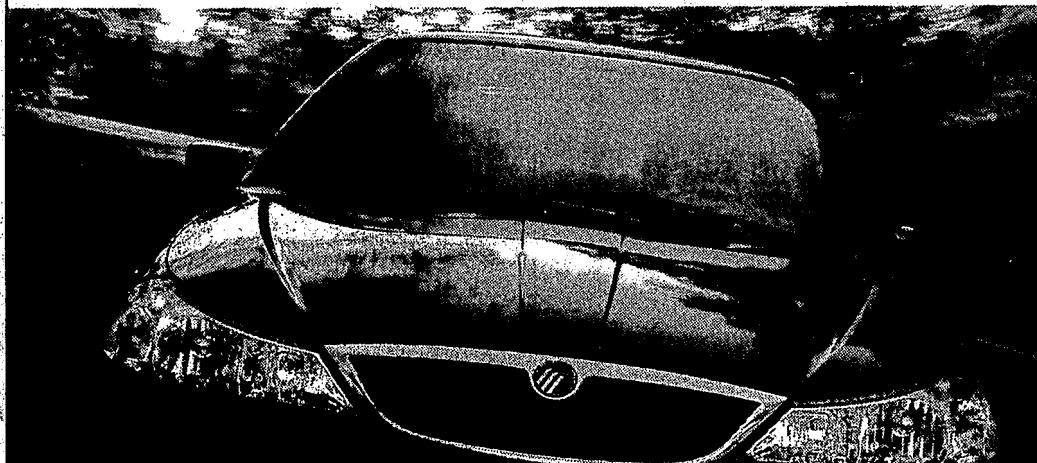
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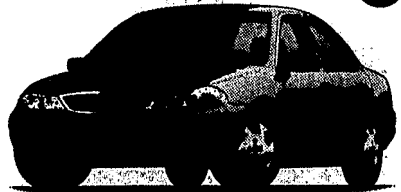


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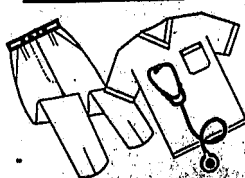
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OAKLAND JOURNAL

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.

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.

AROUND OCC

The Womencenter at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills will be holding several seminars, workshops and support groups dealing with various women's issues including:

- Amy Tschirhart, MA, LPC, will lead an interactive workshop, "Self Esteem for Women: Growing into Yourself" Jan. 31. The program, which costs \$25 per person, will help women learn basic concepts of self esteem and provide opportunities to develop and use skills that enhance growth. Classes meet from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 308 in Building J.
- A six-week support group, "Creating Healthy Relationships," will focus on changing past behavior patterns from past

relationships and will begin Jan. 4 at a cost of \$40 per person. Partner, parent-child, family and work relationships will be addressed. The group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. in Room 308 in Building J.

■ On Jan. 24, a self defense training workshop is offered to increase self confidence and provide defense strategies. Cost: \$40 per person. Self Defense expert Jaye Spiro will conduct the class in the Multipurpose Room of the Health (H) Building from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■ "Exploring Career Option" will use self-exploration, decision making, values and interests to assess career development. The five-week course begins Jan. 14 in Room 308 in Building J from 10 a.m. to noon at a cost of \$50 per person.

■ A six-week support group, "Surviving Divorce," will examine the feelings of loss, anger and hurt divorce creates and promote the journey to healing. The group, which costs \$40 per person, begins Jan. 13 and meets in Room 308, Building J from 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.

To register for any group or for more information, call 471-7602.

Thirty-three students have received scholarships in varying amounts for the Winter 1998 semester including the following:

- Birmingham: Laurie Betts
- Clarkston: Michele Betts
- Farmington Hills: Michelle Good, Kathy Green, Jessica Laskosky, Thamer Shina,
- Lake Orion: Melanie Haeck

TOYS FOR TOTS

MedMax, INC., of Southfield, has joined the 1998 Toys for Tots program sponsored by the United States Marine Corp. Upon dropping off an unwrapped gift, customers will receive a coupon

for \$5 off a purchase of \$20 or more. MedMax stores are located in Westland, Troy, Taylor, and Farmington Hills.

LIGHT THE WORLD

Olde World Canterbury Village, Comerica Bank and Judson Center organized a festive celebration for neglected and abused children on Dec. 15. More than 150 children were invited to enjoy a holiday dinner, a visit from Santa, a magic show and also received a personalized gift.

PROJECT HOPE

The Project HOPE League will host a Christmas celebration at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Dec. 20, starting at noon and featuring cocktails, a

luncheon and a tour of the mansion. The cost is \$45 per person or \$80 per couple. Guests are asked to bring an unwrapped gift, which is donated to children at the Ronald McDonald House in Detroit. For more information, call (248) 788-5678, (248) 855-8770 or (248) 354-1820.

4-H COURSE

A 4-H Dale Carnegie Course will be held for those ages 15 to 19 who have been in 4-H for at least a year. The "Take Charge" course will run every Saturday from 12:30-4:30 p.m. from Jan. 31 to April 25 at Hope Methodist Church in Southfield. The course is designed to help 4-H members increase their leadership and communication skills.

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6. *As a result of the above, the Commission has concluded that the proposed rule is not necessary or appropriate in the public interest, and it is hereby disapproved.*

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Dog-gone (almost)

Patches survives icy plunge

BY CAROLYN WALKER
STAFF WRITER

Patches, the black lab, took an unexpected cold plunge into Whipple Lake Dec. 11 and while that incident had a happy ending for the Chuck Fortinberry family, Independence Township firefighters who rescued the dog are reminding people that local ice is not yet safe — despite deceptive appearances.

Residents should plan to stay off the ice on area ponds and lakes for at least several more weeks — until it's been consistently cold for an extended period of time and the ice is several inches thick, said acting Fire Marshall Greg Olrich Friday.

Lake ice should be 10-12 inches thick, translucent and bluish in color to be considered safe, according to the Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

Anyone whose pet ventures onto thin ice, as Patches did, should call the fire department for help rather than attempt a rescue, said Olrich. Firefighters have special ice suits to wear and are trained and equipped to handle animal rescues.

Too often, Olrich said, owners who venture onto the ice to help their pets fall victim as well. In addition, time spent by an owner attempting a personal rescue is time wasted, increasing the likelihood that a floundering animal will perish, he added.

"The way the weather's been lately, with it warming up and cooling off, it really makes it dangerous," Olrich said. "If the animal fell through, there's got to be a reason."

Fortinberry attempted to rescue his dog at first entering water that was chest deep and then attempting to use a boat, but he was unsuccessful because the ice was too thick to permit paddling, said his wife, Dana.

"The way the weather's been lately, with it warming up and cooling off, it really makes it dangerous,"

Greg Olrich
Fire Marshall

Fortinberry was treated for hypothermia at a local clinic following the dog's rescue, she said.

"It was really a very frightening experience. The fire department was just wonderful," she said. "For us, it worked out great and my kids have learned an important lesson."

Because of their fur, animals can survive in cold water for as long as one-half hour — and sometimes longer — a much greater span of time than human beings can withstand, Olrich said.

Patches, at some 80 pounds, was about 40 yards out onto a small pond-like body of water that adjoins Whipple Lake when the dog went through approximately one inch of ice. She was able to hang on for over 30 minutes.

"The animals can survive quite a while. But humans just can't take it for any length of time. Dogs will hang on quite a while."

A rescue truck, engine truck and captain's truck were dispatched to the rescue and Olrich, who is light in weight, was able to venture onto the ice and hold the dog while fellow firefighters entered the water to assist in the rescue.

Patches, who was not visibly hurt, was discovered struggling in the water about 7:30 p.m., after children who were sledding nearby heard the dog howling.

Olrich said that people who find themselves on weak ice should lay down on their stomachs, spread out and distribute their weight to increase their chances of survival.

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INSIDE:
JV volleyball, B2
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Page 1, Section B

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Thursday, December 18, 1997

Sage, Wolves lead team to national title

BY BRAD KADRICH
SPORTS EDITOR

Dave Sage spent much of the recently-completed cross country season showing he was one of the state's top runners.

Last week, he stretched his horizons.

Sage, the Clarkston sophomore who was the Wolves' best runner, finished ninth in the team division and 11th overall as his Raptor Racing Team 15-

and 16-year-old squad went to the USA National Junior Olympics Cross Country Championships in Portland, Ore., and won the race.

Sage's 15:56 was six seconds slower than his personal best,



David Sage

set in the recent OAA league meet, but it was fast enough to be the best individual time for his team. He was joined by two Clarkston teammates — Matt Haver and Dan Burke — who also finished in the top 60 in the team division.

Obviously, Sage and his mates were pleased with the finish.

"I was relaxed because there wasn't really any pressure," said Sage, who apparently handles pressure better than most. "None of us was expected to do

I was relaxed because there wasn't really any pressure.

David Sage
Cross country runner

as well as we did."

The meet was plagued by high winds, which gusted from an estimated 30 to about 50 mph.

Runners ran much of the 3.1-mile course with the wind in

their faces.

Burke said the wind was a definite factor.

Burke was the only Clarkston runner to set a personal best time, running a 16:58 that was one second faster than the time he set at the OAA meet a couple of months ago. He finished 54th in the team division, 111th in the individual overall standings.

Burke was happy with his performance, and that of the team.

"I was doing cartwheels after the race," Burke said. "We had

so much fun. We were happy, and our coach was happy for us."

Haver, who with Sage was a member of the Eccentric 1997 All-North Oakland Squad, finished 42nd in the team division, running a 16:44. It was good enough for 82nd overall.

Other area runners competing for the Raptors included Todd Mobley, Nate Stoll and Jason Babcock of Walled Lake Central, Plymouth Salem's John Little and Matt Anderson and Josh Burt of Livonia Franklin.

Netters hand Knights late comeback victory

BY BRAD KADRICH
SPORTS EDITOR

Late in the third game of Monday's prep volleyball match with Royal Oak Kimball, Clarkston held a 13-7 lead and appeared to be in control.

That shows how deceiving appearances can be.

The Wolves got caught with their three best players in the back row, and the Knights made them pay, coming back to post a 15-13 win in the third game and pulling out the match in a three-set thriller, 9-15, 15-9, 15-13.

Jenny McCue's tip over the net gave Clarkston a 13-7 lead in the third game.

But Kelly Hanna was called for carrying the ball one play after Kimball appeared to get away with four hits, and the Wolves turned the ball over on the side out.

The Knights then caught the Wolves with McCue, Senkyr and Aimee Giroux all in the back and took advantage, scoring the match's final eight points to secure the win in the Oakland Activities Association Division I opener for both teams.

Clarkston coach Gordie Richardson didn't think the carry on Hanna was that significant a call, referring rather to the Wolves' inability to stop the Knight run as the cause for the loss.

"Instead of keeping our poise and just putting it in play, we got a little excited," Richardson said. "We started trying to hit the ball too hard, and we're not good enough to do that."

The Wolves got the serve back four times during Kimball's third-game run, but simply couldn't get a point. The Knights' Stacey Bida and Jenna McIntosh were effective at the net, but Clarkston had trouble getting serves in and scoring points down the stretch.

"We were our own worst enemy," Richardson said. "The last two games when we needed to get a serve in, we couldn't get a serve in."

McCue's serving got the Wolves the early lead in the decisive third game.

With the game tied 3-3, McCue served three points, including an ace on a soft serve that dropped in front of



PHOTO BY BOB KNOX

Net gain: Clarkston's Kelly Hanna (right) goes to the net against Jenna McIntosh of Royal Oak Kimball.

diving Knights. After the teams traded side-outs, Giroux served two service points, both coming on kills by Senkyr, to put Clarkston up 8-3.

The Knights scored to make it 8-4 then Senkyr served two points. The teams traded side-outs twice, with Hanna's dig on the second Knight service keeping the ball alive until the Knights misplayed it.

Kara Bergkoetter got a point to make it 11-4, and the Knights responded with three points on their next serve to make it 11-7.

Amber Mitchell got a point on her serve, then the teams traded side-outs before McCue's serve made it 13-7, setting up the dramatic comeback.

Please see **NETTERS**, B2

Fife's 27 help sink Lakers



Senior guard drops five 3-pointers as Wolves, who let West Bloomfield hang around

for nearly three quarters, use the final eight minutes to pull away for their second win.

BY BRAD KADRICH
SPORTS EDITOR

The Clarkston Wolves let West Bloomfield hang around quite awhile Friday night, and it almost came back to haunt them.

The Wolves let the Lakers hang around for three quarters before using the final eight minutes to put them away, pulling away for a 57-47 win in an Oakland Activities Association crossover prep boys' basketball game at West Bloomfield.

Senior guard Dane Fife pumped in 27 points, including five 3-pointers, and the Wolves staved off all Laker comeback attempts to get their second win of the season. Angelo Taylor helped out with 14 points for Clarkston (2-0).

The Wolves were never seriously threatened, although the Lakers did put up a spirited effort.

"You're always worried," Clarkston coach Dan Fife said of letting the Lakers stay in the game. "They started hitting some shots and making a run. It was a goofy game."

Yes, it was. The Wolves led by 10 at halftime in a low-scoring affair, 29-19. But the Lakers got within four, 41-37, on a layup credited to West Bloomfield senior Martin Frazier on which Taylor was called for goal-tending with 44 seconds left in the third quarter.

Clarkston's Kevin Mason broke loose and scored on a pass from Fife with 32 seconds left, and Fife opened the fourth quarter by converting a three-point play, after being fouled, and then draining a 3-pointer from the corner with 6:10 left in the game. That gave the Wolves their biggest lead, 49-37.

West Bloomfield's Matt Wilde then hit a jumper from just inside the 3-point arc, and Randy Wexelman on a layup with 5:00 left to cut it back to eight, 49-41.

Please see **HOOPS**, B2

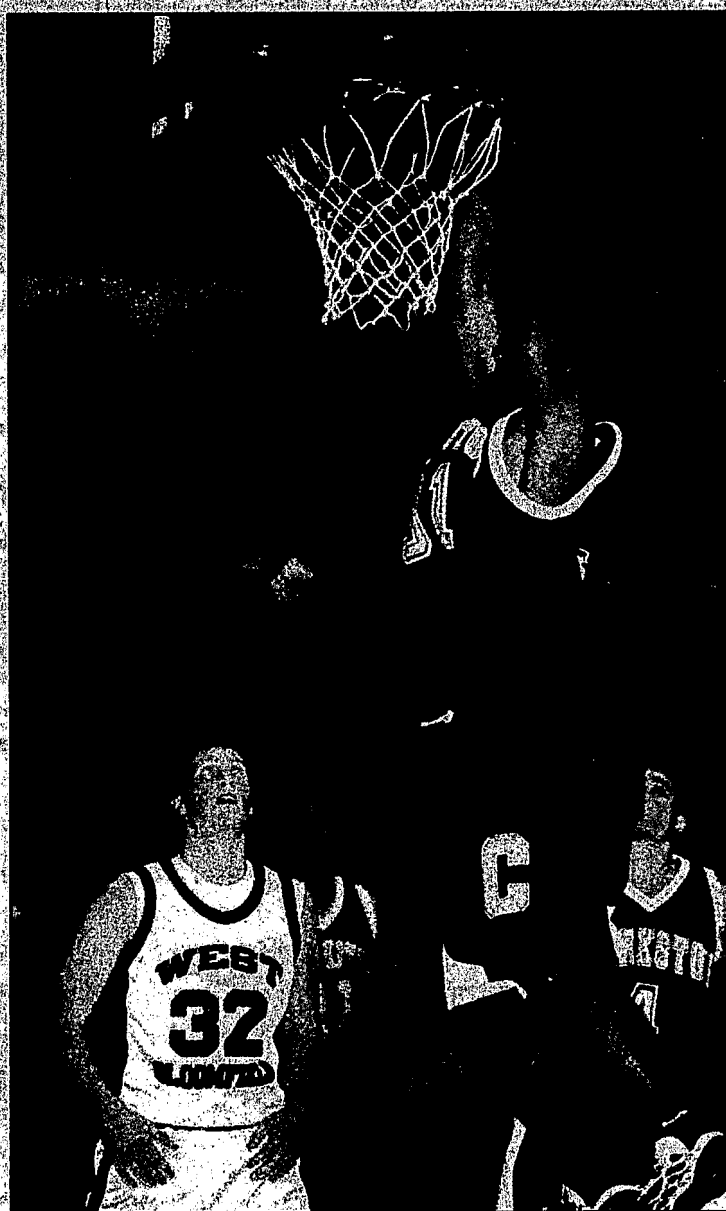


PHOTO BY BOB KNOX

Rim rockin': Clarkston's Angelo Taylor got the Wolves' fans barking with a dunk early in Clarkston's 57-47 win over West Bloomfield Friday.

The Jungle gives Wolves great homecourt hoop advantage

The fans raise the noise level to an ear-piercing crescendo, begging their Clarkston Wolves on to their second straight victory, a 10-point win over West Bloomfield, and raising the roof in the process.

And it wasn't even their roof.

That's how powerful a force "The Jungle" has become. Always a supportive element at home games, Clarkston's student body cheering section has taken its act on the road, outnumbering home fans in many venues and turning every game into a home game for the Wolves.

"It helps give (the team) motivation," said senior Nate Skipston, currently in his fourth season as a "Jungle-ite." "It's like a sixth man. Other teams play with five guys, we play with six. We can help change the momentum pretty quick. The players feed off it."

Student body support at any high school is important, but Clarkston has found ways to take cheering to new extremes. Aided by the varsity cheerlead-

ers, The Jungle lifts the noise level in Clarkston's tiny gym to levels that are distracting to visiting teams.

"There's no question part of Clarkston basketball is The Jungle," Clarkston athletic director Dan Fife said. "We've always had a great student section. It has become a positive tradition."

Signs are painted on game days and taped to the walls all over the gym. Cheers are made up, and everyone knows them. It's not just a few of the fans who get in on the act — hundreds of students at every game hound opposing players for 32 minutes a night.

It's always been that way, ever since The Jungle came into existence in 1990. The Jungle is subject to the rules of the Oakland Activities Association but, more importantly, its subjects are bound by citizenship rules placed on them by the atmosphere of Clarkston sports.

"We don't want our students acting any different than our players," Clarkston athletic director Dan Fife said. "Anytime that's going to bring negative attention to us, we don't want it. We can't very well ask the players on our sports teams to be one way if we don't require it of



PHOTO BY BOB KNOX

Wolves of The Jungle: Clarkston's student body cheering section gets boisterous during the Wolves' 57-47 basketball win over West Bloomfield Friday.

Clarkston this season. He gave personal and academic reasons for the transfer, but one might conclude he was anxious to have The Jungle cheer for him, rather than against him.

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"They're so loud," Taylor said in a recent interview. "It's going to be nice to come in here and have them behind me for a change."

That's the idea, according to this year's unofficial leader, junior Mike Moran. Moran said he has grown up with many of the players, and looks up to them.

"These are the kids I grew up with," Moran explained. "I look up to them, and I want to support them in any way I can."

On this night in West Bloomfield, that includes grabbing the megaphone and leading The Jungle in cheers.

The OAA has rules about what should and should not be said, and The Jungle follows them. Occasionally, while getting wrapped up in "cheer wars" with rival student bodies, things get out of hand. But it isn't often, and it isn't bad.

"We're just here to have fun," Moran said. "We're not out to criticize anyone. Sometimes it comes in the flow of the game. Sometimes, bad things happen. Mostly, good things happen."

Good things if you're one of the Wolves. If you're an opposing player, things aren't so good.

And that's the way The Jungle likes it.

Hoops from page B1

But Mason, who played a solid game, particularly on defense, drew a charge from Frazier, and the Wolves scored the next five points — a free throw from Fife and two jumpers from Mike Maitrott — to put the game away.

"All we had to do was keep them in front of us," Fife said afterward. "They couldn't score."

West Bloomfield coach Barry Bershad agreed, sounding somewhat surprised his Lakers could hang on for so long against the highly-regarded Wolves, the defending league co-champions.

"I'm really proud of them," Bershad said of his Lakers. "In the end, we couldn't stop Fife from scoring."

West Bloomfield kept it close early, actually taking its only lead, 8-6, with 3:45 left in the first quarter.

But the Wolves put together an 11-0 run — five points from Fife and six from Taylor — to regain a lead they never relinquished.

The Lakers did pull within five, 22-17, but Maitrott hit a pair of free throws and a jumper from the corner to stretch the lead back to 26-17.

The Wolves sandwiched three free throws — one from Fife and two from Dan Neubeck — around a 10-foot baseline jumper by Frazier to make it 29-19 at the half.

Maitrott finished with 10 points, and Neubeck scored four for the Wolves.

Clarkston is at Pontiac Central tonight (Thursday) at 7:30. The Wolves then play Detroit Central at Cobo Hall Dec. 30 at 8 p.m.

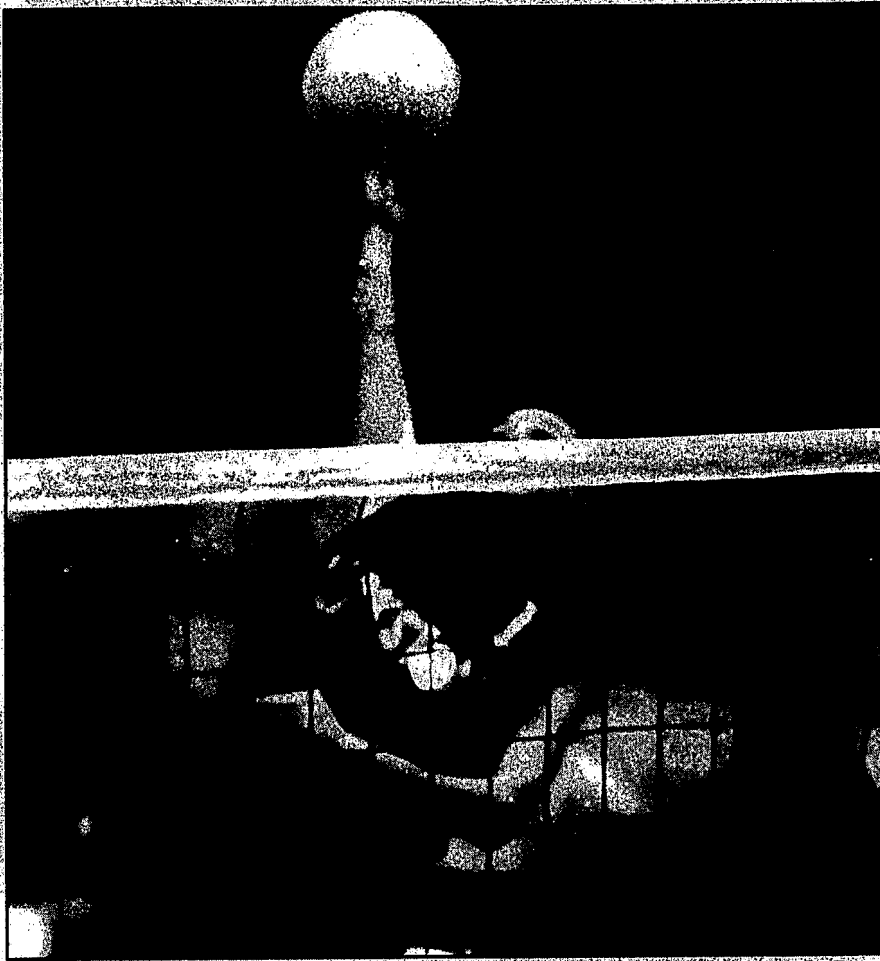
■ **Clarkston 76, Royal Oak Kimball 27:** Fife poured in 29 points, including another five 3-pointers, and the Wolves jumped to a 22-7 first quarter lead and never looked back.

Clarkston's lead had ballooned to 40-16 by halftime, and they outscored the winless Knights (0-3) 36-11 in the second half, including a 16-4 fourth quarter.

Taylor finished with 17 points, while Brad Phalen added seven, Mike Maitrott scored six and Dasuqi Ahdi and Mark North each chipped in four.

Ryan Stennett and Justin Weeks, who hit the team's only 3-pointer, each scored five points for the Knights.

Volley follies



High flyer: Clarkston's Melanie Arnold goes high to the net during the Wolves' junior varsity volleyball match at Royal Oak Kimball High School Monday. The Knights rallied after losing the first game to post a 9-15, 15-5, 15-8 win over the Wolves.

Netters

from page B1

"We were up 13-7, we never should have lost," Richardson said. "That's the kind of stuff you can't let happen."

Clarkston took a 3-0 lead on Jennifer Claus' serve in the first game. After Kimball made it 3-2, McCue and Giroux each served two points.

Hanna then got a point to make it 8-2, but the Knights rallied for six straight points. Claus served three points and, after Kimball scored one more, Ingrid Zimmerman served two more. Giroux's ace sealed the win.

Clarkston jumped out in the second game and led 8-5 on Hanna's serve before the Knights scored 10 of the game's final 11 points to pull out the win.

Senkyr finished with 11 kills, four blocks, seven digs and two service aces.

Giroux had six kills, two aces and two digs. McCue was 9-of-12 service with two aces and seven digs. Hanna was 8-of-8 serving with four digs.

The Wolves were home to Troy Wednesday, but results were not available at press time.

Clarkston is off until Jan. 3, when the Wolves travel to Walled Lake Central.

■ **Saturday — Clarkston wins one at Lansing:** The Wolves beat Lansing Eastern and split with Davison, but lost to East Lansing and Charlotte in the Waverly Classic.

Senkyr was 7-of-9 serving with six kills, three blocks and five digs to lead the Wolves in the 18-16, 15-13 win over Eastern.

Giroux chipped in eight kills, 7-of-8 serving and three digs, while McCue had three kills. Hanna had two service aces, as did Bergkoetter.

Senkyr led the team with 21 kills for the tournament, and she was 22-of-26 serving with 10 blocks and 17 digs.

Giroux had 12 kills, was 19-of-26 serving with four aces, and had 11 digs.

ELKS HOOP CONTEST WINNERS

The winners of the Elk Hoop Shoot are listed by age bracket, with number of shots in parentheses (top three are listed):

Boys 8-9 — Matt LeMarge (13), Schoolcraft; Aaron Thomas (11), Burt; Ben Carter (10), Waterford.

Girls 8-9 — Hillary Rutan (13), Our Lady of the Lakes;

Ashley Mello (11), Knudsen; Monica Callender (7), Knudsen.

Boys 10-11 — Robbie Clark (17), Springfield Plains; Ryan Edwards (15), Pierce; Rich Evans (14), Pierce.

Girls 10-11 — Sasha Wardach (13), Burt; Katie Kelly (12), Pierce; Hannah Godfrey (10), Della Lutes.

Boys 12-13 — Jeff Jayson (18), Mason; Kenny Schmidt (17), Mason; Ben Anderson (15), Pierce.

Girls 12-13 — Pam Wylie (19), Sashabaw Middle School; Keenan Howard (14), Pierce; Jamie Frayer (12), Pierce.

The event drew 140 players, 94 boys and 46 girls.

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Outdoor Calendar

DATES/DEADLINES

BASS
Bass season ends statewide on Dec. 31.

DEER
The second archery season runs through Jan. 1 statewide. Muzzleloading seasons runs through Dec. 21 in Zones II (northern Lower Peninsula) and III (southern Lower Peninsula). A special late antlerless only firearms season will be held Dec. 20-Jan. 4 on private land only in Zone III.

GOOSE
The special late Canada goose season runs Jan. 2-Feb. 1 in southern Michigan. The boundaries for the late hunt have been changed this year and are now the same as those for the South Zone of the regular waterfowl season. The entire south zone is open during the late hunt with the exception of the five GMU's.

MUSKIE
Muskie season ends Dec. 15 on Lake St. Clair the St. Clair River and the Detroit River.

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.

CLASSES

FLY TYING
The Challenge Chapter of Trout Unlimited and Birmingham Continuing Education will offer a 10-week fly tying class beginning at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at Birmingham Seaholm High School. Registration begins Jan. 5. Call (248) 203-3800 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.

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.

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.

SHOOTING RANGES

BALD MOUNTAIN
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (sneet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are noon to sunset on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. to sunset on Wednesdays. On Saturdays and Sundays the rifle and pistol range is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the sporting clays course is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenfield 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.

Franklin yesterday and will participate in the Dec. 29-30 Howell Tournament.

Troy caps busy week:
Troy's hockey team began a busy week Tuesday in fine fashion.

The host Blackhawks - a first-year squad combining players from Troy and Athens high schools - stormed to a 4-1 lead after one period Tuesday night and then held on for a 5-4 Suburban Hockey League North Division win over Bloomfield Hills Andover.

Troy, which was coming off a 5-3 triumph over Walled Lake Western four days earlier, received another strong performance from Fern Kidder. Kidder collected two goals and two assists, while teammate Greg DeClerq added two goals.

Joe Tigay led Andover with one goal and three assists. Teammate Scott Epstein had a three-point game with two goals and an assist and Dari Orandi scored a goal.

Cranes hoist banner, pound Culver

Last weekend was a time of reflection and celebration for Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook's hockey team.

The Cranes proudly raised their 1996-97 Class B-C-D state championship banner prior to Saturday night's game against Culver Military Academy. Cranbrook then skated to a 4-2 victory and the next day completed a sweep of Culver with another 4-2 triumph.

The two victories extended the Cranes' current winning streak to three games and lifted their overall record to 5-3-0. Cranbrook was scheduled to face Flint Powers yesterday in their last game until Jan. 7.

In Cranbrook's first game against Culver, the Cranes exploded for four third-period goals to erase a 2-0 deficit. Senior co-captain Del de Windt began the comeback with his second goal of the season and moments later sophomore Jared Allison took a breakaway pass from junior Spike Crane and scored to make it 2-2.

Sophomore Jason Hong scored from just in front of the goal crease to give Cranbrook a 3-2 advantage and junior Dustin Kim later notched his seventh goal to cap the outburst.

Senior goalie Brandon Marlan stopped 22 of 24 shots for the win.

Ryan Kitson's goal late in the second period proved to be the difference Sunday. Kitson scored to give Cranbrook a 3-2 advantage before adding an empty-net goal in the third.

Freshman Johnny Kim opened the scoring in the first period on an assist from his brother, Dustin, but Culver answered with Karl Hausmann's power-play tally to knot the score.

The two teams traded goals in the second period - junior B. J. Markle for Cranbrook and Aaron Price for Culver - setting the stage for Kitson's heroics.

Cranes junior goalie Barrett Elmer stopped 25 shots, including two breakaways. Kitson also had an assist.

"We've been concentrating on our defensive game and creating high-percentage scoring opportunities," Cranbrook coach Andy Weidenbach said. "Our last four games have all been low scoring, so we had to play well defensively in our own end and capitalize on our chances in the offensive zone. We're getting good goaltending and hope to end the first half of the season on an upswing."

Through eight games, Kitson led the Cranes in scoring with 16 points (eight goals, eight assists). Dustin Kim followed

PREP HOCKEY

with 15 points (7-8) and Markle had nine points (4-5).

WL CENTRAL 3, MOTT 3:
Junior center Matt Friess notched a goal and an assist Sunday to help Walled Lake Central earn a much-needed tie.

The Vikings, who moved to 1-6-1 overall, built a two-goal lead in the second period only to see the Corsairs rally. Rob Adham, who scored two goals in the game, netted the equalizer with just 3:09 remaining.

Friess, whose father John Friess is Mott's head coach, scored an unassisted goal with 11:14 left in the second period to give the Vikings a 3-1 advantage. Friess also assisted on Joe Torosian's first-period goal.

Chad Haven scored Central's second goal with just two seconds to go in the first period.

The Vikings played Livonia

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This Classification Continued from Page E11.

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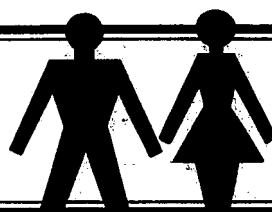


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500 Help Wanted General

CHILD CARE staff & substitute positions available at the elementary level in the Troy School District. 20-25 hours per week for Supervisors & Assistants. Flexible hours for substitutes. Salary range \$6.75-\$15.08. Call 248-826-1487

CHURCH CUSTODIAN
Part-time weekends, \$8/hr., uniforms provided. Apply at: First United Methodist Church, 777 W. 8 Mile, Northville. 248-349-1144

CLEANING OFFICES • Plymouth
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CLEANING PERSON - part time for Farmington Hills apt. complex. Call 248-478-0322

CLERK/CASHIER
Livonia Title Insurance Co. has full-time position with benefits available. Attention to detail required. Call Barbara for appointment: (313) 432-1421

CNC OPERATORS/PROGRAMMERS
Experience required on CNC lathe, mill, hob or grinder. Plymouth area. 313 459-2440

COIN LAUNDRY ATTENDANT - Full & part-time, flexible schedule, no experience necessary. Apply at: Wonder Cleaners & Laundry, 1175 S. Lapper Rd., Oxford or call: 246-693-9509

COLLECTION PERSON
Needed for building supply company. Collection calls, research past due accounts & resolve. Send or fax resume to: Smedley-Snow Steel, 12584 Inkster Rd., Redford, MI 48239 or Fax: 313-937-2426

COMPUTER ENGINEER
In-house repair work of UNIX Systems, SUN Systems and Sony monitors. Experience plus. Edgemoor based on experience. Call: (248) 524-0952 or FAX: Resumes: (248) 324-1449

COMPUTER NETWORK FIELD TECHNICIAN
preferred. 3 yrs. experience needed. Benefits & certification program. Send resumes with references to fax: 813-939-8293

COMPUTER OPERATOR
Brass Craft Manufacturing Company, a Masco subsidiary, has an immediate position. Credentials include: Novell headquarters office. Essential job functions include the monitoring and support of computer processing, and coordinating utilization of input/output and interchangeable file media insuring normal job completion. Job requirements include a minimum of 1-3 yrs. of IBM AS/400 experience, a related associates degree, the ability to work with all organizational levels, good communication skills oral & written, and positive interpersonal skills. PC literacy a must. We offer a competitive wage/benefit package. For consideration, please submit your resume (no phone calls please), including salary history in confidence to: Brass Craft Mfg. Co., Attn: D/CO, P.O. Box 8032, Novi, MI 48376-8032. Equal Opportunity Employer, M/F/D/V.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMER
Growing computer software firm seeking a highly motivated team player for full time position. Mortgage or Pick Basic experience a plus. Send resume, salary requirements to: Glenn Computer Corp., Attn: Kevin Smith, VP, 24370 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI 48075

COUNTER HELP
needed full and part-time for Dry Cleaners. Experience preferred, but will train. Top wages! Holidays and vacation paid. Immediate opening! Bloomfield Location, (248) 643-0807

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PRETTY BLONDE LADY
 SWF, 64, 5'5", great figure, outgoing,
 refined, giving, loving, educated, N/S,
 many interests, seeking SWM, 64-75,
 N/S, financially secure, caring, intelli-
 gent, sense of humor, for possible rela-
 tionship. Ad# 8100

ONE OF A KIND
 DWF, 36, 5'5", blonde hair, blue eyes,
 professional, outgoing, physically fit,
 enjoys cooking, arts, seeks SWM, 34-
 48. Ad# 1954

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

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

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

DEEP BELIEFS
 Independent SBF, 27, 5'5", full-figured,
 Protestant, employed, enjoys bible
 study, movies, sports, boating, opera,
 classical music, seeking never married
 Christian SBM, 28-35. Ad# 8201

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 WM, 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

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-
 cues, going to church, seeking spiri-
 tual, tall, active, down-to-earth SM, N/S.
 Ad# 6258

A BRIGHTER SIDE
 Friendly WWBCF, 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 SJWM, 50+.
 Ad# 2020

MARRIAGE-MINDED
 Catholic SWF, 52, 5'5", outgoing,
 friendly, from the Oak Park area,
 employed, enjoys traveling, shopping,
 the casino, concerts, seeks SWCM,
 28-35, for serious relationship.
 Ad# 3911

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

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,
 gregarious, from Detroit, loves Bingo,
 current events, singing in the choir,
 attending church, seeks Catholic
 WWBCM. Ad# 3190

ROMANTIC & SPIRITUAL
 DWCF, 48, 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, 5'8", 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 DW 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 DW mom, 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# 8648

SWEET & CUTE
 Outgoing, never-married SBCF, 23, 5'8",
 student, enjoys outdoor activities, seek-
 ing understanding, sensitive SCM, 25-
 33. Ad# 8044

LOVING AND CARING
 Protestant DWF, 53, 5', 110lbs., 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

END MY SEARCH
 DW mom, 43, 5'6", 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

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

SUPER WOMAN!
 Protestant SWF, 59, 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# 1936

GOD COMES FIRST
 SWF, 45, 5'5", blonde hair, blue eyes,
 outgoing, friendly, hobbies include Bible
 study, family activities, seeking SWM,
 46-56, 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# 3878

NEW DIMENSION OF LIFE...
 DWCF, 49, 5'6", from Commerce, ready
 to make a commitment, in search of an
 educated SWCM, 47-58, 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, cudi-
 ng, 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

TIERED 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.

YOUNG-AT-HEART
 Catholic DWM, 53, 5'10", brown hair,
 blue eyes, affectionate, monogamous,
 likes sports, movies, walking, dining out,
 seeks honest, caring Catholic SWF,
 under 53, with similar traits. Ad# 6572

GET TO KNOW ME
 SWM, 52, 5'8", outgoing, active, enjoys
 dancing, movies, concerts, traveling,
 seeks slender, SF, under 51, for long
 term relationship. Ad# 5094

NEVER-MARRIED
 SWCM, 21, 6'2", N/S, caring, honest,
 sincere, reliable, outgoing, enjoys bible
 study, music, biking, seeks SWF, 18-26,
 with similar qualities. Ad# 4653

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

MARRIAGE MINDED
 SWM, 40, outgoing, sincere, athletic,
 romantic, well educated, seeks slender,
 SF, age unimportant, to spend quality
 time with. Ad# 4567

WARM & LOVING
 SWM, 43, 6', 220lbs., brown hair/ eyes,
 handsome, outgoing, seeks honest, sin-
 cere, SWF, 36-48, 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# 3639

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, traveling, seeks
 SF, 18-24, to share same interest.
 Ad# 9082

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# 8885

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.,
 seeks an 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

REBUILDING
 Kind-hearted, well-rounded DWCM, 46,
 in search of attractive, caring and
 mature SWCF, 20-46, for compani-
 onship. Ad# 7404

SINCERELY
 SWM, 25, 5'9", 160lbs., brown
 hair/eyes, likes poetry, writing songs
 and good conversation, seeking com-
 patible SWF, under 36. Ad# 7458

HEART TO HEART
 SBM, 34, 5'5", perceptive, energetic,
 enjoys Bible study and more, from the
 Detroit area, seeks kind-hearted SWCF,
 26-35. Ad# 1573

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

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 WWWM, 39, 5'7", 160lbs., pro-
 fessional, honest, educated, no depen-
 dents, home in Livonia, enjoys dining,
 movies, dancing, sports, seeks SWF,
 under 43, N/S, who has good values.
 Ad# 1002

EYE OF THE BEHOLDER
 Catholic SWM, 44, 6', professional,
 faithful, communicating, sincere, likes
 weekend trips, seeking slender, attrac-
 tive, relationship-minded SWCF, 32-45.
 Ad# 6683

EASY ON THE EYES!
 Catholic DWM, 50, 6'2", 175lbs., brown
 hair, green eyes, enjoys cooking, gar-
 dening, bowling, antique browsing, fish-
 ing, the outdoors, fireplaces, seeks
 Catholic SWF, under 50. Ad# 9106

HEART OF GOLD
 Church-oriented, good looking DWCM,
 44, 6'2", 214 lbs, in the Waterford area,
 hobbies include parachuting and the
 opera, seeks compatible, childless
 SWCF, 29+. Ad# 1111

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR
 Catholic SBM, 42, 6'2", independent,
 lives in Western Wayne, enjoys con-
 certs, movies, walks, quiet dinners,
 seeks understanding, affectionate,
 SWCF, 28-45, who is generous with her
 time. Ad# 9876

TRUE BELIEVER
 Pentecostal SWM, 29, 5'10", 190lbs.,
 never-married, compassionate, enjoys
 church activities, movies, bowling,
 theme parks, race cars, seeks compati-
 ble SWCF, 23-27. Ad# 1875

MAYBE WE SHOULD MEET!
 Catholic SWM, 39, 6'1", from Western
 Wayne county, enjoys museums,
 movies, the theater, skiing, snowmobiling,
 seeks warm, sincere, fun-loving
 SWF, 28-44. Ad# 1599

ENERGETIC
 Catholic SWM, 32, 5'9", friendly, enjoys
 sports, music, the outdoors, boating,
 movies, socializing, seeking SWF, 25-
 34, with similar interests. Ad# 3335

ONLY THE BEST FOR YOU
 Catholic SWM, 49, 5'7", 150lbs., N/S,
 non-drinker, never married, athletic,
 enjoys jogging, biking, camping, the
 movies, dining out, seeks affectionate,
 honest Catholic SWF, 42-52. Ad# 1247

CELEBRATE LIFE
 Non-denominational DWCM, 37, 6', car-
 ing, enjoys Bible study, Christian music,
 dining out, movies, long walks, seeks
 SWF, 27-36. Ad# 1224

VERY SHY
 DWJM, 36, heavyset, charming, partici-
 pates in Bible study and youth ministry,
 enjoys reading, the arts, seeks free-spir-
 ited, financially secure, SWJF, 25-35.
 Ad# 6969

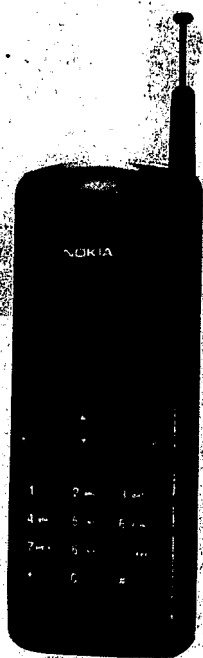
KIND & CORDIAL
 Catholic DWM, 55, 5'6", 170lbs., N/S,
 active, fit, professional, outgoing, friend-
 ly, enjoys outdoors, attends Christian
 activities, seeking compatible, attractive
 S/DWF, 35-48, N/S. Ad# 1234

FINALLY...
 Slim DWCM, 55, 6', brown hair, blue
 eyes, enjoys cooking, bowling, going for
 walks, seeking SWCF, 45-55. Ad# 1895

SEARCHING IN ROMULUS
 Hardworking SWCM, 36, 6', never mar-
 ried, N/S, non-drinker, enjoys four-
 wheeling, gardening, music and travel-
 ing, seeks honest, open-minded, family-
 oriented SWCF, mid 30s. Ad# 7418

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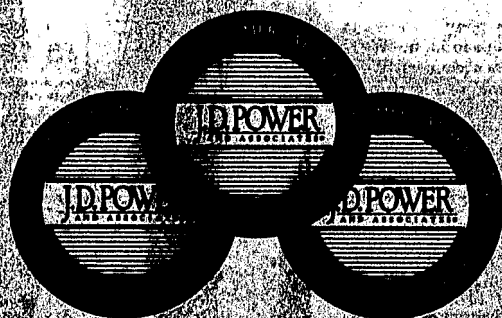
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FRIDAY



Amy Grant Christmas 7:30 p.m. at The Palace, 2 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, with guests Michael W. Smith and CeCe Winans and the Nashville Symphony. Tickets \$34.50, \$27.50 and \$24.50, (248) 645-6666.

SATURDAY



Blessed Union of Souls and InDrama perform at The Palladium, 17580 Frazho Road, Roseville. Doors open at 7 p.m. for the 18 and older show. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door. (810) 778-6404.

SUNDAY

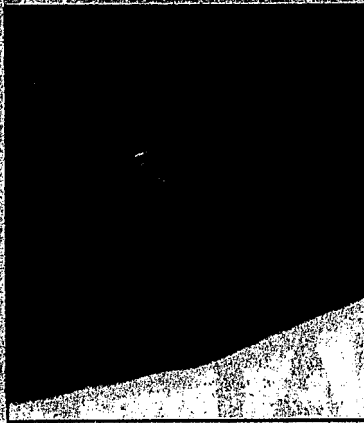


Detroit Symphony Orchestra, with guest artists and members of Dance Detroit perform "The Nutcracker" ballet, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Tickets \$14-\$53 adults, \$10-\$24 children and seniors, (313) 833-3700.



Hot fix: Holiday Doll Show 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21 at Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St. features new, used, antique and collectible dolls, Teddy Bears, stuffed animals, doll house supplies and miniatures. (313) 455-2110.

Otter-knapping: Detroit Zoo staff spent nearly 20 minutes looking for Mack, a five-year-old river otter in the new exhibit. Mack eventually was found fast asleep. Here, he pauses between laps in the pool.



SEASON'S A TIME FOR SHARING WITH

Otters

LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

After the last prettily wrapped package is opened and the excitement of celebrating the holidays diminishes, one very special gift remains — time to spend with family, friends and other loved ones.

From visiting the new otter exhibit at the Detroit Zoo to learning about motors or viewing the first American race car to win an international competition, enjoy an educational adventure together.

Here's a few suggestions as to the learning experiences you can share.

Detroit Zoo

Otters, otters everywhere but not an otter in sight. That was the case last week at the new river otter exhibit as the Detroit Zoo staff searched in vain for the silky-coated creatures.

Finally Mack was spotted, sleeping in a cozy spot behind a fallen tree. But Chirp, the female otter was nowhere to be found. It seems she and Mack need some time to get used to one another so only one of them at a time are allowed in the new exhibit. Eventually the two, 5-year-old mammals will share the \$700,000 home designed to mimic their natural environment.

Learning Experiences

Detroit Zoo
8450 West 10 Mile Road and Woodward, Royal Oak, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. \$7.50 adults, \$5.50 seniors/students, \$4.50 children ages two to 12, (248) 398-0303.

Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village
20900 Oakwood Boulevard and Village Road, Dearborn, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. \$12.50 adults, \$11.50 seniors over age 62, \$6.25 children ages five to 12, members free, (313) 271-1620.

Cranbrook Institute of Science
1221 North Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, until 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, \$7 adults, \$4 seniors/children, planetarium shows an additional \$1. Laser show an additional \$2. (248) 645-3200.

Director Ron Kagan loves watching the underwater acrobatics of the river otters. Using his paws to push himself away from the glass, Mack swims back and forth through the water, gliding effortlessly. Then suddenly he dives toward the bottom of the pool, burrowing his nose in the stones. He emerges a minute later to play with a leaf floating on top of the water.

"River otters are very active and curious and also appear to enjoy interaction with people," said Kagan. "And because it's a Michigan animal, it's always fun to see an animal you can relate to."

The staff designed the waterfall, evergreens, rocks and pool to simulate the wetland environment where river otters live. The project was funded nearly in its entirety by the family of Edward Mardigian Sr., an enthusiast devoted to the preservation of wildlife.

"You can't go wrong if you recreate nature,"



Otter Antics: Detroit Zoo director Ron Kagan loves watching the acrobatics of the river otters in the new Edward Mardigian Sr. Exhibit.

said Kagan. "Part of the view was developed for kids in strollers so they can see into the water."

Interpretive displays help visitors learn about the river otters' habitat, diet and unique characteristics like the clear membrane protecting the eyes and allowing the otter to see underwater. The otters are usually fed at the end of the day as an incentive for them to end their frolicking and leave the pool. In the wild, their menu includes frogs, crayfish, clams and slower fish such as sunfish and carp. Here at the zoo, the otters eat live fish, mostly trout and minnows.

"What's unique about the otter is this is a predator working in three dimensions not just two dimensions like a lion or tiger and you get to see that because it's an underwater exhibit," said Kagan.

The nice part for visitors is that they can view the otters either indoors or out regardless of the weather. Kagan presses the buttons on an interactive display. One by one the sounds of a bullfrog, great horned owl and blue heron create a wetland symphony.

"Part of the idea was to create more indoor exhibits so people realize this is a wonderful place to be in the winter," said Kagan. "You'd never be able to see otters underwater in the wild."

The goal is to make the zoo a year-round facility. Kagan encourages people to take advantage of the indoor exhibits of reptiles, penguins, birds, giraffe and snow monkeys currently in existence.

"A lot of the animals like the Siberian tiger are

more active in the winter," said Kagan. "A few winters ago my most unique experience was a couple of wolverines who were laying on the ground making snow angels."

Future exhibits planned for the zoo include Frog World, a new home for amphibians and the "Ring of Life," an arctic environment scheduled to open in 1999 as a holiday present to the community.

"It will be the largest polar bear exhibit in the world, four acres of tundra and packed ice with a 100-foot glass tunnel underwater," said Kagan. "The polar bears will swim all around you."

The zoo celebrates its 70th anniversary in 1998 with a big birthday party and numerous events scheduled all year long. What better gift to give a family member or friend than to adopt an animal. The Wildlife Preservers Program allows animal lovers to choose one of more than 100 species of mammals, reptiles, fish, birds, and amphibians. For a \$45 donation, the recipient will receive a bean bag animal in a take-home crate. Proceeds are used for veterinary care, exhibit renovations, educational classes and seminars. Call (248) 641-5717.

After the zoo closes for the evening, there's still plenty of activity. "Wild Lights" dazzles visitors with more than 50 animated animals displays and 350,000 lights 5:30-8 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 5:30-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday through Jan. 4. Admission is \$3 adults, \$2 children ages two to 12.

Please see OTTERS, C2

DANCE

'Tap Dogs' back with in-your-face dancing

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Dance has been having a renaissance the last two years, especially tap dance. "Tap Dogs" proved so popular last February that it is back again at the Detroit Opera House, Dec. 26 to Jan. 4, with a different touring company. The two "Dogs" companies are dubbed Spot and Rover.

This time the Australian show will have an American flavor as four of the six dancers are from the United States.

Anthony LoCascio, 25, was teaching dance in the Howard Beach section of Queens, New York, when he found out about "Tap Dogs" on the Internet.

"I went down for an audition. Actually, my audition lasted four or five days, but I got the part," he said in his distinctive New York accent. "I made the group in April of this year, rehearsed for two weeks and did my first show May 1, off Broadway at the Union Square Theatre."

Since then, LoCascio's troupe has been crisscrossing North America — New York, Los Angeles, Hawaii, St. Louis, Milwaukee to Montreal, where he was reached by phone.

"Tap Dogs" is the brainchild of Australian choreographer Dean Perry. The show was an immediate hit when it premiered in Sydney in 1995, then

played to raves in Edinburgh and London. Following a March opening at the Union Square (where a company continues to perform), Perry won a Drama Desk nomination for choreography and the show won a 1997 Obie Award (given to off-Broadway productions).

Perry's brother, Sheldon Perry, is the lead dancer in the touring company coming to the Opera House.

LoCascio said the interest in dance has been coming for a long time and "long overdue."

He said three hit shows define different approaches — from Savion Glover's tribute to old style tap in "Bring in da Noise, Bring in da Funk" to the Irish traditional step dancing of "Riverdance" to the hard edge of "Tap Dogs."

"Bring in da Noise" is like the history of tap,

Tap Dogs

What: New/dirty tap dancing to a rock beat

Where: Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit

When: Dec. 26 to Jan. 4, 9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

How much: \$24.50 to \$34.50

How to buy: Call (248) 645-3200 or go to www.detroitopera.com

little more subtle with a message behind the story that you have to listen for," LoCascio said. "We're more in your face, more like a rock concert. We're going to give you everything we've got for 70 minutes. We're going to work and sweat and in time with each other. Audiences are definitely entertained and want us to keep going after we're done."

Sweat and hard work are the theme of this masculine dance show. The setting is a construction site.

"We get to build the set we dance on. It's a construction site. By the time we're done, we've built the set," LoCascio said.

In a solo number, LoCascio said he taps on a metal surface which creates an unusual rhythm, lighter than when dancing on a wood floor. In another number, the dancers tap up a metal ladder and come down on a metal plate. In another number, a dancer dances upside down.

The audiences have been enthusiastic. "Sometimes they're kicking, screaming and hollering through the whole thing and other times they're very quiet because they've never seen anything like this, and when it's over they give us big standing ovation," LoCascio said.

Please see TAP DOGS, C2



Heavy metal tap: The dancing in "Tap Dogs" has been called "testosterone tap" with its emphasis on masculine moves and heavy sweating.

Otters from page C1

"The lights are fun, and especially with the snow, it's beautiful," said Kagan.

Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village

Experience the thrill of racing while learning about the first American race car to win the 1908 Vanderbilt cup in a display created by Exhibit Works of Livonia. Old 16, designed by Andrew Riker for the Locomobile Co., cost \$20,000 and still has

the original paint.

"It was a milestone that an American automobile won an international competition against the Europeans," said Jim Notarianni, project manager at Exhibit Works. "The exhibit is an introspective look at the excitement of racing at a time when two people were needed to run the car. There were no seat belts or a windshield so they wore masks because the car was capable of going over 100 miles an hour."

Exhibit Works designed the track underneath the car and the background, a 25-foot mural painted after a vintage photograph of the Long Island Race Track. Academy Award-winning producer Sue Marx created a film about the legendary race car that's part of the display.

"This was a time when only 200,000 cars were on the road, the average house cost \$2,500 and a Ford Model T was \$900," said Notarianni.

Cranbrook Institute of Science

Visitors to the Experiment Gallery are invited to become a scientist and explore, observe, tinker or dabble at 26 "investigation stations" that feature a variety of scientific principles of electricity, light and optics, mechanics, oscillators and resonance, pendulums, waves and weather.

Lab assistants help visitors with experiments and discuss their findings. The exhibit con-

tinues through Jan. 4.

Created by the Science Museum of Minnesota as a fun and informal way to introduce the physical sciences, the Experiment Gallery appeals to people of all ages.

Discover how motors, lamps and resistors work at the electricity bench. Change the seasons by using a computer model to alter how the earth and sun interact. Generate, observe and filter sound waves with the assistance of musical synthesiz-

ers or the human voice. Make telescopes and microscopes using lenses and light.

Before leaving Cranbrook, be sure to stop by "Microscopes the Hidden Art of High Technology" to see how everyday objects take on unrecognizable and artistic appearances when magnified. This series of photographs, taken through high-powered microscopes, reveals the beauty and mystery of the world of science.

Tap Dogs from page C1

Critics have called the show "sexy and sweaty" but LoCascio said no one has compared it yet

to the hit "dance" movie "The Full Monty." "We don't do a 'full monty'

(frontal nudity), though a couple guys do take their shirts off. We work hard and it's hot up there and guys will take their shirts off. After all we are on a construction site, but we wear tap shoes," LoCascio said with a laugh.

For LoCascio, dancing has been a lifelong pursuit. "When I was 2 years old I wasn't allowed to dance in the house unless I danced to the rhythm of the music. My father taught me how to listen to the rhythm," he said.

He began dance lessons when he was 4 and has been teaching dance for the last five years. He

said he enjoys when he can come into a city and arrange master classes with other dancers in the group. And he looks forward to a time when the show has finished its tour and he can return to his first love.

"I'd like to go back to New York and teach, open a dance studio somewhere in New York or New Jersey," LoCascio said. "I enjoy performing a lot, but overall I want to teach. I like teaching kids, they're a lot of fun."

And the more kids LoCascio teaches, the longer the tap revival will continue.

Special features Chenille Sisters

WDIV-TV is celebrating the spirit of the holidays with a special Walk on the Wild Side program featuring the Chenille Sisters and local actors.

"The Chenille Sisters and the Secret of the Box" airs 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22 and at noon on Thursday, Dec. 25.

The story transports the Chenille sisters and a cast of local actors including Jackie Marns of Canton as Uncle Avarice, Marlee Green, 9 of Birmingham and Nathan Keen, 9 of Beverly Hills, all over the world in search of the true meaning of the holiday season.

From the Detroit Zoo to an African jungle where the story characters meet elephants, zebras and lions; to the frozen Arctic for an encounter with a

polar bear.

"The Secret of the Box" features eight favorite Chenille songs including "Out of Africa," and "Polar Bear Stomp." A ninth song was composed for the special. Portions of the special were taped at the Detroit Zoo and on a specially-created set at WDIV.

Walk on the Wild Side is WDIV's year-long project with the Detroit Zoo. The project has included a series of prime-time specials, news stories and vignettes which have encouraged the public to explore and enjoy the natural resources around us.

The story was conceived and written by Rose Morand, in collaboration with the Chenille Sisters - Cheryl Dawdy, Connie Huber and Grace Morand.

"TITANIC" IS THRILLING IN WAYS THAT NO OTHER MOVIE IN 1997 DARES TO BE! IT'S THE MOVIE EVENT OF THE YEAR. JAW-DROPPING! IT'LL GET TO YOU."

Photo: Travers, ROLLING STONE



PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PRESENT A LIGHTSTORM ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION A JAMES CAMERON FILM "TITANIC" LEONARDO DICAPRIO KATE WINSLET BILLY ZANE RUTH WATSON FRANCES FISHER BERNARD HILL JONATHAN HYDE DANNY NUCKI DAVID WARREN AND BILL PATTON MUSIC BY JAMES NEWTON HOWARD COSTUME DESIGNER RANDY GERTSON EDITOR AL GIDDINGS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GRANT HILL SHARON MAHONEY PRODUCED BY JAMES CAMERON AND JOHN LANDAU WRITTEN BY JAMES CAMERON DIRECTED BY JAMES CAMERON

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AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY	AMC STERLING CTR. 10	BIRMINGHAM 8
GENERAL CINEMAS CANTON	GENERAL CINEMAS NOVI TOWN	RENAISSANCE 4
SHOWCASE SUBURBAN HILLS	SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE STERLING HEIGHTS
SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE
STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	UNITED ARTISTS FAIRLANE	UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER

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Food for the mind, heart and soul

Don't play it by ear: Here are some gift suggestions

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

With Hanukkah and Christmas only days away, procrastinators face an immovable deadline.

Gift wrapping last year's fruit cake as a door stop won't win any points with your in-laws.

Some advice: relax and let the Yuletide spirit move you. Take a sip of egg nog, stand under the mistletoe and ponder the gift of music and ideas.

The following informal but critical list might be helpful. Finding a shuttle to your favorite music and bookstore, however, is left to your discretion.

MUSIC

Classical

It's too soon to know whether the change of format at WQRS-FM will adversely impact classical music sales, said Tom Sipe, assistant manager at Harmony House Classic in Royal Oak.

At the busiest shopping time of the year, the local outlet with an expansive catalog of recorded classical music reports brisk sales and some interesting popular selections by customers.

Agnus Dei: Music of Inner Harmony (Erato 14634) performed by the Choir of New College, Oxford, conducted by Edward Higginbottom.

First there was New Age sounds and Gregorian chants. Then came growing demand for choral music. And now, the combination of soothing choir music without orchestration.

The Oxford choir performs a range of work, including Taverner's "The Lamb" to Gorecki's "Totus Tuus."

Cinema Serenade (Sony 63005) - A collection of musical pieces from recent movies, performed by Itzhak Perlman with the Pittsburgh Symphony

Orchestra conducted by John Williams.

The arrangements include music from "The Color Purple," "Il Postino," "The Age of Innocence," "Out of Africa," "Schindler's List" and "Cinema Paradiso."

Murray Perahia Plays Handel and Scarlatti (Sony 62785) - One of the greatest contemporary pianists performs works originally composed for the harpsichord.

Perahia's comeback year includes two other CD recordings of Schumann.

Handel Arias (Deutsch Grammophon 453-480-2) - Welsh baritone Bryn Terfel has been credited with expanding the popularity and repertoire for the "other" vocal range.

After two decades of dominance by tenors such as Pavarotti and Domingo, Terfel's "Something Wonderful," a collection of Rodgers and Hammerstein recorded last year, remains one of the best vocal CD sellers.

Sumi Jo, Live at Carnegie Hall (Samsung 019) - Many opera devotees will remember soprano Sumi Jo in last fall's Michigan Opera Theatre's "Rigoletto."

The live concert recording is a showcase of Sumi Jo's impressive vocal range. The performance includes classic opera and lighter pieces, including Bernstein's "Glitter and Be Gay," and Herbert's "Italian Street Song."

The Fiddler of the Opera, Gil Shaham (Deutsch Grammophon 447-640-2) - After only six years as a recording artist, Shaham has been called "a young Perlman."

His recent CD includes virtuoso opera transcripts for violin and piano, including "The Barber of Seville," "The Magic Flute," "Sadko," and "Carmen."

In the crowded field of contemporary violinists, Shaham's vir-

tuosity has yet to gain wide recognition among listeners.

But it's only a matter of time before it does, according to Sipe.

Puccini's La Rondine (EMI 56338) - One of Puccini's lesser known operas, featuring tenor Roberto Alagna and soprano Angela Gheorghiu.

The compelling performance offers insight to the artistry of the composer of "La Boheme," "Tosca," and "Madame Butterfly."

Boxed sets: The Nimbus Series, including 5-6 CDs of selected works by Beethoven, Brahms, Mendelssohn and others; Deutsch Grammophon's "Complete Beethoven Edition," available in 20 volumes.

Jazz

With digital remastering technology, jazz classics have overshadowed many contemporary releases, according to Vince DeLeon, buyer for Harmony House superstores throughout Oakland County.

"There's been a constant interest in the more traditional jazz," said DeLeon. "Many alternative music listeners, especially, are crossing over to listen."

Several of the most requested jazz CDs, include:

Porgy and Bess By Joe Henderson - Variations of Gershwin's American classic by a range of contemporary jazz artists.

With Strings By Gary Smulyan - A straight-up contemporary jazz recording frequently played by jazz guru Ed Love of WDET-FM.

Kind of Blue by Miles Davis - A remastering of one of the most influential jazz recordings with an incredibly enhanced sound. If you've got the vinyl, think of it as another frisbee.

Davis is joined by jazz Hall of Famers Cannonball Adderly, John Coltrane, Bill Evans and

Jimmy Cobb.

The ideal CD for jazz collectors and anyone thinking with a passing interest. If you're wondering why Davis is called the inventor of "cool," "Kind of Blue" tells you why.

Reissued classics: "Blue Train" and the 4-CD "Live at the Village Vanguard" by John Coltrane, and the soundtrack from "Alfie" by Sonny Rollins.

One of the most comprehensive box sets is Bill Evans' 18-set CD. And, packaged in a metal container, the set is also one of the heaviest and most costly.

Since being awarded the 1977 Pulitzer Prize, Wynton Marsalis' 3-CD **Blood on the Fields** with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra has been one of the most requested records this year.

For the holiday season, jazz lovers are boppin' to Duke Ellington's **Three Suites**, variations of "The Nutcracker." And, **Yule Be-Boppin'**, a new release on Blue Note of various contemporary artists.

The Carols of Christmas III by a collection of Windham Hill recording artists (Joan Armatrading, Liz Story, Leo Kottke, Janis Ian, George Winston) has been one of the most popular holiday CDs along with **Kenny G's Greatest Hits**, said DeLeon.

For the serious blues listeners, several box sets provide a historical perspective: **The Blues**, A Smithsonian Collection of Classic Jazz Singers; **The Mercury Blues 'N' Rhythm Story**, 1945-1955; **The History of Chess Jazz**; and, **Ray Charles: Genius & Soul**.

ART BOOKS

American Visions: The Epic History of Art in America by Robert Hughes - A highly readable narrative overview of the history of American art by Time's art critic.

While Hughes' analysis grows dogmatic in places, his grasp of



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Book of dreams: Five-year-old Valerie Krueger of Bloomfield Hills has no trouble getting comfortable in the children's section of Borders in downtown Birmingham.

the spirit behind the evolution of art draws together the influences from New England Puritanism to the modern New York/LA art scene.

About Modern Art: Critical Essays, 1948-1997 By David Sylvester - Unlike many critics, Sylvester has an intimate understanding of the struggles facing artists. He befriended Bacon, Giacometti, de Kooning and Jasper Johns.

But more importantly, he dishes criticism with a genuine attempt to discover the meaning and relevance of creative expression in the last half of the 20th century.

This book might prove that critics can be generous in spirit. To some, that's a true oxymoron.

Impressionism: Reflections and Perceptions By Meyer Schapiro - An examination of the details and historical trends of the art movement the author calls "the turning point in the history of modern art."

Francis Bacon: Anatomy of an Enigma By Michael Peppiatt - A detailed biography of the flamboyant British painter from

a long-time acquaintance.

Once a Dancer By Allegra Kent - A former ballerina who performed in many of George Balanchine's productions, Kent offers an insider's account of the challenges and compromises of the demanding professional life.

Requiem - A stunning and disturbing collection of photos taken by photographers who died in the Vietnam War.

Serious Business: The Art and Commerce of Animation in America From Betty Boop to Toy Story By Stefan Kanfer - The influence of Bugs, Mickey and Buzz Lightyear seen in a social and aesthetic perspective.

Animation is not only big business, but it's creating an enticing surrealistic landscape transforming a visual-laden culture.

Bernice Abbot: Changing New York By Bonnie Yochelson - The complete collection of photos by Abbot, whose Depression-era documentation of the Big Apple was part of a WPA project.

Abbot's trademark crisp photos reflect a New York City in transition and the emergence of the behemoth metropolis, from

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SCREEN SCENE

James Cameron steers 'Titanic' clear of disaster

BY JOHN MONAGHAN
SPECIAL WRITER

Let's call it the "wall of flame" shot, the 1990s action movie sta-

ple in which a corridor of fire threatens our sprinting hero and heroine, always in slow motion. In "Titanic," James Cameron's

epic take on the 1912 ocean disaster, a literal wall of water will swamp a pair of young lovers unless they can stay a few steps

ahead.

And damned if it doesn't work. Despite the corny romantic dialogue. Despite the cheap framing device. Despite some one-dimensional villains. "Titanic" is everything it promises and more: a true epic spectacle with jaw-dropping special effects and genuine tragedy; in short the mother of all disaster movies.

Bill Paxton plays a modern-day treasure hunter on the trail of a priceless diamond, "The Heart of the Ocean," that supposedly went down with the ship.

Enter Rose Dewitt Bukater (Gloria Stuart), who, at 101, may be the ship's last living survivor. She not only knows where that diamond is, but has a romantic yarn to tell that keeps the high-tech treasure hunters glued. Her flashback comprises most of the film.

Now played by Kate Winslet, Rose is a classic spoiled rich girl who travels in the company of her domineering mother. Her

fiance (Billy Zane) has all the pomposity of the upper class, all the better to place him in contrast to the handsome young Bohemian Jack Dawson (Leonardo DiCaprio) who she hooks up with by chance.

Of course, the real test of any epic is how the personal story comes across through all the spectacle. Thanks to winning, warm performances by DiCaprio and Winslet, "Titanic" keeps you hooked throughout its over three-hour running time.

Not surprisingly, "Titanic" is a visual tour de force. Cameron and Company have painstakingly recreated the look and feel of the ship itself, from the cramped quarters of the third class to the polished banisters in the elegant ballroom. You need the movie's hefty running time to take it all in.

One of the most haunting happens after the passengers have gone into the icy drink. A lifeboat, guided by a single flashlight, trolls for survivors but only

finds frozen corpses bobbing atop the water.

Cameron, true to his action movie background, packs the film's final hour with well-orchestrated action. Here's where the movie comes together as the lovers, along with over half of the ship's 2,200 passengers, fight their way to the stern as the ocean liner quickly takes a nose dive.

"Titanic" is the year's (maybe the decade's) truest big screen experience. As a result, it's important to plan just where you want to see it. The Star Southfield's largest auditorium may be the venue of choice, with its superior sound and stadium seating, which puts you on deck for one of the year's richest movie experiences.

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.

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Artists give holidays a different spin

BACKSTAGE PASS



ANN DELISI

On the computer screen of your mind, what icons appear when you think of the holidays?

OK, it's a loaded question. (I'm even assuming that you're running Windows in your head - if Bill Gates hasn't gotten hold of

your synapses yet...) But on tonight's Backstage Pass at 9:30 p.m. on Detroit Public Television, we'll see how a group of artists tackled the perceptions of holiday season.

A well-known annual event, donations and purchases from the Detroit Artists Market's (DAM) Holiday Exhibition help support the gallery's exhibition and educational programs, as well as generate revenue for par-

ticipating artists. But title of this year's event, "Un-Defining ... the Holidays," implied a twist. So we put our crack Backstage Pass pop culture correspondent Lex Kuhne of the case.

Sure enough, Lex reports that the DAM has put a new layer atop an old favorite. "Un-Defining ... the Holidays" is really two exhibits: The first is what they've done for 36 years, which is to present wonderful works of local art for sale as gifts during the holiday season.

"The second exhibit puts the whole concept of gift-giving into pop-cultural context. Students from Wayne State, the Center for Creative Studies, and other schools provide their unique take on the holidays - through their generational filter."

Think about the generation of young artists in question. It's a unique group. Due to social changes, they have been the first generation of children not just

raised with television, but raised by television. And while the same may be true of children who followed, the impact of mushrooming media options: Kids today can pop in a VHS copy of "A Charlie Brown Christmas" any time they want, so it's no longer an anticipated annual event that generates excited playground discussion.

"From these installations it's clear that these students' impression of the holiday pretty much exclusively has come through the media images they've seen growing up," Lex says. "So you have multimedia displays of Christmas themes, including a Santa Claus taking a nap over four monitors, tape loops of choice moments from classic Christmas shows we grew up with, and remarkable murals, including one of Santa with DJ headphones and a gold tooth. Norman Rockwell, it's not."

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For private duty home health care. Must be experienced, dependable, and have reliable transportation. We offer: Flexible scheduling, Shift differentials, Mileage reimbursement, Benefits package for full time. To apply, please call: United Home Care Services 16712 Farmington Rd., Livonia (Two blocks N. of 5 Mile) (313) 422-9250

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Openings for private duty care for spinal cord injured adult in Washington / Shelby area. New Century Home Care (248) 650-3163

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Woodward Hills Nursing Center is seeking full & part time LPN's for the 3-11 and 11-7 shifts on a busy Medicare Unit. Full & part-time CNA's are needed as well for the 3-11 shift. Must be able to work every other weekend. Position includes evening and weekend work. Call 248-515-1108

ACTIVITY ASSISTANT - part time for an assisted living facility in Livonia. Position includes evening and weekend work. Call 248-515-1108

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For chain of retirement homes. Experience in the industry desirable. (248) 642-6850

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Days, full time. Licensed Nursing Home Administrator required. Certification as Assisted Living Administrator preferred. Previous experience in nursing home administration required. Direct responsibility for residential services program. Responsible for administration of 175-bed skilled nursing facility, and adjacent retirement community including assisted living suites, apartments, and condominium homes. Excellent benefits package. Mail resume to: Botsford Continuing Care Corporation, Attn: Human Resources, 4450 Botsford Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48338. EOE

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Livonia area, afternoons. Part time, full time, flexible hours. Small facility, no medication, easy shift. Starting rate \$7.50 shift differential, bonus, employee benefits, health insurance available. Call: (248) 349-4290

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AT HOME

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appliance doctor

Telephone advice helps save money



JOE GAGNON

A good friend of mine by the name of Gene Bulka recently faxed me a copy of a story written by the New York Times about Fix It Advice By Phone. This story describes a 72-year-old lady who dropped a dust cloth into the lint filter opening of her clothes dryer.

She called for service only to discover that it would cost her \$45 or \$50 just to come to her door. With this kind of unaffordable expense she decided to try to fix it herself, and the first thing she did was call the Sears Consumer Technical Advice Line. She was told before she began talking to a service technician named Jason, she would be charged \$12 for the advice she would receive on the phone. Jason told the woman what to do and how to do it, and after a while she came back to the phone screaming that she did it, she had removed the cloth from inside the lint shoot.

With the possibility of having to spend nearly \$100 to have this service performed by a service technician, this senior citizen did the job for a price she considers almost free. We in the service industry including myself have been quick to criticize those who charge for such telephone advice.

My business founded by Mr. Carmack in the 1950s has been giving advice well before the big boys started doing it. I sometimes think that the whole concept was conceived by Mr. Carmack and copied by everyone else. The end result has been a great help to the American consumer and that's really what matters. The necessary part of charging for this advice comes from a fact of life. It they have to pay people to answer the phone lines, the monies have to come from somebody. Quite honestly, I think

all of us independent service companies wish we could do the same.

Sears established its toll-free number (800-469-46643) in 1993 and has 200 technicians working the phone lines with consumers who call in. The amount of do-it-yourselfers who will have called the toll-free number during 1997 will exceed 2 million. For the \$12 charge, consumers are allowed to call back as many times as needed for the same problem during a 30-day period. If it really is necessary for a technician to come to your home to cure the problem, Sears will deduct the \$12 telephone charge from your repair bill.

I predict that this kind of service will grow in the years ahead and you can expect more companies to be involved. With the numbers quoted above, we are talking some pretty heavy duty dollars. The phone centers will be responsible for creating a profit to the bottom line for these people, and as long as it's reasonable and the program helps the do-it-yourselfer save money, I'm for it.

Alvin Shrader, a 60-year-old retiree in Fountain Valley, Calif., said he used Sears' repair service when a fan jammed on his dryer. He talked to a technician for about 10 minutes, hung up the phone and made the repair in less than 30 minutes. "I was envisioning a service call for \$75," he said. "When this happened, I was elated."

Many stores are like a car battery, there is a negative side and a positive side. Stay tuned for next week's column.

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.

Animal gift bazaar Saturday

Animal Crafters, a non-profit organization in Bloomfield Hills, has an attractive assortment of pet-related gifts.

Proceeds from sales go for spay/neuter operations for the pets of low-income families and for the pets of the elderly.

The gifts will be available at a special Christmas bazaar 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat-

urday, 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.

Animal Crafters items are also at the Animal Odyssey in Plymouth and the Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio, Long Lake Road and Rochester Road.

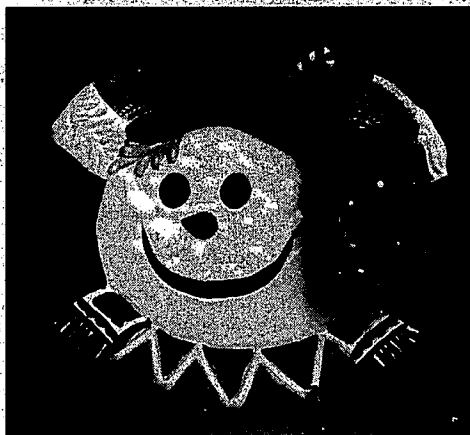


marketplace

Cool dip

Snow business:

Handpainted chip and dip platters in a variety of themes are available at Heslop's. With his top hat and corn-cob pipe, this cheerful snowman will help you entertain all through the holidays. Holding a present for a dip or salsa, the snowman serving piece is



both festive and functional. Pieces retail for \$24.95. Heslop's locations include stores at the Merri-Five Plaza in Livonia (call (313) 522-1850), Meadow Brook Village in Rochester Hills (call (248) 375-0823), Oakland Mall in Troy (call (248) 589-1433) and Orchard Mall in West Bloomfield (call (248) 737-8080).



Wild and whimsical

Animal attraction: The Animal Odyssey Gift Gallery, 971 N. Mill in Plymouth, carries items for people who love animals, have a sense of humor and are looking for something whimsical and unusual. The shop's offerings include a sloth puppet shown here, as well as purses shaped like flamingos and cows, T-shirts that change colors when worn in the sun, stuffed dogs and cats that sing Christmas carols, fox- and zebra-shaped backpacks, greeting cards, and handmade ceramic cat dolls such as "Purr Noel." The gallery also displays and sells wares by local artists, and carries products that benefit animal organizations. Call (313) 453-5764.

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**

Gifts with heart

For the clubhouse: A portion of the money raised from the holiday sale at Sears of an exclusive line of ties and scarves will go toward the national expansion of Gilda's Club. As a national sponsor of Gilda's Club, Sears is also selling its exclusive "Ho-Ho Bear,"

seven-inch plush toys including a snowman, reindeer, penguin, brown bear, polar bear and Santa Claus at \$3.99 each, or \$1.99 with a same-day purchase of \$20 or more. The ties and scarves are the design of Gilda's Club co-founder Gene Wilder, other celebrities and Gilda's Club members and volunteers across the country. Gilda's Club is a free, non-profit, non-residential cancer support community named in memory of comedian Gilda Radner. A clubhouse will open in Royal Oak in late January.



Tasteful gifts

Gourmet goodies: Whether you're buying for a client or a friend, B1 creatively designs gift ensembles to reflect an individual's cooking interest and taste buds. If you can't make it in to the store, personal shoppers are available to select and ship gifts. Popular theme ensembles include "Pasta Lover," "Hot & Spicy," "Homemade Breakfast" and "Coffee Lover." B1 stores are at Briarwood in Ann Arbor and Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.



garden spot

Make arrangements for lovely gifts



MARTY FIGLEY

It's fun to make a beautiful floral arrangement for your home or a friend. A trip to the florist will allow you to select foliage and flowering plants that will coordinate with the home decor.

Before you choose the flowers, decide where your creation will be placed so you can pick what will suit the growing conditions and last the longest for the particular situation.

This project can be done in pretty short order, especially if you plan ahead. Think size (width and height), color and container.

Baskets are always good choices, particularly if you paint them to match the color scheme. Ceramic bowls, or metal

or wooden containers, could also be used; choose those without a drainage hole for this purpose.

Because they will probably be placed on furniture, line the containers, especially the baskets, with plastic (a bag will do). Some baskets have a plastic liner. Roll the edges of the bag down to just below the rim of the container and fill it with a couple of inches of potting soil.

Place the tallest, largest plants in first, then add the next size, etc., down to the smallest ones. You may wish to remove the plants from their pots, and that's all right, but if you wish leave them in the original pots and nestle them in the soil.

Alternately, if you use both flowering and foliage plants, you can plant the foliage plants in the soil and leave the flowering ones in the pots. Then as the flowers fade, they can easily be removed and replaced with fresh ones.

Once all the plants are arranged in the container, add more soil mix and tamp it down around the root balls and pots to hold everything in place. Spaghnum moss will hide edges of pots.

Water, but don't add too much, because you won't want the soil to be soggy and ultimately cause root rot. With no drainage holes that is a possibility. Soil should be kept about as damp as a squeezed out sponge.

A pretty ribbon (waterproof is a good choice) will add a finishing touch to your arrangement.

There are many plants suitable for this miniature garden. Ferns, such as Maidenhair, Boston or Asparagus; a succulent, *Philodendron*, Peace Lily, *Dracaena*, *Peperomia*. Rosemary adds gray foliage (keep it in its original pot). English ivy, another Christmas plant, can cascade over the edge.

Flowering house plants include *Amaryllis*, *Kalanchoe*, Begonia, *Cyclamen*, *Streptocarpus*, African Violet, Christmas Cactus, Jerusalem Cherry and Poinsettia.

Let your imagination flow when you enter the florist shop. This is the time of year for exciting and unusual flower combinations. You can add artificial berries, pine cones and/or ornaments. Make a creation that will be remembered!

A Yule log is something else to make and can involve the family. Yule logs began as part of pagan celebrations marking the winter solstice. Later Christians adapted it, and it symbolizes an early holiday tradition practiced by our English ancestors.

The log was brought into the house on Christmas Eve and lighted with a bit of tinder saved from the previous year's fire. It was believed that the log possessed the power to protect the household from evil and to destroy old



MARTY FIGLEY

Decorating arrangement: A basket of foliage and flowering plants makes a pretty Christmas decoration. Here are a poinsettia, begonia, succulent and zonal geranium, with ivy trailing over the edge of the gold basket. A lively bow adds a holiday touch.

hatreds and misunderstandings. The log was to burn throughout the night and if it went out, ill luck may come in the future.

To make a Yule log, bore two or three holes about three inches deep in the log and fill them with copper sulfate. Melt candle wax to seal the holes. Add a bow and pine cone decorations. When the log burns, the copper sulfate will make the flames a pretty color.

If you give a Yule log to friends, share its history with them.

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.

INTERIOR IDEAS

with Kasey Pierson, A.S.I.D.




AREA CODE

As its name indicates, an area rug is intended to cover a specific area - not the entire floor. When determining how much area to cover, be sure the rug is neither too large or too small. To define a conversation area and create intimacy, select an area rug that is roughly as long and wide as the furnishings in the space. For example, it should be about as long as the sofa in front of which it sits, and about as wide as an adjacent chair. An overly large rug that covers too much of the floor beyond a conversation area will fail to define the area as a discrete space, and all sense of intimacy will be lost.

Selecting the right size area rug is a key factor in achieving the right look and feel for your rooms. For assistance on your next interior design project, call SCOTT SHUPTRINE or visit us at 977 E. 14 Mile Rd., Troy, (248-616-3585) or 43606 W. Oaks Drive, Novi (248-349-0044). From flooring recommendations to furniture selection and placement, we will help you create rooms that reflect your personal style. We provide architectural advice and recommendations as well as necessary drawings and measurements. Business hours are M, T, Th, & F 10-9; W & Sat 10-6 and by appointment. This weekend only, we'll match competitors' offers. Season's Greetings!

NOTE: An area rug must be sufficiently large enough to accommodate all four legs of any table that stands on top of it.






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Hello, dolly! Doll show slated

A holiday doll show will take place 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer.

Admission is \$4 for adults, \$1 for ages 4-12. Call (313) 455-2110.

The show will feature dealers, collectors, doll artists and hobbyists showing

and selling new, used, antique and collectible dolls of all kinds.

Also featured will be doll making supplies, doll clothes and furniture, Teddy bears, stuffed animals, doll house supplies and miniatures.

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celebrating family

Big things come in small packages



LISA LUCKOW-HEALY

If you thought holiday shopping was stressful, don't put off the dreaded trip to the post office to ship your holiday packages or buy stamps.

The longer you wait, the longer the lines get and the shorter your patience becomes. Perhaps waiting to send some packages such as catalog returns or special holiday gifts that require holiday activities to create are two good candidates.

If your family recently moved hundreds of miles away from close family or good friends, what have you done to keep in touch outside of a regular phone call? Has it been quite some time since your out-of-town parents saw their grandchildren? When family or friends live far away, are you and your children often at a loss for ideas as to what gifts to send to those near and dear to your hearts?

Try creating a gift made from your hearts: a homemade video magazine that captures a day, week or month in your lives. It keeps distant friends and relatives in touch with what your family is experiencing and how your lives are changing.

• Treat your homemade video like a production. Assign one person to be the producer. This person's job is to coordinate each segment - when and where it will be taped (whether planned or spontaneously), what the cast members (family) can be doing (if your program is limited, preplanning your family's most favorite activities can pay off), and what special messages your family may want to communicate.

Assign another family member to be the director. He or she is responsible for videotaping the action in the course of a day, a week or a month, depending on what your family has decided to do.

Delegate another person as the assistant director to videotape those moments when the director needs to be on camera communicating his or her greetings.

The cast members are the most crucial elements of your home video magazine (outside of the video camera). Have a cast meeting. Ask them what they want to do on camera, unless they are too small to provide this type of input.

Is there a favorite hobby or activity family members want the director to capture on tape? If you bought your son a snowboard for the holidays, maybe he will want to be videotaped on the slopes before the video magazine is mailed. Will your daughter be performing a solo at the winter concert? You may have to wait until school is back in session to capture this special moment.

Spontaneity is wonderful with small children and family pets. Capturing your child's first expressions upon ingesting her first taste of Gerber cereal is priceless. Tossing a Santa hat on your family dog while he sleeps brings a smile to your face. Seeing the house adorned for the holidays brings cheer to loved ones from afar. Capturing baby's first steps is a memory forever suspended in time.

What is new in your family? Have you recently moved into a new home? Do you have a new baby? If your son or daughter just got engaged this holiday season, have friends or relatives met the soon-to-be addition to the family?

Take advantage of this opportunity to share these life-changing experiences with your video magazine recipients. Did you or your spouse get a new car? Do you want to show your holiday presents to parents in Florida?

Once your family is satisfied with your personal creation, ask each person to put their own special touch on the video labels and the video sleeves. Securely wrap the tape in a padded envelope and send it off to its special destination where family or friends will be thrilled to receive it.

Remember, you may choose to videotape your family magazine on Christmas Day or throughout Hanukkah or Kwanzaa, giving you the opportunity to mail your big holiday wishes on tape in a small box after the holidays. This is a nice way to share your holiday love and togetherness across the miles and communicate to loved ones that big things truly do come in small packages.

Lisa Luckow-Healy is a marketing and public relations consultant who regularly contributes to several entertaining publications. To leave her a message from a touch-tone phone about how you "celebrate family," call (313) 953-2047, then her mobile number, 1903.

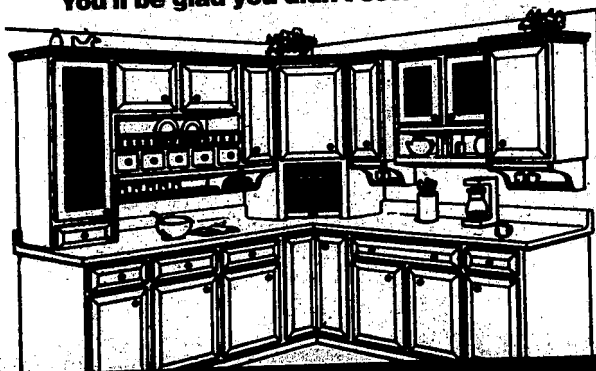
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at home calendar

■ The Henry Ford Estate at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen, presents "Christmas at Fair Lane" holiday programs. Visitors can tour the buildings and grounds of this National Historic Landmark. The residence is decorated for the holidays by area florists. Public and group tours are welcome through Dec. 31. Special programs include holiday luncheon concerts; Tea, Tour and Christmas Treasures; Candles & Carols dinners; Santa's

Breakfast; Santa's Workshop; and delight tours. Call (313) 593-5590.

■ The Detroit Gallery of Contemporary Crafts, in the Fisher Building, presents its holiday show, "Objects of Wonder and Delight," through Dec. 31. (313) 873-7888. In addition to several one-of-a-kind pieces, the gallery offers a great selection of creative gift ideas for less than \$20. The show has exquisite detailed painted furniture by local artist Nance Montmorency Aitchison.

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MONTE NAGLER

Did you get back from Yosemite last summer only to discover that in the shot that friendly stranger took of you and your spouse in front of Yosemite Falls, your head was "chopped off" and the falls are falling at a hard-to-believe 45-degree

angle?

Or did you just return from Europe to find that the entrusted tour guide had the "shakes" and all of the pictures of the two of you in front of the famous landmarks are blurry?

Lesson to be learned: You can't always trust your tour guide or that eager-to-help stranger to get the shots you want.

Solution: Take the pictures yourself by using that important, but seldom used feature on your camera, the self-timer!

You'll need a tripod or solid ledge to do the trick. (Don't think you'll have to travel with a cumbersome tripod just for self-timer shots - you should have one with you anyway!)

Mount your camera on the tripod and place your spouse in the viewfinder. Most often, a vertical composition will work best. Be sure to allow room in the

picture for yourself and, if you're taller, give plenty of space at the top so that you don't "lose your head" when you see the final results.

As always, check your backgrounds to include subjects you want and to eliminate things you don't. That distant mountain range makes a fine backdrop so make sure your aperture is small enough to capture it in the depth-of-field. Or perhaps you want to zero in on just the two of you, so use a wide aperture to blur an unwanted background.

Once your composition and exposure are all set, you're ready to go. Set your self-timer, trip the shutter and start moving into position.

You'll normally have 10 seconds to get yourself situated. Count down the seconds silently so that you'll know just when to spread that big smile across your face. You'll hear and see the shutter trip so you'll know when the shot is over.

Don't trust your photography to the potential errors and miscalculations of a stranger. Proper use of your camera's self-timer will guarantee you'll bring home the shots you want.

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.

In timer: This is a shot of the folks on my photography workshop to Spain last summer. Using a self-timer assured that we could all get into the picture



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cover story

Garden raised with creativity, enthusiasm

BY MARTY FIGLEY
Special Writer

When I met Kathie Sterbling of Livonia, I first noticed her happy smile and her enthusiasm for gardening. She hasn't let a handicap that prevents her from being able to kneel stop her.

"I can't wait 'til the seed catalogs come out," Sterbling said, for then she begins her gardening season, first drawing ideas on paper.

She uses pencil because invariably she changes her mind and needs to erase. The planning takes two months.

Sterbling's husband, John, has installed eight grow lights under the cabinets in her kitchen, where each year she grows 1,200 seedlings. She has learned many ways to make her gardening easier and had a list ready for my visit.

"My goal is designing the gardens to achieve low maintenance."

A large butterfly garden centered in the deep back yard was once an in-ground swimming pool.

After the pool was completely removed, cement and all, the area was filled with sand and only four inches of topsoil. Because that wasn't very much, Kathie raked the soil into 29 beds, which then had six to eight inches of topsoil. Wood chips were hauled in to make excellent walking paths.

On the cover:

Kathie Sterbling of Livonia stands at the entrance to her garden, which was once a swimming pool. Photo by Marty Figley.



Great growing: Kathie Sterbling poses by the lovely copper rain catcher she created. Top: A welcome basket is filled with impatiens. At right: Old garden tools are ready to "go to work." Photos by Marty Figley.

Wide variety

The garden was full of 45 perennials and many, many annuals as well as herbs, wildflowers and vegetables.

Sterbling has been careful with her plant selection and tries new annuals.

"It has been an absolute joy to plant a particular plant to attract a certain kind of butterfly and it comes!"

Ten or 12 different varieties of butterflies have visited the garden. One swallowtail had a wingspan about five inches across. Sterbling records the visits with her camcorder.

A wooden arch festooned with hyacinth bean vine and surrounded with hibiscus blooming in shades of red and pink led into this bright garden. Around the edge of the garden were numerous plants. Reds and yellows ("which I love") dominated the garden.

Red impatiens kept company with Japanese Blood grass, gold black-eyed Susan, soft pink meadow sweet, Filipendula rubra, "Queen-of-the-Prairie" had been placed in several areas of the garden.

"I started with one plant; the smell is unbelievable."

Also growing here were beds of salvias, zinnias, celosia (she gathers the seed), butterfly weed, moss roses, orange cannas, bright red pineapple sage, orange Mexican sunflowers and bush type morning glories.

Sweet peas, a variegated morning glory that looked as though it had been tie-dyed, and other climbers grew on trellises and other tall forms that Sterbling had made from grape and hibiscus vines.

Tucked into one area, growing in a pot, a vinca vine climbed a small trellis. Sterbling wanted it to grow up rather than droop down around the edges of the pot, she said.

Lessons

There was much to learn in these gardens. One bed was filled with "L'il Darlin'" snapdragons. After a rain had flattened the plants down, Sterbling found that each stem sent up a flower head. Now she is going to deliberately bend the snaps over when they become 12 inches tall for more bloom.

I noticed a lovely and unusual piece of art that Sterbling made.

She crimped the edges of two 12-inch "plates" of copper, forming a small lip at one edge of each so water could flow from one to another, then to the ground. A copper butterfly sits in each. John welded the plates to copper pipe and set them at two levels, and they work perfectly during a rain. She calls it a rain catcher.

Each small bed was surrounded by chicken wire to foil rabbits, although they do visit other parts of the landscape.

The rabbits and other critters seem to especially like one edge of the yard that was once a dog run, transformed into a quiet, natural-looking woodland garden by Kathie.



Salmon shades of nicotiana, a baronwort with leaves edged in red in the fall, wild geranium, astilbe, clethra, hostas, ferns, yellow wood poppy and heptatica grew harmoniously. Dolls eyes, trillium, sweet woodruff, pachysandra, bleeding heart, all fit perfectly.

An old log is always part of the scene; once the family enjoyed watching a family of groundhogs enjoying a feast from a log.

By design

Farther into the property, Sterbling has designed several beds that blend together, each with its own color theme.

The yellow garden contained daylilies with peachy/orange color that works with goldenrod.

Seeds of orange cosmos are scattered and raked in each season. Another bed was abloom in pinks and purples and Sterbling is planning a red one for another time.

This area was "once almost a swamp," she said. John brought in topsoil to surround a dry creek bed that the couple made, including a bridge across it. The ground was dug out about two feet in the deepest part and lined with landscape fabric, then river stones and boulders were set in. Each spring water fills the dry bed but doesn't overflow, providing a natural drain for the area.

Many trees and shrubs were placed throughout the landscape. Rose of Sharon, a tree peony, several buddleias, a Star magnolia, peach trees, serviceberry, Sunset red maple, a rainbow dogwood and others were featured.

"I like to put tall plants in the front

Several products help in special ways

Several products are on the market that are helpful for people with disabilities. Gloves can sometimes be too bulky, but Wonder Gloves are designed so that even small seeds can be easily picked up. They are water and chemical proof, with high cuffs to protect forearms. They're made of a flexible vinyl outer coating with a seamless cotton lining.

Cool Grip Gloves, for summertime, have a cotton back for air circulation. Both are machine washable. Backyard Birds and Wiegand's Nursery Inc. carry these products.

Unihol Tools makes L'il Pal shovels, which have a shorter handle than usually found on garden tools. They may be just the answer for wheelchair-bound people. Look for the shovels at Home Depot, Builders Square and Sears.

Fiskars has been in business for a long time with quality products. Its new Pro Power Lever By-pass Pruner doesn't open as wide as many and is much easier to use, especially for someone with a small hand. Its Power Gear Anvil Lopper could be used handily by a person in a wheelchair or a person with limited movement.

Fiskars products are available in major department stores, home centers and garden shops. For specific locations, call (800) 500-4849 and press 5.

so there is a surprise when you walk in the garden."

Sterbling doesn't follow too many rules, and it certainly works in her gardens.

After fall cleanup, she spreads compost and digs it in a bit, which provides nutrients to the soil. Soaker hoses are installed in all the beds. Chemicals are used only when absolutely necessary.

Sterbling has a lot of determination.

"My hope is that anyone with a handicap can get as involved in gardening as is possible for them - even a few plants help you focus on their needs and forget your own problems for a while. The satisfaction is immeasurable."

Tips for easier gardening

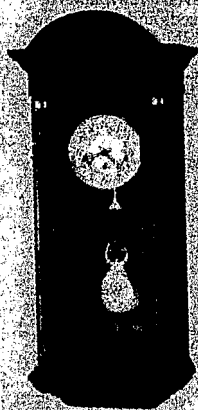
On Kathie Sterbling's list to make gardening easier:

1. Freeze kitchen waste during the winter (or anytime for that matter) to save steps to the compost pile. Freezing adds moisture to the "scraps" and seems to help it break down quickly to hasten the composting process.
2. Use seed tapes, especially for carrots and beets to save weeding out.
3. Sprout seeds in wet paper towels in plastic bags before planting under grow lights. This works great for Sugar snap peas, corn, marigolds, tomatoes and others.
4. Cut the end of a turkey baster to enlarge the hole. Use polymer crystals mixed with water and apply the mixture to the soil only around the roots of transplants. This holds in moisture.
5. To transplant seedlings in the garden: Use a shovel to scoop out 30 to 40 holes. Drop the annual into the holes - the weight of the root ball carries the plant in an upright position straight into the hole. Scoop the soil back around each plant. (She hasn't lost a plant yet.)
6. For deadheading, a lightweight hedge trimmer works really well.
7. Strawberry jar planting: Poke holes in a half-gallon milk bottle, set in the jar with the top just above the level of the soil. After planting, water well, then it isn't necessary to water very often.
8. An old-fashioned rain barrel saves a lot of walking. The Sterblings have more than an acre.



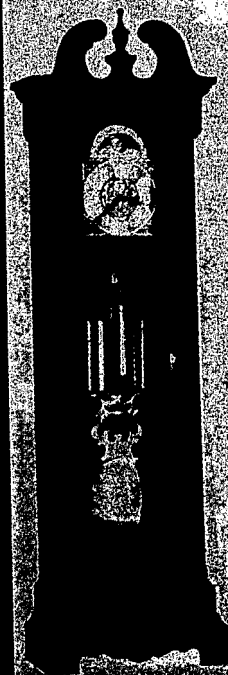
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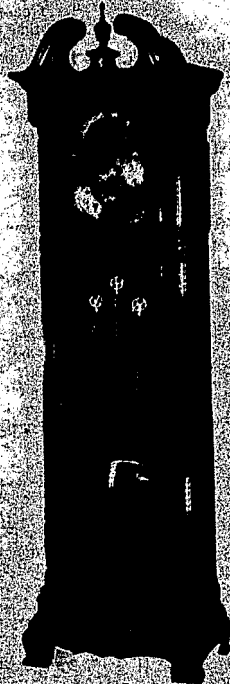
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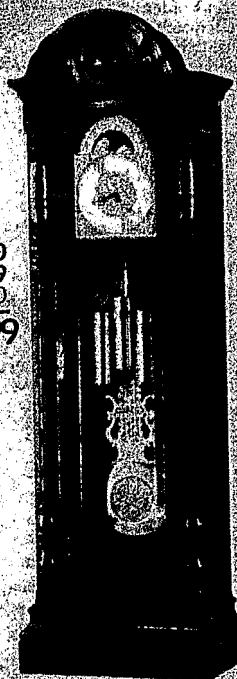
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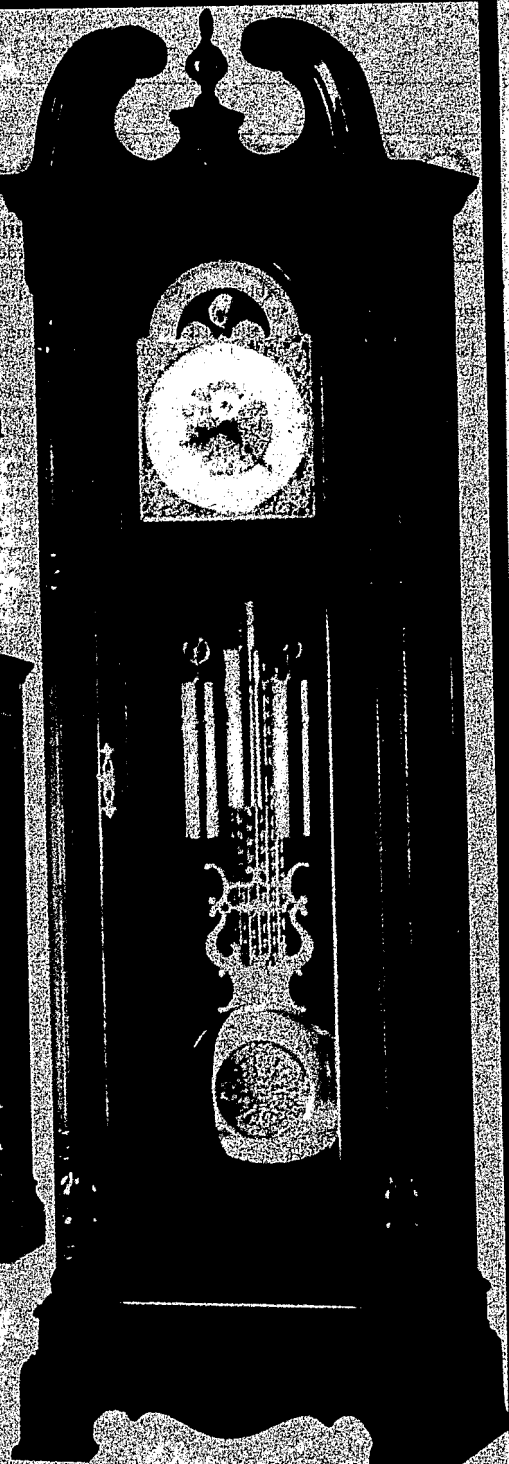
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**HOWARD
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Christmas tree features bean-ery among the greenery

By MARY KLEMIC
At Home Editor

"I'm just a kid at heart," Pat Alatchanian said.

That's the heart of her unusual decorations on the family Christmas tree this year.

The West Bloomfield resident has adorned the six-foot-tall tree with Beanie Babies - about 84 of them. Members of the merry menagerie lay gently on the branches, without hooks or other attachments.

Their placement is occasionally changed by Alatchanian's grandchildren, who take them off to play with them and return them afterward.

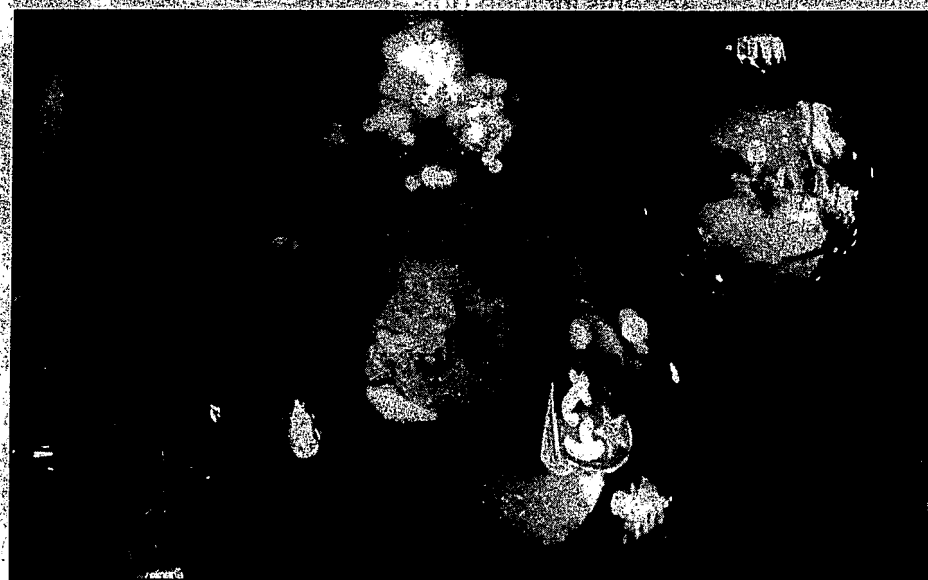
"My grandchildren just love it."

Among the Beanie Babies is Garcia, a multicolored bear that is hard to find, Alatchanian said.

Other cuddly critters nestled on the tree include a whale, rhino, lobster, ladybug, caterpillar, monkey, gorilla, giraffe, walrus, frog and leopards, dogs and cats. They come in a wide range of colors and patterns.

"It was just fun."

Also on the tree are soft lights, and round ornaments in pastel shades. An iridescent ribbon tied in a large bow



Season's beanings:
An adorable Beanie Baby peeks out from a branch. It is one of the cute critters Pat Alatchanian used to decorate her family's Christmas tree this year.

STAFF PHOTO BY DAN DEAN

crowns the top. A little musical train runs on a track around the bottom.

Alatchanian doesn't have a favorite Beanie Baby, although a unicorn and a wrinkled sharpei draw a little extra attention.

"You just love 'em all."


In other years, Alatchanian has filled the Christmas tree with poinsettias, or had pink or white trees. The Beanie Babies made decorating quicker.

"I usually spend hours decorating it."

Alatchanian started collecting the animals around Easter, when she bought some for grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She keeps the collection in two wicker baskets.

"They're so cute."

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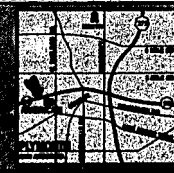
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'Believe Tree' decorations honor champion Red Wings

The days of one Christmas tree per family are becoming scarce.

This trend has left families with the freedom to display their heirloom ornaments on one tree and reserve another tree for themed decor.

Each year English Gardens designs and shows 16 themed trees to provide inspiration for the growing population of themed-tree decorators. One of this year's favorites is the "Believe Tree," a tribute to the Detroit Red Wings.

This tree honors the 1997 Stanley Cup champions.

Its decorative accents include garden stones identical to the "Believe" stone placed in the lockers of injured Red Wings, the 1997 Stanley Cup Champions commemorative ornament featuring the Red Wings logo and the Stanley Cup, ornaments with ice skating and hockey playing figurines, and a varied assortment of red, white and silver ornaments.

The "Believe" garden stones retail for \$69.98 (large) and \$22.98 (small), the commemorative ornament for \$4.98, and other ornaments, berries and pine cones

■ Accents include garden stones identical to the 'Believe' stone placed in the lockers of injured Red Wings, the 1997 Stanley Cup Champions commemorative ornament, and ornaments with ice skating and hockey playing figurines.

for 98 cents to \$14.98.

The products are available at English Gardens' four locations, including the West Bloomfield store at 6370 Orchard Lake Road. Call (248) 851-7506.

Hey, Hockey Town: This tree at English Gardens is decorated with a theme honoring the champion Detroit Red Wings.



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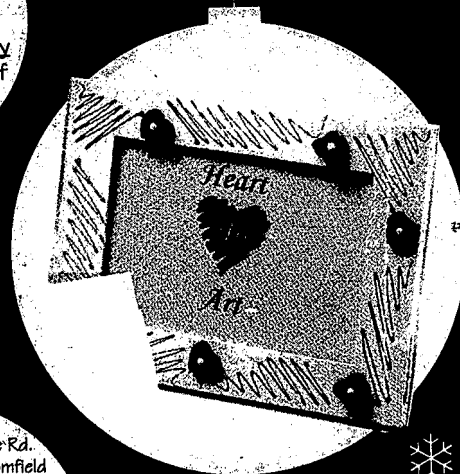
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inviting ideas

More than fair Hanukkah eating fare



RUTH MOSSOK JOHNSTON

Many of you have experienced many a Hanukkah Party with greasy Latkes (potato pancakes), overcooked brisket or chicken, and light green vegetables - that should have been cooked only to dark green, to taste good.

Well it's time to redeem those old memories (and a few culinary nightmares) - keep things light (after all, this holiday is the festival of lights!), fresh in appearance and deliciously tender, in an al dente sort of way.

Transform typical Hanukkah fare to an updated version - using roasted or sauteed vegetables to stuff your brisket, infusing your fruit compotes with mango or other flavored tea, and sautéing those vegetables slightly leav-

ing them crisp, tasty and nutritious - but most of all, don't get stuck in that old rut of making only potato latkes - try some made of sweet potatoes, zucchini or mixed vegetables! For dessert, make your own Hanukkah gelt (money - gold coins) - make some out of chocolate by melting the chocolate in a double boiler and pouring (spooning) it into molds (homemade or purchased) then using gold leaf transfers (these can be purchased at most cake decorating shops or Kitchen Glamor stores). If tight on time, you can always find chocolate or bubble gum disks wrapped in gold foil that looks like coins, at all of the stores that sell Judaica (Borenstein's Books & Gifts, 25242 Greenfield, Oak Park (810) 967-3920, Esther's Judaica, 4301 Orchard Lake Rd., West Bloomfield (810) 932-3377 or Spitzer's Books and Gifts, 21790 W.11 Mile Rd., Southfield (810) 356-6080).

Ethel G. Hoffman, food writer and former president of IACP (International

■ Transform typical Hanukkah fare to an updated version - using roasted or sauteed vegetables to stuff your brisket, infusing your fruit compotes with mango or other flavored tea, and sautéing those vegetables slightly - but most of all, don't get stuck in that old rut of making only potato latkes - try some made of sweet potatoes, zucchini or mixed vegetables!

Association of Culinary Professionals), has come out with a new book on Jewish cooking. Ethel, who grew up in the only Jewish family living in the Shetland Islands (north of Scotland), shares a bounty of Jewish cuisine with a melding of flavors. "Everyday Cooking for the Jewish Home - more than 350 Delectable Recipes" is published by John Boswell Associates, Inc., and King Hill Productions, 1997.

Latkes, in several forms, are presented in recipes - Glick's Colossal Butternut Latkes are simple and perfect for Hanukkah. This recipe, is from Glick's Kosher bakery, delicatessen in Melbourne, Australia. Ethel suggests when making these, to use two skillets.

GLICK'S COLOSSAL BUTTERNUT LATKES

Yield: 4 servings

- 1 pound butternut squash, peeled and shredded
- 2 medium baking potatoes (about 3/4 pound), coarsely grated
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup matzoh meal (found at most groceries in the ethnic/Kosher section)
- 2 teaspoons lemon pepper seasoning (found on the spice and herb shelves of grocery stores)
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 to 4 tablespoons peanut oil

In a large bowl, combine squash, potatoes, and cilantro. Add beaten eggs, matzoh meal, lemon pepper, ginger and salt. Mix well.

Heat 1 tablespoon oil in a 7-inch non stick skillet over medium heat. Pour in 1 1/2 cups mixture. Cook until underside is browned and latke is firm enough to be flipped over, 5 to 7 minutes.

Reduce heat to medium-low and cook 5 to 7 minutes longer, until underside is browned. Keep warm. Repeat with remaining mixture, stirring well before transferring to skillet and adding more oil as needed. Serve hot.

RUTH'S VEGETABLE STUFFED HOLIDAY BRISKET

Yield: 6-8 servings

This elegant and delicious brisket, is pretty as well as flavorful. A great way to get everyone (including the kids) to eat vegetables, this brisket when served sliced, makes a real statement on your holiday table. A combination of leeks, carrots and parsnips gives this dish a real Eastern European flair.

- 4 3/4-5 pound Brisket of beef, fat trimmed (leave some fat on the bottom side), and a good-sized pocket cut (have the butcher do this for you)
- Freshly ground Sea or Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- Olive oil, or oil of your choice

Leeks (desired amount), white and light green part only) cut in half and washed well

Bottle of Medium to dry Red Wine
A melange of wild mushrooms (mushrooms of your choice), cleaned and sliced

For the vegetable stuffing:

- Olive oil, or any oil of your choice
- 6-8 cloves garlic, peeled and left whole
- 3 small leeks (white and light green part only), sliced and washed thoroughly, then sliced.
- 2 parsnips, peeled and julienne cut.
- 3 red bell peppers, top removed, seeded, deveined and julienne cut.
- 2 cups fresh spinach, washed and trimmed

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F.

Let brisket come to almost room temperature, rinse well under cool water. Pat dry with paper towels. Generously salt and pepper all sides of the meat.

On the top of your stove, in a large French Oven, place desired amount of oil, place over medium-high heat, and when hot, add meat and sear - brown the brisket on all sides and remove.

In the same pot, add garlic, let brown and remove (set aside). Add your leeks - saute until tender. Add the parsnips, saute until

Please see **JOHNSTON, D13**



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tender (not mushy); then the red pepper - add more oil if necessary - saute until all of the vegetables are fork tender. At the point where they are all tender, add the spinach and saute briefly just to get the spinach to wilt slightly.

Take your browned meat - place the cooked (sauteed vegetables) in the pocket with a spoon - push the vegetables all the way into the pocket, and make sure the pocket is packed. Place the brisket into a French oven or any oven-proof pan that will accommodate your meat.

Place the browned garlic cloves, and leeks (amount to your discretion) all around the brisket. Pour red wine over the meat (should be about 1 1/2 inches-2 inches deep) over the meat and leeks - cover the pot and place in the oven.

Let cook for three hours - check occasionally, and baste - add more red wine if necessary, or desired. When meat is to desired doneness, turn off oven and let sit for approximately 15 minutes. Remove the meat, place the Dutch oven on top of the stove, spoon off the layer of fat from the juices, turn the heat source to medium-high, and reduce the liquid down by half. Add the portabella mushrooms and continue to cook until the mushrooms are cooked thoroughly. Place the meat on a cutting board, let sit for a few minutes so you can cut with ease. Cut

going across the grain into thick slices. The slices will appear to have a stuffed section in the middle. Serve with or without gravy - add sliced mushrooms as garnish to the meat.

SAUTÉ OF CRISP VEGETABLES

This is a very simple recipe from executive Chef Takashi Yagihashi from Tribute Restaurant in Farmington Hills. The ingredients can be changed - it's technique that is the key - CRISP! We will have more on this talented Chef in weeks to come....

Use: Baby carrots, pearl onions, and haricot vert (French green beans), shallots and parsley.

Directions:

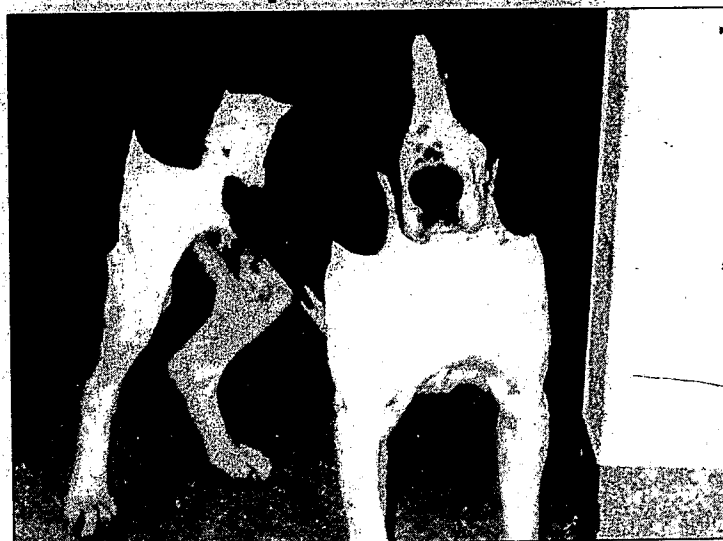
Cook the vegetables (amounts suited to your needs) in boiling salted water until just tender - al dente!

Sauté in olive oil and butter. Add a touch of finely chopped shallots and parsley - salt and pepper to taste.

*Even if you don't celebrate this holiday as your own, the recipes are delicious and can be prepared for any family or guest dinner.

Ruth Mossok Johnston is an author and food columnist who lives in Franklin. To leave her a voice mail message, dial (313) 953-2047, mailbox 1902.

Adopt-a-pet



Dudley: This adorable Coonhound is more than cute, he's also intelligent and well-versed in basic commands. He's friendly and loveable. He's 1-1/2 years old, housebroken and neutered. Dudley (No. RO80493) and other pets are available at the Michigan Humane Society's Rochester Hills Shelter, 3600 Auburn Road, (248)852-7420, noon to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.

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Hanging of the Greens



Holiday cheer: "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas," goes the song, and the Troy Garden Club was in tune for the holiday at the Hanging of the Greens earlier this month at the Troy Historical Museum, on Wattles west of Livernois. At left, members Linda Chambers (left) and Pat Maurer prepare refreshments for an open house Sunday, Dec. 7. At right, the Caswell House displays season's greenings.



Inspections, repairs help keep your home safe from fire

More than 25 percent of all residential fires, whether a central heating system or supplementary heating appliances are used, are related to home heating appliances.

Improper installation and lack of preventive maintenance are major contributors to these fires.

The following heating safety tips, from the Michigan State Police Fire Mar-

shal Division, can help you maintain a fire-safe home this winter.

Furnace

- Have your furnace, flue pipes and chimney inspected annually by a qualified specialist.
- Be sure that all furnace controls and emergency shutoffs are in proper working condition.

- Have heat exchangers inspected for defects that could cause deadly carbon monoxide gas to escape into your home.
- If you are contemplating "home repairs" on your furnace and aren't a qualified specialist, reread the first rule.

Wood stoves and fireplaces

As fuel costs continue to rise, wood stoves and fireplaces become an alternative or supplemental source of heat in many homes. These sources of heat demand special attention to avoid fire hazards that endanger life and property.

- Be sure the wood stove or fireplace is properly installed. Wood stoves should have adequate clearance (36 inches) from combustible surfaces and proper floor protection.
- Wood stoves should be of good quality and labeled/listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- Have the chimney inspected and cleaned annually.
- Don't use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.
- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the opening to prevent embers or sparks from escaping into the room.
- The stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15 to 30 minutes to

reduce the amount of creosote buildup.

- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.
- Never close a damper with hot ashes in the stove or fireplace. A closed damper will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.
- Discard hot ashes in a metal container outside and away from the house.

Portable heaters

While the state fire marshal doesn't encourage or recommend the use of portable heaters, the following safety precautions should be observed if you choose to use one.

- Contact your local building department to determine if use of a portable heater is allowed by code in your community. If permitted, only portable heaters approved by a nationally recognized laboratory should be used.
- Portable heaters are prohibited in schools, hospitals, nursing homes, homes for the aged and adult foster care homes.
- Never use a portable heater as a substitute for a central heating system.
- Place the heater at least three feet

Please see **SAFETY, D15**




KITCHEN and BATH ideas

Presented by Carl J. Crespi & Mark Fronoff

GET INTO THE MIX

Many people love the look of a granite countertop, yet cannot afford to outfit their entire kitchens with the luxurious stone. Why try? Granite is best suited to those areas of the kitchen which are likely to feel the heat of a hot pot. Thus, it makes sense to indulge in, but limit the use of, granite as a countertop material around the cooktop and/or next to the oven. Furthering this strategy of allowing function to guide the choice of countertop material, it makes sense to install butcher block in the preparation area and marble in the baking center. Think solid-surfacing for high-use areas and laminate for stretches of less frequently used countertop. By mixing countertop materials, cooks can have the best of all worlds.

Whether you need to completely remodel your kitchen or simply improve its appearance with new cabinets and fixtures, MODERN KITCHEN & BATH can help make the process enjoyable and creative. We provide expert design assistance, quality products, and affordable options. Call us at 548-0660 to arrange a consultation, or visit us at 819 E. Fourth St. and browse through a wide selection of impeccably crafted Amera cabinetry. From initial planning to installation and follow-up, we will exceed your expectations. Season's Greetings!

HINT: To showcase the limited use of granite in your kitchen, use it as a countertop material for a very visible central island.

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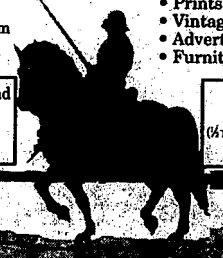
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Bordine announces picks for Great Tomato

Bordine Nursery has announced the winners of its Great Tomato Contest, to the delight of three young winners each from the Rochester Hills store and the Clarkston store.

Memorial Day, Bordine Nursery gave out more than 800 Supersteak tomato plants to children 12 and under. The youngsters were encouraged to take care of their seedlings and bring in the heaviest tomato they grew during the

summer.

The first place winner from the Rochester Hills store, 1835 S. Rochester Road, was Annie Su, 8, of Rochester Hills. Her tomato weighed two pounds eight ounces.

Second place went to Alex Simon, 12, of Rochester, for a tomato weighing two pounds three ounces; and third place to Julia Simon, 7, of Rochester, for a tomato weighing two pounds two ounces.

From the Clarkston store, 8600 Dixie Highway, the first place winner was Michael Chaffee, 8, of Orion, for a tomato weighing two pounds 15 ounces.

Second place went to Matthew Chaffee, 6, of Orion and third place to Stephanie Carter of Orion. Matthew's tomato weighed two pounds eight ounces and Stephanie's two pounds five ounces.

Pick of the crop: At right, Peggy Chamberlain, Bordine greenhouse assistant manager in Rochester Hills, poses with tomato contest winners Annie Su, first place; Alex Simon, second place; and Julia Simon, third place. Below, Joe Douglas, Bordine greenhouse manager in Clarkston, poses with tomato contest winners Matthew Chaffee, second place; Christopher Chaffee, fourth place; and Michael Chaffee, first place. Third place winner, Stephanie Carter, isn't shown.



Safety from page D14

away from combustible materials. Extra care should be taken to prevent children or pets from coming in contact with the heater.

- Portable kerosene heaters should only be used in well-ventilated rooms to ensure an adequate supply of oxygen. Inadequate oxygen may cause an accumulation of poisonous carbon monoxide or other toxic gases that could be fatal.

- Don't overload a circuit with a portable electric heater. Use only extension cords that have the necessary rating to carry the amp load specified by the electric heater manufacturer.

- Don't use electric space heaters in bathrooms or other areas where they may come in contact with water.

Regardless of whether you heat your home with a central heating system or a woodburning stove, or use a portable heater for supplemental heat, smoke detectors should be installed in every home.

"Tests or inspections, as recommended by the manufacturer, shall be made by the householder not less than once a month for other than battery-powered detectors and not less than once a week for battery-powered detectors," the National Fire Protection Association recommends.

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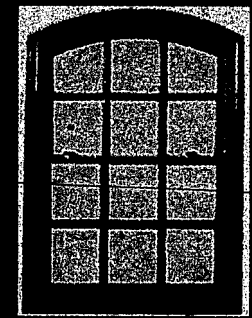
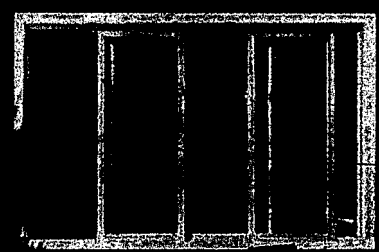
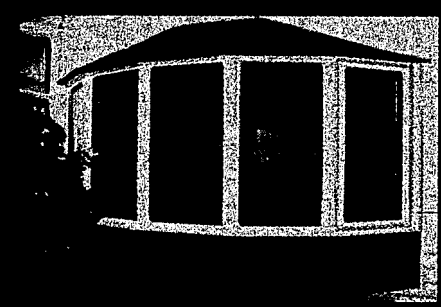
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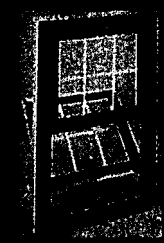
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Real Estate

The Eccentric

INSIDE:

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Homes Sold, Page E2

NO Page 1, Section E

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

Builders president:

Continuing education would encourage greater professionalism

BY DOUG FUNKE
STAFF WRITER

Mark Guidobono, a residential builder and incoming president of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, loves to make his mark on real estate.

"It's nice to create things, see homeowners who are very excited and happy about their houses," he said.

Guidobono, a conservationist who enjoys fishing and hunting, also likes to talk about balance between construction and code/land-use regulations.

"I want a safe home as much as anyone in the world, but where do you draw the line? Where's reasonable?" he said.

"A builder is an expert just like a doctor is an expert. I'm not saying the builder should be the only one to create policy, but someone not familiar with the industry shouldn't be either. You need balance," Guidobono said.

"Our membership has to be active in the communities they work in," he added. "They need to get involved in giving input to people who formulate policies."

"There's always two sides to a story. If builders aren't active getting people to understand their side of the coin, you don't have balance," he said.

During his term as president, Guidobono intends to advocate more professionalism for builders here, who make up one of the largest associations of its kind in the country.

"One thing we would like to accomplish this year is strengthen or toughen licensing requirements," he said. "Also, make it mandatory to have continuing education."

Guidobono also wants to organize the large association (2,000 members) into subgroups by geographical area. That, he said, would allow for more effective networking.

The residential building cycle has been on a steady upswing here since the early 1990s due in great part to thriving auto and related supply industries, Guidobono said.

"It creates a lot of demand for workers," he said. "We're getting a lot of transferees. People are making money. They need houses. They are upgrading to larger homes."



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

New president: Mark Guidobono, incoming president of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, takes a photo break in one of his luxury homes.

While Guidobono expects another good year in '98, challenges remain on the horizon.

"There's still a strain on the labor market in southeastern Michigan," he said. "We see that strain becoming more severe when casino and stadium construction gets started."

Guidobono envisions a solution at the high school level.

"Possibly offer classes or a co-op type

program for students not interested in going to college but who might want to pick up a trade," he said.

The biggest problem for builders, though, is keeping houses affordable, Guidobono said.

Labor costs, larger required minimum lot sizes, wetlands/woodlands regulations, energy codes and building rules as to the length and depth of steps on

a staircase all affect price.

Guidobono, 42, a Michigan State University graduate, built his first spec house in Farmington Hills in 1979. Now, he and his brother, Eric, run Cambridge Homes and build a couple dozen houses a year at an average price of \$700,000.

Guidobono attributes urban sprawl in great part to where businesses locate, municipal land use policies and the tastes of consumers.

"Builders don't create urban sprawl, they follow demand," he said. "Successful builders determine where demand is, what people need, want. That's where they go."

"Where you might get 40 (building) sites on 80 acres today, 20 years ago you might get 200 on 80 acres," he said. "Jobs definitely have a huge impact, too. If jobs were created in Detroit, more residences would come on stream in Detroit."

Builders could profitably adjust to smaller houses - if that's what people wanted and municipalities would allow, he said.

Guidobono, married to Elizabeth and dad to Erica and Mark Jr., also enjoys all sports and traveling. They live in Northville.

Adorno Piccinini, a Novi residential builder, is a good friend of Guidobono.

"Mark is very impassioned about the building industry and doing what's good for the industry as a whole," Piccinini said. "He's a hard worker. He gives up a lot of time for the association. He's been real instrumental in recruitment."

"I look up to Mark," Piccinini added. "I value his opinion. I do have a lot of issues in my own business I bounce off him. I don't have to worry he's going to undercut me. I trust him."

Robert R. Jones, a West Bloomfield residential builder and a former BIA president, also speaks highly of Guidobono.

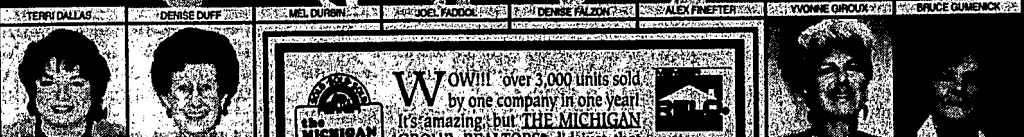
"I think he's a very reflective, thoughtful person," Jones said. "He has great objectivity. I think he's a warm and sensitive person. I think that's important for who's leading our association."

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(cd28H1H)



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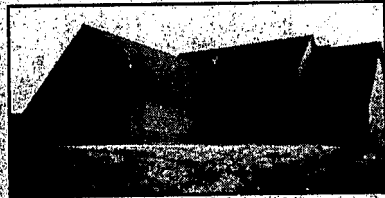


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- Walled Lake Schools
- Family room w/fireplace
- Finished walk-out basement

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(cd41FOU)



SPRINGFIELD

- Built in 1997
- 2041 sq. ft.
- 3 bedrooms
- 2 1/2 baths
- 2 car attached garage
- Full basement
- 1 1/2 acre lot
- Great room w/fireplace

\$219,900

(cd12 WHI)



WATERFORD

- 1560 sq. ft.
- 3 bedrooms
- 1 1/2 baths
- Neutral decor
- 2 car attached garage
- Cathedral ceilings
- Large family room
- Extra large lot

\$139,900

(cd34ALL)



WATERFORD

- 2100 sq. ft.
- 3 bedrooms
- 1 1/2 baths
- Finished w/o basement
- 1 car attached garage
- Oakland Lakefront
- 145 ft. frontage
- Treed 1/2 acre lot

\$229,900

(cd38ATH)

HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

The Observer & Eccentric-area residential real estate closings recorded November 24 - 28 at the Oakland County Register of Deeds Office and compiled by Advertising That Works, a Bloomfield Township company that tracks deed and mortgage recordings in southeastern Michigan. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

10251 Cedar Cove Ln \$174,000	131 Anniston St Apt 3 \$111,000	1711 Burnet Rd \$185,000	1853 Glen Iris Dr \$168,000	1825 Luneta Ct \$129,000	2856 Pinto Dr \$175,000	2085 Rob Rdg \$50,000	3972 Timberbrook Ct \$231,000	3490 Union Lake Rd \$50,000
314 Alberta St \$42,000	22930 Frederick St \$147,000	20951 Laurelwood St \$136,000	33216 Thomas St \$99,000	22610 Albion Ave \$96,000	23110 Albion Ave \$93,000	30247 Astor St \$105,000	29954 Beacontree St \$184,000	28725 Bella Vista Dr \$166,000
5897 Clarkston Rd \$185,000	5585 Northcrest Village \$222,000	5137 Old Cove Rd \$157,000	4900 Pine Knob Ln \$134,000	61 Holcomb St \$330,000	6988 Tappan Dr \$39,000	25620 Chapelweigh Dr \$177,000	29510 Eastfield St \$137,000	34031 Edna St \$92,000
2892 Armstrong Dr \$165,000	3812 Kossuth Rd \$247,000	28715 Somerset Pl \$125,000	17560 Wiltshire Blvd \$192,000	43530 Algonquin Dr \$205,000	41938 Canterbury Dr \$162,000	21926 Chase Dr \$423,000	42934 Clay Ct \$280,000	39477 Country Ln \$140,000
24526 Picara Dr \$253,000	24759 Portsmouth Ave \$267,000	41811 Quince St \$182,000	39733 Village Wood Dr \$58,000	24027 Wintergreen Cir \$415,000	39400 Orion Rd \$110,000	3449 Pear Tree Ct \$181,000	4540 Dow Ridge Rd \$1,177,000	3810 Westlyn Dr \$153,000
77 E Burdick St \$150,000	1041 Eugene Dr \$100,000	889 Hemlock Dr \$100,000	15 Spezia Dr \$165,000	1053 Bjoernsvej Cir \$307,000	4105 Bold Mews \$282,000	1327 Copper Cir \$237,000	315 Grace St \$42,000	318 Grace St \$133,000
791 Loggers Cir \$338,000	792 Loggers Cir \$345,000	815 Loggers Cir \$345,000	730 Renshaw St \$65,000	1805 Ring Neck Dr \$352,000	1531 Springview Ct \$154,000	311 Wesley St \$154,000	458 Antoinette Dr \$205,000	1621 Black Maple Dr \$234,000
691 Bridgeside Dr \$172,000	2121 Cumberland Rd \$215,000	709 Dakota \$288,000	883 Dakota \$253,000	1641 Dennett Ln \$174,000	858 Greenview Ct \$228,000	631 Heritage Ln \$284,000	470 Lake Forest Rd \$260,000	3407 Longview Ave \$125,000
378 Meadow Wood Dr \$125,000	3568 Nesting Rug \$411,000	1712 Northumberland \$235,000	3418 Salem Dr \$249,000	27265 Barkshire Dr \$123,000	28409 Brentwood Dr \$75,000	23842 Chelmsford Rd \$131,000	20788 Delaware Rd \$82,000	25750 Dunbar St \$160,000
20985 East St \$97,000	27310 Fairfax St \$145,000	21811 Hidden Rivers N \$174,000	21568 Hidden Rivers S \$83,000	21570 Hidden Rivers S \$175,000	22900 Larch Rd \$400,000	23621 McAllister St \$97,000	23232 Rambling Rd \$92,000	17221 Redwood Ave \$130,000
26157 Taperi Dr \$133,000	19840 W 12 Mile #4 \$61,000	3056 Albany Ct \$199,000	1803 Alexander Dr \$141,000	1296 Boyd Dr \$166,000	5541 Cheltenham Dr \$289,000	6290 Crooks Rd \$280,000	3796 Enderbury Dr \$301,000	4197 Eleanor Dr \$305,000
3915 Galtich Dr \$329,000	2105 Hillcrest Dr \$138,000	5541 Cheltenham Dr \$289,000	6290 Crooks Rd \$280,000	3796 Enderbury Dr \$301,000	4197 Eleanor Dr \$305,000	3915 Galtich Dr \$329,000	2105 Hillcrest Dr \$138,000	4528 John R Rd \$26,000
1301 Kalamazoo Dr \$362,000	4628 Mill Pond Dr \$187,000	74 Winslow Dr \$205,000	6760 Montclair Dr \$133,000	4583 Riverchase Dr \$500,000	5934 Sierra Dr \$195,000	4953 Stoddard Dr \$155,000	2318 Valleyview Dr \$200,000	4821 Walden Dr \$257,000
116 E Walled Lake #1 \$156,000	1987 E West Maple Rd \$100,000	1185 N Eddie St \$128,000	1836 N Pontiac Trl \$110,000	4965 Briarwood Ct \$275,000	6490 Brockhurst Blvd \$127,000	5425 Centenbrook \$239,000	6661 E Dartmoor Rd \$175,000	4460 Green Lake Rd \$129,000
2017 Moon Lake Dr \$155,000	5533 Northside Ln \$225,000	6985 Pablos Creek Wd \$215,000	6653 Queen Anne Dr \$65,000	6110 Rock Run St \$195,000	6824 Tamarlane Dr \$180,000	7132 Valleybrook Dr \$180,000	7344 Westchester \$240,000	4109 Winterset Ln \$390,000
7930 Woodchicken \$143,000	9144 Gladys St \$68,000	551 Hilltop Dr \$420,000	10710 Oakwood Hills \$171,000	700 Oakhill Dr \$135,000	9470 Pontiac Lake Rd \$119,000	1065 Round Lake Rd \$149,000	9150 Sandison St \$89,000	2350 Darnell St \$118,000
2187 Paulette Dr \$120,000								

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.

Several partners involved in real estate law practice at Honigman Miller-Schwartz and

Cohn have been named in seventh edition of the Best Lawyers in America, 1997-98.

The attorneys named in this year's Best Lawyers were selected through a peer-evaluation process consisting of phone interviews with more than 15,000 lawyers nationwide.

Norman Hyman, a Bloomfield Hills resident, graduated from Harvard Law School.

Joel Adelman, who lives in Birmingham, graduated from the University of Michigan Law School.

William J. Zousmer, a Bloomfield Hills resident, gradu-

ated from Columbia Law School.

Richard J. Burstein, who lives in Bloomfield Hills, graduated from Wayne State University Law School.

Sheldon P. Winkelman, a West Bloomfield resident, graduated from Wayne State University Law School.

Michael B. Shapiro, who lives in Bloomfield Hills, graduated from the University of Michigan Law School.

Lawrence D. McLaughlin, a Franklin resident, graduated from Wayne State University Law School.

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.

INVESTORS II

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.

LIABILITY INSURANCE

Jeffrey L. Sternik has established Professional Liability Marketing Inc., in Livonia to provide errors and omissions insurance products for the design professional, construction managers and civil, structural and environmental engineers.

The office is in the Suburban Shared Center Building, 32401 W. Eight Mile, (248) 471-2166. Dawn Henson is office manager.

Do-it-yourself homebuilder needs lender with experience

MORTGAGE SEARCH



DAVID C. MULLY

People who build their own home do so for a variety of reasons. First, there is a potential for literally building equity into the home. As an example, someone who owns a \$60,000 lot may build a \$250,000 home on this lot. If it is an area where most of the homes are in the price range of \$350,000, when the homeowner is finished building, he would have spent \$310,000 for a home valued at \$350,000; they have built in equity of \$40,000.

Some people are really "do-it-yourself" builders and are physically involved in the process of building their own home. Ruben Koene with Century Mortgage worked with a customer who built it himself. He rented the backhoe, dug the basement, built the foundation, and had the basement poured. With the help of family and friends in the business, they built, wired, dry-walled, sided, painted and finished the home themselves. This customer also worked a full-time job! The home took longer to complete than traditional construction, however, the customer built in a tremendous amount of equity.

Many people choose to build a home to quality standards not found in the traditional home market. They may use a higher quality of insulation or new methods of construction, such as a precast-insulated basement wall system. Or they may choose a non-conventional heating method such as geothermal. Many spend their money on esthetics such as Italian marble flooring, granite counter tops, or hickory cabinets. These items do not add value to the home, but they add value for the homeowner. Their home is built like no other.

People need not be physically involved in the building process. They will be acting as a building manager, hiring the contractors and overseeing that the work is being completed.

Building your own home should not be taken lightly. It can be one of the most demanding year of a person's life. Yet, Ruben said the majority of his customers, who have absolutely no experience with building, find it enjoyable and rewarding.

Most construction lending institutions require a builder's license and require that the land be owned free and clear. Usually, they will only lend money based on the cost-to-build. However, the market is becoming more competitive, with more financial institutions offering more flexible construction financing programs. Century bases the loan on the appraised value of the finished home. That way, cost overruns can be rolled into the final mortgage. When financing is based on the cost-to-build, overruns must be paid out of the customer's pocket.

With Century's program, customers do not need a builder's

license, do not need to own the land free and clear (it can be paid off with the first draw), do not need to know how to physically build a home, and do not need to have a lot of experience hiring contractors.

Koene suggests finding a company with experience in construction financing. It is important for someone who has never built a home to know what is entailed. A construction mortgage company should meet with a customer and cover all the details of the construction lending process, including explaining the need for sworn statements and waivers. The construction mortgage company should help the customer apply for draws for portion of the work completed.

It is important that the customer have access to real person to talk to when they have questions, he said, not just voice mail. For more information, call Century Mortgage at 248-674-8585.

David Mully is president of Mortgage Search, a company that offers consulting services to real estate and mortgage professionals. He also writes articles for mortgage industry publications and is a member of the National Association of Real Estate Editors. To contact him, call 1-800-521-0226 ext. 227, or mail him at P.O. Box 485, Novi MI 48376. You can access Mully's Mortgage Search column and current mortgage rates on-line at <http://www.observer-eccentric.com/realestate>

With Century's program, customers do not need a builder's

Modern fences offer many choices

(NAPS) - If Tom Sawyer were alive today, he might be surprised by the wide variety of fences to be found - and the fact that many fences don't have to be painted.

The traditional white picket fence has become just one style among many - including the solid stockade, board on board, post and rail and alternating panel.

Homeowners may even choose individual fence boards such as square end, dog ear and French gothic.

For those seeking a short cut, many home centers sell pre-assembled fence panels ready to mount on posts.

Fence maintenance is also much easier than it was in Tom's time. Much of the 72,000 miles of residential fencing installed each

year in the United States is made with preserved wood - lumber that has been pressure-treated with a preservative which protects the wood against termites and fungal decay. There is no need to paint or whitewash such a fence in order to make it last, although preserved wood can be painted or stained if desired.

With an annual application of water repellent, homeowners can help minimize moisture damage such as cracking and warping. The longer life of pressure-treated wood reduces demands on our forests and on nonrenewable resources.

In building a fence, homeowners should first consider its purpose. Is it to keep kids and pets in? Keep intruders out? Provide privacy? Define boundaries? Beautify an area? Protect a garden?

Most lumber dealers have booklets and literature containing fence ideas and plans. Your dealer can also supply the EPA-approved Consumer Information Sheet on use and handling of preserved wood.

noise? The intended purpose will affect the choice of designs.

Constructing a fence is fairly straight-forward but there are a few tips that can contribute to a satisfying, long-lasting structure.

■ Embed posts so that the portion in the ground is at least 1/3 of the height above ground.

■ For fences exceeding five feet in height, install a midrail along the back of boards in addition to the top and bottom back rails.

■ Use hot-dipped galvanized hardware so the elements do not cause corrosion which can result in rust streaks discoloring the wood.

■ Gates get the most wear so build them for extra ruggedness.

■ Some fence designs have a front side which is more attractive than the back side - so you should decide which way to orient the fence.

Most lumber dealers have booklets and literature containing fence ideas and plans. Your dealer can also supply the EPA-approved Consumer Information Sheet on use and handling of preserved wood.

CLARKSTON

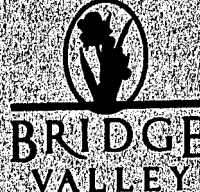


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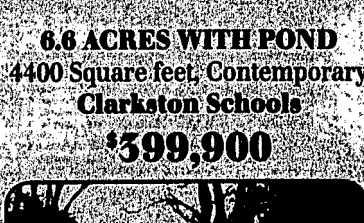
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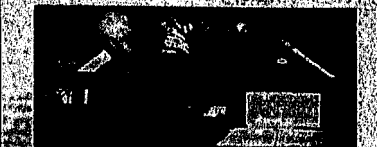
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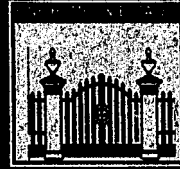
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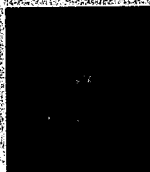
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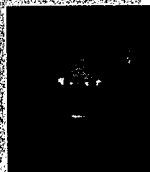


Keith Weber
Royal Oak Office

Top Lister/Top Seller



Debbie Serra



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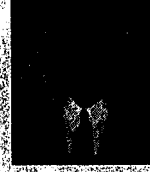


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Alan Amcheslavsky



Wen-Yu Liu
Novi Office

Top Lister/Top Seller



Amy Black



Jamie Carson

Clarkston Office



3 BEDROOMS, 1 1/2 BATH COLONIAL. Basement, fireplace, deck, central air. Updated kitchen and bath. MOVE-IN CONDITION! \$159,900 (OE80CR) 248-299-6200



FANTASTIC VALUE!!! This charming 4 bedroom ranch has walkout lower level. Remodeled white formica kitchen off family room with fireplace and wood floors, lower level includes bedroom, family room with fireplace, billiard, computer room and bath. \$219,500 (COB74WHI) 248-299-6200



AFFORDABLE, CUTE 3 bedroom tri-level with medium oak cabinets, newer carpeting, family room with fireplace. Only \$112,500 (182MAR) 248-349-6800



1 1/2 STORY BRICK BUNGALOW located in Huntington Woods. This home has many great features, including: hardwood floors, fireplace, exposed woodwork, formal dining room, screened-in patio and two-car garage. \$179,900 (65LIN) 248-280-4777



ENTICING 4 BEDROOM, 2 1/2 bath. Family room with brick fireplace. Elegant marble foyer, hardwood throughout, custom kitchen. Relax on your deck overlooking a treed private yard. Close to schools and downtown Rochester. \$224,900 (OE21BE) 248-299-6200



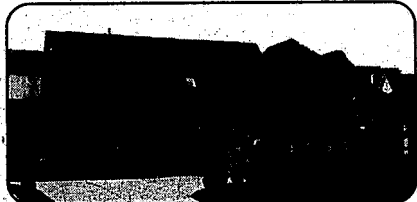
EVERYTHING YOU COULD WANT! Large 4 bedroom Colonial gracing a beautiful treed 1 acre lot. Quality throughout with Andersen windows, 2 1/2 ceramic baths, large family room with fireplace, basement and garage. \$229,900 (COB40CRO) 248-299-6200



OUTSTANDING HOME, basement, large master bedroom, painted throughout, hardwood floors, cove ceilings, ceramic bath. Updates include newer electrical box, kitchen, floor, newer furnace & newer doors. Exceptional home. (263PEN) 248-349-6800



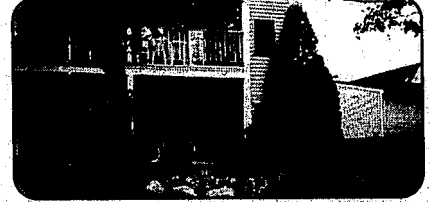
ESTATE SALE IN ROYAL OAK! Run to see this clean 3 bedroom bungalow with hardwood floors, newer furnace, central air and roof. Full basement. Home warranty. Priced to sell at \$123,900 (28REM) 248-280-4777



FIRST FLOOR master suite with large Jacuzzi, separate shower. Possible 2-3 bedrooms up. Skylights, palladium windows, hardwood floors, 2 gas fireplaces, finished lower level with full bath, 6 person hot tub, wet bar, great room, den and gorgeous kitchen. (OE10POI) 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



2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 1,200 sq. ft., 1984' entry level condo with walkout to patio overlooking Cass Lake and pool. End unit in mint condition. 1 car detached garage. Lots of storage in basement. Boat slip available. \$139,900 (355POR) 248-349-6800



CHARM AND UPDATES STAR in this sharp Shrine Area brick bungalow! Professionally finished new master bedroom with bath. Spacious closets, natural fireplace, separate dining room, updated kitchen. Central air and newer furnace. Full basement, 1 1/2 car garage. \$154,900 (31HAW) 248-280-4777



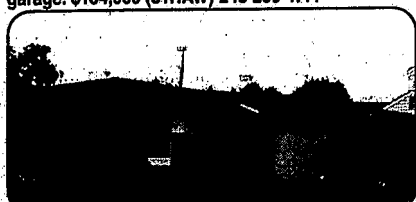
GORGEOUS CUSTOM COLONIAL in quiet setting, oak floors and cab crown moldings and custom woodwork, finished basement, large yard, brick patio, pond and more. Asking \$229,900. (OE44LEX) Call Rosalie 248-299-6200 Ext. 264



WEST BLOOMFIELD. First offering fabulous contemporary with beautiful hardwood floors in kitchen. Dining room and step down great room, gas fireplace Surround Sound system, office/den, 1st floor laundry. Pond at rear of property. \$264,900 (COB45WAT) 248-626-8000



START PACKING! 3 bedroom all brick ranch with central air, new furnace with built-in air cleaner, copper plumbing, 100 amp electrical. Neat and clean and ready to move in to. \$74,500 (463SIX) 248-349-6800



STERLING HEIGHTS RANCH. Three bedrooms, brick, finished basement. Updated kitchen with Jenn-Aire stove, built-in oven/microwave. Attached 2 car garage. \$122,900 (57SAN) 248-280-4777



RELAX AND ENJOY LIFE in this enticing 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath condo. Near schools, shops. Family room with fireplace, high ceilings, hardwood flooring, carpeting, spacious bathrooms, laundry room, central air. Community swimming pool, well-kept



ROOM TO GROW. 1,800 sq. ft. tri-level on one acre 1 mile from M-59 for great access to main roads. 2 car garage plus another garage or storage in back. 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths. \$129,900 (COB90ELI) 248-626-8000



ONE OF A KIND fabulous 4 bedroom Tudor/Colonial in beautiful Yorkshire sub. 2 1/2 baths, side entry garage, corner lot. Seller forced to sell! A real beauty! (249POR) 248-349-6800



WELL UPDATED TWO BEDROOM HOME featuring new furnace, new roof and copper plumbing. Refinished hardwood floors, updated electric, plus fresh interior and exterior paint. Move-in condition starter or investment property. \$59,500 (38SYM) 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



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



UNIQUE QUAD in the country on almost 4 acres. Updates include: kitchen, roof, master suite, plus much more! Multi-tier deck with hot tub, in-ground pool. Barn and tackroom, storage lean to, paddocks and workout area, plus home warranty. (121ROS) 248-349-6800



BERKLEY. Completely updated: new plumbing, electric and roof (stripped to boards) in 1996. Address is Phillips, but home faces Beverly, lot extends to Phillips. Close to schools. \$97,500 (14PHI) 248-280-4777



UP-NORTH FEEL BUT CLOSE TO I-75! Features include 2 bedrooms, all the major work done, newer roof, windows, vinyl siding, new well, 2 decks, knotty pine-planked ceilings T/O. All appliances, updated bath, large rooms, ample room for expansion & garage. Priced to sell at \$117,000 92VIL 620-7200



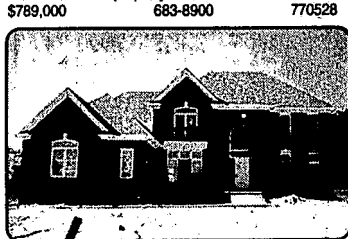
TEE OFF but your back door! Beautiful home located on the 7th fairway of Copper Hills golf course. Home features 1st floor master, Florida room, formal dining room. Spacious kitchen with many built-ins. Library with cherry cabinets, 3 car garage. \$408,900 (93HEM) 248-620-7200



WATERFORD AREA! Tri-level sitting on serene 3/4 acre lot all fenced, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath plus two half baths, plus bonus room 20x24, family room with fireplace, newer kitchen, sewers in and paid. MUST SEE THIS ONE! Zoned suburban farms. Priced at \$137,500 (23NEW) 248-620-7200

**WEST BLOOMFIELD - FABULOUS VIEWS**

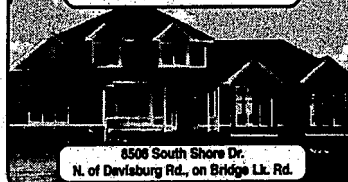
- Superior quality with over 4,000 square feet
- Four fireplaces, 2 kitchens & 5 car heated garage
- Expansive cathedral ceilings, hot tub on private deck which overlooks manicured 1 acre grounds
- Prime lakefront property includes boathouse

**OAKLAND TWP.-KNORRWOOD PINES NEW BUILD**

- Outstanding estate size premium acre court lot
- Custom built with 3,800 sq. ft. & 4 bedrooms
- Three full baths & 2 half baths, deluxe master suite
- Dramatic 2 story great room with 2-way fireplace
- Dual staircases, 3 car garage, upscale kitchen



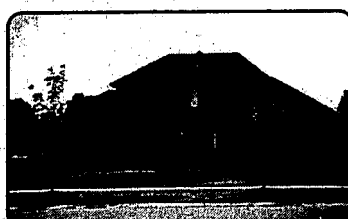
- Beautiful setting with over an acre
- Polished wood trims & crown moldings, fireplace in both family room & living room, 1st floor laundry
- Over 3,100 sq. ft., wet bar, patio & fenced yard
- Quality built by "Krone" - close to Paint Creek & trail

OPEN SAT. & SUN. 2-5

- Peek at what's new in all sports Autumn Shores!
- Spacious 3,400 sq. ft., great room & family room
- 5th bedroom & bath in lower level walk-out, premium oak floors & carpeting on main & 2nd floors



- Three bedroom brick home loaded with charm
- Newer roof, furnace, central air and wiring
- Lakeside porch with million dollar views!
- Two car garage, basement & fenced yard



- Dramatic 2 story great room with mirrored fireplace
- Marbled oak kitchen with hardwood floor & island
- Built-in bar in dining area, ceramic foyer, Jacuzzi in master suite - Lease option available



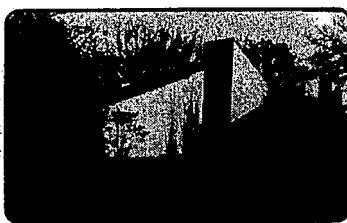
- Wonderfully located with professional landscaping & exterior lighting, sprinklers plus multi-level decking
- Beamed cathedral ceiling in first living room
- Three bedrooms, formal dining & breakfast room



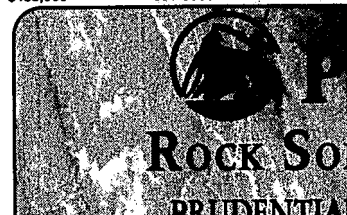
- Fabulous finished basement with bar, game area, plus fireplace, workshop in garage plus large deck
- Berber carpet, neutral decor, three bedrooms
- Updated roof, furnace, central air, windows & doors

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS - GORGEOUS 2 ACRE LOT**

- Four-five bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths
- Over 5,000 sq. ft. includes walk-out lower level
- Fabulous 39x24 great room with fieldstone fireplace
- Four stall garage, intercom, security, in-ground pool

**LAKE ORION - LAKE VOORHEIS FRONTAGE**

- Premium location on private cul-de-sac plus 60 ft. cedar dock, seawall & sandy beach!
- Wonderful contemporary with updated kitchen with island & hardwood floors, 3 1/2 baths
- Balcony off plush master suite, walk-out lower level



- Imagine yourself in this magnificent new build
- Private bath off master bedroom, connecting bath on 2nd flr, 9 ft. ceilings throughout, over 3,400 sq. ft.
- Main floor laundry, 3 1/2 baths, security system
- Oversized 3 car attached side entry garage



- Beautiful large almond laminate kitchen with oak floor, Jenn air, all top quality
- Approximate 3,000 sq. ft., great room w/fireplace
- Gorgeous park-like wooded lot, circle drive, deck

**WEST BLOOMFIELD - CUSTOM BUILT**

- Beautiful large almond laminate kitchen with oak floor, Jenn air, all top quality
- Approximate 3,000 sq. ft., great room w/fireplace
- Gorgeous park-like wooded lot, circle drive, deck

**COMMERCE TWP. - FULL OF CHARACTER**

- Cathedral ceilings in this 1995 built Contemporary
- Custom window treatments, Jacuzzi tub & large deck
- Recessed lights, 1st floor laundry, ceramic tile
- Over 2,100 sq. ft. plus professional landscaping

**CLARKSTON - SPECIAL TOUCHES!**

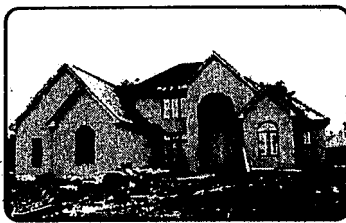
- White brick fireplace in family room, crown moldings
- Ceramic floors, 2-lr deck to pool & wooded yard
- Finished basement with 2 bedrooms, great room and 2nd kitchen ready to finish, 2 car garage

**BIRMINGHAM - READY TO MOVE IN!**

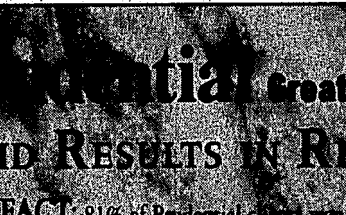
- Freshly painted with hardwood floors & partially finished basement with built-in workbench
- Three bedrooms, new hot water heater in 88
- Central air new in 84, fenced yard plus garage

**BIRMINGHAM - LUSH 1.5 LANDSCAPED LOTS**

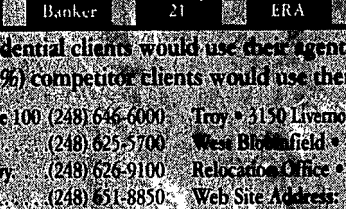
- Luxury main floor master suite with spa tub
- Possible fifth bedroom on second floor
- Fireplace featured in living room
- Over 3,000 sq. ft. plus finished basement
- Main floor laundry, heated in-ground pool

**WEST BLOOMFIELD - CAPTIVATING**

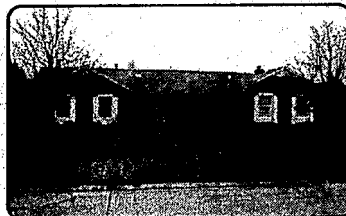
- Imagine yourself in this magnificent new build
- Private bath off master bedroom, connecting bath on 2nd flr, 9 ft. ceilings throughout, over 3,400 sq. ft.
- Main floor laundry, 3 1/2 baths, security system
- Oversized 3 car attached side entry garage



- Beautiful natural setting with extensive Redwood decking, outdoor hot tub & gazebo
- Vaulted ceilings, great room with wet bar & fireplace in master bedroom, island kitchen
- Sauna, 3 car garage plus security system



- Ten lots to choose from in Lakes of Indianwood
- The "Cranbrook" model offers large foyer with curved staircase, 2 story family room & garden room
- Formal dining, fireplace in living room, 3 car garage
- Waterfront & wooded. Prices range from \$389,900 - \$489,900

**FARMINGTON - WELCOME TO YOUR NEW HOME**

- Decorated in neutrals & meticulously maintained
- High volume ceilings, bay windows & skylights
- Oversized family room with brick fireplace & triple doorwall, gourmet kitchen, 1st floor laundry, 2 1/2 baths

**WEST BLOOMFIELD - BEAUTIFUL IN & OUT**

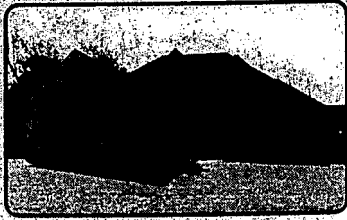
- Brick paver walkways, landscaping & newer drive
- Great finished basement w/wet bar, office bedroom
- Hardwood floors, deck, newer furnace, well, windows
- Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, security system

**OAKLAND TWP.-LOT OF HOUSE FOR THE MONEY**

- Super 4 bedroom ranch offers large family room with fireplace, paneling in maple & beamed ceiling
- Mostly hardwood floors, 20x20 sun porch, 1 1/2 baths
- Sliding new in 86, 2 car garage & security system

**ROYAL OAK - PUT THIS ON YOUR GIFT LIST!**

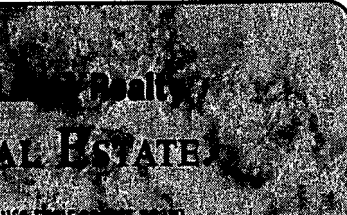
- Enjoy cooking berry dinner in your new home for the holidays! Three bedrooms & partly finished basement
- Breakfast room, patio, fenced yard & garage
- Seller will consider offers between

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS SCHOOLS-BETTER THAN NEW**

- Enjoy the luxuries of this almost new Contemporary
- Main floor master suite, soaring 18 ft. great room ceiling, extensive use of marble, fireplace, 3 1/2 baths
- Nine ft. ceilings, 100 recessed lights, 3,300 sq. ft.
- Walk-out, gourmet kitchen with Jenn-air appliances

**IN THE HEART OF ORCHARD LAKE**

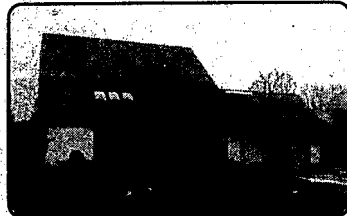
- Beautiful natural setting with extensive Redwood decking, outdoor hot tub & gazebo
- Vaulted ceilings, great room with wet bar & fireplace in master bedroom, island kitchen
- Sauna, 3 car garage plus security system



- Sizzling fireplace in great room - watch the winter wonderland through the wall of windows
- Country kitchen with wood stove, finished basement with kitchenette & bar, over 3,100 sq. ft. deck
- Heated pool with Jacuzzi-Close to all conveniences



- Two story entry & great room, dramatic windows
- Chef's delight kitchen, main floor master suite with Jacuzzi & 2 person shower, 2 1/2 baths, central air
- Fireplace, wet bar, deck plus lake privileges

**FARMINGTON HILLS - INSTANTLY APPEALING**

- Beautiful contemporary in ideal cul-de-sac location
- Open, flowing floor plan offering formal living/dining
- Large off white laminate kitchen with nook & door-wall to huge deck, park-like yard, walk-out basement

**SOUTHFIELD - "THE SUMMERSET" MODEL**

- Situated on premium lot in The Villas of Pebblecreek
- Open stairway & bridge overlooks foyer & nook
- Large master with walk-in closet, great room with fireplace, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, security system

**NEAR THE NEW TROY HIGH**

- All the extras will sell you w/built-in pool & large lot
- Beautiful stone natural fireplace in living room
- Gas fireplace in freshly decorated family room
- New windows & drive, four car garage

**HAZEL PARK - FOUR BEDROOMS**

- Spacious living room & roomy kitchen
- Finished basement, 1 1/2 car side entry garage
- Enclosed porch, deck & above ground pool
- This value won't last long!

**DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM - VICTORIAN**

- Large, elegant master suite with study & dressing areas plus dual walk-in closets
- Refinished hardwood floors, 2nd floor laundry
- Character galore w/4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths & 1 1/2 lots
- Seller will consider offers between

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS - PAMPERED PERFECTION**

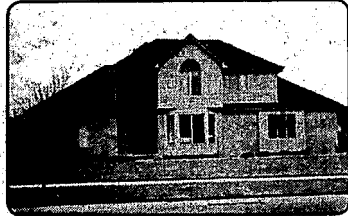
- Choose your spot to snuggle by the fireplace - the living room or family room with wet bar & sand tile
- Generously sized greenhouse plus large glassed porch overlooking outdoor swimming pool
- Finished basement, oak flooring, terraced landscape



- Ten lots to choose from in Lakes of Indianwood
- The "Cranbrook" model offers large foyer with curved staircase, 2 story family room & garden room
- Formal dining, fireplace in living room, 3 car garage
- Waterfront & wooded. Prices range from \$389,900 - \$489,900



- Sizzling fireplace in great room - watch the winter wonderland through the wall of windows
- Country kitchen with wood stove, finished basement with kitchenette & bar, over 3,100 sq. ft. deck
- Heated pool with Jacuzzi-Close to all conveniences

**WATERFORD - LAKE OAKLAND ESTATES**

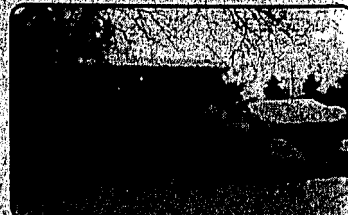
- Two story entry & great room, dramatic windows
- Chef's delight kitchen, main floor master suite with Jacuzzi & 2 person shower, 2 1/2 baths, central air
- Fireplace, wet bar, deck plus lake privileges

**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

**TROY - BACKS TO SUNNY NORTH PARK**

- Three bedrooms, large family room & country kitchen
- Large Florida room overlooks patio & park - Sharp as a tack w/new carpet, roof & replacement windows
- Freshly painted & carpeted plus updated bath
- Invaluable fencing and 2 car attached garage

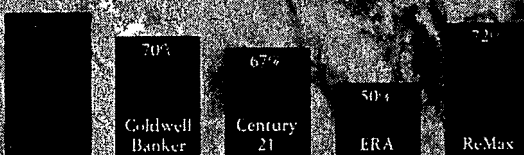
**BLOOMFIELD - BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED COLONIAL**

- Delectable Fox Hills 4 bedroom home w/2 1/2 baths
- Newer kitchen appliances, windows, air & furnace
- Freshly painted & carpeted plus updated bath
- Invaluable fencing and 2 car attached garage

Prudential Great Lakes Realty

ROCK SOLID RESULTS IN REAL ESTATE

PRUDENTIAL FACT: 81% of Prudential clients would use their agents again.



• 8 out of 10 Prudential clients would use their agents again, while only 2 out of 3 (67%) competitor clients would use their agents again.

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Observer & Eccentric Community Classifieds

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Merchandise For Sale	700-754	Page C6
Pets	780-793	Page C7
Real Estate	300-398	Page E5
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Publication Day **Deadline**
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SUNDAY ISSUE: 5:00 P.M. FRIDAY
THURSDAY ISSUE: 6:00 P.M. TUESDAY

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Internet Address	http://oeonline.com



3-2-1 SOLD!

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 asking less than \$200).
2. You get to run your ad 2 days (one week).
3. You get 1 low price - just \$19.25. 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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Oxford • Plymouth • Redford • Rochester • Southfield • Troy • West Bloomfield • Westland

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Real Estate for Sale #300-388		Option to Buy		In Memoriam	
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Ann Arbor	304	Farms	363	Lost and Found	636
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Belleville	349	Real Estate Service	364	Miscellaneous Notices	624
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Farmington	314	Income Property	393	Weight Loss	642
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Novi	329	Homes	405	Estate Sales	710
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Oxford	331	Mobile Homes, rentals	407	Flea Market	708
Plymouth	333	Residence to Exchange	421	Garage Sales (Oakland County)	711
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Rochester	336	Southern Rentals	409	Garden Equipment	748
Royal Oak	337	Time Share Rentals	410	Hobbies/Coins/Stamp	745
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South Lyon	340	Wanted to Rent, Resort Property	441	Jewelry	747
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Union Lake	342	Attorneys, Legal Counseling	570	Lawn Equipment	748
Walled Lake	342	Business Opportunities	574	Miscellaneous for Sale	750
Wayne	343	Business & Professional Services	562	Musical Instruments	751
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Cadillac	838
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Eagle	846
Ford	848
Geo	850
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Motor Homes	812
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Boat Storage	805
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Off-Road Vehicles	810
Recreations Vehicles	810
Sports	830
Snowmobiles	811
Trailers	812
Trucks for Sale	822
Vans	826
Truck Parts and Service	816



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CLASSIFIEDS' WORK

303 Open Houses

NORTHVILLE
41847 Waterfall, Six Mile & Winchester
Open Sunday 1-4
Appealing 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath Colonial in lovely location featuring beautiful bay windows, family room fireplace, 1st floor study, custom wood floors and more - move-in condition! \$273,900. Call Nadine or Jerry Henderson at (313) 462-3000 or (248) 349-8720.

OPEN SUN 1-4
Country setting near City! Bloomfield ranch offers new amenities. This charming has loads of curb appeal & is ready to move in. Updated kitchen, new bath, carpeting & more! Come see!

MATTHEW STACHURSKI
Re/Max Executive
Properties
248-738-7100

WEST BLOOMFIELD
OPEN SUN. 1-4
5749 Cherry N. of Commerce Rd. E. of Hiller Rd. Beautiful, 1994, 11 room, Brick Colonial. Like New, to much too list, must see! Owners Motivated! \$262,000.

Real Estate
Call
(810) 907-5290

303 Open Houses

Plymouth
OPEN SUNDAY 1-3
8829 Oakview
3 bedroom, 2 lav and 3 bathroom home with basement. Pretty, updated kitchen, never vinyl windows. Well maintained, clean, comfortable. An excellent value for \$127,000.

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
9050 Marlowe
NJoy between Main & Sheldon. Cozy up to the fireplace this winter! enjoy the oversized yard this spring. 2 bedroom, 1 bath home. Nice family room addition, clean & fresh with kitchen & bathroom updates, hardwood floors. Vinyl siding. \$116,000. Call ALLENE: (313) 813-2774

COLDWELL BANKER
SCHWEITZER-BAKE
218 S. Main, Plymouth

305 Birmingham/Bloomfield

BIRMINGHAM - Warm & Charming Dutch Colonial w/hippies in Poppelton Park. 4 bedroom, 4 baths, living room, dining room, library/office, large remodeled kitchen, screened in porch, central air, sprinklers & more. \$889,500. (248) 642-5912

BIRMINGHAM - 2 bedroom, immediate occupancy, really in-Town. 1068sqft. Must see. 887 Stanley. Reduced \$215,000. 248-944-6102

305 Birmingham/Bloomfield

NEW ON THE MARKET
"Spectacular" describes this 4 bedroom, 2 lav and 3 bathroom colonial. Family room fireplace, library, master suite w/dressing room, kitchen and wonderful pool. \$389,000

CENTURY 21 M/J
Corporate Transferable
(248) 851-6700

306 Brighton

BRIGHTON
Ranch on 2.2 rolling acre, beautifully treed, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, all appliances, 2 car attached garage, central air, immediate backyard is fenced. Ideal for children and pets. Also zoned for business. Great spot for home office, daycare or other small business.
3301 Old U.S. 23 South. L1039 \$164,900

REMERICA

HOMETOWN ONE
313-454-4400

NEW 3 bedroom, 2 baths, basement, no garage. \$122,900.
(810) 229-6155

306 Brighton

NEW 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, great room, den, large garage, country kitchen. \$199,900.
(810) 229-6155

308 Canton

GREAT CANTON COLONIAL
Huge kitchen, super clean, top-of-the-line windows, new roof, large fireplace, all appliances, deck, it's gorgeous - you have to see it! \$168,000

CENTURY 21 GOLD HOUSE
313-451-3400
JUDY PALKO 313-201-9927

309 Clarkston

HONEY COLONIAL
What a sweet buy is this sparkling brick beauty located in desirable Sunflower sub. almost 2700 sq. ft. offers 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, study or den. Huge family room with natural fireplace, lots of updates, custom deck, 2 car attached garage.
\$219,900

HAL ROMAIN
Century 21 Hartford North
313-525-9600

308 Canton

HOT TUB ROOM
Offered in this 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath colonial w/gorgeous great room w/waterfall fireplace, large kitchen w/island, bay windows, basement, 2 car garage - \$182,900

Century 21

CASTELLI & LUCAS
(734) 453-4300

309 Clarkston

RANCH - 3 bedroom, 2 bath. New roof, carpet, 6344 Snowapple. Large treed lot. Open Sun 2-5pm. \$124,900/best.
(248) 620-6473

311 Dearborn-Dearborn Heights

DEARBORN HTS. - 6473 Centralia. Almost 1400 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2 car attached garage, living room, dining room, Family room, 1 yr. home warranty. \$110,000. help-u-sell (313) 454-9535

LOVELY ALL brick 3 bedroom ranch in N. Dearborn Hgts. Finished basement, large 2 car garage, many updates. \$65,750 total move-in. 1-800-312-8693. Remica Family.

311 Dearborn-Dearborn Heights

SHARP BUNGALOW
Glowing updated in this 1044 sq. ft. Bungalow. New carpeting, new kitchen floor, new windows, new electrical, new roof, large laundry room, stove, fridge, washer/dryer are included. Land contract available to qualified buyer. \$73,500.
Ask for URSULA CECILE (313) 469-3600
REALTY EXECUTIVES

312 Detroit

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312 Detroit

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
Buy It. Sell It.
Find it.

312 Detroit

LARGE RANCH
20258 Westbrook
8 Mile/Lahser area
1600 sq. ft. of space, 3 bedrooms, library, full finished basement. Beautiful area. \$110,000.

UNIVERSITY DISTRICT
17114 Murland
Large colonial, 2500 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 1/2 baths, family room, finished basement, full extra lot. \$180,000

BEST BUSINESS BUY
Pit Stop Bar-B-Que
10230 W. 7 Mile Rd.
7 Mile at Meyers
Large brick bar-b-que pit with over-draft. Excellent opportunity! \$110,000. Agent

Re/Max Executive Properties
248-641-5300

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Your Classifieds Continued In Following Section

This Classification Continued on Page E8.

Attention Classified Advertisers

- Checkout These Early Holiday Deadlines -
Your advertising is important to us and we don't want to leave anyones ads out of the paper.

Sunday, Dec. 21st Publication

New Homes Section	All Real Estate Apt. Ads	Automotive Display	Help Wanted Display	Liners Class 500-880
5 pm-Wed. Dec. 17	3 pm-Thurs. Dec. 18	11 am-Thurs. Dec. 18	3 pm-Fri. Dec. 19	5 pm-Fri. Dec. 19

Wednesday, December 24th Publication

Real Estate Section	Automotive Display	Help Wanted Display	Liners Class 300-880
3 pm-Fri. Dec. 19	11 am-Mon. Dec. 22	3 pm-Mon. Dec. 22	5 pm-Mon. Dec. 22

Sunday, December 28th Publication

New Homes Section	All Real Estate Apt. Ads	Automotive Display	Help Wanted Display	Liners Class 500-880
5 pm-Tues. Dec. 23	3 pm-Wed. Dec. 24	11 am-Fri. Dec. 26	3 pm-Fri. Dec. 26	5 pm-Fri. Dec. 26

Wednesday, December 31st Publication

Real Estate Section	Automotive Display	Help Wanted Display	Liners Class 300-880
3 pm-Fri. Dec. 26	11 am-Mon. Dec. 29	3 pm-Mon. Dec. 29	5 pm-Mon. Dec. 29

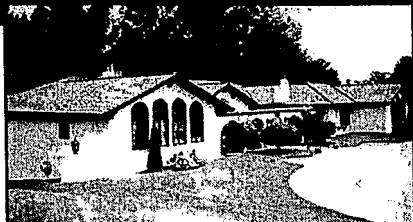
Sunday, January 24th Publication

New Homes Section	All Real Estate Apt. Ads	Automotive Display	Help Wanted Display	Liners Class 500-880
5 pm-Tues. Dec. 30	3 pm-Wed. Dec. 31	11 am-Mon. Dec. 29	3 pm-Mon. Dec. 29	5 pm-Mon. Dec. 29

Please call early to place your ads and avoid the last minute holiday rush.

Observer & Eccentric
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

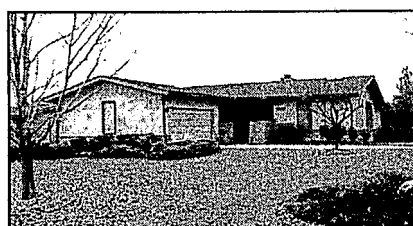
Wayne County	(313) 591-0900
Oakland County	(248) 644-1070
Rochester/Rochester Hills	(248) 852-3222
Fax Your Ad	(313) 953-2232



BLOOMFIELD - Magnificent 6 bedroom Spanish Ranch! 3 bedrooms on 1st floor including master bedroom w/bath suite, walk in closet, & study. Expansive walkout lower level w/3 bedrooms, 2 Baths, Family Room w/wet bar. Indoor pool & Roman tub. Too much to mention. \$675,000 (WAB) 642-8100



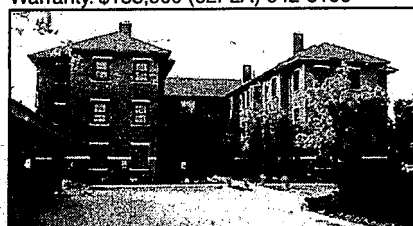
ROYAL OAK - Brand new Colonial! Custom built, maintenance free home w/hardwood floors. 3 bedroom, 2½ Baths, large Kitchen, garage & more! Great Royal Oak location! \$179,900 (19HAR) 642-8100



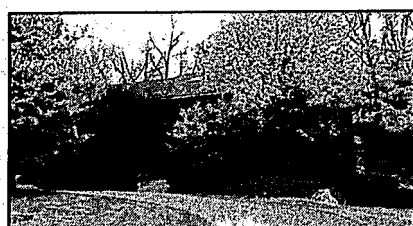
BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Wabek Ranch Condo, end unit, decorator perfect! Turn key magnificent cathedral ceilings, pickled oak cabinetry, ceramic foyer, Kitchen & 1st floor laundry, full lower level. \$269,900 (02GOL) 642-8100



ROCHESTER HILLS - "Great Room Ranch" located on a quiet interior street. Beautiful home in outstanding condition. Recent updates include windows, doorwalls, professionally finished basement, newly painted inside & outside, neutral decor. Home Warranty. \$185,900 (62FLA) 642-8100



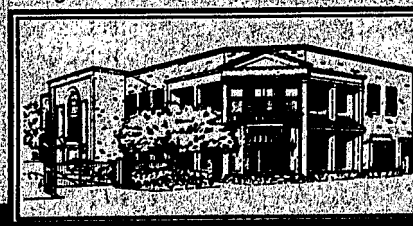
FARMINGTON - 2 bedroom, 2 bath top floor Condo built in 1991. 9' ceiling, gas fireplace, all appliances included, laundry in unit. Mint Condition! \$94,000 (33ORC) 642-8100



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - 6000 sq. ft. Contemporary in Wabek Forest. 5 bedroom, 4½ Bath, Great Room, Library, Family Room, finished walkout to golf course. Formica Kitchen, dynamite master bedroom Suite, 3 car garage, & circular drive. \$629,900 (90SHE) 642-8100



FARMINGTON HILLS - Ranch, 4300 sq. ft. of luxury, backs to wooded park, remodeled, stunning neutral decor, 2 custom kitchens, lower level walkout, 2 wet bars, custom decks & landscaping, attached side entry garage. 2 Fireplaces, intercom, alarm, cathedral ceilings. \$419,900 (30CO) 248-626-8800



(248) 642-8100



W. BLOOMFIELD - Custom built contemporary ranch w/finished lower level, backs to wooded area, great room, gourmet Kitchen w/marble island top, built-in fridge, skylight, walk-in pantry, library w/fireplace, family room, exercise room in lower level. Bloomfield Hills Schools. \$439,900 (40WI) 248-626-8800



ROCHESTER HILLS - Superb Tudor, beautifully decorated, open floor plan, 4 Bedrooms, 2½ Baths, 3 car garage, Rec Room, spacious lot, University Hills Elementary School. Convenient location. \$334,900 (13SP) 248-626-8800



WIXOM - Better than new! This charming Cape Cod was built in 1995. Features include first floor Master, large Family Room w/fireplace, open spacious Kitchen. Excellent area. Immediate occupancy. Priced to sell. \$209,900 (16BR) 248-626-8800



JUST LISTED! - Novi "Custom" Tudor in move-in condition. Offers 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, possible 1st floor Bedroom suite, spacious island Kitchen, 22x30 Garage & upgraded features galore, all on a private lot w/award winning Novi schools! A great value. \$269,000 (21SI) 248-626-8800



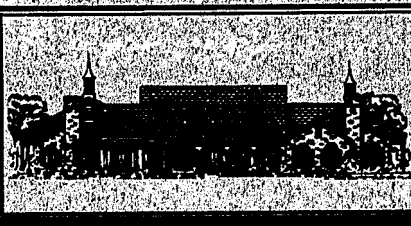
COMMERCE LAKE FRONT - 2 Bedroom cottage with 70' of frontage. Updated ranch has Living Room w/fireplace, eat-in Kitchen w/doorwall & room to expand. Move in or tear down! \$159,900 (03VOL) 363-1200



LONG LAKE LAKEFRONT - Sharp 3 Bedroom Ranch, large living room w/new carpet, Jennaire stove, Merrillat cabinets, gas fireplace, sprinkler, 2+ car garage, sea wall, sandy beach, newer shingles. \$249,900 (88GIT) 363-1200



LONG LAKE WALKOUT RANCH - All sports, sandy frontage, southern exposure. 3,000 sq. ft. with W/O lower level. Open Kitchen/Great room overlooks lake. 4 bedroom & 2 Bath. Walled Lake Schools. \$309,900 (29COO) 363-1200



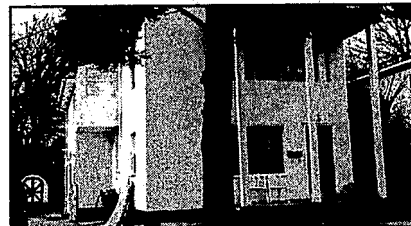
(248) 524-1600



ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS SETTING - This 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Contemporary offers a 3 car garage, walk-out lower level. Central air & cedar deck overlooking nature area if you want privacy & that up north feeling this is it! \$245,900 (05HUR) 363-1200



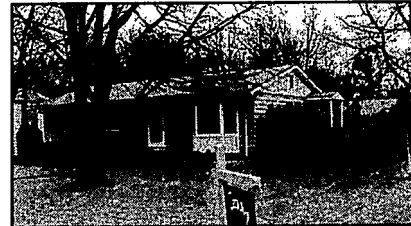
JUST RIGHT! - Cute & clean Ranch w/Family Room, fireplace, fenced yard & 2 car attached garage. Close to everything. \$92,900 (18JOA) 363-1200



CLAWSON - 3 bedroom Contemporary home with 2 full baths. New furnace, central air, hot water heater, roof, paint & carpet. Glass sided stairway with skylight. Glass enclosed greenhouse off 2nd floor. Private deck. \$139,900 (912PAR) 524-1600



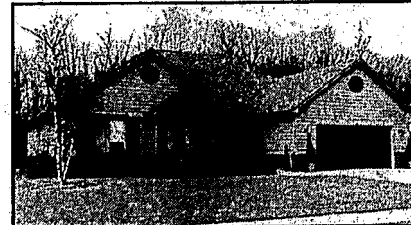
JUST LISTED - 3 bedroom Ranch home on large lot. 2 full baths. Large living room & dining room. Rec Room finished in basement. 2 car garage. \$124,900 (33ELL) 524-1600



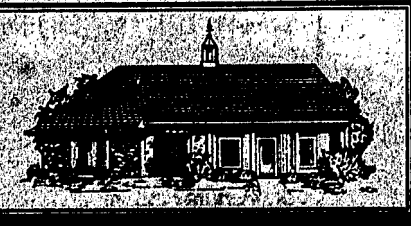
TROY - Country setting with this 3 bedroom Ranch home. Totally updated throughout. Extra large 2 car garage. Call today! \$129,500 (10TRO) 524-1600



EXQUISITELY APPOINTED 2041 sq. ft. traditional 4 Bedroom, 2½ Bath Quad-level located in North Royal Oak. Newer windows, doors, landscaping & roof. Home Warranty! \$177,000 (13ELM) 524-1600



CHARMING TROY RANCH with 3 Bedrooms & 2½ Baths. Formal Dining Room w/bay doorwall. Cathedral great room with fireplace. Custom kitchen. First floor laundry & a full basement. Call Today! \$269,900 (37WHI) 524-1600



(810) 939-2800

CENTURY 21 To Americ CENTURY



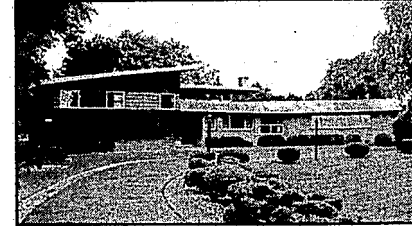
BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Exclusive Bloomfield Hills Estate on over 3.3 acres of professionally manicured grounds. Over 12,000 sq. ft. of luxurious amenities. Very private! \$4,000,000 (00ORC) 642-8100



CUSTOM DESIGNED 4 Bedroom, 3½ Bath Tudor with finished W/O lower level on 2½ acres. 3 car garage, gazebo off large wood deck. 2 story great room. Gourmet kitchen with walk-in pantry, Jacuzzi in master bath. \$689,000 (10OLD) 524-1600



Town &



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Golfer's delight. Oakland Hills 8th green, 9th fairway is your backyard. 3 bedroom, 2½ bath, Family Room, Living Room, greenhouse, & 3 car garage. All on a beautifully manicured lot overlooking the golf course. \$375,000 (34MAP) 642-8100



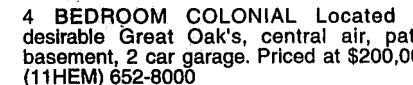
BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Fabulous Tudor built by Bordenor. 7700 sq. ft., acre, 5 bedroom, 5 Bath, 2 Lav, 3 fireplaces, finished walkout w/spa & home theater. 4 car garage. Spectacular master bedroom Suite, white kitchen w/granite & marble. Huge deck & patio. \$1,199,900 (15HID) 642-8100



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Magnificent Lakefront Estate w/breathtaking views! Built in '95, this plantation style home offers 8000 sq. ft., hardwood floors, formal Living & Dining Room, Kitchen, Master Bedroom Suite w/sitting room, & lots of room for entertaining. \$2,390,000 (85MID) 642-8100



(248) 652-8000



CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Dry
5 Mimics
9 Frequently (poetic)
12 Vehicle (colloq.)
13 Blanc
14 Crude metal
15 Bring into harmony
17 Savannah's St.
18 Moines
19 Strongly inclined
21 Cotton bundles
23 Takes in
27 — Mans
28 "Born —"
29 Firearms grp.
31 — Na Na
34 Maiden loved by Zeus
35 Cul de —
37 Switch position
39 Running

DOWN

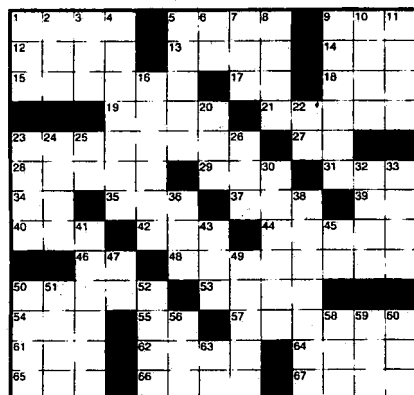
- 40 Spanish queen
42 Many oz.
44 Gaseous element
46 — Marinaro
48 — Tables
50 Anxiety
53 Disembark
54 Ms. Balin
55 Sommer ID
57 Stick
61 — to be tied
62 Italian wine
64 Always
65 Summer (Fr.)
66 — between the lines
67 Speed contest

Answer to Previous Puzzle

OIL CLASP ADS
POE AORTA VII
QUARRY ECLAIR
SODAS TIL
ELEM LEA TOW
VIDAL REK NTH
ES NOD LIL TE
RLS BUR TIBET
YEAH ENE BERT
RAH AUDRA
FLOWER BRANDY
EON ROSE IER
EGG SCREW ESS

DOWN

- 1 Drivers' org.
2 In a — (depressed)
3 Addams
4 Cousin
5 Tennis match
6 Repeat
7 River in Italy
8 H.S. course
9 Pierce
10 Liberate



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This Classification Continued from Page E5.



REAL ESTATE
FOR SALE

#300-389

314 Farmington/ Farmington Hills

DESIRABLE
MEADOW HILLS
ESTATES

hosts this spacious, well-maintained home with 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2 car garage, ceramic kitchen & foyer, and wood floors throughout. (ACPN) \$239,999



HOMETOWN
313-459-6222

314 Farmington/ Farmington Hills

FARMINGTON - 4 bedroom 3 1/2 bath executive home, landscaping, beautiful sub, finished basement w/2nd fireplace, beautiful deck. Lease with option to buy. \$220,000. Call Michelle (248) 478-9778 or 248-848-1875.

Farmington Hills

Saved the Best for Last!

The only new home available in the Secluded Lane community. Backing to trees, this 2,827 sq. ft. 4 bedroom home has a must-see master suite. White Bay cabinetry throughout and hardwood floors in kitchen, foyer and powder room. Under construction, available January 1998. Built by T. Mount. \$314,900. Call Michelle (248) 348-2720

FARMINGTON HILLS
A River Runs Through It!

Beautiful 4 bedroom home located on wooded ravine lot in much sought after Quaker Valley Farms. Spectacular views, hardwood floors, two full and two 1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces. Huge family room, Cathedral ceilings. Large master bath w/ jacuzzi tub. Basement & much more. \$274,900. Red Carpet Karm Maple West, Inc. 248-551-8010

Century 21
Nada, Inc. 248-477-9800

SUPER 3 BEDROOM RANCH
Hardwood floors, updated kitchen, extra storage, Kendall wood sub. Tread lov/brick pavers special!! \$155,900. Century 21 MJL Corporate Transfers Service (248) 851-8700

314 Farmington/ Farmington Hills

FARMINGTON HILLS, COVETED MEADOWBROOK HILLS, rolling terrain, treed setting with creek, transitional 4 bedroom colonial adaptable for in-laws of home office, could be 2 family rooms + 4 seasons porch, finished basement, master suite, 3 1/2 baths, new to market, attached 2 car garage, \$294,900. 37931 Rhonswood (N. of E. W. of Halstead). OneWay Realty 248-473-5000

SPRAWLING RANCH

On the commons, 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, decorated in neutrals, remodeled kitchen w/breakfast room, hardwood floors, 2-way fireplace between formal dining room & family room, 1st floor laundry, finished basement, professionally landscaped, attached 2 car garage. \$239,900

BRICK CAPE

On a tree lined street near school, 4 bedroom 1 1/2 bath brick home, formal living & dining room, bright kitchen, fireplace in family room, basement, attached 2 car garage. \$167,900. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

Century 21
Nada, Inc. 248-477-9800

SUPER 3 BEDROOM RANCH
Hardwood floors, updated kitchen, extra storage, Kendall wood sub. Tread lov/brick pavers special!! \$155,900. Century 21 MJL Corporate Transfers Service (248) 851-8700

Century 21 MJL
Corporate Transfers Service (248) 851-8700

REAL ESTATE



314 Farmington/ Farmington Hills

WHY PAY RENT? Only \$79,000 for this 2 bedroom home on a country lot. Call John Merlino at (313) 462-1811 COLDWELL BANKER Real Estate 37701 Pembroke, Livonia

317 Garden City

BRICK, 3 bedroom. Close to schools. Good neighborhood. For further information call: (313) 422-7064

BUY A HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Gorgeous, new 3 bedroom brick ranch, large great room with natural fireplace, spacious kitchen & breakfast nook, 2 full baths, basement, 2 car attached garage, nice layout. \$139,900

ATTENTION - First Time Buyers!

Own this cozy 3 bedroom bungalow, spacious kitchen has newer oak cabinets, newer furniture, open floor plan, some newer storm windows. Affordable price - \$75,900

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ERA QUALITY REALTY

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ROOM TO ROOM

In this 1874 sq. ft. colonial with large great room and family room with natural fireplace and skylight. Open floor plan. Original owner. Lots of updates. A must see! Call Bill for private showing.

REMAX PERFECTED

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319 Hamburg

HURON RIVER 2 miles to US-23 New 2 story walkout. \$179,000 MARSHALL SMITH BUILDERS 810-231-2609

320 Hartland

NEW CONSTRUCTION, Hartland schools, 1540 sq. ft. brick ranch. Full basement, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, large great room with fireplace and 10' ceiling. Large kitchen with granite cabinets, first floor laundry, 2 car attached garage, all this on 2 beautiful acres. \$175,900 (248)887-3841

321 Highland

HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP colonial, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2 1/2 car garage attached, plus a detached 1 car garage used as a heated workshop. Attractive terms to qualified buyer. Offered on a first come, first served basis at \$179,900. (930)2P FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE BOSS OF CENTURY 21 MECK (248) 887-7575

325 Livonia

ATTRACTIVE NEW HOME! 3 bedroom brick ranch, beautiful treed lot, (75'x300'), 2.5 bath, fireplace, 1st floor laundry, cathedral ceilings. Must see! \$189,900. (313) 455-6342

BURTON HOLLOW

3 bedroom brick ranch, 2 1/2 bath, finished basement, many newer features. A must see! \$169,900. Call for appointment. (313) 425-7087

325 Livonia

Alluring Homes

"OFFERS SO MUCH" Picturesque 1/2 acre lot complements this beautiful 1800 sq. ft. custom built brick home. Features open floor plan with large family room, 2 full baths, 2 fireplaces, great kitchen, and 2 car attached garage plus panoramic view. \$164,900.

SUCH A DEAL!

Darling 3 bedroom ranch on 1/2 acre fenced lot in prime N.W. location. Offers fireplace in living room, updated kitchen & bath. \$119,900.

LOOK NO FURTHER

You found it. Just listed beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath 2 story. Includes library, family room, 1st floor laundry, deck, central air and nice upgrades. Close to Fox Creek Golf Course and Bicentennial Park. \$234,900.

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4 BEDROOM CAPE COD

Family room and basement. Only \$139,900.

ERA QUALITY REALTY

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BEST VALUE IN LIVONIA

Just Listed, Excellent 3 bedroom ranch with updated kitchen, 2 car garage, Livonia schools, vinyl walled hardwood floors, affordable financing available! 14928 Cavour, South of Five Mile & East of Middlebelt. \$115,800. Call to see today! Mark Kleinknecht

HOMETOWN ONE

313-420-3400 more info at: www.kinfo.com

BE THE FIRST!

To see this newly listed 3 bedroom family featuring large kitchen, spacious living room, 2 car garage. A must see at \$99,900

BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED RANCH!

totally updated kitchen w/top of the line appliances, 3 bedroom, 2 full baths and family room w/fireplace, central air, 1st finished basement, hardwood floors, 2 car garage, 10' ceiling. Large kitchen with granite cabinets, first floor laundry, 2 car attached garage, all this on 2 beautiful acres. \$175,900 (248)887-3841

DONT MISS THIS ONE!

3 bedroom ranch with updates galore, Newer windows, furnace and carpet throughout. Florida room has new storm windows, carpet and storm door, finished basement w/hall bath, open kitchen, 2 1/2 car garage. Great Home \$123,000.

CENTURY 21 ROW

(313) 464-7111

DEER CREEK ESTATES!

Cape Cod Main floor master w/oibp lot and shower. Great room concept w/separate library, gas fireplace, dining room with vaulted ceiling, w/bridge in-between. Gorgeous landscape. Side car garage. Concrete patio. So much to list. Ask for soon! \$248,900.

YOUR BEST PRESENT EVER!

3 bedroom, 2 car garage situated in popular area with large trees and quiet street. Clean and spacious. Large family room with beamed vaulted ceiling, gas fireplace, built-ins and down to patio. See Santa's favorite rooftop! \$153,900.

MARY McLEOD

PAGER: (313) 990-7649 (248) 347-3050 ext. 402

LIVONIA - BY OWNER

W. of Newburgh, S. of 6 Mile. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 3 bath ranch. Call for details. 313-464-0139

325 Livonia

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

1,300 sq. ft. Quick occupancy on this brick ranch w/ 3 bedrooms, den, dining air, 2 full baths, new windows, roof, water heater, finished basement, central air, air conditioning, 2 car garage & gorgeous landscape. Original owners. Page for a personal appointment 610-930-242.

Diane Braykovich

RE/MAX 100, INC. 248-348-3000 Ext. 234

LIVONIA - 36708 Dardenella, 4 bed-

room, 2.5 bath Colonial. Updated, professionally finished basement, huge lot. \$209,500. HELP-U-SELL (313) 454-9535

LIVONIA - 34065 Orangetown.

Updated 3 bedroom ranch, 3 car plus garage, Livonia schools. Almost 1/2 acre lot. \$149,900. HELP-U-SELL (313) 454-9535

LIVONIA SUPER COLONIAL

(1st ad) 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, family room, full basement, attached 2 car garage, 2,419 sq. ft. master bedroom 26' x 12', 2nd floor laundry, much more. This is a good one! Call JOHN HALSER RE/MAX WEST 313-261-1400

NEWER CONSTRUCTION. Executive

4 bedroom home, 2 huge master suites, 3 baths featuring (16x13) master bath fireplace, attached garage. Situated on nearly 1 acre wooded lot. 1-800-312-8693. Remerica Family

NORTHWEST LIVONIA!

2300 sq. ft. Colonial. Offer on main floor, 4 bedroom, 3 full baths, 2 full baths, living room, dining room, Family room w/fireplace, huge full basement finished with office and bedroom. Newer windows, carpet and tile. 2 car garage, oversized 2 1/2 car garage, 1st floor laundry, \$227,900. Call Charlotte Jacuski 810-704-6377

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(313) 464-7111

PERFECT RANCH, beautiful inside

and out. Modern kitchen & bath area, new carpet, access. By owner. \$134,900 (248) 693-8477

SPECTACULAR RANCH much

larger than it looks. Very desirable from road. Nearly 1,700 sq. ft. large 20 x 19 bonus room, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, hardwood floors, full finished basement to appreciate. Not a drive by \$153,999. Century 21 Cyrowski (248) 814-0600

SHARP 3 bedroom ranch w/ 2 1/2 car

garage. Finished basement, large kitchen, central air, \$101,900. (248) 474-3303 ERA COUNTRY RIDGE REALTY, INC.

STOCKINGS BY THE CHIMNEY

hung with care in a home that was built with care! 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial situated on a large cul-de-sac lot. Family room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace. Bay window in formal dining room. Basement under entire house. Joy well better see soon! \$248,900.

Karen Camilleri

Century 21 Row (313) 464-7111

HOLIDAY SPECIAL!

Hurry grab price on a 3 bedroom brick ranch, 2 1/2 baths, family room, many updates, newer kitchen, roof, central air & much more, 2 1/2 car garage & basement. Priced to sell only \$138,500. Call DEBBIE SARATA Century 21 Harbord North 313-525-9600 Pager: 810-870-1123

LIVONIA - BY OWNER

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CENTURY 21 TODAY

(313) 538-2000

BEAUTIFUL REDFORD brick ranch,

very large rooms, fireplace, garage, 2 car garage, 2nd floor laundry, 6.5% APR. 1-800-312-8693 John Toye, Remerica Family.

BRICK RANCH - 3 bedroom, 2 full

baths, finished basement, \$105,000. Call for appointment: 248-554-1444

ABSOLUTELY THE BEST

Look at this, 4 bedroom, 2 full baths, living room w/gas log fireplace, dining room, w/ built-in bookshelves, updated kitchen, beautiful Florida room. Walk-out basement & garage. All of this and more on a double lot. Move right into this freshly painted and carpeted home. New vinyl siding & vinyl windows. Must See! \$79,900

CENTURY 21 TODAY

(313) 538-2000

NEWLY DECORATED 3 bedroom, 3

bath 1810 sq. ft. ranch. Large lot, 12 mile/minor road area. \$175,000. (248) 354-5398

328 Northville

HISTORIC NORTHVILLE

Currently being occupied by two families, this wonderfully restored 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom Victorian has incredible potential to convert back to a stately, romantic treasure. Gingerbread trimmings, mature trees and welcoming porch create a relaxing setting. \$239,500.

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NOVI - MODEL HOME - Save the

worry of decorating and come see our 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath colonial style home complete with all the designer touches and landscaping. It won't last! (Furniture and accessories may be purchased separately) Only \$336,900.00. The location of this home is South of 10 Mile just west of Tall Road, Westland/Village. Call: Crescent/Crown Development. (248) 347-7855

ROYAL CROWN

Kids can walk to Thorton Creek from this outstanding one of a kind 2 story. Includes luxurious master suite with euro-style bath. Stunning floor plan includes den, great kitchen and premium landscaping & deck. Century 21 Today (313) 462-9800

STUNNING 4 bedroom Colonial, 2

1/2, old, exceptional. Hardwoods, neutral. \$294,900. Michigan Group 248-851-3914, ext. 348.

331 Orion Twn/ Lk. Orion/Oxford

BY OWNER: Beautiful 3200 sq. ft. custom built, 1559 Cambridge, 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2 car garage, loaded with quality amenities, \$269,900. (248) 693-3409

RANCH Country setting, treed lot, 3

bedroom, 1.5 bath, new 2.5 car attached garage, large kitchen with granite, hardwood floors, access. By owner. \$134,900 (248) 693-8477

SPECTACULAR RANCH much

larger than it looks. Very desirable from road. Nearly 1,700 sq. ft. large 20 x 19 bonus room, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, hardwood floors, full finished basement to appreciate. Not a drive by \$153,999. Century 21 Cyrowski (248) 814-0600

334 Plymouth

CONTEMPORARY HOME 49707 Cooke Ave. 2 story foyer, cathedral ceiling, gourmet kitchen, formal dining room, library, 1st floor master suite, 3000 sq. ft. w/2nd floor. Large great-room. Many extras. \$384,900. After 4pm 313-416-8127

PLYMOUTH - 590 Byron, 3 bedroom

brick ranch, inground pool, newer area, \$157,900. (313) 454-9535

PLYMOUTH - 680 Harvey, immacu-

late, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, finished basement, w/fireplace, \$139,900. Call: (248) 360-0450 ERA COUNTRY RIDGE REALTY, INC.

PLYMOUTH - Open Sat. & Sun.

1-4pm. 14280 Shadywood. Lake Point Village, 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, updated, newer windows, finished basement, 2 car garage, \$149,900. HELP-U-SELL (313) 454-9535

PLYMOUTH TWP. Quail Hollow Sub.

4085 Quail Ridge Dr. 4 bedroom Colonial, 2400 sq. ft. 2.5 bath, formal dining room & den. \$246,900. (313) 455-1983

THREE BEDROOM RANCH,

updated in 1995 with new kitchen & bath, vinyl siding, windows, electrical, new marble fireplace, new plumbing, & lots more, attached garage \$118,000. 313-416-3963

335 Redford

ABSOLUTELY THE BEST Look at this, 4 bedroom, 2 full baths, living room w/gas log fireplace, dining room, w/ built-in bookshelves, updated kitchen, beautiful Florida room. Walk-out basement & garage. All of this and more on a double lot. Move right into this freshly painted and carpeted home. New vinyl siding & vinyl windows. Must See! \$79,900

CENTURY 21 TODAY

(313) 538-2000

BEAUTIFUL REDFORD brick ranch,

very large rooms, fireplace, garage, 2 car garage, 2nd floor laundry, 6.5% APR. 1-800-312-8693 John Toye, Remerica Family.

BRICK RANCH - 3 bedroom, 2 full

baths, finished basement, \$105,000. Call for appointment: 248-554-1444

ABSOLUTELY THE BEST

Look at this, 4 bedroom, 2 full baths, living room w/gas log fireplace, dining room, w/ built-in bookshelves, updated kitchen, beautiful Florida room. Walk-out basement & garage. All of this and more on a double lot. Move right into this freshly painted and carpeted home. New vinyl siding & vinyl windows. Must See! \$79,900

335 Redford

ATTRACTIVE

1500 sq. ft. brick ranch, full brick ranch with 2.5 car garage near Western Golf Club. Formal dining room plus large deck, updated kitchen. Super finished basement with 4th bedroom. \$129,900 L1036

REMERICA

HOMETOWN ONE 313-454-4400

354 Oakland County
BEVERLY HILLS - by owner, Wonderful, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 16161 W. Beverly, Birmingham, Spacious, (248) 646-2518, (910) 409-5824

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RANCH: Spectacular vaulted ceilings throughout this spacious 2 bedroom plus den home with front bay window, complete with ceramic tile floor, 2 full ceramic tile baths, fireplace with mantel, skylight in kitchen finished with beautiful Oak Cabinetry, main floor laundry, 2 car attached garage, full basement. Large corner location. Select your corner and kitchen flooring. \$165,630. (248) 698-4888

357 Wayne County
PRICE JUST REDUCED on this sharp 1,500 sq. ft. 4 bedroom home with huge living room, new carpeting, new roof 1997, 2 car garage, nice school district. Asking: \$64,900.

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358 Lakeland/Waterford Homes
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358 Lakeland/Waterford Homes
LAKEFRONT OPPORTUNITY
Main features: a great price! Remodeled kitchen, Florida room, family room with fireplace, 27x12 master suite, 2nd master's suite, possibilities. \$199,900 (DE164)
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TODAY
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LAKE FRONT WITH PRIVATE BEACH
2 large great rooms with fireplace, bar, multi level decking, 4 bedroom, many updates, seller's new home is ahead of schedule! drastically reduced!
\$209,900. (50205TP)
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Winding paved street and circular drive lead to 4 bedroom, 3 bath ranch on almost an acre. Has 1000 sq. ft. family room in finished walkout, 7 doors open to covered verandas up and down. Hot tub in 1000 sq. ft. of deck, gazebo and Hartland schools. 3 ton to Dunham Hill L.C. terms!
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372 Condos
CANTON - 45125 Horseshoe Circle, 2 bedroom with loft overlooking Great room. Full basement, 2 car attached garage. \$149,500.
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CANTON - Plymouth Landing, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 story, partially finished basement, totally remodeled. \$79,900. (313) 453-4204
NORTHVILLE HILLS 2 bedroom Condo, updated, many upgrades. Good location. \$124,900
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372 Condos
BRIGHTON \$149,900
ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS
is no grass to cut and no snow to shovel. I want to be free to go to Florida for 2 months of travel when ever I want to. I need a large ranch open air condominium that, clean and luxurious with a fireplace and skylights, and a big 2 car garage and a huge full basement. This is it! Lake Edgewood has ONLY one left at this price and its an end unit! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths plus 2 large entertaining rooms able to house the largest of warm family gatherings. High efficiency furnace and central air is standard. This has it all! (approximately 1800 sq. ft.). Call Seller's agent RICHARD BUTTE, The Michigan Group, Realtors - 810-229-0296 or 227-6600 ext 240 (unit #119).

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19830 W. 12 Mile Rd.
2 Bedrooms, 2 baths, upper ranch with balcony, 850 sq. ft. Lowest priced condo in area. \$61,000. Agent: "ReMax Executive Properties" 248-441-5300

NORTHVILLE - COUNTRY PLACE
Price reduced, 3 bedroom delightful townhouse, 2 1/2 baths, garage, finished lower level, fireplace, dining room, immediate occupancy, \$155,900.
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NORTHVILLE - 654 East St 1
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NOVI
Ranch condo with finished basement, skylight, fireplace and garage. \$137,900. Call Seller's agent RICHARD BUTTE, The Michigan Group, Realtors - 810-229-0296 or 227-6600 ext 240 (unit #119).

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COZY 2 bedroom cottage on Big Bear all sports lake. Fully furnished including 19" boat, dock, & storage shed. 20 miles S.E. of Gaylord. \$85,000. (248) 370-0961

GAYLORD - Waterford 4 bedroom log cabin on LAKE 27. Sold furnished. Call Brad Reisinger at Reisinger & Associates: 616-347-6050.

HARRISON - 3 bedroom on 16.7 wooded acres with lakefront privileges. 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, air, fireplace, 24x30 deck, garage, boat dock, 2 sheds. This is one to see. \$105,000. (248) 768-1606

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12 PREMIUM HOMESITES
ranging from 1.24 acres to 9.24 acres over 46 freed, rolling acres.
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\$69,000
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1+ acre estate size lots, located on private paved out-de-see, off N. Territorial Rd. Walkout with pond. All city utilities starting at \$118,000. Please call. (313) 453-2820

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Century 21 Hartford North

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Spacious 2 bedroom townhouse.
2 levels
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Features:
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55-or-Older Housing
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Vertical blinds, carpeting, Hotpoint appliances, security system, storage within apartment.
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Some restrictions apply.

FARMINGTON HILLS FINEST
1500 sq. ft. 2 & 3 bedroom townhomes with 11' dinette area, washer dryer, blinds, covered parking, pool & tennis courts.

FOXPOINTE TOWNHOUSES
Halsted & 11 Mile
FROM \$1095
(248) 473-1127

"Fair people for fair housing"
Managed by Kaitan Enterprises

FOR RENT - IN PONTIAC'S DOWNTOWN ART DISTRICT.
1450 sq. ft. of upscale living in newly designed, top apartment. 1727 living room, large bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, new kitchen w/all amenities, paneled dining room, lots of W and N light, 11' ceilings, lots of character. Serious references only. \$985mo + electricity. Call Jacques Caussin at: (248) 334-9660

RENOVATION SPECIALS REDUCED SECURITY
STUDIO, 1 BEDROOM, 1 - COMBO AND 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS WITH 1 OR 2 FULL BATHS 320 TO 1000 SQUARE FEET.

• Covered Parking & Storage
• Free Heat in Select Apartments
• Heated Pool, Community Room & Gated Entry

CHARTER HOUSE HI-RISE APARTMENTS
16300 W. Nine Mile Rd.
(248) 557-8100

248.477.0133
Grand River & Halsted Farmington Hills

RENOVATION SPECIALS REDUCED SECURITY
STUDIO, 1 BEDROOM, 1 - COMBO AND 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS WITH 1 OR 2 FULL BATHS 320 TO 1000 SQUARE FEET.

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Great Location!
THE IT INCLUDED
• Spacious 1 and 2 bedroom apartments
• Individual washer & dryers
• Newly remodeled
• Enormous closets and walk-in storage
• Close to shopping
• Easy access to all major expressways
On Farmington Road South of 9 Mile
Call or Visit Today!
474-2884
OPEN:
Monday-Friday: 9-6 • Saturday: 10-5 • Sunday: 12-5

Miracle Move-In Special
Independence Green APARTMENTS
The finest location in Farmington Hills at the lowest possible price!
Need we say more?
Well, how about low security deposits too!
HURRY... we have a limited number of Miracle apartments left!
Enjoy your own miracle:
• 18 hole golf course
• in-unit washer & dryer
• indoor and outdoor pools
Independence Green APARTMENTS
1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments
248.477.0133
Grand River & Halsted Farmington Hills

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CHARTER HOUSE HI-RISE APARTMENTS
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COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL OFFICE

Area Properties for Sale or Lease

390 Business Opportunities
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
Find it. Buy it. Sell it!
FOR SALE - Birmingham Apt. building. 2 - 2 bedroom, fully furnished, separate heat & air. Separate meter, carports. Asking \$49,900. No land contract.
Ask for BOB TENNANT
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392 Comm./Retail Sale/Lease
Belle Plaza Shopping Center, space available for coin laundromat, pizza, appliance store, child care, etc. 3 mos. rent free. 313-981-3050

394 Ind/Warehouse Sale/Lease
PLYMOUTH TWP., CANTON, 1200 sq. ft. thru 1800 sq. ft. Available now. Lynch Properties 313-454-4117

395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease
Announcing Executive Suites
From 150 sq. ft. with Phone Answering, Computer Services, Conference Rooms (seating for 50-150 in Detroit, Novi, Farmington Hills - other locations seat 10-40).
8 Class A Buildings in: Novi, Livonia, Farmington Hills, Sterling Heights, Troy, Ann Arbor and Downtown Detroit.
(All linked by ISDN Network)
Call Tamara at: International Business Centers (248) 344-9510

392 Comm./Retail Sale/Lease
ROYAL OAK - Approximately 700 sq. ft. 515 Lafayette, corner of 9th & Lafayette.
248-649-1188

395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease
LIVONIA OFFICES
1500 Middlebelt 15415 Middlebelt
15195 Farmington Rd.
1 & 2 ROOM OFFICES
ALSO
6 ROOM SUITE
CALL KEN HALE:
DAYS: 313-525-2412
EVEN: 313-261-1211

395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease
NORTHVILLE - Medical space. Newly remodeled. Great location. Northville Professional Center. (248) 348-4180

APARTMENTS

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

GARDEN CITY - 1 bedroom upper flat, appliances, garage & laundry privileges. No pets. References. \$450/mo.

GARDEN CITY - Clean, quiet building, 1 bedroom, includes heat & water. Storage. No pets. \$485/mo. For info call Barb at: 313-252-5680

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

HAVE A \$1,000 DOWN? Want payments less than rent? Call: 313-425-8903 and ask for Charlotte - Park Associates Mobile Home Sales, Inc.

FAX US YOUR AD 313-953-2232

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

JAN. RENT FREE Begin the New Year "rent free" at Innsbrook Apts. when you move into one of our spacious 1, 2, or 3 bedroom apts. by Dec. 20. Starting at \$670/mo. Northville 248-349-8410

LIVONIA - 7 MILE RD.

1 BEDROOM UNITS \$645

Washer & dryer in each apartment. Carpeting, vertical blinds, deluxe appliances, balcony/patio, swimming pool, tennis courts, community room. Near shopping.

CANTERBURY PARK (7 Mile Rd., corner Mayfield between Farmington and Merriman Rds.) 248-473-3983 810-775-9206

CLEAN OUT The Attic.

Clean The Garage. Have A Sale! 313-591-0900

CALL TODAY FOR HOME DELIVERY! 313-591-0500

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

LIVONIA'S FINEST LOCATION

MERRIMAN WOODS Merriman corner 7 mile Near Livonia Mall

Deluxe 1 & 2 bedroom units Immediate Occupancy

From \$635

• Vertical Blinds • Self-Cleaning Range • Dishwasher • Patio or Balcony • Pool

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 10-5, Sat. 12-5 (248) 477-9377

NORTHVILLE - Charming 1000 sqft apt w/balcony in heart of downtown. Rent \$700/mo. Includes heat, water, carport, laundry facility. No pets. (313) 416-8449

NORTHVILLE - Spacious 1 or 2 bedroom apartments with walk-in closet, balcony, carport, vertical blinds, storage area, laundry facilities. Within walking distance to Downtown. From \$590. Call: 248-349-7743

NORTHVILLE...UNIQUE LOFT! Only \$645. EHO

THE TREE TOPS (248) 347-1690

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

Madison Heights DECEMBER RENT FREE

OR \$300 OFF JANUARY'S RENT ON LUXURY ONE BEDROOM FLOOR PLANS*

Spacious apartments featuring:

• Private entrances available • Cathedral ceilings • Woodburning fireplaces • Washer & dryer options • Mini-blinds & walk-in closets • Individual intrusion alarms • Spectacular clubhouse w/racquetball • Professional fitness center with convenient business center • Pool with waterfall & outdoor hot tub • Card key entrance system • Resident car wash • Village Suites-short-term furnished rentals available

Studios from...\$635

1 Bedrooms from...\$720

2 Bedrooms from...\$960

On 13 Mile Rd. 1 blk. W. of Dequindre

Village Green of Madison Heights 248-583-1100

Mon-Fri 10-6; Sat 9-5; Sun 12-5 EOE

* Some restrictions apply

NOVI'S BEST VALUE

Extremely large 1 & 2 bedroom apartments feature spacious rooms and closets, oversized patios/balconies, deluxe kitchens, vertical blinds, central air, covered parking for select units. Incredible values from only \$615. EHO

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FIND IT In Classified

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

HOLIDAY SPECIALS Save On Dec. Move-Ins

ONE BEDROOMS LOW MOVE-IN COSTS

PLYMOUTH SQUARE APARTMENTS 313-455-6570

Open Mon. - Fri. 9-5 Sat. 12-4

Off Ann Arbor Rd., 1 block W. of Sheldon (next to Big Boy)

PLYMOUTH - 1 bedroom, heat & water included. Quiet building. 1 yr lease. Low security deposit. \$815/mo. Available 1-98. 313-459-9507

PLYMOUTH - 1 bedroom Apt. Close to downtown. Very Quiet. \$475/mo. plus deposit. Heat & water included. (313) 451-6805

PLYMOUTH - Near Downtown 303 Roe Street, 1 bedroom \$550/\$550 security deposit. Central air & heat. Newly redecorated Mon-Fri 8 to 4; 313-582-0450 Eve. & weekends 4 to 6 313-416-6292

PLYMOUTH PARK APARTMENTS 40335 PLYMOUTH RD. 2 BEDROOMS FROM \$550 SENIOR DISCOUNT

Amenities include:

• Heat & water • Carpeting & blinds • Appliances • Laundry facilities • Pool & air conditioning • Walk-in closets • Cable available

Plymouth Rd., near I-275 313-416-5840

PLYMOUTH - Senior Citizen Adult Community. Spacious 1 bedroom apts in quiet community. Walk to shopping. Central air, dishwasher, vertical blinds, carport. Available to qualified applicants. 313-453-8811

PLYMOUTH - Spacious 2 bedroom Apt. Appliances, heat & water included. \$500/mo. 1 yr lease. Available January (734) 513-4839

REDFORD - Basement Apt. in our home. Semi-private entrance. \$400/mo. Includes utilities. Non-smoker. Must like dogs. 313-531-4842

ROCHESTER - Large 1 bedroom, lots of storage, laundry facilities, walk to downtown, heat & water included. \$530. (248) 828-3366

ROYAL OAK - 1 & 2 bedroom, spacious, carpeted, heat included, newly decorated, pool. Great location. No pets. 248-352-2550

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

ROYAL OAK, 13 Mile, W. of Woodward, 1 bedroom, carpeted, includes heat, water, storage, carport, more. \$500/mo. (248) 723-9444

ROYAL OAK - Small 1 bedroom upper, carpeted, 1 year lease, security deposit. \$410 plus utilities. No pets. 248-841-9395

SALEM TWP. 1 bedroom apartment in upper level of home is country setting. \$450/mo. (248) 457-1317

Southfield Country Corner Apts. Spacious 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments & townhomes From \$725

Heat included. Formal dining room, carport, balcony, health club, pool, close to Birmingham

Let us fax you our brochure 248-647-0100 1-800-369-6868

30300 Southfield Road Between 12 & 13 Mile

SOUTHFIELD PARK LANE ... The Perfect Place to Call Home

One and two bedroom apartments with all electric kitchens, neutral carpet, blinds, storage room, free carport, tennis & volleyball courts, pool & fitness room.

SECURITY DEPOSIT \$200 OPEN 7 DAYS 248-362-4088

Wattles Rd. (17 Mile) Btwn. Crooks & Livonia

810-355-0770 On Civic Center Drive between Telegraph & Lasher

Southfield PICK YOUR OWN MOVE-IN SPECIAL DECEMBER RENT FREE OR \$300 OFF JANUARY'S RENT

Spacious 1 & 2 bedrooms with cathedral ceilings, woodburning fireplaces, microwaves, washer & dryer, individual intrusion alarms. 1 bedroom from \$715. 2 bedrooms from \$800. Call: Village Green on Franklin at (248) 748-6020

* Some restrictions apply.

SEE THE BEAUTY OF THE SEASONS AT FRANKLIN RIVER APTS. AND MORE 248-356-0400 12 MILE & TELEGRAPH

WALLED LAKE - Heritage Apartments. Large 1 & 2 bedrooms. Free heat, water, pool. (248) 960-4537 & (248) 650-8399

WALLED LAKE - Special weekly rate, \$155 per week plus 2 week deposit. Clean 1 bedroom. Available immediately. Call: (313) 799-5188

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

BROOKDALE Apartments in Sensational South Lyon

• 1 & 2 bedroom Apartments • Carports • Fabulous location • Social activities

CALL NOW!! 248-437-1223

Troy THREE OAKS Holiday Special!

SAVE \$ SAVE \$ SAVE \$ One, one & den and two bedroom apartments with all electric kitchens, neutral carpet, blinds, storage room, free carport, tennis & volleyball courts, pool & fitness room.

SECURITY DEPOSIT \$200 OPEN 7 DAYS 248-362-4088

Wattles Rd. (17 Mile) Btwn. Crooks & Livonia

WALLED LAKE / NOVI 1 & 2 bedroom Apartments & Townhouses Extra storage & pool. Close to downtown. Call for... HOLIDAY SPECIAL on 1 bedroom apartments. 248-624-6606

HAMPTON COURT APARTMENTS "The place to live in Westland" 1 & 2 Bedrooms from \$470

Extra Large Apts. feature storage in your Apt. Carports Available 2 BEDROOM SPECIALS! Call Today! (313) 728-4020

WESTLAND - Large 2 bedroom, newly decorated, cozy park like setting, appliances, free heat, \$515. Call 9-7. (313) 722-9180

WESTLAND - Special weekly rate, \$155 per week plus 2 week deposit. Clean 1 bedroom. Available immediately. Call: (313) 799-5188

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

W. BLOOMFIELD COME HOME TO SILVERBROOKE VILLA APTS. Move In Special 3 Bedroom Townhouses from 1,567 sq.ft.

All units include garage w/opener, modern GE appliances & more storage space than you can find.

Rents from \$916 1 & 2 yr. leases available. Ask about our Senior citizens discount.

Located at Maple Rd. between Halsted & Haggerty Open for your convenience Monday thru Sunday For more info. call 248-624-3388

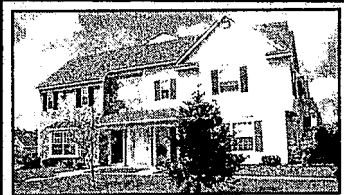
WESTLAND CAPRI CALIFORNIA STYLE APTS. • 1 bedroom from \$495 • Heat & Water included • Cathedral ceilings • Balconies • Carport • Fully carpeted • Vertical blinds • Great location to malls • Livonia school system (313) 261-5410

Westland HO! HO! HO! WARM UP WITH FREE HEAT! • SPACIOUS One & Two Bedrooms • Vertical Blinds • Carport • Ask About Our Specials! Merry Christmas From WESTWOOD VILLAGE On Joy bwn. Hix & Newburgh 313-459-6600

Westland NEWBURG COLONIAL APARTMENTS Clean, quiet 1 bedroom apartments \$409 per Month 50% off 1st month's rent Call 313-721-6699

Westland - 2006 Veno Rd. Clean 1 bedroom apt. Safe neighborhood. Immediate occupancy. \$450/mo plus \$300 security (313) 328-2770

Farmington Hills Finest.



Foxpointe Townhouses

- 1500 sq. ft.
- 2 & 3-bedroom townhouses
- Kitchen w/dinette area
- Washer, dryer, blinds
- Covered parking
- Pool & tennis courts
- From \$1095

(248) 473-1127

Halsted and 11 Mile

Managed by Kathan Enterprises Fair people for fair housing

NOW SHOWING YOUR NEW HOME

NOVI

WATERVIEW FARMS

On Pontiac Trail between West and Beck Roads

1&2 Bedrooms

STARTING AT \$485

248-624-0004

M-F 9-6 SAT 10-2 SUN 11-3

NOVI

WESTGATE VI

On Pontiac Trail between West and Beck Roads

SPECIAL 2 bedroom Apts*

\$300 OFF 1st Month Rent

*Select units and a 12 month lease signing

248-624-8555

M-F 9-6 SAT/SUN 12-4

FARMINGTON

CHATHAM HILLS

On Old Grand River between Drake & Halstead

1&2 Bedrooms SOME WITH DENS

"GARAGES AVAILABLE"

FROM \$595

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M-F 9-6 SAT/SUN 11-4

DEARBORN

DEARBORN CLUB APARTMENTS

Apartments & Townhouses

FREE HEAT AND WATER

On Inkster Rd. N. of Ford Rd.

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M-F 12-6 SAT 10-2

WESTLAND

HAWTHORNE CLUB

7560 Merriman Between Ann Arbor Trail & Warren

Apartments Starting at \$510

Dishwashers Available

Free Heat

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M-F 9-6 SAT/SUN 11-4

WESTLAND

HUNTINGTON ON THE HILL

On Ann Arbor Trail, W. of Inkster

1 and 2 Bedrooms from \$510

Free Heat

313-425-6070

M-F 9-6 SAT/SUN 11-4

MORE LOCATIONS! 248-569-8880

EXITING NEWS

ESSEX at HAMPTON

64 Village Circle • Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Effective immediately Essex @ Hampton has extended weekend hours. The new hours are as follows:

Monday - Friday 9:00-6:00

Saturday 10:00-5:00

Sunday 12:00-4:00

Essex @ Hampton offers

One and Two Bedroom Apartments and Two and Three Bedroom Town homes.

Please call (248) 852-7500

or come in and ask about our move-in specials.

T.D.D. 800-989-1833

Immediate Occupancy on Two Bedrooms

Apartment Living at it's Best!

- Generous Living and Dining Areas
- Large Kitchen with Breakfast nook
- Individual Washers and Dryers
- Intrusion Alarm System
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- Close to shopping

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FARMINGTON OAKS

APARTMENTS

Farmington Rd. 1 block south of 9 mile

RENTAL SPECIALS REDUCED SECURITY

SPACIOUS 1, 1 - DEN AND 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS WITH 1 1/2 OR 2 FULL BATHS 1425 - 1450 SQUARE FEET.

- Covered Parking & Storage Included
- Free Heat in Select Apartments
- Heated Pool, Community Room & Gated Entry

Daily 8:30-5:00 Sat. & Sun. 10:00-5:00 West Nine Mile Road at Providence Drive, in Southfield (248) 557-0311

WHITTEHALL

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

WESTWOOD VILLAGE

On Joy bwn. Hix & Newburgh 313-459-6600

Westland NEWBURG COLONIAL APARTMENTS Clean, quiet 1 bedroom apartments \$409 per Month 50% off 1st month's rent Call 313-721-6699

Westland - 2006 Veno Rd. Clean 1 bedroom apt. Safe neighborhood. Immediate occupancy. \$450/mo plus \$300 security (313) 328-2770

Rich is about to join the 3-2-1-SOLD! club.



Rich was up in the attic the other day and saw his old bowling gear. He'd like to sell it along with his wife's Vaughn Monroe record collection and a couple of other things, but doesn't want to spend a lot on an ad. Who does?

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 asking less than \$200)
2. You get to run your ad for 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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It's all about you!

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A HomeTown Communications Network™ publication

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1 LOTS FOR SALE
STRATFORD PARK
 TIMBERVIEW ACRES
 ROLLING HILLS
 See our "Ad" in Classified Section
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 J.A. Bloch & Sons

3 CREEKSIDE VILLAGE OF ROCHESTER
 PULTE MASTER BUILDER
 Northeast corner of Dequindre and 25 Mile Road
 From the mid \$220's
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5 The Oaks At Beach Lake
 Exclusive 59 Lot Platted Sub on 180 acres. Built to suit.
 From \$370,000.
 2.7 Miles N. of I-96 on Kensington Rd.
 248-685-1829

7 Arbor Park
 Single Family Homes
 Farmington Hills Schools
 From Low \$200's
 On 10 Mile, W. of Inkster
 (248) 476-7561
 Phoenix Land Development

9 Fox Chase
 Presented by
Norwood Homes, LTD
 Prices starting at \$180's
 Open 12-6 Closed Thursday
 On White Lake Rd. East of Ormond & 3 Miles N. of Highland (M-59)
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11 "Woods of Edenderry"
 \$405-\$1,000,000
 North of 8 Mile between Sheldon & Beck
 Featuring Cambridge Homes, Inc.
 Open 12-6 Daily
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14 Condominium 5000 Town Center
 • 1-2-3 Bedroom
 • Multiple Baths
 From \$120's to \$220's
 See our "ad in Classified Section"
 (248) 351-4663

17 MILFORD MILL POINT
 Condominiums
 "River-Front" Sites Available
 From the Low \$200's
 Model hours: Daily & Weekends 12-6
 (248) 684-6300
 Sales by: GOLDEN EAGLE PROPERTIES

20 SUMMER PARK CONDOMINIUMS
 2 Bedroom Ranch Units
 Starting at \$123,900
 Open Tues., Thurs., Sat. and Sun. 1-5
 3 Miles W. of US-23
 at Hamburg Rd. and M-36
 (313) 451-5400

2 ARBOR WOODS
 From the \$150's to \$230's
 Presented by
T.A.L.O.N. Homes
 313-877-7000
 Pickard Road
 Between Colgate and Carpenter

4 WYNGATE OF CLARKSTON
 PULTE MASTER BUILDER
 Clarkson Road,
 West of Baldwin
 From the \$280's
 (248) 620-6300

6 ORION WOODS
 Starting at \$150,200
 Presented by
T.A.L.O.N. Homes
 248-391-9300
 New Homes on Lapeer Road
 2 1/2 miles north of "The Palace"

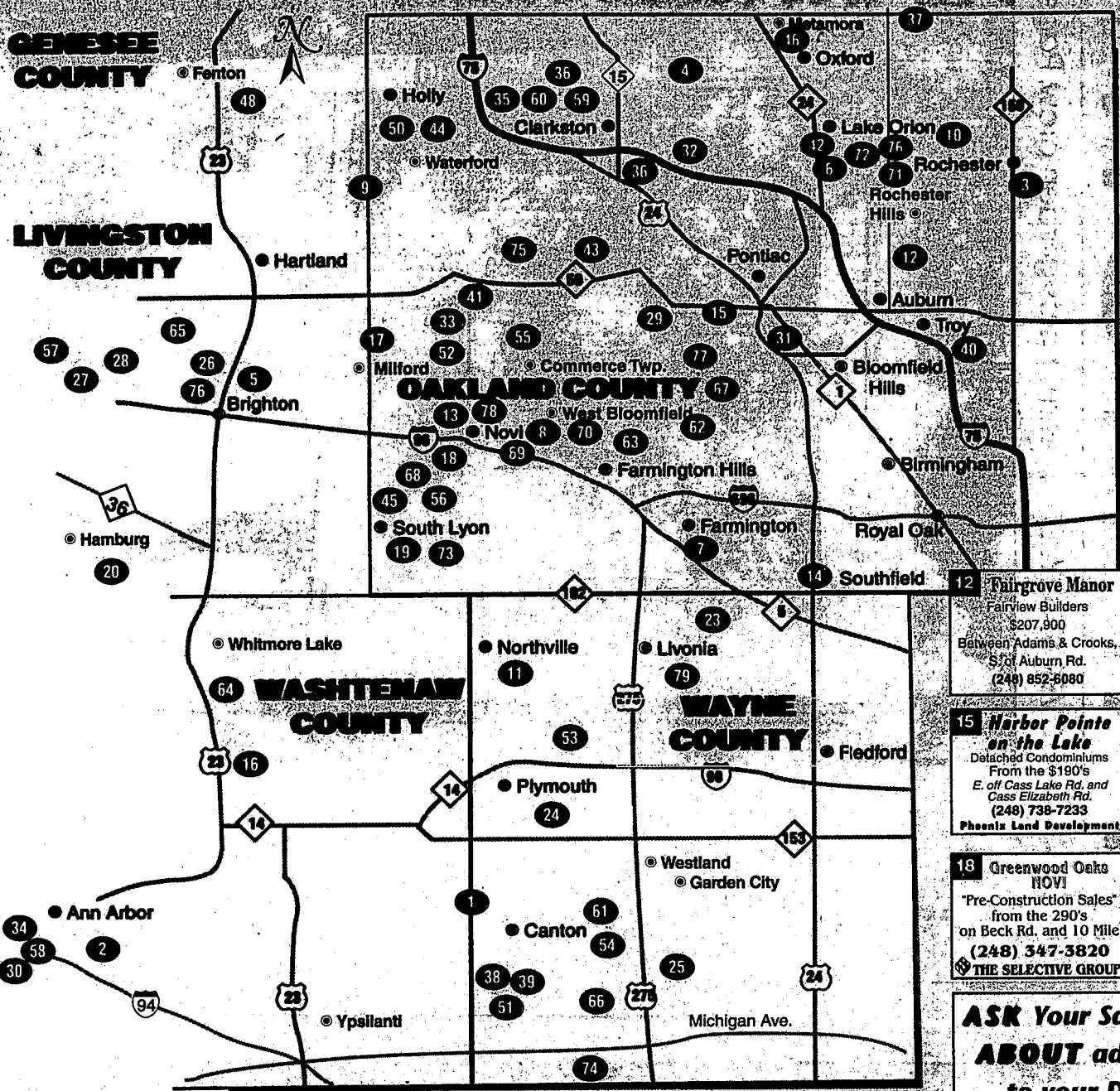
8 The Legends of West Bloomfield IRVINE
 Prices starting at \$230's
 Open 12-6; Closed Thursday
 On Pontiac Trail
 between Green Lake & Halstead
 (248) 681-5000

10 Knottwood Pines West
 Norwood Homes, LTD
 Preconstruction Pricing Starting at the \$480's
 On the W. side of Rochester Rd.
 3 Miles N. of University Dr.
 (248) 608-2600

13 The Courtyards
 Detached and attached condos
 Pre-construction prices
 From \$165,900
 Visit our sales office
 At Maple Forest, N. of Maple Rd.
 Between back & Wixom Rd.
 (248) 860-7155

16 Hidden Creek
 PULTE MASTER BUILDER
 9 Mile Road, East of Dixboro
 From the \$180's
 (248) 437-7676

19 Lafayette Woods
 of South Lyon
 Detached ranches and 1 1/2 story
 condominiums. Walk-outs available.
 From \$184,900
 Located North of Ten Mile, east of Pontiac Trail
 Open daily 12-6 except Thursday
 Model (248) 440-0616
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 Prudential Accent Realty, Inc.



ASK Your Sales Consultant ABOUT adding COLOR to your Directory Ad

23 SUNSET SUBDIVISION
 Single Family Homes In
 Livonia from \$173,900
C.C. Building Co. Inc.
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31 CRYSTAL LAKE
 Starting at \$114,900
 Presented by
T.A.L.O.N. Homes
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 New Homes on Golf Drive
 at Pontiac Municipal Golf Course

39 Cherry Knoll
 Presented by
ROBERTSON BROTHERS
 Canton Township
 NE Corner of Beck
 and Cherry Hill Roads
 From the mid \$300's
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Check Out the Outstanding Values and Gorgeous New Homes

55 Loon Lake Woods
 All Sports Lake
 New Model Plans
 Now Available
 From the low \$240's
EVAN
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63 Pine Meadow
 Detached Single Family Homes
 Starting at \$214,900
 On 10 Mile Rd.
 Between Orchard Lake Rd.
 and Middlebrook Rd.
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 PHOENIX LAND DEVELOPMENT

71 THE HILLS OF OAKLAND
 Grand Custom Home
 Priced from \$725,000 to
 well over \$1,000,000
MOCERI
 (248) 440-8000

79 Crosswinds Subdivision
 Single Family Homes In Livonia
 (Just off I-96)
 10 Mile and Northline
 PHOENIX BUILDING CORP., INC.
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24 Village Cove of Plymouth
 presented by Lopiccolo Homes & DJT
 22 Single Family Homes
 Wooded and Walkout Lots
 From the \$230's
 Located E. of Hines Dr., N. of Wilcox
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32 Silverman Homes Waldon Creek
 Oakston
 From the 190's
 On Waldon Road,
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40 The Glens at Carlson Park
 Presented by
ROBERTSON BROTHERS
 Located on the South side of
 Long Lake Rd., E. of I-75
 From the high \$350's
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48 Glen Devon Condominium
 Adjacent to Fenton Farms Golf
 Course in Fenton
 Only 8 Left
 From the \$40,000's
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56 Westmont Village
 Novi Schools
 Spec Homes Available
 From the \$270's
EVAN
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64 Eagle Gardens
 Classic Single-Family Homes
 In Northfield Township
 From the \$120's
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72 KINGSPONTE
 Gracious Homes with a French
 Country Flair in Oakland Township
 Priced from the mid \$500,000
 to over \$725,000
MOCERI
 (248) 440-8000

79 Crosswinds Subdivision
 Single Family Homes In Livonia
 (Just off I-96)
 10 Mile and Northline
 PHOENIX BUILDING CORP., INC.
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25 BROOKSIDE VILLAGE OF CANTON
 From the \$190's
 Located on Lilley Rd.
 South of Cherry Hill, North of Palmer
 LOPICCOLLO HOMES INC. &
 MULTI BUILDING CO.
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33 Silverman Homes The Preserve
 Commerce Twp.
 From the \$220's
 On Commerce Rd. between
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41 Northridge Preserve
 Commerce Township
 Ford & Cooley Lake Rd.
 Gorgeous section with huge
 homesites. Quality crafted
 from the low \$200's
JAC Construction Company
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49 Village of Eagle Gardens
 Maintenance free living and a
 choice of spacious ranch and 1 1/2
 story condominiums
 Located near Whitmore Lake
 and charming downtown area
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57 Rolling Ridge
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 "Single Family Homes"
 From the \$150's
 Located on North of Grand River
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65 Eagle Gardens
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73 TANGLEWOOD SOUTH LYON
 "GOLF COURSE COMMUNITY"
 On 10 Miles S.W. of
 I-75
 From the \$400's
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26 Hidden Ponds
 presented by
IRVINE
 Prices starting at the \$280's
 Open 12-6 Daily
 Closed Thursday
 On Hacker just 2 miles N. of
 Grand River; I-96, (exit 145)
 (810) 225-9900

34 Silverman Homes Boulder Ridge
 Ann Arbor
 from the \$160's
 On Waters Rd., W. of
 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd.
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42 Silverman Homes Waldon Park
 Orion
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 I-96
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50 MILLPOINTE OF HOLLY
 Single Family Homes
 from the \$129,900's
 Three miles west of I-75, off Grand
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58 Woodcreek
 Backs up to Arborland Mall
 New Sub, New Plans
 Great Location, Unbeatable Pricing
EVAN
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66 Wethersfield
 CONDOMINIUM COMMUNITY
 IN CANTON
 Starting at
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 S.W. corner of Haggerty & Palmer
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74 THE HOMESTEAD
 Preconstruction Price Reduction
 New homes with side-entry garages
 Priced from the \$150's
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 On Ecorse Rd., W. of I-75
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27 Rolling Oaks
 presented by
of Howell
 Norwood Homes, LTD
 Prices starting at the \$160's
 Open 12-6; Closed Thursday
 on Boyen Rd.
 3/4 mile N. of Grand River, I-96 (exit 137)
 (517) 545-3100

35 Brookstone
 Custom Homes from \$300,000
 — Clarkson —
 Exit 91 (M-15) North 1/2 Mile
 BUILT BY SADDLEBROOK
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43 HUNTERWOOD PLACE
 Prices Starting At
 \$179,900
 Open Sat. & Sun. 1-5
 Located on the N. side of Wixom Rd.
 W. of Dock Lake Rd., N. of M-59
 248-892-8329

51 Cobblestone Ridge
 CANTON
 "Single Family Homes"
 From the \$250's
 Canton Center Rd. bet. Ford & Oak
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59 BRIDGE VALLEY
 Custom Estates on
 1 1/2 acre wooded homesites
 Home Packages from \$500,000
 Homesites from \$123,000
 (248) 620-6603
 Clarkson off. Road

67 Maple Creek
 WEST BLOOMFIELD
 "Single Family Homes"
 From the \$380's
 West of Orchard Lake & Farmington
 (248) 626-0770
THE SELECTIVE GROUP

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 Custom Designed Builders
 We can do all the improvements
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 Home Prices begin in the low \$30's
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MODULAR HOMES

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 10 Mile and Northline
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28 LAKE SHORE POINT
 Lakefront Community
 Walking trails, nature
 sanctuary, Community park
 from the \$160's
 Delcor Homes 517-545-2280

36 SPRING LAKE NORTH
 CLARKSTON
 SINGLE FAMILY HOMES
 FROM \$190'S
 Agency Homes/Scott Quality Homes
 on Mayfield Rd. west of Saddlebrook
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44 Big Lake Estates
 Springfield Township
 Beautiful lakeview homesites
 Quality crafted from the low \$200's
JAC CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
 (248) 684-8609
 Please call ahead for directions for your first visit.

52 Park Ridge South
 Deep Unspoiled Woodlands in
 West Bloomfield
 From the mid \$300's
EVAN
 (248) 869-1070

60 BRIDGE LAKE BLUFFS
 Lakeview 1-acre homesites
 from \$92,900
 Unique custom home packages
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 Clarkson off. Road

68 Hidden Timbers
 Prices starting at \$210,900
 Custom Homes 1600-3300 sq. ft.
 West of Milford Rd. town 10 & 11 Mile
 Open 12-6 Daily
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29 Lake Forest
 Brillage
 Wooded Homesites and Nature
 Trails. Community Park
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 From the \$140's
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 Oakland Township on Adams Rd.
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 From \$199,900 to \$279,000
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45 Silverman Homes Trotters Pointe
 South Lyon
 from the \$190's
 Off Pontiac Trail & 11 mile,
 2 miles S. of I-96
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 Magnificent Wooded Site
 off Northline
 From the mid \$300's
EVAN
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 78 Home Subdivison, Ranch, Cops God
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 \$153,500 - \$180,900
 Call Bill & Jim Dempsey
 Realty Professionals
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69 MYSTIC FOREST
 Prices start at \$188,500
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 (810) 229-3085
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30 Country French Estates
COMING SOON!
 Wooded homesites and
 community park. Two Four Schools
 Located on Oak Lake Rd. S. of I-75, corner of
 Oak and Oak Lake Rd. in S. Oak
 from the \$120's
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 Canton Township Condominiums
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 From the mid \$170's
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46 YOUR AD COULD BE LISTED HERE!!!

54 Sierra Heights
 Single Family Homes in Canton
 From low \$200's
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 Sierra Heights Development Corp.

62 Elston Orchards
 Single Family Homes
 Starting at \$235,900
 Off of 12 Mile Road
 Between Farmington Rd. and Drake
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70 Hawthill Farms
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 Single Family Homes
 From the \$250's
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 (248) 960-7666
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