Read award winning columnist Carolyn Walker

Elarkston Keendeit

observer eccentric

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HomeTown Putting you in touch with your world

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 22

cember 25, 1997

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New year. new hours: Independence Library is

expanding its hours, effective Jan. 5./A4

Marketing 101: Clarkston's community education department is keeping up with the times by offering Clarkstonites the classes they want./A9

SPORTS

Championship form: The Clarkston Wolves served notice they'll be a force in the wrestling ranks by earning three individual titles at the Oakland County meet Saturday./B1

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ast week we looked at all the amazing things that pioneer women did just to keep themselves and their families alive. Though their work was hard, they survived by helping one another, even in small ways. Many offered house-



Decked out: First-grader Heather Waldecker of Andersonville Elementary School in Springfield Township works on a craft while sporting a holiday dress and handmade holiday glasses.

Holiday parties Fun begins with classroom celebrations

ookies, candy, punch and pre sents. The fun started the end of last week for students in Clarkston schools as they celebrated the holidays with their classmates and teach-ers before being dismissed for a twoveek Christmas break. Monday through Wednesday, it was

up to Mom and Dad to keep the kids ccupied until the Big Day School resumes Jan. 5.



Tree trim: Amanda Bourdon makes a paper chain...



BY CAROLYN WALKER STAFF WRITER

Three men were arraigned in Oak-land County Circuit Court Saturday in connection with a string of larcenies that took place in Springfield and Independence townships late last week. According to a police report at the Oakland County Sheriff's Department,

The three are suspected in as many as **25 robberies** from vehicles in the northern portion of Independence and in eastern Springfield.

Independence Township substation, three are suspected in las nany as 25 robberies from vehicles in the northern portion of Independence and in eastern Springfield, near Waumegah and Bridge Lake roads

Taken were

car phones, stereo equipment and cassette discs, some of which were recovered at a residence in Waterford Township, accord-Michael Henson, 20, of Pontiac, Nathan Halk, 18, of Pontiac and Andrew Miller, 18, of Springfield Township were each charged with

breaking and entering vehicles. They face preliminary examinations

in 52/2 District Court at a future date? The number of counts against each man and the date of their preliminary examinations were not available from court representatives at press time. According to Sgt. Miller, Andrew Miller was being housed in the Gat-land County Jail, while Henson and Halk had been released on a \$5,000 not related to Sgt. Dale Miller. Miller received a \$5,000, 10-peroprint

cash surety bond. There has been an increase in their from vehicles this month, according is sheriff Detective Don Key of Indepen dence, who estimated that Indep

dence alone experienced about 45 such thefts in December. Calling the thefts the work of hoppers" who go from vehicle to vehi-cle, Key said about half that number were locked when they were broken into. Other vehicles were entered because their owners left them, unlocked.

Key advised people not to leave items, visible to potential thieves, in, parked cars. Whenever possible, he

said, park a vehicle in a garage. "Lately, it seems like the big things are car phones and computer laptops", he said. "Don't leave things like, phones, briefcases, presents, loose stereo equipment. A lot of times it s what people see.



Class gift exchange: Ashley Blair (right) shows the book she received from a classmate to Cala Calcut.

hold hints, often just one neighbor to another in conversation, but occasion ally in books or newspapers.

Here are some household hints from 1915.

"A Good Egg Shampoo: To one-half a cake of pure white castile soap, add. a pint of hot water. Set on stove and beat until the soap is perfectly dis-solved. To this, add an egg which had been thoroughly whipped, stirring it into the mixture to avoid curdling. Add one-third teaspoon of borax and a teaspoon of alcohol to preserve the shampoo. When ready to shampoo the hair, rub well into the scalp and rinse in several clear waters using a bath spray if you have one. The egg sham-poo does cleanse the hair very satis-factorily.

French chalk to remove stains: Use French chalk to remove a grease spot. Apply thickly and let stand for several days. If this is not effective, sponge the material first on one side then on the other with spirits of wine. Then press over a piece of thick linen."

Martha Stuart would have been proud

Sit King Vintage Clarkston is written by Kim Huttenlöcher, vice-president of the Clarkston Community Historica

Man charged in sexual assault of girl,

BY CAROLYN WALKER STAFF WHITER

A.45-year-old Flint man who former ond degree. ly resided in Springfield Township has A first degree charge, which involves y resided in Springfield Township has been arraigned in 52/2 District Court on two counts of criminal sexual con-duct regarding the 7-year-old daughter of his girlfriend in 1996. John Edward Echlin was arraigned Dec 18 before Judge Gerald McNally on one felony count of criminal sexual

conduct, first degree, and one felony count of criminal sexual conduct, sec-

said Sgt. Dale Miller of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, Springfield substation.

The incidents reportedly occurred in Springfield Township, where the man at one time lived with the child's moth-

Because he is charged with felonies a mute plea was entered on his behalf in court.

Mute pleas are automatically entered, on behalf of suspects because felony

cases cannot be tried at the distric court level.

A preliminary hearing to determine if there is enough evidence to bind Echlin over to trial in circuit court is to be held before McNally 9 a.m. Jan. 30

McNally set a \$2,500, 10-percent bond for Echlin for each charge, and he was released from clistody after posting \$500, said Miller on Monday.

POH doctors to staff. new urgent care center

BY CAROLYN WALKER

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cian and co-founder of the center, announced last week that Aranosian.

Two local giants of the medical product of the second seco

BIAT PROTO BY BIRYE CANTER.

and Robert Aranosian; both of 🖧 Indepenlence Toion; ship, pose: inside the new urgent‡ care center that's being built at M-15 and Dixie Highway.

On call: Drsi

James O'Neill (left) The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

Gone hunting

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He's game: Donald Pilkington takes a break to hunt in Springfield Township on a recent fall day. Now, southeastern Michigan hunters may look for antlerless deer on private property through Jan. 4.

OBITUARIES

Thomas P. Walker

Thomas P. Walker of Clarkston died Dec. 22, 1997, at age 52.

Mr. Walker was a 30-year employee of the Stroh Brewery Co. and was known throughout the packing industry as a leader and partner in the advancement of packaging technology. He was a former president of the National Beverage Packaging Association during which time he established a Michigan State University Packaging Student Perpetual \$1,000 Scholarship in memory of Rob Bower, a member of his staff.

He was a lifetime member of the Independence Land Conservancy, for which he also served on the board of directors. In his





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FREE SINK BASE youth he was an all- state basketball player, recipient of the Catholic League Sam Madden Award and played for Wayne State University. He coached varsity baseball, junior varsity basketball and assisted varsity football for several years at Roseville Sacred Heart High School. He was an avid outdoorsman and sportsman and enjoyed many outdoor activities including golf, sailing, snowmobiling,

softball and hunting. He is survived by his wife, Linda; son, Jim, of Chicago; and two daughters, Beth of Clarkston and Lori (Sean) Kennedy of Oxford. He is also survived by two brothers, James (Jeannette) of Mt. Clemens and Walter (Charlette) of Clarkston; a sister, Rosemary (Dennis) Hawhee of Grosse Pointe Farms; and his father in law, Karl Schmidt.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home in Clarkston. A funeral mass will be held at noon Friday at St. Daniel Catholic Church, 7010 Valley

Park, Clarkston. Friends may visit at the church from 11 a.m. until the time of mass. Interment will be at Lakeview Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Independence Land Conservancy, P.O. Box 285, Clarkston 48347.

Charles W. Hocter

Brother Charles W. Hocter, S.J. of Clarkston died Dec. 18, 1997, at age 77.

Brother Hocter was a religious brother of the Society of Jesus. He entered the order in 1939. He was a kitchen manager and cook at University of Detroit. He is survived by his sister, Catherine Redmond, and brother, James Hocter, both of Cincinnati.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Directors in Troy. Prayer service, funeral liturgy and funeral services were held at Colombiere Center. Memorials may be made to Colombiere Center, 9075 Big Lake Road, Clarkston 48347-0139.

The following incidents were reported to police and fire agencies in Independence and Springfield townships and the city of Clarkston Dec. 15-22.

Independence Police Thefts

On Dec. 15, air bags were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Dixie Highway.

On Dec. 16, a cassette disc player was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Rattek Road**. On Dec. 16, a cell phone, cassettes and jacket were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on

Allen Road. On Dec. 16, a cell phone and briefcase were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Northcrest.

On Dec. 16, a flip phone and gloves were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Northcrest. On Dec. 17, a radar detector

was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Michigamme**. On Dec. 17, cassette discs in an album were reported stolen

from a vehicle parked on **Parview.**

On Dec. 17, stereo speakers were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Michigamme**.

On Dec. 17, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Michigamme.

On Dec. 17, camera equipment was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Lancaster Hill

Drive. On Dec. 17, a radar detector, cassette disc equipment and cell phone were reported stolen from

a vehicle parked on **Parview.** On Dec. 18, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Deerhill Court.**

On Dec. 18, a cell phone and sun glasses were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Cram**-

Iane. On Dec. 19, cassette discs and cigarettes were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Holcomb Road.

On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Allen Road.

On Dec. 19, a cell phone and sun glasses were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Lakeview.

On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle

on Dec. 19, a cassette case with cassettes, a garage door opener and snake light were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Holcomb Road**.

On Dec. 19, a camera was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Thendara**.

On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle

parked on Mohawk. On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Allen Hill.

POLICE NEWS

On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle

On Dec. 19, a speaker was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Bridge Lake Road.

On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Kelly Lake Drive. On Dec. 19, a television and

video cassette recorder were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Allen Road. On Dec: 19, a cell phone was

On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Stonegate**.

On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Nottingham Court. On Dec. 19, a cell phone, bow and arrow were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Winde-

mere. On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Thendara**.

parked on **Thendara**. On Dec. 19, a flip phone was reported stolen from a vehicle

parked on Thendara. On Dec. 19, a television and video cassette recorder were

reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Allen Road. On Dec. 19, a speaker box was

reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Algonquin.

On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Allen Road.

On Dec. 20, a two-way radio was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Tappon**.

On Dec. 20, stereo equipment was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Onandaga Road.

On Dec. 21, a jacket was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Whipple Tree.

On Dec. 21, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle

parked on Whipple Tree. On Dec. 21, a portable cassette disc player was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Mohawk.

On Dec. 21, a back pack and cassette disc player were reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Horseshoe Circle**.

Vandalisms

On Dec. 15, a picture window was reported smashed on a residence on Sashabaw Road.

On Dec. 16, a residence and vehicle were reported egged on Goldfinch Lane.

On Dec. 17, paint was reported scraped on a vehicle parked on Sashabaw Road.

Sashabaw Road. On Dec. 18, a BB was reported shot through a window of a resi-

dence on Ennismore. On Dec. 18, Christmas lights

were reported broken at a resi-

dence on **Park Valley**. On Dec. 19, unknown persons attempted to illegally enter a vehicle parked on **Mohawk**.

111

Breaking and Entering

On Dec. 19, unknown persons illegally entered the American Legion Hall on Ortonville Road, vandalized rooms and took money.

Springfield Police

Thefts

On Dec. 16, a stered set was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on **Rattalee Lake Road**.

On Dec. 19, a cell phone was reported stolen from a vehicle parked on Kelly Court.

Vandalism

On Dec. 19, a car window was reported damaged on a vehicle parked on **Waumegah Road**.

Independence Fire

During the week of Dec. 15-22, firefighters responded to 26 calls. Among them were 13 medical runs, four personal injury accidents and one vehicle fire. They also responded to:

On Dec. 16, firefighters assisted a patient who was having difficulty breathing at a residence on **Bluegrass.**

On Dec. 18, firefighters assisted a patient who was having back pain at a residence on Middie Lake Road.

On Dec. 19, firefighters assisted a 12-year-old female with a possible muscle strain of the neck at Clarkston Middle School on East Church Street.

Clarkston Police

On Dec. 18, officers responded to a shoplifting complaint at a downtown business.

On Dec. 18, officers responded with the Independence Township Fire Department to a medical call on **Middle Lake Road**.

On Dec. 19, officers responded to a report of family trouble at a residence on North Main Street.

On Dec. 19, officers responded to a non-injury car accident on North Main Street. No citations were issued:

On Dec. 20, officers responded to a report of family trouble at a residence on **Clarkston Road**. On Dec. 21, officers assisted the Independence Township Fire Department at the scene of a medical call on **South Main Street**.

CLARKSTON

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Patient Melanie Nivelt, who is 33 years old, started seeing Dr. Shader when she was 16 because her teeth were badly discolored from medication she had to take as an infant.

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The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997



opening in Åpril, will be staffed by doctors from Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital, including Dr. Robert Aranosian, who oversees the emergency room there.

nosian said he is happy to be a

Obviously, living in the area

Aranosian is a 1969 graduate of Kansas City College of

Osteopathy. He began his work

at POH in 1969 and was a

visionary in the field of emergen-

cy medicine, O'Neill said, help-

ing to bring new medical tech-

niques to the field of emergency

O'Neill, who graduated in 1958

from St. Louis University,

opened his pediatric practice in Independence in the early 1960s.

He said the care center does not

intend to compete with local doc-

tors, but rather, to augment

their services. State-of-the-art

equipment will be offered such

as CT scans, magnetic resonance

imaging (MRI) machines, along

with X-ray equipment, a labora

tory, chemo therapy and physio-

Currently, O'Neill and a hand-

ful of other doctors are seeing

patients after office hours in the

Clarkston Ambulatory Care Cen-

ter, located in O'Neill's pediatric

put an urgent care center.

physician in the area.

medicine.

therapy.

"Jim and I have known each

participant.

Aerial view:

The new urgent care center at M-15

and Dixie Highway, scheduled for

Developer hopes to erect in-line rink at Maybee Rd. park

the state of the second s

By CAROLYN WALKER STAFF WRITER

An in-line skating rink — along with new public bathrooms bee Road if an agreement is reached between Independence Township officials and a private developer who wants to lease land at the park and build a

rink. A decision about whether to

The board voted 5-2 to agree in is owned by the township for

park purposes. Clerk Joan McCrary and Trustee Neil Wallace voted against the motion to conduct the public hearing and an amendment to agree to the concept. citing concerns about whether the township should use public land for a private enter-

the fact that the board had been conducting discussions with developer Wendy Vogt in closed sessions during the last year. The board agreed to hear

resident, wanted to protect her idea until discussions had reached a point that she had an inkling about how the idea would be received by the township, said Supervisor Dale Stuart on Dec. 23.

Vogt proposes putting in men's 200-foot by 80-foot rink.

township's parks and recreation department, favored the development and told the board that

INDEPENDENCE

under-utilized park. She said similar private/public agree-ments providing golf courses. tennis facilities, batting cages and the like had been entered into in other communities.

"I do not view this as taking land away from a park," Conklin said. "It's enhancing the other 14 acres. This is a national trend." Not everyone, however, was

pleased with the idea.

"I am opposed to this process in any aspect," said McCrary, who opposed using public land for private use and who said a development of this nature should have gone through the bidding process

Trustee Dan Travis was in favor of the proposal, though.

What we are trying to do is bring something to the community," he said, noting that the rink would bring money to the township that could be used for improvements. "We can't continually ask for public funds," he added

"It is a major undertaking and should be up for debate." said Treasurer Jim Wenger, while Wallace said later, "I don't believe we should be subsidizing a private business.

It seems to me if it's good enough to be done, we (the town-ship) ought to do it," Wallace said

Following the debate about whether the township should have an agreement with a private user, board members argued about whether a public hearing should be held before a concept agreement is reached.

In the end, the board voted 5-2 to agree to the in-line rink in concept and 5-2 to conduct a public hearing in January.

Voting for the motions were Stuart, Travis, Wenger and trustees Jeff McGee and Larry Rosso. Joan McCrary and Neil Wallace were opposed.

The public hearing will be held at the township hall annex, at 7:30 p.m., at 90 N. Main Street. Clarkston.

about the case, pending a police

An autopsy was scheduled at the Oakland County Medical

Examiner's office on Tuesday and a man who answered the

phone at the examiner's office declined comment, referring

calls to the sheriff's department.

was discovered lying among cat-tails by a Holly man who hap-

pened to be passing by.

According to Miller, the man

investigation into the matter.

sign a formal agreement will not be reached until after a public hearing has been conducted on the matter at the Jan. 27 board meeting.

concept that the township could enter into an agreement to lease park property for in-line skating. The vote followed a lengthy and convoluted discussion that involved modifying amendments to the motion and a number of commentary asides. The property is considered public because it

other almost 30 years," he said. "We talked about doing this kind of stuff eight or nine years ago. it seemed like a natural place to "If you come here with an acute problem and you have no physician, we will see that patient and refer him back to a

Wallace also disagreed with

Vogt's idea in closed sessions at her request. Vogt, a Clarkston

and women's restrooms, a con-cession stand and pro-shop and

Ann Conklin, director of the restrooms would be a boon to the

Man found dead in ditch

BY CAROLYN WALKER STAFF WRITER

The body of a 40-year-old Springfield Township man was found about 4:40 p.m. Monday in a weeded ditch along Dixie High-

way. "It appears to have been there for some period of time," said Sgt. Dale Miller of the Oakland ounty Sheriff's Department. Springfield substation.

Miller would not release the man's name or any other details

Library to extend hours Jan. 5

Extended library hours are finally coming to the Independence Township Library thanks to recent action taken by the library's staff was necessary to township board.

accommodate the new library

p.m. - 5 p.m. Sundays during September through May.

during a telephone interview had a raise

"They don't seem to want to be reimbursed for their

As approved, the supervisor

Urgent care from page A1 hours per day, O'Neill said. They such as lacerations, fractures, will provide care for patients foreign bodies, illnesses and the

who have urgent medical needs like.

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augmented by those of trained registered nurses and medical technicians from various fields. Standing inside the hulk of the

The doctors' services will be

building, which has yet to see drywall and medical equipment, the two eagerly shared their hopes for what the facility will bring to Independence and the surrounding area: convenience, peace-of-mind, cost-effective medical care.

"We can see the patients before they become a real emer-gency and prevent the critical cascade," O'Neill said, emphasizing that for Clarkston-area residents a trip to the care center will save them a 20-minute drive to hospitals in Pontiac or Genessee County. "We're the screen for the hospital. We save the health care system a lot of money. We are attempting to work with all the area hospitals."

The two doctors, both residents of Independence Township, expect that when patients come to the new facility, they will be evaluated and treated and, when necessary, referred to specialists or transferred to area hospitals for admission in the cases of emergencies. In some instances, specialists will be available in separate offices.

While much of the dream for the center can be attributed to O'Neill, who over the years has been instrumental in recruiting specialists to the area, Ara-

Springfield board OKs pay raises for 1998

BY CAROLYN WALKER STAFF WRITER

It took three failed motions, but members of the Springfield Township Board of Trustees finally agreed during a fourth vote on what their salaries should be for 1998.

In a 6-1 vote Dec. 11, the board agreed to grant 3-percent pay increases to the supervisor, clerk and treasurngitir inteir

several years. Supervisor Collin Walls said last week

that it has been six to eight years since the trustees have

expenses," he said. will be paid a salary of \$46,800, (up from \$45,400)

office on M-15.

ing the current pay schedules of the board's four trustees. **Trustee Elaine Field-Smith** voted against motions for board raises.

Motions to increase the trustees' pay were defeated, as they have been for the past

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and the clerk and treasurer will be paid \$41,820 (up from \$40,600). The trustees will make \$1,000 per year plus \$7 per meeting. The pay raises will become effective in January. The board also approved pay increases for several township employees.

At their Dec. 16 meeting, the board voted unanimously to promote or hire three library employees, helping to facilitate new library hours that will be implemented on Jan. 5.

The new hours will be: 10 a.m. 9 pim. Mondays through Thursdays; 10 a.m. 6 p.m. Fridays; 10 a.m. 5 p.m. Saturdays and 1

hours, the board approved promoting Susan Aho to head of circulation at a salary of \$28,000: hiring Faith Nelson as a library tech-circulation at \$11.60 per hour pay; and hiring Dan Ogles as the library tech-materials processing coordinator at \$11.60 per hour.

and the state of the second second second states of the orrection Notice

> Due to unforeseen demand. the Pentium[®] 166MHz computers and the Hewlett Packard 3100 computer package advertised in our December 25 insert may not be available at all stores.

> > We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. 1. The A Distance

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The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

OCC trustee opposes November elections

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BY TIM RICHARD

Bigger voter turnout? Or more voter con-

fusion? If the Michigan Legislature decides to hold all school voting in November, two board members at Oakland Community College wonder about the impact.

would be a savings to the taxpayer," said Jeanne Towar, the newest OCC board member and a Royal Oak resident. "There would be an increased turnout. That's good.

"Royal Oak city wants the school board to hold concurrent elections. The school board fought-it tooth and nail," said Towar, a former magazine executive and now chief staffer at the town's chamber of commerce.

Those were much the same reasons Sens. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, and Glenn Steil. R-Grand Rapids, gave in sponsoring a twobill package. Senate action is expected in January

The bills, which came out of a Senate

E OCC board chair Judith Wiser of West Bloomfield agrees with school board members that the election should stay in June.

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

K-12 school districts elect part of their boards each June. Community colleges use the same June election, but every second year. OCC votes in even-numbered years; Schoolcraft College in western Wayne County votes in odd-numbered years.

OCC board chair Judith Wiser of West Bloomfield agrees with school board members that the election should stay in June.

"Personally, I don't think it (a change) is good for the school system. There's a lot going on in November - federal, state,

OCC CAPSULES

said

The

trustees.

Union complains

George Mergner, campus ser-vices director at the Orchard

Ridge Campus, complained to

the board about the slow pace of

negotiations with Teamsters

Local 214. "We've had no bargaining ses-

(bargaining) leaders in closed

session. You are also our board of trustees. Why not also meet

The idea didn't set well with

"I have never seen so many

unions with so many problems,

with us?" Mergner asked.

county and township elections," Wiser

lot of people at the polls - OK, they'll pick some names but don't know the money

A lot of readers skip over school news I don't think you'd have the most informed voters."

Towar and Wiser were interviewed separately after the Senate placed the bills on its calendar. The OCC board hasn't taken a formal position.

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

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

Instruction in autism treatment offered

Oakland University will offer start the program in the winter Michigan's only teaching 1998 term, endorsement in autism, using Autism is distance education to teach students about this common neuro-logical disability.

The state government requires the endorsement for teachers of children with autism. The program is offered at OU and at Traverse City's Northwestern Michigan College University Center.

The program is conducted with two-way video conferencing rooms at each site. Each site features two TV screens. Computercontrolled cameras can show the class, the instructor or a student posing a question on one screen while the instructor shows videos or broadcasts information written on a dry-erase board or laptop computer.

The same group of students goes through the program together to promote networking and teamwork. A group is to

Autism is a neurological disor der that interferes with normal brain development in reasoning social interaction and community cation skills. Children and adults with autism typically-have deficiencies in verbal and nonverbal communication, social, interactions and leisure or play activities, according to the Autism Society of America. The disability makes it hard to com municate with others and relate to the outside world.

(NO)A

The ASA says nearly 400,000people in the United States have some form of autism.

some form of autism. Eligible applicants to the OUF program must have a teaching certificate and at least one spe-cial education endorsement. The two-year, 24-credit program. includes five courses and studen teaching.

For more information, cal (248) 370-3033.

Oral report

We do not diagnose. We do not prescribe. We gather infor-ination for the dentist," said dental hygiene student Mary Barnes.

The mother of four and a paraprofessional in special education for Rochester public schools outlined the dental hygiene curricu-lum for OCC trustees. The board schedules a report from a student each month.

"Classroom work, clinical experience, blended with high technology, form a total oral experience," she quipped.

Barnes showed how lab reports, X-rays, visual exams and photographs showed a female patient had a lump in her jaw and was a carrier of Hepatitis B.

Dyes are used to color plaque. With one 11-year-old boy who brushed badly, she said, rather than wagging her finger, she gave him photographs of his own stained teeth to remind him to brush properly.

Dental hygiene is taught at OCC's Highland Lakes Campus at Union Lake. It's called an extended program because it requires 73 credit hours rather than 60. Enrollment is limited to 30 by laboratory space. Gradu-ates are accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Accreditation.

Course requirements include dental office procedures, dental anatomy, dental embryology and histology, clinical techniques. radiography, periodontics, public health dentistry, and four cours-

es in clinical dental hygiene. Holiday parties will also be farewell parties for two top Oakland Community College administrators. J.P. Adams, director of pur-

chasing, will leave Jan. 23 for expanded responsibilities at Grand Blanc school district, Chancellor Richard T. Thompson told the board Dec. 15. "He's the finest we've had," said Thompson, whose own tenure at OCC goes back 30 years

Adams joined the college in 1990. He has degrees from the University of Michigan and Notre Dame and is a certified purchasing manager. Ann Wohlfert, director of

financial assistance and scholarships, will leave to return to state employment in Lansing after nearly two years at OCC. She will become director of the office of support service programs for the state Department of Education.

Wohlfert will oversee statewide campus-based financial aid programs. She has a master of public administration

She said it amounted to a violaing use of tobacco. The staff promised to re-think its advertising policy.

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year as a trustee. "I've never had as many union people ask to talk directly to the board."

"You're not asking to bargain

day and Thursday this week.

in effect Friday, Dec. 26. Next week county offices will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 31. and Thursday, Jan. 1.

Normal business hours willbe in effect Monday, Dec. 29, Tuesday, Dec. 30, and Friday. Jan. 2.

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County gov't shuts down directly with us?" asked a shocked trustee Jeanne Towar,

sions since Nov. 3. We have one scheduled for Jan. 8," Mergner New faculty chief Mary O. Ston, a business

instructor, is the new president of OCCFA, the Faculty Associa-**Teamsters** represent about 120 administrative and tion and bargaining agent for managerial employees, including instructors. She was introduced deans, professionals, enrollment to the board by retiring presi-dent Chuck Neumann, who and recruiting personnel. The union won a representation elec-tion early in 1996 and still has served two years. no contract. "You the board meet with your

has an associate degree from OCC (1975), bachelor's in accounting from Walsh College (1977) and a master's in finance from Walsh (1990). She is a certified public accountant and cer-

Michigan Education Association. It has 300 instructors, counselors and librarians.

degree from Western Michigan University. Trustee Jeanne Towar of Royal Oak bawled out the staff of the Recorder, the Orchard Ridge Campus student newspaper, for carrying an ad for snuff. tion of college policy discourag-



A business instructor. Ston

tified management accountant. OCCFA is an affiliate of the

Oakland County government offices will be closed Wednesherself a former union bargainer. Mergner said no.

Normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., will be

A November election "would bring out a lot of people not aware of K-12 problems. A



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Clarkston Eccentric[®] PINION

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

和时代的在1993年

School schedule Whose needs are being met?

ast week the Clarkston School Board debated in a philosophical discussion who its customers are — the children in kindergarten through 12th grade, taxpayers, the public at large, etc.

Fortunately, the school board decided that it should serve the needs of students first and foremost while agreeing that they have a secondary responsibility to taxpayers and the public at large.

We're not sure, however, that students' needs - or even their parents' needs - are being put first when it comes to the school district calendar, which is negotiated by the administration and the teachers' union.

For example:

A6(CL)

The school schedule for the high school, middle schools and elementary schools don't always jibe. (Last Friday, for instance, high schoolers had a half day while elementary schoolers had a full day.) This presents a predicament for families when they plan vacations or special time together. When high schoolers have school and elementary students don't, it causes problems for families who depend on older children to watch younger children when school is not in session.

Half days appear to us to be frivolous, especially in high school where school is dismissed at about 10:30 a.m. on a half day. So much time and effort is spent getting kids to and from school that, once they're there, they might as well be there for a full day of learning. Half days also pose child-care problems for parents who work full days. We understand that teachers need time for training and other necessi-



ties, but our suggestion would be to schedule whole days rather than half days for those pur-

poses. Half days, in our opinion,

are unnecessary when they precede an extended vacation. Why, for example, did high schoolers need a half day last Friday when they were already getting two full weeks off?

■ The week-long break in mid February, again, seems to us unnecessary. Scheduled for just six weeks after students return from Christmas vacation, it breaks the momentum of learning for many students. Wouldn't it be better to have students attend school uninterrupted from Christmas until Easter and postpone the start of school until after Labor Day? The school board, in its philosophical

debate, arrived at the right conclusion - it should serve the needs of students first and foremost. But we're wondering if the school district calendar reflects that.

Holidays hike need for blood

he need to donate blood doesn't take a holiday, no matter the season. In fact, the usual demand for blood donations is up at this time of year. since everyone's attention is being diverted to festivities for Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and Ramadan.

During the holiday season of both 1995 and 1996, the community blood supply dropped to dangerously low levels, prompting an emergency appeal being made to the public. The American Red Cross is working hard to prevent that from happening again this year.

"We understand that the holidays are a very busy time. They are also a dangerous time for our community blood supply," said Mary Anne Stella, acting chief executive officer, Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region. "The reality is that blood cannot be manufactured. Volunteer donors are the only source for blood."

A blood donation is the best gift one can give at this time of year, just ask those with critical needs such as hemophilia victims, anyone having unexpected surgery or someone injured in an auto accident.

Fortunately, it doesn't take long to bring this gift to those in need. American Red Cross workers take brief histories from donors, the blood is drawn (usually in less than an hour) and, as a sweet reward, donors receive cookies and juice. The process is safe and easy.

But there can be no sweeter reward than helping people. Blood and its component parts, such as platelets, compose the truest giving of oneself. To help Oakland County

p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28; 1-7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 29 and 30; 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31; 1-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2; 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4.

Also open is the Oak Park donor center from 1-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24, and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, at 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 148 in the Crown Pointe center, and the Novi donor center, 41160 W. 10 Mile, east of Meadowbrook Road, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26 and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27.

During the holidays, bloodmobiles will be operating in the following locations:

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 29, at Rose Exterminator, 1395 Wheaton Suite 600 - North office, Troy. Call (248) 680-0111.

🔳 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Providence Hospital, 16001 W. Nine Mile (doctors' dining room), Southfield. Call (248) 424-3180.

■ 2-8 p.m. Dec. 30 at the Pontiac Elks Club No. 810, 2100 Scott Lake Road, Waterford. Call (248) 673-9860.

Special blood drives are planned for the Ritz Carlton, 300 Town Center Drive, Dearborn, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Discount certificates for the American Ballet Theatre presentation of Giselle, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway in Detroit, will be given to donors) and for Joe Dumars Fieldhouse, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 2, 45300 Mound Road, Shelby Township (donors will receive T-shirts and coupons for fieldhouse activities).

Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh 110 pounds or more and be in general good health.



- 毛田 白油

Task force seeks input

We would like to thank Mike Blicher and the staff of Mt. Zion for the recent opportunity to meet at the CCA building, hear about their vision for the community, and tour the facilities which will hopefully be ready for a community grand opening in January. We applaud the effort of the Clarkston Christian Association to offer such a well-equipped, safe. drug- and alcohol-free alternative activity cen ter for the youth of Clarkston.

In approaching the New Year, and soon a new century, individuals and organizations become aware of the need for goal setting and long-term planning.

Government entities and others often craft a "master plan" to guide their activities for years into the future.

The issues of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, as well as a continued focus on positive youth development, are an essential piece in defining the quality of our community well into the next century.

In this spirit, the Clarkston Community Task Force for Youth invites all interested citizens to a town hall meeting/planning/retreat day scheduled for 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, in the training room of the new fire station on Citation Drive.

This four-hour session will consist of open discussion, brainstorming and goal-setting led by a trained facilitator from outside the community.

We urge community leaders from all sectors to be a part of this strategic planning day and an active participant in the community prevention coalition process.

Please call Cindy Dixon at 394-0252 to register and for more information.

We wish everyone a safe and sober holiday season!

Clarkston Community Task Force for Youth Clarkston

Local banks truly listen

n behalf of the group of local businessmen who recently announced their intentions

believe is that they are playing an essential part in the growth of the community by taking our deposits and safely maintaining them for our later use

It is indeed laudable that their staff members participate in local events but to what effect?

We would all ask that level of commitment from our staff members whether we were a local organization or not.

The two people mentioned in the editorial do a good job representing their employers.

The real question is, can they commit company resources to meet the needs of this community or change policies and/or operating procedures that aren't in concert with the goals or plans of the community?

The answer to these and similar management or policy questions is no because their companies aren't focused on this market other than as a small outpost.

An example of this inability comes easily to mind: Could the local manager have changed NBD's plans to close the bank's branch in downtown Clarkston?

Did the citizens of this community have a vehicle to communicate with the decisionmakers who could reverse the decision to close the bank office?

Would such an outcry as occurred when the announcement was made have had a great effect on a local board of directors whose members live next-door to those complaining?

I think the answers to these questions are obvious.

A local bank managed and directed by local people must have greater sensitivity to the comments of citizens of this community since the success of the bank will depend on their listening to their neighbor's comments and concerns and acting on them.

The real question therefore should be can we by this effort take more control of our financial destinies with a community bank than we can currently with branch bank offices?

We would like to hear from the citizens of this community on this question.

> Dave Harrison Clarkston

area residents give their best, the American Red Cross has expanded donor center hours.

The Bloomfield Hills donor center, 2388 Franklin Road, will be open the following hours during the holiday: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24; 1-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26; 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27; 10 a.m. to 2

To schedule an appointment, call 1 (800) GIVE-LIFE, unless otherwise noted above. Miracles happen when you donate blood.

Anne Clifton **Sharron Catallo** KarenSanden Mayor 25-5233 (home) 625-5815 (home) 625-1440 (home) **David Savage** Walt Gamble Dan Colombo Councliman Councilman 620-0010 (home) 625-3250 (home) 625-3795 (home) at the c **Douglas Roeser** 625-3038 (home)

to charter a bank in Clarkston, I would like to thank Carolyn Walker for taking the time to write our story. She did a first-rate job of capturing the essence of our comments and intent

On the other hand the editorial page writer seemed to miss our point altogether.

Every bank can claim to be a community organization whether it is a branch or a very large bank.

The marketing spin they would like us to

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- Philip Power

The Eccentrici: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

POINTS OF VIEW

Frue meaning of Christmas is found in Jesus' birth

and contemplate the true meaning of Christmas. When I was a child, Christmas was visions of trees ablaze with multicolored lights, with mile-high piles of packages underneath, and a jolly red Santa Claus filling the stockings that hung by the fire.

But as one grows older, the excitement of surprise gifts under the Christmas tree wears a little thin, and you see your bank account drained. Yet, there still is a feeling of good will or well being among people during the Christmas season.

In trying to find out why we have this good will, I try to associate the things that happen at Christmas time, that do not happen at any other time of the year.

When I was a youngster, we used to

very year about this time, I sit : spend our Christmas at my grand mother's in a small town in the hills of Connecticut. There was always plenty of snow, which I felt was an important ingredient of Christmas ^s time,

> Yet, at the first Christmas there was no snow in Bethlehem, and there is no snow forecasted this year for Clarkston. But our wee ones will enjoy Christmas as much as we did when we were their age.

We identify presents with Christmas, and yet presents are the smallest part of it. As a matter of fact, it is kind of disappointing to see your children or grandchildren tearing through Christmas packages, looking for the next one before they have halfopened the present in their hands.

You can see greed and lust for mate-



HANK HOGAN

rial things, yet presents aren't all bad, and it is a custom started by the three wise men who crossed the desert to present their gifts almost 2,000 years ago.

As I think about Christmas, I realize it is not the trees, nor the presents that each year bring men together so it must be something higher and

greater. As I come to this point each year, I, reach the obvious conclusion that the feeling that prevails through this wondrous season is spiritual, not 🦙 material, and is in honor of the birth

of the King of Kings.

Critics of society who complain that Christmas has become a commercial . venture overlook the fact that it is the one season of the year where every Christian home has a corner dedicated to the celebration of the birth of the Savior, whether it be with a small creche or an evergreen tree topped with the star of Bethlehem.

They also overlook the fact that on Christmas Eve the churches are filled to overflowing as they are at no other time of the year, and people join in song in honor of His birthday.

Each year, as I think of the wonder-

I The feeling that prevails through this wonkrolls do-con is spiritual, not material, and is in honor of the birth of the King of Kings.

0.4时,其中的公司,现代的时代,并且当时,其他

ful things that the Christmas spirit brings about, it is easier to identify what the true meaning of Christmas is, and yet I always feel a tinge of regret deep inside me that it is too bad this same spirit of goodwill doesn't necessarily prevail the rest of the year.

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



rapping presents, sending packages, crowded malls, credit cards soaring to their imits. Yes, these are signs of the Christmas season. These things usually start in November, sometimes later. Until then people don't worry about giving gifts to others, helping strangers or donating to charities. They forget about the spirit of Christmas. Teens are especially known for this.

Almost all of the kids I know get exactly what they want for Christmas year after year. They give their parents a list of things they want and when it comes time for present opening, they get everything on their list and then some. What fun is that? When I was a child. Christmas had a special meaning. My family and I went to the mall to visit Santa, we

sang Christmas carols and handmade presents for our friends. Now teens are so worried about buying gifts for their friends and family or getting what they want, they forget it's the thought that counts.

Some of my peers claim they know Christmas is all about good thoughts. They say they aren't going to spend much money on people. Yet they complain when the gifts under the tree don't satisfy their expectations. If they get an ugly sweater or a disc man instead of a car stereo, they gripe. This double standard is common among teens. Until they are older, they may not understand the struggles of being independent and paying their own way.

Because teens have been focused on themselves, they may not have had the opportunity to walk in another's



KRISTIN FRENCH

shoes. Life has been pretty easy living under mom and dad's roof with the refrigerator constantly full and laundry always clean. But, not all people are that fortunate.

Meals on Wheels, Coats for Kids and Toys for Tots are some of the charitable programs that run through the holiday season. It's true that peo-

ple are more giving this time of year but we fail to realize these same needy people are hungry and cold all year long. To be charitable all year is easy. It's all about the spirit of giving. Keeping the Christmas spirit in your heart year-round takes a lot of dedication and time but it is well worth it when it's all said and done.

My dad keeps the spirit of the holidays in his heart through all the changing seasons. He has no problem helping others whether they be family, friends or strangers. Throughout the year he helps people move, give things that are needed and says kind words to a friend. When it comes to Christmas, he buys my sister and me a few things but he also makes us something out of wood by hand. He may not write a check to the Salvation Army every month, but he offers help and support 12 months out of the year instead of one.

This season and throughout the year, keep the spirit of giving in your heart. In March wrap a small gift in Christmas paper and give it to your spouse and in August donate your old winter clothes to a local charity. In October help out at a soup kitchen or make a pie for your neighbor. And this January when you put away your holiday decorations, leave out one small item to remind you that Christmas is only a thought away.

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

Teaching religious traditions is up to parents now, as it should be

hen I was growing up, way back in the pre-television days of the '40s and '50s, the favored entertainment for my parents and their circle of friends was to get together and sing Christmas carols.

Each Christmastime they would gather at a different house, sing for an hour or so, have a drink, sing again and finally break for a buffet supper.

Everybody had favorites. My mother's was the dramatic tale told in "The Coventry Carol." Mine was and still is "Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming," calling up associations of the burning faith of the Middle Ages.

One family in the group was German in origin, so at the end of the evening we always sang verse of "Silent Night" in German, "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht" ringing in our ears as we alked through the snow to the car.

Everybody knew the words.

Why? Because they were taught to every kid elementary school. Back when I was in



season. It's consistent with my family's culture. If some people don't want to sing carols, they can come after 6:30.

It turns out that many people most happily singing at our party this year were Jewish.

How did they learn the carols? Just the same way I did - in elementary school. But that mechanism isn't available to our kids.



school, we always had Christmas trees and the Creche, complete with animals and Wise Men. Nobody thought much about whether kids who were not Christian were made to feel uncomfortable by the practice. Most people back then simply assumed that Christian observances of Christmas were the appropriate expression of the dominant culture of America. And if Jewish kids who celebrated Hanukkah or black kids who followed Kwanzaa felt left out, that was just too bad.

Of course, it was precisely that unthinking ssumption of a dominant religious culture that led to the wholesale application of the First Amendment to state-supported schools and to the consequent elimination of religious practices such as Christmas carols from the school curriculum.

Although some may regret the way the First Amendment has now been interpreted to ban entirely all forms of religious practice from the schools, that may be a satisfactory tradeoff in a diverse America that seeks to respect all forms f religious commitment.

I found myself reflecting on this over the weekend because my wife, Kathy, and I have resurrected the old practice of my parents' generation and make our big annual holiday party a Christmas sing. We invite lots of friends, Christian and not, with the clear understanding that we will be singing carols from 5-6:30 p.m., when s stop and have cocktails and nibbles.

Does that mean that Scott and Nathan, our children, will never enjoy carols in the way my parents did and I do? Or that the only way they will learn them is through the Christmasy pop culture of radio and TV?

No. It means that Kathy and I will have to teach them, include them in our caroling parties, talk with them about how much the carols and our tradition mean to us as a family. It means that we will urge our church to include carol singing as a regular part of Sunday school.

It means that the ways by which the particular culture of our family will be carried on from generation to generation will be up to us to build and develop as a family. We won't be able to rely on the all-too-easy assumption of my parents' day that the schools are going to do it for us.

It's harder. But it's better. Because it requires us to go to the conscious effort of identifying those parts of our family culture that we feel are of such value as to take the time to pass them on to our children.

Including singing "Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht" at the end of caroling parties.

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network, Inc., the company that. owns this newspaper. He welcomes your com Lauppose all this is politically incorrect, but I. ments, either by voice mail. at (313) 953-2047 onit much care. It's a lovely celebration of the ... ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@ceonline.com



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The Licentric arkston Life 🐘 Carolyn Walker, A10 Conformunity Calendar Page 9, Section A



Hints overinflate gift in the mind of the recipient

hank goodness it's Christmas. I've been wanting to write this column for several weeks, but I couldn't. Secrets, especially when it comes to gifts, are so terribly hard to keep.

By now, though, my son has his ball, and I'm free to tell the story. It started back in November when Clarkston Eccentric sports editor Brad Kadrich did me a huge favor and had a basketball signed by Detroit Pistons Grant Hill and Joe Dumars for me to give to my son for Christmas.

My son, who's 14, is a sports fanatic. A basketball, baseball and soccer player since kindergarten; sports are his life. His favorite pastime, after playing sports, is reading about sports, watching sports (both the pro and college teams) or playing sports video games. At bedtime, he falls asleep listening to games on the radio. His room is wallpapered with team pennants and posters of sports figures. He sleeps beneath a comforter with a basketball design.

The day the sports editor gave me the signed ball, I was so thrilled I told my husband about it, trusting him, of course, to keep it a secret until Dec. 25.

However, my husband, was SO excited about our gift to our son that,

Please see SECRET, A10

Community edichanges with the times

Clarkston's Community Education Department thrives by offering residents the classes they want - from Feng Shui to computer training.

BY JAN BAKER

If some Clarkstonites still think "community education" means wreathmaking classes, they're right. But according to Marilyn Allyn, director of community education for

Clarkston schools, community pro-gramming also represents a lot of other offerings that meet the needs of local residents in the '90s. And many of those classes and services don't remotely resemble wreath making. "What's really taking off for us is our

new Clarkston Computer Institute;" Allyn said in a recent interview. "It's our answer to businesses that have been calling us for computer training." Allyn explained that CCI is com-

prised of three instructors who train business employees in computer appli-cations. Though the instructors will provide that training at the community education center, they also will travel to a business site.

"Last spring, we went down to Hori-ba Industries in Ann Arbor and, under a contract, we trained 70 employees there." Allvn said.

Closer to home, CCI instructors trained the Clarkston School district's media, reading and math specialists, central office administrators and secretaries, the Clarkston School Board and the staff at the Oakland Technical Cen- Northwest Campus, she said. The same computer teachers also trained staff members at St. Stephen's School in Waterford as well as some Waterford Township employees The program caters to individual

business professionals as well. "A gentleman came in and said, Tve

got to know this program in one week



Renalssance High School: Writing teacher Pat Unsworth instructs students in Clarkston's alternative high school, one of the many programs offered by the district's community education department.

because I'm up for this job. Help!" Allyn explained. "We were able to get our trainer in within an hour and a half and she trained him on the application that he needed to know for the position.

Though the director said computer classes are booming at the center, she pointed to the alternative high school program as another successful community education offering. Renaissance High School — in its

second year with that name - continues to flourish with an enrollment of 85 students.

"The program is going great," Allyn said. "The kids we have here are really dedicated. They're buying into the program and most of them are getting excited about being here. Since September, we've graduated four kids." Allyn said Renaissance High pupils

are proving that alternative roads can lead to success.

"One of our students who graduated in June is now working at ESPN as a programmer — and she's doing great," the director said. Allyn pointed out that other Renaissance grads have gone on to community colleges and many have come back to visit their high school teachers.

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HOFF

The director remarked that community education will probably oversee an alternative middle school within a few

Please see COMMUNITY ED, A11

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Mitzelfeld's Year End Storewide Sale Now in Progress **UP TO 50% OFF HOME FASHIONS LADIES** WHITE SALE IN PROGRESS Selected Sportswear by Liz Claiborne, Jones New York All Bedspreads and Comforters & Halston 20% OFF Reg. and Petite sizes All Towels 25-40% OFF 20% OFF Selected Nautica and Tommy All Rugs by Regal Hilfiger Sportswear 20% OFF 20-30% OFF **Bedding by Waverly** All Winter

20% OFF All Sheets by Wamsutta 20% OFF All Bed Pillows & Mattress Pads 20% OFF Polar Fleece throws and

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Assorted Sweaters 20-50% OFF Winter Coats and lackets Large Selection 25-50% OFF All Men's Underwear 25% OFF All Men's Socks 25% OFF

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CLOTHING Suits and Sportcoats by Famous Makers 20-50% OFF



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ortswear and St

Gloves and Winter Scarves 25% OFF Hand Bags, Many Styles, **Basic Colors** 25-50% OFF lewelry-assortment 25-50% OFF **LINGERIE** All Bras

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Trousers and Topcoats 20-50% OFF



MEN'S SHOES Assorted Dress and **Casual Shoes** 20-40% OFF

> **LADIES SHOES**

Fashion and Casual Boots 25% OFF Narm Lined Slippers 25% OFF Assorted Footwear 20-50% OFF

fize i 312 MAIN . DOWNTOWN ROCH

'A Very Holly Christmas'



Benefit performance: The On Stage School of Dance directed by Richael Harris raised more than \$4,000 for Toys for Tots when it presented a Christmas benefit production of "A Very Holly Christmas" at Holly High School Dec. 12-13. Clarkston dancers included Emily Allen, Amy and Emily Boose, Heather and Holly Chojnowski, Monica Denis, Taryn and Kathryn Emerick, Lauren Giordano, Dana Hakim, Lisa Licata and Meghan Ronk.

Secret from page A9

when I wasn't around, he dribbled a little of the secret out. Hardly able to contain himself. he told Kyle, "Just wait until you see what your Mom got you! You're going to really love it. It's so awesome, you won't believe

When Kyle told me what his father had said, I was about ready to slam-dunk his dad.

"Why did you have to say any-thing to Kyle about his present?" I asked him, obviously perturbed. "When you hint around about a gift, or build it up too big, the person is likely to imagine something even better than what you got him.

Realizing he had fouled up, my husband devised a game plan to correct the situation (and score some points again with me). "I'm sorry," he said. "I'll tell you what I'll do. On his birthday, I'll pretend like the University of Michigan basketball tickets you got him are the gift I was so

excited about."

When Kyle's birthday arrived on Dec. 5, I wrapped the tickets up in a box with a bow. He's a good guesser when it comes to what's inside packages, and I wanted him to be stumped.

The tickets were for U-M's game the very next day, and my husband, who normally works Saturdays, had planned without Kyle's knowledge to take the day off to take him to the game. All week long, Kyle was under the assumption he was going to spend Saturday babysitting his little sisters while I went Christmas shopping.

As Kyle began to unwrap the box, my husband started in with his game plan. "You're going to really love your present," he said as Kyle took the paper off. "It's so awesome, you won't believe it.

I stood on the sidelines, hoping my husband's strategy would work and that Kyle would really

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. For more information about advertising

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think the tickets to the U-M game were the big gift his dad had hyped him up about.

The strategy did work — but a little too well.

As Kyle opened the box up, he looked inside and gasped 'What's wrong?" I asked him.

"Nothing," he said, after a moment, taking a second look at the tickets. "But for just a second there. I thought you had gotten me tickets to the Rose Bowl!

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



Earrings dress up poet and

nn Morrow's bungalow

when I was a child, wearing a

hat modeled after those of the confederate soldiers perched

just above my flying braids.

hide-and-go-seek on that

boys and Indians with the

boys

Sometimes, I would play

street. Or frozen tag. Or cow-

And somehow, during those

years, I managed to ride past

Ann's bungalow and yet never see her out on her bicycle.

She used to perch her mon-

As wonderful and unique and

quaint as the people of Sylvan

Village were back then — and

as much as I loved them all ---

this, that a red-haired, middle-

aged woman on a bicvcle with a

have caught my attention. And

It is because of fortune that

I mentioned Ann to my moth-

our paths have crossed now.

er while on the telephone the

questions about who-wants-

what-for-Christmas, "you do

seem to meet the most interest

My mother didn't wait for an

answer. "Your life seems to go

I refreshed my mother's

met last year on pediatrics.

memory: "She's the woman I

teacher — and she thinks in

Just over a year ago, Ann

managed to take my mind off

my daughter's brush with

You remember. Ann is a former

in circles," she said.

ing people. How did you meet

"Carolyn," she said between

I feel certain, even as I write

monkey for company would

held my memory.

other day.

her

poetry.'

That, I would remember.

key on the handlebars and

pedal toward Keego, she told

CAROLYN WALKER

death by reading me some of her fresh, rhythmical compositions on the children's ward of a local hospital. Ann, happy despite her circumstances, was dressed in a hospital gown and great dark bruises that marched up her arms, as well as a necklace and giant earrings.

One topic led to another and, before I knew it, Ann had explained to me that she decorates her living room ficus tree with earrings each year for Christmas.

I made a mental note to look her up this season. A ficus decked out for a party! Now this I had to see.

Prior to my appointment with Ann, it had been quite some time since I had visited the scenes of my childhood play.

The grade school where I graduated sixth grade had gone vacant. The homes of my friends, which loomed so large in my youth, shrunk behind the climbing toys of today's children; while Ralph, the white water tower I named on my lonely walks through the woods to school, kept his guard over a host of new houses that have come to surround him. The path my feet wore

through those woods has long gone.

Driving back into the village - and my memories — I

allowed my eyes to take it all in and, as I turned toward Sylvan Lake, I squeiched the lump of affection rising in my throat even as I searched out her house.

Ann met me at the door wearing a red glistening Christmas vest and matching cap. She ushered me in and introduced me to her talking holiday pine ("You have to see this," she said) before pointing out the ficus.

Tucked into a living room corner, it was everything I had hoped it would be. Tall as a teenager. Green as a lawn. And beautiful as Ann in her colorful earrings. They covered its artificial leaves in reds and blues and yellows and pearls and dangling diamonds, more wonderful than any holiday ornament could hope to be.

And each carried with it a story. One pair had survived a hurricane. Another had been made from a Hawaiian bracelet. Most had been gifts from friends, she said. They'd given them to her

after a brazen thief had entered her home and stolen 50 pair.

The thief didn't take anything else. "I've always worn a lot of ear-

rings," Ann explained. "I got over 50 back. My friends kept giving to me. And giving to me

"Why do you put them on your ficus?" I asked her. "I just thought it would be different," she said. "A different kind of ornament."

To be continued next week.

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







Computer training: Teacher Julie Wolverton (left) works with students Denise Casper (center) and Phyllis Truba at the Clarkston Computer Institute.

Community ed from page A9



Study time: Renaissance High School student Nichole Trevino concentrates on her work in class.

years. "I believe that once we get into Clarkston Middle School and we have the space, that will become a reality," she said. "Some of those behaviors or signs that kids aren't going to be successful in school definitely happen in middle school, if not prior to that.'

However, Allyn said she didn't envision an alternative middle school as an automatic stepping

stone to alternative high school. "I think that if we can help kids through some tough times and they're ready to go back into a regular K-12 program, then they should go," she said. Though an alternative middle

school remains a long-range plan, another community education endeavor will benefit the community as early as January 1998.

"We took some real funding hits in our adult education pro-gram," Allyn said, "so right now we're offering basically three

es for day-school kids who need to get the extra credit for high school graduation. But the response for adult education is still there, so starting in January, we're going to be offering probably 12 to 14 classes. We're back.'

Allyn said that though the program was cut because it failed to be self-supporting, "funding is looking a lot better and I think we're going to be able to access those funds. The population is there. People are taking classes. It looks good."

Other community education programs continue on a steady course.

The director said Funshine, an accredited preschool; Kids' Con-nection, the district's latchkey service; and Infant Care, a daycare program for babies as young as a few weeks, are thriving as

When asked if one area of community education had changed enrichment classes. "Our (night-time) enrichment program has continued to grow leaps and bounds," she said. "What's hard for us is not having a site that can accommodate everything we do. So, when the new high school opens (in August of 1998), it will afford us a centralized area for classes and give us the chance to offer more for the community.'

And while Allyn admitted that people still enroll in wreathmaking classes, community education will also keep current with some new classes in January. Among those are: "Hooked on Opera," professional juggling, duck and goose calling, collecting toy trains, pet care, Chinese cooking, photo-quilting and Feng Shui (pronounced, 'fung shway") — an Asian study of how one's surroundings, from colors on the walls to furniture placement, either help or hinder individual opportunity and growth. 'We're finding that a lot of

people are looking for their own personal growth," the director said. "People are looking for stress relief - fitness, of course, computers, more personal enrichment topics and cooking classes. And people don't want to commit to 24 weeks of anything. So what we're trying to do is bring our classes down to one, two or three nights.

In any Clarkston community education program, however, Allyn said the key to future success lies in vitality and change. "It's taking all of our efforts to

evolve," the director said. "And change is work. But we need to keep changing if we want to be relevant to the community."

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR derrate to man to the is an inter

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

CONTRACTOR STATES

CLASS REUNION CLARKSTON HIGH SCHOOL

1988 10-Year Class Reunion, Aug. 29, 1998, at Mitch's II. Call Kelly (Saunders) Kanigowski for more information and to update address for mailings. (810) 939-9925.

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-dine'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 POT LUCK LUNCHEON

1 p.m., Independence Township Senior Center. Bring a favorite dish to pass. Socialization and sharing great food are the primary activities of the day. Table games or cards can be played following lunch. To register, call the center at 625-8231 by Friday, Jan. 2.

WILDLIFE WINTER WARDROBE 2 p.m.; Indian Springs Metropark Learn how animals survive the Michigan winter. Registration required. Call (248) 625-7280 or 1-800-477-3192

STARTING TUESDAY, JAN. 6

VATICAN ILHISTORY & DOCUMENTS

6 - 9 p.m., Jan. 6, 13 & 20, Feb. 3, 10 & 17 and March 3, 10, 17 & 24. St. Daniel's Cushing Center, 7010 Valley Park in Clarkston. For anyone interested in knowing more about the meaning and impact of the Second Vatican Council. \$30 for all 10 sessions plus \$14 if book is desired or \$5 per session if attending only one or a few. For additional information, call (248) 625-1750.

THURSDAY, JAN. 8

WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP 7 p.m., Independence Township Senior Center in Clintonwood Park on Clarkston Road in **Clarkston**. Facilitator Christine Spencer, M.A., L.P.C., director of bereavement services at Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home in Clarkston, will lead an informal discussion on how a person's loss history can impact his healing through grief. Walk-In, no regis-tration. Free of charge. For men and women of all ages recently widowed. Refreshments served. All area residents welcome. Any questions or if anyone would like to be on the mailing list, call Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home (810) 625-5231.

FRIDAY, JAN. 9 **SPAGHETTI DINNER**

5-7 p.m. Independence Township Senior Center. All-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner including tossed salad and garlic toast. Program is open to the public so bring the whole family. All proceeds go directly to the senior center. No registration required.

Center is at 5980 Clarkston Road in Clintonwood Park Cost \$4 adults, \$2 child Dessert is 75 cents extra.

(Ci) **A11**

RECREATION FOR SPECIAL

PEOPLE 7-9 p.m.; Hart Community Cen-ter at the Mill Pond in Davisburg? Dance to the music of dee-jay Matt Wolfe. Refreshments. No charge. While NWOCS, a vol- 🕺 unteer organization, provides recreational activities, care ivers have responsibility for direct supervision of participants. For more information, call 634-9570.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, JAN. 9-10,

CLARKSTON VILLAGE PLAYERS 8 p.m., Depot Theater, 4861 White Lake Road in Clarkston. The village players present "Aspirin and Elephants" by Jerry Mayer. A Midwestern cou-ple, their two daughters and respective husbands take a cruise to help the father recover from his recent heart attack, but they are a bit too helpful. Tickets: \$8. Call (248) 625-8811 for additional information.

SATURDAY, JAN. 10

FULL MOON CROSS-COUNTRY SKI 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Independence Oaks County Park. Travel by the light of the moon. Participants must bring their own equipment and have previous cross-country skiing experience. \$1 per person. Registration required. Call (248) 625-6473, (248) 858-2684 or 1-888-OCPARKS for more information.

JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS "SKY SEARCH"

2 p.m. Indian Springs Metropark. Future astronauts can complete their "Sky Search" badge work during this program. Bring white or light-colored Tshirt. No siblings please. Fee: \$1 per Scout. Registration required. Call (248) 625-7280 or 1-800-477-3192 for more information

Bike shop sponsors New Year's Day ride

The Flying Rhino Cycling Club will present its ninth annual Polar Rhino Ride at noon on New Year's Day.

More than 320 cyclists are expected to ride from the Independence Township Library on Clarkston Road, through the city of Clarkston towards either an eight- or 17-mile route on frozen dirt roads in northwest Oakland County.

A donation for each rider in attendance will be presented to the Independence Township

CLARKSTON

Library for the purchase of new printed materials and/or information in electronic formats. This is the third Polar Rhino Ride where the Independence Township Library is a participant and in receipt of a donation per each rider.

The major sponsor of the Polar Rhino Ride is Kinetic Systems Bicycles of downtown Clarkston. The Flying Rhino

Cycling Club offers two other fund-raising rides each year: the Spring Back 40 Challenge held in May and the Fall Back 40 Challenge held in early October.

For additional information. contact Kinetic Systems Bicy-cles at (248) 625-7000 or write to the Flying Rhino Cycling Club, P.O. Box 815, Clarkston 48347. Information is also available from John Meyland, Polar Rhino Ride coordinator, at (248) 625-1775.



self-supporting entities.

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

TASTE

Soup warms and soothes

hat is it about soup that we have always loved? Is it the slow process of creating soup that gives it its magic? The warmth with which a pot of simmering soup fills a home? I think it's these things and a whole lot more. Soup is the food we want when we are not feeling well, it is the food we reach for after coming in from want to use up veggies that aren't quite fresh anymore. It is the quintessential "one pot meal." the cold, what we make when we

Chicken soup

In my home, chicken soup has always had a magical medicinal quality. You may have heard the term "Jewish Penicillin." There have actually been scientific (I think) studies on the healing qualities of chicken soup. Although I'm not sure what the results were, it has always worked for us.

Soup is something that even the least proficient cook can have some success with. My wife, Karen, who is not particularly well known for her cooking, does best with food when she puts it all into one pot and adds some liquid. It can be as simple as that, or as complex as clarify ing a difficult consomme. Soup can be made from just a couple of simple ingredients for a carrot soup or a long list of things to make a wonderful Minestrone.

Soup can be found in all cuisine, in all parts of the world. They can be clear, pureed, chunky, vegetarian, cheesy, with beans, pasta, rice, thick, thin, healthy, or loaded with fat. Wow, and they can all be great.

Soup can be a light appetizer or a hearty one pot meal. You can prepare soups ahead and freeze them, or put them up in jars. You can make really ele-gant soups finished at the last minute for a truly fine dinner. They can be the most economical of meals or made with a bevy of fancy, expensive ingredients put together to impress your guests. We are serving a particularly



RICK HALBERG

elegant and seasonal soup now at my restaurant Emily's, it is a silky purce of butternut squash that we serve with a rich yet light porcini mushroom and juniper infused flan with a few drops of cranberry coulis for added zing and color.

Now soup is finding new fame as shops on the East and West coasts open to specialize in just soups. The sitcom "Seinfeld" is widely given credit for this food phenomenon because of a mention of a zany soup shop owner in one of its episodes.

"Newsweek" magazine is calling soup "hotter than coffee." I think we have been waiting for a place to sit with friends, or alone

RIBOLLITA

2 1/2 cups diced savoy

2 cups diced red onion

1 1/2 cups diced green

2 large stalks celery with

2 1/2 cups cleaned, shred-

1 tablespoon chopped garlic

1 1/2 cups shredded basil

1 tablespoon chopped pars-

1 1/2 cups chopped canned

1 1/2 quarts chicken stock 2 cups diced potatoes

2 tablespoons tomato paste

3/4 cup diced carrot

leaves, diced

ded spinach

2 ounces olive oil

tomatoes

beans

cabbage

beans

leaves

ley

and enjoy something warm and more fulfilling than coffee. I think it takes us back to our childhood when we were fed warm, soft food by a loving par ent. Soup is more than food, it's nurturing and can be either healthy or give the illusion of health. They say bread is the staff of life, I think that bread was invented just to "sop" up soup.

Resolutions

Some early New Year's Resolutions. I will -

Continue to support as many small, independent businesses as possible, for if I don't all too soon all we will have left will be mega-bookstores, super-sized restaurants and drug stores that sell everything except what I'd

expect. Try to instill the spirit of Slow Food to as many people as I can. Aren't we in too much of a hurry anyway?

Search out as many local food sources as I can for my restau-rant, and encourage these people to use self-sustaining means of agriculture.

potatoes 1 cup grated Parmesan

cheese Heat the olive oil in a suitable soup pot, and sweat the onions, garlic, carrots, celery and cab-bage until softened. Add the tomatoes, chicken stock and diced potatoes, bring to a boil, and cook at simmer until potatoes are tender.

Add the tomato paste, basil green beans, spinach and parsley. Pass the cooked potatoes and cooked Cannellini beans through a medium plate of a food mill into the soup and stir until blended.

Cook until green beans are tender, add the grated cheese, season with salt and fresh cracked pepper. Serve with grilled bread and a drizzling of

Chef Zachary wants to put a little bit of spice in your life



Food is easy for Chef Zachary Smith, and he wants to make it easier for you. "Tye been cooking all my life," said Smith who has creat-ed six gournet spice blends – Mediterranean Magic, Soft Herbs, Blackening Spice, Chelses Spice, Ziggy's Gumbo and Shana Spice, which he says will turn "ordinary foods into extraordinary, and boring into extraordinary, and boring into brilliant with just a shake.

"These spice blends are like the difference between a Cadillac and a Neon," he said. "Spices can help people change unhealthy habits. It's a lighter way of cooking."

Smith is an artist who uses spices to color his food presentations, and his goal is to help you do the same. Each spice blend reminds him of special people in his life. Chelsea Spice, a blend of paprika, garlic,

onion, chili pepper, fennel, white and black pep per is named after his daughter. "She's the most precious thing in my world," said Smith. She would come into the kitchen while I was blending spices and wanted to help." Chelsea Spice is a "colorful spice, decorative

as well as flavorful and makes pale dishes more attractive.

The Shana Spice is like little girls – "sugar and spice and everything nice." This dessert spice blend was named in honor of Chelsea's friend, Shana, who is the daughter of Robin, "a guy I've known since high school," said Smith. Chelsea and Shana designed the colorful label with help from Smith. "Ziggy" is Smith's nickname, and his spice is

blend of 28 different peppers, spices and herbs that's best used in gumbo's jambalyas, sauces and soups.

Soft Herbs – a blend of chives, dill, parsley, tarragon, chervil and cilantro enhances the flavor of many dishes including chicken, fish, sauces, and omelets.

Try Mediterranean Magic – oregano, basil rosemary, thyme, marjoram, anise and parsley with vegetables, soups, steaks and classic Marinara sauce.

Blackening Spice - Cayenne Pepper, white and black pepper, kosher salt, thyme, rosemary, marjoram, chili powder, paprika and sage, was the blend that started Chef Zachary's Gourmet Blended Spice Line.

One day they ran out of blackening spice at

One23 in Grosse Pointe Farms where he was the executive chef, so Smith went home did some research, and made up his own version. Blackening Spice was a key ingredient in an appetizer he created "Blackened Trio" – shrimp, chicken and beef seasoned with blackening spice, sauteed in butter and served with a salad of melon, rice and fresh mint. It was a best-seller, and before long, customers and friends were asking him to mix up some blackening spice for them to use at home.

In 1995, after hearing over and over that he should bottle his spices to make a few pennies, " Smith decided to go into the gourmet spice business.

"I grew up using seasoning spices and things like Lawrey's," said Smith. The idea of making a product people could use at home was exciting. My career helped open a lot of doors. I can talk and do what I say I can do. Merchant of Vino gave me a shot, and let me demonstrate my product in their stores

For the past 20 years Smith has served as executive chef at many outstanding restaurants including Benbow Inn in northern California, Harrah's at Lake Tahoe, and the Hyatt Regency in San Francisco.

His ultimate goal is to help people change the way they eat. "We're behind times," he said. "We need quicker cooking techniques with a healthier focus.'

He'd like his gourmet spice blends to become a household name, and make a cooking video to share his knowledge with others. "I would also like to open a restaurant," said Smith. "I'm waiting for the right opportunity." In the meantime, he's busy knocking on

doors, trying to convince merchants to carry his gourmet spices. He just added Kroger to the long list of specialty stores, and grocery stores including Shopping Center Markets and

Farmer Jack, that carry his gourmet spices. "You can't give up," he said. "Like when I was trying to become an international chef. I studied 10 years to become a chef and didn't

call myself a chef until they called me a chef." When things weren't going his way, Smith said he realized there was something he needed to learn to open the door. "I've adopted the philosophy that you can always improve," he said.

If you can't find Chef Zachary Smith's spices, which range from \$4.50 to \$4.99 at your mar-ket, call (313) 730-4287. Each spice has a colorful label, the flavorful contents are sure to bringout the culinary artist in you. See recipes below.

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VEGETABLE CASSEROLE 8 ounces mushrooms, quartered

- 1 medium Spanish onion, large dice
- 8 cloves garlic sliced thin 1 healthy tablespoon Mediterranean Magic (spice blend) or Italian season ings
- 1 small zucchini large dice 1 small yellow squash large
- dice 1 medium eggplant large dice
- 2 ounces tomato paste
- 2 ripe tomatoes peeled and seeded large dice
 - 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - 8 ounces grated Mozzarella cheese
 - 4 ounces grated Parmesan cheese
 - 4 ounces plain bread crumbs

Cut all vegetables the same size Saute onions, mushrooms, garlic in olive oil, add herbs, squash, egg plant. Add tomatoes and tomato paste, toss well.

Put in casserole dish, top with crumbs, Bake at 425°F until golden brown. Serve with garlic bread and/or noodles.

3/4 cup cooked Cannellini extra virgin olive oil. 3/4 cup diced, cooked

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STILEN OF UTRREN X10 979 2000

LEMON SOLE

2 portions of sole or any white fish 1 tablespoon butter or margarine 1 tablespoon white wine or water Juice of half a lemon Soft Herbs (spice blend) or your own blend of favorite herbs such as parsley and dill

Sprinkle fish with soft herbs. Place in pan. Add water or wine, squeeze lemon juice over fish. Chip butter or margarine over fish. Bake in oven at 425°F until done. Pour juices over fish.

County gets insurance break

Oakland County governme has received a \$1,000 discount from insurance carrier Hutten-locher Kerns'Norvell, Inc. following the prohibition on smoking in county edifices.



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Clarkston sent a message that topranked Rochester Adams wouldn't be the only area team to contend with by finishing right behind the Highlanders at the county meet.

BY BRAD KADRICH SPORTS EDITOR

Talk about irony. Clarkston's Pat DeGain, who missed much of his freshman No 2 W. Oak Storten

wrestling season due to shoulder miseries, took advantage of an injury to reach the,171-pound final, then pounded his way to a first-place medal at the Oakland is stand the state of the state of the



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HOFFMEYER

Looking on: Clarkston coach Mike DeGain looks on while h is wrestlers earn a second-place finish at the Oakland County wrestling meet over the weekend.

County wrestling meet at South Lyon High School.

DeGain was one of three Clarkston champions, a trio of medals that led the Wolves to a second-place finish behind tournament favorite and top-ranked Rochester Adams. The Highlanders won the two-day tourna-ment with 276 points, while the Wolves finished with 252.

Junior A.J. Grant won his second straight county title, capturing the crown at 112 pounds. Ryan L'Amoreaux, who failed to medal at last year's meet, pinned his way through the tournament on his way to the 103-pound title.

They led a string of eight wrestlers to earn medals (which went to the top six finishers in each weight class). The three champions was the most for any one school in the tournament. Team champion Rochester Adams, by contrast, finished with just two champions, but had nine medalists.

DeGain's path to the final at 171 included an injury-default win over Royal Oak Kimball's Brian King, the defending Division I state champion.

DeGain then stopped Kevin Boyd of Adams, 3-2, in the final. The irony of the situation was not lost on the youngster. "I found it real odd, but I did-

n't care," said DeGain, who is the nation's top-ranked freshman/sophomore, according to USA Wrestling. "It meant a lot. I'm the first sophomore to win it in the DeGain family, (so) I was rubbing their faces in it bigtime.

Grant, who lost just one match last year while finishing third in the state, cruised to the county championship at 112 pounds. The junior pinned Adam Cross of Rochester Adams in 5:31 in the final.

L'Amoreaux won all his match-

STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HOPPWEYER Rocky road: Clarkston's Rocky Bills battles Andy Emmitt of Holly during first-day action at the Oakland County wrestling tournament at Oxford High School.

es on pins, including a 4:45 stop-page of Ryan Churella of South Lyon in the 102 meres yon in the 103-pound final.

The Wolves also had two other vrestlers reach the finals. Heavyweight Jon Robinson lost to Marc Bullock of Troy, 8-5, while Kevin Turnbull lost to Mark Churella of Novi. 11-2. in

the 140-pound final.

The other Wolves medalists included Ryan McAleer, who finished third at 119 with a 1:35 pin of Nick Lawrence of Milford in the consolation final: Andy Auten, who lost to Eugene Koziol of Walled Lake Central 5-2 in the consolation final at 152

pounds and finished fourth; and Ryan Clement, who finished fourth after losing to Matt Marion of Brandon in the consolation final.

The Wolves wrestle in the Goodrich Invitational Tuesday, then host Roseville and Lincoln Jan. 3. Both meets start at 10.

Rally falls short in cage loss to Chiefs

BY MIKE SCOTT SPECIAL WRITER

It may have been a test, but it wasn't the final exam.

Those were the words of Clarkston basketball coach Dan Fife to his team following the Wolves' 57-51 loss to Pontiac Central in an Oakland Activities Association crossover game Thursday in a matchup pitting two of the state's most highly-regarded teams. The difference was shooting. The

Wolves (3-1) shot only 31 percent from the field, and leading scorer Dane Fife hit 8-of-30 shots after separating his shoulder for the second time this season late in the first quarter. Central (3-1), meanwhile, converted

53 percent of its field goals and held a 36-25 rebounding edge. "We're going to learn from " said Dan Fife. "I'm disappointgame. ed in the loss, but not in our kids. We didn't shoot the ball well, but we hung in there "



Wolves' offense rocks in easy win over Colts

Serve's up

BY BRAD KADRICH SPORTS EDITOR

When it goes well, volleyball can be an easy game.

The Clarkston Wolves found that out Wednesday, doing the things that were missing in an earlier loss to Royal Oak Kimball and stopping Troy, 15-8, 15-7, in an Oakland Activities Association Division I matchup at Clarkston.

Clarkston was 50-of-52 serving and cut way down on serve reception errors, and the result was an easy win for the Wolves, who evened their OAA I record at 1-1 while raising their overall record to 2-3-1.

We serve-received very well and we served very well," Clarkston coach Gordie Richardson said. "If you do those two things you can do well

against just about anybody."

The match resembled the seasonopener against Kimball in that the Wolves got on a roll early in the first game and were able to sustain it. The difference Wednesday was the i same thing happened in the second same thing happened in the second game, unlike the Kimball match, where the Knights rebounded for a 'three-game victory. 'If was kind of like the Kimball match in the first game, where when we got on a roll we maintained it." Richardson said. "In both games the score was (close), but once we go trolling, we got some momentum and were able to sustain it." Senior hitter Georgia Senkyr led the way, coming up with seven kills in 18 attempts on a night when the Wolves managed just 16 kills



Despite playing their worst game of the year, Clarkston still had a chance to win or tie in the closing seconds. The Chiefs led 42-27 heading into

the fourth quarter, but Dane Fife hit his first four shots of the period and the Wolves pulled within eight with a minute to play. Fite then hit an off-balance 3-pointer with 34 seconds left to cut the Central lead to 53-48

Following a Clarkston time out, the *it wasn't enough in* Wolves stole the inbounds pass, They to Pontiac Central.

team with 21 points and 12 rebounds. 'I credit my teammates with getting me the ball in the second half when I was hot

Fife also finished with 21 points, 12 of those coming in the fourth quarter. Angelo Taylor added 11 points and nine rebounds. Senior center Willie McDonald had 13 points and Six



Airbome: Clarkston's Dane Fife (12) shrugged off an injured shoulder to score 21 points, but it wasn't enough in a hoop loss

Wolves stole the inbounds pass. They tried to get the ball to Fife, who was double-teamed, so instead center Justin Dionne drilled a triple from the top of the key with 17 seconds left to make it a two-point game. On the ensuing inbounds play, Cen-tral's Jamel Gooding was fouled With 12.1 seconds to play, he nailed both free throws to seal the win. "I didn't, even think about the free throws," said Gooding, a transfer from Auburn Hills Avondale who led his team with 21 points and 12 rebounds. against the Clarkston man defense and was able to find open teammates despite being guarded closely by Clarkston's Dan Neubeck and others Coach The agreed defense was a key in Keeping the game close "We did a good job against their big players, especially with the height they have." Fife said about Contral's front line, which goes 6-foot-6 6-foot-6 and 6-foot-8. Tim waiting to see how

and 6-foot-8. I'm waiting to see how Please ace 10078, B2

A HYPERTY

managed just 16 kills. Setter Kelly Hanna got herself more involved in the offense, coming up with three kills in nine tries in addition to another superb setting night. She finished 38-of-39 setting with 11

assists. "It's good to

We serve received get our setter well and we served m o r e involved," well. If you do those Richardson two things you can do well against just about said. 'S e n i o r Aimee Giroux anybody."

was: 12-of-12 hitting with ac pair of kills. Clarkston also improved site? Gordie Richardson -Clarkston volleyball coac

William Maria Line Differen

making just eight attacking game T. Bullet

Net gain: Clarkston's Ingrid Zimmerman (15) and Georgia Senkyr (10) beat Troy's Kalley Butler to the ball in the Wolves' 15-8, 15-7 win over the Colts Wednesday. New States

edged.

Despite the low attack numbers. e the low attack numbers, Richardson had to be pleased with the effort. "(16 kills) isn't a ton, but as a team we were very efficient," he said. We had kills at good times, and we made (Troy) play defense It seemed like when they made a couple of serve reception errors and we kept the pressure on them. kept the pressure on them, they weren't able to sustain anything from that

point on. The best statistics of the night, obvi-

errors in 65 attacks. "That really ously, were in the serving numbers" helped a lot," Richardson acknowl- " Senkyr and senior Jenny McCue were perfect, 10-for-10 for Senkyr, 12-of-12 for McCue. Both had two service aces and McCue was 8-for-8 in serve reception.

Kara Bergkoetter was 15-of-16 serving and, in the second game, helped make the difference.

make the difference. "Kara kept the ball in play and moved if around a little bit," Richard-son said. "She made a big difference in that game." that game."

The Wolves scrimmage their alumn Saturday morning, then are off until a tournament at Walled Lake Centres Jan 8.

They resume dual matches Jan. against West Bloomfield,

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

1:52 mark of

the second

period to vir-

tually put the game away. Clark-

ston was also

forced to play

down at one

men

two

1.11

Royal Oak captain Nick Luxon.

The Wolves stepped up their

offense during a power play at

the beginning of the second peri-

od, but failed to convert. Royal

Oak's Brent Stafford rang one off

the post behind Hogan at the

Blades' size too much for Wolves' icers

BY MIKE SCOTT SPECIAL WRITER

Heading into its first two games with highly-regarded Royal Oak, the Clarkston hockey team knew they were in for a major challenge.

Round one went to the Blades. who used their size and power to a distinct advantage, dispatch-ing the Wolves 7-2 Saturday at Lakeland Arena.

Seven different players scored for Royal Oak, which improved to 3-0 in league play. The win leaves Royal Oak the only undefeated team. Andy Cote and co-captain

Ryan Peters scored for Clarkston (52-1), which suffered its first league loss.

We're a skating team, not a hitting team, so we needed to outskate them to win this game,' said Clarkston assistant coach Glenn MacDonald. "Instead, we were standing around and watching them.

Clarkston goalie Ryan Hogan made 27 saves for the Wolves, who were outshot 34-15 for the game. Too often, the Blades were able to fire point-blank shots on the Clarkston netminder.

The contest may have been decided in the opening seconds. Senior forward Scott Fuelling fired a quick shot off Hogan, but eff Sheppard was left alone to put the rebound in for the Hades, a team comprised of

DODS from page B1

players from Kimball and Dondero high schools. That goal came only 14 seconds into the game.

The Wolves did not get a shot on goal until more than five minutes into the game. The Blades, used their size

seconds later off a perfect feed

from Jeffrey Casey. "(Royal Oak's) size is enor-

mous and they are an excellent, senior-led hockey team," said

MacDonald. "Once we got down

Toby

made it a three-

goal cushion 33

play good defense.

'We'll know how to to pound the net for the second goal at 6:04 of play them next time. Their forwards are the the first, again off a rebound, by key.' Heap. Sophomore Damien Lewis

Rvan Peters -Clarkston hockey player

point mid-way through the period, yielding a goal with only three skaters on the ice.

Play became chippy in the second and third periods. There were seven penalties called in the second period, four on Clarkston. Both teams also were involved in a third-period scuffle behind the Clarkston goal.

Cote, who was given a game misconduct later in the contest. got the Wolves on the board with 46 seconds left in the second, velling for the puck as he skated in front of Blades goalie Brandon Casanta. Co-captain D.J. Thomas and Derek Hool had the assists.

Peters scored an unassisted goal early in the third, finding a loose puck in front of the Royal Oak goal. He said the Wolves their own physically held

against Royal Oak, but were unable to execute their game plan.

They wanted to play us as badly as we wanted them," Peters said. "This was the game. to prove ourselves, but that's OK because we get them again later in the year. We didn't go in trying to outhit them, but it kind of became that kind of game.

Peters also said he was impressed by the movement of Royal Oak's forwards, saying they were the key to the game. "We'll know how to play them next time," Peters said. "Their

forwards are the key." Wolves bruised, but fine - A number of Clarkston players felt the effects of Royal Öak's size by virtue of heavy hitting during the contest. Anthony Facione was checked along the boards in the Blades' zone early in the third period, and laid on the ice for nearly two minutes with what appeared to be an elbow injury. Fortunately, he was on the ice later in the third period and the Wolves suffered no serious injuries.

Shattered board causes delay — In what already was a long game due to the number of penalties and stoppages in play, the contest was delayed for near ly 15 minutes in the third period as both referees and the linesman replaced a shattered Plexiglas frame on the spectator side of the arena.

our kids will respond in practice this week. It wasn't until the fourth quarter when we began

attacking the basket more. While defending Bland in the first quarter, Dane Fife separat-ed his shoulder right in front of the Clarkston bench. He collapsed to the floor in front of his father, who popped the shoulder back into place for the second time in 10 days (as he did Dec. 9 at home against Southfield).

Fife then went to the locker room at the start of the second guarter, and put on a shoulder brace he had picked up earlier in the week. He said the brace hindered his shooting a bit, but admitted it may have been more mental than physical.

"(The separation) did rattle me and my shoulder's pretty sore,' Fife said after the game. "But fortunately I have a while to get used to shooting with it in practice before our next game (Dec. 30 against Detroit Central at Cobo Hall)."

Senior guard Mike Maitrott, who kept Clarkston close with eight early points, said his team displayed impatience on offense and needs to run the half-court offense with more precision.

"We took ourselves out of it on offense," he said. "Most of the time it seems we would make one or two passes and someone would shoot. We needed to make (Central) work harder on defense.

The Wolves attempted 22 more shots from the floor, due in large part to a disparity in turnovers. While Central committed 22 turnovers. Clarkston gave the ball away only 10 times.

But the Chiefs' dominance inside was evident by looking at free-throw shooting. Central was 18-of-27 from the charity stripe, and made its last six attempts in crunch time, while Clarkston was just 8-of-13.

Tough competition ahead Clarkston already knew it had one of the state's toughest schedules, playing in the OAA Division I, but it is shaping to be a real dogfight for the division

Traditional rival Pontiac Northern has started the year in typical fashion, winning its first four games in impressive fashion. They are led by guards Rashad Moore and Nucleus Smith and swingman Mychal Covington.

Division I member Southfield-Lathrup, led by Soloman Edwards and Damon Allison. was a state finalist two years ago when Mike Chappell, now playing at Duke, was a senior. They have started 3-1, including an upset of Pontiac Central.

And Troy (4-0) outscored Southfield, which took Clarkston to overtime in the season-opener, 30-5 in the fourth quarter Dec. 18 and defeated the Bluejays 83-63. They are led by senior forward Jim Essian and point guard Tim Fralick.



People all over our readership spent area Christmas morning opening gifts from family members, friends G and, of course, Santa Claus What they didn't realize was they're about to get a Brad

shipment of Christmas presents.

Just call me, "Santa Brad":

new

whole

To ----Iris Underwood, Leonard resident and my favorite columnist - Peace. You've always done the best you could do. Let yourself accept that.

Linda, Colleen and Joann, athletic secretaries at Clarkston, Lake Orion and Oxford, respectively -All my thanks for all eternity. During my military career, I learned the secretary was the most important person on the hase. The three of you prove that, every day. If there's ever anything I can do .

Dan Fife, Clarkston basketball coach/athletic director — A "Bat Phone" hotline direct to Bob Knight's desk.

Jenny White and Sarah Courtright, Oxford basketball superstars — Side-by-side in Saginaw Valley's starting lineup. Eve Claar, Lake Orion

girls' basketball coach — The same level of improvement the Dragons showed this

Ann Lowney, Clarkston girls' basketball coach 18-2, an Oakland Activities Association Division I championship and a great run in the state tournament. And a lifetime of marital bliss.

Doug Kline, Lake Orion wrestling coach — A raise in pay, so he can pay off the bet

Kenny Allen Oxford quarter: back Happiness without hoops. I told you you should have been a wrestlei Sharon Kline, Lake Orion track coach and Oxford football/track mom: Good things

for Nathan. A d a m Wolosiewicz, Oxford soccer/basketball player - A healthy return. Dan Fife (again)

Kadrich another son to

watch play sports. Jan Fife, Dan's wife and mother of three - Adoption

papers for the new son. Bud Rowley, Oxford football coach — The same thing I've gotten you three straight years now and something I know you'd cherish; 8-1 and a Flint Metro League title. Dave Collins, Lake Orion hasketball coach - A winning streak long enough to

erase the 0-4 start. Steve Cantrell, photog -A golf game. Any golf game.

Georgia Senkyr, Clarkston athlete — A scholarship to the college of your choice to play the sport of your choice. You've earned it. Jennifer Johnson, Lake

Orion basketball player -A senior season to remember and a division championship.

Darren Tooley, Lake Orion guarterback — An even better senior season than the one you turned in as a junior.

Larry Mahrle, former Clarkston girls basketball coach — Health. Happiness.

Dave Summers, Oxford soccer coach — The respect you earned taking the boys to the regional. Rich Burrell, Lake Orion

football coach — A middle school football program. Oh, wait: the school board already gave you that. OK. here: Immediate benefits. The Lovely Diane - The

best I can do, always.

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THE TIME HAS COME





In addition to playing good, physical hockey, the Blades were also successful at controlling the puck, particularly in the first period. On defense. Roval Oak limited the Wolves' offense to taking long shots from the point in the first 15 minutes.

"We knew Clarkston was a good skating team, and we pret-ty much shut them down," said

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xford's Collier still buzzing with 'buck of a lifetin

Deer hunting opportunities are dwindling down. Late archery and the special antler-less-only season are the only seasons that remain open for hunters still itching to put some venison in the freezer. Although the opportunities are declining the success reports are still rolling in.

It's already been a month since Sound Think Hill Bar

Thanksgiving, but the excite-ment of bagging a buck of a life-time over the Thanksgiving holi-day'still lingers for Marty Col-

lier. While heading out to his blind on a farm in northern Oakland County on Nov. 25, a pair of does raced out from a nearby wooded lot Collier had just walked through. Hot on their tails was a Alashin transformation

but given up. "I wasn't even planning to hunt on Thanksgiving Day but a couple of my friends (Bill Dunn and Brian Duerden) talked me into going out," explained Col-

we de stille assirie fait

lier. The trio ended up in the area in which Collier had shot the buck and decided to look around one last time.

"Bill came up to me and said, "By the way, it's an 11-pointer." I thought he was kidding and told him not to mess around like that.'

Dunn then led Collier to his biggest buck to date. The 11point rack had a green score of 150 4/8 and the buck dressed out at a whopping 170 pounds.

What a way to be blessed, and on Thanksgiving morning," added Collier.

But the story doesn't quite end there. During the early archery season Collier arrowed a 7-point "After I got that one I thought to myself, seven come 11," he added with a grin.

Manother area hunter had an equally exciting hunt early in the firearms season. Chuck Ward moved from Fern-

dale to Oxford a little over two

.44 magnum six-shot his: revolver - a Ruger Super Blackhawk.

Sec.

1. A.

Ward awoke a little late that morning and didn't leave his house until 7:30 a.m. Since it was so late, and since he didn't think he'd stay out in the woods very long. Ward trudged through some four inches of snow with nothing on his feet but a pair of street shoes. He arrived at his blind and didn't have to wait. long for the action to heat up as

lane and raised his head, but he was looking the other way so I

his house waking his wife to help him drag his first buck in over

Tom Byrde had a fantastic fall.

'huge buck?'years ago One of the benefits of
iving in a rural area is that now
and squeeze off a shot.
Unfortunately, the buck contin-
ued on and ran out of sight.
After two solid days of searching
for, the bruiser Collier had allyears ago One of the benefits of
iving in a rural area is that now
and start hunting, which is
start hunting, which is
shot, while hunting from a tree stand
on private land near. Baldwin.
On opening day of gun season
Byrde shot a 6-point buck that
had four times on one side and
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archery hunting season Byrde
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On opening day of gun season
Byrde shot a 6-point buck that
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son. He followed that up by drop-
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while hunting near Oscoda durg
on private land near. Baldwin.All art wo solid days of searching
but given unShoots, Ward was hunting with
his 44 magnum six-shotOn opening weekend of the
archery hunting season Byrde
on private land near. Baldwin.
On opening day of gun season
Byrde shot a 6-point buck that
had four times on one side and
two on the other.the early archery hunting bea-
son. He followed that up by drop-
ping, a spike with his shotgun
while hunting near Oscoda durg.
Ing the firearms season two on the other.

Jamie Battersby broke a 10year drought this fall and he did it in a big way. The Westland hunter shot his first deer ever when he tagged a button buck on state land in Pinckney during

Thinking of going into business?

son. He followed that up by drop-ping a spike with

report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Seud. information to 805 E. Maple, Birnis ingham, MI. 48009. Fax information to (810) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker, evenings at (810) 901-2573. Bill Parker is an Oxford resident

State & Some

te Mary

Q

J,



Outdoor Calendar

The buck had a green score of 1504/8.

Giving thanks: Marty Collier poses with the rack of an

11-point buck he shot over the Thanksgiving holiday.

mation.

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 . SOUIRREL

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 begin-ning 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

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 (248) 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 (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are noon to sunset on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursday's and Fridays and 10 a.m. to sunset on Wednesdays. On Saturdays and Sundays the rifle 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. Greenshield Rd. (three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178. **1998 PERMITS**

The 1998 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching per-mits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 and \$8 for senior citizens. The annual boat launching permits are \$18 and \$9 for se citizens. Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information. TOYS FOR TOTS

The Huron-Clinton Metroparks are serving as collection spon-sors for the Toys for Tots program. The program is conducted annually by the United States marine Corps Reserve to serve needy children in local communities by providing new, unwrapped toys during the holidays. Anyone wishing to donate a new, unwrapped toy of a nonviolent nature can do so through Dec. 17 at any Metropark office. Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more

information. DEER THROUGH THE SEASONS Explore the world of the park's largest mammal, the whitetail deer, through slides and a short walk during this program, which begins at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21, at Kensington.

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks, Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

RECYCLE CHRISTMAS TREES Ten Oakland County Parks will

a 9-point buck soon wandered

took the shot.



The Oakland County Sportsm 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. Satur-days 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 apprecia-tion 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 Gan-The club meets monthly at Gan-der Mountain in Waterford. The next meting is slated for 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 11. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more infor-

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PONTIAC LAKE

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. **Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is** located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (810) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 22 are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (810) 693-6767 for more information.

METROPARKS METROPARK REQUIREMENTS

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Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nomi-nal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call

be recycling Christmas tre Dec. 27-Jan. 11. Trees may be dropped off 9 a.m.-4 p.m., seven days a week. Independence Oaks and Orion Oaks will remain open for Christmas tree recycling through Jan. 25.

FULL MOON CROSS COUNTRY SKI Experience an evening of cross country skiing under the light of the full moon during this pro-gram, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at Indepen dence Oaks.

STATE PARKS STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS Maybury State Park, Proud

Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area. Highland Recreation Area and **Island Lake Recreation Area** offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and addiareas. For registration and addi-tional information on the pro-grams at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 699-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2433. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7067

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	cessing Secretary; entry level. Fax resume to: 248-473-8895	PUBLIC RELATION opening	Century 21 Row, (313) 464-7111	DENTAL TECHNICIAN	Westland office has immediate posi-
and a standard water water and the standard standard standard and the standard s		w/experience Knowledge of com- puter & good writing skills. Full or part-	SECRETARY/CLOSER	Westland dental lab is looking for	tion for experienced person with insur- ance background. Full time.
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	GENERAL OFFICE CLERK	seeks a highly motivated organized	Experienced individual needed to join our Secretarial team. MS Word profi-		
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	GENERAL OFFICE HELDWANTED	excellent phone and general office skills for front desk position. Know- edge of Microsoft Word, Excel and	Fast paced from has opening (or full time (s a posed) from the constrainty receptionet. "Buccessful "applicant much posed subderts (house et al. applicant the subderts (house et al. applicant the subderts (house et al. applicant the subderts) (house et al. applicant the subderts) (house fact your resume with eatary heads (house or mail to 23000 Orchard Lave Ref. (house 2000) Enterthelia (house) (house)	to work in marketing. Responsibilities include working with other practices.	ORAL SURGERY ASSISTANT
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We did it again!

Best Overall Classified Section

O&E, Thursday, December 25, 1997

When the folks we sent to the 1997 Michigan Press Association's ADCON 97 conference came back with 15 awards, (see box) we were excited—so excited that we decided to tell you, our readers, about it.

We gathered together some of the folks who were involved in doing the awardwinning work.

DOUN O

Best Classified Real Estate Idea	-First Place
Robertson Brothers	
Best Classified Real Estate Idea Black and White-	-First Place
Century 21	
Best Classified Automotive Idea/Color	- First Place 🛛 👔
Bill Brown Ford	
Best Classified Automotive Idea Black and White	Second Place

(NO)7

However, the picture session got a little out of hand. Everyone wanted to wave an award in the air.

What did we do? We used some of the creativity that makes us award-winners and pulled a few of last year's awards off the wall and smiled for the camera.

If you've ever won anything, you know what it took to win these: things like dedication, creativity, attention to detail, a love for the work itself, a high regard for the people we serve, pride in our newspapers, and a lot of roll-up-your-sleeves and get-it-done work. AD(ON G

At the rate we're going, we'll have to get more walls.

	8	Don Massey Cadillac
		Best Classified Directory Idea First Place
		Our New Homes Directory
		Best In-House Promotion First Place
		Earl E. Byrd
	2	Larr E. Byra
		Best Overall Classified SectionFirst Place
		Dest Overall classified Scolion
		Best Use of Newspaper Art Service Second Place
		Cornwell Christmas World
	100	
	1	Best Ad Idea: Black and White Honorable Mention
		Joe's Produce
		Best Spot Color AdSecond Place
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Observer & Accentrit NEWSPAPERS

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1. Cive the reader specific Information. Pretend you are someone reading the classifieds. What would you like to know about the item, service or Job you are advertising?.Be sure to add details such as colof, size, condition, brand name, age, features and benefits. Be accuratel Don't embellish your ad with misleading information. Stick to the facts and reap the rewards!

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2. Include the price. Don't waste your time or a potential buyer's time. If you advertise the price of the Item or service you offen the people who respond to your ad will be those who are genuinely interested. Surveys show that readers are more interested in those items and services they know are within their price services. 3. Avoid abbreviations. Don't make a potential customer work too hard! Although you may be tempted to cut down on the cost of your ad by using abbreviations, surveys indicate that many people

don't understand such abbrevlations as Elk (eat-in-kitchen) or WSW (white side wall) tires and won't take the time to figure them out. A confused reader is a disinterested reader. Get the most for your monev and use complete words.

ev and use complete words. **Observer Structure** <u>CLASSIFIED</u> ADVERTISING 070 OAKLAND.COUNTY 591.0900 WAYNE CO

644-1070 OAKLAND COUNTY 591 0900 WAYNE COUNTY 852-3222 ROCHESTER ROCHESTER HILLS

4. Include phone number and

4. Include phone number and specify hours. Be sure to let potential customers know when and where to call. Surveys show that even if a person is very interested in your item or service, he or she will not call back after the first attempt. Stay near the phone during the hours you indicate you will be available. Don't risk missing a sale!



5. Run on consecutive days. Your ad will not get results If people don't see it! Therefore, it is important to set up a consistent and consecutive ad schedule with your telephone salesperson or outside sales representative.

Bntertainment

The Freentric

Page 1, Section C



"The Living Nativity," is part of The Radio City Christmas Spectacular at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward. Detroit. Call (248) 433-1515 for tickets, and performance times.

ATURDAY



19 Wheels performs at the 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. Doors open at 8 p.m. for the 18 and older show. Tickets are \$6. (248) 335-8100.

SUNDAY.



Brook Theatre presents "A ChristmasCarol." 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28, at Oakland University, Rochester. Tickets \$23, (248) 377-3300.





Go cat go: When not touring the United States, the local rockabilly band Twistin' Tarantulas packs them in on Sundays at Fifth Avenue Billiards in Royal Oak. The band is, from left, drummer Alex "The Thrilla From Manila" Trajano, bassist/singer "Pistol" Pete Midtgard, and guitarist "Gorgeous" George Friend.

Twistin' Tarantulas:

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO STAFF WRITER

Feeling jovial, a teenage Pete Midtgard popped Humble Pie's "30 Days in the Hole" into his eight-track

player. "I had this speaker on the floor in my room that really was a card-board box with just a round speaker tied into it (sitting) on a hardwood floor," Midtgard recalled.

I cranked it up really loud and when the bass came in, the speaker started skating around on the floor like one of those little football guys. That's when I said, 'Man, I want to be that guy. I want to be the guy who makes the speaker rattle across the floor, and shake the glass.' I wanted to be

the bass player." Midtgard's bass playing abilities have undoubtedly improved since then as he's now known as "Pistol Pete" the lead singer

and upright bass player for the ro kabily band Twistin Tarantulas. Bass gripped tightly and sweaty hair flapping with the beat, Midtgard and his band attract dancers like flies to fly paper.

An amalgamation of rockabilly, swing, blues, R&B and rock 'n' roll, the Twistin' Tarantulas play constantly and still the clubs are invariably standing room only

the Year

Band of

The Twistin' Tarantulas were on the cusp of the rockabilly/swing revival long before others jumped on the now trendy bandwagon. Like rockabilly or hate it, the Twistin' Tarantulas rock.

The Twistin' Tarantulas are The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' 1997 Band of the Year.

Side project

Midtgard grew up in Pontiac attending Pontiac Central High School. He graduated, what he calls, "Phi Beta Drop Out."

"I was in a hurry to go to a new school school of hard rocks. I got a PhD from the hard knock school of adolescent rage. I can't push the first button on a computer, but I still remember binary codes."

While he was in school, he played multiple instruments including the tuba and trombone. It was at age 16 or 17 that he plopped in the aforementioned Humble Pie tape.

Who: Twistin' Tarantulas, Mudpuppy and Nobody's

Business What: Performs

When: 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 31 Where: Upstairs at Fifth Avenue Billiards, 215 W. Fifth Ave., Royal Oak. Why: It's New Year's Eve

How: Tickets are \$35 which includes a compli-mentary glass of champagne, or \$60 per couple which includes a complimentary bottle of champagne. Both ticket prices include a light buffet and party favors. Only those 21 and older will b admitted. For more information, call (248) 542-9922

man and the second second second Other shows:

Twistin' Tarantulas perform at 10 p.m. Sundays throughout December and January at Finth Avanue Billiards in Royal Qak They also perform at 10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at the Kodiak Grill, 45660 Mound Road, Utica. For more information, call (810) 731-1750. Twistin' Tarantulas play Saturday, Jan. 31, at the Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., in Ann Arbor.

Doors open at 9:30 p.m. for the 19 and older show. For more information, call (734) 996-8555. To sign up for the Twistin' Tarantulas' mailing list,

write "Pistol" Pete Midtgard at 2748 Vermont, Detroit, Mich., 48216

"I was into Humble Pie, Kiss, Led Zeppelin, Black Sabbath, Deep Purple, all the big arena bands. Back then I had a lot of the cultural habits that were real common in the '70s."

Hearkening back to his high school days, Midtgard and the Twistin' Tarantulas cover Misfits songs and Motorhead's "Ace of Spades."

What else? It's one of the greatest songs ever written as far as I'm concerned. I've done that song in every band I've been in. When I started playing the upright I wasn't about to change.'

Midtgard honed his skills in a variety of acts including the Frantic Flattops and Fly-ing Saucers. In December 1993, the Twistin' Tarantulas were created as a side project

Please see BAND, C2

llectible dolls and more, call (248) 348-5600.

the world's largest mobile train display, new and used model railroad and

toy trains, antique toys,

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Plan an informal, fun-filled New Year's Eve at home

What's On TV

New Year's Eve College Football Bowls Sun Bowl, El Paso, Texas - 2 p.m. CBS (WWJ), Arizona State (8-3) vs.

CBS (WW), Christian State (5-3) vs. lova (7-4). Bitherty Bowi, Memphie, Tenn. – 3:30 p.m. ESPN, Pittsburgh (6-5) vs. Southern Miss. (8-3) Effects Bowi, Tempe, Artz. – 7, p.m. CBS (WW), Kansas State (10-1) vs. Syracuse (9-3).

Countdown to 1998

Tonight Show, broadcast live - " 11:35 p.m. NBC (WDIV) Dick Clark's Rockin' Eye - 11:30 p.m. ABC (WXYZ) after the local

E When New Yeer's Attack When New Yee's Attacks - 11.
 Dm. For (WJBK) - live from Reno.
 So minute slow counts down to new
 year, festures top musical perform
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Sip champagne

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BY ELEANOR AND RAY HEALD SPECIAL WRITERS

You did it! You copped out and didn't get reservations for New Year's Evel Don't fret, you have a week and ,can either plan to max out at the peak of hedonism or cheap out.

Champagne and hedonism

Champagie and heddings pair nicely. In the category of magnificent indulgent unforgettable extravagant maxing out for around \$145 a bottle, you can get the world's best, 1989, Champagne Krug or the 1985, to usher in the new year. You have the champagne idea; now for the caviar,

Thyou we not purchased cavian basics - Austin in Cruiser at extention in the second

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View a video

BY JOHN MONAGHAN WRITE

Rest assured there are other ways to ring in a New Year than simply watching Dick Clark drop that silly ball in Times Square. Your local video store is more than, happy to meet your needs, whether you're spending the holiday with friends, a lover, or just by yourself. 🔳 Throw Your Own Pre

mier - it's easy to have your own premier with major movies that for some reason never made it to area screens. One that's getting decent, notices is "Traveler," starring "Titanic's". Bill Parton and there are the "Boogle Nights" Mark Wahlberg as gypsies who traverse the species of a the rural South, bilking people out of their money.



JOHN MONAGHAN SPECIAL WRITER

- 1 Jan

For awhile there it seemed like parlor and board games were all just derivations of Monopoly and Charades. That's not true anymore as stores have whole aisles of. ever ways to liven up New Year's Eve parties. Here's just a sample: Outburst - In a game, that promises "common knowledge and uncommon,

(学)



Please see CAME. US

hilarity!" you are given a topic like "Canine Commands" and must come up with all 10 desired responses in only 60 seconds. Other categories: "Dances of the Sixties" and "Parts of the Body that Come in Pairs." Planet Hollywood – Is the official game of the Tinge

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Please see, VIDEO, Ca 13.45.46

Band from page C1

for Midtgard - who was playing then of the R&B group the Sun with the Garfield Blues Band Messengers. and Johnny "Yarddog" Jones and "Gorgeous" George Friend,

WHEE

13

"I was doing pick-up blues gigs all around town playing the

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMENTIONS

Joe Morgenstern, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

"Astonishing and

Thrilling Entertainment!

Matt Damon delivers the year's best performance while Robin Williams gives the

finest performance of his career. What a wonderful gift for Christmas or any time

of the year -- 'Good Will Hunting' gives movies a good name!'

Janet Mastin, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"Smart and Touching

With a Very Warm Heart! Good Will Hunting' is passionately acted by Robin Williams and Matt Damon and directed with style and shrewdness by Gus Van Sant!"

David Ansen, NEWSWEEK

"Rich, Funny and

Filled With Emotional Truth!

Matt Damon is sensationally appealing. Ben Afficek is funny and touching... Minnie Driver is terrifict.

GOOD WILL HUNTING

THE NEW TIES AS GES VAN SAN

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR Rothin Welliams

upright until the Tarantulas finally got to a point where we were see-worthy. We've new been full time almost two years, Midtgard said:

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The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

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- Table Solo

Five drummers later. Alex 'The Thrilla From Manila" Trajano, formerly of the avant jazz troupe Blue Dog, is on skins. "Alex is awesome. Alex is the

find," Midtgard explained. Midtgard realizes that one day

he, too, may leave. "Musicians do come and go. That's the nature of musicians. They do a certain bag long enough then they get tired of it. Me, I have my own thing that I do. There will always be a Twistin' Tarantulas, but I think the only main stay is going to be me. Other guys are going to come and go. That's just something that you learn to accept after awhile."

Maracas player Frederick ("Ready Freddy") Spencer made an unexpected exit from the Twistin' Tarantulas Friday, Nov. 1, 1996. A captain in the armed services, Spencer was shining his shoes and brass buckles and buttons on the cloth wheel on a bench grinder. Police believe that his tie got caught, yanked

him down and snapped his neck. "I wrote a song about what I learned from that experience. It was a strange thing because I had this song in mind earlier. One time I was thinking about spectator sports and thinking about how spectators get so involved in this thing, but

Sip from page C1

they're not in the arena. I've never been able to understand that personally," Midtgard explained.

I was thinking about people who love to sit back and criticize the people that are in the arena -

doing the battle. They're not trying anything." The chorus, he said, encourages people to make the most of their lives,

"Thère might not be a tomor-row," Midtgard sang. "Thère'a not much left of today: So live your life in the arena and love don't sit in the stands and fade away."

Prior to Spencer's death, Midtgard struggled with the song's verses. Afterward, the words flowed.

"It was real simple then. It was the last time he taught me a lesson - that you should live. and love and love to live because

you never know your fate." "The Arena" will be on the Twistin' Tarantulas' follow-up to "Attack of the Twistin' Tarantulas," its debut CD released in the fall 1996. Midtgard is planning to record soon and release a new CD this summer. Also included on the CD will

be "Lighthouses." "'Lighthouse' is about different

people in my past that when I was wandering with no direction, these people were beacons. They were lighthouses when I was wandering too far away from where I should be."

After a pause, Midtgard said,

"Oh, I have to sing the chorus for you." "In my darkest moments when

I felt so alone/ At times when I'd wander so far from home/ You lit a candle while I cursed the dark/ You're a lighthouse in a foggy world?

Quickly, he sat up and admitted that he got the lighthouse/foggy world connec-tion from the Frank Capra film "Meet John Doe."

Fm writing songs with a little bit more serious subject matter. The first CD has a lot of those songs that I wrote when I first started playing rockabilly. My feeling about rockabilly at that time was that it had to be all fluff. You don't want to say anything too deep because it's just

fun, happy happy, joy joy music." "There's a couple songs on it that have odd twists to them like 'Snake in the Grass.' I'm sitting there telling this girl she's got to get away from this guy because he's treating her (badly) and by the way, I'm available. That was the only song I was lyrically proud of on that record.'

Mixing it up

A shuffle, a stroll and Latin and bossa nova beats have become standard fare for the Twistin' Tarantulas' shows.

"We try to educate. There's a real big dance scene that's evolving. For the longest time, all these so-called dancers all they could dance to was one groove, which is fast swing. All they

detractors, Chardonnay remains

know how to do is spin each other around and dance really fast. If you don't play fast swing, they wouldn't dance. Finally, Midtgard tossed out a threat.

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"I started saying to them,, 'Look man. If you're really, dancers then you should know. how to do a shuffle and a stroll and a mambo and a bossonova. If you're really going to get out here and wear the clothes, and wear the two-tone shoes and the pin-striped suits, you folks should learn how to dance to all. these different steps, not just Sing, Sing, Sing, "" :

Never mind the threats, the crowds keep pouring in to clubs like Fifth Avenue Billiards every Sunday night. Midtgard knows full well that his band is all about its live performances.

"We're a fun band to watch." Mitdgard said confidently while' crossing his arms. "It's not" because we put on some big dog and pony show. We enjoy what we do. That comes across. I lovethe music that I play. It comesfrom the bottom of my heart. I try to look nice, keep my hair combed."

"We try to mix it up. It's all in very similar vein. We play American roots music. We don't do one bag. We have a nice full bag of tricks. We can do swing. We can do blues swing. We can do straight-ahead rock 'n' roll'. We can do rockabilly. It all has a common denominator to it. It's always the three of us playing."

appetizer or 2 for main course.

As cheap as you can get

Order pizza, but of course, make your own! Use a thin: pizza crust, such as Boboli, available in supermarkets. Here are the toppings.

Vegetable Supreme Pizza: lightly sauté sliced tomatoes, mushrooms, onions and peppers. Arrange on top. Sprinkle with. basil and shredded mozzarella.; Italian Garden: spread thin: layer of ricotta cheese on crust. Add thinly sliced tomatoes and zucchini. Sprinkle with grated. Parmesan and black pepper.

Fresh Tomato Basil: Brush crust with olive oil. Top with thinly sliced tomatoes. Sprinkle: with basil, oregano, Parmesan and mozzarella. Bake all 8-10 minutes at 450oF.

Drink good but cheap red wine with your pizza. The following are \$10 or less. 1995 Napa Ridge Cabernet Sauvignon; 1995 Georges Duboeuf Cabernet Sauvignon; 1995 Lindemans Bin 45 Cabernet Sauvignon; 1996 Walnut Crest Merlot; 1996 Sut-ter Home Merlot; 1995 Linde-mans Bin 40 Merlot; or 1995 Fetzer Eagle Peak Merlot.

Have a great New Year's Eve!

STARTS THURSDAY DEC. 25TH

My dad showed me the difference between collecting coins and saving money.

When I was a kid, I thought he'd been collecting U.S. Savings Bonds. Until he said that his "collection" was for my college education and his retirement. Then I realized that he wasn't just "collecting" but "saving" to help insure our future. He told me that Savings Bonds are



DALLAN

sturgeon (beluga, ossetra or sevruga) and the sea from which they are taken (generally Caspian or Black). Other caviars are described as granular, pressed, flavored or pasteurized. It is most important to purchase fresh caviar. Beluga is the most

expensive. Fish departments of upscale grocery markets in the area regularly carry caviar during the holidays. Ordering caviar by telephone from a reputable importer and having it shipped overnight is a snap. We've used Caviarteria, Park Avenue, New York (800) 4-CAVIAR or for American caviars. Carolyn Collins Caviar Company, Chicago (800) 226-0342. Collins' caviar is a favorite of Executive Chef Keith Famie of Birmingham's Forté restaurant.

So what if you didn't get that diamond-studded Montblanc in your stocking. Become a style

mayen on New Year's Eve! Imitate James Bond. Who could be more sexy than the impeccably stylish, debonair Bond? Go to a New Year's Eve showing of "Tomorrow Never Dies," the lat-est James Bond film. Watch Pierce Brosnan as Agent 007 drink the 1989 Champagne Bollinger Grande Année \$70. This is the 19th Bond film and the eighth in which Agent 007 drinks his favorite champagne. You'll get thirsty, so have your bottle chilled and imitate the Bond style when you get home! It's also great with caviar.

You just want to stay home? Fine, rent the video of one or all seven other Bond films in which Agent 007 drinks Bollinger Champagne - "Live and Let Champagne – Live and Let Die," "Moonraker," "Octopussy," "A View to a Kill," "The Living Daylights," "License to Kill," "Golden Eye" and "Tomorrow Never Dies.

Bollinger Special Cuvée runs about \$30 if the Grande Année seems a tad pricey. No kidding, it's really good with fresh popcorn!

Dining in

dinner with wine. Despite its

America's most favorite white wine, 1996 Alderbrook Chardonnay \$13 is most appealing and handsomely pairs with the following recipe created by Alder-Winery Executive Chef brook

Prepare a simple, romantic is evenly coated. Serves 4 as an

Jim May. It has only five ingredients and a prep time of 10 minutes. Chevre is tangy and wakes up the palate. You do want to stay awake until midnight, don't you? TORTELLINI WITH CHEVRE 12 ounces chicken ravioli or tortellini from grocery dairy case 2/3 cup chicken stock 1 tablespoon sundried tomato bits or chopped sundried



Montrachet 1 teaspoon orange zest

Cook pasta in boiling water according to package directions. Meanwhile, bring stock to a boil; add tomato bits and cook for 2 minutes. Remove from heat. Add chevre and orange zest, stir until smooth. Drain pasta, add to chevre sauce and toss until pasta

"AN EPIC FILLED WITH ADVENTURE,

EXCITEMENT AND HOPE."

"BRAATHTAKING!"



backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, so they're secure. They earn interest for up to 30 years. And their value is guaranteed to grow at market-based rates. That's insuring the future So I guess that's why I started "collecting" U.S. Savings Bonds, too.

> Ask your employer or banker about saving with U.S. Savings Bonds. For all the right reasons.



EN Supervision



Video from page C1

■ Offbeat Romance – Before you rent "Sleepless in Seattle" , ■ Pre-"Scream" Screams – again, try a charming little romance called "Before Sunrise," "Screams" practically by heart, from Richard Linklater, the check out the offbeat movies Wes director of "Dazed and Confused" and "Slacker." Here Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy play young Bohemians who meet on the train in Europe and decide, on the spot, to spend one memo-rable night together in Vienna.

Better in Black and White - The holidays are almost over, but there's still time to "Shop Around the Corner" (1940) a Jimmy Stewart movie directed by Ernst Lubitsch that gives "It's a Wonderful Life" a run for its money. Here the stammering one plays head clerk at a Budapest gift shop who doesn't realize that the co-worker he constantly argues with (Margaret Sullavan) is the same woman he has been wooing

through a personals ad. Hong Kong Action – With the Hong Kong influence making itself more and more known through the American success of Jackie Chan, John Woo and hopefully soon Chow Yun Fat (his new movie opens in February), it's time to catch up with the Asian invasion on video. Now that you've seen Woo's "Face/Off," check out his "Hard Boiled," whose high-octane shootout in a big city hospital includes some of the most heartpounding action ever put on film.

New York, New York - If ou can't be in New York this holiday, you can see it in its glory in "On the Town" (1949), for my money the most exuberant MGM musical ever made. Here sailor boys Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Jules Munshin spend such a memorable 24 hours in Manhattan (it was filmed on location) that you'll be

AREA THE

Left," "The Hills Have Eyes," and "Deadly Friend" won't disappoint.

Pam Grier Marathon – After seeing the divine Miss Grier in Quentin Tarantino's "Jackie Brown," you may want to check out "Coffy" or "Foxy Brown," the 1970s blaxploitation epics that catapulted her from studio receptionist to international black superstar.

of a true cult movie is that it was ignored, maligned, or misunderstood upon its release. "Crash," "Kissed," and "Lost Highway" certainly fit this bill, three of the darkest, most-argued about, and challenging films of the year. If you haven't caught them yet, do so now if just for the sake of argument.

🖬 A Foreign Affair – It's probably a good idea to steer clear of Ingmar Bergman, especially if you're alone on New Year's Eve. Try instead something life-affirming, colorful and quirky, like "Umbrellas of Cherbourg," a stunning 1964 French musical starring an impossibly young Catherine Deneuve and

Secret of Roan Inish" was John Sayles' enchanting story based on Irish folklore. Relegated to art houses (and countless critics) 10 best lists), the movie didn't get the wide release it deserved, but should delight slightly patient (and fantasy-minded) kids and their parents.)

Game from page C1

The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997.

"TWO THÙMBS UP!"

<u>"The Best Bond Filmever!"</u>

Craven made before he became a must come up with as many household name, though prefer answers as possible while an ably those without II or III after electronic timer (with a 'Mission the titles. "Last House on the impossible"-style suspenseful Left "the Hills House on the impossible". tune) gives the game tension:

■ Monopoly Special Editions – You've probably lost the shoe, and the few \$100 bills that remain are looking pretty dogeared. Still, even if you do buy the "Deluxe Edition," featuring gold game pieces, wooden hotels and houses, and card carousels for each player, it won't prevent your opponents from hitting Boardwalk before you do.

And in a twist on the "Your

town-themed restaurants, play-ers, are given categories like Reasons to press STOP on your VCR," "Famous Blond Actors," or "Movies with One Name," You the pewter tokens now resemble X-wing fighters as you develop cities and spaceports throughout the galaxy.

Channel Surfing – The favorite pastime of couch pota-toes worldwide is now a popular (and socially acceptable) parlor game. Using the remote control on your cable television (not included), you must search for such items as "Tacky Outfits," "Fruit," or "Somethings That Makes You Gag," all explained for you on game cards. In a clever twist, a "Ring" could be a wedding ring, but it could also be a sound

"ABSOLUTELY

INCREDIBLE!

TERRIFIC

Tom Clancy's Politika - For those of you/frustrated by the world political situation, here's a strategy game that allows you to control the fate of modern Rus-sia. The premise here is that the Russian President has died, leaving the country in the hands of the Russian mafia. Unlike the books, where you're at the mercy of the Mr. Clancy's literary whims, here you call the shots. Act One - Another game

vhere knowledge of Holly helps, this time with 1,400 lines or other clues from the most memorable moments in TV and movie history. Draw a card, act out a scene, and then your partners have to guess what it is, based on your performance and their familiarity with classics such as "I Love Lucy," "Star and Wars," "The X-Files," and "The Codether"

(NO)C3

Compatibility – A game like illi this can either lead to holiday (44) fun or some serious family disharmony. Here you and your partner choose a subject that both of you have some strong feelings about and then picks from a stack of pictured cards

with related images, The "Marriage" category might prompt a cuddly Teddy bear, but there are also cards of prison cells. Rank these pictures in order of personal importance and watch the sparks fly.

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Godfather." 10%







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Martin Contraction - Martin Martin





rereleased last year on video. Not Just For Kids – "The

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QUO VADIS SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE ANTERNA	AMC WONDERLAND SHOWCASE DEARBORN STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	

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The Observer & Eccentric/ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1997

The second s SCREEN SCENE uirky movies highlight holiday weekend structing Harry" and "The Sweet

BY JOHN MONAGHAN SPECIAL WRITER

Hollywood has long made Dec. 25 a high-profile opening date for end-of-the-year movies. Far from a dumping ground, many of these films need to open before New Year's to qualify for Oscar nominations.

The eight movies bowing today run the gamut from quirky comedy to numbing tragedy. Three of them, "Jackie Brown," "Decon-

MORGAN FREEMAN ANTHONY HOPKINS

DJIMON HOUNSOU MATTHEW McCONAUGHEY

NOW PLAYING

R

FREEMAN AND HOPKINS ARE SHOO-INS FOR ACADEMY AWARD

NOMINATIONS." TERRY LAWSON, DETROIT FREE PRESS

"TWO THUMBS UP."

DREAMWORKS PICTURES PRESENTS. IN ASSOCIATION WITH HBO PICTURES "AMISTAD" NIGEL HAWTHORNE DAVID PAYMER PETE POSTLETHWAITE STELLAN SKARSGÅRD AVATH WALTER PARKES LAURIE MACDONALD

AMC MAPLE 3

BIRMINGHAM 8

Hereafter" feature between them so much mayerick moviemaking that you hope other filmmakers use them as the basis for their New Year's resolutions.

In his first film as director since "Pulp Fiction," Quentin Tarantino has assembled a few of his favorite things and rolled them together into something called "Jackie Brown." The movie is based on a novel by Elmore Leonard, stars '70s action

AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY

RENAISSANCE 4

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINEE

BEST PICTURE BISEACTOR DEarson BISEST SUPPORTING ACTOR BISED DIRECTOR

heroine Pam Grier, and features watching television.

a soundtrack of vintage soul. At well over two hours, the combination grows unwieldy to say the least. Grier plays an air-line stewardess collared for drug and money smuggling who promises to play ball with ATF agents to bring down the murderous gun salesman Ordell (Sam Jackson.)

The plot thickens (and sometimes coagulates) when she makes a side deal with Ordell to smuggle more money under the noses. The most interesting thing about the payoff is the way Tarantino plays with one of his trademark: non-linear time. Ultimately, this is more an

Elmore Leonard movie than a Tarantino one. The kinetic qualities and bizarre twists that made "Pulp Fiction" such a blast are replaced here by characters and twists of fate that probably worked far better on the page before Tarantino got ahold of it.

Still, you have a fascinating cast, including '70s TV actor Robert Forster as an aging bail bondsmen, Robert De Niro as Ordell's right hand man and Bridget Fonda as a "surfer girl" whose self-confessed ambitions consist of smoking pot and

Bizarre casting continues to be a staple of Woody Allen movies and "Deconstructing Harry' is no exception. His best film in years stars Kirstie Alley, Demi Moore, Elisabeth Shue, Richard Benjamin, and Julia Louis-Dreyfuss in another intensely person-al story of a self-absorbed writer (Allen, of course) whose complex relationships fuel his fiction.

The movie poises between real-life and the writer's short fiction, adding up to a reminder of how clever Allen truly is as a short story author. In one, a young man uses the bachelor pad of a dying friend to date a prostitute. When the doorbell rings, a black-cloaked vision of death insists that, despite the man's pleas of mistaken identity, it's time to meet his maker.

How Allen juxtaposes these stories with real life is consis-tently clever. Who else would cast scratchy-voiced Demi Moore as the fictional equivalent of Kirstie Alley?

In yet another homage to favorite directors Ingmar Bergman and Federico Fellini, Allen references the former's Wild Strawberries" when the writer makes a long, flashback-

filled trek to his old school's awards ceremony. By the end, he is in a Fellini version of hell, with naked writhing women and an office for Satan with central air. And doesn't anyone else find it funny that the nearly 60-year-old Allen has wooed some of the screen's most beautiful women in recent years? Julia Roberts and Helena Bonham-Carter have recently succumbed to his charms and now there's Elisabeth Shue, as a fan-turned-lover who the writer warns (a la "Manhattan") not to fall in love with him. These inside jokes are only

frosting on the cake for a truly inspired movie that defines the nature of the artist as loner. loser, lover, misanthrope and hedonist. With Woody Allen, you get all of the above. "The Sweet Hereafter," the

latest from Canadian Atom Egoyan, won the top prize at Cannes this year. But don't let that, or the film's depressing content, scare you away. In one of the richest film expe-

riences this year, Ian Holm plays a lawyer who descends on a small Northern Canada town after a bus accident has killed virtually all of the town's children. While some welcome his

promise that justice will be served, others rightly see him as a money-hungry shyster profiting from misery. Yet it's difficult to see Holm's

character strictly in terms of vil-lain. Throughout the proceedings, he is constantly reminded of his own heroin-addicted daughter, who constantly rings his cellular phone with sweet talk but inevitably tries to squeeze him for drug money What Holm and the townspeople need to realize is that fate doesn't play by the rules. And despite the human need to lay blame on senseless tragedy, sometimes none can be found.

Egoyan, known for complex (often pretentious) studies of family politics, gets it right this time. With his clever use of wide screen, he creates at least one image that will be burned forever into your mind: a bright yellow school bus carefully negotiating turns on icy mountain roads, surrounded by an endless expanse of heavenly white snow.

To leave John Monaghan a voice mail message, dial (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1866.

Liang Lin. The concert was in

Ann Arbor with the Ars Poetica

Chamber Orchestra. It's a highlight because he's such a bril-

liant player. And I love that orchestra, because it's made up of top players from Detroit,

Cleveland and Dallas, who they fly in to put on these fabulous

I asked Dave to predict a high point for 1998. "The ongoing Pro Musica series at the DIA. They

always bring great arts - up and

coming artists – into a very inti-mate setting. Every program has been spectacular, and you're

"For the Pro Musica series, the DIA always has an afterglow

where you can actually talk to

the performer. I don't know who

gets a bigger kick out of it, the audience or the musicians. And

that's because classical musi-

cians are used to sort of being

secondary to the music itself.

They're conduits - they play the

music, but the music is the star.

That's what's special about the

Pro Musica series, it's so differ-

ent from the typical classical

music setting. People get to connect with the musicians, much

like what you hear that all the

time in country music – the stars connecting with their fans. I

think that's a good thing." Bringing a touch of Twitty to

Tchaikovsky is what makes Dave special. We're lucky to

have Dave connecting people to the classical music scene on Backstage Pass. Make a resolu-

tion to find out why.

close to the performer.

concerts.

Dave Wagner accepts end of good run

Tis the season for giving, acceptance, peace on earth and goodwill toward men. Unfortunately, it's also the season for busy malls and parking lots, slow mail delivery and office par-ties at which

more than a few employees will do and say things they'd regret if they could only remember them. It's the time of year newspaper

and magazine columns recap the year that was, too. And why should this one be any different? Besides, with Backstage Pass pre-empted to make way for special holiday programming on Detroit Public Television, we have time and space.

Speaking of having time on one's hands, one of our crack

or Ghef

DILIDAYS

Backstage Pass correspondents has found himself with a dubious temporal windfall: Dave Wagner was victimized by a format change after 18 years at classical radio station WQRS-FM. Even when he says it himself, the number surprises Dave. "18 years? Wow, that's a long time. I wonder what that is in radio years?" He doesn't wait for Lorne Green to do the math, saying, That's a heck of a good run. Not too many people in the radio business get to do the same show on the same station for such a long time.'

What? Here I am ready to hunker down and get small about corporate radio's abandonment of classical music, and Dave's already over it! "The past is gone. I've taken a Zen sort of attitude on all this. When you buy a house and it's a colonial and it's white and it's your house, and you paint it pink, you have the right to do that.

He's optimistic about classical music returning to Detroit radio. "My hope is that another operator will look to the radio dial and say, "Gee, nobody else is doing this. This is a great opportunity. Let's do classical again in Detroit." I think it will happen. I don't know what form and on what frequency, but I'd like to be

involved. Assuming the loss of what that venerable format is the nadir of the year in classical, I asked Dave for his 1997 highlights. "Back in February, there was a great recital by violinist Cho-



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TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX MESCUS 1 JOHN HUGHES MEANTERS 'HOUE ALONE 5' ALEX D. LINZ HAVLAND JUDRES "ME NICK GLENNIE SNITH DATE BRIVCE GREEN, ALC. MALCOLM CANPBELL "MASSAS HENRY BUVSTEAD SKESSES JULIO MACHT. BESNER RICARDO MESTRES 'MAY RIVAN HUGHES HILTON GREEN 'MATE AON HUGHES "MENTER HULIO MACHT. BESNER RICARDO MESTRES 'MAY RIVAN HUGHES HILTON GREEN 'MATE AON HUGHES "MENTER HULIO MACHT. BESNER RICARDO MESTRES 'MAY RIVAN HUGHES HILTON GREEN 'MATE AON HUGHES "MENTER HULIO MACHT. BESNER RICARDO MESTRES 'MAY RIVAN HUGHES HILTON GREEN 'MATE AON HUGHES "MENTER HULIO MACHT. BESNER RICARDO MESTRES 'MAY RIVAN HUGHES HILTON GREEN 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AND HUGHES HULION GREEN 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AND AN HUGHES 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AND AN HUGHES 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AND AN HUGHES 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AON HUGHES 'MATE AND AN HUGHES 'MATE AND AN HUGHES 'MATE AND AND AND AND AN HUGHES 'MATE AND AN HUGHES 'MATE AND	S	MA
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How often have you been out in the garage, down in the basement or up in the attic and said to yourself, "Gosh, I'd love to get rid of some of this stuff, but it would cost too much to advertise it?"

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:*

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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!

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Halo, halo

Heavenly: These pint-sized, handpainted clay angels are sure to become treasured family keepsakes. Available for \$6.50 each at Annétte's Unique Boutique, 3646 Rochester Road in Troy. Call (248) 680-1600.



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Design delights: Out of Trinidad, Colo., comes Danielson Designs, featuring lamps, frames, clocks, mirrors, tables and trinket boxes. Costs include \$56 for candlestick lamps, \$28 for frames and \$57 for clocks. Available at The Velvet Plum, 595 Forest in Plymouth. Call (313) 207-0666.

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

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Page 3D.

marketplace

Special delivery In the bank:

These limited edition coin banks were constructed from original post office box doors, with registered serial number and combination. The doors are set in beautifully crafted oak. and measure seven by 7-1/2 inches and 4-1/2 by 6 inches. Costs are \$58.88 and \$46.88. Available at A

Shady Business, 39670-14 Mile in Walled Lake. Call (248) 669-2440.



Floral finery

Sec. Sec.

Take a bow: Hudson's offers handcrafted wreaths and topiaries that were created in California from dried roses, eucalyptus and other natural florals. Costs are \$125 for the 26-inch wreath and \$75 for the 22-inch topiary.

Thursday, December 25, 1997 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC® At Home



garden spot

Bayberry candles bring luck, scent



MARTY FIGLEY

of the holidays. An old tradition in New England is to burn a bayberry candle down to the nub on New Year's Eve, then good luck will come your way in the new year. If you burned the candles on Christmas Eve, another good luck custom, you're probably in for an extra-special year!

Merry Christ-

mas! This is a most

important time in

our lives as we cel-

ebrate this glorious

Perhaps you

have been burning

bayberry candles

and will continue

to enjoy their fra-

grance for the rest

season

Bayberries grow on a bush, Myrica cerifera, and are also known as wax myrtle or candleberry. The shrub is dense and woody and grows on the sandy shores along the Atlantic coast from Canada to Florida and the Bahaman

Islands. The California bayberry, Myrica californica, grows on the coastal dunes of California, Oregon and Washington.

Many tiny gray-green berries grow on the shrubs and are ready for picking in the fall. State wildlife organizations in many areas now list them as protected species

Generally it takes two pounds of bayberry wax to make one dozen molded candles; if they are dipped it takes more. The wax is found in the thin outer layer of the berry; the rest of it is discarded. The spicy fragrance is emitted from the smoke when the candles are extinguished.

The process of making bayberry candles isn't quick, nor is it easy. The berries are boiled in water and after cooling the wax rises to the top to form a layer that is skimmed off. The skimmed wax is then reheated, the resultant impurities settle to the bottom of the pot, then the liquid is strained through cheesecloth into storage containers.

To achieve the gray-green color we associate with the candles, the second heating must be done in a copper kettle because the chemical action of the copper on the wax is necessary for this transformation.

There you have it. Enjoy your candles and treasure the memory of the early colonists who learned how to craft them

Poinsettia point

The poinsettia you are enjoying this Christmas season may have been grown in our state.

The Allied Florists Association of Metropolitan Detroit reports that Michigan poinsettia growers raise 20 different varieties of these favorites in greenhouses in our cold Michigan. Consequently, the state is fifth in production of them.

Local growers include Mike Dinser of Novi, Mandel's of Mount Clemens and Brian Maruaso of Romulus.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham.

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and sugar and



Marty Figley Special glow: Bayberry candles and a warm fire make Christmas memories.

You can leave her a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touchtone phone, then her mailbox number. 1859.

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SUN 12-5



Bergen

12.15

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ANTHER THE FEATURE AND A LODGE

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Subdivision salutes special settings



Summer sights: Jay and Elena Houlihan were given third place for their surroundings in the Fox Hills subdivision's first Beautification Awards. Elena poses in the photo below.



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BY MARY KLEMIC At Home Editor

The Fox Hills subdivision in Bloomfield Hills showed a special kind of neighborliness recently.

This summer, community residents started their own Beautification Award. They nominated their neighbors for the award, judged on the criteria of lawn, home, garden landscaping, variety/content, color, creativity and continuity (flow).

Prizes were given, signs were posted in recipients' yards, and an afterglow party took place.

"The motivation behind the award is twofold," beautification committee president Dave Hathaway said.

"First, we want to acknowledge and honor the families that have spent the time, energy and investment on maintaining and beautifying their homes and our neighborhood.Second, we hope to inspire other families to do the same. Ultimately, the image and value of the community will be enhanced by everyone's contribution."

The Auburn Oaks Nursery donated gift certificates: \$125 for first place, \$75 for second and \$25 for third. Signs by K.C. Graphics of Oakland County.

"We were very pleased with their signs," said Fran Portnoy, who was on the judging committee with Hathaway, Dottie Slater, and Vonnie Rivers.

Award recipients who produced little plots of paradise enjoy the beauty of their surroundings, and get pleasure from the planning and work.

First place went to Bob and Mary Morian. Their yard is filled with yucca, hostas and annuals. The selection of the plants was developed over a period of time within the 23 years the family has lived in the subdivision.

Second place went to Marvin and Gwendolyn Whiting, who have lived in Fox Hills since 1990.

"I was pleased," Marvin Whiting said, "I work in my yard pretty hard.

"I put in flowers with no real concern about the types, just for the beauty,"

He works for "pure pleasure," he said.

"I love working in my yard. Some people love jogging."

Third place went to Jay and Elena Houlihan. The afterglow, with fruit and cheese, was at the home of Marilyn Smith. Smith, who received honorable mention, recently was given a prize from Bordine for her annuals.

Announced in the subdivision newsletter, the award drew 30 to 35 nominees, Portnoy said "The first year we were worned we would not get a

enough," she said.

Thursday, December



Special settings: Marvin and Gwendolyn Whiting received second place. Marvin Whiting said he works in the yard for "pure pleasure," Photos by William Hansen



Plans are to have the awards every year. In the meantime, savor the summer sights on this page during the winter.

"Spring and summer will come again," Mary Morian said.

On the cover:

Gwendolyn Whiting Is shown in her yard, which was awarded second place by Judges in her Bloomfeld Hills subdivision. Photo by William Hansen

1997 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC At Home



appliance doctor

Small shops can do repairs better



Last week's column described Sears phone service provided to consumers for advice on service problems. The \$12 charge for this service seems rather inexpensive compared to the actual cost of having a technician come out to your home.

JOE GAGNON

There's no doubt that the 2 million people expected to use this service during 1997 will have saved and gained knowledge about their product. As other companies begin to do the same, the question is, "What will happen to the small independent service company in this country?"

Let's take an appliance repair company called "Charlie's Service" which has been answering telephones for more than 40 years and helping consumers with service problems. To build a rapport with potential customers has always been his goal and it has worked well by always giving them free advice. Should we now begin to charge those many thousands who call him every year? I'm sure he wishes that he could, but he can't.

He knows there are many others who don't charge for telephone advice on how to fix a problem and that if he does, he'll lose the foundation of his customers that he spent years to develop. The answer to his dilemma is to do whatever he's been doing and to do it better than before.

Good honest competition such as Sears' phone service can only be a benefit to the consumer. Charlie has always recognized that the customer is always number one. As an example of how the smalls service business can do it better, let me rewrite a letter received by Charlie from Francis in Farmington.

'A week and a half ago my daughter called me from Milwaukie, Ore., and told me her Maytag washer was not spinning the water out. I told her I'd call your store for info. (her washer is second hand and she can't afford expensive repairs). I don't know who I talked to at your store, but after briefly explaining the problem to him, he offered to call my daughter in Oregon and give her instructions on what to do.

"Lisa (my daughter) is expecting anytime now so she couldn't do anything with the washer. She wrote down the

At Home , OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC .

directions and her husband fixed the washer. I just want to say thank you to you and your crew, and especially to the man who was kind enough to call my daughter in Oregon. It is unheard of to find such a store where the staff go out of their way to actually help people.

"This kind of thing cost you time and money (to call long distance) and yet you do it. I am very impressed and very appreciative, as is my daughter and her husband. Thank you all so very much. Sincerely, Francie.'

Folks, the above letter is just one example of how small businesses can do it better. There is tons of work out there, enough to keep many of the small guys alive if they can incorporate their thinking toward the benefit of the consumers. With the way they're making some of

Please see GAGNON, D11



THAT COUNTRY FEELING

THAT COUNTRY FEELING With all of the high-tech wizardry that surrounds us these days, is it any wonder that many homeowners opt for country-style furnishings? Among the characteristics common to country furniture are its purely functional design, its sturdiness, simplicity, and straightforwardness. Country styles were adapted from the furniture of the aristocracy and the pieces were handcrafted from materials common to the countryside. Hallmarks of this totally unself-conscious furniture include its handcrafted model and-carved woods, its unself-conscious furniture include its hand-rubbed and hand-carved woods, its hand-loomed fabrics, and pleasantly uncomplicated color schemes. Also central to the look are bright chintz and calico fabrics, braided rugs over bare floors, quilts and comforters, and homespun accessories. All these touches impact a homey feeling. impart a homey feeling.

Your house is likely to be your most significant financial investment. Visit us at 977 E. 14 Mile Rd., Troy, (248-616-3585) or 43606 W. Oaks Drive, Novi (248-349-0044) to learn how we can help turn your house into a home. An attentive designer house into a home. An attentive designer will review your personal tastes and provide you with the recommendations and materials you need to create beautiful interiors. We feature a wide selection of finely crafted furniture to suit ever taste and budget requirement. Business hours are M, T, Th, & F 10-9; W & Sat 10-6, and by appointment. Ask us about this weekend's no interest and no payments for one year plan. Happy New Yearl

HINT: Country elem

Thursday, December 25, 1997 D9



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Showroom Hours: Mon. & Thurs. 10-8 Tues., Fri., Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 12-5 • Closed Wed.

©1997 Housing

celebrating family

Safetyproof family for cold weather



LISA LUCKOW-HEALY

are ice skating, sledding, skiing, strolling through a park or enjoying the cozy warmth of your own home, these winter pastimes can all pose serious winter hazards if your family isn't safety conscious.

Thin ice, below-freezing temperatyres, improper winter clothing, icy sidewalks, portable heaters and faulty household heating put your family at risk of serious injuries.

When cold weather strikes, it is important to think safety first by remembering several simple rules of thumb.

Dress in layers. Better to be able to

take a layer off when you are too warm than not to have enough clothing to fend off frostbite.

Wear a hat to help prevent heat loss from your head. Put gloves on your child's hands under the waterproof mittens. It is also a good idea to wear two pairs of socks, even in lined boots.

Snow pants help repel snow that tends to cling to your child's pants after rolling in it, while helping retain warmth. A scarf will keep drafts out, but remember to tuck the loose ends in for your child so he or she doesn't get the ends caught on a tree branch or other object that could pose a choking hazard. Check your child's skin when he or

she comes in from the cold.

"A child's nose, ears, hands and feet are particularly susceptible to frostbite, and uncommon but potentially serious winter-related ailment," said Dr. Gregg DiGuilio, attending emergency physician and assistant professor of pediatrics at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati.

If skin is red and swollen, cover it with a warm washcloth or blanket until the skin improves, or call the doctor if you don't see any improvement. Never put your child in tight-fitting clothing when going outdoors, permit him or her to wear wet clothing outdoors, or rub what you suspect could be frostbitten skin.

Avoid walking and running on slippery areas whenever possible. You don't have to be a child to heed this rule. Anyone can fall on slippery areas and experience unnecessary injury.

Clear sidewalks and walkways to your home when snow falls to avoid icy patches that occur from melting snow. Throw rock salt on icy areas to help clear walkways when a shovel won't do. Wear rubber-soled boots or shoes with good treads for better traction.

Only use winter sporting equipment that is safely constructed. Whether your family is sledding, skating, skiing, snowmobiling or taking in another winter sport, poorly designed sporting equipment does more harm than good.

Sleds should be sturdy. Avoid piling too many people on a sled that isn't designed for your load. Likewise, permitting your child to sled down a hill headfirst or walk in the path of an oncoming sled is only asking for trouble. Adult supervision is always a good idea.

When skiing, check for slope obstacles and icy conditions before shushing down any hill.

Install carbon monoxide detectors in every bedroom of your home, and smoke detectors on every level of your home. Every year, news stories emerge about the loss of a loved one due to carbon monoxide poisoning, and fires caused by portable heaters and woodburning stoves.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that, when built up in a room, causes poisoning that can cause neurological disorders, brain da.nage and potentially death. Poisoning can result from any appliance that burns gas, oil, kerosene, wood or charcoal.

If any member of your household experiences flulike symptoms and your detector goes off, immediately leave your home, and call 911 and your local utility company.

After the utility company has inspect-

Please see LUCKOW-HEALY, D11



pains. Whether you r are ice skating, y trolling through a he cozy warmth of

Winter cold is

often as agonizing

as a winter cold

brought on by a

virus. When you're

not prepared for it,

lack Frost just

might come nip-

ping at your nose

inflicting his own

brand of aches and

at home calendar

The All Charles of the All States of the

The Detroit Gallery of Contemporary Crafts; in the Fisher Building, presents its annual holiday show through Dec. 31. Call (313) 873-7888. The gallery offers special one-of-a-kind pieces and a great selection of creative gift ideas for less than \$20.

Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800

Luckow-Healy from page D10

ed your home, fixed the problem and is certain carbon monoxide levels are safe, then and only then should you re-enter your home.

Mark a date on your calendar every year to change your smoke detector batteries, and regularly check batteries every month. When you leave a room in your house, turn off portable heaters. Never leave these heaters on while your family sleeps.

If you have young children, protective fireplace screens help prevent them from getting too close to fires or even falling in. Make sure matches or lighters are out of reach. A fire in the fireplace is nice to snuggle up to on a cold winter day, but under no circumstances should you leave it burning when you go to bed or leave the house.

N. Dixboro in Ann Arbor, offers adult education courses. Call (313) 998-7061. Included are "Bonsai," three Sundays beginning Jan. 4; and "Winter Hiker," which begins Wednesday, Jan. 7, and continues over three Saturdays in January and February in the Ann Arbor area, and has a weekend trip to Pellston.

Keep your first aid kit stocked yearround. Always review expiration dates on any medication or topical ointment, discarding any that are past due.

In addition to basic first aid kit essentials, several first aid items are particularly helpful during the winter months, including a blanket, asthmatic supplies (for cold weather attacks), petroleum jelly, and sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.

Lisa Luckow-Healy is a marketing consultant and freelance writer who regularly contributes to several parenting publications. To leave her a message about how you "celebrate family," call her from a touch-tone phone at (313) 953-2047, then her mallbox number, 1903, or e-mail your comments to LiHealy@aol.com

Gaanon from page D9

these appliances today, some of these guys may be busier than ever:

The major utility companies in this country are providing home warranty plans for homeowners at unbelievably inexpensive costs for coverage. Do you notice that there is a swing toward helping consumers with appliance problems in these latter years of the '90s.

With the turn of the century, we will have gained enough consumer awareness that hopefully, those unethical in any service industry will not be able to stay in business.

This guy who writes this column will use any trick he can for the benefit of consumers. Even if it means writing for a great newspaper where consumers get advice for free, or doing a radio show where the whole nation gets free information.

Have a happy holiday and remember next year will be even better.

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.

the state of the second st



Winston: This cat doesn't mind being turned all around and flipped over as long as you're giving him hugs and kisses. He is 2 years old, loves kids and always uses his litter box. Winston (No. RO80733) and other pets are at the Michigan Humane Society Rochester Hills Shelter, (248)852-7420.



S. Malah





Holidays are a time for special stories

BY DOUG FUNKE STAFF WRITER

GA

Information Center (248) 620-6603

This is the season for heartwarming, inspirational and even offbeat stories. Peace on earth, goodwill to all, a season of human connectedness

Lee Bittinger, broker/owner of RE/MAX Classic in Canton, remembers how the transaction resulting in no room at the inn, figuratively speaking, blossomed into a wonderful friendship,

"The sellers were moving out of town and had occupancy of the house until January," he said. The buyers, due to be married three days before Christmas, were forced out of their houses as part of their sales agreements.

"The sellers agreed to let them move in," Bittinger said. "It was actually three different families together in a house of about 1,400 square feet. The sellers had three children, one of the buyers had three kids, the other two. So you had eight kids and four adults there.

We (Bittinger's wife and business partner, Noel) went over on Christmas to visit. It was pretty crowded, but everyone was happy. They lived together about a week and a half.

"The sellers attended the wedding. That happened about eight years ago, and they've stayed in touch ever since," Bittinger said.

John DiMora, a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Schweitzer in Northville, had what he called a weird experience last Christmas Eve.

"I had a listing \$500,000 about 5,500 square

feet," he said. "I showed an older lady the house and she kept saying, 'They'll love it, they'll love

We were able to put the deal together for her and, when all was said and done, I asked her, 'How many people will live in the house?' It was quite large

"She said, 'Just two of us,' DiMora related. "I was surprised and asked her when she kept saying , 'They'll love it,' who she was referring to? She was talking about her furniture, and it would be a nice Christmas present that she found them a suitable home. She had all kinds of antiques.

Bowen Broock is broker/owner of Max Broock offices in Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Clark-ston, Rochester and West Bloomfield.

"I was a rookie on the team back in 1960," he recalled. "Detroit had just gone through something of a business recession. Business was kind of slow.

"I can remember a lady who took what we call floor time for someone on Christmas Eve afternoon. The last shift was 12 to three, which no one wanted. Cynthia Rice was her name. She was very outgoing, very customer-oriented.

"Of course, there hadn't been a single call, but she was faithfully staying there," Broock said. "Then, just before 3 o'clock, just as she was getting ready to lock up the building, she got a floor call.

"She serviced the call. People were in from out of town looking to buy a home. She showed

them properties until 6:30. One particular home they found appealing, she wrote an offer and took it to the owner, who was flabbergasted.

The offer was accepted nd final arrangements ere agreed to at 8:30 or 9 at evening," Broock said. his house was in Bloomeld Village and sold for 85,000 to \$87,000. That's quivalent to nearly half a

million today.

"It was a good example of some-one willing to get out there and serve who was rewarded. Also, you never know when opportunity on neighborliness straight from the Little House on the Prairie.

"Around Christmas many years

ago, I sold a house in Commerce," Ilitch said. "The people were moving in, and the well went dry. It was a holiday; they couldn't get anyone out to fix the well.

Their neighbor gave them a hose from their house so they could have water," Ilitch said. "That hose froze, so they put in another hose

And that's how they happened to meet.

HELENITURCEAN/SDAFFAR

Dennis Dickstein, broker/owner of Ralph Manuel Associates West in Farmington Hills, recently took three days to find an artist a condominium after the artist had been looking at houses for a year with others.

The Eccentric

NO. Page 1, Section 2

"His eyes lit up," Dickstein said. "It's turned into an emotional thing. They feel this was a major lucky thing for them, a (Christ-. mas) gift early."

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will come knocking," Broock said. Nada Ilitch, broker/owner of Century 21 Nada in Farmington Hills, recalls a holiday experience

These are the Obs	erver &	5122 Iroquois Blvd	\$119,000	Keego Harb		Oxford	. ·	2175 Kennedy Dr.	\$268,000	438 Evaline Dr	\$224,000
Eccentric-area res	idential	4754 Mohawk Blvd	\$60,000	2124 Cass Lake Rd	\$33,000	3719 Estate Dr	\$111,000	2823 Kilburn Ct	\$278,000	1422 Hartwig Dr	\$120,000
real-estate closings	recorded	5055 Paula Ave	\$147,000	2314 Cass Lake Rd	\$72,000		\$168,000	2298 London Bridge Dr	\$130,000	2940 Hill Dr	\$168,00
December 1 - 5	at the	6604 Plum Ln	\$143,000	Lake Orion		191 Lakeview Dr	\$139,000	2521 Longview Ave	\$58,000	5776 Hunters Gate Dr	\$287,00
Oakland County Re	gister of	5955 Princess Ln	\$135,000	2452 Browning Dr	\$168,000	63 Pontiac St	\$152,000	97 Manor Way	\$133,000	172 Millstone Dr	\$369,00
Deeds office and cor	nplied by	5416 Stowe Trl	\$280,000	60 Conklin Road	\$31,000	201 Riseman Ct	\$50,000	751 Oakbrook Rdg	\$109,000	2999 Pine Hill Dr	\$152,00
Advertising That V		597 Sunrise Dr	\$193,000	1183 Cottonwood St	\$232,000	Rochester		827 Oakbrook Rdg	\$103,000	1727 Pinoak Ct	\$282,00
Bloomfield Township		9585 Yale	\$120,000	606 Crediton St	\$97,000	470 Baldwin Ave Apt 23		161 Perrydale St	\$174,000	6073 Riverton Dr	\$292,00
ny that tracks de	ed and	Commerce Town	ship	134 Eagle Ridge Rd	\$40,000		\$185,000	1715 Ridgecrest	\$214,000	2689 Roundtree Dr	\$90,00
mortgage record		1989 Alsup St	\$177,000	454 Fay Ct	\$136,000	212 Glenmoor Dr	\$238,000	3630 Salem Dr	\$314,000	2756 Roundtree Dr	\$94,00
southeastern M		8268 Arlis St	\$27,000	112 Glanworth St	\$60,000	1482 Highpoint Ct	\$413,000	132 Saxon Ct	\$255,000	2866 Roundtree Dr	\$111,00
Listed below are		5285 Carroll Lake Rd	\$167,000	3840 Kossuth Rd	\$60,000	2630 Quall Run St	\$184,000	1542 Scenic Holw	\$575,000	413 Serenity Ct	\$238,00
addresses, and sales		8575 Edgewood Park Dr	\$293,000	3449 Leewood Dr	\$151,000	379 South St	\$330,000	3180 Summit Ridge Dr		6310 Walker Dr	\$246,00
Auburn Hills		3056 Fisher Ave	\$97,000	3044 Talon Cir	\$37,000	321 Wyngate Dr	\$421,000	3170 Sunbury Ct	\$245,000	1762 Woodgate Dr	\$166,0
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Clarkston		4899 Rayfore	\$360,000	22476 Fuller Dr	\$310,000	2182 Belle Vernon Dr	\$189,000	1646 Inverness St	\$194,000	220 Winding Brk	\$130,00
9815 Andersonville Rd	\$90.000	1435 Spruce Dr	\$247,000	23597 Highmeadow Dr	\$230,000	1635 Bretton Dr N	\$158,000	1904 Lakeland Ave	\$162,000	532 Winwood Cir	\$133,00
9937 Andersonville Rd	\$50,000	3740 Vanport Ave	\$271,000	40952 Kingsley Ln	\$323,000	2385 Chalet Dr	\$218,000	Troy	-	White Lak	
	\$114,000	5421 Wentworth Dr	\$15,000	25921 Laramie Dr	\$345,000	3867 Cone Ave	\$143,000	2842 Amberly Dr	\$372,000	439 Berry Patch Ln	\$255,0
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	\$127,000	9880 Boulder Ct	\$391,000	23647 Stonehenge Blvc	\$90,000	47907 Dequindre Rd	\$82,000	1976 Canary Ct	\$244,000	9024 Mandon St	\$80,00
	\$100.000	320 Broadway	\$52,000	Orion Towns	hip	1024 E Fairview Ln	\$220,000	2629 Chanterell Dr	\$180,000	9044 Millward St	\$133,0
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	\$370,000	7415 Hall Rd	\$133,000	1849 Kinmount Dr	\$88,000	2555 Hickory Lawn Rd	\$147,000	2820 Dover Dr	\$130,000	2243 Ellington St	\$125,0
	\$105,000	13312 Neal Rd	\$198,000	4399 Morgan Rd	\$131,000	3540 John R Rd	\$79,000	6449 Emerald Lake Dr	\$209,000	2511 Oakview Dr	\$65,0

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Estate Movers and Shakers, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, 48150.

21 Associates in Royal Oak, has been listed in the Best of the Biggest, a report on sales achievement by REAL Trends, Inc.

Granader, v ho lists and sells pr



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within the real estate, construction, architec-ture and mortgage communities. Send a brief summary including town of residency and black and white photo to Real

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hirings, awards won and other news

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CONTEMPORARY TUDOR

IN DEER LAKE FARMS

Clarkston Schools, 3172 square feet

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Rochester Hills

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31204 V. o. Dyk

A PRISTINE SETTING. 3 bedroom, 2½ bath ranch with 3 sided fireplace, dining room, 1st floor laun-dry and master suite with Jacuzzi tub and stand-up shower. Basement and 2 car side entry garage. New John Deer riding mower with accepted offer by 1-31-98. \$240,000 (OE43Ha) 248- 299-6200



ESCAPE FROM STRESS. A hidden paradise on 4.27 acres. Horses ok. Brick and aluminum country home with country views. Family room with fire-place, finished walk-out basement wit hot tub, 4 bedroom, 2½ bath plus 2 car attached garage, pole barn. \$249,000 (OE18GLE) 248-299-6200



NICE IN TOWN RANCH. Toney touches include deck, aluminum sided facade, tranquil shady street, near schools. Easy commute, stained wood-work, newly painted interior, 3 bedrooms, gas heat, new furnace, patio, new roof, custom landscape and city water. \$132,900 (OE7Ren) 248-299-6200

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HEART OF THE HILLS. Enticing 4 bedroom, $2\frac{1}{2}$ 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. \$244,900 (OE21BEL) 248-299-6200



A RARE FIND. Rochester Hills ranch. Condo with garage and finished basement, hardwood floors, bay windows and more. Immediate occupancy. \$138,900 (OE30Med) 248-299-6200

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EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY IN WEST BLOOM FIELD. Completely updated ranch in the heart of West Bloomfield. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, recess lights, white kitchen a beauty. \$189,900 (COB40BRO) 248-626-8000



ROLLING OAKS AREA. Park like setting designers ceramic foyer, 1st floor bedroom. Gorgeous living room, mirrored dining room, lovely kitchen over-looks warm, cozy family room 12x12, 1st floor utility, side entry garage, near Forest Elementary. \$257,500 (COB78GLO) 248-626-8000



EXCELLENT BRICK BANCH, With updates, furnace, central air, hot water heater, windows entry doors, carpeting and hardwood floors. 1% baths, 2 bedrooms, finished lower level with recreation room 31x19 plus storage room, laundry room, garage, patio. \$103,900 (COB74SAN) 248-280-4777



WEST BLOOMFIELD. First offering abulous con-temporary 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



FABULOUS CONTEMPORARY. Gorgeous one of a kind home, very open lots of windows, very high ceilings skylights, marble fireplace, great room, custom mirrors, neutral decor, wet bar, jacuzzi, jarge bedrooms and lots more. \$489,900 large bedrooms and (COB37ROY) 248-626-8000



DON'T MISS THIS ONE! 4 bedroom brick home with 1st floor bedroom or home office. Updated

626-8000



VERY NEAT AND CLEAN Cape Cod style ranch. Many updates, including: windows new kitchen, fireplace in living room, 2 car-sized garage, partiy finished basement. Vinsetta Park Subdivision. \$139,900 (02CED) 248-280-4777



with 2 car attached garage. Completely updated throughout. Finished basement. \$176,900 (03HIG) 248-280-4777



NEW ON THE MARKET! Live in north Royal Oak and enjoy this immaculate bungalow with full basement and two car garage with door opener. Hardwood floors, all appliance stay. \$104,500 (14ROC) 248-280-4777



FABULOUS VINTAGE COLONIAL. Located in Shrine area of Royal Oak. This great colonial has excellent curb appeal, los of natural woodwork, hardwood floors, nice breakfast nook, formal din-ing room and lots of other additional features. \$234,900 (12GLE) 248-280-4777



BERKLEY--LOOKING FOR A GOOD INVEST-MENT? This ranch home is on a great street in Berkley, with a 2 car garage, newer vinyl windows, updated electric, is a must see! \$76,000 (93CM) 248-280-4777





NORTHWEST LIVONIA. 3 bedroom, 1½ bath brick ranch with full finished basement, 2 car attached garage, great court location and only \$169,900 garage, great co (187Bai) 349-6800



GORGEOUS CUSTOM BUILT COLONIAL. On beau-tiful golf course lot. Dramatic 2 story foyer, spiral staircase, extra deep walkout basement. Hardwood floor and white bay cabinets in kitchen. Please call (283Gol) 349-6800



WELL MAINTAINED 3 bedroom bungalow, new white kitchen cabinets and vinvl floor, newer carpeting, furnace, central air humidifier, roof, bay window in dining room. Great home for the pricel (564Car) 349-6800



SERENITY AT ITS FINEST! 5 acres and updated home and pole barn. Land is splitable. All offers will be considered. South Lyon Schools, Call Pat Picano at 810-316-4049 (SUN933)



BEAUTIFUL 2 BEDROOM, 1 bath, 1 lavatory, lower level walkout end unit. 2 car attached loft library, large master, closets GALORE, all appliances and window treatments stay, 2 year old WALLED LAKE privileges. Close to park, shopping and restau-rante (593win) 340-860 ants. (593win) 349-6800





ROYAL OAK. Three bedrooms, 2% bath brick ranch

LAKE PRIVLEDGE LONG LAKE. 3 bedroom, 11/2 bath Colonial. Basement, fireplace, deck, central air. Updated kitchen and bath. MOVE IN CONDI-TION!! \$159,900 (OE80Cr) 248-299-6200

kitchen and baths, formal dining room, central alr. Newer vinyl windows. \$159,900 (COB44INK) 248-



QUALITY TUDOR. Premium court location backing to treed commons. 2950 sql ft. colonial, Immacu-late condition, in ground pool, new roof and fur-nace, Just loaded with upgrades. Move in condi-tiont \$292,500 (OE18sho) 248-299-6200



IT'S LIKE LIVING UP NORTHI's dinutes from Christopi, uthentic log cabin. Beautiful log inter-ced on a beautiful 4 cos percel already divided into 2 septembril (chr. Percess also investable coperate Cellor (the destable) (210,000 (108EY) (2077200.13)

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THREE BEDROOM BUNGALOW. Owner: anxious only approved buyers or cash sales. Large rear yard living room, dining room, kitchen, full base-ment, hardwood floors throughout, Large master bedroom upstairs, \$26,500 (COB64FER) 248-526-8000



LOVELY RANCHI, Home Jesture Include 3 (bed-room, 2 baths, particily inlehed basement, new Central size ist foor laundry, State land nearby for number 2 skilling, GREAT STARTER HOME for only \$114,000 (11HO 5) 520-7200

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INVESTOR SPECIALI Needs work so bring your paint brush and hammer. Priced according to con-dition. 4 bedrooms, 1½ baths, full basement, hardwood floors on 1st floor under carpet. \$62,900 (70ANN) 248-280-4777

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LARGE THREE BEDROOM COLONIAL on great Royal Oak street. New Jurnace, central air, and hot water heater all 1 year old. Large living room with Insplace. Huge dining room and great front porch. \$142,500 (22WAV) 248-280-4777.



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1: A. J. J. P. A.

NEW HUDSON BRICK HOME: Country setting, 4 bedroom, family room and den, formal dining room and huge country kitchen approximately 3000 sq. ft. 2 car plus garage and basement. Immaculate Groundsi (300hom) 349-5800



CONTEMPORARY TOWN HOUSE In Potomac Town subdivision. Walkout from living room and dining room to a deck with a private setting. Fireplace in living room, linished basement, 2 bedrooms, 17 baths, 1500 sq. ft. master suite with walk-in closete and semi private bath, \$137,500, 622And) 349-6800.



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- Checkout These Early Holiday Deadlines Your advertising is important to us and we don't want to leave anyones ads out of the paper.

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Sunday, Dec. 21	st Publication	· ·		-	and the second s
New Homes Section	All Real Estate Apt. Ads	Automotive Display	ł	Help Wanted Display	Liners Class 500-880
5 pm-Wed. Dec. 17	3 pm-Thurs. Dec. 18	11 am-Thurs. Dec. 18	I	3 pm-Fri. Dec. 19	5 pm-Fri. Dec. 19
Wednesday, Dec	ember 24th Publica	tion			
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	l	5 pm-Mon. Dec. 22	1
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New Homes Section	All Real Estate Apt. Ads	Automotive Display	1	Help Wanted Display	Liners Class 500-880
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Wednesday, Dec	ember 31st Publica	tion		• •	
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LONG LAKE LAKEFRONT - Sharp 3 bedroom ranch, large living room w/new carpet, Jenaire stove, Merrilat cabinets, gas fireplace, sprinkler, 2+ car garage, seawall, sandy beach, newer shingles. \$249,900 (88GIT) 363-1200



PEACEFUL RANCH/WALKOUT - Grab the chance to enjoy this 4 bedroom, 2 bath walkout ranch in great sidewalk sub., move-in condition, overlooks nature preserve. View is very peaceful! Come and see! \$159,897 (99MEA) 363-1200



UPDATED 4 BEDROOM COLONIAL -Location close expressways and shopping located in Meadowbrook Glens Sub., newer kitchen, air, roof, windows, bathrooms. Must see! \$189,900 (37HIG) 363-1200



VILLAGE OF MILFORD - Charming custom built 3 bedroom, 2% baths, formal living room and dining room. Open floor plan w/1st floor laundry, roomy kitchen and family room w/fireplace. All appliances stay, C/A, security alarm. Daylight windows in basement. \$199,900 (35HUR) 363-1200



HOME SWEET HOME - 3 bedroom, 1½ bath, 1300 sq. ft. ranch w/full basement and 2 + car garage. A sunny open floor plan w/new windows, C/A, furnace. Brick fireplace w/oak mantle. A great community! \$143,900 (50CON) 363-1200



100 FT. LAKEFRONT RETREAT - Treat yourself to great-affordable lake living. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, hardwood floors. New shingles/furnace, C/A. Buy now and enjoy this 4 season home! \$204,900 (60CAP) 263-1200



CHARMING - 3 bedroom Troy Ranch with 2½ baths. Library, formal dining room with bay doorwall. Cathedral ceiling in great room with fireplace. Custom kitchen. First floor laundry. Full basement and a wooded lot. Home Warranty! Call today! \$269,900 (37WH!) 524-1600



CUSTOM DESIGNED - 4 bedroom Rochester Tudor. 3½ baths. Finished walkout lower level. 2½ acres of trees and rolling land. 3 car garage. Gazebo off large wood deck. Glamorous master bath with jacuzzi and bidet. Great location. \$689,000 (100LD)



OUTSTANDING - 3 bedroom Ranch home with many updates. Andersen windows. Extensive professional landscaping. Great floor plan and a full basement. All this and located in Troy. Call today! \$204,900 (29SHA) 524-1600



UPDATED TROY COLONIAL with Troy schools and in move in condition. Oak kitchen cabinets, vinyl windows, central air, sprinklers. Home Warranty. \$181,900 (11HIL) 524-1600



TROY BRICK RANCH with 3 bedrooms. Basement. Central air. Family room and 2 full baths. Call Today! \$119,900 (37RED) 524-1600



FARMINGTON HILLS - PERFECTIII Almost 4 bedroom, 2 story Colonial w/first floor master suite. Backs to woods. Cathedral ceilings. Neutral decor white cabinets, ceramic foyer kitchen, 1st floor laundry and butler's pantry. Full basement. (38LA) \$354.000 248-626-8800



ROCHESTER HILLS - SUPERB TUDOR. Beautifully decorated, open floor plan, 4 bedrooms, 2% baths, 3 car garage, recreation room, spacious lot, University Hills Elementary School, Convenient location. \$334,900 (13SP) \$334,900 248-626-8800*



FARMINGTON HILLS - PRICED TO SELL. Immediate occupancy, neutral throughoutl Living room, family room w/fireplace, library, built in 1992. Dining room w/bay window, master bedroom w/Jacuzzi and walk-in closet. \$249,900 (24RI) 248-626-8800



W. BLOOMFIELD - BEAUTIFUL COLONIAL. Move-in condition. Great landscaping and location! Many updates include: security system, carpet, roof, furnace, kitchen cabinets and much more! Don't pass this upl \$279,900 (72IN) 248-626-8800



LOVELY 3 BEDROOM HOME in popular family neighborhood. Fabulous 550 sq. ft. cedar deck. Central air, private yard. \$167,900 (63WAR) 652-8000



LOVELY and only 3 years old, Oakland Twp, 1% story with vaulted cellings and unique windows. 1st floor master suite. Full lower level, 3 bedroom, 2% bath, custom window treat. Airy floor plan. Great room, formal dining room. Close to I-75 and M-59 and Auburn Hills Tech Center. White kitchen. \$209,900 (98SIL) 652-8000



ALL SPORTS LAKE ORIONI/ Fantastic 4 bedroom, 2% bath home. Enjoy the good life on your 45x30 ft. deck overlooking lake. 2200 sq. ft. Home features central air, 2nd floor laundry, finished walkout and more. 1 year warranty. \$320,000 (10KIN) 653-8000

CENTURY 21 To Americ CENTURY

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BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Spectacular lakefront condo offers 1st floor master bedroom, white formica kitchen, finished walk-out and 3 car garage. 4-5 bedroom, living room, family room and library. \$514,900 (06WAB) 642-8100



REDUCED FOR FAST SALE! Executive Tudor w/3800' in Rochester Hills. Immediate occupancy. Impressive foyer w/circular stairs, library w/judges paneling. Formal living and dining room, large family room, 3 car garage, 7 min-utes to Tech Center, \$344,900 (51POR) 652-8000





ROCHESTER HILLS - Wonderful walk-out Ranch offers 4 bedrooms, family room and great room wfireplaces, formal living room, dining room, updated kitchen, breakfast area, fabulous private lot. A real gem! \$289,000 (51LAK) 642-8100



ROYAL OAK - This 4-5 bedroom in town Dutch colonial features hardwood floors, living room/family room set-up with fireplace in living room, built-in china cabinet, large kitchen and lots of natural wood work throughoutl \$209,900 (08BAL) 642-8100



(No)5E-(OF 7

wn & Country a's #1 21 Firm!



FARMINGTON HILLS² DREAM RANCH 4300 sq. ft. of luxury, backs to wooded park, remodeled, neutral decor, 2 custom kitchens, lower level walk-out, 2 full wet bars, custom decks and landscaping, attached side entry garage, 2 fireplaces, Intercom, alarm, cathedral ceilings, 2 story foyer, \$419,900 (30CO).248-626-8800



LAKEFRONT WALK-OUT RANCH on a beautiful sloping lot w/southern exposure. 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 2,200 sq. ft., 2½ car attached garage, C/A, Walled Lake schools, all-sports lake. \$239,900 (65COO) 363-1200.





WHITE LAKE NEW CONSTRUCTION - 1877 sq. ft. colonial, 3 bedroom, 2½ bath. Walk-out basement. Ceramic foyer, main and master bath. Fully landscaped w/sprinklers. Large lot. Brick and wood quality construction. \$223,900 (57CAR) 363-1200



TERRIFIC LOCATION - \$89,900. Great starter home or investment opportunity in need of some TLC, Home sits on extra large lot, has privileges on Cedar Island Lake and Walled Lake Schools. \$89,900 (65TOW) 363-1200



ENJOY NATURE from this 3 bedroom home, on 2,wooded acres. Open floor plan, master suite has sitting room w/lireplace. 2 additional bedrooms w/built-in desks and shelves. Sun room, new Karastan carpeting. May extras and updates...Home Warranty. Rochester schools. \$269,900 (99JEN) 652-8000



OAKLAND TWP-ROCHESTER: Nice 3 year old, 1% story w/1st floor master bedroom. 3 bedroom, 2% bath. Full walkout lower/level. Bright and cheery w/many unique windows. Backs to nature area of trees, flowers, wetlands for beautiful view. Easy access I-75 and M-59, \$215,500 (32BRI). 652-8000



NOT ONE TO MISSI Great price, premium brick elevation, manicured site w/pavers and deck. Over 2700 sq. ft., grand master suite and lavish bath, great kitchen w/island, deck and French door to deck, wood blinds, professionally painted - morel. \$264,977 (12HOI) 652-8000



SIT ON FRONT PORCH and sip lemonade from this turn of the century home w/white picket fence. Walk to park or downtown Rochester. Features hardwood floors, 9' ceilings. Professionally decorated and restored to perfection. 2 bedrooms, 1½ bath located on deadend street. Call for private show, \$153,900 (14SEV) 652-



ROCHESTER HILLS - 4 bedrooms, 2½ bath, 2500 sq. ft. Colonial. Open floor plan. Some updating, Large private lot with beautiful landscaping and large deck. \$209,900 (14DEN) 652-8000



PRESTIGIOUS NEW CONSTRUCTION HOME that sits up on a hill w/1.4 acres. 2 story Colonial. Surrounds peace and serenity w/amenities throughout! Spacious finished walkout w/800 sq. ft. studio ceiling in master bedroom w/bath/Jacuzzi and walk-in closet. \$198,900 (40WH) 626-8800

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W. BLOOMFIELD - SPACE TO BREATHE! Aimost 2 acres 4 bedroom, 3% baths Trilevel: Birmingham schools. New roof, C/A, refinished hardwood floors. Painted throughout! Spacious kitchen, family room wwalkout. 2 fireplaces. \$289,900 (65KN) 526-8800



SPACIOUS RANCH sitting on almost 1½ acres and far away from road. Full basement w/fireplace. Stone patio. Screened in rear porch. Hardwood floor. Great condition. Immediate occupancy. First floor laundry. \$174,900 (24MI) 248-626-8800



CLAWSON - Great opportunity in this 4 bedroom Bungalow with over 1500 sq. ft. of living space. Huge family room with natural fireplace. Large kitchen. Plenty of updates throughout. \$119,900 (05DON) 524-1600



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Nearly new 1½ story home with a first floor master suite. Great room, library, 2½ baths, basement, 3 car attached garage. Professionally landscaped yard. \$349,900 (70WAT) 524-1600



SPACIOUS Troy home with 4/5 bedrooms. Many updates, roof shingles and central air, 5 years. Screened porch. Fenced yard. Call today! \$174,900 (27HIL) 524-1600



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - 3 bedroom Brick ranch with a parklike setting, 2 full baths. First floor laundry. Florida room and a 2 car attached garage. \$2,000 per month. (75FRA) 524-1600





BLOOMFIELD HILLS - 2600 sq. ft. Colonial on nearly 1 acre in Bloomfield offers a spectacular setting with river, pond and woodlands. Living room and huge family room w/fireplaces, newer kitchen, roof, drive, deck, doorwalls. Redecorated. \$319,900 (45CED) 642-B100



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Well maintained brick Ranch with private 1/2 acre yard. Newer roof, hardwood floors, 3 bedroom, 2½ attached garage and partially finished basement. \$219,900 (17PEM) 642-8100



BEVERLY HILLS - Nice 3 bedroom brick Ranch with sun room overlooking a well kept yard. 2 car garage, lovely neighborhood with sidewalks and excellent schools. Central air. Home Warranty. \$164,900 (70BEV) 642-8100



BLOOMFIELD - Dynamite Condo in private setting facing woods! Newer carpet, most rooms freshly painted, newer siding. Lite and brite! Neutral and immaculate! Deck faces woods. Master bedroom w/balcony. Home Warranty. \$138,900 (69SOU) 642-8100



ROYAL OAK - Charming Cape Cod on popular boulevard in North Royal Oak. 4 bedroom, den, sun room, many updates, huge wooded lot. Home Warranty. \$269,000 (11MOU) 642-8100



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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.

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2. You get to run your ad for 2 days (one week)

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Observer

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