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VOLUME 4 NUMBER 80

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### AROUND



**All in the spelling**  
We're all used to life insurance,  
but "wife insurance?" A local  
florist shop touted its fresh flowers as  
just that. Just think of the businesses  
where that same expression would  
fit— carry-out restaurants, baby-sit-  
ters, jewelry shops ...

### What kind of crime is that?

**S**peaking of spelling, a reporter  
reading through police reports  
came across the term "widow" shutter  
to describe something broken off of a  
house. It caused the reporter to pause  
and consider what that is. It's just a  
misspelling, of course, but it sure  
struck a funny bone.

### All in a name

**A** Clarkston Eccentric staffer was  
put on hold after calling Springfield  
Oaks County Park Friday when  
she heard the melody "What Child Is This?" playing over the telephone.  
When the woman she was holding for  
returned on the line, the staffer asked, "Is that Christmas music  
you're playing?" "No," the woman  
insisted. "It's Greensleeves." A search  
on the Internet showed that it's the  
same melody. Perhaps in December  
it's called "What Child Is This," but in  
August it's called "Greensleeves."

### Watch those orange barrels

**D**ue to road work on Walters Road  
from Fleming Lake Road to Wal-  
don Road, traffic delays could be  
encountered through Aug. 17, accord-  
ing to the Road Commission for Oak-  
land County.



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# Clarkston Eccentric®

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Sunday  
August 15, 1999

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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## Voters to have choices in November



Four candidates — three incumbents and a newcomer — want a hand in shaping Clarkston's future. Voters will pick three of the four in the Clarkston City Council election Nov. 2.

BY SUSAN B. TAUBER  
STAFF WRITER  
[stauber@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:stauber@oe.homecomm.net)

Clarkston city residents will have a choice to make in November as to whom they want to help run their local government.

Four people have filed petitions to be candidates on the Tuesday, Nov. 2, ballot for city council. There are only

three, two-year terms open.

Incumbents Walter Gamble Jr.,

David Savage and Daniel Colombo

have all decided to run for re-election.

Charles T. Inabinet is the newcomer

on the ballot.

Major issues before the city council

are of concern to all the candidates.

Among these issues are enhancing the

downtown area and enabling residents

to hook up to Independence Township's community well water system.

Gamble and Savage are hoping to be re-elected for their third terms.

"There are a lot of open issues, such as the water, before the council," said Gamble. "I feel I help the community in making common-sense decisions."

Gamble has lived in Clarkston since 1983, after leaving New York to join AT&T.

"I enjoy living in this town, and I want it to stay a nice town. By being on the council, I can try to do everything I can to help keep it that way," he added.

Savage said he has some unfinished business with the downtown that he

wants to be on hand to help complete.

"I'm committed to following through," he said. "I'm going to take some more time to complete the work that's in progress."

Owner of Savage Design, a commercial art studio, Savage has lived in the city for about six years.

Colombo is the newest member of the council to put in his hat for re-election.

He wants to return for his second term. "We're working on a lot of important issues that call for continuity," he explained. "The council is going to have to make decisions on a lot of important

Please see VOTE, A4

## 'Those were the days'

*CHS Class of  
'54 to reminisce  
at reunion*

BY SUSAN B. TAUBER  
STAFF WRITER  
[stauber@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:stauber@oe.homecomm.net)

**W**hat is the definition of Renaissance? The resurrection of classical antiquity." Cliff McDermott remembers learning that in Leigh Bonner's government class at Clarkston High School.

"He was the best teacher there ever was," McDermott recalled. "I remember how he used to give pop quizzes all the time, unless one of the sports teams won their game the night before. Then he'd tell us there wouldn't be a pop quiz."

Those few memories may not seem like much,



Reunion planners: Jim Sheddowsky (from left), Jack Hess and Cliff McDermott share a song and a laugh on the grounds of the old Clarkston High School.

unless one considers that McDermott graduated from Clarkston High School (CHS) in 1954. That's right, 45 years ago. And boy, does he have the stories to tell.

So do Jim Sheddowsky and Jack Hess. The lifelong friends have been getting together frequently throughout the years, and even more so to plan the 45th reunion of the CHS graduating class of 1954.

The reunion is Friday and Saturday, Aug. 20-21, and if the tales the three planners tell are any indication, it's going to be an event filled with talking and sharing, laughing and crying, hugging hello and then saying good-bye again for another few years.

"We had 62 students in our class," recalled

McDermott. "We're fighting to get a total of 30 there."

### Reunion begins Aug. 20

In organizing this reunion, which begins Friday night with an informal gathering at Mitchie's II in Waterford, McDermott found his "special best friend" from high school — Al Warman. The men haven't seen each other since 1957. Warman now lives in Spokane, Wash.

"I've talked to him on the phone, but I haven't seen him in more than 40 years. It will be great seeing him again," McDermott said.

Please see CLASS OF '54, A4

**Recognize anyone? These are the members of the Clarkston High School graduating class of 1954 who made it to Washington, D.C., for their senior trip.**

## Truth finally out about penguin's whirlwind tour

**Home again:**  
Steve and Deb Percival are keeping a close eye on their wooden penguin, which prank-pulling friends sent on a 2½-year journey around the world.



BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY  
STAFF WRITER  
[kingsbury@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:kingsbury@oe.homecomm.net)

The victim in this story shall remain nameless. The perpetrators shall be exposed for all their dastardly deeds. They had means, motive and opportunity. And one heck of a good time.

Steve and Deb Percival of Waterford came home one day in December 1996 and noticed something was amiss. A wooden penguin lawn ornament was gone, one piece of Deb's collection of penguins that's been growing since childhood.

"I had just put the penguins out," Steve recalled. "It was near Christmas, and they're Christmas ornaments ... We thought maybe some neighborhood kids had done it."

Everyone interrogated denied complicity. Steve's mother was even blamed.

There was an early clue. A ransom note the Percivals received contained a deadline; as it happens, it was the same date they had a dinner scheduled with their longtime friends, Michelle and Dave Stover. But the clue was missed.

Dave and Steve are old friends. Both went through Clarkston schools together, starting in third grade. Add to that the fact that Michelle, Deb and Steve are all Oakland County employees — Deb is a sheriff's dispatcher, Michelle works at the airport and Steve is a supervisor at Children's Village, while Dave is an Independence Township firefighter — and the plot begins to

Please see PENGUIN, A4

## Bikers raise funds for hospital program

BY CAROLYN WALKER  
STAFF WRITER

Kaz Mamon didn't set out to defy a stereotype when he undertook his initial act of charity three years ago. But defy one he did.

Talking by phone from a vacation in South Dakota earlier this week, Mamon said he could see a panorama of mountains and spirited motorcyclists from his window and, at an early morning hour, he was ready to join them.

"No matter how tough the image of bikers has been in the past, we're human beings, we're professionals, we're business owners, we're everyday people," Mamon said, his voice catching with emotion. "This could be one of our kids."

The "kids" who slipped so easily into Mamon's conversation are Michigan children who find themselves hospitalized or receiving long-term care such as radiation treatments.

"The first priority to a parent when a kid is in the hospital is medically being taken care of. The second thought should be keeping the kids active," he said.

When he gets home from his vacation, Mamon, 41, will oversee the Mamon's Ride To Education Hospitalized Children, a motorcycling event he founded

three years ago to benefit the education of those children. The money raised by this year's ride, which he expects to attract as many as 2,000 motorcyclists, will be used to help provide teaching and educational supplies to patients at Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit.

Waterford Township residents Jerry and Donna Curiak, who participated in the ride, expect to enjoy the charitable journey again this year.

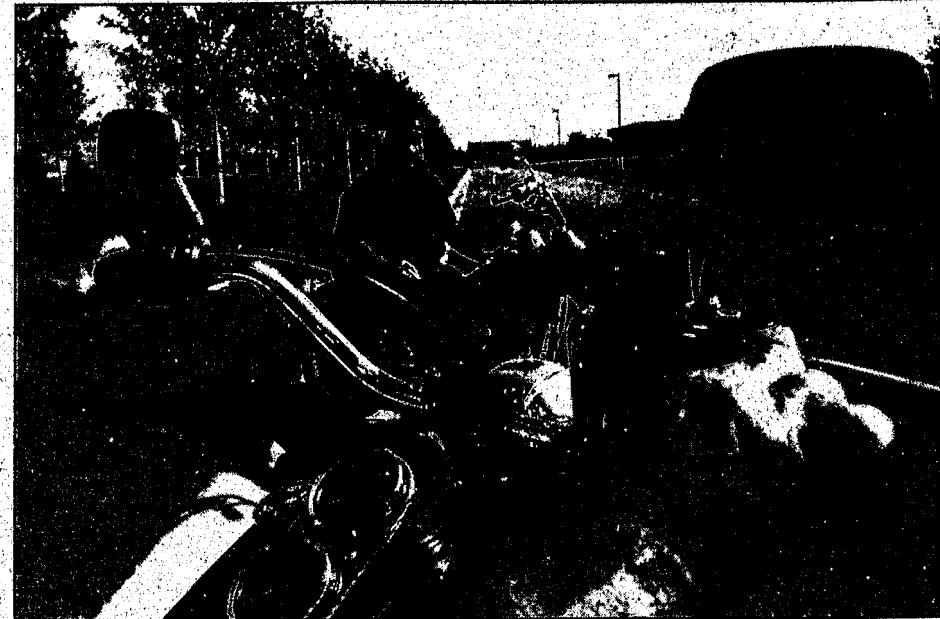
"We did it last year for the first time and aside from being a lot of fun, it's safe and it's for a great cause. When we got down to the hospital and saw the kids it was really heartwarming," said Donna Curiak.

For their part, the people on the receiving end of the motorcyclists' kindness couldn't be happier.

Any money raised will be used to pay for an in-hospital teacher's salary and supplies, said Laurie Dayton, coordinator of Childlife of Children's Hospital.

While the hospital is provided one teacher for patients through the Detroit school system, administrators have deemed it necessary to hire a second to meet educational demands.

That teacher, paid for by the hospital, works year round and typically helps 75-100 school-



STAFF PHOTO BY GARY MALKIN

**Ready to ride:** Jim Mattack from Union Lake and Jerry Curiak of Waterford (reflected seen in rearview mirror), will ride in this year's fund-raiser.

aged patients in any given time, depending on how many children are well enough for such activities, Dayton said.

"We try to provide normal experiences for the kids and decrease the stress for the kids." The riders have dedicated their money to the educational program.

"We anticipate that this will bring in more money to keep the school program going," she said, adding that she does not know how much money to expect.

As a part of the excursion, motorcyclists will have the option of purchasing one of 300 teddy bears, autographing them and presenting them personally to eager patients.

"It will be a direct connection from the person who signs the

bear to a patient," Mamon said.

Mamon's interest in helping hospitalized youth was triggered when he went to visit a patient at C.S. Mott Hospital in Ann Arbor a few years ago and was struck by patient artwork on the walls.

"It was good stuff. Kids are talented," he said. "I said, 'Why don't I try to help these kids out? I wanted every child to be able to benefit from this.'"

Mamon, who is an Ortonville resident and who works at General Motors Corp. while operating a trucking company on the side, then set about organizing a ride to C.S. Mott that subsequently attracted 1,300 people,

708 of which were bikers. A second ride went to Mott last year, while this year's will be going to Detroit.

It will be a first for the lengthly Woodward, he said.

"God willing and a sunny day, there will be thousands," Mamon said. "We're prepared to feed 2,000 people."

According to Mamon, several restaurants and businesses from the Waterford/Clarkston area have donated food, beverages and entertainment for the event. Bands will be on hand at the airport and the hospital to provide music and, along with the above, riders will receive a specially designed commemorative T-shirt and pin for their efforts.

A \$30 entry fee for single riders and \$55 fee for couples will be charged with all the money raised going to benefit patients, Mamon noted.

While he said he had never

participated in charitable events before his first contact with Mott, Mamon has risen to the occasion several times in the past three years. He has helped the Rainbow Connection grant wishes to terminally ill children and recently helped the organization provide a swing set and a Star Lisa Cuipper, a dying 9-year-old.

"The family was so overwhelmed at the fact that total strangers came to their aid," he said, noting that he and some motorcycling friends were then asked to provide escort at the girl's funeral. "That was probably one of the toughest things I've ever done."

Waxing philosophical about what he has been able to accomplish, Mamon said he hopes plenty of other motorcycle enthusiasts will follow his lead.

"If you ride a bike. If you believe in why I'm doing this, and I'm one man . . ." he said, his voice falling off. "The way I look at it, if I have the ability to just ask people to ride with me to help these kids out, what do we as human beings have the power to do?"

## Workshop to focus on Christian teaching approaches

The Clarkston Free Methodist Church will host "Teaching ... for a CHANGE," a teacher training workshop, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25.

Rick Chromey, professor of Christian education at St. Louis Christian College, will guide teachers to an understanding of the present crisis of learning in the church, plus provide tips for successful teaching.

The workshop, suitable for teachers of any age, church

background or experience, is a fast-paced, experiential half-day of learning.

"I believe we are on the edge of a revolution in Christian education," said Chromey. "The church can no longer assume that parents or any other institution will teach biblical truth, morality, ethics or principles for positive living."

At the heart of the workshop is the message "It's time to teach for LIFE CHANGE!" It's not

head knowledge alone, or even a positive attitude about the subject itself — true learning culminates in a change of action and behavior.

"Essentially, learning is what's left when the facts are forgotten," said Chromey.

All teachers, including Sunday school teachers, youth workers, small group leaders, home educators and teachers in both private and public education, are

invited to this informative and inspirational workshop.

The workshop is \$15 per teacher and includes a lunch for participants. Anyone interested is asked to contact Catherine Passmore at Clarkston Free Methodist Church at (248) 922-9481 by Sept. 11.

Clarkston Free Methodist Church is located at the corner of Winell and Mayberry roads west of Sashabaw Road.

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LOCATIONS

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5 - 8:30 p.m.

North Oakland Medical Centers —  
Waterford  
Primary Care Services  
1255 North Oakland Blvd., Suite 255  
contact 666-2120 to register

Tuesday, August 24, 1999  
6 - 8:30 p.m.

North Oakland Medical Centers —  
Deer Lake  
6770 Dixie Hwy., Suite 202  
contact 620-3500 to register

Saturday, August 28, 1999  
9 a.m. - noon

North Oakland Medical Centers —  
Main Campus  
Primary Health Services  
Seminole Center  
461 West Huron, Suite 208  
contact 857-7032 to register

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- Males 40 years and older with a family history of prostate cancer.

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STAFF PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE

**You're It:** Day campers prepare to run away from Nichole Maier during a game of tag.



**Playtime:**  
Nichole Maier pushes 3-year-old Olivia Wood on a swing as she tells the other campers to get ready for a swim.

## Patient uses pedal power to heighten awareness

By KEN VAN STEENHSTE  
STAFF WRITER

For five years, Waterford resident Karen Fitchett has retreated to northern Michigan for a breath of fresh air.

Fitchett, who has a rare, genetically inherited form of lung disease, makes time each year to ride in the American Lung Association of Michigan's Lakeshore Loop. She participated for the past five years, raising \$400-\$500 for that organization each year.

"I don't concentrate just on the money, I focus more on getting the word out about lung disease and supporting people who suffer from it," Fitchett said.

So far this year she has raised just under \$400 in pledges.

The Loop is a three-day, fund-raising bike tour around northern lower Michigan Sept. 11-13. Riders must raise at least \$300 to participate and can choose routes of 30 or 50 miles a day.

"I feel like some of those people up north are my family," Fitchett said.

Some bicyclists with reduced lung capacity use electric bicycles that assist the rider's pedaling power. This year, however, Fitchett may have to settle for coaching other riders.

"I'll probably ride in a car along the route, yelling words of encouragement at everyone else," she said.

In 1992, Fitchett suffered through a failed attempt to replace her ailing lungs, leaving her with a 28 percent lung capacity.

"The transplant didn't work, the donor organ went bad. The doctors didn't expect me to make it off the operating table," she said. But Fitchett continues to live her life with a steady determination.

"I do a lot of support work for others with this disease through the Internet and one thing I always tell people is that they can do more than they think they can at first," she said.

Anyone interested in participating in "the loop" may call the American Lung Association of Michigan at (800) 263-5880.

## Preteens turn into camp counselors for a week

BY SUSAN B. TAUBER  
STAFF WRITER  
stauber@oe.homecomm.net

Several pairs of little tikes' shoes and older kids' sandals were neatly lined up on the front stoop of the Middle Lake Street house in Clarkston. They were a sign something was going on.

It wasn't until one ventured into the lower level of the house that this was confirmed. Twenty-two children ages 2 to 10 were happily playing in a swimming pool while a bunch of 11-year-old sixth-graders from Clarkston Middle School supervised them.

This was Camp Sunshine, a one-week day camp planned, organized and managed by these vivacious, energetic preteens. They are Dayna Hallman, Andrea Wingert, Rachael Hurley, Jennifer Gordon, Nichole Maier, Amanda Davis, Caitlyn Wylie and Brittany Malm.

Prior to taking care of their young charges for five hours a day, the girls brainstormed, planned and shopped for their camp for about two months. They made a daily schedule of

activities that included arts and crafts, sports, games and quiet time for each day of camp.

Most of the children who attended are either neighbors, friends or cousins. Devin Farnsworth, 9, of Waterford was in the pool last Wednesday when he told about how much he enjoyed making the morning project.

"We put seaweed and rocks in a (2-liter pop) bottle with two guppies and water and made a fish pond," he said. "I really liked doing that."

Talking to the counselors was like being caught up in a whirlwind. Their enthusiasm for the camp and the youngsters was obvious.

Nichole Maier explained the history of Camp Sunshine. A few of them had the camp last year with only eight children. They decided to repeat it this year because they thought it was fun to do and really entertaining.

So they brainstormed, trying to remember games and crafts they enjoyed when they were younger. They came up with such ideas as fishing in the swimming pool for prizes, hav-

ing theme days and ending the camp with a sleep-over.

"We gave the parents a flyer each day after camp telling them what the theme was going to be for the next day and what the children should bring with them," Nichole said.

What do the middle schoolers charge for five hours of camp fun? Fifteen dollars for the week, or \$3 for a day.

There's no profit, however. "We put all the money we make back into supplies for camp," Nichole added.

"But we are very grateful to Olivia Wood's mom," said another counselor. "She is paying us more than we asked and she's also buying the pizza for the overnight party." Olivia, 3, and her brother, Joe, 6, both went to Camp Sunshine.

Nicholas Andrew Badgley, 4, didn't care what his parents paid for the camp. He knew he

**They did a wonderful job. They were loving and affectionate with the campers and very organized!**

Sue Wylie  
camp supervisor

er counselor. "She is having fun. Wearing floaties on each arm, he said he liked swimming the best at camp. And he made a new friend, Cameron Hoxie.

Amber Matich, 7, was at the camp with her brothers, Nicholas, 3, and Adam, 2. Nichole is her cousin. Amber liked fishing in the pool for prizes.

"I'm so impressed with the job the girls did," said next-door neighbor Sue Wylie, one of the adult supervisors. "They did a wonderful job. They were loving and affectionate with the campers and very organized. I wish someone had done this when my children were younger," she said, laughing.

"OK, keep your bathing suits on for now. We're going to go swimming again later in the afternoon," Nichole said as the campers went inside for lunch.



**Organized games:**  
Camp counselors Nichole Maier (foreground) and Jennifer Gordon hop along with 10-year-old Stu Wylie.

## AGENDAS

Springfield Township Planning Commission  
Tentative Business/Workshop Meeting  
650 Broadway  
7:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 16

**Agenda:**  
■ Call to Order: 7:30 p.m.  
■ Opening Comments  
■ Minutes: July 19, 1999  
■ Approval of Agenda  
■ Public Comment: Items Not on Agenda  
■ Public Hearing  
■ Unfinished Business:  
1) Springfield Investors Rezoning — NW Corner Dixie Highway and Davisburg Road  
2) Ordinance Amendment — Section 18.07 Site Plan Review  
■ New Business:  
1) Jamestown Cluster Concept Special Land Use  
2) Clarkston Woods Cluster Concept Special Land Use  
■ Other Business:  
1) Fire Protection  
2) Parking Regulations in Residential Districts  
3) Community Planning Principles  
■ Communications and Reports:  
1) Master Plan Process  
2) Dixie Highway Corridor Orders

Plan Update  
3) Shiawassee & Huron Headwaters Project Update  
4) Heather Highlands Zoning Issues  
5) Private Road Ordinance  
■ Future Meetings:  
Sept. 1 Workshop Meeting;  
Sept. 20 Business Meeting  
■ Adjournment

*The Mission of the Springfield Township Planning Commission is to guide and promote the efficient, coordinated development of the Township in a manner which will best promote the health, safety, and welfare of its people.*

Independence Township Township Board  
Township Library  
6495 Clarkston Rd.  
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 17

**Agenda:**  
■ Call to Order  
■ Pledge of Allegiance  
■ Roll Call  
■ Opening Statements and Correspondence  
■ Approval of Agenda  
■ Minutes of Previous Meeting  
■ Approval of Accounts  
Payable Check Run  
■ Approval of Purchase Orders

■ Public Forum  
■ Presentation: Foreign Exchange Student  
■ Public Hearing: 08-29-454-003, Consideration of Building Height, Article XIII, Zoning Ordinance, Trillium Place, Elderly Housing  
■ Unfinished Business

1) Township Hall Remodeling  
■ New Business  
1) Rezoning Request from RIC & RIR, N.E. Corner of Eston Rd and Algonquin Rd., Parcels 081-12-176-003, 08-12-158-010 and 08-12-126-013

2) Rezoning Request from RIA to OS2, Lot 12, Cranberry Acres, N.W. Corner of M-15 and I-75, Parcel 08-17-300-016.

3) Rezoning Request from RIA to OS2, Lot 11, Cranberry Acres, N.W. Corner of M-15 and I-75, Parcel 08-17-300-15.

4) Approval of Building Height, Trillium Place, Elderly Housing, Parcel 08-29-454-003.  
5) Permission to Purchase Senior Van with C.D.B.G. Funding.

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

## POLICE NEWS

**Larceny**  
On Aug. 10, a cell phone worth \$600 was taken off garage steps on Gravel Ridge Road.

On Aug. 11, the owner of a 1998 Bombardier jet ski wave runner worth \$9,000 reported it missing from storage on Cottonwood.

### Springfield police

#### *Home invasion*

On Aug. 11, someone entered a home on Big Lake while the owners were out of town. The person gained access into the home through the access code on the garage door. The owners discovered loose change in their bedroom missing and a Honda motorcycle damaged.

#### *Breaking and entering*

On Aug. 9, someone used a metal object to pry open a storage trailer at Northwest Court. Stereo equipment was missing.

personal checks missing. Several have been cashed with forged signatures.

On Aug. 10, someone took a 16-foot ladder worth \$262 from a home site under construction on Lake Ridge.

#### *Malicious destruction of property*

On Aug. 10, someone caused \$1,000 worth of damage to a 1995 GMC Sonoma truck parked on Tindall. The person threw a brick through the rear windshield, shattered the front windshield, punctured three tires and dented the left rear side of the truck. There are no suspects.

#### *Failure to pay*

On Aug. 10, a suspect left a gas station on M-15 without paying the \$14.40 owed for gasoline.

#### *Thefts*

Sometime between Aug. 7-9, someone stole a \$22,000 John Deer Skid Steer Loader from a construction site on Sashabaw Road.

On Aug. 9, a resident of Detroit reported two books of

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Flint	Port Huron	Plymouth	Ann Arbor	Kalamazoo
Clarkston	Grand Rapids			
Lake Orion	Clinton Township			

enr003

## Class of '54 from page A1

He's also hoping to see Ralph (Doc) Thayer, who was a coach and drivers education teacher. His wife, Eleanor, was the school librarian.

"They were our class sponsors," McDermott said. "We loved both of them. He could bandage up anyone."

Thayer and Bonner have been invited to the reunion, Thayer as the after-dinner speaker and Bonner to give another pop quiz.

### Reminiscing

The Saturday night reunion party will be at Clarkston Creek Golf Club in Independence Township. There will be dancing to the sounds of the Four Lads, the Ames Brothers, the Four Freshmen, the Norman Petty Trio, Joe Stafford and other favorites from years gone by.

"We used to dress after whatever style the Billy Williams Quartet wore," McDermott added. "Whatever they wore, that's what we wore."

McDermott is looking forward to seeing everyone again. It's been five years since the last reunion.

"All the women always look beautiful," he said. "All the guys are getting fat and are bald-headed. Most of us wear glasses and have false teeth, but the ladies have blossomed."

Shedlosky, who lives in Waterford, invited people who aren't part of the 1954 class to drop by the country club to visit with the graduates. "It would be nice to see other people we know from school," he said.

McDermott said his classmates remember him as the star pitcher for CHS until he was in a serious automobile accident his senior year. He worked for General Motors for several years and the rest as a pastor. He and his wife, Karen (Highlen), a CHS alumna from 1958, live near Sault Sainte Marie where he's pastor of North Hills Baptist Church.

Shedlosky is looking forward to the reunion but what a busy month he's having. He's also retiring as an engineer with General Motors. He said people remember him for two things — he was a musician who made it to "American Band Stand," a

## Reunion information

Anyone needing information on the Clarkston High School Class of 1954 reunion can call Jack Hess at (248) 625-1632.

Other graduating classes have reunions in the works:

- Class of 1960: call Georgena (Vlet) Miller at 248-627-4549.

- Class of 1969: 30th reunion on Sept. 18, Deer Lake Racquet Club. Contact Trudy Beall Bahr at 734-213-2359 or by e-mail at locctt@aol.com

- Class of 1980: call Lori Sutherland Gruenberg at 248-922-9222.

- Class of 1984: call Miranda Morales at (248) 627-5776 or e-mail her at randiepic@aol.com

- Class of 1989: Ten-year reunion scheduled for Oct. 16 at the Grande Lafayette in Pontiac. Call Holly Edmunds at 810-236-3350 or e-mail her at hedmunds@kodex.net

- Class of 1994: call Stephanie Staszak at 248-625-7068 or e-mail her at divasis@aol.com

## Penguin from page A1

chicken.

Michelle and Dave have long since pleaded guilty, but apparently it took a confession, two-and-a-half years after the caper began, to get the Percivals to finally see their close friends were culpable. In the interim, the penguin became an unwitting world traveler.

Thanks to her job, it wasn't hard for Michelle to send the captive off all over the place. She said it wasn't something she had planned.

"We were going to see them the next week for dinner and we were going to give it back," she said. But after a chance encounter with Steve's mom in a grocery store, the Stovers realized, "This could be entertaining."

Each time the penguin was packed off, its kidnapper was given a disposable camera with instructions to take a photo of the penguin at a landmark. Each

time it returned to the airport, Michelle would write a note, disguising her handwriting each time, about its trip. People were literally booking the penguin in advance to travel with them.

A homeowner in Clarkston for 13 years, Colombo has lived in the area since he was 2, he said. He is a partner in Pennsylvania Life Insurance company in Novi.

Although Inabnit hasn't lived in Clarkston his whole life, he's been here for several years.

An employee of Kieft Engineering, he said he decided it was time to get involved in city politics.

"I've been going to meetings and decided there are some things I'd like to change," Inabnit said.

No one filed a petition to run

for the one-year term that is vacant. Clarkston Mayor Sharron Catallo said the vacancy is due to Mike Kelley's resignation. He had to leave due to a work conflict.

The Clarkston City Council

appointed Scott Meyland to fill

the vacancy until council member

is either elected or appointed.

Residents have until Oct. 29 to

throw their hat in the ring for

the position as a write-in candidate.

"If no one wants to run, then

the council will appoint someone

to fill it," she explained.

The caper appears to have come to an end, at least for now. The Percivals are about to demolish their lakefront house and build a new one, and a baby is on the way. The Stovers have gotten married and had a baby since the whole thing began, and are now expecting their second child.

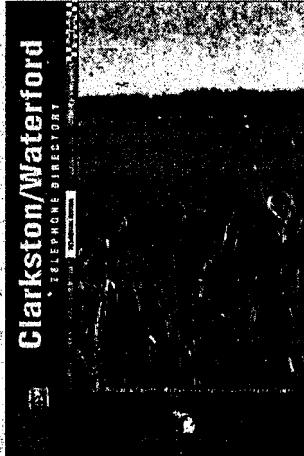
"All we get in the mail now are advertisements and bills," Steve said. He confessed to a little bit of envy of the penguin's world tour.

"We were jealous there for a long time, especially in the middle of winter when we knew the penguin was on a cruise down Mexico way."

The Percivals claim they aren't plotting revenge, and the Stovers say they're not worried.

"I know Steve well enough," Daye said. "He'll just wait it out and someday he'll do a 'gotcha.' Because he'll be expecting us to look over our shoulder right now."

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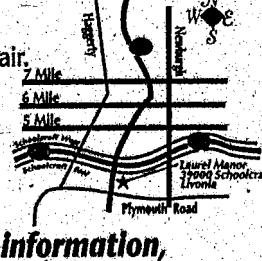
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L011230

# Planners aiding comeback for Oakland's downtowns

BY PAT MURPHY  
STAFF WRITER  
[pmurphy@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:pmurphy@oe.homecomm.net)

**A**fter years of neglect, downtowns are on the way back, as several in Oakland County have demonstrated.

That assessment comes from Robert Donohue, Jr., a county planner whose goal is to assist Oakland communities trying to resurrect downtowns as a place to gather, to do business, find entertainment . . . or simply hang out.

It's not a matter of nostalgia or preserving unique architecture, Donohue said during an interview at his office in the Planning and Economic Development Services office.

"It's a matter of economics," he insisted, "communities can no longer let their downtowns languish and deteriorate."

Equally important, Donohue said, people want to identify with a thriving downtown. They want something beside look-alike streets and nondescript subdivisions, he said. "They see downtowns as a reflection of them."

Donohue studied planning and historic preservation at the University of Michigan as part of his American studies program. Thus he's fully aware of the failed attempts at downtown revitalization and urban renewal.

He's also aware of developers who believe downtowns have outlived their usefulness and are inevitably dying.

## Wave of the future

"Throw all that out," Donohue says with zest. "Mistakes have been made, but downtowns are the wave of the future."

Resurgent downtowns will never replace Great Lakes Crossing in Auburn Hills or the Somerset Collection in Troy, con-

**'Downtowns are a tremendous asset, and it makes sense to put them to good use, especially if the economy cools down.'**

*Robert Donohue  
—Oakland County planner*

cedes Russell C. Lewis, the county's principal planner and architect.

"But they will offer consumers important alternatives," Lewis said. "Malls have one function," Lewis said, "consumption, and you have to use your car."

Downtowns, with a mixture of specialty shops and other amenities, he said, "usually involve walking. Plus, downtowns offer a sense of community."

The emphasis on downtowns isn't a new fad, Donohue said. It's more like an idea that resurfaces from time to time with varying results.

The current wave of interest in downtown revitalization started in the late 1960s and early '70s, Donohue said. "And it's been nurtured by an alphabet soup of legislation — DDAs, PSDs and TIFAs."

He was referring to downtown development authorities, principal shopping districts and tax increment finance authorities, all vehicles for raising money. There are also lucrative tax breaks, he said, at the federal and state levels.

The country's robust economy has been a factor in efforts to

revitalizing downtowns, Donohue acknowledged. But efforts will continue, he said, even if the economy cools down.

"Downtowns are a tremendous asset," he said, "and it makes sense to put them to good use, especially if the economy cools down."

Donohue's job — a county planner specializing in downtowns — might be considered acknowledgment of the growing importance of downtowns. It was created last year at the suggestion of the Business Roundtable, the advisory group put together by County Executive L. Brooks Patterson.

Donohue, who had been executive director of the Rochester Downtown Development Authority, took the county job in January and immediately began focusing his attention on Oakland's 30 downtown districts, each unique and rich in cultural heritage.

Some communities — Birmingham, Novi, Farmington and Oxford — were already concerned about their downtowns, Donohue said, "and taking steps to revitalize them." But others have not taken what Donohue regards as the crucial first step — forming a DDA that can capture part of the taxes paid by downtown businesses to be used for central city improvements.

## Team effort needed

Regardless of where a community might be, however, Donohue said his goal is help. "Rejuvenating a downtown is a team effort," he emphasizes. "The whole community has to be involved. Government and businesses are important, but so are people in the community. Everybody has to be involved."

"Good development proposals have failed, for lack of communication and cooperation," he emphasized.



**He approves:** Above, a smiling Robert Donohue, county planner, indicates his approval of a new office building at East and Third streets in downtown Rochester.

Donohue, who lives in Commerce Township, said he is currently involved with more than a dozen communities, including the village of Leonard in Oakland's northeast corner.

But the city of Pontiac, the county seat, is a major focal point of his efforts. "Pontiac already had a lot of good things going," he said.

"When I was growing up, Pontiac was a strong, vibrant city," said Donohue. "It can be that again."

Novi offers a sharp contrast to Pontiac and other communities, Donohue said. Instead of trying to rejuvenate an existing downtown, Novi is, in effect, building a new one.

While that's an ambitious approach, it's also an untested one, according to Donohue. Novi is putting a lot of effort and resources into building a new central area. "The question is," according to Donohue and his

supervisor, Russell C. Lewis, "will people accept it?"

Donohue applauds the role corporate America is playing in rebuilding downtowns by donating support, money and, very often, the services of key executives. They're being good neighbors, he said, but there's also an element of self interest.

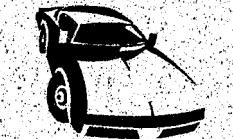
Thriving communities, with good schools and intriguing downtowns, are good for recruitment, he said.

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# Malls & Mainstreets

Nicole Stafford, Editor 248-901-2567 nstafford@oe.homecomm.net

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

The Eccentric

Page 6, Section A

Sunday, August 15, 1999

Fall makeup colors are bold and rich, yet sheer and light

## DISCOVERING BEAUTY



**INTRODUCTIONS**  
As a makeup artist and skin care expert, I'm so excited about the opportunity to share my thoughts and discoveries with you.

Once a month we will get together to talk about new trends in cosmetics and skin care. Products, application techniques, and tricks of the trade will all be extensively covered.

The way you look directly affects the way you feel about yourself. Such feelings, in turn, affect the way you are received by others.

Therefore, my main goal as the Observer & Eccentric's new beauty columnist is to help you look and feel as good as you possibly can.

As we are all aware, there are very few people in the world who always look beautiful. Most of us have to work at our physical appearance. I think the key is to make the process of looking good as easy as possible. Since everyone is an individual, I like to accentuate the positive and minimize the negative. And, I encourage you to do the same, as we take a look at ourselves and the concept of beauty.

## END OF SEASON

Here we are! The end of summer, but not quite fall. It's the time of the year when the temperature is still rising. The kids are home from camp, asking you, "what is there to do?" And, we are thinking (with some guilt) "please, please, get them back in school."

In between our favorite, lazy sandals and rugged, leather boots, T-shirts and sweaters, breezy raincoats to wool overcoats, we need to change our beauty regime.

While the switch from lightweight cotton to bulky wool always feels drastic, rest assured the transition from summer to fall makeup won't be as big a leap.

Fall will usher in use of more color. You'll see an abundance of deep burgundies, rich tobacco reds, and dark smoky shades in makeup, but they will be sheer and translucent.

A product well-suited for attaining fall's translucent look is Tommy Hilfiger's new makeup line. Consider Hilfiger's shimmering pastels and other texture-soft colors. They are ideal for obtaining that natural, but "oh-so-slightly edgy" look.

The eye shadows are light and soft. They will also last throughout the day. Dab on some of Hilfiger's Retro liquid eyeliner in All That Black, and you're out the door for the evening.

Another line to keep your eyes on is Sonia Kashuk's new collection. Kashuk is a renowned makeup artist whose clientele includes Sandra Bullock, Meg Ryan and Cindy Crawford. She has created a low-priced makeup line that will be out this fall in Target stores.

This fall's look for the face is definitely unique and alive. As is often the case with beauty and fashion, the look speaks to lifestyle. It's the look of a woman who has worked eight hours, played with her children and is in the midst of entertaining friends over dinner.

Visualize makeup eight hours after it was applied; it is worn off during the course of the day. Black mascara is still present. There's a trace of purple pigment on the lips. Foundation is light, a bit smudged.

While foundation is light, dusting the face with powder (preferably T. Leclerc Translucide loose powder) is essential to achieving the look. Matte for the millennium, however, will not be as severe as that '80s powdered death look. Instead, it should vacillate between "dewy," "powdered" and "soft."

Use powders and foundations where they are needed: on your T-zone and as a highlighter around your eyes and cheeks. Remember, we're talking about a very seductive and sexy look, not just a healthy glow. Experiment and let me know how I can help.

Most importantly, always remember true beauty comes from within. So practice random acts of kindness regularly to reduce stress and create that "I'm alive and living" glow.

Remember, I can't do this without you. Your input will aid me in getting to know you, your interests and concerns. I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Send your questions and comments to: Mary Anne Toccalino, c/o Red Salon, Toccalino Cosmetics, 470 N. Old Woodward, Suite 200, Birmingham, Mich. 48009.

Mary Anne Toccalino is a professional makeup artist and skin care consultant at RED The Salon in Birmingham. The founder and owner of Toccalino Cosmetics, she studied at Joe Blasco's School of Cosmetics in Hollywood where her training included work in special effects and makeup for film and print.

## Fashion's new era Millennium style explodes at Fash Bash

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
SPECIAL EDITOR

nstafford@oe.homecomm.net

Argyle patterns on sweaters, lace trim, busy, patterned prints. None of these elements showed up at Fash Bash '99 where the journey probed style for the millennium.

True, talk of the Y2K bug and millennium style is, by now, a tired conversation. But, the coming of the millennium has impacted fashion, and nowhere in the metropolitan Detroit fashion scene this fall has such an influence been as evident than on the Fash Bash runway.

Held Wednesday night at the Fox Theatre by Hudson's and the Founders Junior Council for the Detroit Institute of Arts, the event also marked the 30th anniversary of the fashion show and party.

Given that the show not only represented a milestone but would also be the last Fash Bash of the century, paying attention to the future of fashion seemed fitting.

From aerodynamic silhouettes and clean, no-fuss lines, to an abundance of modern "high tech" fabrics, evidence of an emerging millennium style and sensibility popped up everywhere on the runway.

"Modern is really a clear trend," said JoAnn Young, Hudson's corporate fashion show producer and the organizer of this year's Fash Bash runway show, which was grouped by designer rather than apparel category, under a world odyssay theme.

The reason is simple — the demands of a modern lifestyle, said Young.

While excitement about a new era does affect a sense of style and fashion choices, the desire for simple, functional, streamlined apparel is more a reflection of how people want to feel in their clothing on a day-to-day basis, than romantic notions about style and era.

"I think we're busier than ever. No fuss: Simple clothing helps us feel organized."

and we're trying to juggle so much in our lives, yet fashion is still appreciated," Young said. More modern, simple clothing "helps us. It makes us feel more organized, more together, more streamlined. ... To be organized is an objective of all of ours."

Like high-tech synthetic fabrics that don't wrinkle and can be washed at home, clothing with simple lines and cuts seems to require less fuss and attention.

Simplicity, however, doesn't mean details are unimportant. (Simplicity was also contrasted by the show's use of luxurious fabrics, such as cashmere, silk, leather, suede and mohair.) And at Fash Bash, zipper pockets were the celebrated detail of the millennium.

True, shiny metal zippers remind us of silver space suits and have an industrial look and feel. But they also serve an important function: they hold business cards; miscellaneous, but important, notes; phone numbers; credit cards; beepers; and our tiny, tiny cell phones.

And, if zip-up pockets don't succeed in preventing the loss of such items, they do reduce our anxiety about staying organized.

"That's the whole thing with modern. It has function," said Young, adding that even the accessories shown at Fash Bash have purpose.

Messenger bags, like those worn by city bike messengers, backpacks, body-packs, a cross between a backpack and a fanny pack, and Velcro shoe closures are just a few of the accessories to which Young referred.

Even some of the show's outerwear, a series of body-length, quilted nylon coats, could probably double as sleeping bags. Other jackets and sweaters were hooded. Simple, off-the-shoulder wraps, ponchos, capes and other on-the-go clothing also made a showing.

"It's all about function," said Young.



STAFF PHOTOS BY JERRY ZOLNICK

**Easy going: High tech, synthetic fabrics, which don't wrinkle and are easy to care for, had a strong presence at Fash Bash '99.**

## ADDED ATTRACTIONS

Retail, style and special store events are listed in this calendar. Please send information to Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax: (248) 644-1314. Information must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for publication the following Sunday.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 16**

### KIDS WEEK AT MALL

Meadowbrook Village in Rochester Hills presents Kids Week for children of all ages, featuring free interactive activities, through Aug. 20, Center Court. For show times and additional information, please call (248) 375-9451.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 17**

### BIRMINGHAM GALLERY TOUR

The Community House in Birmingham hosts its first walking tour of some of Birmingham's art galleries. Participants will have an opportunity to meet gallery owners and partake in a post-tour discussion, 9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Tickets are \$12. To register, call (248) 644-5832.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 19**

ette portraits through Aug. 22, Children's Department, third floor. To make an appointment, call (248) 643-9000, ext. 333 or 335.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 21**

### FALL FASHION SHOW

Parisian at Laurel Park Place in Livonia presents fashions for fall during the mall's anniversary celebration, 1 p.m., Parisian Court.

### CARTOONING DEMONSTRATION

Borders Books & Music in Farmington Hills presents a cartooning demonstration by in-house artist Leon Schochit, 11 a.m.

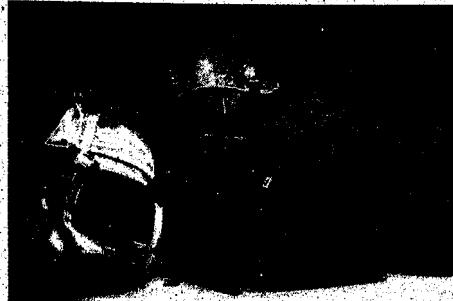
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 22**

### PRIORITY BRIDAL REGISTRATION

Hudson's welcomes future brides and grooms for a special morning of bridal gift registration with assistance from experienced registration staff prior to regular store hours, 9:30 a.m., Gift Registry Department, Hudson's stores at Oakland Mall, the Somerset Collection, Twelve Oaks Mall and Lakeside Mall. Reservations required. Call chosen location for appointment.

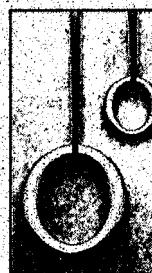
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STUFF WE CRAVE



**School style:** Send your little ones to school in style, from left to right, Esprit's new sling-back nylon bag, \$69, J. Crew's rubber backpack, \$49.50, and Esprit's gray wool sling-back and all-purpose bags, both \$59; Esprit and J. Crew stores, the Somerset Collection in Troy.

**Gold on black:**  
Elsa Peretti's Sevillana pendants combine 18K gold and black silk cord, \$625-\$825 at Tiffany & Co.



**Synergy:** Sisley Research Laboratories introduces Sisley Global Anti-Age, containing a synergistic combination of natural plant extracts, botanical essential oils, vitamins and ursolic acid, \$300; available at Neiman Marcus in September.

**Never too early:** Help students stay organized with, left to right, a colorful desktop clock, \$28, flexi-tube calculator, \$15; both at Chiasso, and day and student planners, \$7.95 and \$39.95 at Franklin Covey, all at the Somerset Collection in Troy.

**Wonderland celebrates changes**

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
SPECIAL EDITOR

nstafford@pe.com

Wonderland Mall in Livonia has much to celebrate.

Big changes visited the mall this year with the renovation of Target and, most recently, the addition of sportswear retailer Old Navy.

August also marks the mall's 40th year serving shoppers and residents in the Livonia area. The anniversary will be celebrated throughout August with planned and "surprise" events, said Wonderland Mall's general manager Reinhard Lemke.

To begin, Lemke and mall management have hired Sterling & Reid Bros. 3-Ring Circus to set up its big top tent and perform live in the mall's parking lot. The traditional circus show will run through Aug. 15, and tickets are \$12.95 for adults, \$5.75 for children

and free for children under age 12.

"There has been a tremendous turnaround," said Lemke of the changes at Wonderland. "It's breathtaking for someone who hasn't been here for a year. ... There is such a tremendous change that you hardly feel that you are in the same place."

In addition to the Target renovation earlier this year, Montgomery Wards is slated to open its newly refurbished Wonderland store Aug. 20. The anchor retailer has not only reconfigured its physical space and incorporated visual merchandising but also expanded product lines, changed its name to Wards and put employees through a management training program, Lemke said.

"It reminds me, pretty much, of a Hudson's," said Lemke. "It's much more playful now, colorful and open. You feel the size of the store. ... If I had been in the marketing department

there, I would have said it's a new world of Wards."

While physical improvements help business, new retailers and merchandise are sure to increase patronage, said Lemke.

Old Navy, known for its reasonably priced, cutting edge sportswear, opened Aug. 4, and already sales among the mall's retailers have increased, according to Lemke. The approximately 15,000-square-foot store is located in the heart of the center near the mall's play area for children.

The store's Aug. 7 grand opening, which included a fashion show and celebrity appearance, drew more than the mall's usual number of shoppers, said Lemke.

"I couldn't really believe it would draw such a crowd," he said. "Just the sales in the last couple of days, they say, have been like Christmas."

*Where can I find?*

This feature is dedicated to helping readers locate merchandise that's difficult to find. If you've seen or are looking for an item, call (248) 901-2555 and leave a message with your name and phone number. We publish readers' requests for merchandise twice. If you don't hear from us or see information about the item within a few weeks, we were unable to locate it.

**WHAT WE FOUND:**

— The Phonics Game is available at Your Toy Box, a store at Auburn and Rochester roads.

— A 1961 Rochester High School woman's class ring can be purchased at Weinstein Jewelers in Sterling Heights, (810) 977-6070.

— A countertop portable dishwasher can be purchased through the Colonial Garden & Kitchen catalog, (800) 245-3399.

— A product similar to Spray Press, by Maid of Honor, is available at Farmer Jack stores.

— Peanut butter pretzels are sold at Walmart stores and through the Harry & David catalog, (800) 547-3033.

— Daniel Green slippers are available at DSW shoe stores, located in Novi and Southfield, and through the Tog Shop catalog, (800) 367-8647.

— Sweet & Low butter toffee candy can be bought at Arbor Drugs stores.

— A Kangol men's cap can be pur-

sued at Kapsun House of Leather in Tel-Twelve Mall on Telegraph Road in Southfield, (248) 223-1063.

— A purchaser of comic books, as requested by Mitchell, might be found by looking in the yellow pages for comic book dealers, according to one reader who called us.

— Clock repairs can be done at Clock & Wood Original on 5 Mile Road in Redford, (313) 255-1581.

— We also found: Glembay's shampoo, an 8mm film editing machine, 8-track tapes and a Weeble Wobble tree house.

**WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:**

— A shampoo/conditioner by Clairol called 3 in 1 Shampoo Plus for Diana.

— A store where instructions for making hand-sewn Daran fabric bags are available or sold for Alice.

— A 1953 Central High School yearbook for Faye.

— Cab Calloway posters for Kevin.

— The game Catch Phrase for Elizabeth, a resident of Livonia.

— A video tape of the film "Heidi" starring Shirley Temple for Virginia.

— A 1948 Clawson High School yearbook for Betty.

— An Ekco Bakers Secret pan called Muffins and More for Evelyn.

— A current address for retailer 5th Avenue Handbags.

— A store or food supplier where small pickles (for processing) are

sold for Dee.

— A company or store where down-filled quilts are remade.

— An International Company Stoneware Tableworks teapot in the 1994 Heartland pattern (6 1/2-8 1/2 inches from spout to lid) for Sharon.

— A BLISS portable strip slitter to cut wool in rug hooking for Diane.

— A pair of ladies' white Pacer (#991) roller-skate boots in size 8 for Connie.

— A Fresh Breath ball dog toy (1 1/2 inches) for Sherrie.

— The board game American Dream for Amy.

— Garden City Junior High School Drama Club video tapes from 1982-85 for Yvette.

— An original See & Say toy for Dana.

— A 1998 Precious Moments Christmas plate called Girl Holding Letter (8 1/2 inches) for Nancy.

— Megaware cookware from France for Ann.

— Gee Your Hair Smells Terrific shampoo for Judy.

— The reader who told us Coty Lipstick is available at Walgreens, would you call again and give us the exact Walgreens store location. Yvette was unable to find the product at the Walgreens near her.

— Compiled by Sandi Jarackas

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**CAPITOL BRIEFS**

Several Oakland residents were appointed to a number of state boards and commissions by Gov. John Engler.

■ Catherine Polley of Clarkston was named to the Michigan Board of Pharmacy. She is the director of pharmacy and government and trade relations at K-mart Corp. She replaces Calvin Helmick of Lansing and will represent professionals on the board until June of 2003.

■ William Tregenza of Rochester was appointed to the Commission on Disability Concerns. Tregenza is the administrator in charge of employee relations for North American operations of General Motors. He will take a term expiring in March of 2002.

■ Penny Crissman of Rochester was named to the Oakland University Board of Trustees. Crissman, formerly a state Representative, also served as a mayor and as a city council member in the City of Rochester. She is a member of the board of directors at Neighborhood House and a member of the Rochester Community Foundations. She will replace James Sharp of Detroit on the board. Her term will run until August of 2000.

■ Lois Shaeovsky of Bloomfield Hills was appointed to the Michigan Humanities Council. She is a trustee for PBS Channel 56.

The council provides grants to humanities projects throughout the state.

■ Lisa Sanders of West Bloomfield was appointed to the Board of Examiners of Social Work, which is responsible for the certification and registration of social workers in Michigan. Sanders is an adoption specialist for Homes for Black Children. She will represent social workers on the board.

■ Raina Bradley of Southfield was named to the Michigan Board of Pharmacy. Raina is the president and CEO of Prescription Arts Pharmacy. She replaces George Punces of Clare on the board and will represent professionals until June of 2003. The board licenses and regulates pharmacists in the state of Michigan.

■ Micki Berg of Huntington Woods was appointed to the Commission on Disability Concerns. Berg is the director of training for Weight Watchers, Inc. She replaces Christian Mageli of Dearborn on the commission and will serve a term

ending in March of 2001.

The Commission on Disability Concerns advocates the rights and concerns of the disabled and assists other government agencies in complying with federal civil rights mandates regarding the disabled.

■ Ian Minicuci of Troy was appointed to the Commission on Disability Concerns. Minicuci is the coordinator of Very Special Arts Michigan. He was named to replace Thomas Sowulewski of Saginaw and will serve a term ending March of 2002.

Other appointments included:

■ Joseph Connelly of Livonia was reappointed to the Commission on Disability Concerns for a term ending in March of 2000. He will also serve as the vice chair of the commission.

■ Lita Popke of Canton has been reappointed to the Board of Ethics. Popke has been an attorney with the Detroit law firm of Weisman, Trogan, Young and Schloss since 1994. Popke will serve on the Board until February of 2003.

The Board of Ethics takes and reviews complaints of unethical conduct by public officers and employees, conducts inquiries into the allegations, and makes recommendations to the appointing authority as a result of its findings.

■ Paul McNamara of St. Johns was appointed to the state Board of Medicine. McNamara is a retired administrator from the Clinton Memorial Hospital. McNamara replaces Anne Armstrong of Grand Rapids and will represent the general public on the board until his term expires in December.

■ Judith Zacha of St. Joseph was named to the Personnel Agency Board, which regulates employment agencies and personnel placement consultants. Zacha is the CEO of Beacon Services and will serve a term on the board until September of 2002.

■ Bill Sheridan of Mason was reappointed to the Beef Industry Commission, which promotes the use of beef in Michigan. Sheridan is employed by Owosso Livestock Sales. And he will represent cattle marketers on the commission until May of 2002.

■ Dr. John Rinke of Fenton was appointed to the Michigan Board of Counseling. Rinke is director of counseling, career planning and placement for Washtenaw Community College. He will represent professionals on the board until June of 2003.

The board is responsible for licensing and examining professional counselors.

**Restaurateur: Tighten food rules even more**

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

Oakland County's proposal to require restaurants to have at least one certified food service manager doesn't go far enough to address concerns about hepatitis A, according to one restaurateur.

"Every employee (rather than one) should be required to attend classes and be certified as a food handler," said Duane Gmerek, co-owner of Roosevelt's Billiards Bar & Grill in Farmington Hills.

The restaurant at 12 Mile and Orchard Lake roads was the focal point June 8 of the most recent outbreak of hepatitis A after a prep chef informed Gmerek his physician diagnosed him as having hepatitis A.

The outbreak sickened 40 people.

In the wake of the outbreak, County Executive L. Brooks Pat-

erson and a bipartisan group of county commissioners Tuesday issued a press release to the effect that a resolution would be introduced to the county board of commissioners to strengthen the Oakland Sanitary Code.

The resolution's main provision would require at least one person on staff at each restaurant to be certified as a food service manager — after undergoing training that emphasized, among other things, good hygiene habits including frequent washing of the hands with hot water and soap.

Requiring a food service manager goes beyond state health codes. But two neighboring counties, Wayne and Livingston, already require food service managers as a condition of serving the public.

"It's a good idea," Gmerek said Wednesday. "But I'd like to see it go further. Every employee should be required to undergo training and be certified."

Gmerek said he speaks from experience. "We emphasized good hygiene," he said, "and we tried and tried and tried to make people realize the importance of washing their hands. But things happen."

If prospective employees were required to be certified as food handlers before being hired — to undergo formal training as a condition of employment — the importance of good hygiene might be driven home, Gmerek said.

The cost of certifying employ-

ees might be substantial, acknowledged Gmerek. But restaurants paying for the training and certification would demonstrate a commitment to sanitation and health standards.

It might also be cheaper in the long run, said Gmerek, whose business has dropped off drastically, despite efforts to convince patrons that his establishment — having undergone scrutiny by health officials — is undoubtedly

the safest in Oakland County.

The resolution touted by Patterson's office Tuesday is expected to be introduced after the county health department holds a public hearing on Aug. 30. It is vital that we do everything in our power to prevent a pleasant evening of dining out from turning into a game of Russian roulette," the executive said in his press release.

One commissioner who supports the proposed resolution is Tim W. Melton (D-Auburn Hills). "It's just too bad it took another outbreak to get any action," he said.

**Posting inspection results**

Melton and commissioner Eric Coleman (D-Southfield) last year introduced resolutions that would require, among other things, that restaurants post the results of health inspections so patrons could make informed decisions about eating at a particular restaurant.

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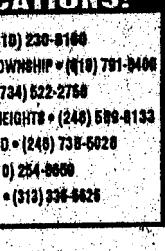
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# Taste

Keely Wygonik, Editor 734 953-2105, kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

on the web: <http://observer-eccentric.com>**TWIST ON TRADITION**

CHEF RANDY EMERT

## Grilling brings out flavor of vegetables

Gardens across Michigan are bursting with ripe, flavorful vegetables, which makes this an exciting time for everyone who enjoys summer's bounty. Amy, Nathan and I eat more vegetables now than at any other time of the year. Whether hand-picked from your own backyard or purchased from your favorite market, there are numerous ways to include vegetables of all kinds into your diet.

My favorite way to cook vegetables is on the grill because of the distinct flavor grilling adds. There are a few things you should keep in mind when you do turn to the barbecue for your vegetables: The sweeter the vegetable is, the quicker it will burn. I'm referring to tomatoes, red and green peppers, and mushrooms.

If you are grilling harder vegetables like carrots or parsnips, you should soften them by baking for a couple of minutes. Otherwise they will burn on the grill before they are tender enough to eat.

**Potatoes**

When cooking vegetables such as potatoes, it is best to wrap them carefully in aluminum foil, which keeps the heat and moisture in, without burning the outside. Remember to always wash vegetables thoroughly before cooking, especially potatoes. Those brown spots you see aren't a part of the vegetable; it's dirt.

All of the following recipes use olive oil, which is low in saturated fat, yet high on taste. I prefer to rub oil on the vegetables instead of marinating them in it for these recipes, as it keeps the food crispier, and less oily. It also reduces calories because you don't use as much oil as you might in a marinade.

Oil lubricates vegetables and prevents them from sticking to the grill. There are grill pans available that have smaller holes, which prevent small vegetables from falling through the grates of the grill. These are fine for cooking small, sweet vegetables, but remember the foil for more firm foods, even if you have pre-boiled them.

**Quick recipes**

For all you vegetarians or vegetable lovers out there, I think you are going to enjoy this batch of goodies. These recipes are quick and easy.

**HERB RUBBED****GRILLED VEGETABLE SALAD**

One each of your favorite vegetables, washed, seeded and cut large enough so they do not fall through the grill.

One sprig each of your favorite fresh herbs. I recommend parsley, sage, rosemary or thyme.

1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil  
1 teaspoon of minced garlic  
Salt and pepper to taste

Pour the oil and sprinkle salt and pepper evenly over the vegetables. Grill vegetables over low heat until tender. Cut the vegetables to make them bite-size once cool, if necessary. Add the garlic and herbs and mix.

**GRILLED THREE TOMATO SALAD**

2 red tomatoes cut in half  
2 yellow tomatoes cut in half  
2 green tomatoes cut in half  
1 small red onion, sliced 1/4-inch thick  
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil  
1 lime juice and zest  
1 teaspoon minced garlic  
1/2 bottle of beer (the higher the quality of beer you use the better)

Please see TWIST, B2

**LOOKING AHEAD**

What to watch for in Taste next week:

- Recipe to share
- Specialty pasta sauces



Serve over corn bread.

**Per serving:** 339 calories; 31g protein; 24g carbohydrate; 14g fat; 4.1mg iron; 988mg sodium; 96mg cholesterol.

**EASY "MEATBALLS,"  
VEGETABLES & PASTA****Makes 4 servings**

1 pound 80 percent lean ground beef  
1/2 cup soft bread crumbs  
1 egg, slightly beaten  
2 tablespoons finely chopped onion  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/8 teaspoon pepper  
8 ounces uncooked penne pasta  
3 cups (12 ounces) frozen Italian vegetable mixture  
1 jar (about 26 ounces) prepared spaghetti sauce  
2 tablespoons shredded Parmesan cheese

Heat oven to 375°F. In large bowl, combine ground beef, bread crumbs, egg, onion, salt and pepper; mix lightly but thoroughly. In 8-inch square baking dish, press beef mixture into 1/2-inch thickness. Bake in 375°F oven 20 minutes to medium (160°F) or until the center is no longer pink and the juices show no pink color. Carefully pour off drippings. Cut beef mixture into 16 squares.

Meanwhile cook pasta according to package directions. About 6 minutes before pasta is done, stir in vegetables. Drain; keep warm.

In large sauceman, combine "meatballs" and spaghetti sauce. Cook, uncovered, over medium-low heat 6 to 8 minutes or until heated through, stirring occasionally. Serve over pasta and vegetables. Sprinkle with cheese.

**Per serving:** 582 calories; 35g protein; 63g carbohydrate; 20g fat; 5.4mg iron; 912mg sodium; 122mg cholesterol.

Share some of your favorite weekday dinner recipes and if your recipe is chosen for publication in Taste, we'll send you a cookbook. Please send only original recipes to Keely Wygonik, Taste editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

**HURRY-UP BEEF &  
MIXED VEGETABLE SUPPER****Makes 4 servings**

1 pound beef cubed steaks  
1 teaspoon vegetable oil  
1 clove garlic, crushed  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon pepper  
1 package (10 ounces) or 2 cups frozen mixed vegetables  
1 jar (12 ounces) mushroom gravy  
4 corn bread squares or split corn muffins

Cut beef steaks lengthwise into 1-inch wide strips, then crosswise into 1-inch pieces.

In large nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium heat until hot. Add beef and garlic. Cook and stir 5 to 6 minutes or until beef is no longer pink. (Do not overcook). Season with salt and pepper.

Meanwhile place vegetables in 2-quart microwave-safe dish. Cover and microwave on high 4 minutes; drain.

Add vegetables and gravy to beef. Cook over medium heat 1 to 2 minutes or just until heated through.

Information and Recipes from the Beef &amp; Veal Culinary Center, National Cattlemen's Beef Association

## Napa Valley second to Disneyland in tourism

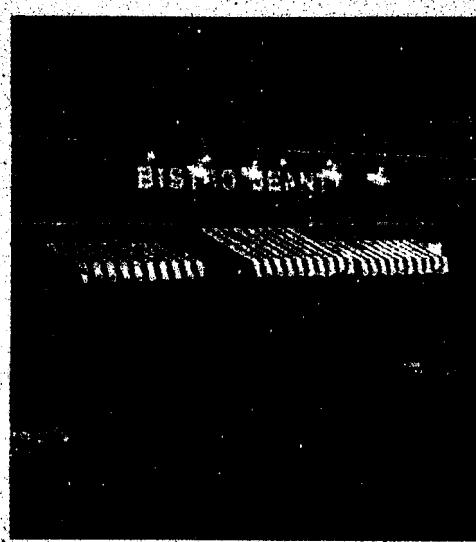
BY ELEANOR & RAY HEALD  
SPECIAL WRITERS

Next to Disneyland, Napa Valley draws more tourists annually than any other U.S. destination. September and October are prime time, but most crowded, especially on weekends. If wine country beckons, here are our best tips for the Napa Valley - at harvest or anytime of year.

As the most self-contained wine region, just under 30 miles long and three miles wide, Napa Valley is easy to explore. In addition to wineries, there are resorts, spas, ballooning, unique shops and fabulous restaurants in the land of "plenty," the translation of Napa in native American. In fact, you don't need to like wine to have an incredible time!

**Where to stay**

Embassy Suites, 1075 California Boulevard, Napa (707) 253-9540 is hard to beat. It offers 205 suites, each with a separate living room with sofa bed and private bedroom, galley kitchen with wet bar, microwave, refrigerator and two remote-control TVs. There's an indoor and outdoor pool, whirlpool, sauna, steam room and complimentary use of nearby fitness centers. Room price includes cooked-to-order break-



RAY HEALD

**Trendy restaurant:** Bistro Jeanty looks French, has food as good as France, but it's in California's Napa Valley community of Yountville.

**Wine Picks**

- Pick of the pack: 1996 Geyser Peak Shiraz Reserve \$40. Shiraz is Aussie-speak for syrah. Why this name from a Sonoma County winery? The winemaker is Aussie Daryl Groom. His wines are great.
- It may still be hot outdoors, but these merlots are moist and perfect with grilled duck breast, grilled portobello mushrooms or grilled pork loin with a cherry sauce.
- There's nothing like well-chilled sparkling wine to celebrate, even TGF. 1994 Domaine Carneros Brut \$23 and 1996 Iron Horse Wedding Cuvee \$26 are delicious.
- Two knock your socks off chards with dynamic flavor: 1997 Simi Reserve Chardonnay, Goldfields Vineyard, Russian River Valley \$29 and 1997 Beringer Sbragia Limited Reserve Chardonnay \$40. These two heavyweights can stand up to bigger foods such as lobster or salmon; pork or veal. Curry sauce or mustard sauces are a great match as well as asago and taleggio cheeses or hazelnuts and pecans.
- Best buy reds at \$10 and under: 1996 Monterra Syrah \$10; 1997 Bogle Old Vino Cuvee Zinfandel (30-year-old vines) \$10; 1996 Napa Ridge North Coast Zinfandel \$9; 1996 Cambria Pinot Noir \$9; and 1996 Lorain Valley Pinot Noir, Oregon \$10. Don't expect big and lush from these pinots. They're light, flavorful and easy to drink.

Please see TOURISM, B2

## Tourism from page B1

fast plus a daily two-hour, late afternoon, manager's reception featuring Napa Valley wines. Rates start at \$174 per day.

If a B&B is to your fondness, Sutter Home Inn in St. Helena is very special. The Victorian, constructed in 1884, was acquired by the Trinchero family, owners of Sutter Home Winery, in 1986. Painstakingly restored to original splendor, it is a Napa Valley jewel. A bountiful country breakfast is included for a rate of \$190 per day. Phone (707) 963-3104 Ext. 4100, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pacific time, Monday-Friday.

Trouble with reservations? Napa Valley Reservations Unlimited (800) 251-6272 does not charge a fee for its services.

### Trendy restaurant scene

The French Laundry 6640 Washington Street, Yountville (707) 944-2380 is excellent, but you have to be willing to pay more than \$200 per couple with wine. We have favorites that will cost you less than half that.

Bistro Jeanty 6510 Washington Street, Yountville (707) 944-0108 makes you feel like you're in Paris. If you like French bistro-style food, it doesn't get better, even in France. Philippe Jeanty was the executive chef of Domaine Chandon's restaurant before opening his own eatery a few years ago.

In St. Helena on Highway 29, Wine Spectator Greystone Restaurant, located in the West Coast campus of the Culinary Institute of America, housed in the former Christian Brothers Winery built in 1890, is a culinary delight. If you want to match wine with food, this is the place to do it. Call (707) 967-1010 for reservations. Executive Chef Scott Humphries is head toque servicing a dining room with hand-crafted chef's tables, and a circular bar in the unique kitchen without walls — the ultimate exhibition kitchen! If weather is warm, al fresco terrace dining offers views of Mount St. Helena and Napa Valley vineyards. But it's great sport to watch the chefs indoors!

Brannan's in Calistoga (north

**If a B&B is to your fondness, Sutter Home Inn in St. Helena is very special.**

end of the valley) is one of the newest restaurants. Call (707) 942-2233 for reservations. Owners Mark Young and Rod Goldin hired plate artist Rob Lam as executive chef. His dishes are as exquisite in taste as they are in beauty. Once a horse barn, Brannan's is a contemporary preservation of Calistoga's history. Dubbed "Hot Springs of the Napa Valley," Calistoga has a dozen local spas specializing in indulgence.

### Winery tours

*California Visitor Review*, a free weekly publication found in every store, winery and hotel, has handy maps to help you locate wineries to visit.

Best tour for those needing the basics is at Robert Mondavi Winery.

Best self-guided tour: St. Supery. For history, it's Beringer, Beaulieu and St. Clement. Tour modern caves at Pine Ridge and Steltzner. Uniquely mixing caves, art and wine is Clos Pegase. Best art collection is at the Hess Collection where mountain-grown fruit also makes exceptional cabernet sauvignon.

A short trip to Tuscany in Napa can be found at Andreotti Winery (owned by race car legend Mario Andretti). High in the hills, both the wine and views are fabulous at Atlas Peak, Burgess and Pride Mountain. Family spirit is alive at Cakebread and Caymus. For bubbles: Domaine Chandon and Domaine Carneros are tops.

Look for *Focus on Wine* on the first and third Sunday of the month in Taste. To leave a voice mail message for the Healds, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864.

## Twist from page B1

ter the final product will be:  
1 sprig fresh chopped basil  
6 small fresh Mozzarella balls  
cut into quarters  
1 tablespoon sugar  
Tabasco sauce to taste  
Worcestershire sauce to  
taste  
Salt and pepper to taste

Rub tomatoes and onion slices with olive oil. Make sure your grill is hot and place the tomatoes and onion slices on the grill.

Cook onions over low heat about 5-10 minutes on each side or until tender. Just cook the tomatoes

long enough to get the grill markings on them for flavor a couple of minutes. Once the tomatoes and onions are cool, cut them bite size and add the remaining ingredients and mix well.

### ROASTED POTATO SALAD

12 redskin potatoes, washed  
and quartered  
1 large onion, peeled and  
sliced 1/4-inch thick  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
For dressing:  
1/2 cup olive oil  
2 tablespoons cider vinegar  
1/2 teaspoon sugar

4 sprigs chopped fresh dill or  
1 tablespoon dried dill  
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard  
1 large minced shallot  
2 cloves minced garlic  
Tabasco sauce to taste  
Worcestershire sauce to  
taste  
Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat the grill to medium high heat. Once hot, rub potatoes with 1 tablespoon oil and season with salt and pepper. Wrap in foil, making a dome shaped pouch so the potatoes don't stick to the foil. The potatoes will take about 45

minutes to cook. Rub the onion slices with the other Tablespoon of oil and grill 7-8 minutes on each side or until tender. In the meantime, mix the other ingredients together in a bowl and set aside. When potatoes and onions are finished, mix everything together in a large bowl and serve.

*Chef Randy Emert of Clarkston is the executive chef at Paint Creek Cider Mill & Restaurant, 4480 Orion Road, Rochester, (248) 651-8361. He is a graduate of Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Look for his next column on Oct. 17.*

## CLARIFICATION

There was an error in the following recipe, which appeared in the Aug. 8 edition of Taste. Here is the corrected recipe.

### BLUEBERRY ORANGE PEKOE CAKE

2 cups all purpose flour  
3/4 cup sugar  
2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder  
2 eggs

3/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 cup melted butter  
1/2 cup milk  
1/4 cup of steeped Orange Pekoe Tea  
1 teaspoon orange juice concentrate  
2 cups blueberries  
Crumb topping  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/3 cup all purpose flour  
1/4 cup butter (softened)

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

In a separate bowl, mix crumb topping ingredients until crumbly

Glaze

1/2 cup powdered sugar

1/4 teaspoon vanilla

1-2 teaspoons hot water or milk

To make glaze: Combine ingredients in a separate bowl.

To make cake: Grease a 9-by-

9-by-2-inch pan. Preheat oven to 375°F.

Blend flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Mix milk, egg, tea and orange juice concentrate for 30 seconds.

Gently fold in blueberries. Bake 35-45 minutes.

Top cake with crumb topping and drizzle with glaze.

*Recipe compliments of Chef Kelli Lewton*

## Citrus grilled chicken light summer meal

Face it, Americans love to grill. Not only do we love the delicious flavors grilling produces, we love that it's easy to clean up as well. By following a few simple guidelines, we can love it for the healthy foods it provides, too.

When grilling meat, don't allow fat to drip on the coals, since this produces flare-ups that deposit cancer-causing particles right back on your food. It's best to grill lowfat foods, avoid heavily oil-based sauces and basting liquids, and cook over moderate heat. Also, avoid charring your food, and remove any blackened parts from meat before serving.

When it comes to healthy grilling, what you cook is as important as how you cook it. Use leaner cuts of meat and

poultry, removing all visible fat and skin before grilling. Plan meals with less meat, more fish and especially more vegetables.

A variety of grilled vegetables makes a great lunch or supper.

Use herbs, spices and fruit juices for flavor. Try salsas and vegetable purees in place of fatty sauces.

Chicken is an extraordinarily versatile grilling favorite. Make chicken burgers with ground, skinless chicken breast, combined with bread crumbs, finely chopped scallions, curry powder, minced garlic and applesauce. Season with pepper and cook on the grill in an oiled wire basket. Serve on split, grilled rolls, topped with more applesauce.

For an Oriental flavor, make your chicken burgers with ground chicken breast, bread crumbs, finely chopped scallions, minced garlic, sugar, soy sauce and sesame oil. Serve with a

low-fat honey-lemon mayonnaise.

This recipe for citrus grilled chicken is perfect for a light summer meal.

### CITRUS GRILLED CHICKEN

1 cup orange juice  
1/4 cup lemon juice  
1/4 cup lime juice  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1 tsp. ground coriander  
4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves  
4 medium white potatoes, cut into 1/4-inch slices  
2 medium zucchini, cut into 1/4-inch slices  
8 spring onions, cut into 1/4-inch pieces  
Lemon pepper seasoning  
2 teaspoons butter or margarine  
4 canned pineapple rings,

Combine juices, garlic and coriander in shallow glass dish. Add chicken, cover and marinate in refrigerator no more than 2 hours.

Layer potatoes, zucchini and onion on 4 sheets of double thick heavy duty foil. Sprinkle with lemon pepper seasoning and dot with 1/2 teaspoon butter or margarine. Top each packet with a chicken breast and pineapple ring. Spoon several tablespoons of the marinade over each chicken breast. Seal each packet with another sheet of double thick foil.

Grill 12 to 15 minutes, then turn and grill an additional 12 to 15 minutes or until chicken is done.

*Nutrition information: Each of the 4 servings contains 374 calories and 5 grams of fat.*

*Information and recipe from the American Institute for Cancer Research*

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# Arts & Leisure

Keely Wygonik, Editor 313-953-2105, kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

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

The Eccentric

Page 3, Section B

Sunday, August 15, 1999

## CONVERSATIONS



FRANK PROVENZANO

## Culture and the 't word' just won't go away

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following column contains explicit references to the "t word." Anyone with high-blood pressure or low tolerance for discussion about the "t word" is hereby advised to look away.

The talk is about taxes. Not a tax refund, but a tax increase. A possible tri-county tax that would generate as much as \$40-million annually to support the area's 14 cultural institutions.

Culture and taxes is the subject of an opinion poll of Oakland and Wayne county residents. The poll taken last week was commissioned by Detroit Renaissance, a nonprofit organized after the 1967 riots to find ways to improve race relations and enhance the culture of the metro area.

Detroit Renaissance hopes to gauge the support for the arts tax before making a push for a ballot proposal next fall.

For the last several years, county commissioners in Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties have debated the arts-tax issue.

The result has been a shared fear that voters won't support any tax increase, albeit a nominal 1/2 mill yearly property tax that amounts to about \$25 for every \$100,000 of assessment.

That's \$2.08 per month, or 48 cents a week to help fund the operating budgets of public places that offer exhibits, educational opportunities and a sense of perspective on our shared metropolis.

### Who's culture?

A similar type of cultural tax has been enacted in Chicago, San Francisco and Denver. Three cities recognized for the diversity and richness of their cultures.

So what's the hang up in metro Detroit?

Many opponents of the arts tax believe that cultural institutions such as the Detroit Institute of Arts, Meadow Brook Theatre, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Detroit Zoo and Greenfield Village should figure out ways to support themselves.

Basically, ever since the National Endowment for the Arts funded a Robert Maplethorpe exhibit in the late 1980s, public money for the arts (or even to support cultural institutions) has been a hot-button issue.

How long before the public discussion gets beyond simplistic visions of liberals crying for freedom of expression and conservatives claiming that the private-sector, not government should support the arts?

In European countries, taxpayers give up to \$50 a year to support cultural institutions. In America, it's less than a \$1.

Why the reluctance?

### Beyond parochialism

In metro Detroit, commissioners in Macomb County won't even publicly discuss the arts tax. Apparently, since the cultural institutions aren't located in Macomb, the county commissioners believe their taxpayers shouldn't be required to support them.

Sadly, this is another case of parochialism sounding the knell for culture.

It's time to get out of the narrow-minded rut, and support the arts tax.

But if the past is any indication, the arts tax will face a rocky road.

Perhaps it should be kept in mind that exhibits of art and history, as well as music concerts and theatrical productions are not just leisure activities.

On the contrary, participating in the arts is a means to understand the great stream of diversity that runs through our culture.

Anyone who keeps up with the news must realize that what our society needs more than ever isn't another tax break, but a better way to understand each other.

Building a better culture shouldn't be so taxing.

Frank Provenzano can be reached at (248) 901-2557, or fprovenzano@oe.homecomm.net.

## A loophole of a dream

Local film producers look to Sundance, wide distribution

By FRANK PROVENZANO  
STAFF WRITER  
[fprovenzano@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:fprovenzano@oe.homecomm.net)

For two filmmakers on the hustle, David Stern and Michael Grogan are typically anxious, but confidently philosophical.

"We have no regrets, that's not to say it's been stress-free," said Stern, who, along with Grogan, recently entered their full-length film, "Loopholes," into the Sundance Film Festival, the equivalent of the Academy Awards competition for independent films held the last ten days of January.

In mid-September, Stern of Birmingham and Grogan of Orchard Lake expect to be notified that their work is one of the 60 films selected from more than 3,000 submissions.

If the absurdist-comedy "Loopholes" is indeed accepted at Sundance, Stern and Grogan will then have three months to submit a finished print of their film, which would cost about \$60,000.



STAFF PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLINSKY

Waiting their turn: David Stern, (left), and Michael Grogan inside the Barber Pole, one of the locations where they shot their new film, "Loopholes."

Money that they do not have in their budget.

Raising money to finance an independent film is a textbook case of a dream meeting practical financial realities. Stern and Grogan are finding that business acumen, not artistic sensibilities may determine their success.

### Name in lights

Last Wednesday, Stern and Grogan held a screening of "Loopholes" at a Troy Marriott conference room. Their intent was to persuade prospective investors to buy a piece of their film future at \$2,000 a unit. The film was viewed on VHS without sound effects or a musical score.

If "Loopholes" is picked up by a major Hollywood studio and distributed, there will be big-time dividends and silver-screen recognition for investors, according to the producers.

"The appeal (for an investor) is to have their name in lights," said Stern. "In the credits, we list investors under 'Thanks.'"

Of course, the holy grail for an independent filmmaker is to be considered the next John Sayles or to produce this year's version of "Sex, Lies and Videotape," "Brothers McMullen," or "Next Step Wonderland."

Underdogs Stern and Grogan eagerly point out to investors the recent financial success of "Blair Witch Project," a low-cost independent film that has grossed \$80.2 million in box office receipts, making it one of the most profitable films of all-time.

"Sundance (Film Festival) is a means to an end. It's where the opportunities begin," said Grogan. "The objective is to get into theaters."

### Made locally

In the throes of raising money, Stern and Grogan seem to be guided by their experience outside the traditional film industry, rather than blind ambition.

Stern, 39, and Grogan, 45, aren't cocky upstarts right out of film school playing credit-card roulette, or mortgaging their homes to finance their film.

Please see LOOPHOLE, B4

What: "Loopholes," an independent film written and directed by David Stern, produced by David Stern and Michael Grogan  
For more information, call (888) 477-9273.

## EDUCATION

# DSO makes overtures to young musicians

By LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER  
[lchomin@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:lchomin@oe.homecomm.net)

Attending summer music camp in North Carolina as a youngster changed Charles Burke's life. He hopes the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Summer Institute at Meadow Brook had the same effect on 75 music students, ages 12-18 who spent two weeks honing their skills, under the direction of more than 30 DSO members, July 26 to Aug. 6.

The program, which renewed the DSO's commitment to training young musicians, coincided with the DSO's concert series at the Meadow Brook Music Festival on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester Hills.

"It was a turning point in my life, a chance to be away from home for the first time and to be surrounded by people who took music seriously," said Burke, coordinator of the Summer Institute reflecting on his childhood camp experience.

For the students, the intensive session in orchestral training "was a chance to learn from musicians in the one of the world's best orchestras," said Burke, adding the institute benefited DSO members as well.

"It went fabulous. It was a wonderful experience for everybody," said Burke, who is moving to Canton in October. "They were bombarded with everything they

could soak up from music literature and master classes to attending DSO concerts. The measure of growth was unbelievable. And the DSO musicians fell in love with the kids. They bonded and formed great relationships. The students felt comfortable enough at the intermissions during concerts to come up and say hi coach."

Nathan Odhner thinks the best part of the institute was playing next to DSO musicians who sat in on some of the sessions. A senior at Rochester Adams High School, Odhner, who plays French horn, is serious about seeking a career in musical performance. He believes practicing with professional musicians greatly improved his skills.

"The DSO musicians really made our camp by coaching our chamber groups and sitting in with us,"

said Odhner, who will play with the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra, Metropolitan Youth Symphony, Oakland Youth Orchestra and Oakland University Symphonic Band this fall. "You learn through osmosis. They know so much. When they sit in with our orchestra, you'd go to play something and they'd be so strong. You learned so much about articulation, sensitivity and volume. I also learned a lot about literature and modern repertoire. Literature introduced us to music I would have never listened to on my own."

When Odhner auditioned for the institute he also auditioned for the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra, the DSO's youth training orchestra which Burke conducts. As assistant director of education, Burke believes the civic orchestra and newly organized Detroit Symphony Civic Symphonies, aimed at students in late elementary through high school, helps develop young musicians and future audiences.

"We have an exciting season planned for the 30th anniversary including a program with a 300-voice choir in February," said Burke. "The civic orchestra gives students access to DSO musicians on a weekly basis."

"Auditions for the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra will be held Sept. 11. The first concert is Nov. 6. For information, call Samuel Nordrum, (313) 576-5164 or (313) 576-5100."

## Loopholes from page B3

"We both have a sense of business," said Grogan, who writes and directs industrial videos at HE New Media in Pontiac, and who worked as a financial analyst with a west coast aerospace firm. "The film is on budget and on schedule."

Meanwhile, when he isn't reworking a script, Stern is at his Southfield-based home improvement company, AllView. Stern and Grogan established The Detroit Film Yard Company to oversee financing for the film, which has an estimated budget of \$100,000, far below other

independent films, made for \$250,000 to \$5 million.

From last December to June, "Loopholes" was shot in 10 locations around the area, including the Barber Pole and Stern's house in Birmingham. The producers used exclusively local talent, including 24 actors and crew.

Outlays of cash went to rent sound and camera equipment. The two dozen cast members agreed to a deferral payment, which, if the film succeeds financially, would pay them twice the pay scale and a percentage of the

profits.

"Loopholes" is anything but an evasive endeavor or a search for short cuts. It's a statement about not letting go of a dream.

### Proverbial crossroad

"In this country, people are doing what they don't want to do (in their careers)," said Stern. "I think that deep down people have fears that they don't overcome."

Although Stern and Grogan each traveled a distinct path to make a full-length film, their story to succeed isn't too differ-

ent from the parable that unfolds in "Loopholes."

"In life, things change if you want them to or not," said Stern, who attended New York University Film School in the late 1970s, produced a documentary about a Holocaust survivor and has directed several short films.

"Our film is about the decision to change, to go after what you really want to be doing," he said.

Apparently, Stern and Grogan's six-year odyssey to make "Loopholes" — from script to fin-

ished shooting — has been fertile material.

### Overcoming fear

The main character in "Loopholes," played by Rob Rucker (formerly of Wayne State's Hilberry Theatre), is at the proverbial crossroad of life. When he comes under investigation for killing his boss, the character is faced with either changing or accept the circumstances of his life.

Overcoming the fear of chang-

Kafkaesque absurdity and plenty of laughs. The truth, both Stern and Grogan agree, is indeed a bitter pill.

If they don't get the nod from Sundance, Grogan noted there are hundreds of other festivals. In the next year, both Stern and Grogan expect to find out if audiences feel the same way about their film as they do.

"(Our film) is as good as anything that's being accepted (at festivals)," said Stern. "Of course, I'm biased."

# Campers rough it at Blue Lake, Interlochen for sake of art

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER  
[lchomin@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:lchomin@oe.homecomm.net)

Christopher Kalvelage barely finished unpacking from a two-week stay at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp when it was time to join the John Glenn High School Marching Band for a week in Kalkaska. The Westland saxophonist finds summer arts camps so much fun that his mother Ann says he's becoming an expert at packing.

Kalvelage is just one of thousands of kids from Wayne and Oakland counties who spent their summer studying the arts at Interlochen, Blue Lake and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Summer Institute. While other kids were having fun with family and friends, they were living in cabins and developing their talents in intense sessions with professional musicians, dancers and performers.

### ART BEAT

Want to publicize an arts event, or know a talented local artist who deserves recognition? It's news that belongs in Art Beat.

Send information to Art Beat, Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, fax (248) 644-1314.

Or send e-mail to: [fpvonenzano@pe.homecomm.net](mailto:fpvonenzano@pe.homecomm.net)

### BARKERS SOUGHT

Deli Unique is looking for barkers to entertain, and gleefully insult, customers at the new Deli Unique inside the Motor-City Casino in Detroit. Applications are being accepted through

Tuesday, Aug. 17. Auditions are scheduled Thursday-Friday, Aug. 19-20. For more information, call Dave Mitchell (248) 646-0370 Ext. 213.

What makes a good barker? "You have to be quick-witted, smart and have a strong voice," said Chuck Ajlouny of West

Bloomfield during a press conference on Tuesday at casino headquarters in downtown Detroit. "We're looking for theatrical people, comedians and housewives."

Ajlouny, managing partner of URC's Plaza Deli in Southfield, is Detroit's Deli Unique Barker prototype. Born and raised in Detroit, he developed his "barker style" while living in Brooklyn, New York.

"I take orders, talk to you, insult you," he said explaining what a barker does. "It spices things up. We have fun at lunch time and keep things lively."

### FREDERICKS' COMMEMORATIVE SCULPTURES AVAILABLE

The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum at Saginaw Valley State University is offering "The Spirit of Detroit" and nine other editions of the legendary sculptor's collection.

The commemorative editions are being offered to raise \$1.5 million for the expansion of the museum. Each edition is limited to 15 numbered castings and one proof. For information, call (313) 832-2210, ext. 14.

### GEM OF A GIFT

Geologist Bryan Lees first visited Cranbrook Institute of Science when he was a 12-year-old

boy in 1969.

Thirty years later, Lees has presented the Institute with a six-pound red rhodochrosite. The extremely rare, cherry red rhodochrosite is found in only one place: The Sweet Home Mine in Alma, Colo.

The mine, which began as a silver mine in 1873, is operated by Lees and his wife, Kathryn.

Lees' gift is on view in the Institute's Mineral Hall through September 6.

The Institute of Science is located at 1221 N. Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills.

For information, call 1-877-GO-CRANBROOK.

## A Time to Remember, to Reflect, to Heal.

Every year thousands of people travel to visit the Vietnam War Memorial Wall to remember, to reflect and to heal. The Wall is a powerful emotional experience.

The Vietnam Wall Experience—a 240-foot near-size replica of the famous Vietnam Memorial Wall will be on display in Southeast Michigan for three days only.

- All are welcome—admission is free
- The Wall is open 24 hours beginning Friday,

\*August 27 at 8 a.m. to Sunday, August 29 at 6 p.m.

\* Located at Christian Memorial Cemetery, 521 East Hamlin Road, Rochester Hills (approximately two miles north of M-59 and just east of Rochester Road).

### Schedule of Events

**Friday, August 27**  
Flag Raising Ceremony-----8:00 a.m.  
Opening Ceremony-----7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, August 28**  
Flag Raising Ceremony-----8:00 a.m.  
Wreath Laying Ceremony-----6:00 p.m.

**Sunday, August 29**  
Sunrise Interdenominational Worship Service and Flag Raising Ceremony -----8:00 a.m.  
Rolling Thunder Motorcycle Motorcade-----1:00 - 1:30 p.m.  
Closing Ceremony-----3:00 p.m.

**Information Line: 810-997-7797**

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# Sports & Outdoors

Brad Kadrich, Editor 248-693-4900

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

Page 1, Section C

Sunday, August 15, 1999

## LINKS TO THE GAME



MICHAEL SHIELS

## Like him or not, book details Wright stuff

**Medinah, Ill.** — The final round of the final major championship of the millennium will be contested here today at Medinah Country Club on the outskirts of Chicago.

The PGA of America's championship, the PGA Championship, dates back to 1916, and the Michigan connection to the PGA Championship is very strong.

In fact, the PGA Championship has been held in the Detroit area five times: Plum Hollow CC in 1947, Birmingham CC in 1953, Meadowbrook CC in 1955, and Oakland Hills CC in 1972 and 1979. The PGA Championship will return to Oakland Hills in 2008.

Past PGA Champions with Michigan links include two-time Michigan Open winner Leo Diegel, four-time Michigan Open winner Chick Harbert of Northville, former Oakland Hills Golf Professional Walter Hagen, and former Detroit Golf Club Head Professional Walter Burkemo.

Television coverage of today's final round will be provided by CBS-TV, Channel 62 in the Detroit area. CBS sports golf is anchored by Jim Nantz, with color analysts Ken Venturi, Gary McCord, Bobby Clampett, Peter Kostis, Peter Oosterhuis, and David Feherty.

Present at Medinah, and employed by CBS, though not on the air, is former color analyst Ben Wright.

Golf viewers remember Wright, 64, for his articulate and colorful play-by-play descriptions, and his distinctive British accent.

Wright, who spent over 45 years covering the game of golf all over the globe, called the action at CBS for over 20 years.

Golf viewers will also remember that CBS banned Wright from its broadcasts in 1996 after Wright made politically incorrect statements to a Wilmington, Del., reporter. Wright claimed the statements, which had to do with lesbians, the LPGA Tour, and women's anatomy, were made off the record, but the reporter attributed the undeniable yet inflammatory quotes to Wright, who was in Wilmington to broadcast an LPGA event.

Embarrassment, and the concerted attempts by CBS and Wright to cover up the statements, eventually got Wright "indefinitely suspended" by CBS, which continues to pay Wright the balance of his contract, but keeps him off of its telecasts, claiming that he brought shame to the network.

Over the past year, I have collaborated with Wright in the process of writing his autobiography: *Good Bounces and Bad Lies*, which was released this week at the PGA Championship.

Wright, at Medinah CC to promote his book, will hit the Detroit metro area tomorrow, where the outspoken and tantalizing Brit will spend a few days doing media interviews and book signings.

Wright's book, which is being reviewed by publications all across the country, has been called controversial, revealing, colorful, and interesting, and immediately hit the Amazon.com sales charts.

One syndicated columnist closed his review by saying: "If you have time to read only one sports book this year, this one is it." Another publication in Washington D.C., though critical of Wright, slyly compared Wright and I to Hemingway and Fitzgerald.

Heady talk, even if sarcastic, since Ben and I both fancy Papa, and my ancestry hails from the land of letters and poets. His stories are outrageous, but then again, his life has been outrageous.

Like him or not, Wright and his book have the attention of the media, and the debate now begins as to whether he should be returned to network television.

At last week's Buick Open in Grand Blanc, our publisher, Sleeping Bear Press, placed a book in each of the

Please see SHIELS, C2

## Elder resigns as Dragons coach

BY DANIEL STICKRADT

STAFF WRITER  
[dstickradt@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:dstickradt@oe.homecomm.net)

When the members of the Lake Orion boys soccer program kick off their training camp Monday morning, they will be under the guidance of a new leader.

On July 27, veteran Dragons coach Paul Elder resigned from the position he'd held since 1991, citing a new career change. Elder has been hired as a middle school teacher at the Kingsbury School near Oxford, where he will also coach both the boys' and girls' middle school soccer programs.

"I finally completed my degree at Oakland (University) back in April and I was searching for a teaching position," said Elder. "This came up in mid-July, and after a week's vacation, I decided that this was the best opportunity for me."

Elder took over the Dragons soccer program just before the 1991 season and inherited Orion's girls soccer team in the spring of 1992. As varsity coach, he led the boys team to three straight league titles from 1995-97, and in '96 to district and regional titles along with a state quarterfinal berth.

Between the two programs, Lake Orion won nearly 100 games under

■ **'This is a good time for someone else to take over the program.'**

Paul Elder  
Former coach

Elder:

"The one thing I really enjoyed about coaching soccer at Lake Orion was I always had a good group of quality kids to work with," said Elder. "They were always a pleasure to coach over the years."

Among some of the notable players Elder coached were Will Bothe (Oak-

land), Jeff Schlicht (Eastern Michigan), Justin Jeffers (Eastern Michigan), J.J. Kern (Michigan), Kristi Elliott (Illinois State), Penny Richards (Grand Valley) and Kristi King (Saginaw Valley State).

"This is a good time for someone else to take over the program, with a new stadium and a bunch of new players and all," Elder added. "I really hope that they can find someone who will help keep the program going in the right direction. I wish the new coaches and players all the best."

Elder becomes the fourth Eccentric area coach to resign during the past three months.

## Players put 'Rush' on for Lighthouse

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

Last year, when the pantry shelves at Clarkston Lighthouse were empty, the Clarkston High School football team chipped in and filled them.

Next week, they're at it again. The second-annual "Rush for Food" takes place Aug. 20, with members of the football program combing the streets in search of non-perishable donations to Clarkston Lighthouse.

The non-profit organization, dedicated to people in crisis, is in particular need of peanut butter, dry milk, canned meats, canned pasta, soups, etc.

Last year, players collected more than 300 bags full of food, laundry detergents, dry foods, formula, diapers, staples and sundries.

"I do some volunteering at Lighthouse, and they happened to mention (last year) the food pantry was empty," said Jane Carr, a football mom who helps direct The Rush. "I knew the football coaches were interested in doing some community service with the kids, so I put two and two together, and went to them with it."

Clarkston coach Kurt Richardson and his players took the ball, so to speak, and ran with it, collecting

Please see RUSH FOR FOOD, C2

## NORTH OAKLAND SPORTS SCENE

## Federation tryouts

Players interested in playing Lake Orion federation baseball for the 2000 spring/summer season are encouraged to attend tryouts scheduled Aug. 21 at 10 a.m. at Friendship Park in Orion Township at the corner of Clarkston and Baldwin Roads.

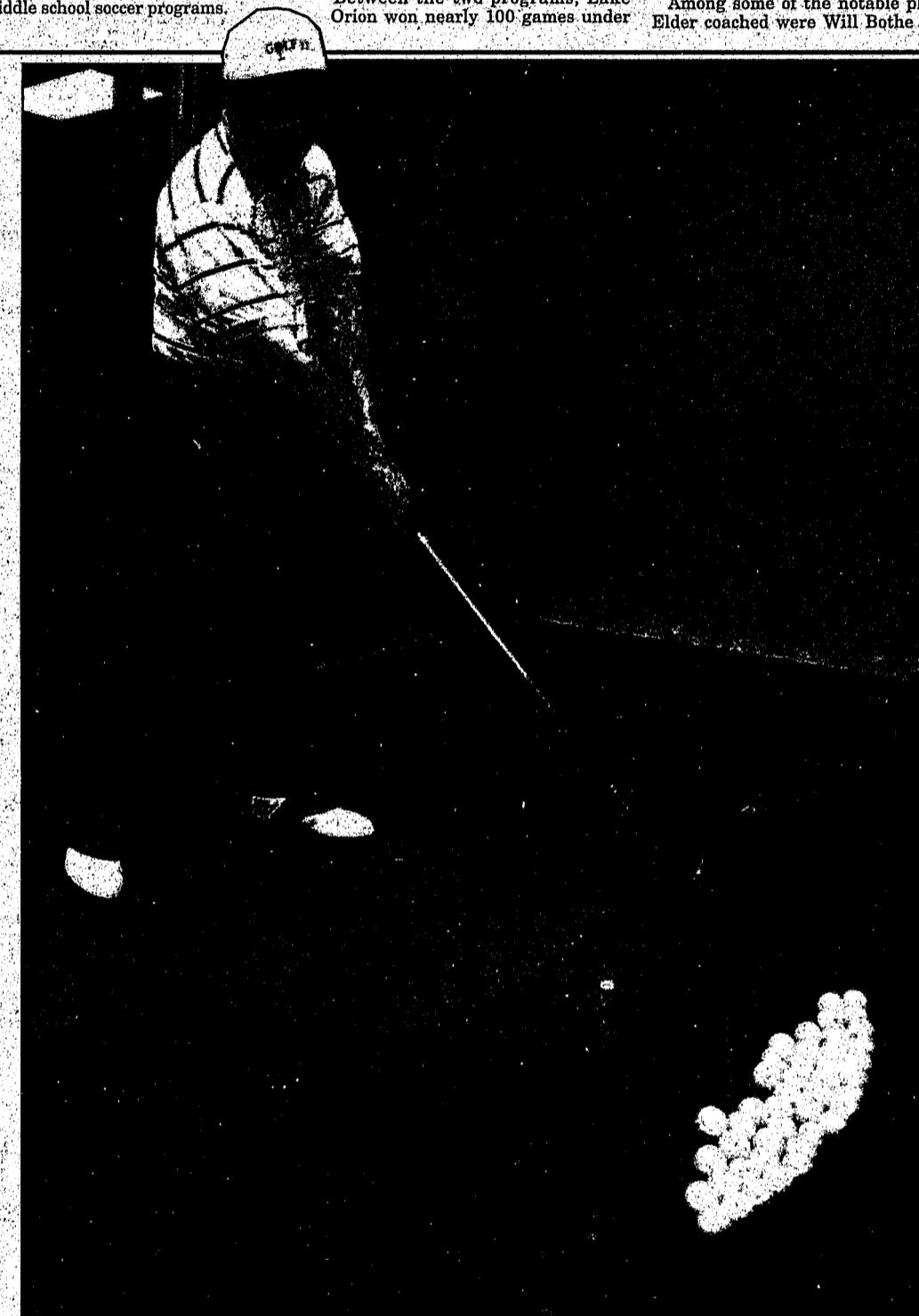
The league is looking for 13- and 14-year-old players. Most North Oakland Baseball Federation games will be played in northeast Oakland County.

For more information, call Dan Kosmalski, manager of the 13-year-olds, at (248) 391-4913, or the manager of the 14-year-olds, Dennis Recknagel, (248) 814-9540.

## All-league

The Observer & Eccentric Sports Department will publish copies of all-league, all-district, all-region and all-state teams from the recently completed prep season. Lists should include such pertinent information as name, grade, positions, etc., of each honored athlete.

Send copies to Daniel Stickradt via fax at (248) 693-9716; e-mail to [dstickradt@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:dstickradt@oe.homecomm.net); or mail to The Eccentric Sports Department at 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, Michigan, 48009.



Swinging along: Co-owner Rick Perry gets some swings in on the golf analyzer at Golf Etc., Lake Orion's newest golf shop located in Buckhorn Plaza.

## Passion play

### Father-son team opens dream store

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

Dick and Rick Perry had been looking for years for just the right business opportunity to come along.

Finally, it apparently has.

The Perrys — Dick's the father, Rick the son — opened Golf Etc. July 31. Located in Buckhorn Plaza just north of Clarkston Road on Lapeer Road, Golf Etc. has all the things one would expect to find in a golf shop: clubs, balls, tees, etc.

It's the "etc." part the Perrys are proud of. It includes unique gift items like pewter figurines, antique cars, dressed-up bears and designer signs.

"We've got a lot of neat little gift items people don't see every day," said Rick Perry, an avid golfer.



Customer service: Golf Etc. sells most lines of golf equipment, and clubs can also be custom-built with a 24- to 48-hour turnaround in most cases.

Please see GOLF ETC., C2

## Rush from page C1

ough stuff to completely fill the Lighthouse extended-size van top to bottom, front to back.

This year's Rush for Food takes place from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Players will meet at the Clarkston High School football field around 5 p.m., then fan out through the neighborhoods accepting donations door-to-door. Residents will know them when they show up: They'll be in their football jerseys.

And they'll be trying to top last year's collection.

"We have a bigger squad, the boys are more excited and they're looking forward to it," Carr said. "They're looking forward to doing better. It's a challenge to them."

The players won't be the only ones involved, though. Behind the scenes, and in the trenches,

**I knew the football coaches were interested in doing some community service with the kids, so I put two and two together and went to them with it.**

*Jane Carr  
Rush for Food*

will be the parents and other volunteers who make the Rush for Food successful.

"It's a group of parents who have been together for years," Carr said. "Our sons started playing football as little kids. I called them; we hashed out the plan and it took off. Without everybody else, I couldn't do this."

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- Chance to take a \$1,000 half-court shot!
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## Kids Run the Bases

Mon., August 16 vs Devil Rays

Postgame, weather permitting

OF Bobby Higginson

ONLY 21 GAMES LEFT AT "THE CORNER"

## TIGERS VS DEVIL RAYS

Monday	Aug 16	7:05	Kids Run the Bases! (Coke, WKQI)
Tuesday	Aug 17	7:05	
Wednesday	Aug 18	7:05	

Fans 14 and under, postgame, weather permitting



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For season or group tickets call 313-963-2050



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## SPORTS BRIEFING

### Southfield city golf

The Southfield Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor the City Golf Championship Saturday and Sunday.

Tee-off will be 8 a.m. at both city owned courses: Beech Woods Golf Course, 22202 Beech Road (south of 9 Mile) and Evergreen Hills Golf Course, 26000 Evergreen Road.

Cost is \$50 per person for the 36-hole stroke-play tournament. Beech Woods Golf Course is a 2,762-yard, par-35 course and includes a 45-tee driving range and a PGA professional on staff.

The newly-renovated Evergreen Hills course is a 2,904-yard, par-34 lay-out.

Pre-registration is required, and golfers may sign up at either course's Pro Shop or call 355-GOLF for more information.

### Golf tournament

Qualifying rounds for the Kensington Individual Championship Golf Tournament will be held Saturday and Sunday, August 21-22, at the Kensington Metropark Golf Course. The rain date is August 28-29. The championship finals will be played Sunday, September 19.

Golfers must have a USGA handicap and the championship finals will be flighted by handicap. The non-refundable entry fee is \$4 and there is a \$22 greens fee.

Entry fees must be received at the starters desk by 5 p.m. August 15.

### Statistician needed

Rochester high school has an opening for a volunteer boys soccer statistician for the upcoming 1999 season. Interested individ-

uals will be required to keep stats at both varsity and junior varsity games, and must make a commitment to attend all games, home and away. Materials and system is provided. If interested, contact Rochester coach Erick Pfeifer at (248) 628-3193 or Rochester Athletic Director Shané Redshaw at (248) 651-5590.

### Diamond doings

- Fall softball leagues for men and co-ed are being formed by the RARA. League play will begin Monday, Aug. 30 with 12 games scheduled for teams competing in Men's Class C, Men's Class C Minor and Co-ed Class C Minor.

Cost is \$400 (\$200 entry fee, \$200 player fee).

For further information, contact RARA at (248) 656-8308.

## Golf Etc. from page C1

The pair has always wanted to go into business together. Dick is nearing retirement from one of the auto companies and Rick was looking for a career change and a chance to settle down with his family.

They'd looked at various opportunities, and began researching this one "a couple of years ago," according to Rick. The Lake Orion store is a franchise of a chain headquartered in Texas. After doing their research, they dove right in.

"I have a passion for golf," Rick Perry said. "I was 10 or 11 when I started playing, and it's something I love to do. I'd play every day of my life if I had the opportunity."

Perry said the thing that separates Golf Etc. from other stores is its service department, which includes the standard stuff: club repair, reshafting, regripping, custom-building with a 24- to 48-hour turnaround.

But the star of the service department could very well be the computerized golf swing analyzer. It's a program that reads swing speed, angle of impact, swing style, distance and any hook or slice. The analyzer comes in handy when customers want clubs custom-made.

"It gives us a lot of detailed

information you couldn't pick up by just watching," Rick Perry said. "It also gives us a way for someone to try out a club before they buy it."

The pair chose Lake Orion as the site for their venture for specific reasons. Dick lives in Novi, and both have played lot of golf in this area. The one thing they felt it was missing was some place to get the necessities.

"There are a lot of courses around here," Rick Perry said. "When we did our research, we found people had to drive quite a ways to find a place. We thought a store (in Orion) would give them someplace to go so they didn't have to drive all over God's creation."

Most of all, what it gives them is the chance to live their love.

"It's my passion," Rick Perry said of golf. "To get paid to talk golf all day long...what else is there?"

**Golf Etc. is located at 792 S. Lapeer Road in Lake Orion. The store is open Monday-Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call the store at 814-0780.**

\*\*\*

**Even the current CBS**

**announcers that I encountered**

## Shiels from page C1

PGA Tour player's locker. Reaction was virtually immediate.

"Ben knows as much about golf as anyone," said Ben Crenshaw, Ryder Cup captain Ben Crenshaw. "I would think in the right situation there would be room for him on network television."

"Ben is one of very few who have a consummate knowledge of the game of golf, and I find it surprising that is has taken him this long to make it back on TV."

Andrew Magee, who made a strong showing at the Buick Open, seemed to agree.

"A lot of people miss Ben," Magee told me. "He's a part of our Tour and it is a shame we don't get to hear him anymore. We need experienced guys like him in the broadcast booth. He's so talented that there must be place for him."

"Ben always called things as he saw them," said Tommy Tolles, another PGA Tour player. "When Ben began to speak, he didn't even need to introduce himself, because everyone knew immediately who he was. I would love to see him come back."

Even the current CBS

announcers that I encountered

at the Buick Open expressed their good wishes that Wright's exile come to an end.

Frankly, I found Wright a complete joy to work with over the past year, and consider the time I spent with him to be a real education about the history of golf.

Trust me when I tell you, we had a very entertaining time. He regaled me with tales of Hogan, Nicklaus, Norman, Palmer and what big time network television is really like. He recounts his days at the Masters, British Open, and Ryder Cup.

The stories are not always pretty, but they are always humorous, insightful, and compelling. Wright shares all of these stories in his book.

Whether you view the Ben Wright situation as a fight against political correctness, or simply a matter of taste, it seems that Good Bounces and Bad Lies will continue to garner attention from the golf world as the fascinating autobiography of Ben Wright's life continues to unfold before our eyes.

*Michael Patrick Shiels can be reached at MShiels@aol.com*

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Attention: Athlete of the Week

or

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Tune in to WJR 760 AM Friday morning to hear the winner announced!









# Auto News

*Continued from previous page*  
I didn't know they had found it, but I soon found out.

We were sitting, waiting in line at the local drive-through bank, and it got really quiet all of a sudden. Granted, we had been sitting there for a good 10 minutes.

I looked in the rearview mirror, and the back seat was empty. I hadn't heard anyone open the doors, and panicked real fast. I said something unintelligible and heard muffled giggling. They had opened the pass-through and crawled into the trunk.

Boy, did they get yelled at. It was a harmless thing for them to do, but I still didn't like them scaring me like that. I don't think they'll do that again. At least I hope not.

Anyway, the Park Avenue was truly a pleasure to drive. It would be a pleasure to own.

Write Anne Fracassa at avanti105@aol.com.  
1998 Buick Park Avenue vehicle class: Full-size family luxury car.  
Power: 3.8-liter V6 engine.  
Mileage: 18 city / 28 highway. Where built: Orion, Mich.  
Price: Well equipped, around \$33,000.



Art Cervi

Next Saturday, August 21st, promises to be another great weekend for the

Motor City. Once again we look forward to the Woodward Dream Cruise. What started out as a one-day affair has grown into a three-day weekend. A lot of cruisers start Friday night, Saturday, the day of the event, and finish with a few laps on Sunday. Depending on the type of business along Woodward, it's a love/hate relationship. If your wares appeal to the crowd, you'll do alright; however, if not, it

can be a real pain in the neck.

To help move things along this year it is proposed that the cruising cars should stay in the left lanes closest to the boulevards. It is hoped that this will allow regular traffic (along the curb lane) to move freely....this I've got to see.

What I do like about the Woodward Cruise is its ability to bring in so many different types of vehicles. Originals, street rods, and customs of all eras co-exist beautifully on cruise day. Toughest day of the year to play "pick". The chances are good that you will find at least a dozen or so that you would love to take

home. Cars that have been stashed away in garages for years seem to find their way out on Saturday. Must be the magnetic mile.

Another thing that appeals to me is seeing people dressed up in period clothing, i.e., 30's, 40's, 50's etc. Cool Dude! When you consider that you can hardly find that stuff anymore, and that a lot of it is handmade, it makes it even more impressive. Now where did I stow away my Zoot suit? Maybe Jim Carey has a couple left over from the movie "The Mask". Smokin'!

One of the types of vehicles I will be looking for this year is the Sedan Delivery. This segment is

really catching on. Many are down right beautiful, especially the fat-fendered ones. Circa late 40's early 50's. Take a stock body, drop in a big block V8, four wheel disc brakes, drop the suspension, add air, steering and a good sound system and you've got a great cruiser. Pat Stanecki has a '48 Ford Panel (completely done) that he trailers his 1934 Ford Miller race car on. What a sight to behold! Everything is painted the same color maroon accented with gold. I hope he brings it out for all to see.

If you've attended the cruise in the past and have had a unique or funny experience, I would love to hear about it. This way we can share it with my listeners and readers. We've got some real car people out there. Past, present or future, we love them all, keep them rolling!...til next week...

like show business. . . everyone wants to get into the act. Hopefully this also will relieve some of the congestion.

If you've attended the cruise in the past and have had a unique or funny experience, I would love to hear about it. This way we can share it with my listeners and readers. We've got some real car people out there. Past, present or future, we love them all, keep them rolling!...til next week...

Art Cervi of "Let's Talk Cars" can be heard each Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to noon on WYUR, AM 1310.

874 Volkswagen

JETTA 1997 GLS, 33K miles, 6 CD changer, moonroof, loaded. \$13,500. (248) 933-6711

JETTA 1995 GLX, V6, black, 5 speed, leather, moonroof, loaded. \$12,000. 248-546-2592

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PLYMOUTH 1989 Acclaim - 2.5 Turbo, looks good, runs great. \$2995. (248) 477-9818

878 Autos Under \$2,000

AEROSTAR 1986 - auto, overdrive, V6, \$900. 313-937-8854

AEROSTAR XLT 1987 - Needs front trans, seal. \$1500/best. (734) 281-0750

878 Autos Under \$2,000

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CHEVY 1987 Cavalier - 2 door, auto, 4 cylinder, drivable, \$810. 810-587-3355

CHEVY 1991 S10 + 4 cylinder, 5 speed, cap, extras, runs good. \$750/best. 734-595-0073

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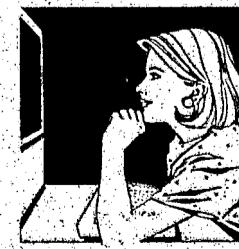
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# Automotive

Observer & Eccentric

NEWSPAPERS

## HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

No Page 8 Section C

AUGUST 15, 1999

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## Buick Park Avenue - Luxury and Elegance

### CAR Report



By Anne Fracassa  
 Avanti NewsFeatures

When I first slipped behind the wheel of the 1999 Buick Park Avenue, I actually thought I was in a Cadillac.

Yes, I said Cadillac.

The interior appointments, comfort factor and decor certainly had the look and feel of a much more expensive vehicle. Then I remembered (I hope I'm not dating myself) Buick used to have the slogan, "Premium motor cars."

Buick says this new Park Avenue is "elegant and tasteful." Perfectly said.

Buick's brand manager, Katherine Benoit, said it even better: "Park Avenue gives you the classic elegance you expect in a luxury car."

Luxurious it is, this Park Avenue. Now add a bit of style, surprising power, roominess and pretty good value for your money. By the way, it has the lowest fuel cost and lowest insurance cost in its class.

Changes for the 1999 model include prettier tail lamps that look more like the Ultra, a better sound system and Michelin tires are now standard on the Ultra.

Let's talk about the power plant first. Buick plunked the 3800 Series II V6 engine into Park Avenue, giving it 205 horses under the hood. You won't have any problems with merging on the freeway or skipping past that slow-moving semi in your way. Fuel economy is respectable at 19 miles per gallon in the city and 28 miles per gallon on the highway.

On the Ultra, you'll be treated to the supercharged version of the 3.8-liter and it will give you 240 horses to control. In the process you'll only lose a gallon in the fuel economy department.

I loved the amount of gadgetry in the Park Avenue. Things that really make the difference in the overall operation and "living" in the car.

My daughters Francesca and Rebecca

couldn't keep their hands off the rear seat vanity mirrors. Every time they hopped in the back seat, those mirrors came down and they were admiring themselves. Bet those would come in pretty handy in a carpool situation.

Talk about convenience. This new-fangled thing is called Personal Choice and it's operated totally from the remote keyless entry fob. It remembers mirror and seat positions, provides automatic door lock operation, perimeter lighting, security feedback with horn chirps and lights flashing and radio and climate controls.

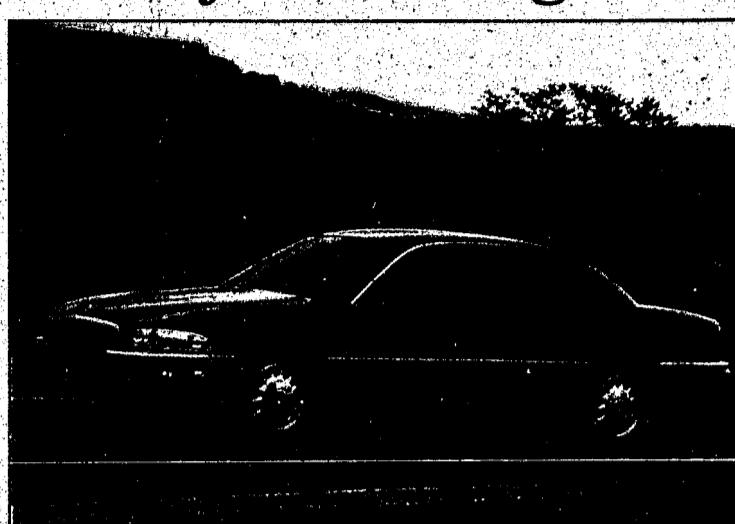
And the Convenience Plus option is back this year. With that you'll be treated to delayed entry and exit lighting, interior lamps that have theater dimming, battery rundown protection, lockout protection on power door locks, warning tones for the parking brake, turn signals (that's really annoying, by the way), headlamps and ignition key, the PASS-key theft-deterrent system, retained accessory power, flash to pass, delayed locking, auxiliary power outlet and daytime running lights with twillight sentinel controls.

Even though it's an option, you'll have to get the moisture-sensing windshield wipers. They operate automatically based on the amount of moisture on the windshield. Frankly, I first thought I was going insane. Pretty cool feature that you would normally find on Mercedes-Benzes.

The Gran Touring package is another option worth its weight in gold. The package includes heavy-duty suspension, dealer-programmable magnetic variable-effort steering, 16-inch aluminum wheels, Eagle LS touring tires and a leather-wrapped steering wheel. Long trips make this option a must.

The amount of room in the Park Avenue is expansive. There's a lot of room in the front seat and there's even more in the back seat. The four doors open wide to let the widest person easily in. You know what? The rear doors really aren't heavy, for as large as they are. If my teeny 6-year-old can pull them shut, that tells me a lot.

The amount of safety features on the Park Avenue would make Ralph Nader smile. A tire inflation monitoring system will alert you if a tire is losing pressure. There's traction control (optional on the Park Avenue and standard on the Ultra) to



*The 1999 Buick Park Avenue is roomy, powerful, and elegant; good value for the money.*

keep you in control on slippery surfaces.

Of course, the Park Avenue has safety cage construction, Next Generation front-seat air bags, 4-wheel antilock brakes and doors that automatically unlock within 15 seconds of an air bag deployment.

Also an option, the General Motors Onstar mobile communication system uses a global positioning system satellite and a hands-free, voice-activated cell phone to keep you safe. It links you to a communications center teamed with advisors that can provide assistance from emergency services to navigational and travel support.

Onstar also alerts the center if your air bag is deployed, sending medical support and police your way. It can also track your car if it's stolen.

Imagine the thief's surprise when surrounded by a couple of police cars moments after it's been stolen. Truly a valuable option.

We were talking about convenience features. Try on these cool rear-view mirrors. Not only are they heated and have electrochromic dimming features, but there's a passenger-side parallel park assist outside

rear-view mirror that automatically tilts down whenever you shift the Park Avenue in reverse gear. This feature is really cool, something you'd find in the premium German cars.

One more option you have to consider is the heads-up display. A bit on the costly side, the option will truly keep you out of trouble with the local law enforcement. It will project directly on the windshield in front of you — exactly how fast you're going, high beam, turn-signal indicators and check gauges warning. No need to take your eyes off the road during a lengthy drive. Really convenient, too.

Gotta tell you a funny about what happened during the week with the Park Avenue. The girls must have discovered that there was a rear-seat access pass-through to the trunk during the week.

See next page for  
*Let's Talk Cars*  
 by Art Cervi

### Dodge

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