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VINTAGE



CLARKSTON

Edgar Clark still waits for his leg to heal, but outside of Harvard Hospital in Washington, D.C., the Civil War rages on. He writes to his wife Catherine on July 13, 1864: "My dear wife, my health is good; my appetite is good. I think I can eat anything in the shape of eatables. A different doctor saw me this morning and he said it looked first-rate. He said the man who took my leg off understood his business. The gangrene could hardly be seen. There is about 60 cases of this disease in the ward. There is only one doctor who knows how to treat this disease."

"There is great excitement in the city now about the great raid of the rebels. They were fighting all day yesterday within six miles of this city. They did not succeed in getting inside the forts. We could plainly hear musketry and heavy cannons. This morning there is no firing and I think the rebels are falling back. The 6th Corps of the Army of the Potomac is here. There are enough without any further help to drive them back but the city is calling on all to put forth every effort to defend the national capital. It would be a sad disaster for this city to be captured or fall in the enemy hands."

"I will be glad when my leg gets well so I can come home and see you. Nothing would please me better, and I think you would like to see me, as bad a cripple as I am. No more from your husband, Edgar W. Clark."

Vintage Clarkston is written by Kim Huttenlocher, a member of the board of directors of the Clarkston Community Historical Society.



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Zoning law doesn't restrict porn shops



BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER
sslaughter@oc.hometown.com

Independence Township's zoning regulations are silent on the subject of businesses that sell sexually explicit items and literature.

So was Brandon Township's until Ultimate Pleasures recently set up shop next to a children's dance studio

■ Independence Township has no zoning ordinance regulating businesses that sell adult materials. Neighboring Brandon Township is struggling with that very issue after an adult bookstore set up shop near a children's dance studio.

on M-15. Officials there are scurrying to put an ordinance amendment together to prevent more similar businesses from locating in areas near where children frequent.

While it is illegal to prohibit a business from selling sexually explicit materials, communities may regulate where those businesses may be located, said Larry Merrill, deputy executive director of the Michigan Township

Association.

Independence Township Supervisor Dale Stuart said officials have not discussed the situation in Brandon, which is the township's northern neighbor.

"I don't like adopting rules and regulations for every whim that comes up in the area," he said. "You would hope that in a community of reasonable moral values, a business like that would fail."

Independence's criminal code, however, prohibits displaying obscene material to minors.

Stuart added he does not condone those types of businesses, but just because he or someone else would not

patronize such a place doesn't mean it has no right to exist.

His statements echo other comments made by Merrill of the MTA.

"There are First Amendment issues that arise whenever you try to regulate entertainment that is content-based," Merrill said.

The public often doesn't understand that local governments are sometimes limited in what they can do when it comes to land use issues in general, Merrill added.

Merrill said the courts have stated communities may set "reasonable regu-

Please see **ORDINANCE**, A4

Warm colors: Walt Gamble has lived in his Holcomb Street home for about 15 years. His wife, Christie Shull, was the mastermind behind the century-old home's eye-catching hue.

Color them creative

Historic home owners pick vibrant hues

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER
sslaughter@oc.hometown.com

They come in canary yellow, eggplant, barn red, several shades of green and pink, peach and sky blue.

They aren't special millennium M&Ms — they are homes in and around Clarkston whose owners wanted a little pizzazz in their paint job.

Clarkston Historical Society member Susan Basinger says the colorful homes have little to do with historic restoration.

"That's strictly owner's preference," Basinger said.

She said many of the homes in Clarkston are carpenter Gothic. That means that they are a wood version of a traditional Gothic-style home, which would include more stone. Many Clarkston homes also are in the Greek Revival style, which would have been white with black, red or dark green shutters.



Making their home their own: Jerome and Lucia Wilford were tired of having a plain white house.

Please see **COLOR**, A4

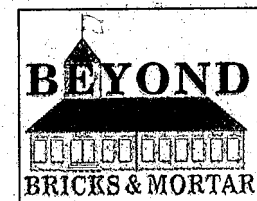
Independence Elementary: High hopes at the horse farm

(Editor's note: Clarkston's seven elementary schools are abuzz with construction or renovation work. But beyond the new accent stripe in revamped building facades, the expansive windows and the technological bells and whistles, each school maintains its own unique character. This story, the fourth in an occasional series, looks at one of those schools.)

BY JAN BAKER
SPECIAL WRITER

It's a new elementary school that spent the first two months of its life in an oversized secondary building with K-5 students and teachers from all over the Clarkston School District.

And even though Clarkston's Independence Elementary has finally settled into its pastoral, white-columned digs on Hubbard Road, it won't be taking a nap any time



soon.

It's still much too busy discovering itself.

According to Independence's principal, Chris Turner, the process of developing the school's identity began on the first day of the academic year at the school's temporary location — Sashabaw Middle School. And it's one that will continue for at least a year or two.



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Parent helpers: Molly Dunn (right) is one of many parents who volunteer at Independence. Here, she works with her daughter, Olivia.

as new traditions are forged, new faces become familiar with each other and new relationships take root.

However, Turner said in a recent interview that it's hard for him not to feel incredibly hopeful about the school's future because of the overwhelming support and enthusiasm he's encountered so far. That wave of excitement has carried with it a few surprises from unexpected places.

'New school' appeal

"A lot of private school families chose to send their kids here," Turner said. "I heard one of the reasons is that they wanted their children to go to Clarkston High School eventually. And they'd been thinking, 'When would we make that switch?' Well, here's this new school — and every kid is new. What a great transition time for our kids."

Turner counted 25 students who transferred from private schools to Independence this year among his school's enrollment. He said that figure accounts for 18 families.

Please see **INDEPENDENCE**, A3

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Oven offers hot clue to break-in attempt

By SUSAN B. TAUBER
STAFF WRITER

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Two local men are facing charges of breaking and entering a commercial business Nov. 24.

Terry Lee Berlin, 25, of Springfield Township and Chester Edward Baldiga, 17, of Independence Township were being held in Oakland County Jail as of Wednesday morning. They were unable to post the \$100,000 bond set by Magistrate Judith Holtz for each suspect during their arraignment Nov. 25. Both stood mute, and not-guilty pleas were entered for them.

The men face a preliminary exam at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, in 52-2 District Court before Judge Gerald McNally. If convicted, they can be sentenced up to 10 years on the felony charge of entering a building with the intent to commit a larceny within, according to Lt. Dale LaBair, Oakland County Sheriff's Department, Independence Township substation.

Berlin and Baldiga were arrested at the scene of an apparent break-in attempt of the Subway restaurant at 6469 Sashabaw Road, Independence Township, about 2:30 a.m. the day before Thanksgiving.

Charles Oliver of Independence Township is the manager for that Subway. He was working in the back room of the restaurant early that Wednesday morning.

Please see ARREST, A6

Greens Market



STAFF PHOTOS BY STEVE CANTRELL

Great greens: Clarkston Farm and Garden Club members (from left) Sue Asad, Wanda Harrison, Kay Robertson, Sally Shields and Pat Evans are preparing for the group's annual fund-raiser.

Garden club sells holiday greens

The unmistakable smell of fresh pine boughs is a warm way to welcome visitors during the holidays. One way to get them is at the Clarkston Farm and Garden Club's eighth annual Greens Sale. The fund-raiser is from 9 a.m. until 4

p.m. Dec. 4 at Church of the Resurrection, 6490 Clarkston Road, across from the Independence Township Library.

The sale will feature fresh arrangements, wreaths and roping, club member Kay Robertson said.

Proceeds go toward the club's educational and community projects. Robertson said the club does many programs with school children and sponsors four scholarships at Clarkston High School. It also maintains the library's flower beds.

Santa's load:
Although the focus of The Clarkston Farm and Garden Club's Sale is evergreen decorations, items like this also will be for sale.



Angelic decor: Angels will also be available.

Schools hope to leave busing woes behind

By SUSAN B. TAUBER
STAFF WRITER

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A task force on school bus transportation is driving in the fast lane to get many issues resolved before the second semester of school begins Feb. 1. Serving on the task force that's meeting at least once a week are

Clarkston Community Schools Transportation Supervisor Kevin Bickerstaff and bus drivers Dorothy Anderson, Debra Delowe, Alaina Hawley, Mary Miller, Rose Grable, Jan Rumball and Debra Greth. Also working with the committee are district superintendent Al Roberts and Linda Nester, district director of personnel and auxiliary services.

"This is a new task force," said Bickerstaff, who took over his former job as transportation supervisor two weeks ago. He replaced Ron Conwell, who is working with technology in the administration building.

"Transportation is a growing concern, mainly due to our growing population," said Nester.

That's not news to many parents, who have been complaining to the school district about the length of time their children are

spending on the bus. Among these parents is Colleen Foy. She addressed the school board recently because her daughter, Kelsey, spends almost an hour on a school bus when the Foy's live only four minutes driving time from Independence Elementary School.

"I've charged this task force with looking at the busing system from top to bottom," Roberts said. "I want them to be creative, to find better ways to utilize the resources. We have to find a way to get the most out of what we have in the way of our bus fleet and bus drivers."

Roberts said there are several issues the task force will address. These include the impact of staggering school building start and stop times and changing the number of stops a bus makes on a route.

"We're looking at virtually every bus route and we have some 35 different ones," he said. "If we have 78 kids on a bus and it takes us a half-a-minute to pick up each student, that adds up to 39 minutes and doesn't include travel time to school."

Roberts hopes when the task force completes its work, no student will be on a bus one way longer than 45 minutes.

"But that might be hard to do in the more rural areas where buses have to travel greater distances," he added.

Another issue continues to be the shortage of bus drivers.

"We're really working closely together to come up with a solution that is in the best interest of our students," Roberts said. "We're trying to resolve the problems once and for all. But it's a balancing act with how much of our educational resources we can put towards busing while still keeping the safety of the students foremost."

School districts don't get extra funding for busing. Clarkston relies on dollars from its budget — dollars which, Bickerstaff explained — could be used directly for educating its 7,000 students.

"We are looking at how we can do the best we can short of having our dollars to educate kids go up the tailpipes of the buses," Bickerstaff added.

Charter Township of Springfield

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS of the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD will hold a meeting on Thursday, December 16, 1999, beginning at 8:00 P.M. at the Springfield Township Hall, 650 Broadway, Davisburg, Michigan, to hear the appeal of:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Phillip T. Merlo, 8772 Miller Rd., Clarkston, MI 48348 to allow construction of a yard barn with a side yard setback of 8 (eight) feet rather than 15 (fifteen) feet and a set back from the Townsland Estates retention pond of 24 (twenty-four) feet rather than 50 (fifty) feet. P.I. #07-12-126-027.
2. Mary Cameron, P.O. Box 7907, Flint, MI 48507 allow construction of a house with a rear yard setback of twenty-five (25) feet rather than fifty (50) feet. P.I. #07-10-102-011.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the maps and variance requests may be examined at the Springfield Township Clerk's Office, 650 Broadway, Davisburg, Michigan, during regular office hours Monday through Friday until the date of the meeting. Anyone needing a special accommodation at the meeting should contact the Township Clerk at least two (2) business days in advance of the meeting.

NANCY STROLE, Clerk
Charter Township of Springfield

Published: December 2, 1999

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Independence from page A1

Besides that, the principal said he's been "constantly amazed" by the school's diligent teachers, cooperative students, dedicated custodians — and one contingent that's been involved up to its earlobes from the very get go.

"I can't say enough about how the parent population has come together as a unified group," Turner said. "They've been tremendous. They were the ones who came in — with very little direction — and decorated the (Sashabaw Middle) school at the beginning of the year, making it look like an elementary school. They just went nuts. And it looked wonderful."

According to the principal, that positive attitude also made all the difference in helping children adjust to their new school — particularly in the case of fifth-graders, who were shifted to Independence in their last elementary year. In all, four Clarkston elementary schools — Bailey Lake, Clarkston, Pine Knob and Springfield Plains — became feeder schools to form the student population at Independence. And in that number were also the pupils who transferred from a variety of private schools.

Turner said incoming Independence parents seemed to rise above their own anxieties regarding their children's school shift this year.

"As a parent, I know how hard that is," he said. "You want your kids to have some consistency, to really get to know their school. But what I heard parents saying was, 'Yeah, it's somewhat difficult. But we're there for you. And we're helping our kids with that transition.'"

Turner said he believes all adults involved with the school have been focused from the very beginning on building a warm, nurturing atmosphere — one where students feel they truly belong.

Broncos united

For his part, the principal said that he hosts a 15- to 20-minute schoolwide meeting every Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. The entire student population gathers in one area of the school during that time to participate in announcements, presentations, activities — and recite the school chant.

One of many "firsts" for Independence, staff members brainstormed the chant idea to promote school unity and pride. Music teacher Gwen Stewart penned the actual ditty:

"Independence, that's our school,

Where learning, caring, sharing rule,

C'mon Broncos, if you're here,

Give an Independence cheer!

The principal described Independence teachers — educators who also shifted from other buildings throughout the district

■ 'Because everybody here was the new kid when school opened in the fall, a lot of apprehension worked in a positive way. We knew we were all in this together. So we all did the best we could to be inclusive.'

Dana Pennanen

Independence Elementary School teacher

— as totally committed to this new school entity. He pointed out that they set up shop at Sashabaw Middle School during the summer without a complaint. Then, a few months later, they boxed up their classrooms and moved everything again — with the same patient attitude.

But wouldn't most Clarkston elementary teachers — and principals — be more than willing to put up with a few inconveniences if they knew they were eventually going to work in an educational showplace?

"It was a once-in-a-career opportunity for me and for them," Turner said. "And all of that carried us a long way. But I've got to tell you, there were times when even that wouldn't carry you because this (moving) was a huge job."

The principal pointed out that his teachers started meeting at the beginning of last summer to launch Independence. From overnight summer retreats to days of strategizing, they continually did more than they were expected to do.

And even with the best-made plans, getting to the horse farm wasn't a picnic in the sun.

"The staff has been unbelievable," Turner said. "On top of the moving (to Sashabaw and to the permanent site), we started the school year without all of our supplies — supplies are still trickling in from some companies. But our people have been patient. They've handled things with humor."

A melting pot

When they're not teaching children or joking about being in the midst of an academic adventure, Independence teachers are usually bursting with tips that they have brought with them from other Clarkston buildings, Turner said. Recently, 22 teachers stayed after school on their own time to discuss literacy and the best way to teach reading, writing and language arts to their students.

"It was teacher-initiated, teacher-generated," the principal said. "I just sat back in awe of their ideas."

When a school is new, however, even mundane topics require a staff powwow. Turner said those types of staff discussions have sometimes gone off in many directions.

"Halloween was coming up so we had to get together and talk about how we were going to han-

dle it," the principal said. "Not only were we not sure at that point that we'd still be at Sashabaw for Halloween, but we all had our own ideas about how Halloween should go from our experiences at other schools ... We talked through issues that we never would have believed we would have to talk through."

So how did they do Halloween? Turner said that staff members decided they wanted to show their appreciation for the students' exemplary behavior during Independence's Sashabaw stay. So staffers created and manned a Halloween fun house in the middle school's upper gym. Each class went through it and had a ball.

Turner admitted that he and the Independence staff have been lucky to oversee such a student population.

"These kids came into the school understanding the importance of learning," he said. "They appreciate learning about new things and taking risks. I'm not sure I wouldn't say that about any Clarkston school, to be honest. But because I've been other places, I know how fortunate we are."

A new school family

Dana Pennanen, a fifth-grade teacher at Independence who came from Clarkston Elementary, said she thinks the new school is off to a good start.

"It's really working out well, for the most part," Pennanen said recently. "Because everybody here was the new kid when school opened in the fall, a lot of apprehension worked in a positive way. We knew we were all in this together. So we all did the best we could to be inclusive."

Pennanen credited Turner, her colleagues, the school's support staff and parents for approaching the new experience with energy and open-mindedness.

When asked if she ever feels that that all eyes are on this new building — expecting monumental things from the people in it — Pennanen paused and then answered affirmatively.

"Yes, you do feel a little pressure sometimes," she said. "I guess it's the waiting, the watching, the wondering ... 'What is this school going to become?'"

According to Independence parent Laura Rodgers, the school has already become a haven for volunteers.

In a recent interview, Rodgers recalled that when she asked other Independence parents to help with the school's September Fun Run, more than 150 people answered the call. (A family event, the school's only fundraiser of the year generated \$26,000.)

Inside the building, Rodgers said she's observed the same kind of response.

"So many parents have volunteered to help in the classrooms, that teachers have had to turn people away at times," Rodgers said. "The parental involvement



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Eager learners: Students at the new Independence Elementary School understand the importance of learning, according to Principal Chris Turner. At left, student Robin Couch (left) enjoys a picture book with volunteer Taylor Tomei.

here is wonderful."

Looking back

However, even with those glowing reports, the former Bailey Lake parent said it was hard to shift her three children to Independence at first.

"My kids were extremely apprehensive because we were the only subdivision around us to go," Rodgers said. "Brittany (Rodgers' fourth-grade daughter and eldest child) was very nervous. There were no kids from our sub in her class. But she found that she knew some kids from church and some kids from cheering for the (Clarkston) Chiefs. She's also made new friends, — and she loves her teacher."

Charmaine Kunz, whose three children were redistricted to Independence from Springfield Plains Elementary, said she felt some trepidation early on, as well.

"We were a little sad to make the change before we came over here because we had a good experience at Springfield Plains," Kunz said. "But we're happy here. I feel fortunate to have my kids attend this school. Chris (Turner) is very warm and approachable — a wonderful leader. And everyone at the school is so positive and energetic. It's infectious."

In particular, Kunz gave high marks to the school's custodial crew.

"They went above and beyond

the call of duty in getting Sashabaw Middle School ready for our kids at the beginning of the year," she said. "And they did it again at our new location."

It's a school that has the people, the passion, the pride — and that nifty Greek Revival-style pediment over its front door.

And even though Independence Elementary will undoubtedly discover a lot more about itself before the year is through, this much is already apparent.

The broncos are off and running — with the wind at their backs.

This package is being reprinted because the wrong story ran with the original package.

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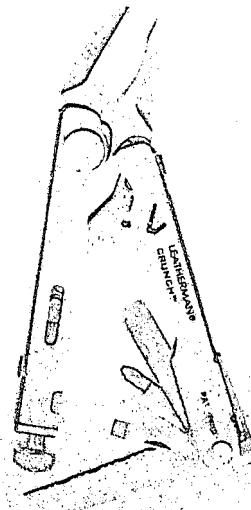
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POLICE NEWS

Following are some incidents recently reported to police and fire agencies in Independence and Springfield townships.

Independence Police

OUIL-1st offense

On Nov. 27, police issued a citation for operating under the influence of liquor-first offense to a 48-year-old Waterford man. He was stopped by police on west-bound Mann Road for a traffic violation. Police noticed a strong odor of intoxicants coming from him, according to the police report. The preliminary breath test revealed his blood alcohol level was 0.18. The legal limit for driving is 0.10.

Vehicle fire

On Nov. 27, police and fire responded to a call for a vehicle fire on Stickney Road east of Pine Knob Road. A man was four-wheeling on the Consumer Power access trail when his truck got stuck. He tried rocking the vehicle when he noticed the smell of smoke. The vehicle

caught on fire. The man was issued a ticket for trespassing.

Stolen vehicle

On Nov. 24, a man living in the 8800 block of Lakeview discovered his 1963 Plymouth Fury convertible car missing from his property.

Traffic accident

On Nov. 23, a 37-year-old Waterford woman received a citation for failure to use due care and caution, for expired license and for expired vehicle plates. The woman was driving westbound on Maybee Road when she didn't stop in time and hit the vehicle in front of her. The woman said she was talking on her carphone at the time of the accident.

Springfield Police

Larceny

On Nov. 28, someone removed eight Century 21 open house signs valued at \$240. The signs were being used to direct people to an open house on Davisburg

Road

OUIL

On Nov. 28, a 32-year-old Oxford woman was found by an officer in the driver's seat of a vehicle in the middle south-bound lane of Andersonville Road. The officer noticed the woman had a strong odor of alcohol. She refused a preliminary breath test. The officer cited her for driving while intoxicated, for driving with an expired operating license and for refusing to take the breathalyzer test.

Clarkston Police

No major incidents to report.

Independence Fire

Fire calls

Independence Township Fire Department responded to 24 calls Nov. 24-28. These included 18 medical calls, two vehicle fire calls and one call each for an automatic alarm, a public service visit, an accident and a fuel spill.

Ordinance from page A1

lations that further a legitimate public interest."

Also, courts have ruled that it is a bad thing to have adult bookstores or theaters clustered in one area, Merrill said.

The most common ways communities restrict where adult uses go is through their zoning ordinances. Usually the stipulation is an adult business cannot be a certain number of yards from a school, place of worship or residentially zoned area, Merrill said. Another tool communities use is to put severe parking restrictions in place for those types of businesses.

Stuart said the township does regulate topless dancing through how it handles liquor licenses. Controlling who they recommend for a liquor license is a way to control what type of entertain-

■ 'It wouldn't be out of order for us to get up to speed. You never know what's going to come.'

Dan Travis
Independence Township Trustee

ment goes into a certain space, he said.

Independence Township Trustee Dan Travis said the issue has not come up in several years. The last time it was talked about was when there was concern about the Clarkston Theater becoming an adult movie house.

He added that at that time, township lawyers advised them that they had to be careful about

what types of restrictions they put on commercial uses because of First Amendment concerns.

"It wouldn't be out of order for us to get up to speed. You never know what's going to come," he said.

Like Independence Township, the city of Clarkston has no mention of adult businesses in its newly adopted zoning ordinance book, City Manager Art Pappas said. Promoting pornography in a public or commercial building is illegal under the city's criminal code, Police Chief Paul Ormiston said.

Springfield Township has had restrictions on adult business locations since 1980, Supervisor Collin Walls said.

"It covers all areas of what we would consider adult uses," Walls said.

OBITUARIES

Wayne William Smith

Wayne William Smith of Clarkston died Nov. 26, 1999, at age 63.

Mr. Smith was a member of the Silver Lake Church of the Nazarene in Pontiac and a past board member of the church. He retired from G.M. at the Pontiac Foundry as a pattern repairman and was a member of U.A.W. No. 653. Mr. Smith was raised in Gingerville and was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife, Annie. He is also survived by four children, Timothy J. (Beverly) Best, Joseph L. (Mae) Best, Susan K. Smith, Maureen G. (Eric) Smith; and two stepchildren, Stephen T. Putman and Donna K. (Jerry) Menyhart. He is also survived by eight grandchildren, David and Betsy

Best, David, Bryant and Joshua Best; Katie and Shaun Smith and Alek Menyhart. He is also survived by three sisters, Helen (Jim) Yoder, JoAnn (Bill) Verhey and Sharon (Ron) Zelyez and two brothers, Lloyd (Betty) Smith and Jim (Carolyn) Smith.

Funeral services were held Monday, Nov. 29, at Silver Lake Church of the Nazarene.

Interment was at Ottawa Park Cemetery, Clarkston.

Memorial contributions may be made to Silver Lake Church of the Nazarene or the American Heart Association.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Coats Funeral Home, Waterford.

Rev. LeRoy "Red" Ryan

Rev. LeRoy "Red" Ryan of Clarkston died Nov. 24, 1999, at age 74.

Rev. Ryan was a priest, teacher and counselor for the Society of Jesus. He was also an avid golfer and very active with the Alcoholics Anonymous program, giving retreats and counseling throughout the country. Rev. Ryan was in the pastoral ministry at the Colomiere Center, Clarkston, since 1987.

Rev. Ryan is survived by his sister, Sr. Margaret Mary Ryan, OSF, and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral mass was held Nov. 30 at Loyola Academy, Wilmette, Ill., with interment at All Saints Cemetery, DesPlaines, Ill.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, Troy, and John E. Maloney Funeral Home, Chicago.

Color from page A1

The vision many people have of brightly colored Victorian homes comes from photos of "painted lady" homes in San Francisco. Although Basinger said it can't be said for sure, it is unlikely homes in this colder climate with completely different lighting would have been painted that way.

But at least two creative homeowners don't care. They agree with Basinger that they just like the colors they chose.

Lucia and Jerome Wilford have lived in their Main Street home for 45 years.

"To begin with, we went with what everyone else had," Lucia Wilford said.

Then about 30 years ago she got tired of all the white houses in a row. Her inspiration came in a dream. She dreamed she was coming down a hill and saw a beautiful home bathed in sunshine. Back in real life, a bit of yellow as an accent soon appeared on her home across from Independence Township Hall.

Wilford said she comes from a family with several artists.

"One thing I inherited was a sense of color and it always bothered me ... (that) people don't consider the trim color (on a home)," she said.

So over the years, she has

■ Her inspiration came in a dream. She dreamed she was coming down a hill and saw a beautiful home bathed in sunshine. Back in real life, a bit of yellow as an accent soon appeared on her home across from Independence Township Hall.

carefully chosen how her house is painted. After the bit of yellow, Wilford came up with a chino color.

"The color of men's trousers," she said.

It's a kind of muted combination of gray, green and tan. She chose cream for the trim — white was too stark.

The home is 119 years old and since the Wilfords moved in, it has been painted about nine times, she said. The current color combination of sky blue with dark forest green shutters and white trim has been in place for about seven years.

Christie Shull also wanted something different for the Hol-

comb Street home she shares with husband Walt Gamble, a Clarkston City Council member. She said she had been looking at pictures of painted ladies and fell in love with all the vibrant colors.

"One of our neighbors down the street had a door that color, and we went down and asked what it was," she said.

It was eggplant.

Shull said the home dates to about 1898 and since it was built in the Victorian era, she wanted to use a Victorian color. The house has had its hue for about five years.

"It's not for everybody," Shull said.

But a trip down Holcomb Street and indeed around Clarkston shows many people are putting their personality onto their home's exterior.

She said when the painters first came, they gave the neighborhood a scare. The primer coat was a bright, neon blue.

"It glowed. People would ask, 'horrid! You're not going to leave it that way!'"

They were happy when the more sedate deep purple paint job was complete.

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OCC readies technology to offer 'information age' classes

If this is the "information age," then it should come as no surprise that those who deal in information have to retool occasionally.

Then there's Oakland Community College. At present, the college has no fewer than 16 information technology projects in the works.

Some of the most visible will include putting courses on the Internet, replacing its old telephone system, and installing a college-wide e-mail system.

Getting OCC college courses on the Internet is nearing completion, according to Gladys Rockind, head of OCC's technology coordinating committee. She told board of trustee members recently that the hardware for the college-wide project has already arrived, that the software is in and teachers are now in the process of putting content on the Web.

By the winter semester, Rockind said she believes three courses will be ready for stu-

dents to access through the World Wide Web.

OCC information director Bruce Martin said progress is being made on the college's new phone system. With the old system's lease about to expire, OCC has gone looking for a new contractor. The most significant feature of the new system will be the addition of a phone center. Once it is manned by school personnel, will be able to address 85 to 90 percent of calling students' questions in a single phone call.

That new phone system is expected to be complete by next March.

Martin also reported to the board that the college's e-mail system is now in and operational. Although installation "was not without its hiccups," he reported that the system had been well received by OCC instructors.

Among other technology projects at the college are:

■ Installing one "Classroom

with Technology Rich Teaching Equipment" on each of OCC's five campuses. Such classrooms will serve as a model for future classrooms at the college as well.

■ Adding a testing center to each campus.

■ Adding a computerized physics lab at the Highland Lakes campus. The board has yet to approve this \$25,000 project. The computers would show simulations of physics experiments as well as support real lab tests.

■ Installation of a Voting Behavior Research computer at the Orchard Ridge campus for quantification and modeling of voting behavior in social science subjects.

■ Addition of computer aided instruction in Calculus at Auburn Hills.

■ Installation of a Faculty Development Center at the Royal Oak campus.

■ Addition of computer enhanced algebra at Orchard Ridge.



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Fast-food restaurant lures applicants with free food

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER

sslaughter@oe.homecomm.net

Independence Township's Taco Bell hopes the carrot of a taco and pop will entice potential employees to make a run for the border.

As a way to respond to a shortage of employees, the fast-food restaurant at 4770 Dixie is offering a taco and small beverage for those who complete the interview process.

In a continuing, tight labor market, businesses of all sorts are using incentives to lure workers. Even companies that might be considered more glamorous, such as computer companies and engineering firms, are competing for the best employees.

For fast-food restaurants, which have long suffered an image problem from an employment standpoint, finding and retaining employees is a special

'I think it's the same with all businesses. This is the worst I've seen. The application flow is nothing like it used to be.'

Lori Geiger

supervisor of four local McDonald's

challenge.

McDonald's uses outdoor banners to advertise job openings and gives current employees a bonus if they recruit a new person, said Lori Geiger, supervisor for the store at 6695 Dixie as well as three other local McDonald's.

"I think it's the same with all businesses," she said. "This is the worst I've seen. The application flow is nothing like it used to be."

She added she thinks fewer people are eating fast food because in this booming economy, they can splurge on a sit-down dinner more often.

Myron Grosz, franchise owner of Burger King, had his own explanation of the employee shortage.

"Kids today have it too good and don't want to work," he said.

He has operated his store at 6674 Dixie for 16 years. He said it has been more difficult in the past year to find employees. But he doesn't think his problem is as severe. He said employers need to pay people enough. Also important are owners being on site and treating employees with respect.

"It's as simple as please and thank you," he said.

If employees — most of whom are teenagers working their first jobs — are told when they do a good job, that in itself is an incentive to come to work.

But he said many teens think "flipping burgers" is beneath them. Others will only work for a short time.

"In the last two years kids have said my parents bought me a car but won't pay the insurance," he said.

What happens is the teenager will work long enough to pay the premium and quit. When the next bill comes along, they can find another job, he said.

Although Burger King offers no incentives for applications, Grosz said he does ask employees if they know anyone else who may want to work.



Food appeal: Taco Bell manager Wendy Becker shows what job applicants can get after going through an interview at the fast-food restaurant, The Independence Township Taco Bell, 6584 Dixie, is offering a taco and small drink as a way to attract employees in a tight labor market.

STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

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Arrest from page A2

"All of a sudden I heard walking and a little bit of light talking coming from the roof," Oliver said. "I see my oven lifting off the ground and shaking back and forth. Then I see the oven drop. Some of the lights in it broke."

He said when he called 911, he was asked if the oven's movement could be caused by the wind outside.

"It was more movement than the wind would cause," he said.

Oliver said an officer was on the scene within a minute. Deputy Keith Christie from the Oakland County Sheriff's Department Independence Township substation was one of the first to respond to Oliver's 911 call.

Christie said in his report that he witnessed the oven exhaust stack moving up and down and to both sides and the ceiling tiles and lights moving when he first began talking to the Subway manager.

Officers from substations in Independence, Springfield and Brandon townships also responded to the scene. Independence Township Fire Department sent a truck to help officers inspect the building's roof.

The police officers said they confiscated several items at the scene. These included tools, rubber gloves and clothing, according to the police report.

"The officers did a good job," LaBair said. "First of all, I want to thank Mr. Oliver, who did a nice piece of work notifying us. He was astute enough to call us. The officers were able to jump on the call right away."

Oliver said he was glad he was working late that night.

"I had a lot to be thankful for on Thanksgiving Day," he said Tuesday, which also was his 22nd birthday. "I love my job. I am so glad we were able to open the restaurant on time following the attempted break-in."

A maintenance person for Subway restaurants had to fix the oven before Oliver could make the fresh bread for sandwiches.

"Since this happened, I've heard every story about what someone would do if they were in my shoes when I heard the noise," Oliver said.

And what did he do?

He hid behind a dining table in the front part of the restaurant.



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Goodfellow paper sale this weekend

Clarkston Rotary will hold its annual Goodfellow Newspaper sale Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3-4, in downtown Clarkston.

Goodfellow papers will also be sold in front of the Kroger store on Dixie Highway or at either of the Clarkston Farmer Jack stores. Rotarians will be joined by Cub Scout Pack No. 314 and Boy Scout Troop No. 199.

The annual event raises money to purchase shoes and boots for children in the Clarkston area. Last year, the sale benefitted almost 300 children.

Developer to hold public meeting

Joe Locricchio, developer and Independence Township resident, will discuss the proposed purchase of Clarkston Creek Golf Course by the township at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 3, in the Carriage House in Clintonwood Park, 6000 Clarkston Road.

For further information, call the senior center at 625-8231.

Peace?

Irish cautiously optimistic

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER
pmurphy@oe.hometeam.net

It's been a long wait, but there's reason for guarded optimism concerning peace in Northern Ireland, according to Oakland County residents keeping a watchful eye on negotiations involving former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell.

"There's a new level of trust," said William J. Berardo, a Berkeley attorney who is also national vice president of the Irish American Unity Conference. "Both sides (representing Protestants and Catholics) are negotiating face-to-face (rather than separately)."

'Ireland owes a debt of gratitude to Clinton and the U.S. because of their role in peace negotiations.'

Martin Ferris
Sinn Fein

Berardo made his assessment on the basis of reports filtering out of Northern Ireland and generally confirmed by the visit of Sinn Fein leader Martin Ferris in metro Detroit earlier this month.

Visits Eccentric office

Ferris spoke to the Editorial Board of The Eccentric Newspapers on Nov. 18 to give his views on peace talks between Nationalists, who want a unified Ireland, and Unionists, who want the six counties in Northern Ireland to remain politically and culturally linked to England.

Ferris, who had been jailed three times — including once for gun running — told the editors that stalled negotiations pursuant to the so-called Good Friday Agreement of 1998 appeared to be back on track and a Protestant-Catholic government seemed possible after nearly three decades of violence that has claimed more than 2,000 lives.

Continuation of negotiations was attributable in large part, Ferris said, to the efforts of former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell, a mediator representing President Bill Clinton.

Ireland owes a debt of gratitude to Clinton and the U.S. because of their role in peace negotiations, said Ferris. "Clinton has done more than any other U.S. president on behalf of peace in Ireland," he said.

Ferris reiterated many of his comments later in the day to Irish-American groups who interpreted his words as confirmation of incomplete and often censored news reports coming out of Northern Ireland.

UK censorship

Accurate and objective news on peace negotiations are sometimes difficult to get, said Berardo, because of censorship imposed by the English government. "We rely on services like the Irish American Information Service (news@iais.org)," he said. But comments from Ferris were reassuring, he explained.

Berardo said Ferris' tour of the U.S. was likely part of the information network established to circumvent censorship and fund-raising efforts on behalf of Sinn Fein. "Sinn Fein is a legal political party," Berardo emphasized. "Fund-raising in the U.S. has been done on behalf of Sinn Fein, not the IRA," he said.

There may indeed be reason for optimism about peace in Ireland, Berardo said, although there will be trying time ahead and extremists may yet try to provoke incidents to derail negotiations.

Sharing that optimism is Rudy Simons, vice president of the Cranbrook Peace Foundation, who has monitored news reports from Northern Ireland.

The peace foundation will host George Mitchell as the main speaker at the 12th Annual Cranbrook Peace Lecture Dec. 14, at the Westin Hotel in Southfield. Additional information is available through the foundation at (313) 563-4014.



Martin Ferris

STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGDFELD

Residents off on mission to Iraq

BY KEN VAN STEENKISTE
STAFF WRITER

Convinced that United Nations sanctions are morally wrong, a group of Oakland residents are taking some medical supplies and their good will to Iraq.

The group — Metro Detroit Against Sanctions — has 13 people, including six from Oakland County. They were scheduled to leave Monday.

In direct defiance of U.N. sanctions imposed after the 1991 Gulf War, each will bring about 150 pounds of medical supplies.

"We are challenging those sanctions," said Rudy Simons, a Bloomfield Hills business man.

The travelers contend the U.N. sanctions — intended to restrain the military capability of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and hasten his demise — are imposing undue suffering on civilians.

They insist shortages of food, clean water and medical supplies kill thousands of innocent people each month, including children.

"We're going into this with our eyes open, knowing there may be consequences," said Sister Rita Mary Olszewski, of Auburn Hills. "But we can't stand by and face this with good conscience," said the nun,

'We're going into this with our eyes open, knowing there may be consequences.'

Sister Rita Mary Olszewski
Auburn Hills

who works in the office of Archbishop Thomas Gumbleton.

U.N. officials acknowledge that sanctions have led to widespread hunger and public health crises that have led to the deaths of civilians.

But those deaths are decreasing, according to John Mills, a spokesperson for the United Nation's "Oil for Food" Program, which allows Iraq to sell its oil and purchase essentials.

In a phone interview from his New York office, Mills said sanctions have contributed to an "alarming increase in child mortality" in Iraq. But changes in the program are enabling Iraq to sell more oil to purchase more food and medical supplies.

However, members of Metro Detroit Against Sanctions don't want to leave the relief efforts up to some far-away government body, even if it is the U.N.

"Most Americans sitting in their living rooms don't realize the implications of (sanctions), we go to bring back names and faces of those people who are hurt by them," Simons said.

The group will fly to Amman, Jordan on Monday and then begin a grueling 15-hour bus trip to Iraq's capital, Baghdad. They will split into two groups, one heading south to the city of Basrah, the other north to Mosul, in Kurdish territory.

Among the provisions the group will bring with them is a "very limited handful of medical supplies," Simons said.

"These consist of simple supplies like surgical gloves, modern medical texts, some very basic antibiotics, things like that," he explained.

The group has been warned that they could face arrest and prosecution by the State Department.

"If it would help get this publicized to a wider audience, then that would be welcome," Simons said.

Simon said his group doesn't fear reprisals from Iraqi citizens.

"The ability of the Iraqi people to separate the United States people from their government is immense. My understanding is that they are very generous and hospitable," Simons said.



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Sheriff's complex to honor Nichols

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

pmurphy@oe.hometown.com

On a day friends were lionizing the late John F. Nichols, the person who knew and loved him most — his wife of 44 years — reminded admirers her husband was only human.

"He (Nichols) demanded polished shoes, pressed uniforms, short hair and a sharp appearance," said Jean Nichols as dozens of dignitaries and deputies gathered to rename the sheriff's complex after her husband, who died Dec. 18.

But at home, Nichols, known as a spit-and-polish disciplinarian, kicked back and relaxed, recalled his widow. "He'd sometimes throw his clothes around like anyone else," she said, fighting back the tears, "and some-

times he was an old grouch."

Others, however, remembered Nichols as a professional police officer who for four terms demanded perfection from his subordinates, just as he demanded it of himself.

Sheriff Michael Bouchard, for example, said he is humbled every time he surveys the department and realizes the impact Nichols had on the 1,000-member department.

County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, who gave the eulogy at Nichols' funeral, remembered how the late sheriff dealt with tight-fisted county commissioners who sometimes wanted to cut his budget.

"You could tell how combative those meetings would be," Patterson recalled, "by the angle at which his jaw jutted out as he

walked into the room."

U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg remembered Nichols for the military bearing that carried over into everything he did as sheriff. "He demanded respect," said Knollenberg, "and he got it."

Nichols started his 56-year career as a Detroit police officer, and — after a stint in World War II, including fighting at the Battle of the Bulge — he rose through the ranks to become police commissioner, the department's highest ranking officer.

After running for Detroit mayor in 1973 — and losing to Coleman A. Young — Nichols became chief of police in Farmington Hills, a post he held until being elected Oakland sheriff in 1984.

That career is outlined on a

plaque at the main entrance of what is now the John F. Nichols Law Enforcement Complex.

The plaque was dedicated and the building, at 1200 N. Telegraph in Pontiac, was renamed on Tuesday, the day Nichols would have celebrated his 81st birthday.



Remembering: Jean Nichols flashes a smile.

Senate tosses 'rights to an attorney'

BY MIKE MALOTT

HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@hometown.com

Defendants who have already pleaded guilty to a criminal charge in Michigan will no longer be able to waste taxpayers' money by using public defenders to file frivolous appeals — or justice after plea bargaining will be reserved for the rich, depending on which side of the issue you listen to.

State senators voted 24-13 to pass House Bill 4625 Nov. 10 to limit a defendant's right to a court-appointed attorney to file an appeal after having pleaded guilty to a charge.

The House has already approved the measure, sponsored by Rep. Judson Gilbert (R-Algonac). Considering that Gov. John Engler has pushed hard for the measure and that his staff did much of the research used to support the proposal, Engler is expected to give the bill a quick signature. Only a few technical glitches are slowing the bill down and will have to be cleared up by the legislature in December, the governor's office said.

But critics are strong in their

condemnation of the measure.

"I believe this bill is unconstitutional," said Sen. Alma Wheeler Smith, (D-South Lyon) during senate debate. "I believe this legislation reinforces what the general public already believes about the criminal justice system. That is, if you are poor, you don't get justice, and if you have money and resources, then you have the right to justice and you often get it. I think that's a terrible message for the Legislature of the state of Michigan to be reinforcing."

Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) objected even more strongly.

"We're stepping into treacherous waters... There is not a state in the union which does not allow a right to appeal criminal cases. This in effect would accomplish that goal by taking away the right to have an attorney," he said.

Virgil Smith said the state supreme court is already wrestling with the issue in a case known as People v. Bolger. He warned that if the court eventually rules opposite the legislature's decision, Michigan's court system could then get hit with a backlog of appeals.

Sen. William Van Regenmorter (R-Hudsonville) argued that the bill follows the wishes of Michigan voters, who approved wording ending automatic appeals in criminal cases. Van Regenmorter contended that when a judge takes a guilty plea or a plea of "no contest," court rules already require that the judge make sure the plea is being entered voluntarily.

So there are already built-in protections for those who plead guilty, he argued.

The Michigan Chapter of American Civil Liberties Union has taken a position opposing the bill, but it is supported by the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan.

Here's how area legislators voted:

Yes — Sens. Loren Bennett (R-Canton), Bill Bullard (R-Highland), Shirley Johnson (R-Royal Oak) and Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia).

No — Sens. John D. Cherry Jr. (D-Clío), George Z. Hart (D-Dearborn) and Gary Peters (D-Bloomfield).

Absent — Sen. Mat Dunaskiss (R-Lake Orion).

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Clarkston Eccentric® OPINION

A10(C1)

7073 DIXIE HIGHWAY, CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN 48346

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1999

Local law needed Township should restrict porn shops

Independence Township officials should consider adopting an ordinance to regulate the placement of sexually themed adult-oriented businesses.

Brandon Township, Independence's immediate neighbor to the north, recently was caught off guard when an adult-only store opened on M-15 next door to a children's dance studio and within walking distance of a gymnastics school.

While Brandon officials could not have stopped the business from opening in the township — the business has the right to sell its sexually oriented products under the First Amendment — they could have regulated the store's placement by having a zoning ordinance that specially addresses this kind of adult business. Certainly a business like this would have been better located away from where children congregate.

Brandon officials are now looking into adopting an ordinance to regulate the placement of future sex-themed businesses. Independence should do likewise.

Springfield Township already has an ordinance restricting where these types of stores can operate in the community. Springfield officials should be commended for being proactive in this important area.

We are not saying these businesses have no right to open in the Clarkston area. However,

they shouldn't be located near residential areas, schools or other areas that children frequent.

We understand Independence Township Supervisor Dale Stuart's position that he doesn't want to over-regulate by adopting yet another local law. Philosophically, we agree. However, we don't think he can simply hope that an adult business will think locating in Independence Township, which has a reputation of being family-oriented, is a poor business decision and look elsewhere.

We have heard the argument that if people want something badly enough, and a store sells it, they will drive as far as they need to get to that store. That argument has been used to suggest that downtown Clarkston business owners simply need to find the right products to stay in business and keep the town vital.

The same argument can apply to an adult business store, which can depend on non-residents, phone orders and Internet sales for its support.

Independence already has local laws that regulate topless bars and the sale of pornographic materials to minors. An ordinance restricting the placement of adult businesses will offer further protection in keeping the Clarkston area family-oriented.

State needs to be cautious about more charter schools

There's a line forming outside the charter school door. About 100 new charters are waiting for approval in Michigan. The law of supply and demand — and the push to reform public education — dictate that the state lift its five-year-old cap on the number of schools chartered by universities, currently 150, charter school advocates say.

Legislation could be reintroduced in the Michigan House of Representatives as early as this week to revise or remove the cap. Gov. John Engler favors its elimination.

We don't think that's a great idea — particularly if it's done without any measures to ensure further accountability on the part of new and existing charters, or public school academies, as they like to be called. And this is what the Michigan Association of Public School Academies wants. No limits, no burden. Charter schools are working, they assure us. Parental involvement is staggeringly strong, MEAP scores are rising and public schools are improving just because charter schools are there to provide competition.

The *Eccentric* doesn't see the evidence being nearly as conclusive. While some schools, particularly those in Detroit and near Lansing, are meeting or beating performance standards of the districts where they are located, others lag behind. Taken as a whole, MEAP scores at charter schools fall short of statewide averages in math and reading, although they surpass statewide scores in science and writing. Many academies are just entering their second or third year of existence. Some of the early charters had so few students initially they were exempted from MEAP altogether.

We also question whether charter schools will be able to compete with traditional public schools — particularly those in solid districts like much of western Wayne and Oakland counties — in the long run. Charters receive per-pupil funding that matches their home-

district only up to a maximum of the annual state foundation grant of about \$6,000. That means the staff at charter schools is made up mostly of new teachers at the bottom of the salary scale. Many will likely move on to higher-paying school districts and experienced teachers already in those districts would be hard-pressed to move to charter schools.

But the biggest reason for demanding additional accountability for new and existing charters is this: Even though the charter schools are legally prohibited from making a profit, the overwhelming majority of charter schools in Michigan have contracted with for-profit companies to handle start-up and administrative tasks. That in itself draws a line between charter schools and traditional public education.

While the state's 1993 charter school law leaves oversight up to the schools' authorizing bodies, such as Central Michigan University, it also opens the door to management companies such as the Edison Project and National Heritage Academies, a western Michigan-based company that had hoped to set up a charter school in one western Wayne community this fall. Management companies typically receive about 10 percent of the per-pupil state foundation grant for their services. That's taxpayer dollars going to a private concern with limited requirements for financial disclosure.

The academy, which fell through when the township planning commission failed to approve its site plan, was expected to be operating in the black within five to eight years, organizers said.

The *Eccentric* believes parents and taxpayers are looking for more accountability in education, not less. Witness the renewed emphasis on standardized testing, a longer school year and state-endorsed high school diplomas. Charter schools shouldn't be left off the hook when report cards are due.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

Have you started your Christmas shopping?



"Yes."
Wendy Abdo
White Lake
Township



"I haven't started. It's way too early."
Alan Rudolph
Clarkston



"Yes."
Helen Sommer
Clarkston



"I have some. I usually do some later in the year."
Zolia Ramirez
Waterford

This question was asked in front of the Kroger store on Dixie Highway in Independence Township.

LETTERS

(Editor's note: The following letter by Independence Township Trustee Dan Travis outlines his position on the township's plan to purchase Clarkston Creek Golf Course. Travis wrote the letter because he was not able to attend the board's meeting of Nov. 16 due to illness.)

Golf course plan a good idea for several reasons

To the board and to the residents: As I am not able to attend this evening's meeting and will likely remain physically absent for a time longer I want to share my thoughts with you.

We have a unique opportunity to accomplish a "great good" for our community by moving forward with the acquisition of Clarkston Creek. We are still at the early conceptual-development stage. Much in the way of binding legal agreements, detailed development and financial planning, drainage master planning, coordinated right of way planning and recreational usage is fairly preliminary but timely to our decision to commit to this project.

We should consider this as a PUD and thereby be assured of permanent and detailed controls in perpetuity.

In my readings of reports from our planners, the developers, our engineers, the supervisor, recreation director, previous board meeting minutes and citizen comments on the record and here by my numerous phone conversations, I see a preponderance of reasons to support this acquisition at this time.

As I see this plan, we stand to gain on a number of counts. We will be able to retain open space. We will sustain accessible recreational golf for our residents and others. We will be able to control the drainage district, allowing revenue to accrue later and place storm water retention and run-off controls where we engineer them and benefit our wetlands, downstream water courses and lakes. We continue the fulfillment of many of the Vision 2020 community goals and recommendations. We help place another building block in the creation of the Sashabaw Town Center Concept. We demonstrated to the community our active role in conserving open space and planning for the coming generations. Those steps will occur if we commit to moving forward and "partner" in the development and acceptance of this plan for our community.

Dan Travis, Trustee
Independence Township

Holidays are difficult for those with eating disorders

I am responding to the article in the Clarkston Eccentric about the Alano Club in Clarkston and the holidays being difficult for those with the disease of alcoholism. The 12-Step program certainly is a lifesaver for those suffering from addictions.

However, there is a much more rampant addiction that the holidays exacerbate. Namely, food addictions and eating disorders. Whether it's anorexia, bulimia or compulsive overeating, the food emphasis during the holidays makes it extremely difficult for those who suffer from eating disorders.

Overeaters Anonymous is a 12-step program based on the AA program that offers release from the addiction to food. This fellowship has been successful since 1960 in offering many who "live to eat" a way out. I found it three years ago and cannot begin to describe the difference it has made in my life. I am now living — no longer trapped by the control food once had on me.

There is an active thriving OA group in Clarkston. For more information, the phone number to the Detroit-area help-line/information is 248/988-0109. The organization's web address is www.overeatersanonymous.com.

KT
Clarkston

Support hunger relief

I am writing in support of the Hunger Relief Act, HR 3192/S.1805.

Eight percent of Michigan families in 1998 couldn't always afford the food they need. Many of these are working families. Disturbingly, having a job is no longer a guarantee against hunger. The level of workers below the poverty level rose by 469,000 in 1998. Thirty-seven percent of all food requests according to U.S. Conference of Mayors comes from employed people.

Provisions in the bill would: (1) Permit low-income people to own a reliable car and still receive food stamps, (2) Allow low-income people who pay more than 50 percent of their income for housing to receive food stamps, and (3) Increase assistance to emergency food providers.

Write or call U.S. Rep. Sander Levin and Sens. Spencer Abraham and Carl Levin. Tell them that now is the time for hunger relief.

Kenneth N. Downing
Madison Heights

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POINTS OF VIEW

True love is difficult to define even after you've experienced it

What is love exactly? My dictionary doesn't have a precise definition for it. My thesaurus gave me verbs such as adore; idolize and nouns such as rapture and infatuation.

Teenagers of all ages believe that they are in love at some point. Most often the parents will argue that they are only a teenager and how could they possibly understand what love really means. Where do they find the grounds to say that? If an adult can't even define love in a dictionary then how can they tell us what it is or isn't? I always wanted an answer to what love really is. An exact word-for-word definition that left no questions or thoughts to linger. Nobody has ever given me that definition; I had to figure it out for myself.

I thought I fell in love my sophomore year of high school, but I was wrong.

We told each other that we loved each other. I guess we thought we did. I realize now that it wasn't love, and moved on. It's situations like that that parents base their claims on.

I decided that I needed both sides of this story. I needed an adult's perspective as well as teenage opinions. I wanted to know when they fell in love and what they think teenage love is, not to mention the reason they say that teens don't know what love is.

I interviewed Chris Turner, principal of Clarkston's new Independence Elementary School, and his wife, Sandy. When I asked them how they knew that they were in love, they both gave me the same answer. They said, "When you want to share every part of your life with that person, and you look down the road at your future, it wouldn't be complete without them." When the Turners first fell in love, they were in their 20s. Why do some adults think that teenagers can't feel this way about someone?

I interviewed Bill Bopp, a Clarkston resident. I asked him how old he was when he first fell in love with his wife. Bopp said he was "about 17." If he was 17, then he was obviously a teenager. I also asked him how he knew he was in love. He replied "Love? I grew up in a competitive sports world. We preferred the word 'like' when referring to girlfriends. Uttering the word love would be an admission of weakness. I knew I was weakening, or 'in love,' when being with my wife was more important than hanging out with my friends." Since he was a teenager when he fell in love, he must



JAIME GREEN

have known what love was, right?

Another question arises when discussing teenage love. The term "puppy love"—what exactly is puppy love? We aren't dogs so why do we say it? I asked an adult and a teen. Ardis Sprung, a junior at Clarkston High School, said, "When I hear the term 'puppy love' it makes me angry. What is puppy love? We are not dogs; we are humans. I think it's just an excuse for parents to express their opinion that we are not in love. Puppies are young, and so are teens so elders think that the expression 'puppy love' just fits. When adults meet new people, isn't that puppy love too? I mean, it's a new relationship so that's saying that it's young. That would be puppy love too."

Bopp had a different view. Bopp said, "Puppy love is when you are 'in love,' but too young to drive. Hey, without wheels it's difficult to spend time together and build a relationship. You rely on your parents for transportation. That gives your parents the opportunity to meet, or should I say run interference, with the one you 'love.' Maybe 'puppy love' is a term invented by parents to discourage kids from dating because the parents aren't ready for it."

After everything I heard, I now realize that no one can define love. Love helps us to improve life. It doesn't matter if you are a teenager, or an adult. If you think that it's love, then trust your heart. No one knows what it feels like to you. At whatever age, love is a good thing. In the words of Moliere: "Take love away from life, and you take away its pleasures."

Jaime Green is a junior at Clarkston High School and the lifestyles editor of PawPrints, the CHS student newspaper. Her column alternates with one written by Clarkston Community Schools Superintendent Al Roberts.

Wanted: authentic candidates

The first time I ever heard the word "authentic" in connection with politics was about three years ago when I was talking with former Senator Don Riegle.

I didn't take notes during our conversation, but as I remember it Riegle said something to the effect that candidates these days would have to be "authentic in order to be effective." What he meant, of course, was that people couldn't run as a blow-dried, spin-doctored, consultant-manipulated, poll-reliant candidates, but as real people, comfortable in their own skin.

"Authentic" has been rattling around inside my head ever since, but never more than now, when our politics are so infested with non-authentic candidacies of all sorts. Usefully, my dictionary defines authentic as, "Conforming to fact and therefore worthy of trust, reliance, or belief."

The most recent outbreak of authenticity in Michigan politics occurred last week, when Sen. John Schwarz (R-Battle Creek) endorsed U. S. Sen. John McCain for president and shortly thereafter was named chairman of the McCain presidential campaign in the state. Evidently, birds of an authentic feather flock together, as both Schwarz and McCain are conspicuous practitioners of the politics of authenticity.

Schwarz is an eye, ear and nose surgeon who served in naval intelligence during the Vietnam War, became mayor of Battle Creek and then was elected to the Michigan Senate in 1986. Smart, blunt and well informed, Schwarz is hardly one to back away from a fight or suffer fools gladly. McCain, a Navy pilot who endured five years of torture while in a Viet Cong prison before being elected to the U. S. Senate, gives the impression of being a whole lot like Schwarz.

"No, I don't think all the emphasis on authenticity is just because of Bill Clinton, although his career has been an object lesson," Schwarz told me. "Authentic people running as who they are have been increasingly rare in politics over the last 25 years. More and more, candidates are being controlled by non-office holding consultants, pollsters, spin doctors. The result is a bunch of finger-in-the-wind imagoes who make me, at least, into a doubting Thomas whenever they say something because I always wonder who told them to do it."

The political attractiveness of authenticity seems to have national appeal. A recent poll conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People found overwhelming majorities rank honesty and the ability to connect as priorities, well ahead of a candidate's stand on particular issues.



PHILIP POWER

Voters traditionally have been attracted to candidates who share their values, empathize with their problems, address their concerns. But these days I sense a real hunger for candidates who are what they seem, unscripted and unrehearsed, men and women who are comfortable enough with themselves and where they stand not to have a compulsion to try to be all things to all people.

I asked Schwarz who he would be supporting for president if he were a Democrat. "Bill Bradley," he answered at once, "although I've never met him, he seems secure in who he is—far more than Al Gore, who seems to need consultants for that purpose."

Schwarz's comment hit a nerve. In past month or so, I have talked with a lot of politically informed people in Michigan. Many are in office while others have political obligations; for public consumption they favor either Texas Gov. George W. Bush or Vice President Gore, depending on their partisan affiliation.

But when I ask them, off the record and for private discourse only, who they really like in their heart of hearts, overwhelmingly it's John McCain and Bill Bradley.

Why? Some cite a diversity of life experiences. Some point to candor and honesty, while others are attracted by a "natural" style, unaffected by consultants and pollsters. In other words, because both McCain and Bradley come across as authentic, whether by nature or by design.

I've seen a lot of elections over the years, and I've never seen a such a big disconnect between the candidates who the odds-makers say will win the nominations—Bush and Gore—and those who are provoking deeper, more genuine responses. Something interesting and important may be stirring here.

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

Lighthouse donations fed 206 families, 96 seniors for holiday



The weather outside has been delightful, and the heat bill not so frightful and since we have so many places to go, most people are grateful Mother Nature held off with the snow! However, this doesn't mean that the spirit of giving is not in the air. There was a special donation, which occurred the day before Thanksgiving and was especially touching and truly depicts "giving from the heart." An older woman rang the doorbell of the Pontiac office of Lighthouse Emergency Services. It was after hours and only a couple of staff members remained in the building. She asked if it was too late to help with Thanksgiving. Not certain what this woman meant—it appeared by her presentation that perhaps she needed a basket of food—the staff person asked how this woman could be helped. The woman stated that she did not need any help, but knew that others were in worse financial situations than she was. She offered the staff person \$1. She stated it was all she could afford but wanted Lighthouse to put it to good use by helping others. Clearly this woman gave from what she needed for herself. What a beautiful lesson for all of us to remember not just at this time of the year, but all year through!

Thanksgiving was a real delight for many people, especially those families and seniors who, through your generous donations, received a complete Thanksgiving dinner. Two hundred six families and 96 senior families were fed through the Clarkston office. Thank you for all your time, generous donations and caring spirit.

The Detroit Rockers truly "rocked" the Palace of Auburn Hills Nov. 20 with a win against the Cleveland Crunch. The event was made even more exciting when the Rockers presented Lewis Hickson, executive director of Lighthouse Emergency Services, with a check for \$2,500 and an autographed soccer ball. The donation will benefit Lighthouse Emergency Services clients throughout the service areas.

It is still not too late to purchase a "love light" for the two Trees of Caring. Prices for the lights

■ The woman stated that she did not need any help, but knew that others were in worse financial situations than she was. She offered the staff person \$1. She stated it was all she could afford but wanted Lighthouse to put it to good use by helping others. Clearly this woman gave from what she needed for herself.

range from \$5 to \$100. It is a wonderful way to remember a family member(s) or friend(s). Please indicate if the light is in honor of or in memory of that special person. It is a great gift for those persons who are difficult to shop for or who have everything.

The Candy Cane Christmas Tree Farm has also partnered with Lighthouse Emergency Services Clarkston in a fund-raising event for those in need. Anyone who fills out a coupon for Lighthouse or who brings nonperishable food items to the tree farm will have a portion of the price of their purchased Christmas tree(s) donated to Lighthouse's Good Neighbor Fund. Coupons are available at the Candy Cane Christmas Tree Farm near the checkout area or at the Clarkston office of Lighthouse. Please ask at the tree farm or contact Lighthouse at 248-673-4949. This is a great family opportunity to cut your own tree with seven varieties of pines to choose from. Bring the youngsters and visit the exotic animals also on the farm! This is a great way to start a wonderful family Christmas tradition or perhaps renew a tradition from the past. See you at the tree farm!

Holiday blessings and happiness to all of you and your family and friends. May the New Year bring all you are hoping for!

This column space is shared by local community groups. Up next week: Task Force for Youth.

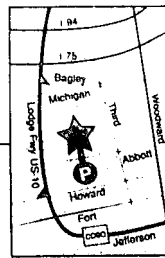
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The end of the 1999 road construction season is nearing, but many projects are in the works, including the following:

Roads are open unless noted.
Alternative routes are advised in all instances.

NORTH OF M-59

BALDWIN ROAD

From: I-75 to Maybee
Community: Orion Township
Details: Orion Township is restoring the road after installing water and sewer lines. Construction crews will flag traffic through, and lane closures are possible. Completion date unknown.

BROWN ROAD

From: Joslyn to Baldwin Road
Community: Orion Township and Auburn Hills
Details: Gravel road closed for paving. Detour is Baldwin, Lake Angelus and Joslyn roads. Completion by mid-December.

From: Joslyn to Giddings
Community: Auburn Hills and Orion Township

Details: As part of the reconstruction of the Brown/Joslyn intersection, Brown Road is closed so that the new approach to the intersection can be constructed. Detour is Harmon and Giddings roads. Completion date is June 2000.

NORTH HOLLY ROAD

From: Grange Hall Road to north of Lahring Road

Community: Holly Township
Details: Road being reconstructed. North Holly Road south of Lahring Road is closed until the end of December for culvert replacement. Detour is Grange Hall Road, Dixie Highway and Belford Road. Completion by the end of December.

JOSLYN ROAD

From: At Brown Road

Community: Auburn Hills and Orion Township

Details: In conjunction with the paving of Brown Road, the Joslyn/Brown intersection is being reconstructed and reconfigured. Throughout construction, one lane of Joslyn will be open in either direction, though Brown will be closed in both directions. Expect delays in the area. Completion date is June 2000.

MOST PRIMARY ROADS

Community: Groveland Township
Details: Consumer's Energy is installing gas lines throughout the township. Locations could change daily. Lanes may be closed or reduced to one-way traffic. This will be ongoing for several months.

WILLIAMS LAKE ROAD/MACEDAY LAKE ROAD

Community: Waterford Township
Details: RCOC is reconstructing this intersection, expect delays. Completion by mid-December.

SOUTH OF M-59

BIG BEAVER

From: At Rochester Road

Community: Troy

Details: The City of Troy is widening Rochester Road in this area. The work will effect the Big Beaver/Rochester intersection. Expect delays. Completion date unknown.

MARTINDALE ROAD

From: South of 11 Mile Road

Community: South Lyon/Lyon Township

Details: A developer is paving this section of road. The road is closed to through traffic. Completion date unknown.

ORCHARD LAKE ROAD

From: At Northwestern Highway

Community: West Bloomfield Township

Details: Developer of Gateway Shopping Center is adding a northbound center left-turn lane to Orchard Lake. Completion date unknown.

WOODWARD

From: At 14 Mile Road

Community: Royal Oak and Birmingham

Details: Storm water drains are being replaced along Woodward near 14 Mile Road. Work could cause delays on 14 Mile (east and west of Woodward) and on Woodward. Completion date unknown.

Oakland County marks centennial at millennium

To commemorate 100 years of government, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners is inviting past and present commissioners to be recognized for their contributions at its Dec. 16 meeting, the last session of the millennium.

While many officials have already been invited, the county board does not have current

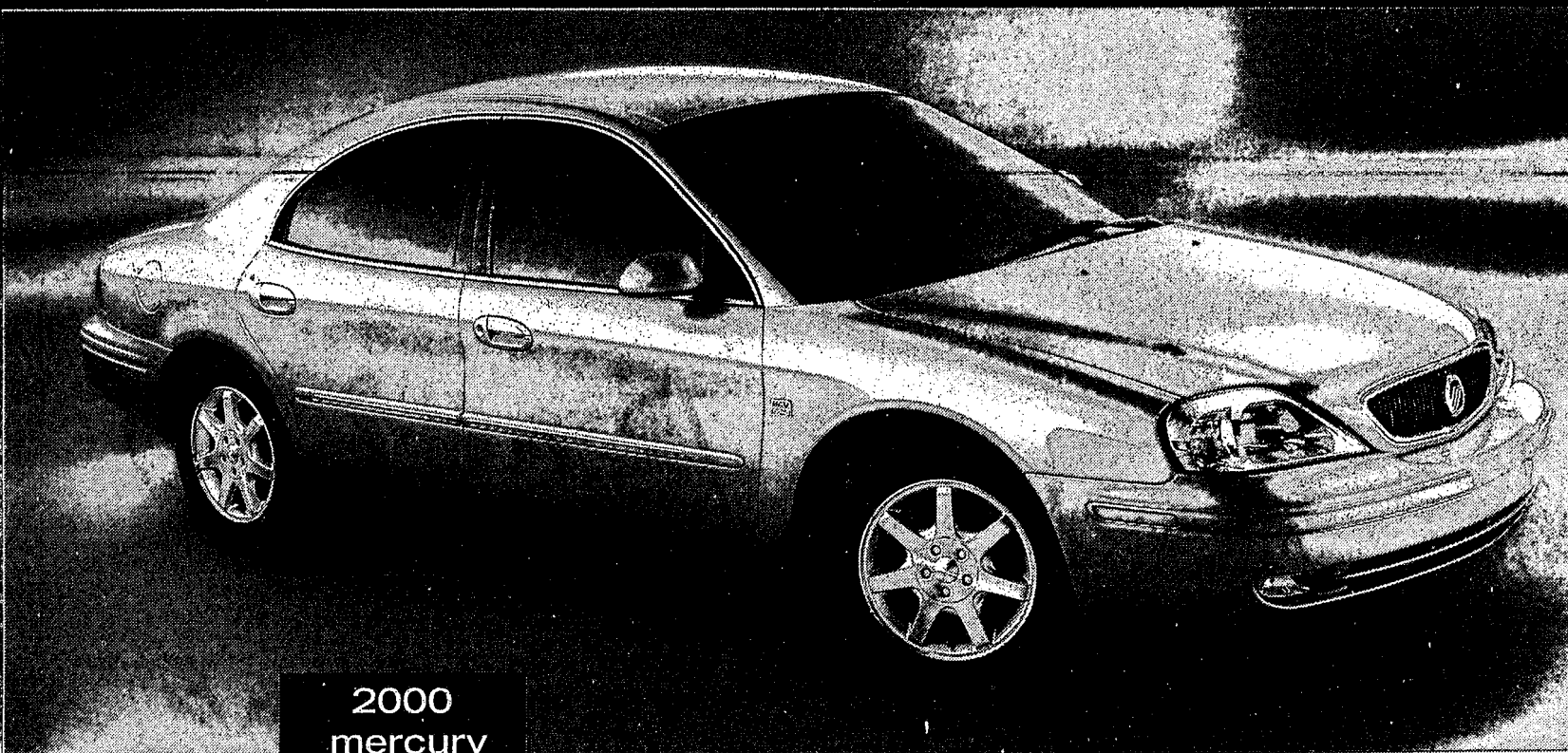
addressees for some former commissioners.

Calling all commissioners

Anyone who knows those individuals is asked to encourage them to contact Suzette M. Vogt or Sheryl L. Mitchell at the County Commissioner's Auditorium, (248) 858-0100.

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Clarkston Life

The Eccentric

INSIDE:
Clarkston Community
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Page 1, Section B

Karen Hermes Smith, Editor 248-625-1900

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

Thursday, December 2, 1999



CAROLYN WALKER

Cost of doing it yourself often hidden

This is the conclusion of a two-part column:

When last you read about my grandmother's and my conversations, I was relating a story about the time my grandfather dropped a rowboat on her toe, how that old injury came back years later to pain her, and about how, in my opinion, she had gotten a form of revenge when she fell on him and broke his arm a few seasons later.

I wrote all that because I have a point to make and that point is this: Someday I may grow a third eye and it will be The Perfectionist's fault. It will serve him right when he has to look at me with three eyes looking back at him.

Why so? you might ask. The reason is this: I would never have driven the handle end of a hammer into my forehead had The Perfectionist not determined that we could save nails — and rehab an entire 150-year-old home — if we performed the work ourselves.

Please see WALKER, B4

Many are saying 'I do' at new chapel



A new wedding chapel offers couples another place to tie the knot.

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER

sslaughter@oe.homecomm.net

Rosemarie DeBoer of Clarkston was a grandma with too much time on her hands.

So four years after she started a drapery and upholstery business, she opened And, I Do. The wedding chapel has already hosted several happy couples since its Oct. 1 beginning.

And, I Do is at 3994 Ortonville Road at Oak Hill Road. DeBoer, 57, had opened up her custom interior and drapery business, Flirting With Fabric, four years ago. A few months ago, she thought it would be fun to help people get married.

"It's happy, positive. I love it," she said.

She said she had a wedding in her back yard seven years ago and three years ago her daughter was married in the building both businesses now occupy. It was mostly empty so there was plenty of room, she said, for the ceremony and reception.

Both her businesses are by appointment so that leaves plenty of time for DeBoer's husband, Eugene, and their five grandchildren. Their three children — Dawnaree, Shivonne and Matthew — all live in the area, she said.

She joked that she has all kinds of pent-up energy from her years as a stay-at-home mom. She's also planning



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Happily helping: And, I Do chapel owner Rosemarie DeBoer stands in the chapel area, which can seat 60 people.

to open up a used furniture business.

"I think it all goes together. People getting married need furniture," she said.

The chapel seats about 60 people. Before entering the actual chapel, guests can gather in the parlor area. DeBoer has the parlor and chapel deco-

rated in a soft, old-fashioned way. Pastel oriental rugs and chairs adorn the parlor. Pews fill the chapel.

"You just put this, that and the other thing together," she said.

She has used many pieces of furniture and accents she has collected over the years and is proud of the chapel's

look.

"Now I have to manicure it," she said. "I want it to be dripping in elegance."

DeBoer charges \$175- to \$400. That buys a couple the space, plenty of time for the ceremony and receiving line,

Please see CHAPEL, B4

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One step at a time

Lyme Disease forces retirement of longtime planning director

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

ppace@oe.homecomm.net

Ed Fisch has a new job: Taking care of himself.

The Independence Township resident is retiring after being the longtime planning director for Waterford Township.

The decision comes after battling the effects of Lyme disease for more than a year. He has been struggling with ailments from the disease since the winter of 1997.

The illness has kept him from working full-time at his office since March of this year.

Fisch said he needs to retire because dealing with the disease "becomes an occupation of getting well."

His wife, Carol, also has the disease that is transmitted from tick bites. The couple battle, among other symptoms, fatigue and some short-term memory loss.

Carol, 55, said she was bit by a tick in her back yard at the couple's home in 1992. Because the disease was relatively new to doctors and difficult to detect, she said she was not properly diagnosed until four years later.

"I had no idea there was a danger," she said of being outside her home where she enjoyed feeding birds and the small animals that came about.

Though there are plenty of trees, the subdivision the couple live in is no more wooded than most developments.

Carol said she thought she was simply bit by a spider and never gave it another thought and didn't notice the tick.

Now she considers herself quite knowledgeable of the subject and even heads the North Oakland County Lyme Disease Support Group.

"I get calls daily," she said of spearheading the group that has about 55 members.

Ed and Carol are not sure where Ed contracted the disease. They note doctors say people have different symptoms in the



STAFF PHOTO BY GARY MALERBA

Helping each other: Ed and Carol Fisch of Independence Township both are battling Lyme Disease. Ed, longtime planning director for Waterford, plans to retire in February to focus on getting well.

early stages of the disease. The most common first sign is a rash on the skin from the tick bite, Carol said.

But the decision to retire is not an easy one for Ed. He started with the township in the fall of 1971.

"I had no plans to retire," the 55-year-old planner said. "We had no set goals."

His retirement is set for February. Ed said he will miss working at the township.

"I almost looked at the job as a hobby," he said. "It becomes part of your life."

Ed said there is no particular project in the township he is most proud of.

"I've seen a lot of things go up and I've been a part of those things," he said. "The township library, the court house — you have input in those."

He said the township has been fortunate to have a good planning commission and board of trustees.

"They're the ones that make the ultimate decisions," Ed said.

The most significant things he has accomplished as a planner, he said, was guiding individual homeowners and small businesses on a daily basis.

Ed acknowledged the system of building in the township can be frustrating to

those unfamiliar with the subject.

"I've helped them with a problem and some would call back and say, 'Thank you,'" he said.

Ed is now on an antibiotic intravenous treatment five days a week.

"It seems to help," he said.

He has good days and bad days, he explained.

The bad days involve severe fatigue and feeling foggy. He said he has joint pain and his heart and vision are adversely affected in small ways.

"When it first started, I had horrendous headaches, but that is less and less with the antibiotics," he said.

To help bring awareness about the disease, Carol has been talking about it with state legislators.

Carol retired in 1996. She was a medical technologist and taught laboratory science to medical residents in a family practice training program.

For now, the two take care of each other. They each have adult children from previous marriages who live outside the state.

Richard Cartmill, a longtime friend of Ed's and director of the Waterford Parks and Recreation Department, said Ed is great guy.

"He was such a hard worker," Cartmill said. "I'm sorry to see this took him like it did. I'm sad to see it happen."

Despite his condition, Ed said he plans to remain active in the Waterford Rotary Club. He said his passions are sailing and fishing. He is a member of the American Sailing Institute and a volunteer instructor.

"We're taking it one step at a time," Ed said. "My main goal is to put this in remission."

The North Oakland County Lyme Disease Support Group meets at 7 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month at the Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkson Road, Clarkston. There are no meetings in December. Call (248) 625-5275. Call the Michigan Lyme Disease Association at 1-888-784-Lyme.

Conservancy elects officers

At the Nov. 13 board meeting of the North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy, the following slate of officers was elected: Dr. Robert B. Inskeep as president, replacing Dr. Thomas K. Stone who held the position for 10 years and will continue to serve as immediate past president; Dr. Fred L. Roesser, who returns as vice president; Katherine M. Fries, who replaces Thomas K. Bullen as secretary; and Douglas D. McInnis, who replaces the retiring John Dryer as treasurer. Tom Bullen will continue to serve as legal counsel.

At the annual meeting held Oct. 16, four new board members and one new auditor were voted in. The new board members are: Diana T. Hopper, moving up from an auditor position; Richard P. Loughman, Richard P. Stevens and Pam Que. Re-elected for another term were Thomas K. Bullen, Thomas R. Pytel, Thomas K. Stone, Nancy Stole and Sue Zanotti. Susan C. Aulgur was elected to fill the vacant auditor position.

Also at the Nov. 13 meeting was the announcement of the completion of two additional preserves in Northwest Oakland County. The first is the wooded 13-acre Schwartz preserve in Groveland Township for which the conservancy has taken ownership. The second is an 80-acre tree farm in Holly. Mr. & Mrs. Russell Haddon, owners of the farm for the past 51 years, have donated a conservation easement on the property, which will preserve the beauty and integrity of the property for perpetuity. Haddon, only the third owner, acquired the property from his father.

The NOHLC, with more than 200 members, now owns 10 preserves and holds conservation easements on 18 others which total more than 600 acres.

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Asphalt Pavers Association — <http://www.apamichigan.com>

Building Industry Association — <http://www.bia.org>

of Southeastern Michigan — <http://www.bldg.org>

Oakland Youth Orchestra — www.oyo.org

Society of Automotive Engineers — www.sae-detroit.org

Suburban Newspapers — www.suburban-news.org

of America — www.suspenders.com

Suspenders Wearers of America — www.suspenders.com

ATTORNEYS

Thurswell, Chayot & Weiner — www.legal-law.com

AUDIO VISUAL SERVICES

AVS Audio — www.avsaudio.com

AUTOMOTIVE

Auto Warranty Extend — www.htnews.com/autowarranty

Competition Limited — www.htnews.com/competition

Great Lakes Components — www.greatlakescomponents.com

John Rogin Bulk/Isuzu/Suzuki — www.johnrogin.com

Ramchargers Performance Centers — www.ramchargers.com

AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURERS

REPRESENTATIVES

Marka Mgmt. Services — www.markamgmt.com

AUTO RACING

Millan Dragway — www.millandragway.com

BANQUET FACILITIES

Genoa Woods — www.genoafoods.com

BAKING/COOKING

"Jiffy" Mix — www.jiffymix.com

Chelsea Milling Company — www.chelsuml.com

BOOKKEEPING PRODUCTS

Big E-Z Bookkeeping Co. — www.bigez.com

BOOKS

Apostolate Communications — www.apostolate.com

Building Products — www.lendovers.com

Lenover's Professional Building Products — www.lendovers.com

BUSINESS NEWS

Insider Business Journal — www.insiderbiz.com

COMPUTER

HARDWARE/PROGRAMMING/SOFTWARE

SUPPORT

Thermal Engineering Services Inc. — www.tes-inc.com

CERAMIC TILE

Stewart Specialty Tiles — www.specialtytiles.com

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber

of Commerce — www.tbcc.com

Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce — www.fhchamber.com

Garden City Chamber of Commerce — www.gardencity.org

Livonia Chamber

of Commerce — www.livonia.org

Redford Chamber of Commerce — [redfordchamber.org](http://www.redfordchamber.org)

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

St. Vincent & Sarah Fisher Center — <http://www.svfsc.com>

CLASSIFIED ADS

Advillage — <http://www.advillage.com>

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers — <http://www.observer-eccentric.com>

COMMUNITIES

City of Birmingham — <http://www.ci.birmingham.mi.us>

COMMUNITY NEWS

HomeTown Newspapers — <http://www.htnews.com>

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers — <http://www.observer-eccentric.com>

The Mirror Newspapers — www.mirrornews.com

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Beverly Hills Police — www.beverlyhillspolice.com

Detroit Regional Chamber — www.detroitchamber.com

Hearts of Livonia — www.heartslivonia.org

Sanctuary — <http://www.sanctuary.com>

Wayne Community Living Services — www.wcls.org

COMPUTER CONSULTANTS

Idea Computer Consultants — www.ideaecc.com

COMPUTER GRAPHICS

Logix, Inc. — www.logix-usa.com

CREDIT BUREAUS

Ann Arbor Credit Bureau — www.a2cb.com

COMPUTER

HARDWARE/PROGRAMMING/SOFTWARE SUPPORT

Applied Automation Technologies — www.capps-edges.com

COMPUTER PRODUCT REVIEWS

CyberNews and Reviews — <http://www.cybernews.com>

CYBERNETIC PROCESSING

Cryo-tech, Inc. — www.cryofrz.com

DANCE INSTRUCTION

Scarab Studios — www.scarabstudios.com

DENTISTS

family dentistry — www.familydentist-sinardds.com

Smile Maker — www.smilemaker.org

DUCT CLEANING

Mechanical Energy Systems — www.mes1.com

EDUCATION

Global Village Project — <http://www.gvp.org>

Oakland Schools — <http://www.oakland.k12.mi.us>

Reuther Middle School — <http://www.reuther.org>

Rochester Community

The Webmaster School — <http://www.rochester-hills.com>

Western Wayne County Internet User Group — <http://www.wwcug.org>

ELECTRICAL SUPPLY

Caniff Electric Supply — www.caniff.com

Progress Electric — www.pe-co.com

ELECTRONIC SERVICE AND REPAIR

ABL Electronic Service, Inc. — www.ablserv.com

EMPLOYEE LEASING COMPANY

Genesys Group — www.genesysgroup.com

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Advantage Staffing — www.astaff.com

Employment Presentation Services — www.epsweb.com

HR ONE, INC. — www.hroneinc.com

EMPLOYEE SERVICES

Rooney Personnel — www.careers-hrl.com

ENVIRONMENT

Resource Recovery and Recycling — <http://www.rrrasc.com>

Authority of SW Oakland Co.

EYE CARE/LASER SURGERY

Greenberg Laser Eye Center — www.greenberglaser.com

Michigan Eye Care Institute — www.michiganeyecare.com

FINANCIAL

Equitas Financial Advisors — www.equitasadvisor.com

Fairlane Investment Advisors, Inc. — www.fairlane.com

FLOORING

Dande Hardwood Flooring Company — www.dandefloors.com

FROZEN DESSERTS

Savino Sorbet — www.sorbet.com

GALLERIES

Cowboy Trader Gallery — www.cowboytradergallery.com

GOLF

Dama Golf Club — www.damagolf.com

GOVERNMENT

Livonia County Human Services — www.livoniamichigan.org

HAIR SALONS

Heads You Win — www.headsyouwin.com

HEALTH CARE

Family Health Care Center — <http://www.familyhealthcare.com>

HERBAL PRODUCTS

Nature's Better Way — <http://www.naturesbetterway.com>

HOME ACCESSORIES

Let me tell you the tail of the two scary cats

Sometimes truth is scarier than fiction. My family recently went from one scary experience to another.

A little more than a month ago our gentle, relaxed old cat passed away. When you have an old cat, you get used to his or her ways. Liebschen (the name given to her prior to our adopting her from the Humane Society in 1981) turned 19 the second week in October.

Her habits were well-defined. She was always awake early waiting for her breakfast and normally spent evenings sitting on a lap while we watched television. She slept a lot, in various locations depending upon the time of the day. If it was a sunny day, she would spread out in the sun and warm her old bones. It was sunny on the Saturday she passed away, but she was lying on the family room floor in front of the television instead of in the sun. When I questioned her about it — yes, I talked to the cat — there was no response. Upon discovering that her days of lying in the sun were over, we had a tearful funeral service, said our good-byes and

buried the box containing our little princess.

A few hours later, as I was preparing dinner, one of my sons commented on the fact that, after all the years she had lived, it was unusual that she ended up dying on Oct. 30 — Devil's Night. I pointed out that Liebschen was a dark gray cat — not black, and even though she had a very scary look on her face when we found her, I was not going to buy into any spooky Halloween superstitions.

The weather had been beautiful and warm that day, and even as we sat down to eat dinner under darkening skies, we still had all the windows open. If it hadn't been for the open windows, we may not have heard the sound that caused us all to stop chewing and stare at each other. The sound was a loud, clear "meow, meow." After the chills stopped running up my spine, I reassured my family, "It must be a stray cat." No one responded. Only seconds later we heard the definite sound of something clawing at our basement screen door. Again, we all froze and



ROCHELLE SMITH

stared at each other.

Now I've told a few people this story and the universal question is always, "Did you go to the door to see what it was?" And my answer is "Noooooooo." Although I am not superstitious, at that time, the last thing on my mind was walking down into our dark basement on Devil's Night to see what was outside, clawing at the screen door. Since my husband and boys also sat frozen in their seats, it would appear they were of the same mind. The next day I did casually check Liebschen's grave to

make sure it was untouched, which it was.

Although I was the first to say that we should give ourselves some time to mourn Liebschen before rushing into getting another cat, it took me only a few days of automatically walking toward her food dish in the morning and sitting with an empty lap in the evening to realize we needed another cat. We looked at the Humane Society on Tuesday evening, but the only cat that fit all of our requirements was totally black. Although we are not superstitious, under the circumstances, we weren't too keen on the idea of getting a totally black cat. On Wednesday I stopped at the Bloomfield Hills Animal Shelter on my way home from work and adopted a very gentle, 2-year-old calico cat.

My sons named her Cookie because her distinct black, white and golden brown calico markings reminded them of an Oreo cookie with peanut butter on it. Since we all agreed that "Peanut Butter Oreo" was too long for a name, they settled on Cookie.

In the weeks since she arrived, I've

determined that "Cookie Monster" is a better name. She is adorable, but she is constantly getting into trouble. She has chewed the fringe off a throw blanket and, when it later upset her stomach, deposited it onto the living room carpet. She has broken two thermometers and a ceramic jewelry box. Chewed up receipts from my husband's business report. Pulled old pizza and fruit bars out of the garbage and smeared them all over our wooden floor. Stolen numerous items, including a prescription bottle which had just been picked up from the pharmacy, and chewed up the corners of a family heirloom tablecloth. And that's only the first three weeks.

At this point, I'm not sure which scares me most — the eerie events surrounding our beloved old cat's death, or the thought that this little Cookie Monster could also live for 19 years.

Rochelle R. Smith is a free-lance writer who lives in Independence Township.

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Clarkston Eccentric publishes calendar items free of charge. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing an event. Type or print event, date and time, location, telephone number and any additional information and mail to the Clarkston Eccentric, Attn: Marsha Wengrow, 7073 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346, or fax to (248) 625-5712. E-mail to mwengrow@oe.homecomm.net. The deadline is noon Friday for the following Thursday.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1

ROCKETTES

10:30 a.m., Independence Township Senior Center, Clarkston. Cost: \$59 residents/\$62 non-residents. Don't miss the new dazzling 1999 Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the world famous Rockettes. Trip includes: the matinee show, motorcoach, and luncheon dining at Second City in the theater district. The buffet will feature Caesar salad, grilled chicken breast with tarragon sauce, seared salmon over lentils, a medley of vegetables, wild rice pilaf, penne pasta with red sauce and more. For information, call 625-8231.

KID'S HOLIDAY SHIRT

1-2 p.m., Springfield Township Parks & Recreation, 495 Broadway, Davisburg. Parents can bring their toddlers ages 2-4 to create their very own holiday shirt. Please bring your own shirt. Supplies will be provided. Cost: \$5 per child.

THURSDAY, DEC. 2

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5 - 8 p.m., Oakland Technical Center-NW Campus, 8211 Big Lake Road, Clarkston. The staff and students from Oakland Technical Center-NW Campus will be holding a Holiday Open House. The community is invited to visit center programs. There will be culinary delights for sale and a floral sale for all your holiday needs. Refreshments will be served. For more information call 922-6846.

WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP

7 p.m., Independence Twp. Senior Center in Clintonwood Park on Clarkston Road, Clarkston. Topic: Coping with the Holidays after the loss of a loved one. Facilitator: Christine Spencer, M.A., L.P.C., Director of Bereavement Services at Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home. Cost: Free of charge; walk-ins welcome, no registration. For men and women recently widowed, all ages.

Refreshments served. Any questions call the Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST Funeral Home (248) 625-5231.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, DEC. 3 & 4

CLARKSTON ROTARY-ANNUAL GOODFELLOW NEWSPAPER SALE

Downtown Clarkston-On Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3 and 4, Clarkston Rotary will again be holding its annual Goodfellow Newspaper sale in downtown Clarkston. In addition to downtown Clarkston, Goodfellow papers will be sold in front of the Kroger store on Dixie Highway or at either of the Clarkston Farmer Jack stores.

DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED PURCHASE OF CLARKSTON CREEK GOLF COURSE

11 a.m., Carriage House in Clintonwood Park, 6000 Clarkston Road, Clarkston. Joe Locricchio, developer and Independence Township resident, will discuss the proposed purchase of Clarkston Creek Golf Course by the township. For further information call the senior center at 625-8231.

SATURDAY, DEC. 4

ANNUAL OPTIMIST/LIBRARY HOLIDAY PARTY

10:30 p.m.-Noon or 2-3:30 p.m., Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road, Clarkston. Puppet presentation, the folk tale of Thumbelina, will be performed by puppet professional Greg Lester's Puppet Adventures. Lights, sound and a big stage make this a memorable event. A book for each child, refreshments and a visitor from the North Pole complete the festivities. Open to ages: 3-11. Cost: free, but must have a ticket to enter. Tickets available at the Library.

SUNDAY, DEC. 5

FOURTH ANNUAL FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

3 p.m., Clarkston High School Auditorium. Come and enjoy the music of the Christmas season performed by the Clarkston Community Band, a guest performance by the Clarkston United Methodist Church Bell Choir, join in on a sing-a-long and shhhh (maybe even a visit from good old St. Nick!!!). Partake in some goodies after the concert too. All free of charge.

TUESDAY, DEC. 7

BASEMENT REMODELING SEMINAR

6:30-9:30 p.m., Clarkston High School, 6093 Flemings Lake Rd., Clarkston. Clarkston Community Education in cooperation with Oakland Builders Institute will offer a 9-hour basement remodeling seminar. The seminar is designed to help people make better use of valuable space in their homes by planning and completing a successful basement remodeling. The instructor will explain the many facets of basement remodeling including planning, meeting building codes, insurance, permits, estimating, materials as well as the basics of home construction. The instructor will also discuss working with subcontractors, finishing techniques and tying into existing plumbing, electrical and heating systems. The seminar costs \$90 plus a textbook fee of \$8. Pre-registration with payment required no later than Friday, Nov. 19, to Clarkston Community Education. For further information, call (248) 674-0993.

SATURDAY, DEC. 11

SANTA, SNACKS AND SECRET WISHES

10 a.m.-12 p.m., Hart Community Center. Santa will be visiting

Springfield Township. Parents bring your children of all ages, along with their Christmas lists, to see Santa and get their pictures taken with the jolly fellow. Cost: \$6 per child for Springfield Township residents and \$9 per child for non-residents. Bring the whole family for snacks, refreshments and a fun and joyous holiday party to get you in the spirit.

HOLIDAY SAMPLER

1:30-4 p.m., Independence Oaks County Park, Clarkston. Cost: \$4/person. The whole family is invited to participate in crafting simple holiday gifts from recycled and natural materials. A seasonal sing-a-long and festive snack will round out this afternoon. Not recommended for children under age 5. Pay in advance, no register. Call 625-6473 for more information.

MONDAY, DEC. 20

ANNUAL AUDITIONS FOR DORA DAWSON SCHOLARSHIPS

9:30 a.m., Central United Methodist Church, 3882 Highland Road, Waterford. Applicants must be 17 - 25 years of age; enrolled in college with a music major or minor; a United States citizen; and a resident of the greater Pontiac area which includes Clarkston and Waterford. For further information, contact Charlotte Maybee, Scholarship Chairman (248) 922-1975.

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Take I-75, to Exit #83, North.
Located just 3 miles north of
Great Lakes Crossing on
Joslyn Rd.

Walker from page B1

Some people, it would seem, think they can save money by undertaking home improvements and repairs rather than hiring the jobs out to professionals. But there is a price for that kind of thinking, I've learned. You should have seen me with that giant goose egg emerging between my eyebrows!

My grandfather dropped a rowboat on my grandmother's big toe because he insisted on caulking and painting it (the boat, not the toe) himself, but not until after they'd carried it down a flight of basement stairs.

My grandmother fell off a ladder and landed on my grandfather because he had decided that he could clean their windows and refurbish their rusted-out screens — while they were still hung in place!

I drove a hammer between my eyes because I had my feet mounted on the ends of a board and I was pulling with all my strength to dislodge a precious nail that had been hammered in at least a century before The Perfectionist even thought of marrying me.

You do follow my drift, don't you?

"The windows hadn't been washed in a dog's age," my grandmother explained as she told her story, "and the screens were rotted."

Naturally, it was my grandfather who was up the ladder. "I reached too far over one side," she said, noting that my grandfather was holding the ladder and that he had helped prop it up with some logs.

"The ladder and logs and I all came down... It's really comical when you stop and think of it," she said, adding that when she transported my grandfather to the hospital, she asked him, "Does it hurt very much?"

He said, "It wouldn't if you wouldn't drive so fast."

My grandmother said she then waited in the hospital waiting room, mystified about why people were looking at her. Knowing that she had on clean clothes, she eventually learned that they were staring at her because she had leaves, dirt and cinders in her hair.

"In no time at all, that was all over the hospital," my grandmother said, quoting others: "Are you the lady who fell on your husband and broke his

arm?"

Grandma said she cried all the way home.

"Were you hurt?" I asked her. It seemed a logical question given the fact that it was she, after all, who fell off the ladder.

"If I was, I didn't know it," she said. "I was too shocked about him."

I wonder if I will enjoy having a third eye? If I will have a greater sense of vision?

Grandma said that, these days, she has a hard time sleeping. Old age. Too many memories. The weight, maybe, of too much responsibility and too much loneliness.

"I have trouble sleeping, myself," I told her. "It's because I can't quit thinking when I go to bed."

"If you find a way to stop thinking, let me know," Grandma responded.

Maybe there was something to be said for all that physical exertion.

Carolyn Walker lives in the city of the Village of Clarkston. She is a staff writer for the Waterford Eccentric. She can be reached by e-mail at cwalker@oe.homecomm.net



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Old-fashioned charm: The wedding chapel includes a parlor, where guests can visit before or after the wedding ceremony.

Chapel from page B1

music and even the minister if they need one. Since weddings are booked by appointment only, DeBoer said the weddings are never rushed. To make an appointment, call the chapel at 620-6370.

Wedding chapels are becoming more popular, she said, because many people are not regular church-goers. They want something nice without the bother of trying to find a church that has an opening.

Wedding chapels are becoming more popular, she said, because many people are not regular church-goers. They want something nice without the bother of trying to find a church that has an opening.

DeBoer said she expects to have couples of all kinds — young couples, second marriages and even people renewing their vows. She said the coming millennium celebration might be a romantic time for a wedding. "New Year's Day, New Year's Eve — I'll stay up all night," she said.

NOTABLES

Nora Butcher

Nora Butcher, a Clarkston resident and sponsor of a Toastmasters Club in Clarkston, has been named District 28 Toastmaster of the Year by Toastmasters International, the leading movement in promoting communication and leadership skills.



Butcher, a professional speaker and psychotherapist, has spent more than 20 years researching creativity and human

potential. She holds a master's degree from Michigan State University and is a member of the National Speakers Association, Professional Speakers Association of Michigan and the National Association of Social Workers. She also is Division D governor for Toastmasters International.

1999 Christmas Tree Guide



The holiday season is hectic enough...so why not make some special memories for you and your family by going to a Christmas Tree Farm this year!

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We shake and bale.
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Choose & cut a beautiful tree at one of our two locations. Fresh wreaths & roping. FREE tree wrap, saws & tree carts provided.
OXFORD - 4780 Seymour Lake Rd. (between Baldwin & Sashabaw, Take I-75 to Exit 89, N. on Sashabaw for 5 mi., E. on Seymour Lake for 3/4 mi. Farm on right.)
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New laws add stiff felony penalty for fake doctors

It will soon be a 15-year felony to practice medicine without a license, as a result of two bills signed into law recently by Gov. John Engler.

It always was illegal, but the penalties were rather light, a fact that came clear last year when Dennis Roark, of Sterling Heights, was charged with acting as a thoracic surgeon despite having never graduated college.

The prosecutor had to charge Roark with "uttering and publishing" for faking credentials in order to get a heftier penalty, according to Jack McHugh, legislative aide to Rep. Bob Gosselin (R-Troy). Roark is currently serving 6 to 15 years after pleading guilty to the charge.

"The penalties were nothing very tough. The judge said in this case it was more like a rape," McHugh explained.

That's why Gosselin sponsored

House Bills 4352 and 4354, increasing penalties for practicing without a license. Representatives passed the bill this spring and the senate agreed last month.

County, workers chip in for HAVEN

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson authorized a gift of \$10,000 from the County's Casual Day Fund for HAVEN in the wake of a devastating fire that occurred last week at the Pontiac shelter which houses battered women and their children.

In authorizing the expenditure of funds, Patterson made it clear the gift comes from Oakland County's employees who contribute \$1 every Friday for the privilege of wearing casual clothes to work. No taxpayer dollars are involved in the contribution to HAVEN.

"Over the past two decades, HAVEN has been there to help battered women and their children rebuild their lives," Patterson said. "In light of all HAVEN has done, it is only fitting we are there for them in their hour of greatest need."

The Nov. 14 fire caused more than \$200,000 in damage and left 16 women and 28 children homeless. HAVEN's officials estimate it will take about six months to repair the 45-bed shelter.

Since Patterson established the Casual Day Fund in 1993, more than \$165,000 has been distributed to Oakland County charities and other worthwhile causes such as the victims of Hurricane Mitch and the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City.

For further information contact Bob Dustman, Media & Communications Officer, at (248) 858-1048.

OCC presents 'Straight Ahead'

Straight Ahead, the internationally-known female jazz quintet, appears at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus on Friday, Dec. 3, as part of the OCC "Just for You" entertainment series. The performance begins at 8 p.m. in the Smith Theatre. General admission is \$12. For ticket information call (248) 471-7667.

Straight Ahead's founding members, bassist Marion Hayden, pianist Eileen Orr, and drummer Gayelynn McKinney will be joined by two new members: Faatimah on lead vocals and Althea Rene' on flute and vocals.

Marion Hayden is one of the nation's outstanding exponents of the acoustic bass. Known for her rich dark tone and advanced rhythms, she has worked with such jazz notables as Marcus Belgrave, Roy Brooks, Ellis Marsales and Charles McPherson.

Eileen Orr, piano and synthesizer, worked with many of the Midwest's finest blues talents before immersing herself in jazz.

3 directors join OU Foundation

Three directors have joined the Oakland University Foundation: Penny Crissman, Kenneth J. Graham and James Howlett.

The OUF is a private, non-profit corporation of business, civic and community leaders that advances Oakland University with financial support of scholarships, internships, academic programs and research.

Crissman, a former state representative, was named to OU's

Board of Trustees to replace James Sharp Jr. She was the mayor of Rochester from 1989-1992 and currently serves on the Rochester city council. She and Chuck, her husband, are longtime President's Club members and have supported OU's Meadow Brook Hall, Meadow Brook Theatre and Meadow Brook Music Festival. Crissman also serves on the School of Nursing's Nightingale Awards Benefit Committee.

Graham is president and CEO of Thyssen Inc., N.A., a German-based company with \$3.5 billion in annual sales. The North American enterprise accounts for about two-thirds of the revenue. Thyssen imports, exports, purchases domestically and wholesales a wide variety of carbon and specialty steel, aluminum, machinery and industrial plastics. Among local subsidiaries is the Budd Co. Graham also chairs the supplier

advisory board of Boeing Corp.

Howlett is the retiring senior partner of Beier Howlett PC. He has served as legal counsel to the OUF in an *ex officio* capacity since 1966. He and Anne, his wife, have been active supporters of Meadow Brook Music Festival, Meadow Brook Theatre and Kresge Library. In 1998, the OU Alumni Association recognized the Howletts with its Spirit Award for exemplary service.



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Sashabaw Middle School Honor Roll for '99-'00

3.0 or Better & All-A Honor Roll Marking Period One

Sixth Grade

Alexander, Christine
Anderson, Anthony
Anderson, Christopher
Antonides, Chelsea
Armstrong, Jeremiah
Arndt, Casandra
Arnold, Kelsey
Baker, Michael
Banghart, Katherine
Barker, Scott
Bennett, caitlin
*Blouin, Justin
Blue, Daniel
Boyer, David
Brandenburg, Casey
*Brandenburg, Corey
Brelinski, David
Brennan, Edward
Broadus, Steven
Brush, Tyler
Burger, Sarah
Campau, Chelsea
Cichon, Catherine
Colpaert, Katherine
Conwell, Paris
Cooke, Brittany
Copeman, Elizabeth
Coulson, Nicole
Creech, David
DeZess, Jacquelyn
Emery, Heidi
Fender, Amanda
Flynn, Amanda
Fox, Shannon
Freed, William
*Gale, Bradley
Gilford, Alex
Godschalk, Elizabeth
*Goyke, Michelle
Grix, Amanda
Gross, Chelsea
Gurtis, Amanda
*Hardy, Alexander
Hartley, Sara
Heringshausen, Brittney
Hoekstra, Elizabeth
Hopkins, charlene
Horstman, Timothy
Houle, Nicholas
Humphreys, Lauren
Jennings, Jordan
Johns, Nicole
Johnson, Nickolas
Johnson, Rodney
Kage, Megan
Kanos, Allison
Kay, Victoria
Kellogg, Christopher
Kelly, Alexander
Kittle, Michael
Koelb, Ashley
Kolano, Brad
Kramer, Jennifer
Kramer, Lindsay
Lasater, Brandon
Laur, Bryan

Lee, Aaron
Lester, Megan
Lloyd, Lauryn
Markarian, Matthew
Martinez, Melissa
Medlen, Kristine
Meisner, Paul
Mellema, Drew
Mellen, Bailey
Meltsner, Angela
Merz, Michael
Miller, Miranda
Mittle, Matthew
Molzon, Bryce
Moran, Joseph
Motto, Ryan
Mrozek, Dakota
*Muniz, Judy
Nettle, Bradley
O'Toole, Shane
Ogans, Krystal
Pascoe, Michelle
Pearce, Steffen
Peers, James
Phillips, Brian
Plinski, Darin
*Puroll, Steven
Rabideau, Rachel
Rademacher, Joseph
Raess, Jordan
Rector, Kelsi
Richard, Todd
Robitaille, Megan
Roche, Kirsten
Roemmich, Bradley
Rogers, Niklas
*Rozwadowski, Theresa
Sandahl, Matthew
Seery, David
Sjostrand, Ingrid
Slaughter, Renee
Stanton, Matthew
Stock, Ryan
Thomas, Katherine
*Thompson, Michael
*Tubbs, Laycee
Turk, Brooke
Wheeler, Justin
Wheeler, Lisa
Willhite, Kristen

Seventh Grade

*Alghanem, Muhammad
*Andersen, Amanda
Anderson, Justin
Arpke, Brian
Babb, Kelli
Badger, Randi
Belcher, Amanda
Benson, Katherine
Best, Brendon
Betzing, Stephanie
Binkney, Ryan
*Blaine, Maria
Blaski, Raeanne
Bowles, Jessica
Bratton, Amber
Bushman, Jessica
Cagle, Allison
Churay, Tracey

Cohon, Daniel
*Coppersmith, Melissa
Cumper, Michael
Darling, Derek
Denz, Chelsey
*Emery, Amy
Fecteau, Jessica
Fenton, Emily
Flores, Renee
Flury, Robin
Fogg, Michael
Foust, Nannette
*Fredericksen, Elyse
Funk, Brianna
Fuqua, Elizabeth
Garavaglia, Thomas
Gendernalik, David
Gibson, Amy
Giordano, Jason
Gordon, Angela
Haladik, Jeffrey
Halula, Lauren
Heber, Robert
*Henderson, Amanda
Hills, Kate
Hinton, Levi
Hoff, Robert
Houlihan, Lauren
Hurley, Nicole
Isbell, Amanda
Jefferies, Michael
Jenkins, Anna
Johns, Trevor
Johnson, Katie
Joseph, Libby
Kato, Christopher
Keil, Kelly
Kelley, Kevin
Kilbourne, Kristine
*Kitson, Lyndsey
Kodra, Anton
*Kowalk, Allyson
Kramer, Franklin
Large, Gretchen
Lewis, Kaitlyn
Lindahl, Ashley
Lyons, Scott
Mackey, Shane
Mazzola, Aaron
McGrath, Casey
Medlen, Scott
Meissnest, Jacob
Melone, Brenton
Morell, Mallory
Morin, Bryan
Morris, Justine
Morrison, Brandon
Mudge, Victoria
Mutz, Daniel
Nealer, Denise
*Nico, Carla
Odett, Ashley
Osmak, Jessica
Paddison, Eric
Parkin, Stephanie
Pearce, Jeffrey
Polson, Kyle
Portela, Ashley
Preston, Laura
Puroll, Nicholas
Reyes, Mario
Rupe, Kerri
Sanchez, Jessica

Sanger, Alec
Schlosser, Dana
Seery, Steven
Shaner, Jessica
Sherman, Jonathan
Singles, Caitlin
Sisk, Deidra
Skrisson, Alexandra
Smith, Jaclyn
Smith, Lindsay
Smith, Sheri
*Snook, Alexandra
Swartz, Ashley
Sweedyk, Melanie
Taylor, Jacqueline
*Thomas, Craig
Thorstad, Gregory
Titworth, Jennifer
Ufer, Jonathan
Vahlbusch, Kevin
Valmassoi, Christopher
Volin, Brittney
*Walsh, Daniel
Warner, Marguerite
Waterbury, Matthew
Whaley, Samantha
Wherry, Jacqueline
Ylvisaker, Konrad
Yu, Karine
Zarzycki, Joanna

Eighth Grade

Abrams, Elizabeth
Antonides, Sydney
Arndt, Michael
Beech, Ashley
*Bennett, Chad
Berendt, Stacey
Boatman, Keith
Bomier, Whitney
Bradish, Kristen
Brookes, Christopher
Brose, Leeanne
Buzzo, Kyle
Chenet, Steven
Chesley, Matthew
Clements, Elizabeth
Colbert, Jennifer
Coleman, James
Colpaert, Heather
Coulson, Courtney
Coy, Richard
Cummings, Amanda
Davis, Nathan
*DeZess, Jessica
Dickie, Sally
DiDomenico, Jocelyn
Douglas, Darlene
Driscoll, Karlie
Drolshagen, Scott
*DuFresne, Michael
*Epifano, Tracy
Freed, Rachel
Freeman, Riley
*Gallagher, Brett
Garrett, Megan
George, Keenan
Grimshaw, Brad
Grix, Matthew
Hansen, Kimberly
*Hardy, Elizabeth

Herr, Vincent
Hills, Brooke
Hines, Kristopher
Hoffman, Ryan
Hoffmeister, Jamie
*Horstman, Kristin
Hotchkiss, Mandi
Hughes, Ashley
Hunt, Lauren
Jantz, Scott
Johnston, Christopher
Judkins, Jennifer
Kenserson, Brett
Knott, Casey
Knowlden, Jason
LaRue, Alexis
Lesko, Lisa
Ley, Jennifer
Logan, Jean
*Lynch, Jonathan
Maisano, Richard
Makowski, Courtney
*McLean, Caitlin
McMahan, Brandon
McMahon, Joshua
Mikutowicz, Zachariah
Morearty, Nicole
Morin, Steven
Nettle, Gabrielle
Nysowy, Heather
O'Neill, Amy
O'Neill, Laura
Oliver, Amber
*Partyka, Kirsten
Phebus, Adam
Porritt, Kenneth
Powell, Aaron
Rademacher, Kyle
Rahmann, Kenneth
Ranck, Nicholas
Roberts, Breanne
Roberts, Casey
Robinson, Michaela
Rota, Stephenie
*Rozwadowski, Annemarie
Schumacher, Justine
Schuricht, Heather
Scoglietti, Gina
Seibert, Joseph
Sickmiller, Ashley
Simms, Rachael
*Slaughter, Rachel
Smith, Katherine
Stanton, Robert
Stewart, Penniann
Sun, Wei
Swauger, Sarah
Torrone, David
Townsend, Krista
Tubbs, Jordan
Turner, Shannon
Vaseleck, Jennifer
Vercauteren, Matthew
Wesol, Megan
*Wheeler, Jennifer
Williams, Sarah
Winter, Katherine
Woods, Robert
Zelinski, Chad
Zelinski, Ryan

* Denotes All A's

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___ School news ☐ Features about people and events in your community
___ Local sports coverage ☐ Editorials and opinion columns
___ County coverage
___ Letters to the editor

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New bills will aid police patrolling internet for child molesters

BY MIKE MALOTT
NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Law enforcement officials are turning the tables on sex offenders who use the Internet to target children... they are beginning to hunt the predators.

State Sen. Mike Rogers (R-Howell) is introducing three bills to assist in that pursuit.

The bills will:

■ Clarify the definition of a minor as it pertains to attempts by sex offenders to make arrangements over the Internet to meet a youngster.

It is, of course, already illegal for an adult to molest a youngster, and another of Rogers' initiatives went into effect this past June adding a felony offense when a perpetrator uses the Internet to arrange a sexual encounter with a child.

"But judges and the courts have been nervous about it when undercover officers pose as 14-year-olds," Rogers' Press Secretary Sylvia Warner said.

"We want to make it very clear in the law that this is no difference than any other undercover operation, like when a police officer poses as a prostitute," Warner said.

■ Require forfeiture of computers, computer equipment and cars used in the commission of the crimes.

Predators who risk jail to have

sex with children aren't likely to be dissuaded by such a law, Warner admitted. "This is not an issue of prevention," she added. Rather, it is a matter of confiscating the "tools" of the crime, allowing police to take those tools just as they would take burglar's tools, confiscate a gun used by a bank robber, or take a car driven by a drunk.

■ Making the cyber-predator liable for the costs of the law enforcement and prosecution efforts spent on him.

According to Warner, Wayne County Sheriff Robert Ficano, who has worked with Rogers on the proposals — said the cost of tracking predators down, apprehending them and prosecuting them can run to as much as \$20,000 per case.

Ficano's department, with four officers dedicated to the task of patrolling cyberspace for predators, typically tracks 350 to 450 individuals suspected of targeting kids.

Warner explained the officers pose as young girls, using a profile likely to attract sex offenders, enter online chat rooms and simply participating in the ongoing conversation. If solicited to meet for sex, officers set a time and place. The perpetrators are only arrested when they show up, Warner said.

Additionally, the Oakland County Sheriff's Department is currently setting up a division to chase cyber-predators. Two offi-

cers are presently working on that project.

The State Police department has one officer who works part time tracking predators. And the state Attorney General's office has several on the job.

Warner said she expects

Rogers to push for more funding in coming budget talks to hire additional officers full time to the State Police cyber-predator office.

"The Internet has been a safe, anonymous place for criminals to hunt for potential child victims,"

Rogers said as he announced his proposals.

"On the information super-highway," Ficano said, "there is no distinct red-light district, instead the red-light district is potentially everywhere and nowhere... The best defense

against the predators working out there is for parents to monitor closely their children's Internet activity. At the same time, law enforcement has to do the best we can to make it too risky for these criminals to go online in the first place."

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Tom Halbesen Goodyear.....Birmingham/Royal Oak
10% Off All Services
Wolmores.....Ferndale
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\$ Beauty & Health Care Professionals

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3 month bed \$90.3, month hex \$100
Better Health Store.....Walled Lake
10% Off On All Supplements
Checker Drugs 190 S Wayne Road.....Westland
Barbasol 11 oz. + Assorted Types 89c
Dr. Daniel V. Tomlinello.....Royal Oak
Free Initial Consultation & Exam
Dr. Lefkowitz.....Ferndale
Free Initial Consultation
Dulac Hair Fashions.....Farmington Hills
10% Off Reg Price Cuts & Rusk Products
Farrell Rels.....Birmingham
\$5 Off Any Hair Service
Family Dental Center 734-427-9300.....Livonia
10% Off First Visit & Free Consultation
Great Nails.....Berkley
10% Off Any Service
House of Optical.....Royal Oak
15% Off Complete Pair of Eyeglasses
Medical Center Pediatrics, DMC.....W. Bloom/Bing Farms
Special Offer for New Patients. Call for Details
Milano's Barber & Stylist.....Berkley
\$1 Off Haircuts + \$5 Off Highlights & Colors
Partners Salon 476-2849.....Farmington Hills
10% Off Color Services, 10% Massage, Haircut
Posh Salon.....Southfield
20% Off All Services
Shear Radiance, Sheridan Square.....Garden City
10% Off First Service
Sir David's Hair Salon.....Westland
20% Off of Hair & Tanning Products
Spunkys Womens Gym.....Clawson
15% Off Any Membership
The Gallery Of Hair.....Royal Oak
10% Off All Services
Vanish Electrolysis.....Ferndale
10% Off Second Treatment

\$ Coffee, Baggels & Bakeries

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10% Off Special Order Cakes
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\$1 Off Any Food Purchase of \$5 or More

\$ Day Care

Hands & Hearts Around the World.....Garden City
10% Off 1st 6 Months Tuition

\$ Dry Cleaners & Laundry

Huntington Cleaners.....Huntington Woods
10% Off Incoming Orders for New Customers
J.S. Prestige Cleaners on 5 Mile.....Livonia
12 Off Ring Sizing (excluding platinum)
Mal Kai Cleaners.....All Locations
Free Sweater or Pant W/\$9.95 Incoming Cleaning
Park Ave \$1.75 Cleaners 844-5091.....Canton
\$1.50 Per Item for Drycleaning
Rags to Riches Cleaners.....Clawson
15% Off Dry Cleaning Only (Min. \$25 Order)

Touch of Class.....Plymouth

15% Off All Dry Cleaned Garments
White Cleaners & Coin Laundry.....Berkley
30% Off Incoming Dry Cleaning Orders

\$ Entertainment

Ambassador Roller Rink.....Clawson
Buy One Admission - Get One Free (Sat. Only)
Detroit Zoological Society.....Royal Oak
10% Off All Membership Packages
Electric Stick.....Westland
Pay for One Hour of Pool - Get One Hour Free
Hartfield Lanes.....Berkley
Free Shoe Rental for Cardholder

\$ Florists & Gifts

Home.....Royal Oak
10% Off Purchase (not to be combined w/other offers)
Kevin's Floral Expressions.....Ferndale
10% Off - Excluding Wire Orders
Mary Jane Flowers.....Royal Oak
\$2.00 Off Frequent Flower Power Program
Steve Codens Flowers.....Southfield
Free Delivery in Metro Detroit Area
The Green Bee.....Royal Oak
10% Off Purchase over \$10

\$ Home Improvement

ABC Plumbing.....Clawson
\$20 Off Service or \$25 Off SNR
American Blind and Wallpaper Factory.....Plymouth
10% Off Order \$50 Min. Mention Code HE10
Bergstrom's Inc. Plumbing & Heating.....Livonia
\$15 Off Service Calls 734-522-1350
Berkley Plumbing.....Berkley
\$15 Off Plumbing Repair/Sewer Drain Service
Beyer Heating & Cooling, Inc.....Ferndale
10% Off Air Conditioning Special
Burton & Sons.....Garden City
\$15.00 Off Service Call 734-427-3070
Burl Plumbing & Heating.....Wayne
10% Off All Materials Service/Store
Casemore Electric, Inc.....Royal Oak
\$25.00 Off Any Electrical Work Over \$200.00
Cresch's Carpet Care.....Ypsilanti
10% Reg. Scheduled Services, Carpet, Uph. Ducts
Colby's Decorating Center.....Livonia
10% Off In Stock Borders & Wallpaper
Horton Plumbing.....Plymouth
Free Laundry Tub & Faucet with Replie
1 Do Windows 313-927-4950.....Bedford
First Clean Free with Pre-Paid Service
KTP Designs Inc.....Berkley
One Hour Free Interior Design Consultation
New Beginnings LLC 734-513-0755.....Livonia
10% Off Painting Two or More Rooms
Summer Plumbing & Sewer.....Royal Oak
\$15 Off Service or SRS \$20 Off
United Temperature.....Livonia
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\$ Jewelers

Bright Jewelers 44344 Cherry Hill 734-844-2404.....Canton
50% Off 14K Gold Chains
Chinn Jewelry.....Royal Oak
We Will Pay Your Sales Tax Excluding Loose Diamonds
Doble Jewelers.....Berkley/Farmington Hills/P. Ridge/Royal Oak
12 Off Ring Sizing (excluding platinum)
Miners Den.....Royal Oak
Free Watch Battery (One Per Customer)
O & O Bush Jewelers 734-455-3030.....Plymouth
50% Off All Silver Jewelry
Wood's.....Pleasant Ridge/Royal Oak
12 Off Ring Sizing (excluding Platinum)

\$ Landscape & Maintenance

Bill's Outdoor Care.....Canton
Commercial Snowplowing Contract 10% Off
D.A. Alexander & Co.....Livonia
10% Discount
Saxton's Garden Center.....Plymouth
10% Off All Hand Garden Tools
Pizza One.....Birmingham
2 Large Pizzas W/One Item \$12.99
Maria's Deli & Pizzeria 734-981-1200.....Canton
\$5.00 Off a \$50.00 Purchase (excluding tobacco & alcohol)
Papa Romanos/Ferndale
\$1.00 Off Bambino Bread with any purchase
Pizza One.....Ferndale
2 Small Pizzas for \$8.99 + tax
Rallo's Pizzeria.....Royal Oak
\$1.50 Off Large Square Pizza

\$ Restaurants

Alexander The Great.....Westland
10% Off Entrees - Not Valid on Specials
Barb's Pasties.....Livonia
10% Off When You Buy 4 Pasties
Beehive Family Dining.....Wayne
20% Off Any Order
Christine's Cuisine.....Ferndale
10% Off Any Dinner Entree (Carry Out Only)
Clubhouse BBQ.....Ferndale
Free 2 Liter of Fayo with Any Purchase (\$7 Min)
Code 30 Coffee Cafe Inc.....Redford
\$1.00 Off Any Flavored Latte
Dairy Queen of Royal Oak.....Royal Oak
10% Off Total Bill
Deli Delite.....Royal Oak
15% Off Purchase of \$10 or More
Don Pedro's.....Redford
10% Off Food Over \$10 (No Other Offer)
Duggans Irish Pub.....Royal Oak
10% Off Total Food Bill w/\$10 Purchase or more
Hard Ice Cream Cafe on Farmington S. of Plymouth.....Livonia
10% Off Any Item inc. Sanders Cakes
Hat Trick Pub/Deli.....Berkley
10% Off Any Food Purchase
Max & Erma's.....Birmingham
10% Off Purchase, excluding alcohol & gratuities
Milt Housey's Schoolcraft/Middlebelt 734-425-5520.....Livonia
10% Off Your Bill - Lunch or Dinner
New King Lims 248-474-2781.....Farmington Hills
10% Off Total Bill
Paynes.....Berkley
10% Off Total Food Bill With \$10 Purchase or More
Samuel Hoffman's New York Deli.....Clawson
10% Off Total Food Bill
Soupreme Deli.....Clawson
\$1.00 Off Any Sandwich
Woody's Diner.....Royal Oak
10% Off Total Food Bill With \$10 Purchase or More

\$ Special

A Shady Business.....Walled Lake
10% Off Any Lamp Purchase
Alcove Hobby Shop.....Royal Oak
10% Off Any Purchase
Alexanders Framing.....Royal Oak
15% Off Any Purchase
Alta's Greenfield Market.....Southfield
5% Off Any Meat or Produce Purchase

America's Vitamin & Nutrition.....Berkley

10% Off Any Purchase Every Day
Beads S.R.O.....Royal Oak
10% Off Purchase of \$10 or More
Border Outlet 3500 Lilley 734-397-6326.....Canton
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Bourlier's BBQ & Fireplace.....Ferndale
10% Off Replacement Parts
Chet's Rent-All.....Berkley
10% Off Any Rental
Champion's Cellular Warehouse.....Southfield
10% Discount
Chris Furniture Farmington/Plymouth Rd.....Livonia
40% Off All End Tables
Circa.....Berkley
10% Off on All Circa Antiques & Collectibles
Contract Design Group.....Royal Oak
10% Off New Orders/Carpeting/Linoleum
Crossing Bridges.....Berkley
10% Off Candles, Incense & More (Books/Sales excluded)
Dallay Carpet & Mill. W. of Meridian.....Livonia
10% Off Any Reg. Priced Merchandise (Excludes Labor)
Dimitrie Upholstering.....Royal Oak
10% Off Complete Order
Dining Furniture Ltd.....Roseville
10% Off Regular Prices
Doll Hospital 3947 W 12 Mile.....Berkley
20-40% Off. See in-store Flyer
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DIA controversy reveals shocking reality

Somewhere between the Warholian 15-minutes of fame and sociologist Neil Postman's premonition of a society amusing itself to death fits the absurd controversy at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

The ping-pong incident began 10 days ago when DIA Director Graham Beal closed installation artist Jéf Bourgeois's exhibit "Van Gogh's Ear," the first of 12 one-week exhibits.

Several pieces in Bourgeois's exhibit were deemed highly inappropriate and potentially offensive to museum visitors. Specifically, the DIA was concerned with Bourgeois's reference to a Brazilian nut using an inflammatory racial slur (the "n word"), a condom placed on a plastic doll called "Bathub Jesus," a jar of urine (allegedly the same used by Andres Serrano without a submerged crucifix) and a video of a woman taking a shower in which the blood-tinged water simulated menstruation.

Guerilla campaign

While the earnest and soft-spoken Bourgeois has been called a conceptual artist, his work over the years has more of an absurdist tone. Three years ago, he established his own museum, called the Museum of Contemporary Art in Pontiac.

The museum is an 8-by-10 partitioned space inside Galerie Blue.

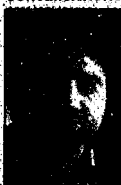
Bourgeois's canvas is somewhere in the amorphous public mind. For instance, the "museum" is run by a fictitious director after the equally fictitious founder mysteriously drowned. Bourgeois's point: Museums are stodgy repositories and must be prodded to show the works of contemporary artists. From his small closet of a museum Bourgeois is waging a guerilla campaign to force a rethinking of the role and responsibilities of museums.

Considering Bourgeois's perspective, it's difficult to discern the line between his political agenda and his art. Obviously, the line is intentionally blurred.

But inevitably, the decision to exhibit his "art" must be based on a qualitative judgment whether it is indeed "art." That judgment belongs to the DIA. (And when it comes to deciding what's art, curators shouldn't shy away from an artist's demonstrable mastery of his or her chosen medium.)

In essence, the DIA did not censor Bourgeois's work. He was free

CONVERSATIONS



FRANK PROVENZANO

Editor's note: A portion of *Conversations* was omitted from Sunday's edition. With our thanks to those who noted and called, here's what you missed.

to create his own interpretations of "shock art," many of which are derivative and hardly original. When the DIA got something they didn't expect, they had a change of heart. And, according to Beal, they still wanted to work with Bourgeois to find a compromise.

Meanwhile, Bourgeois claimed any modification to his exhibit would be censorship. Yet he confessed that he had already prepared an alternative description to the Brazilian nut piece (which used the "n word"). If he was willing to modify his work, why was it "censorship" when the DIA — also concerned with the offensive nature of the piece — simply asked him if there was an alternative description?

The power of Bourgeois's message, that prejudice is oftentimes mindlessly passed down from one generation to the next, dissipated into a discussion of semantics.

Of course, the question that most people who are unaware of the history and relevance of "shock art" are asking is: What, if anything, about Bourgeois's exhibit could be considered "art?"

Not an easy question. Especially considering the last 15 years of "shock art" and a tradition of provocative art that dates back more than a 100 years with the optical painting innovation known as Impressionism. Indeed, the notion of "shock" has a different connotation for each generation.

Sign of the times

In the span of a few days, what unfolded at the DIA was the type of controversy that makes good copy for the 24-hour news channel and a hot-button topic for the stream of conversational drivel on talk shows.

Like past controversies involving depictions of homosexuals, strange displays of body fluids and dung-laden paintings, the dispute at the DIA is another example of how our culture has

become self-consumed, bizarre and reactionary.

Does what passes today as "shock art" foster a broader debate about art, race, religion, sex and gender? Who's fooling who? Did Jesse Helms' or Rudolph Giuliani's opposition to public funding of art museums broaden the debate about the role and purpose of contemporary art in a democracy?

Provocation has replaced prudence. Struggles at a museum gain more attention than dealing with social problems of violence, poverty and injustice.

There's no doubt that an art exhibit can evoke a powerful response. The question, however, is whether an art exhibit can be about more than an individual artist's bowel habits or notions of identity.

On the surface, the DIA and Bourgeois became locked in the ongoing First Amendment drama about whose right takes precedence.

Maybe, for a moment, both should have asked what was the point of Bourgeois's exhibit. The point, if there was one, has to do with how we've become so numb by the onslaught of information and images that we can't even find the time to reflect. We simply await the next jolt of controversy.

In reactionary times, what makes curators and artists think that "shock art" is a remedy for our collective attention deficit disorder? "Shock art" is an end in itself. Yet there's a rub: "Shock art" is a reflection of who we are, a society that thrives on one spectacle after another.

Maybe there's a chance to get beyond political correctness and reactionary responses to figure out what's at stake, and what's important. The DIA must become more accessible and relevant to the needs of a highly divergent population of the region.

And perhaps, now more than ever, a serious discussion must ensue about the need for a legitimate contemporary arts museum to enhance the encyclopedic DIA.

But as long as artists become instant media stars and misunderstandings keep artists, curators and museum directors fighting with each other rather than joining together for the sake of the arts, we'll continue to be distracted.

It's time to ask: What lies beyond the 15 minutes of fame?

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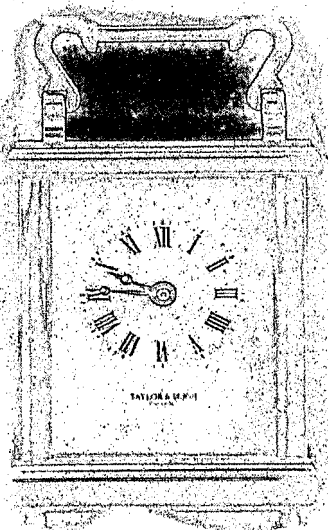


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Fast to the finish



FILE PHOTO BY SUSAN SNYDER

Super-soph: Lake Orion sophomore Michael Colt enjoyed a fine varsity debut season and was a unanimous all-area selection.

All-Area Boys Cross-Country Team loaded with state meet qualifiers

BY BILL PARKER
STAFF WRITER
bparker@oe.homecomm.net

Led by Walled Lake Central's Class A state runner-up and Oakland County champion Todd Mobley, the 1999 Eccentric All-Area Boys Cross Country Team is truly a coach's dream.

Among the members of the First Team are five league champions and 11 of the top 20 finishers at the always tough Oakland County meet. On top of that, all 12 members of the First Team qualified for the Lower Peninsula state finals.

Clarkston head coach Mike Taylor, who guided his Wolves through a successful season that culminated in a fourth-place finish at the Class A state championships, was the unanimous choice for Coach of the Year honors.

Following is a brief profile of each member of the First Team as selected by a panel of area coaches:

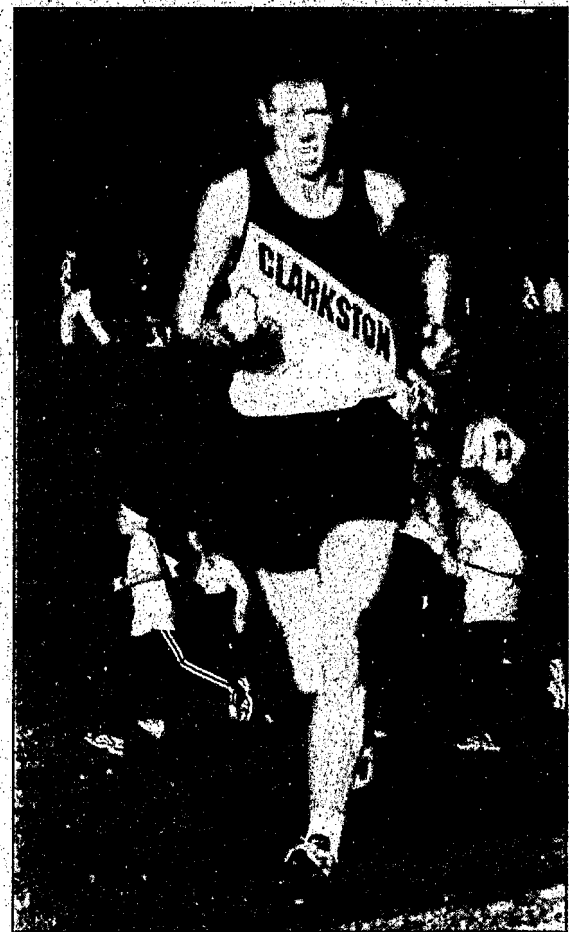
TODD MOBLEY, Walled Lake Central: The premiere male runner in the area, Mobley capped a brilliant high school career by placing second at the Class A state championships with a season-best clocking of 15:25.8. A four-time state qualifier, the Vikings senior placed second in his first race of the season, the Brother Rice Invitational, then won everything in sight until the state finals. Mobley won individual crowns at the Oakland County meet (16:00), the Class A regional at Springfield Oaks (15:55.5) and the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament as well as the Shamrock Invitational, the Haslett Invitational and the Holly Invitational.

"Todd is a very outstanding senior leader and always tried to help everyone around him get better," said Central coach Carl McBride. "He is a bright young man and always knew what he wanted to do, then went out and did it."

"His endurance is by far his best asset. He runs year-round so when the race started he'd go out with the pack, then take the lead and you'd never catch him."

DAVID SAGE, Clarkston: The leader of a talented Clarkston team, Sage helped the Wolves place fourth at the Class A state finals by finishing 13th in 16:04. His season best clocking of 15:38 came in a third-place showing at the MSU Spartan Invitational. The fleet-footed senior was undefeated in dual meets, was the Oakland Activities Association Division I champion, the Hanson Invitational champion, placed third at the Oakland County meet, fourth at the regional at Springfield Oaks, and third at the Brother Rice Invitational. He is a four time state qualifier and a three time All-Stater.

"Dave is your model cross country guy. He eats, sleeps and drinks cross country," Taylor said. "He's pretty much got the whole package. He can kick



FILE PHOTO BY SUSAN SNYDER

Pole position: Clarkston senior David Sage won almost every race he entered this season, including here at the Oxford Invitational.

Please See ALL-AREA, C2

Life is too short not to cherish every moment

Now that Thanksgiving weekend has come to a close, most of us have turned our sights towards the upcoming 30 days or so. After all, with Christmas and the start of the new Millennium just around the corner, there is much to plan and do.

Christmas shopping, locating the perfect Christmas tree, finding the right clothes to wear to the Christmas Eve candlelight service, New Years Eve reservations, making sure everything from here to there is Y2K safe — all of the hustle and bustle — can all take up a lot of time.

But for the staff, administration and student body at one local small school, and for one local family in particular, all of those thoughts of the holiday season have been placed on hold. All of what makes this time of year so special are none existent.

Generally, as a sports reporter, I like to use this column space to praise local high school athletes and their accomplishments, or to discuss a topic dealing with the athletics in your community. But the hardest thing to place in this space is a column in memory of a deceased student-athlete, which is the unfortunate case today.

Teresa Schuster, a senior from Oxford Christian and a resident from the small village of Leonard, located inside the Oxford Area Community School District, was killed in an automobile accident Sunday in the Lapeer County village of Almont.

It is instances like this that stops me in my tracks to think what exactly is important in life. And the answers are many: family, friends, religion, and to cherish every moment and whatever God blesses us with each and every day... because we never know when it all comes to an end.

At Oxford Christian, the school was looking forward to the start of the winter sports season with several basketball and volleyball games slated for this week and in the upcoming months. Now, that excitement has been replaced by sorrow, as one might expect when a school loses one of their own.

"She always had a smile on her face," recalled Oxford Christian Athletic Director Jeff Alexander. "Whenever I saw her, she was always so upbeat and happy. This is tough news to take, but only God can control things like this."

Teresa Schuster actually did her studies at home, as she participated in the school's home-school division, but was actively involved in the student life at Oxford Christian, participating in many school-related functions.

In the arena of athletics, soccer was Schuster's love as she starred on Oxford Christian's varsity girls' soccer team the past three years, where she emerged as the Warriors' top player.

In fact, Schuster was voted as the No. 3 player in the Fundamental Baptist Athletic Conference last spring as she set two school scoring records from her forward position: goals in a single-season (19) and goals in a single game (6) for the 8-3-2 Warriors. Schuster was also selected to the Eccentric All-North Oakland Team for her efforts.

"It's going to be strange not having her out there next year," said Oxford Christian girls' soccer coach Gerald Hawk, who learned of the news Monday evening when he returned to the area from a week-end vacation. "She was such a great kid and a leader. She was a quiet girl, but she led by example. I think we'll miss her even more as a person than as a soccer player, though. She's the type of kid that everyone enjoys coaching — just a great kid."

Schuster's funeral will be 10 a.m. this Friday at Assumption Grotto Community Church in Detroit, but her memory won't leave the halls of one of the area's smallest high schools anytime soon.

Administration at Oxford Christian has talked about having a moment of silence in her memory at an upcoming volleyball or basketball game. Hawk also mentioned that her teammates might dedicate the 2000 soccer season to Schuster.

Personally, I didn't know Teresa Schuster very well, being introduced to her on just a couple of occasions. But her level of play did make an impression on me just like any other standout athlete. And I can say it's even hard for me to understand and except the loss of a student-athlete from I school in which the Eccentric covers.

You know, with all of the games I cover, and all of the students and coaches I interview, I try to think of the tragedy side of sports or the agony of defeat. But from now on, it will be tough not to because Teresa Schuster's death hits so close to home.

For the Schuster family, for everyone at Oxford Christian, and for all of her friends in and around the area, her loss will be tough to swallow and the upcoming months will be hard to face. But always cherish her memory.

And for everyone out there, cherish every moment — whether it be watching a local hero score the winning touchdown or the moment when you find that perfect Christmas tree — because it's all important.

Life is too short to let it pass...



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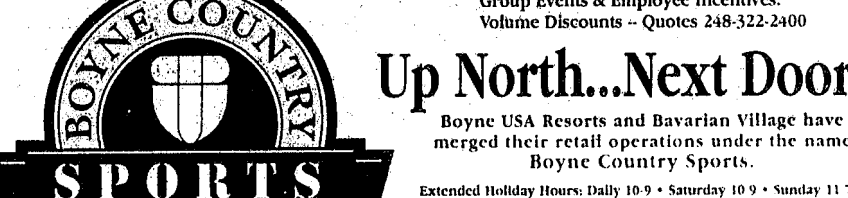
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1999 ECCENTRIC ALL-AREA
BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

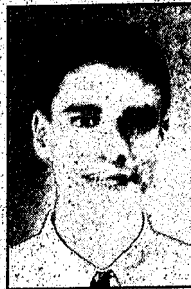
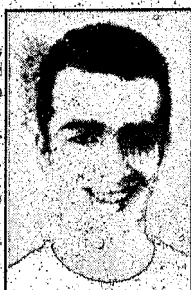
ATHLETE	SCHOOL	GRADE
Todd Mobley	WL Central	Senior
David Sage	Clarkston	Senior
Matt Haver	Clarkston	Senior
Andrew Bauer	BH Lahser	Soph.
Ben Salvette	Cranbrook	Soph.
Steve Smith	Birm. Groves	Junior
Michael Colt	Lake Orion	Soph.
Chris Gumz	Rochester	Junior
Nick Gillett	Troy	Soph.
Craig Frankland	Rochester Adams	Senior
Adam Frezza	Lake Orion	Junior
David Cllngan	Waterford Mott	Senior
Mike Taylor	Clarkston	17th year

COACH OF THE YEAR

PLAYER	SCHOOL	POSITION
Brett Quantz	Clarkston	Senior
Kevin Naughton	WL Western	Soph.
Kevin Breen	Clarkston	Senior
Dan Burke	Clarkston	Senior
Andrew Fons	Lake Orion	Senior
Dave DeSteiger	Rochester Adams	Junior
Chris Moorehead	Lake Orion	Junior
Charlie Visconte	Birm. Brother Rice	Senior
Mike Duke	Rochester	Senior
Mark Rappaport	Birm. Brother Rice	Senior
Sam Hyde	BH Cranbrook	Soph.

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ROCHESTER: Paul Rabaut, Ryan Linden, Ryan Jackson; **ROCHESTER ADAMS:** Pat Foley, Omar Youseff; **ROCHESTER HILLS LUTHERAN:** Joe Sternemann, Mike McKee, Benjamin Loewe; **TROY:** Rodrigo Landeris, Andy Gillett, Paul Socier; **TROY ATHENS:** Phil DeCook; **LAKE ORION:** Spencer Aston, Dane Beardsley, Justin Dew; **OXFORD:** Dan Nelder; **CLARKSTON:** Chris Weber; **WEST BLOOMFIELD:** Aaron Metter; **WALLED LAKE WESTERN:** Steve Aspinall; **WALLED LAKE CENTRAL:** Kevin Coggins; **ORCHARD LAKE ST. MARY'S:** Matt Wiersma; **SOUTHFIELD CHRISTIAN:** Phil Jessman; **BIRMINGHAM GROVES:** Paul Mines, Alex Evrard; **BIRMINGHAM SEAHOLM:** Scott Collins, Mike Barton; **BIRMINGHAM BROTHER RICE:** Chris Moros, Dan Murray; **BLOOMFIELD HILLS LAHSE:** Tom Fisher, Dave Smith; **BLOOMFIELD HILLS ANDOVER:** Aaron Bass; **AUBURN HILLS OAKLAND CHRISTIAN:** Justin Joyner, Nathan Flood; **WATERFORD MOTT:** David Renne, Jeff Hagen.

Ben Salvette
CranbrookSteve Smith
Birmingham GrovesMichael Colt
Lake OrionChris Gumz
RochesterNick Gillett
TroyCraig Frankland
Rochester AdamsTodd Mobley
Walled Lake CentralDavid Sage
ClarkstonMatt Haver
ClarkstonAdam Frezza
Lake OrionDave Cllngan
Waterford MottMike Taylor
Clarkston

All-area from page C1

he can run pace and he's very smart. He knows when to back off and he knows when to kick. He also studies his opponents and knows all their strengths and weaknesses."

MATT HAVER, Clarkston: Another of the talented Wolves, Haver, a senior, wrapped up his career by earning All-State honors at the Class A state finals with a 20th-place showing in 16:11.5. Haver was third at both the Hanson and the Oxford invitationals, placed sixth at the regional meet at Springfield Oaks and eighth at the Oakland County meet.

"Matt is always real confident. He doesn't get caught up in all the hoopla and the 10,000 strategies. He has a very even temperament and takes everything in stride," Taylor said. "He's a smart runner and runs at a real good pace. He likes to lay back a little and let people go out fast. When they start to get a little tired he makes his move and passes them."

ANDREW BAUER Bloomfield Hills Lahser: Although just a sophomore, Bauer proved he could run with the big boys time and time again. He saved his best for last and ran a season best 16:20 to place 31st at the Class A state finals. Bauer was the Oakland Activities Association Division III champion, placed fourth at the Class A Region 5 race at Royal Oak Kimball and was ninth at the Oakland County meet.

"I think Andrew has only scratched the surface in terms of his potential," Lahser coach Nick Stratton said. "He holds a nice pace through the last half of the race and he learns from every race. He also put in his miles over the summer and he works very hard in practice."

BEN SALVETTE, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook: Another talented underclassman, this sophomore ran a season-best 16:25 to place second at the Class B regional meet at Metro Beach. Salvette won the Metro Conference crown, won the freshman/sophomore race at the Culver Military Academy in Indiana, placed fifth at the Spartan Invitational and 11th at the Oakland County meet. Salvette wrapped up the season with a 61st-place finish at the Class B state finals.

"Ben took a quantum leap forward this year because he did his homework over the summer. He ran 750 miles over the summer," Cranbrook coach Greg Miller said. "He is very driven and has a passion to excel at running and in the classroom. There's no stopping him. He is a very fluid runner and earned All-State Academic honors with a 4.0 grade-point average."

STEVE SMITH, Birmingham Groves: After finishing second at the Class A Region 5 race at Royal Oak Kimball in 16:16, this junior's season came to a crashing halt when a knee injury flared up and Smith was unable to race at the state finals.

"He was very disappointed he couldn't run," Groves coach Dan Inloes said. "It was a shame, but he'll be hungrier next year."

Smith won the Oakland Activities Association Division II championship and the Warren DeLaSalle Invitational, placed second at both the Dearborn and

the Ambrosse invitationals and was 12th in the Oakland County race.

"Steve is a very competitive runner. He works real hard and pushes himself as hard as he can go. He hates to lose and always gives it his all," Inloes said. "He's always fighting and enjoys the competition."

MICHAEL COLT, Lake Orion: This sensational sophomore got off to a slow start because of illness, but quickly became the Dragons' No. 1 runner once he got healthy. Colt ran his best time of 16:14 to place fourth at the OAA Division I meet. He followed that up with a fifth-place finish at the Class A regional meet at Springfield Oaks, leading the Dragons to the team title in arguably the toughest regional in the state. Colt won the freshman/sophomore race at the Royal Oak Kimball Invitational, placed second in the freshman/sophomore race at the Brother Rice Invitational and fourth in the freshman/sophomore race at the Lakeland Invitational. In addition, he was seventh at the Oxford Invitational, 14th at the Oakland County meet and capped his season by finishing 35th at the Class A state finals in 16:26.

"Michael is young and talented and should continue to improve over the next several years," Lake Orion coach Stan Ford said. "He's a smart racer who can handle tough courses or flat, fast ones."

CHRIS GUMZ, Rochester: Gumz, a junior, rose to the challenge when he became the Falcons' No. 1 runner and led Rochester to a fourth-place finish in the team standings at the Class A Region 5 race at Royal Oak Kimball by placing third with a season-best clocking of 16:17. An Academic All-State honoree (3.90 GPA), Gumz also excelled on the race course. He placed fifth at the OAA Division I race, 11th at the Spartan Invitational, 14th at the Brother Rice Invitational, 15th at the Oakland County meet and wrapped up his season by placing 27th at the Class A state finals in 16:18.

"Chris accepted and excelled in his role as our No. 1 runner this season," Rochester coach Larry Adams said. "No one works harder than Chris. His love for running will no doubt help him have a great season next year."

NICK GILLETT, Troy: This sophomore got out of the gate in a hurry at the Ambrosse Invitational and raced to victory with a season-best clocking of 16:13. Gillett was third at the OAA Division I meet and the Class A Region 5 race at Royal Oak Kimball and 17th at the Oakland County meet. He led the Colts to a 12th-place finish at the Class A state championships by placing 23rd in 16:16.

"Nick is a really dedicated runner and is very self-motivated," Troy coach Kevin Spencer said. "He's a tough competitor and is willing to learn. He runs a good strong pace throughout the entire race and was much more consistent with his splits this year."

CRAIG FRANKLAND, Rochester Adams: Frankland, a senior, placed sixth at the Class A Region 5 race at Royal Oak Kimball while leading the Highlanders to a second-place finish in the team standings. Frankland's best time of the year was a 16:28, good enough for seventh-place honors at the OAA Division I race. Frankland placed seventh at the Ambrosse Invitational, 18th at the Oakland County meet, 23rd at the MSU Invitational and 24th at the Brother Rice Invitational. Frankland wrapped up his high school career by placing 98th at the Class A state finals.

"Craig never gives up and always works hard," Adams coach Budd Ciccirelli said. "He was a good co-captain of our team. He had many breathing problems during the season but worked hard and overcame the handicap."

ADAM FREZZA, Lake Orion: Another talented junior, Frezza was a leader of the Dragons and turned in his best time of 16:08 in placing second at the OAA Division I race. Frezza clocked a 16:21 to finish third at the Ambrosse Invitational and placed ninth at the Oxford Invitational. He was 11th at the Class A regional meet at Springfield Oaks, 19th at the Oakland County meet, and capped his season by placing 127th at the Class A state finals.

"Adam is one of our hardest workers and is extremely tough on dif-

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All-area teams always begs the question: how do we pick them?

With the fall prep season finally coming to an end this week — the girls basketball state finals are this weekend — virtually every newspaper around the state has been busy compiling its various all-area teams, including here at the Observer & Eccentric.

And for those wondering how exactly these all-area teams are picked, the system at the O&E is quite simple.

For the Eccentric coverage area, which encompasses nearly 40 schools in the communities of Auburn Hills, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Clarkston, Lake Orion, Lathrup Village, Oxford, Rochester, Southfield, Troy, Walled Lake, Waterford and West Bloomfield, each staff writer has been assigned one or two sports each, pending on the number of schools that sponsor that particular sport.

Then, each writer has the option of selecting either a reliable panel of coaches for a meeting, which was the case with girls tennis, boys golf, girls swimming and both boys and girls cross-country, or to invite all of the area coaches to a general meeting, which was done for boys soccer, football and girls basketball (this Monday).

Each panel of coaches reviews a multitude of players, with the help of all-league, all-region and all-state lists, as well as each nomination's statistics or times, strength of schedule and ability, to come up with a listing of the best in the area.

For some sports, there might be just a first team with honorable mentions, and for other sports, there might be up to three or four teams plus honorable mentions. Coaches at the meeting also vote for coach of the year, while additional honorable mentions are up to each individual coach's discretion.

For every first-team honoree, a photo session in our Birmingham Corporate Office is

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DANIEL
STICKRADT

scheduled for each sport, although other arrangements can be made if an athlete cannot attend the session.

In past years, there were separate teams for South Oakland and North Oakland (Clarkston, Lake Orion and Oxford) County, but O&E upper management decided to merge all sports and communities — which also included our new Waterford Eccentric — to cut down on time and usage of photographers for countless mug-shot sessions. Also, there were no all-area teams in North Oakland for several sports, including girls golf, boys and girls swimming, boys and girls tennis, boys and girls skiing, and girls gymnastics, so this was the best way to give all sports complete recognition when coming to all-area teams.

The all-area teams usually run over a 4-6 week period, pending on how many sports are in that season, and are generally published in the order they were completed.

As for our Observer Group, which includes the communities of Canton, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford, Wayne and Westland, similar techniques were used in selecting all-area teams for roughly 25 high schools.

Does all of this sound simple enough?

Now, onto some other news:

■ **Future all-area teams:** The All-Area Boys Soccer Team will be published in this Sunday's Eccentric editions, followed by girls swimming, football, and last, but not least, girls basketball, over the next couple of weeks.

■ **Coming soon:** The season previews for boys basketball, girls volleyball, wrestling, girls gymnastics, boys swimming, boys and girls skiing, and girls competitive cheer for Clarkston, Clarkston Springfield Christian, Lake Orion, Lake Orion Shalom Baptist, Oxford and Oxford Christian will be scattered throughout the month of December, with some being published as early as December 5. The boys ice hockey preview for Clarkston was published on November 28.

■ **Underclassmen debate:** Over the years, we have received letters, e-mails and phone calls wondering why the O&E pays little attention to junior-varsity, freshmen and middle school teams. The answer to that is quite simple: time and space.

In an addition such as the Birmingham/Bloomfield Hills Eccentric, there are 10 high schools of various sizes, and getting their varsity ample coverage in that edition can be quite a task. As for smaller editions such as Oxford, which covers just Oxford and Oxford Christian, there may be a chance to get select coverage on a spot basis, again based on time and space, which is often limited because the North Oakland papers (Clarkston, Lake Orion and Oxford) have far fewer pages to work with. Plus, many of these kids will see their names and faces in the papers when they reach the varsity level, and perhaps, collegiate level.

■ **Campus clips:** Know of an area athlete currently playing at the collegiate level? Contact their respective college's sports information director and have them include the area papers on their mailing list. We would like to honor these individuals in our Campus Clips Column, which will run 3-4 times a year.

■ **Letters-of-intent:** Have an athlete in your school that considering playing at the collegiate level, or one that has already signed a national letter-of-intent? Let us know and we'll be sure to give that once-in-a-lifetime event its due coverage.

■ **Suggestions:** Story suggestions are always encouraged and many have already come across my way since taking over the North Oakland Sports Editor position a few short weeks ago. Please, keep them coming.

(Daniel Stickradt is sports editor of the communities of Clarkston, Lake Orion and Oxford for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. He can be reached at (248) 693-4900, or e-mail to: dstickradt@oe.homecomm.net)

Oxford standout Liz Holbrook 10th in Miss Basketball

BY DANIEL STICKRADT
STAFF WRITER
dstickradt@oe.homecomm.net

Oxford has produced several girls all-state basketball players throughout veteran Wildcats coach Ian Smith's tenure, including two former standouts that have reached the ballot for Miss Basketball.

On Monday afternoon, Smith added another player to that lengthy list of standouts as Oxford's 6-foot-1 senior center Liz Holbrook finished 10th in voting for the 1999 Miss Basketball Award, given annually to the state's top senior as voted on by members of the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan.

"She's a good player," said Smith of Holbrook. "We've had a good run of all-stars here at Oxford, including a couple of others that were on the Miss Basketball ballot. Liz isn't the best to come out of Oxford, but she's up there. We've had probably 10 players or so that were high on the all-state teams."

Holbrook finished with 104 points on the ballot that included 12 players, plus a handful of write-in votes.

Mount Pleasant senior point guard Vicki Krapohl, who has inked a national letter-of-intent to play with Duke, won the 19th-annual award with 420 points.

Milford senior center Christie Schumacher, the pre-season favorite, was runner-up with 345

points, while East Kentwood's Crystal Weaver (239), Utica's Julie Pagel (234), Lansing Everett's Shakeria McReynolds (231), DeWitt's Jennifer Smith (216), Detroit King's Ryann Lewis (147), Belleville's Ryann Kilgore (135), Mount Clemens' Crystal White (114), Holbrook, Saginaw Arthur Hill's Naomi Nickleberry (98), and Rochester's Paige Harris (96) followed suit.

Two other Eccentric-area players — Southfield's Jennifer Kelso and Bloomfield Hills Kingswood's Tiffani Rhodes — received write-in votes from area coaches.

Holbrook finished the season as the top player in the Flint Metro League, where she played in 22 of 24 games for the FML champion and Class A regional finalist Wildcats, who finished 23-1.

Holbrook, who signed with Clemson, averaged 22.9 points a game — her 504 points this season ranks inside the school Top 5 single-season list — to go along with 10.9 rebounds, 3.9 steals and 2.6 blocks an outing. She also shot 50 percent from the floor, 73 percent from the free throw line and tied a school single-game record with 40 points in a 67-36 regular-season rout of Holly.

Holbrook follows former Oxford stars Roz Van Gilder, who played in the mid-1980s, and Jenny White (1993-96) as Wildcats that reached the Miss Basketball ballot.

All-Area from page C2

ficult courses. He's not afraid to go out hard and has a strong desire to improve," Ford said.

DAVID CLINGAN, Waterford Mott: The Corsairs' fastest runner, Clingan turned in a season-best time of 16:28 to place second in the Oakland Activities Association Division II race. A three-year letter winner at Mott, Clingan placed 10th at the Class A regional meet at Springfield Oaks, 23rd at the Oakland County meet, and 46th at the Class A state finals in 16:34.

"David is kind of a late bloomer and is just coming into his own as a cross-country runner," Mott coach Jerry Pachla said. "He's a steady-paced runner, but he's pretty tenacious and intense as a competitor."

COACH OF THE YEAR

MIKE TAYLOR, Clarkston: In his 17th season as head coach at Clarkston, Taylor led the Wolves to one of their most successful seasons ever.


On top of winning the tough Oakland County championship with a team-low 80 points, the senior-laden Wolves were also champions of the OAA Division I, the Hanson Invitational, the Flint

Carman-Ainsworth Invitational, and the Oxford Invitational. Clarkston, which was also undefeated in league dual meets at 5-0, was upset by Lake Orion at the Class A regional meet at Springfield Oaks and had to settle for second, but the Wolves rebounded at state finals and turned in the best finish of area teams by placing fourth with 133 points, one point behind third-place finisher Saline.

"We had good talent and foot speed, but the strength of this team is that the guys are all best friends," Taylor said. "They made a real commitment to each other and were capable of rising to the occasion."

"I tried to instill that camaraderie and tried to push them hard without draining them. One of the things I'm very proud of is that over the last three or four years we've never had one meet that one of these guys was injured and couldn't run. We've had a few nagging injuries and I've held kids back to nip it in the bud, but we've never had a situation where someone couldn't compete."

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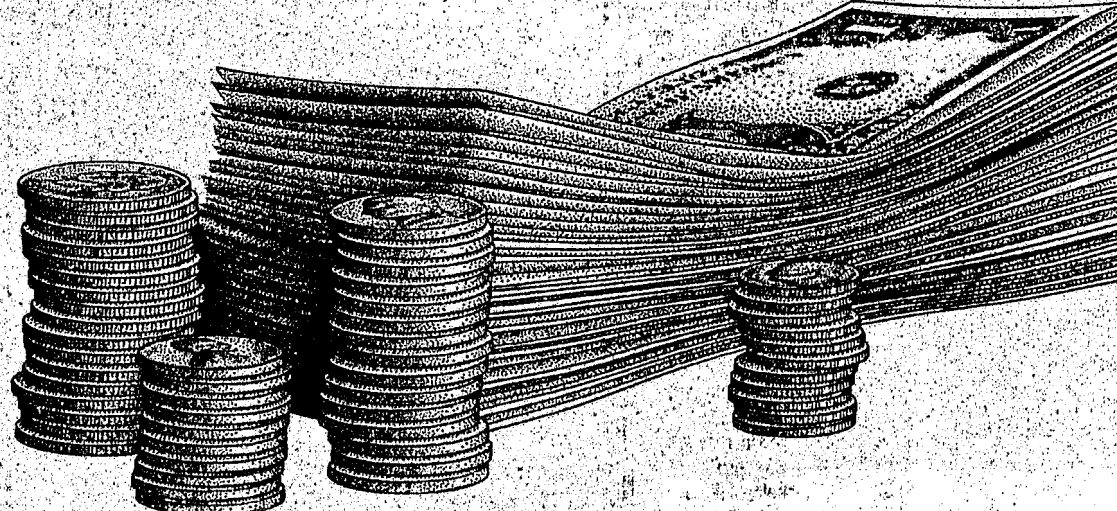
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404 Flats

Farrington Hills - Large, 3 bedroom, living & dining rooms, fireplace, separate basement \$850/mo. or same w/ in-law quarters w/ bath, \$1150. 248-442-8908

FERNDAL 1 bedroom upper, balcony, updates, washer/dryer, Dep 1. \$525. (248) 339-6551

FERNDAL - 2 bedroom lower, hardwood floors, all appliances, totally redone, \$650/mo. (248) 582-9193

FERNDAL - exceptional 2 bedroom lower w/ hardwood floors, leaded glass, beautiful plaster work, central air, washer/dryer, garage & many special features. \$785 + utilities. (248) 548-5946

NORTHWESTERN & 12 Mile - 3 bed apartment in lower half of house on 2 wooded acres. \$775/mo. Credit check. Month to month lease. (810) 765-8637

ROYAL OAK - S of downtown, 1 bedroom, hardwood floors, decorative plaster, great location, no pets. \$575/mo. 248-258-4642

405 Homes

AAA BARGAIN! Keego Harbor 2 bedroom bungalow, all appliances, extra storage. No pets/smokers. \$855/mo. 248-644-1411

BERKLEY: Charming 2 bedroom brick Colonial, basement, all appliances, extra storage. No pets/smokers. \$855/mo. 248-644-1411

BERKLEY - Charming "In town" bungalow, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, newly updated, garage, washer/dryer. \$1250/mo 248-647-2662

BERKLEY - Near Royal Oak. Clean, 3 bedroom bungalow, basement, garage, appliances, fenced. \$1075. (248) 253-1533

BIRMINGHAM 3 bedroom Victorian, 3 1/2 bath, all 2 fireplaces, no pets/smokers. \$4700/mo. D&H Properties 248-737-4002

405 Homes

BIRMINGHAM - 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, corner lot, new 2 car garage across from beautiful park, \$1300/mo. (248) 844-9784

BIRMINGHAM - 2 bedrooms, 800 sq.ft., hardwood floors, fenced-in yard, full basement, \$950/mo. 1 yr lease 248-549-7408

BIRMINGHAM - Clean 2 bedroom ranch, appliances, hardwood floors, great neighborhood, \$800. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-4002

BIRMINGHAM/DOWNTOWN - Vintage, 4 bedroom, 1 full & 2 half baths, garden room, garage, \$2500. 248-866-5963

BIRMINGHAM (Downtown) - Furnished 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, hardwood floors. \$3200/mo. (248) 968-5963

BIRMINGHAM - 1264 Smith, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, finished basement, close to Pierce School \$1350/mo 248-647-2063

405 Homes

BRIGHTON - 10844 Culver, 2300 sq. ft. ranch, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, basement, attached garage, immediate occupancy \$1495. Meadowmanagement 248-348-5400

CANTON - 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath Colonial, finished basement, blinds, appliances, deck. \$1600/mo. + security. (734) 981-1792

CANTON - 4 bedroom brick colonial, 2 1/2 bath, 2300 sq. ft., appls, air, 2 car, \$2400/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

CANTON - 4 bedroom, family room, 1937 sq.ft., appliances, 2 car, air, lawn, \$2400/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

CLAWSON - 3 bedroom ranch, 1.5 baths, 2 car garage, \$950. RENTAL PROS (248) 356-RENT

COMMERCE - Large 3 bedroom bungalow, appliances, basement, garage, pool, new, \$850. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

DEARBORN - 3 bedroom colonial, basement, garage, appliances, fireplace, \$750. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

DEARBORN HGTS - 2 bedroom bungalow, appliances, fenced yard, option to buy, \$600. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

FARMINGTON - 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, library, fireplaces, basement, 2 car, 3300sq.ft. \$2700/mo. D&H Properties 248-737-4002

FARMINGTON - 3 bedroom Dutch Colonial. Fireplace, screened porch, 2 car garage, recently painted & newer carpet. \$1100/mo. + deposit. Call John Ross, ERA Banker's Realty. (248) 648-3000

FARMINGTON HILLS - 4 bedroom, 2266 sq.ft., tri-level, 2 car, air, appliances, no pets \$2200/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

405 Homes

FARMINGTON HILLS - 2 bedroom, basement, garage, pets OK. \$625. RENTAL PROS (248) 356-RENT

FERNDAL - Absolutely charming 2 bedroom flat with new kitchen & appliances, hardwood floors, washer/dryer, central located to X-way. \$800/mo. 248-589-7690

FERNDAL - Exceptional, 2 bedroom home in very nice area, completely renovated new windows, new bath, new kitchen, hardwood floors, tile, basement, washer/dryer, garage. \$950 per month + utilities. (248) 545-7070

405 Homes

JUST LISTED
WONDERFUL UPDATED FRANKLIN RANCH
Private updated ranch with lots of windows, freshly painted & very neutral. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, close to all major freeways, Birmingham schools & lawn service. Pets allowed. \$2200/mo. ECH-80CRO 873585
MAX BROOK REALTY (248) 846-1400

GARDEN CITY - 3 bedroom brick bungalow, utility room, fenced yard, \$800. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

HOLLY - Nice 3 bedroom ranch, appliances, large shed, fenced yard, great shape. \$750. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

HOMES FROM \$199/MO.
REPLY 4% down, OK credit. For listings & payment details 800-719-3001, ext H995

INKSTER - near Avondale & Middlebelt. 3 bedroom ranch, garage, no basement. \$725/month. (313) 278-6745

LIVONIA - All Updated 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, all appliances. Very Clean! No smokers or pets \$1225/mo. 248-768-0044

405 Homes

LIVONIA - 3 bedroom brick, 2 1/2 bath, basement, 2 car, BBQ grill, 1531 sq.ft. \$1250/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

LIVONIA - 3 bedroom home, 1 1/2 bath, appliances, central air, fenced yard, storage, 2 car. \$980 mo. (248) 768-2314

LIVONIA - 3 bedroom ranch, 2 garage, appliances, fenced for pets. \$785. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

LIVONIA - New 1400 sq.ft. Brick ranch. Attached Garage, 3 bed, 2 bath, Basement, gas fireplace, \$1450/mo. (734) 281-9315

LIVONIA - rent w/option to buy - 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, 1400 sq ft. \$1350/mo. Call for appl. 248-425-6069

LIVONIA - 33993 Ross, Five Mile & Eckles, 3 bedroom brick ranch, 1.5 baths, family room, basement, deck, attached 2 car garage, \$1350/month. Ask for Dave Hodson, RE/MAX Classic MANAGEMENT. (734) 432-1010.

NORTHVILLE - 4 bedroom, bi-level, 2 1/2 bath, 1834 sq.ft., family room, 2 car, deck, \$2200/mo. D&H Properties 248-737-4002

PINCKNEY - 1,400 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, walk-out ranch w/ large deck, \$650/mo. \$1250/mo. (517) 651-8439

PLYMOUTH - 2 bedroom, living room w/ fireplace, like new. Appliances, \$850/mo. First/Last + security. (734) 420-3067

PLYMOUTH TWP - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, walkout basement for storage, \$875 mo. Call: 248-735-5464

PLYMOUTH TWP - 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, fireplace, 1 car attached garage, \$1095 mo. (248) 735-5464

REDFORD - 3 bedroom brick, basement, attached garage, \$750. RENTAL PROS (248) 356-RENT

405 Homes

REDFORD, W of Beech/Joy, 3 bedroom brick bungalow, fireplace, basement, dining room, 2 car, \$1000/mo. 248-551-3769

ROCHESTER DOWNTOWN - New 4 bedroom colonial with buy option. \$2950/mo. *MINT 3 bedroom ranch \$2050. Smith Building, 248-651-4006

ROCHESTER HILLS - 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, 2778 sq.ft. appls, pool/tennis access, \$2500/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

ROCHESTER HILLS - 4 bedroom, 2 full & 2 1/2 baths, 2573 sq. ft. Jacuzzi, fireplace, air, \$2400/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

ROCHESTER HILLS - 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, family room, fireplace, library, 2 car, \$2200/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

ROCHESTER HILLS - 3 bedroom brick cape cod, appls, appliances, dining room, 2 car, \$850. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

ROCHESTER HILLS - 1894 colonial, 3000 sq.ft., 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, home theater, \$3200/mo. D&H Properties 248-737-4002

ROYAL OAK - 3 bedroom, basement, appliances, garage, \$875. RENTAL PROS (248) 356-RENT

ROYAL OAK - 211 Catalpa, 3 bedroom, basement, hardwood floors, \$1150 per month + security. (248) 541-3087

ROYAL OAK - Versailles area, 3 bedroom, appliances, pets okay. \$1100. (248) 645-0459

SOUTHFIELD - 2 bedroom home, \$450/mo. Off 9 Mile btm Evergreen & Lahser. Open 10-6 daily. 20999 McClung.

SOUTHFIELD - 3 bedroom, basement, appliances, fenced, \$850. RENTAL PROS (248) 356-RENT

TROY - 3 bedroom ranch, Birmingham schools, appliances, 2 car, air, lawn service, \$1850/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

405 Homes

TROY DUPLEX - 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, basement, stove/fridge, \$900/mo. + 1 1/2 mo. security. Call Debbie, toll-free, 877-809-4634

VAN BUREN - Roomy 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath ranch on acre lot backs to golf course, 2 fireplaces, attached garage. Semi-finished basement, \$850/mo. Call Mike at (734) 469-5487, Re/Max Classic.

WALLED LAKE - 2 bedroom, library, 2 fireplaces, golf/tennis pool, 2600sq.ft., 2 car, deck, \$2000/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

WATERFORD - 2 bedroom, garage, Available Dec. 1st, \$500/mo. plus deposit. 4860 Elizabeth Lake Rd. (248) 624-7668

WATERFORD - 2-3 bedroom ranch, appliances, C/A, hardwoods, basement, pets okay, \$700. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

WATERFORD - Brand new colonial w/4 bedrooms/2.5 baths, 1st floor laundry, island kitchen w/appliances, \$1595/mo. ERA RYMAL SYMES

WAYNE - 3 bedroom, laundry hook-up, shed. Located at Michigan Ave/Second Street, \$650/mo. Call after 6pm: 734-678-1938

WAYNE - Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch w/finished basement & attached garage on large country lot. Available before Christmas. \$730/mo. Call Mike at (734) 459-5487, Re/Max Classic

W. BLOOMFIELD - 4 bedroom, 3200sq.ft., library, hot tub, w/air, Middlebrats access. \$2500/mo. D&H Properties 248-737-4002

W. BLOOMFIELD - Charming 2 bedroom cottage style home on the Lake. New carpeting, \$625/mo. 248-348-5100, ext. 125. RICHTER & ASSOC.

405 Homes

W. BLOOMFIELD/COMMERCE lakefront - 3 bedrooms, den, 2 bath, 2 fireplaces, kitchen appliances, air, finished walk-out. Nicet! \$1975. 248-851-5993

WEST BLOOMFIELD - 4 bedroom/2.5 bath colonial. Library, 1st floor laundry, family room w/fireplace, lake privileges. \$2350/mo. 248-437-3800 ERA RYMAL SYMES

WESTLAND - 3 bedroom brick, basement, newly remodeled, double lot, \$585. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

WESTLAND - 3 bedroom bungalow, fenced for pets, option to buy, \$800. RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

WESTLAND - cute 3 bedroom, large yard in nice area close to shopping center. \$750/mo. plus security. 734-495-1899

411 Vacation Resort Rentals

FLORIDA - Port Charlotte senior vacation, 3 mo. minimum. Adjacent to cultural center w/classess & entertainment. 1 bedroom, family & dining rooms, kitchen, lanai & pool. (248) 685-8251

HARBOR SPRINGS - View of bay, 2 bedroom, 1 mile from Boyne Mountain, week of Christmas. \$800 night. 650-888-2803

MANCELONA, MI - Schuss Mountain condo, 2 Bedroom, 2 bath, sleeps 6. Available Christmas & New Years, also weekends. 248-652-2314

412 Living Quarters to Share

SOUTHFIELD - Room w/private bath in colonial home. Quiet neighborhood. \$400/mo. includes utilities. 248 593-6392

TROY - Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Laundry, storage. Short term available. \$420/Mo. Includes utilities. 810-663-4509

414 Rooms

NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH - Downtown. Furnished sleeping rooms. Newly decorated, \$5 weekly. Security deposit. 734-455-2010

457 Property Management

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We personalize our service to meet your leasing & management needs.
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Observer & Eccentric

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Employment

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www.oeonline.com

500 Help Wanted General

EMPLOYMENT/INSTRUCTION SERVICES
#500-598

ACCOUNTANT/CONTROLLER
DISTRIBUTION and Warehousing company seeking individual with degree and experience with A/P, A/R, GL & MAS90 exp. helpful. High transaction volume. Responsible for all aspects, including collections. Must be able to produce & analyze financial & inventory reports. W. Bloomfield/Walled Lake area. Send resume and wage history to Box #291
Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft
Livonia, MI 48150

ACO HARDWARE accepting applications for Janitorial Maintenance, RETIREES WELCOME and all others. Part-time 5:00am-9:00am Mon. thru Fri. benefits include 401(k), paid vacation, holidays and employee discount. Send letter of interest. Attn: Human Resources/O&EJAN, 23333 Commerce Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48335-2764 EOE

ACO HARDWARE is taking applications for full-time Cashier and part-time Cashier for nights and weekends. Flexible scheduling. Apply in person at 29615 Orchard Lake Road at 13 Mile Rd. at 13 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Tel: 248-851-3083 EOE

Active Plymouth gift store hiring Clerks. No experience needed. Call: Georgia's, 1-800-562-3655
Competitive pay & benefits

AIRCRAFT MECHANICS
Kitty Hawk Charters of Ypsilanti, MI is currently seeking Aircraft Mechanics for our 135 Maintenance Division. Applicants must be licensed and have a minimum one year experience. EOE. For consideration, please send/fax resume or apply in person to: Kitty Hawk Charters 843 Willow Run Airport Ypsilanti, MI 48198 Fax: (734) 544-3415 Phone: (734) 484-7376 Ext. 7269

APPRAISING & SALES
W. Bloomfield/Farmington office seeks 2 people - will train - Steve Leibhan, 248-851-4100, ext. 312.
Real Estate One...

500 Help Wanted General

AIR FREIGHT CENTER MANAGER
Domestic/International Air Freight/Expediting Co. needs talented operations manager. Experienced, coupled with exceptional communications, customer service and managerial skills required for multi-tasked position. Great salary/benefits. Send resume/salary requirements to: Personnel 29101 Airport Dr. Romulus, MI 48174

ALARM TECHNICIANS
Growing security company located in Novi has IMMEDIATE POSITIONS available for installing and servicing security systems. Electrical or cable experience a plus on job training provided. Excellent opportunity for career development and advancement. Full benefits. Fax resume to 248-449-7633 or call 248-449-1458

Apartment Manager
Progressive management company needs experienced Apartment Manager to operate medium size Townhouse community in Auburn Hills. Must be good administrator and people oriented. Salary/benefits. Send resume to: Kattan Enterprises (248) 352-3800

ASSEMBLY
Southfield area, \$6-7 to start. All shifts. Teamplayers (734) 729-6420

Auto Dealer in Milford seeks to fill the following full time positions:
• Service Advisor
• New Car Prep Tech
• Receptionist
• Parts
Excellent pay & benefits. Please apply in person or call Tammy for more information. Hines Park Ford 130 S. Milford Rd., Milford (248) 684-1715

AUTO DEALERSHIP seeking new car prep tech & lot maintenance person. Full time, benefits included, pay based on experience. Hines Park Ford Ask for Larry. (248) 684-1715

AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC & MANAGER
Certification a must. Good pay, good benefits. Brighton area. Contact Mike 734-453-9900

500 Help Wanted General

AUTO TECH/MGR/HELPERS
needed. Guaranteed top wages. Flexible hours. (734) 662-6293

BLOCK GRANT COORDINATOR
CITY OF SOUTHFIELD
Position will oversee administration of Block Grant Program as well as ensure that federal requirements for participation are met. Contractual pay rate of \$16.28 per hour plus benefits. Requirements include BA in Urban Studies or related field; 2 years grant administration experience; 1 year of budgeting and supervisory experience; problem solving and organizational skills; and excellent written and oral communication skills. Apply by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 14, 1999 at City of Southfield Human Resources Department, 26000 Evergreen, Southfield, MI 48076. E.O.E. M/F/V/N/H

BOOKKEEPER
Full charge. Part time. Peach Tree Systems. Income Property. References. Good pay. (248) 352-2220.

BUILDING INSPECTOR/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
The Charter Township of Oakland, is seeking applicants for the position of Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer. Applicants must be registered with the State of Michigan as a Building Inspector, with at least 3 years' experience in building code enforcement. Salary range \$34,112 to \$42,640 with excellent benefits. Send resume to Bill Benoit, Building Director, Charter Township of Oakland, 4993 Collins Road, Rochester, MI 48306. Resumes will be accepted until Fri. Dec. 31, 1999.

CABLING INSTALLERS
Computer/telephone company (134yrs) seeking "entry level" installers.
• Starting \$10.00/hr
• Benefits, training
• Advancement, job stability
Fax or mail resume to: REH Associates, Inc. 21637 Melrose Ave. Southfield, MI 48075 248-354-3070

CABLING TECHNICIANS
Company with 13+ years seeking Techs with 2+ years experience with:
• Cat5, Cat3 cabling
• 200+ drop installations
• trouble-shooting experience
Training, progressive pay scales, Benefits, job stability.
Mail or Fax resume to: REH Associates, Inc. 21637 Melrose Ave. Southfield, MI 48075 248-354-3070

The City of Wayne does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

500 Help Wanted General

CARPENTERS & HELPERS
Pay determined by experience. Novi area. (248) 348-7322 (248) 503-0457 (pager)

CARPENTERS (ROUGH)
Northville Area. 734-776-6117

CAR RENTAL AGENT
Full-time and part-time. Some computer experience helpful. Dependable people needed. Fax resume: (810) 227-6744 Or Call: (810) 227-3530

CAR WASH - Earn \$7-9/hr. + bonuses. Must be dependable. Apply: Bloomfield Auto Wash, Telegraph 18 Mile.

CASHIER/CLERICAL
Ideal for homemakers, 8am-3pm. Mathison Hardware, 6130 Canton Center, Canton

CASHIER FULL/PART-TIME
afternoons. Flexible, good pay. Farmington Hills Mobil. Call Ray (248) 471-2620

CANTON MONTESSORI
Pre-school looking for part-time aide. 3-6pm. Mon-Wed-Fri. Starting Jan. Also substitute staff needed (all hours). Great children & supportive staff. Call 459-1550

CHILD-CARE PROVIDERS
for infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers. 248-471-1022

CHILD/PARENT PLAY program
seeks enthusiastic, energetic instructors to join our team. Part-time days, evenings and/or weekends. Training provided. (248) 666-4240

CITY OF WAYNE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
LABORER II - The City of Wayne is currently accepting applications for the purpose of establishing a Laborer II original eligible list, based on competitive examination. Starting rate is \$11.57/hr. Applicants must have a High School diploma or equivalent. Must possess a valid State of Michigan Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with Class B air brake certification upon application. Must have an excellent driving record with no more than three (3) points on current driving record. Applicant may be required to apply for current copy of driving record, at own expense, through the Secretary of State. Must reside within residency area upon completion of probationary period. Applications are available in the Personnel Department, 3355 S. Wayne Road, Wayne, MI 48184 or send a self addressed stamped envelope to the above address to request an application. Completed applications must be received in the Personnel Department by 4:30 p.m. on December 30, 1999.

The City of Wayne does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

500 Help Wanted General

CLEANING HOMES, Starting at \$8 an hour. Maida's N More. (248) 471-7861

CLEANING PERSON
full time for apt. community in Westland. Benefits available & 401k 734-422-5411

CLEANING PERSON
Position immediately available in the Westland & Novi areas. Call Bruce at 248-569-8880

COLLECTOR
Troy area law firm specializing in real & commercial debt collection seeks experienced Collector. Professional telephone & communications skills required. Mail resume to: Office Administrator, 3250 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite 124, Troy, MI 48068 or fax to 248-816-8110

CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION
Construction Co. has immediate openings for the following: Equipment Operator. Phone 248-689-4789 or fax resume to 248-669-4878.

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT MECHANIC
Immediately, pay based on experience, benefits 734-591-3466

CONSTRUCTION
Punch-list Person/Laborers Wanted to start immediately for Farmington Hills Bull Run. Multi/single family new home construction. Competitive starting wage, must have Transportation. Experience helpful, but will train the Right person. Call: 248-538-1594 CALL 248-538-1594 FOR INTERVIEW

CREDIT COUNSELOR
Experience in telemarketing & customer service. \$10/hr. + commission. Southfield 248-557-8946

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Full-time position in pleasant Southfield office. Requirements good eye for color, strong organizational skills, excellent communication abilities, enjoys people. Send resume to: Lisa, The R.J. Marshall Company, 26775 W. 12 Mile Rd. Suite 201, Southfield, MI 48034 Fax 248-948-6480

DANCERS
No Experience Necessary 248-426-6409

500 Help Wanted General

Customer Service/Contractor Control Sales
Unilock Michigan, Inc. is the largest manufacturer of paving stones and retaining products. We are looking for a candidate who is a team player with a construction or landscape background with the ability to read blueprints, estimate jobs, PC experience helpful. Unilock is a solid company looking for long-term employees. Competitive wages with medical and dental benefits and 401K. Please send resume in confidence or apply at: Unilock Michigan, Inc. Customer Service Mgr. 12991 Emerson Dr. Brighton, MI 48116 (1 mile S. of Grand River, off Kensington Rd.) (248) 437-7037

Customer Service CALL CENTER HOME DEPOT
The Home Depot's new Special Agent Vendor is exploding with growth and opportunities. We need enthusiastic people to assist our customers who are calling to place orders. Full-time evening shifts available. Great for school and/or childcare schedules. The ideal candidate will have 6 months customer service experience and a working knowledge of computers. We Offer:
• Tuition Reimbursement
• Excellent Benefits
• Shift premium for evenings
• Excellent advancement
Our upbeat corporate casual offices are located in the Galleria Officestore. Fortune 100 company
CALL (248) 351-5630

DELIVERY DRIVER
Florist looking for delivery driver in Detroit area. Must have own vehicle. Please call Leslie (248) 544-0850

DIRECT CARE AIDE
Group home openings for afternoons, midnights. Valid driver's license, paid training. Competitive wage & benefits 734-762-0338. 734-677-7929 734-454-3764. 734-946-4971

500 Help Wanted General

Customer Service Representative
Successful, fast-growing investigation agency seeks a professional, highly motivated Customer Service Representative to work in our fast-paced employment background division. Qualified candidates will be computer literate and detail oriented, with customer service experience. Full time position with opportunity for advancement. Competitive wages, with paid vacation/holidays, medical/dental, and 401K. Send or fax resume w/salary requirements to: CHRIS Information Services, Attn: C. Miner, 17177 N. Laurel Park Dr., Suite 416, Livonia, MI 48152. Fax (734) 462-0314

DIE SETTER/BLANKER OPERATOR
We are looking for a self-motivated individual to set up and run our blanking presses. Mechanical aptitude required. Ten Hour FOUR DAY WORK WEEK. Apply 8-4-30. Mon-Thurs at Reuland Electric, 4500 E. Grand River, Howell, MI. e-mail hr@reuland.com EOE (517) 545-0517

DIE SETTER
2nd Tier manufacturer of a small stamping plant. Seeking individual with experience on progressive dies with air feeds. line dies with secondary operations. Profit sharing and benefits in a non-smoking environment. Fax resume with salary requirements to (313) 537-0286 or apply at Franklin Fastener Co. 12701 Beech Daly Rd., Redford

DIRECT CARE STAFF
Seeking motivated, caring people to teach & assist adults w/physical and/or mental challenges in their homes. Full or part-time. 75-58 50hr. w/benefits. For interview in Novi (248) 449-3119 or Howell (517) 545-9921

DIRECTOR FOR Northville church daycare. Only experienced, degreed, organized & individuals need apply. Please call (734) 455-1040

DRIVER CDLA to haul equipment locally some mechanical ability desired. Fax resume to work (248) 471-2164

500 Help Wanted General

DISPATCH/FLIGHT FOLLOWERS
Kitty Hawk Charters is now accepting resumes for Dispatch Flight Followers for a 135 Charter Airline Operation. Dispatch experience a plus but not necessary. EOE. For consideration, please send/fax resumes to: Kitty Hawk Charters 843 Willow Run Airport Ypsilanti, MI 48198 Fax: (734) 487-6420

DRIVER COVENANT TRANS-PORT \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced Company Drivers 1-800-441-4384. Owner Operators. Call 1-888-667-3729 Bud Meyer Truck Lines Refrigerated Hauling CALL TOLL FREE 1-877-283-6393 Solo Drivers & Contractors

DRIVER FOR auto part store. Full time will train. Paid benefits. profit sharing. Apply Painter's Supply 1054 West Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth

DRIVER - Full part-time. Must have good driving record. Retirees welcome. Apply at Detroit Bio-Medical Lab. 23955 Freeway Park Dr. Farmington Hills or call 248-471-4111

DRIVER - Owner Operators up to \$160 per loaded mile. Tractor Cargo Van & 18-24 ft. Straight Truck owners needed. Call Panther II Transportation. today! 800-640-7055

Full & part-time. Local deliveries. Must have clean driving record & chauffeurs license. Apply in person at 42020 Koppernick, Suite B200, Canton

DRIVER WANTED
With own car. Experience preferred but not required. \$8-\$10/hr. (248) 827-7678

Our Family Members With A Fistful Of Dollars.



We love to hand out money and have fun at Great Lakes Bank! Ask one of our top Consumer Lending Managers. We took her and a gang of other Great Lakes Bank family members on a great trip to celebrate their tremendous sales performance

We're looking for good people with the kind of attitude she brings to our table. People who produce results, want the rewards that go with them and sincerely believe hard work can be fun. If you want a fun challenge, like producing work that could result in a fistful of dollars, then you should join the Great Lakes Bank family!

We are currently conducting a search in the Southeast Michigan area for Consumer Loan Assistant Branch Lending Managers. Candidates should be able to demonstrate a successful track record of at least one to two years in telemarketing or direct sales. These positions are an excellent starting point for candidates who are interested in a financial services career.

Mail your resume to:
Great Lakes Bank Code: MM-99
401 E. Liberty Street • Ann Arbor, MI 48104 or
Fax it to: 734-930-6199 or
E-mail it to: bgriffes@mailbox4.tcfbank.com or
Contact your local Great Lakes Bank office

Now Hiring:
Consumer Loan Assistant Branch Lending Managers
History of Fun Preferred... Great Attitude A Must

GreatLakesBank
A TCF BANK
People Who Have Fun Produce Extraordinary Results.
We value a diverse workforce and promote a drug free workplace.

Administrative Assistant

Seeking a customer service oriented Administrative Assistant familiar with the Internet and World Wide Web.

Basic knowledge of a PC system and software is important, as is a willingness to learn more. Candidate will be responsible for various administrative and clerical tasks. Must have good attention to detail and work well with others. High School diploma or equivalent required. Good opportunity with attractive salary and benefits.

Please fax or send resume and salary requirements to:

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
36251 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia, MI 48150
Fax: (734) 953-2057
Email: maryab@oe.homecomm.net

Controller

The Observer & Eccentric Newspaper publishes 16 twice-weekly newspapers serving communities of suburban Detroit. We are seeking an experienced Controller to lead our accounting & business departments. Responsibilities include record maintenance of assets, liabilities and company transactions, costs, budgets, trends and increased profit possibilities. This High profile position requires a Bachelor's degree with 5-8 years previous experience and includes an excellent benefits package with bonus program. Submit resume with salary requirements in confidence via email to: lgormo@oe.homecomm.net or mail:

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
36251 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150
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Please include the job code "COE".
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- A year
- Above average organizational, verbal and written communication skills
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- Superior telephone and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work well under pressure in a deadline oriented environment
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- Ability to work long hours as necessary
- Ability to work with minimum supervision and remain highly self motivated
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- Computer literacy in Microsoft applications

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Women seeking Men

ONE GOOD MAN

SBF, 5'10", 170lbs, fit, financially sound, active SM, 31-40, any race, for serious LTR. No head games. **11132**

WARM & FRIENDLY

SWF, 38, 5'7", slim, blonde, blue, seeks SOWM, 32-40, no obs, high morals, no drugs, for monogamous relationship. **11135**

SEXUAL BIG

If you are 32-43, and can handle a big female you can handle me. I am a blonde, who knows how to push the right lever. Must be great with sex. **11138**

VIVACIOUS, OUTGOING

SWF, 38, 5'7", slim, blonde, blue, seeks SOWM, 32-40, no obs, high morals, no drugs, for monogamous relationship. **11135**

HAPPY IN WATER

ND, seeks SOWM, 35-50, NS, with sense of humor, who enjoys outdoor activities, indoor activities, loves to be a seductress for LTR. **11145**

NOT PERFECT IN ROYAL OAK

You don't need to be, either, but you need to be NS, hopefully no dependents, like cats, who wants to share life's adventures. **11147**

BEAUTIFUL, GAY

SBF, 37, 5'10", 170lbs, fit, financially sound, active SM, 31-40, any race, for serious LTR. No head games. **11132**

PEOPLE PERSON

DBFP, 40, 5'7", 210lbs, medium build, handsome, outgoing, fun, single, one child, likes reading, traveling, shopping, helping others. Seeking SM, 35-45, for friendship. **11149**

MENTALLY HEALTHY MAN

Attractive, polite DM, 5'4", seeks DMW, 45-55, for friendship. You're interested for someone, enjoy life, biking, dancing and more. You're emotionally stable, can communicate well, honest. **11151**

AFFECTIONATE AND CARING

DMW, 45, vibrant, joyful, affectionate, intelligent, seeks SOWM, 35-45, for friendship. **11153**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TOGETHER

Attractive DM, young 50, 5'4", blonde, NS, emotionally intelligent, financially sound, honest and caring, looking for a long-term relationship. **11155**

ONE IN A MILLION IN NOVI

Very attractive SOWM, young-looking 50, 5'4", blonde, brown, great shape, seeks SOWM, 45-55, honest, easygoing, NS, no dependents, seeking a relationship. **11157**

LOOKING FOR A COMPANION

SWF, 31, long blonde, 5'3", 100lbs, smoker, who enjoys dancing, putting, dining out, movies. Seeking DMW, 35-45, for LTR. **11159**

SLIM, WITTY REDHEAD

Fighting SOWM, 35-40, 5'10", blonde, seeks SOWM, 35-40, for LTR. **11161**

LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT

Active SOWM, 38, 5'2", brown, intelligent, independent, good sense of humor, loves being out, doing, swimming, traveling, similar interests. **11163**

STILL SEARCHING

Full-figured, honest, caring SOWM, 25 mother of one, enjoys long walks, quiet nights at home, dining out, seeking a relationship. **11165**

SEEKING THAT SPECIAL YOU

SWF, 35, 5'10", 170lbs, fit, financially sound, active SM, 31-40, any race, for serious LTR. No head games. **11132**

SPECIAL FRIEND

Intelligent, easygoing, sincere, caring, trustworthy SOWM, 35, tall, enjoys dining, movies, baking, travel, cooking, seeking financially/emotionally secure DMW, 35-55, similar interests, for LTR. **11167**

ATTRACTION BLONDE

WF, 51, 5'7", medium build, seeks commitment-minded, kind, WM, 45-55, for LTR. **11169**

LOOKING FOR LOVE

AREA MAN WANTED

One responsible man, sense of humor, loves animals, cuddling, video, late, long nights, who can hold the interest of a shapely, full-figured DMW, 35, who will treat him as good as he treats her. **11171**

EUN ANONYE

DMW, 25, NS, mother of one, seeks attractive, tall, outgoing SOWM, 25-32, for dating, fun, whatever else may happen. Must have sense of humor. **11173**

SHAPELY & ATTRACTIVE

Full-figured DMW, 35, 5'8", great personality, outgoing, educated, fun, seeks SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11175**

GIVE ME A CALL

Classy, athletic, adventurous, optimistic DMW, 44, tall, slender, blonde, seeks SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11177**

NO MORE GAMES

Petite, honest, sincere SOWM, 44, blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11179**

ANIMALHOOD

Pretty, smart, playfully plump, bubbly SOWM, 44, blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11181**

ONE IN A MILLION

DBF, 41, 5'7", 210lbs, medium build, handsome, outgoing, fun, single, one child, likes reading, traveling, shopping, helping others. Seeking SM, 35-45, for friendship. **11183**

TELL ME YOU ARE FOR REAL

SWF, 38, 5'7", slim, blonde, blue, seeks SOWM, 32-40, no obs, high morals, no drugs, for monogamous relationship. **11135**

LOVELY, LONELY CLASSY LADY

Tall, slender, blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11185**

STARTING OVER WITH DMW

DMW, 40, 5'7", 210lbs, medium build, handsome, outgoing, fun, single, one child, likes reading, traveling, shopping, helping others. Seeking SM, 35-45, for friendship. **11187**

LET'S GET TOGETHER

Pretty, attractive, blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11189**

SEEKING TALL TEDDY BEAR

SWF, 45, 5'7", 210lbs, medium build, handsome, outgoing, fun, single, one child, likes reading, traveling, shopping, helping others. Seeking SM, 35-45, for friendship. **11191**

NATURAL & CHARMING

DMW, 40, 5'7", 210lbs, medium build, handsome, outgoing, fun, single, one child, likes reading, traveling, shopping, helping others. Seeking SM, 35-45, for friendship. **11193**

HOPELESS ROMANTIC

DMW, 40, 5'7", 210lbs, medium build, handsome, outgoing, fun, single, one child, likes reading, traveling, shopping, helping others. Seeking SM, 35-45, for friendship. **11195**

MAD ABOUT YOU

DMW, 40, 5'7", 210lbs, medium build, handsome, outgoing, fun, single, one child, likes reading, traveling, shopping, helping others. Seeking SM, 35-45, for friendship. **11197**

SEX REDHEAD

Easygoing, fun-loving DMW, 49, 5'6", 145lbs, great legs, no kids, blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11199**

WAYNE COUNTY AREA

Attractive, intelligent, tall, slim SOWM, 35-40, 5'10", blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11201**

MILLENNIUM IN PARIS?

Pretty, slender, shapely, sensual, smart, sophisticated, secure, sweetheart, seeks best friend for life, not just a flake. **11203**

SEEKING THAT SPECIAL YOU

SWF, 35, 5'10", 170lbs, fit, financially sound, active SM, 31-40, any race, for serious LTR. No head games. **11132**

SPECIAL FRIEND

Intelligent, easygoing, sincere, caring, trustworthy SOWM, 35, tall, enjoys dining, movies, baking, travel, cooking, seeking financially/emotionally secure DMW, 35-55, similar interests, for LTR. **11167**

ATTRACTION BLONDE

WF, 51, 5'7", medium build, seeks commitment-minded, kind, WM, 45-55, for LTR. **11169**

STABLE, SMART

ATTRACTION BLONDE

WF, 51, 5'7", medium build, seeks commitment-minded, kind, WM, 45-55, for LTR. **11169**

HONEST BLONDE

Intelligent, attractive, sincere, outgoing DMW, 37, long blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11171**

SEARCHING FOR MY SOULMATE

Pretty, tall, passionate DMW, 49, 5'10", blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11173**

CLASSY AFFECTIONATE FUN

Very attractive, petite blonde, loves being by the water, boating, golf, snow ski traveling, dancing, concerts, romantic dinners, fun, hugs. Seeking attractive, affectionate WM, 42-47, who enjoys life with class. **11175**

ATTRACTIVE WIDOW

Intelligent, slender, tall WM, 53, blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11177**

THIN, TALL & SPUNKY

Pretty, blonde SOWM, 37, former teacher, blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11179**

ONE IN A MILLION

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WAYNE COUNTY AREA

Attractive, intelligent, tall, slim SOWM, 35-40, 5'10", blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11201**

MILLENNIUM IN PARIS?

Pretty, slender, shapely, sensual, smart, sophisticated, secure, sweetheart, seeks best friend for life, not just a flake. **11203**

SEEKING THAT SPECIAL YOU

SWF, 35, 5'10", 170lbs, fit, financially sound, active SM, 31-40, any race, for serious LTR. No head games. **11132**

SPECIAL FRIEND

Intelligent, easygoing, sincere, caring, trustworthy SOWM, 35, tall, enjoys dining, movies, baking, travel, cooking, seeking financially/emotionally secure DMW, 35-55, similar interests, for LTR. **11167**

ATTRACTION BLONDE

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SINGLE SENIOR

ATTRACTION BLONDE

WF, 51, 5'7", medium build, seeks commitment-minded, kind, WM, 45-55, for LTR. **11169**

HONEST BLONDE

Intelligent, attractive, sincere, outgoing DMW, 37, long blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11171**

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WAYNE COUNTY AREA

Attractive, intelligent, tall, slim SOWM, 35-40, 5'10", blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11201**

MILLENNIUM IN PARIS?

Pretty, slender, shapely, sensual, smart, sophisticated, secure, sweetheart, seeks best friend for life, not just a flake. **11203**

SEEKING THAT SPECIAL YOU

SWF, 35, 5'10", 170lbs, fit, financially sound, active SM, 31-40, any race, for serious LTR. No head games. **11132**

SPECIAL FRIEND

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ATTRACTION BLONDE

WF, 51, 5'7", medium build, seeks commitment-minded, kind, WM, 45-55, for LTR. **11169**

LADY IN WAITING

ATTRACTION BLONDE

WF, 51, 5'7", medium build, seeks commitment-minded, kind, WM, 45-55, for LTR. **11169**

HONEST BLONDE

Intelligent, attractive, sincere, outgoing DMW, 37, long blonde, blonde, enjoys dancing, traveling, loves romantic evenings at home. Seeking SOWM, 35-45, for LTR. **11171**

SEARCHING FOR MY SOULMATE

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SEEKING A SOUL MATE

This outgoing and friendly DBF, 42, 5'4", who enjoys music, reading and walks in the park, is ISO a serious and sincere SBM, 42-62, with similar interests, for a pleasant relationship. Ad# 7775

FOCUS HERE

This friendly SWF, 31, 5'6", who enjoys going to the movies, the outdoors and taking long walks, is seeking a fun-loving SWM, 30-36, who shares similar interests. Ad# 1706

DON'T HESITATE

Meet this pleasant SWCF, 48, a full-figured, blue-eyed, blonde cutie who enjoys travel, movies, music, and family times. Her heart is set on sharing a meaningful relationship with you, a kind, caring, SWCM, 45-58, Ad# 6594

FOR KEEPS

This friendly, honest SWF, 45, 5'4", 149lbs., who enjoys bike riding, dining out and dancing, is interested in meeting up with a caring, sincere SWM, 38-55, who shares similar interests. Ad# 4240

BIG-HEARTED

This friendly SWF, 37, 5'9", with black hair and brown eyes, who enjoys gardening, dining out and traveling, is looking for a SM, 35-45, to spend quality time with. Ad# 1361

A SIMPLE REQUEST

Make a new friend by calling this DWM mom, 40, 5'8", who's looking for someone to share her interests with. If you're an outgoing SWCM, 35-45, who enjoys walking, camping, bicycling and watching movies, then you could be a perfect match for each other. Ad# 8191

STILL SEARCHING

Semi-retired, spontaneous DWCF, 65, 5'7", with brown hair/eyes, who enjoys photography, traveling, cooking and baking, is in search of an honest SWCM, 60-69, who loves the Lord. Ad# 4444

FOCUS HERE

She is a friendly, attractive SWF, 52, 5'7", 125lbs., with auburn hair and hazel eyes, whose interests include hiking, biking and boating. She's looking for a handsome, intelligent SWM, 52-62, who lives life to the fullest. Ad# 6262

CAPTURE MY ATTENTION
This outgoing SWF, 30, 5'2", 110lbs., with brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys jogging, reading and working out, is seeking an open-minded, honest SWM, 28-38, for a possible long-term relationship. Ad# 2469

CHARISMATIC CHRISTIAN
Spirit-filled, warm-hearted and employed DWM mother, 35, 5'5", is seeking a companionable, commitment-minded SWCM, 25-48, who shares her dedication to church and enjoys family activities. Ad# 7764

FAITH & HOPE

An educated SWPF, 50, who likes cultural events, listening to music, and reading, is seeking an intelligent, mature SWPM, for a possible relationship. Ad# 1998

MEET YOU HALFWAY

She's an outgoing, attractive SWF, 51, 5'4", medium build, blond hair, brown eyes, who enjoys music, dancing, long walks, and the theater. Her heart is open to share happiness and romance with a thoughtful, considerate SWM, 46-56, Ad# 5614

JUST US

SWF, 35, 5'4", who enjoys fishing, sports and going to church, is looking forward to meeting a SWM, 29-41, for a possible relationship. Ad# 2814

IS IT FATE?

This friendly SWF, 52, 5'3", who enjoys dining out, concerts and quiet nights at home, is seeking a SWM, 46-57, who has a good sense of humor. Ad# 2345

HEART OF GOLD

Outgoing SWF, 59, 5'4", 125lbs., with auburn hair and green eyes, who enjoys antiques, home renovation and more, is looking for a SWM, over 55, for companionship. Ad# 1237

REBUILDING HER LIFE

Catholic DWF, 45, 5'2", 118lbs., with dark brown curly hair, a N/S, is looking for the right person, a considerate, respectful Catholic SWM, 40-50, who values his faith and family. She enjoys bowling, movies and a lot of friends. Ad# 5642

CIRCLE THIS AD

Employed, family-oriented SBF, 26, who likes long walks, outdoor activities, movies and is seeking a SBM, for a long-term relationship. Ad# 2218

CIRCLE THIS

Adventurous SWF, 35, 5'5", is seeking an honest, marriage-minded SWM, 30-38, who enjoys golf, fishing and dining out. Ad# 4528

KNOWS WHAT SHE WANTS
Pretty DWM mom, 44, 5'4", 145lbs., with light brown hair and hazel eyes, a N/S, non-drinker, is seeking happiness with an easygoing, family-oriented DWCM, under 54. She enjoys swimming, movies, bowling, and reading. Ad# 4108

BORN-AGAIN

This vibrant DWCF, 55, 5'7", a blue-eyed blonde, is a member of the choir who enjoys praise and worship, youth ministry, church activities, and seeks fellowship with a similar SWCM, 56-62. Ad# 5144

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

Attractive, personable Catholic SWF, 38, 5'4", with brown hair/eyes, is seeking an outgoing, sincere and handsome Catholic SWM, 33-44, who enjoys tennis, sporting events, reading and horseback riding. Ad# 6684

TO THE POINT

SWCF, 39, 5'5", full-figured, with brown hair/eyes, who enjoys horseback riding, swimming, and more, is looking for a sweet, sincere SWM, over 30. Ad# 2220

VIVACIOUS

Active, energetic DBCF, 58, 5'4", is seeking a childless, healthy SBM, 58-69, for a possible LTR. Her interests include church, movies, and more. Ad# 1103

LOVES THE LORD

Outgoing, Born-Again SWCF, 43, full-figured, who enjoys music, swimming, singing, bible study, and more, is seeking a SWCM, 40-50, N/S, without dependents. Ad# 1956

FRESH START

Hardworking, Catholic DWF, 48, 5'3", who enjoys walking, movies and going to church, is looking for a compatible, caring, Catholic WWWM, 48-52, without children at home, for friendship first. Ad# 3907

LIFE GOES ON

This friendly, sincere SWF, 47, 5'4", who enjoys meeting new people, dancing, and walks in the park, is looking forward to meeting an upbeat SWM, 44-50, who shares similar interests. Ad# 2652

DEDICATED

She's a never-married SBF, 33, 5'9", N/S, non-drinker, who is looking for a sweet, sincere SWM, over 34. Ad# 1980

IS IT YOU?

This friendly SBF, 39, 5'6", who enjoys movies, dining out, theater and travel, is hoping to meet a loving, family-oriented SM, 33-50, who shares similar interests and has a good sense of humor. Ad# 4581

WORKS & PLAYS HARD

Attractive, ambitious, secure DWPC mom, 36, 5'5", with blonde hair and green eyes, loves working out, outdoor activities and reading. She's looking for a SCM physician, 36-48, who will treat her well. Ad# 8888

HEAVEN SENT

This friendly SWF, 47, 5'9", whose interests include gardening, travel, taking walks in the park and camping, is looking to meet an honest, gentle SWM, 35-50, who likes children. Ad# 6561

TIME TO GET TOGETHER

Her dream is sharing a romantic, long-term relationship with an outgoing, sincere, handsome, SWM, 40-55 who enjoys biking, taking walks, music, and dancing. Be sure to let this very lovely, quite charming SWF, 43, know you're interested! Ad# 9915

THE BEST THERE IS

Never-married, attractive SWF, 36, 5'2", with red hair and green eyes, who enjoys sports, music, traveling and playing cards, is ISO a kind-hearted SWM, 30-45, with similar interests. Ad# 6354

END MY SEARCH

Creative, educated and Jewish, I am a DWF, 55, 5'6", slender, with blonde hair and light blue eyes, who enjoys cooking and movies. I am looking for a communicative SWM, over 46, who knows what he wants. Ad# 2525

SIMPLY PUT

Romantic SWF, 60, 5'2", 118lbs., with brown hair/eyes, who enjoys dancing, travel, the theater, long walks and more, would like to meet a trustworthy SWM, 55-65, with similar interests. Ad# 5555

IS IT FATE?

Say hello to this personable SWCF, 38, 5'7", who enjoys cooking, jazz music and traveling. Her heart is set on sharing a long-term relationship with a responsible, handsome SWM, 36-47. Ad# 9455

UP FOR IT ALL

Friendly DWCF, 52, 5'10", with blonde hair and brown eyes, who enjoys sports, rollerblading and just keeping active, is seeking an easygoing, monogamous SWCM, 48-60. Ad# 3747

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE

Fun-loving DWCF, 47, 5'5", who enjoys sports, the outdoors and gardening, is seeking a sincere, dependable SWCM, 43-51, for companionship. Ad# 4488

COMPANIONSHIP

Outgoing, honest and fun-loving, describes this Catholic DWF, 50, 5'9", looking for friendship with a Catholic SWM, 45-55. Ad# 4536

LET'S CUDDLE

Catholic DWF, 59, 5'2", 125lbs., with blonde hair and green eyes, who enjoys family barbecues, picnics and more, seeks a Catholic, Italian SWM, 51-61. Ad# 1992

Male Seeking Females

AWAITING YOUR RESPONSE

Outgoing, friendly, attractive Catholic WWWPM, 31, 6'1", who enjoys sports, ball games and a variety of other activities, is seeking a WWA/WBCF, 18-55, with no children. Ad# 1965

LEAVE A MESSAGE

Professional SWM, 40, 6', 190lbs., with brown hair/eyes, who enjoys camping, the theater and going for long walks, is seeking a SWCF, 26-38. Ad# 6789

CELEBRATE LIFE

Shy SWM, 31, 5'10", 220lbs., who enjoys camping, hiking, long walks and movies, is seeking a fun-loving, family-oriented SF, 25-35, who has old-fashioned values. Ad# 1018

A GOOD MAN

Shy, nice-looking DWM dad, 37, 6', with brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys the outdoors, is looking to share movies, family activities and a lasting friendship with an independent, petite SWCF, 30-45. Ad# 6683

CONTACT ME

This friendly SB dad, 37, 5'11", who enjoys taking long walks, going to the movies and bike riding, is seeking a SF, who likes children. Has he found you? Ad# 4194

SHORT BUT SWEET

Friendly, never-married SBM, 38, 6'1", who is seeking a slender, outgoing, degreed SF, under 44, for dating first. Ad# 9317

A PEACEFUL MAN

Never-married, caring, handsome SBM, 28, 6', is in search of a down-to-earth, true SWF, 40-50, who has God in their life. Ad# 4278

AN ANGEL

Outgoing, attractive SWM, 33, 5'6", 140lbs., with dark brown hair/eyes, who enjoys walks, good conversation, fishing, and more, is looking for an ambitious SWF, 24-36, who shares similar interests, for friendship first. Ad# 6321

INTERESTED

Here's a friendly SWM, 48, 5'7", who likes quiet evenings at home, trying new things and traveling. He's seeking a SWF, under 52, to share life and interests with. Ad# 4374

JOYS OF LIFE

He's a friendly SWPM, 58, 6'3", who enjoys renovating houses, dining out and more. He is in search of a caring, sincere SWF, 45-55, who shares his type of lifestyle. Ad# 1939

SOMEONE SPECIAL FOR ME
Shy and reserved, this never-married, college-educated SBPCM, 36, 5'5", 150lbs., 5'5", is ISO a never-married SCF, 25-39, with no children, who loves the Lord, to have a great time. Ad# 4949

FRIENDSHIP FIRST

Never-married SWPM, 37, with dark hair/eyes, who enjoys the theater, auto shows and music, is seeking a kind, caring SWF, for possible relationship. Ad# 1260

WALK DOWN THE AISLE

Romantic, Catholic SWPM, 40, 6'1", who enjoys a wide range of interests, is seeking a marriage-minded, family-oriented, slender SWF who is athletically inclined. Ad# 1515

MARRIAGE ON HIS MIND
Take a minute to read about this wonderful DWM, 60: If you're a DWCF, 45-55, who enjoys family times, picnics, country music and more, you're just one step away from meeting him. Ad# 1445

JUST YOU AND I

Athletic SWM, 40, 6'1", enjoys jogging, biking, and playing golf, is seeking that one special, goal-oriented, compassionate, slender SWF, for a long-term monogamous relationship leading to marriage. Ad# 2739

COMMON BOND

This outgoing SWM, 26, 5'10", 170lbs., who enjoys martial arts, movies and more, is interested in meeting a SF, to spend quality time with. Ad# 1580

HAVE YOU SEEN...

My best friend? This shy SWCM, 28, 5'11", 160lbs., who enjoys boating, working out and the outdoors, is seeking a SCF, 20-35, who shares similar interests. Ad# 2727

LISTEN TO ME

Outdoor activities and bowling are interests of this friendly, outgoing, educated SBPM, 36. He is looking to meet a sincere, loving, tall, attractive SBF, beautiful inside and outside, with a great smile. Ad# 8989

NEVER-MARRIED

SWCM, 26, 6', 165lbs., blond with blue eyes, a N/S, non-drinker, seeks a petite, smart SWCF, 19-26, who has good morals, long hair and likes candlelit dinners, movies and time together. Ad# 1777

SEARCHING

Outgoing, friendly DWCM, 48, 5'7", with long brown hair, who enjoys street rods, the outdoors and concerts, is seeking a sweet, kind-hearted SWCF, 40-50. Ad# 6900

WANT TO HEAR MORE?

Friendly, laid-back SWCM, 27, 5'8", who likes beach walks, movies and having fun, seeks a SWCF, 18-35, without children at home. Ad# 4523

A REAL TRUE HEART

This friendly SW dad, 35, 5'8", with brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys singing, horseback riding and swimming, is looking for a SWF, 25-40, who has a good sense of humor. Ad# 1514

HEAVEN SENT

Delightful, handsome Catholic DWP dad of one, 38, 6'4", 215lbs., who enjoys boating, family activities, baseball, music, movies and travel, is seeking a similar Catholic SWF, 30-40, height/weight proportionate. Ad# 4324

HIGH MORAL STANDARDS

Athletic, Catholic SWM, 24, 6'3", 250lbs., with brown hair/eyes, who plays a variety of sports and coaches Little League, is seeking a romantic, Catholic SWF, 21-30, who likes movies, quiet evenings, dining out and more. Ad# 5150

LET'S GET ACQUAINTED

Outgoing, friendly, caring, honest DWCM, 59, 6', 195lbs., with brown hair and green eyes, is ISO a slender-to-medium-built SWCF, 55-65, to get to know. Ad# 6211

ONLY THE BEST

Educated WWWCM, 49, 5'11", 195lbs., with brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys boating, fishing, movies, fine dining and trying new things, is ISO an attractive, affectionate SCF, age unimportant. Ad# 9876

HONESTY COUNTS

Shy SWM, 42, 6', who enjoys sports, the theater, spending time with family and friends, seeks a slender, romantic SF, 30-45, for a possible relationship. Ad# 4123

IT'S FATE

Never-married SWPM, 40, 6'1", 190lbs., is looking for a fit, petite SW mom, 28-44, for a romantic, monogamous long-term relationship. Ad# 4251

LOOKING FOR MS. RIGHT

Catholic SWM, 42, 6'1", who enjoys sports and family activities, is seeking a sincere, Catholic SAF, under 45, for a long-term relationship. Ad# 2942

HONESTY COUNTS

Never-married, friendly SWM, 44, who enjoys Bible studies and outdoor activities, the theater and weekend getaways, is seeking a fit, pretty SWF. Ad# 4141

FAMILY-ORIENTED

Charming SWCM, 42, 6'1", who enjoys outdoor activities, the theatre and dining out, is seeking a fun-loving SCF, for a LTR. Ad# 1414

HE COULD BE THE ONE

Catholic DWM, 41, 5'6", of Italian heritage, who enjoys skiing and boating, wishes to meet a Catholic SWF, under 41, without children at home. Ad# 2015

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

Handsome SWPM, 36, 6', 180lbs., with brown hair and blue eyes, is seeking an attractive SWCF who enjoys sports, movies, dining out and more. Ad# 1534

DOWN-TO-EARTH

He's a friendly Catholic DWP dad of two, 46, 6', 180lbs., with brown hair, green eyes, and glasses, a smoker, who enjoys bowling, golfing, movies, and much more. He is seeking a SWF, 35-47, for a special, one-on-one, romantic relationship. Ad# 6569

FAITH & DEVOTION

Pleasant, never-married SWPCM, 42, 5'10", with brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys fine dining, concerts, movies, sports and walking, is interested in meeting a compatible SWCF, under 37, N/S. Ad# 1111

FOCUS HERE

This friendly, handsome DWM, 46, 5'11", who enjoys most sports, traveling and comedy clubs, is seeking a fun-loving, attractive SWF, 33-44, who shares similar interests. Ad# 1301

DELIGHTFUL

Never-married Catholic SWM, 50, 5'11", 180lbs., who is active in his church choir, enjoys children, dancing, walking, movies, music and good conversation. He wants to meet a SWCF, under 50, for a long-term relationship. Ad# 3580

MIXED BLESSING

He's an outgoing, employed DWJM, 44, 5', who enjoys sports, bowling and movies, ISO a commitment-minded Catholic SWF, 39-49. Ad# 2251

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LTR	Long-term relationship		

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834 Acura

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Pages 6 & 7

Inside:
Appliance
Doctor
Page 2

Celebrating
Family
Page 4

Garden Spot
Page 8

Take measures against winter woes



JOE GAGNON

The phones are ringing at the service departments of many appliance service companies. "Could you please send a service technician to check out my clothes dryer?" Dryers have quit operating or they have a

strange, offensive odor.

It's that time of year when the little critters are looking for a warm home and if they can get inside the dryer flapper on the outside of the house, they're coming in. One will make a little bed and the wires look attractive, so he takes a bite. Zap, and he's gone bye-bye. Or he sticks his head in the blower while it's turning. Either way, the critter will change colors and you need to get it out of there. Preventative measure: Take a little toothbrush and clean the hinges on the vent flapper on the outside of the house.

This winter, thousands of area residents will have busted water pipes in

their homes. Water will flow all over and cause a lot of damage to property and personal items. Preventative measure: Shut off the valves leading to the outside water supply.

Room air conditioners and dehumidifiers won't work properly next summer when you plug them in. They are covered with dirt on the inside coils, which you can't see from the outside. Preventative measure: Take them to the local car wash and use the hand-held wand and pour the soap and water into them. Put them away for the winter and don't plug them in until next summer.

The humidifier on your furnace is filled with bacteria and those bad guys travel throughout your house every time the furnace comes on. Preventative measure: Give it a good cleaning with the hottest water possible and instead of cleaning the replacement pad, buy a new one and install it. While you're at it, change the air filter in the furnace.

If it is snowing outside and on the way to the church meeting, you stopped at the local drug store to get your prescription filled. When you parked the car you went just a little too far off the cement

and you are stuck in a grassy rut. The tire is spinning and it won't move ahead or backward. Preventative measure: Carry a bag of kitty litter in the trunk.

On those first few slippery days, you have to be extra careful driving until you become accustomed to that type of driving. The same thing applies to walking around. People will slip and fall and some senior citizen will suffer a broken hip. Preventative measure: Go to the shoe store and buy yourself a pair of winter boots. Make sure that the bottom side is as ugly as possible. I want the bottom side to have the best possible traction that money can buy. Who cares if the boot looks like a snow tire?

In winter you can count on several house fires resulting in deaths. Somewhere in the story it will be reported that the home didn't have a smoke or fire alarm, or the current alarm had batteries that were dead. Preventative measure: Need I say?

I do hope that these little common sense bits and pieces help someone along the way during this winter season. If you have any of your own on any

subject, why don't you write them down and drop them in the mail, addressed to the Appliance Doctor? You never know, a little tip can sometimes save a life. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard Saturday and Sunday on 760 WJR. He is a member and past president of the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals. His phone number is (313) 873-9789.

at home calendar

■ Help create a special Christmas for needy children by donating a new, unwrapped toy (no toy guns or breakable toys) to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots. Donations may be made at all Art Van Furniture stores through Thursday, Dec. 16. The toys will be delivered Christmas Day.

■ The Beverly Hills Garden Club will meet 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at the home of Debbie Morrow for a Christmas luncheon and a Joyeux Junque Gift Exchange. Members only.

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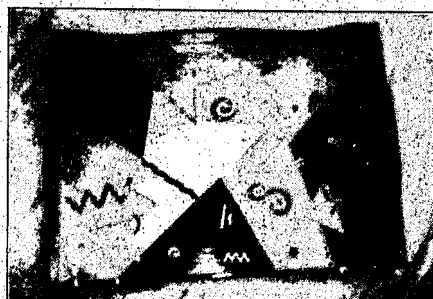
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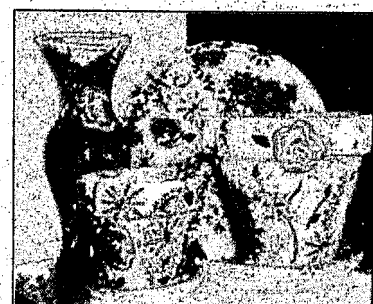
marketplace



Have a Knacks

Functional art: Jannie Teitelbaum of Rochester Hills presents vivid colors, unusual style and a bit of whimsy in her functional, handcrafted pieces, Knacks. The

collection includes bowls, platters, planters, candlesticks, pitchers, trivets and small furniture pieces. Non-toxic materials are used to paint and coat items to ensure they're safe for food. Among the styles are Christmas, Hanukkah, valentine, Easter, Passover and Halloween designs. Prices



range from \$16 for a 4-inch pot to \$175 for a 29-inch bar stool. Shown here are a serving tray in metallic contemporary style, and a 4-inch clay pot, 6-inch clay pot, 9-inch curved vase and 10-inch wooden bowl in spring flowers style. Call (248) 377-9490.

In the cards

Naturally: The BIG Idea, a bi-monthly trade magazine about metro Detroit's advertising industry and creative suppliers, has teamed up with printers and paper suppliers

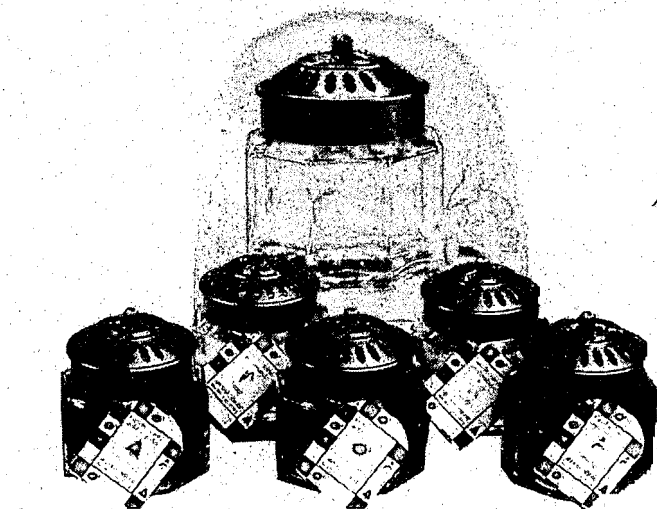
to produce stationery sets called The BIG Cards '99 - The Wildflower Collection. All proceeds from the sale of the sets will benefit The Greening of Detroit, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the reforestation of Detroit's neighborhoods, boulevards and parks. The nature images on the cards were photographed by S. Kay Young and have been exhibited at the Detroit Institute of Arts. The fold-over cards are blank inside and are packaged with translucent envelopes. Each set of 10 cards/10 envelopes is \$5.95, plus \$2 shipping and handling. Call The BIG Idea at (248) 544-0973, or visit its office at 1900 Hilton in Ferndale.



Pumped on pumpkins

Garden goods:

Pumpkins are turned into special serving pieces instead of coaches with these items available at Jacobson's. Serve after-dinner coffee with a whimsical touch with a ceramic sugar and creamer set from Terra Firma. The pumpkin-shaped sugar bowl has a removable lid with faux stems and leaves; the matching creamer has a faux stem for a handle. The sugar and creamer retail for \$75 each. Present a hearty meal with a ceramic serving bowl with pumpkin and flower motif. Handpainted by A. Santos, the bowl retails for \$20.



Scents' worth

In the air: Gazebo Scents Gel Pomander™ by Carolina Designs™ is a wickless, natural gel that gradually releases a light fragrance into the air when opened. It comes in five new holiday scents: classic mulberry, pine bough, vanilla, softice and freesia. Gazebo Scents are packaged in attractive, reusable, lightweight glass jars with a gazebo-shaped domed lid that retail for \$8 to \$9.99 each. Candles and candle accessories by Carolina Designs are available in department and specialty stores. Call (800) 942-6733 to find one near you.

AT HOME • Mary Klemic, editor (248) 901-2569

We are looking for your ideas for At Home and for the Marketplace roundup of new ideas. Send your comments to:

Mary Klemic, At Home

805 E. Maple

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celebrating family

Light a candle to honor a child



LISA LUCKOW-HEALY

The cash registers ring. Packages rustle together as many parents scoot through store aisles with lavish holiday gifts for their good boys and girls.

Amidst all the clamor, a childless couple solemnly yearns to be in

other parents' shoes. They meander through the mall, consumed with thoughts of recapturing holidays past. Nothing is taken for granted any longer.

The childless couple may be you and your spouse, or one near and dear to your heart, who has lost a child.

December is a difficult month to endure when you are dealing with your grief. You feel more alone than ever as you watch other parents scramble for presents you once took for granted you would buy one day. Now, that particular gift will never be opened. The sparkle in your child's eyes when he opens a gift will never again be experienced, but the void will.

Last year, the U.S. Senate declared Dec. 12 National Children's Memorial Day, a time to help commemorate children who have died by honoring their memory while bringing some degree of comfort to their families.

This year's observance coincides with the annual worldwide candle lighting memorial supported by the National Compassionate Friends board, an organization formed to support grieving families and help show them there is hope, even after their loss.

The organization believes that "to commemorate the lives of children who have died with a special day would pay them an honor and would help bring comfort to the hearts of their bereaved families. It is also a positive way bereaved families can reach out to others and know that they are not alone."

At 7 p.m. Dec. 12, a candle will be lit to remember a child. While this candle burns in one time zone, another candle begins to burn in the next. The overall effect is a virtual 24-hour wave of light that commemorates children who have died.

Locally, The Compassionate Friends (TCF) will have this candle lighting

memorial at Kellogg Park on Main Street in Plymouth.

Anyone who wishes to acknowledge the loss of a child, sibling or friend who has died is encouraged to pre-register the person's name by contacting Barb Kilgore, memorial coordinator, at (734) 455-8679 or by e-mail at BKilg84141. You may also register at Kellogg Park 6:30 p.m. Dec. 12.

The memorial features an hour of music, poems and candle lighting as each child's name is read aloud.

"One of the trees in the park will be dedicated to the children," Kilgore said.

"Ornaments with each child's name will be placed on the tree and displayed throughout the holiday season. It will be a time to be thankful that our children lived and a time to acknowledge that they continue to live in the lives of all of us."

Lisa Luckow-Healy is a graduate of the University of Michigan and a freelance writer who regularly contributes to parenting publications. She is also an active member of Detroit Women Writers and a contributing author to the organization's latest book, "Century of Voices." To

leave her a message from a touch-tone phone about how you celebrate family, call (734) 953-2047, then her mailbox number, 1903; or e-mail your suggestions for future family topics to LLHealy@aol.com

at home calendar

■ Gallery: FunctionArt, 21 N. Saginaw in Pontiac, is hosting the first Industrial Design Society of America-Michigan Student Furniture/Functional Art Design Competition Exhibition now through Saturday, Dec. 18. Call (248) 333-0333. The exhibit will coincide with the Pontiac Gallery Crawl Friday, Dec. 3. The items presented in the show range from tables to tablewares, showcasing work of students from IDSA-sanctioned schools in Michigan, focusing primarily on work from the Center for Creative Studies-College of Art and Design in Detroit. Jurors (including local designers, design educators and members of the design community) awarded nominal cash prizes for best of show and runners-up.

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field and forest. Views from the air are dramatically different and are easier to capture on film than you might think.

Commercial airliners are the most common means of aerial photography. Select a window seat either in front of or well behind the wing. Set your camera's focusing ring at infinity and the shutter speed at 1/500 second or faster. Because depth-of-field in aerial photography is normally insignificant, the wide aperture you'll be using won't matter. Don't brace the camera against the window or you'll pick up the plane's vibrations.

Use a skylight or UV filter to cut through haze. Be careful in the use of a polarizer, however, when shooting from an airliner. The filter may interact with the polarizing characteristics of the plastic window material and result in out-of-focus color bands in your picture.

With black and white film, use a yellow filter. Because contrast is reduced in aerial photography, the yellow filter will put "snap" back into your negatives.

With your camera ready, listen for the

pilot to identify such famous landmarks as the Grand Canyon, Niagara Falls, and well known cities. Such locations will photograph well from the air.

Other good subjects are dramatic sunsets, cloud formations, snowcapped mountains and patterns in plowed farmlands and checkerboard fields. Look for abstract shots, too, that will make your friends guess what your photo really is.

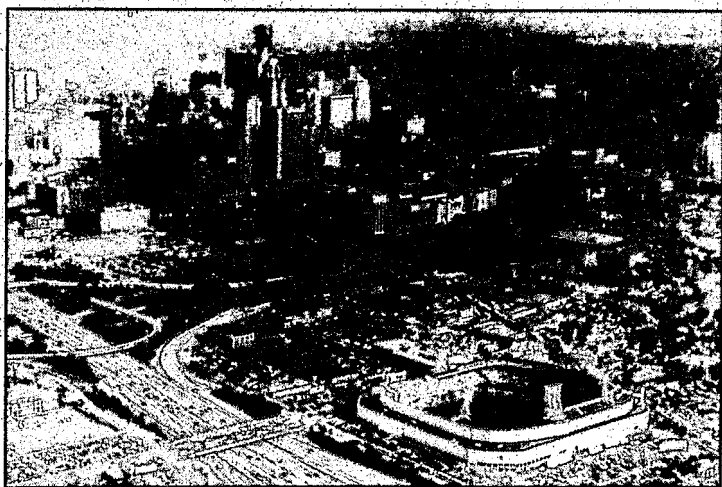
Light planes and helicopters can give you greater control over direction and elevation. They can bring you closer to the subject or give you the special angle you want. You'll be more flexible in time of day, too. Late afternoon or early morning will produce shadows and textures not obtainable in bright, mid-day sunlight.

Some of the best aerial shots can be taken from a hot air balloon. If the opportunity ever presents itself to fly in one, don't pass it up. The view is clear, there are no vibrations, and the perspective is excellent.

One further word on airliners: when flying commercially, never allow your film to pass directly through X-ray devices. Use a lead-lined protective bag or request a visual inspection of your film.

So let your photography take off and soar — into the air, that is!

Monte Nagler is a fine art photographer based in Farmington Hills. You can leave him a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then his mailbox, 1873.



Grand slam: Sept. 27, 1999 — the final game ever in historic Detroit Tiger Stadium. A small, high-wing plane gave Monte Nagler a clear view to capture this never-again moment.

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Holly Walk house dressed for seas

BY MARY KLEMIC
At Home Editor
mklemic@ps.homedcomm.net

Decorating is done in a big way at David and Debbie Nelson's home in Rochester Hills.

It isn't only that the magnificent residence is just less than 10,000 square feet and features soaring ceilings. The holiday spirit is displayed in a variety of decor everywhere you look.

The Nelson house is one of seven in Rochester Hills and Oakland Township on the eighth annual Holly Walk, 12:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library. Proceeds benefit the library.

The Holly Walk will also feature an exhibit of beautiful, historic quilts loaned by residents and musical entertainment at the Rochester Hills Museum, 1005 Van Hoosen Road, and refreshments 1-5 p.m. in the auditorium and holiday shopping in the Friends Library Store at the Rochester Hills Public Library, 500 Olde Towne Road.

Debbie Nelson designed and decorated the house, which blends contemporary and traditional architecture. The decor proclaims "Season's greetings" even before you enter, with Christmas trees lining the steps leading

to the front door.

The dramatic main entry features a winding staircase dressed with a garland in white and gold and tiny lights.

The living room is based in black and white. Gold trumpets made by Debbie are among the decorations on the tree in a corner next to the baby grand piano. A gold-trimmed, cream runner with holiday greetings in several languages in black letters is draped over the mantel.

A square trunk, its lid raised, appears to be bursting with greenery. Angels are on the table and among the greens in the trunk. Glittering poinsettias are shown. Recessed bookshelves have a granite bottom shelf and are framed with an architectural look of columns and pediment.

More angels are placed on shelves in the library. Another trunk with flowers and angels is in this room as well.

In the formal dining room, a family Bible from the 1800s is on a book stand in one corner. The Bible had been in a great-grandmother's attic and was rebound. A stack of red drums of various sizes forms a holiday arrangement at one end of the room. Skirted chairs feature red roping tied in the back.

A little Christmas village lines the top of the kitchen. Santas are seated on small chairs of the room. Here the china pattern matches drapes.

Purple and green trim a tree in a bedroom peted in mint green.

The lower level has a Western/Southwestern with leather furniture, wall pattern resembling Indian sand and a chandelier with cowboy in rust-color metal. The look is included in a tree decorated with peach and copper hues, and hanging from ribbons around the lower level also features a liard room and a media center.

More features

Other stops on this year's are a house with 17 Christmas trees, a Fre with 17th and 18th century European ant temporary residence offering a taste of Flori paneling and shades of aquamarine, a Gr house, a residence with stone walls and r design, and a house with soft gray cedar st reminiscent of the Eastern seaboard and a



On the cover:
A trunk
apparently
bursting with
greenery is
one of the
many holiday
decorations in
the Nelson
home in
Rochester
Hills. The
house is one
of seven resi-
dences fea-
tured on the
eighth annual
Holly Walk this
month.
Staff Photos
by John
Stormzand



Holiday cheer: Christmas trees are in almost every room in David and Debbie Nelson's house, including the sunroom.



Drumming up the spirit: The dining family Bible from the 1800s is on the stand with greenery, such as the one in the season.



over story

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ake exterior
family room

evoking the Western plains, including a mahogany canoe suspended from the ceiling.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. They are available at the Friends Library Store, open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Dillman & Upton Lumber & Ace Hardware, 607 Woodward in Rochester; Bordine Nursery Garden Store, 1835 S. Rochester Road in Rochester Hills; Sharon's Hallmark at the Rochester Hills Plaza, on Walton near Livernois; Something Special Hallmark, in the Campus Corners Shopping Center, at the southeast corner of Walton and Livernois in Rochester Hills; American Business Concepts, in the L&L Shopping Center at 3038 Walton Blvd.; and Rochester Design Center and Antique Mall, 210 W. University in Rochester.

Tickets will be available tour day at the museum and the library.

Ticket buyers are entitled to a 15-percent discount on regularly priced items in the Friends Library Store through Feb. 28 and \$5 off a minimum \$15 dinner at the Auburn Hills TGIFriday's, 2443 N. Squirrel Road, across from Oakland University, through Jan. 15.

Bring a pair of slippers on the home tour, or plan to tour in stocking feet. Bags will be provided for shoes.



room is decorated with an arrangement of drums. A book stand in the opposite corner. Open trunks in the foreground, make a stylish statement for



Stairs with flair: The winding staircase in the main entry is adorned with garlands, ribbons and lights.

Here are gift ideas for gardeners



MARTY FIGLEY

Once again it's time to make those lists and check them twice for appropriate gifts that will please gardeners and nature-lovers. If you're to be the recipient, why not leave this column where someone will see it and take the hint?

How long has it been since you looked at hedge shears? You'll be in for a surprise at the lightweight one by Spear & Jackson (marketed by Ames-Tru Temper). They are Razorsharp 2 and the full-sized, steel blades cut along the entire length of the blade. There are also convenient notches for larger diameter stems.

A line of Razorsharp 2 pruning shears are excellent, too. The tools all have ergonomic handles and are Teflon coated. There is an easy-to-reach extra large safety thumb catch on the shears. Call (800) 725-9500 for an Ames dealer

near you.

For those people who do a lot of container gardening, a slick new Waterquick wand with its patented Miracle Nozzel will be perfect. There is no splash when water is applied, no overflow, no more dirt blown out of the pots, and it does the job quickly and cleanly. This tool is also great for plants that don't like wet leaves such as roses, begonias, etc. The spray can be controlled with a diverter switch, \$20. To order, call (800) 396-8585 (includes shipping and handling).

Two little books for children from age 2 will amuse adults as well. The first is Scratch and Sniff FOOD and the other is S.&S. GARDEN (\$6.95 each, DK Publishing Inc.). The drawings are bright and realistic (there are five in each book) and the various "things" smell true. The FOOD book makes your mouth water and the GARDEN book is equally lovely. You'll say WOW!

A good garden calendar will be just the thing for the new year and what could be better than one that gives month-by-month gardening tips for our own region? The 2000 Calendar Mid-

west Gardener's Guide (\$11.95, Fulcrum) helps with design, when to plant and transplant, prune, fertilize, and watch for insects and diseases. There's place for personal records. It's slightly oversized so it won't get lost on your desk.

"Michigan - Off the Beaten Path: A Guide to Unique Places," Jim DuFresne (\$10.95, Globe Pequot) features all the wonderful (and some unusual) places to visit on land as well as water. Organized into eight Michigan regions, you'll find much to do and enjoy. Great gift for retirees and folks who like to travel short distances.

In "Seasonal Guide to the Natural Year: Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin," John Bates (\$16.95, Fulcrum), readers will find many things of interest to see for each month of the year. For instance, in your January travels see wintering eagles; May spring ephemerals; August tall-grass prairies; October salmon running; and December the winter night sky. All sound intriguing.

Bates' personal comments are fascinating as he describes the locations. He gives excellent directions to each. Even

if you don't leave home, the pieces that offer a close-up look of the natural history of a plant or animal, etc., provide insights into that world.

Dunecraft, the company for wild birds, now has several Bird Feeder Havens that thwart squirrels. Birds love them. The feeding tubes are surrounded by plastic-coated wire so very large birds and gray squirrels can't get to the seed. The platform feeder blocks squirrels from eating. We have one on our kitchen window and have enjoyed chickadees, nuthatch, tufted titmouse, doves, blue jays, red-bellied woodpecker and many sparrows. One extra-smart smart squirrel found a way to grab the seed, but he hasn't tried in quite a while - guess it was too much bother. Call (800) 593-5656 to order and/or receive their informative "Guide to Attracting More Birds."

A garden notebook is always appreciated and it could be accompanied with a camera, film, or photo album. A gift certificate never goes out of style. A certificate for help in the garden next spring

Please see FIGLEY, D9

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• Kurt Suttis

Map showing location: PARK ST. E., Tunnel Exit, COYNE ST., WYANDOTTE ST. E., VETERAN PLUMBING, DUNDAS ST.

at home calendar

■ A trunk show of merchandise that will debut at Studio 330, 6566 Telegraph at Maple in Bloomfield Hills, continues to Saturday, Dec. 4, at Studio 330. Call (248) 851-5533.

■ Six residences will be featured on a

Figley from page D8

would be especially welcome to a senior citizen. A subscription to a magazine or a newsletter for gardeners such as the quarterly "Shade Gardening Gazette for Gardeners Who Love the Shade," published by Shady Oaks Nursery, can be ordered by calling (1-800) 504-8006. Cost is \$9 a year.

For the lady who wants cushaw squash seeds, please call me!

GOOD GARDEN TIPS

■ Make your own indoor decorations out of clippings of spruce, arborvitae, fir and pine trees. Juniper and yew shrubs are best for small arrangements because the stems might not be as strong as the other greens that can be made into garlands, wreaths or swags.

■ If you receive a gardenia plant this year, let it become acclimated to the dry air in your home before transplanting it to a larger container. Mist it often - it

will love it. Keep soil medium moist and use a balanced houseplant fertilizer per instructions. It needs an eastern exposure.

■ Wait until the ground freezes to spread a 2-inch layer of compost and cover the perennial beds with evergreen boughs or straw.

■ Spray broad-leaved evergreens with an anti-transpirant to hold moisture in the foliage.

■ Take time out to enjoy your family and friends. Have a wonderful and safe holiday!

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1859. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

on Franklin Road. Holly Day takes place 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday; other features and events include ice sculptures, mimes, horse-drawn carriage rides, a fire station open house, menorah and tree lighting ceremonies, music, refreshments, raffles and children's activities.

■ The 1999 Meadow Brook Hall Holiday Walk, "The French Collection," continues through Sunday, Dec. 5, at Meadow Brook Hall, on the Oakland University campus, off Adams in Rochester. It presents works of fine and decorative art by French artists and makers. Hours for "The French Collection," Knole Cottage (where Santa will greet visitors) and the Meadow Brook Hall Gift Shop are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Holiday walk admission is \$12 for adults, \$9 for adults in groups of 20 or more with advance reservations, \$6 for age 12 and under, free for age 2 and under, and \$6 for OU students, staff and faculty with ID. Knole Cottage admission is \$1 for adults and children. Group lunches may be scheduled for 20 to 48 people in any one group. The group lunch charge is \$25. Holiday gala dinners (black tie preferred) will be Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 2-4; hors d'oeuvres reception 6:30 p.m. and dinner 8 p.m. Advance reservations are required for the dinners; cost is \$175 patron, \$250 benefactor. Call (248) 370-3140. All holiday walk proceeds go to

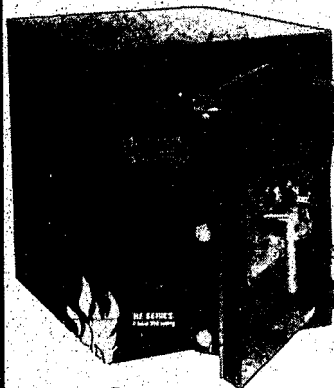
the preservation and educational programming of Meadow Brook Hall.

■ Learn square and rectangle pillows with flange, box and border variations, matched mitered corners, and seamed zipper insertions in an advanced class 5:45-8:45 p.m. Thursdays, Dec. 2-16, at Haberman Fabrics, 117 W. Fourth in Royal Oak. Cost is \$45. Pre-registration is required; sign up in person or call (248) 541-0010.

■ A holiday sale continues 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. now to Friday, Dec. 3, at the University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro in Ann Arbor. The UM art and exhibit museums will add their wares Friday. Call (734) 998-7061.

■ The third annual Holiday Homes of Historic Ypsilanti Tour will take place 1-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, featuring seven residences of unusual architectural styles. Visitors will hear carols, eat homemade cookies and view designer showcase trees by community members at the Tri-Sigma Sorority House. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 Sunday. Tickets are at Quinn's Essentials, 19 E. Cross, and Me N My Sisters, 13 E. Cross, in Ypsilanti; and at John Leidy Shop, 601 E. Liberty, and Celtic Gardens, 415 N. Fifth, in Ann Arbor. Call the Ypsilanti Area Convention and Visitors Bureau at (734) 483-4444 for information.

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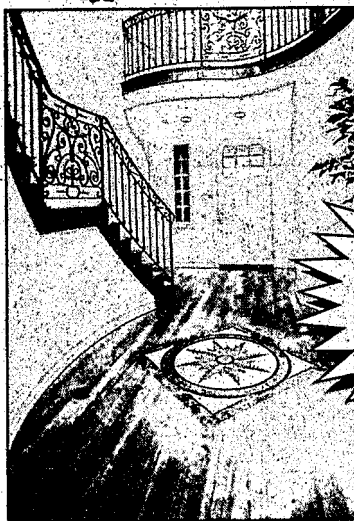
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DIANA KOENIG

Q: How do I get started building my own business from home?

A: There are many advantages to having your own business:

- You establish job security
- Flexible hours
- Unlimited income potential
- You are the boss and the owner
- You set the goals
- You can implement your own creative ideas
- You create the working environment
- Flexible vacation schedule
- Turn your hobby or area of interest into a business
- Schedule the business around the needs of your family
- You can own more than one business

While there are many advantages to having your own business there is also

financial risk. Before you make the decision to go out on your own, do some research. Read books and talk with people who have successfully run a home-based business. Brainstorm ideas with someone. One good idea has the potential of producing thousands of dollars. Do not make a spur-of-the-moment decision but plan ahead and take time with your decision.

First decide what business you would like to start. Identify your area of expertise and what you enjoy. Turn your strength or hobby into a profit maker. The business you choose may provide a service such as a tutor, consultant, computer specialist, or hair stylist. You may choose to sell a product.

Write down business goals for one year, five years, and 10 years. Your goals should include financial expectations, production, market analysis including demand and competition, and potential business growth. Determine whether this is a business that you would continue to run from your home or that could explode and outgrow your home-based facilities.

Talk with a lawyer and accountant

before you take the plunge. Their expertise will offer suggestions and protection. Do not put your personal finances at risk. Lower your risk by starting your business on a part-time basis before quitting your current job.

You receive employee benefits when you work for another company. When you become the employer instead of the employee, you will need to make arrangements for health insurance, retirement and Social Security.

It is hard to run a business efficiently in the middle of chaos. You need an organized home that functions productively before you start a home-based business. Set aside a room or area to keep business papers and supplies separate from household items. Purchase a desk or table, file cabinets and storage containers. Be prepared to keep detailed records, and save all receipts for tax deductions. This would include things like mileage, business lunches, office supplies and equipment. Set up two phone lines. One line should be designated exclusively for business with its own answering machine. This will give you privacy with your family.

Minimize the affect owning your own business would have on your family. If you have preschool children, you may want to set up a children's play area next to your work area. You will have to limit the amount and types of toys allowed in this area. You can also set up a nap space.

Most home-based businesses will interrupt your family's routine, sometimes drastically. To help alleviate some of this inconvenience, try to schedule meetings or services outside the home whenever possible. If you are not required to be at home for other reasons, meet clients or customers at their home or place of business. Discuss business over lunch at a good restaurant.

Running a home-based business can not only provide extra cash for you but opportunities for other family members or friends. You can hire your son, daughter, or next-door neighbor to do a variety of things you are too busy to do yourself. It's your business. Work with people to whom you relate the best.

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inviting ideas

Finger foods for holiday entertaining



RUTH MOSSOK JOHNSTON

Whether you call them hors d'oeuvres, appetizers or finger foods, these bite-sized delectables have great popularity for holiday parties.

When it comes to appetizers, my advice to all my culinary students

is "Think ball gowns." Women in ball gowns don't want foods that may fall or drip on their fancy duds. Keep foods small enough for one or two bites! Avoid foods with messy sauces unless there are cocktail plates, napkins and an actual place to rest your dish.

I'm sure most of your guests won't be wearing ball gowns, but keep to that advice (it could affect your carpet and upholstered furniture). It makes it much more pleasurable for guests when they don't have to worry about the mess that may occur from that big bite!

Elsa Petersen-Schepelern has a new book out just in time for us to plan for our holiday parties: "Finger Food," published by Time-Life Books (hardback only, \$19.95), with more than 100 simple recipes for bite-sized party foods (savories, sweets and even drinks). The photographs by William Lingwood are interestingly close-up and item specific.

The food ideas are designed to take the panic out of party preparation and well-executed for a dramatic presentation.

Elsa Petersen-Schepelern is a Danish-Australian food and wine writer/editor based in London, England. Here is a sampling of those wonderful easy recipes to assist in your holiday party planning.

COCKTAIL BLINI

Yield: 24 blini

Ingredients:

1 cup buckwheat flour or half and

half with all-purpose flour

1 package active dried yeast (1/4 oz.)

1 teaspoon salt

1 egg, separated

1 teaspoon sugar

3/4 cup lukewarm milk

1 tablespoon butter, for sautéing

To serve:

Crème fraîche or sour cream

Small pots of caviar and/or salmon keta*

Herbs, such as snipped chives and dill sprigs

About 4 pieces smoked salmon, finely sliced

Directions:

Mix the flour, yeast and salt in a bowl and make a well in the center. Beat the egg yolk with the sugar and 3/4 cup warm water and add to well. Mix well, then cover with a damp cloth and let rise at room temperature until doubled in size, about 2 hours.

Beat in the milk to make a thick, creamy batter. Cover again and leave for 1 hour until small bubbles appear on the surface.

Beat the egg white to soft peak stage, then fold it into the batter.

Heat a heavy-bottom skillet or crêpe pan and brush with butter. Drop in about 1 teaspoon of batter to make a pancake about 1 inch in diameter. Cook until the surface bubbles, about 2-3 minutes, then flip the blini over with a spatula and cook the second side for 2 minutes.

Put a plate in the oven to keep warm while you cook the remaining blini.

Don't put the blini on top of each other. Serve them warm.

To serve, top with a spoonful of crème fraîche or sour cream, some snipped chives or dill sprigs, and a small pile of caviar or keta or a

curl of smoked salmon.

■ Store in an airtight container for up to 3 days.

■ Reheat in the oven at 400 degrees F for about 5 minutes.

Additional note: Keta salmon (chum salmon or dog salmon) is a variety of salmon found off the east coasts of Canada, southern Alaska, and in Washington's Puget Sound. It has a metallic-blue skin with a slight purple hue that appears silvery on the sides and belly.

Easy, mini open-sandwiches can be topped with ingredients from the bruschetta or pizza topping list.

CRISP TOASTS AND CHAR-GRILLED BRUSCHETTA

Yield: About 30

1 baguette or 4 small ciabatta loaves, sliced into 1/2-inch slices

Crisp toasts:

Arrange the baguette slices apart on a baking tray and cook in a preheated oven at 400 degrees F until lightly biscuit-colored. Take care - don't let them become too crisp or they will break when touched.

Remove from the oven and cool on

a wire rack. They can be kept in an airtight container for up to 1 week. When ready to serve, crisp them again in the oven for a few minutes.

Char-grilled bruschetta:

Put the sliced ciabatta or baguette on a stove-top grill pan or barbecue and cook until toasted and lined (she means grill marks!).

You can use a selection of Italian ingredients either homemade or store-bought. Don't use more than 3-4 ingredients on each item or they will become too complicated.

Bruschetta toppings:

■ Finely sliced Parma ham

■ Parmesan shavings

■ Caper berries

■ Salted anchovies

■ Cherry tomatoes, halved

Pizza topping list:

■ Fontina cheese, pancetta strips and

cracked black pepper

■ Anchovies with melted mozzarella and dried oregano.

■ Sautéed mushrooms with Gruyère, gorgonzola and mozzarella.

■ Flaked fresh tuna with scallions and capers.

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Entertainment

Observer & Eccentric

(No-WtOF) Page 1, Section E

Thursday, December 2, 1999

THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



The Detroit Symphony Orchestra presents an all-Baroque music program "Bach and Handel" featuring Ramón Parcells, DSO principal trumpet, 10:45 a.m. and 8 p.m. at Orchestra Hall in Detroit. Tickets \$14 to \$62, call (313) 576-5111.

SATURDAY



Bethany Yarrow joins her father Peter Yarrow, of Peter, Paul and Mary folk music fame, for a Hanukkah concert 8 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El, 14450 W. 10 Mile Road, Oak Park. Tickets \$10 for Jewish Community Center members, \$15 for non-members, call (248) 967-4030.

SUNDAY



St. Nicholas will hand out treats to children, and tell holiday stories, 2 p.m. in the Galeria of the Orchard Lake Schools, Orchard Lake Road at Commerce Road, during Polish Day. Polish American dinners will be available for purchase in the campus dining hall (\$8 adults, \$4 children) after a 1 p.m. mass in Polish. Call (248) 682-1885 for information.



Hot Tix: The 1999 Holiday Walk at Meadow Brook Hall through Sunday, Dec. 5 puts a French accent on the celebration of the season. Titled "The French Collection," the walk features works of fine and decorative art by French artists and makers displayed among holiday decorations throughout the elegant mansion on the Oakland University campus. Admission \$12 adults, \$6 children age 3 to 12, no charge for children age 2 and under, \$6 for OU students, staff and faculty with ID. Knole Cottage admission \$1 for adults and children. Meadow Brook Hall is off Adams, south of Walton. Call (248) 370-3140 for information.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL LE POER TRENCI

Starry Night: The Cantata Academy light up Detroit's University Cultural Center with song on Noel Night.

NOEL NIGHT

A holiday wonderland

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER
lchomin@oe.homedomain.net

Mark Perrine expects the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's stained glass windows and Gothic architecture to set an awe-inspiring mood as the Schoolcraft College Community Choir sings traditional seasonal favorites along with Mozart's "Regina Coeli" and Rachmaninoff's "Ave Maria" during Noel Night Saturday, Dec. 4.

But overall, Perrine is much too modest about the role the 50-voice group, now in its 35th season, plays in turning the University Cultural Center into a holiday wonderland.

"We're just part of the festivities," said Perrine, a Redford resident who directs the choir based at Schoolcraft in Livonia.

Outside the cathedral, it will begin to look a lot like Christmas as hundreds of handbell ringers, singers and actors share the spirit of the season through music and stories. Listen to the ringers from St. Paul Royal Oak Lutheran Bell Choir or a cappella groups, The Grunyons and Spartan Dischords, take a horse-drawn carriage ride, watch as Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer lights the trees then join in the community sing-along. The best part of this 27-year tradition is that nearly all of it is free.

The Festival Singers, led by Sharon Thomas, a Waterford voice teacher, bring to life Charles Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" 7:30 p.m. after the tree lighting ceremony at the city of Detroit Bandstand on Woodward Avenue. At the Detroit Institute of Arts, Michael Mitchell, director of Choral

Activities at Oakland University in Rochester, conducts the Cantata Academy in selections from its newly released Christmas recording "Born This Day." The group, which has sung with every major orchestra in the area including the Detroit Symphony, recently returned from its 13th concert tour of Europe.

"There's so much to do to get you in the holiday spirit," said Connie Mullett, executive director of the University Cultural Center Association. "In keeping with our theme, 'Starry Night,' three planetariums will be open at the Children's Museum, Old Main (Wayne State University), and the Detroit Science Center. I think that will be fun. There will be Santas everywhere. Beforehand, you can enjoy the DSO's performance of Handel's 'Messiah' at Orchestra Hall then come over to Noel Night."

The Detroit Artists Market joins in Noel Night fun for the first time. Due to construction at their new space in the Cultural Center, the nonprofit gallery hosts a reception in Suite 107 of the Park Shelton Apartments, at the corner of Woodward and Kirby. A diverse selection of works by more than 100 artists will be available for those who'd like to shop for holiday gifts.

"Noel Night"

WHAT: The 27th annual event rings in the holidays with carolers, street theater, handbell ringers, choirs, a tree-lighting ceremony, sing-along, and horse-drawn carriage rides.

WHEN: 5-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4.

WHERE: Detroit's Cultural Center (bounded by Ferry Street on the north, Forest on the south, Brush on the east, and Cass Avenue on the west). For more information or a schedule of events, call (313) 577-5088.

Parking: In the Cultural Center and Detroit Science Center lots on John R. and underground garage on Farnsworth east of Woodward. Free shuttles run continuously throughout the evening.

The littlest of Noel Night visitors will love taking part in a Matrix Theatre Company workshop/performance of "Woman Who Outshone the Sun" at 6 p.m. in the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Based on a Mexican folk tale, the play features a 10-foot puppet played by Cara Graniger who walks on stilts. For more information, call Shaun Nethercott at (313) 967-0999.

"It's interactive," said Mullett. "There are these huge puppets and the children can jump right in."

Some highlights

Schoolcraft College Community Choir, 7 p.m. at Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward Ave.

Tree Lighting Ceremony featuring the a cappella group the Spartan Dischords at 6 p.m. followed by Festival Singers performing "A Christmas Carol" at 7:30 p.m. and a Community Sing-Along, 8:30 p.m. at the city of Detroit Bandstand on Woodward Avenue.

Marygrove College Dance Detroit, 6:15 p.m. followed by the Cantata Academy at 7:45 p.m. in Prentiss Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward.

Detroit Symphony Orchestra's performance of Handel's "Messiah" at Orchestra Hall, 3 p.m., at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward. Evening classical series features "Bach and Handel" at 8:30 p.m. For tickets, call (313) 576-5111.

Horse-drawn carriage and sleigh rides depart every 10 minutes, 5-9 p.m., from the front of the Park Shelton, 15 E. Kirby at Woodward. \$6, \$3 children.

Wayne State University's Bonstelle and Hilberry Theatres, "Romeo and Juliet" at the Bonstelle at 8 p.m., and Neil Simon's "Laughter on the 23rd Floor," 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Call (313) 577-2960.

Maggie Allesee Dance Studio performs excerpts from "A Detroit Nutcracker" 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. in WSU's Old Main, 4841 Cass Avenue.

Old fashioned southern Christmas with Appalachian carols and spirituals as sung in the old south at Heritage Museum's Fine Arts Center, 110 E. Ferry.

86th annual Gold Medal Exhibition at the Scarab Club, 217 E. Farnsworth. A cappella performances by The Grunyons, 7:30 p.m., and Spartan Dischords, 8:15 p.m. Jambalaya dinner by Union Street served 5-8:30 p.m.

Make an evening of it by having dinner at the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Women's Club (4605 Brush) or First Congregational Church (33 E. Forest). First Unitarian Universalist Church (4605 Cass) serves pizza with the slice beginning at 5 p.m.

THEATER

'Forbidden Christmas' delivers lots of holiday hoo-ha

"Forbidden Christmas" continues through Friday, Dec. 31, at Detroit's Century Theatre, located in the same building as the Gem Theatre, 333 Madison Ave. at Brush, Detroit. Performances 1:30 p.m. Wednesday and Sunday; 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday; 8:30 p.m. Friday; 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday; and 5:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets \$24.50 to \$34.50, call (313) 963-9800 or Ticketmaster (248) 645-6666.

BY JULIE YOLLES
SPECIAL WRITER

The proof is still in the spoof. After eight blockbuster months at the Gem Theatre, the musical comedy satire "Forbidden Hollywood" closed on Nov. 14. Just three days later, its holiday sibling "Forbidden Christmas" took its place at the historic cabaret theater and promises some hilarious yuletide cheer through New Year's Eve.

The brainchildren of Obie and

Drama Desk Award-winner Gerard Alessandrini, "Forbidden Hollywood," "Forbidden Broadway" and "Forbidden Christmas" have all been huge crowd-pleasers at the Gem Theatre.

While "Forbidden Hollywood" parodied summer movies, "Forbidden Christmas" now playing at the Century Theatre, takes fun jabs at the newest holiday movies such as "Music of the Heart," "Pokémon," and "Toy Story 2." Look forward to a Broadway Christmas Carol narrated by the original Christmas Carol Channing and some pun-ditties from the "Little Drummer Boy," Barbra Streisand, Luciano Pavarotti, Nat King Cole, the "Lion King" and Ricky Martin, who's "Livin' La Christmas Loca."

Oh, holy note.

"This show skewers everything—whether it's Hollywood or Broadway, it's a veritable hodge-podge of holiday hoo-ha," laughs Mark-David Kaplan,

who co-directed the production with John Freedson.

Though he was a name without a face for "Forbidden Christmas," he was several faces with celebrity names in "Forbidden Hollywood," including Roberto Benigni, Austin Powers and Gene Kelly.

"There's no brain surgery involved with these shows," adds Kaplan. They're total irreverent fun.

That's what Kate Willinger thought six years ago when she was called in to audition for "Forbidden Christmas," a show she had never seen in all her years of living in New York.

"I didn't even know what the show was back then. I was hysterically laughing," said Willinger, who moved from New York to Auburn Hills a year-and-a-half ago.

But she auditioned and got the role

Please see HOO-HA, E2



Spoof: The cast of "Forbidden Christmas" bring hilarious yuletide cheer to the Century Theatre.

Local dancers step to annual 'Nutcracker' tradition

As common as holiday songs, shopping and anticipation of snow are the annual productions of the "Nutcracker" ballet, and performances of Handel's Messiah.

Professional, community and student dance companies all participate in the perennial tradition.

The following is a list of current and upcoming productions "The Nutcracker."

■ "The Harlem Nutcracker," choreographed by Donald Byrd - 3 & 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Detroit Opera House, Madison Avenue at Broadway, Detroit. (800) 221-1229

■ "Michigan Ballet Theatre with guests from American Ballet Theatre - 2 & 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Lake Orion High School Center for the Performing Arts, 455 East Scripps Road, Lake Orion. (248) 652-3117

■ Michigan Classic Ballet - 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Mercy Auditorium, Farmington Hills. (248) 334-6964

■ Detroit Symphony Orchestra

with Ballet Internationale Thursday, Dec. 9 to Sunday, Dec. 19, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway. (313) 576-6111/(313) 874-SING.

■ Contemporary Civic Ballet - 3:30 p.m. Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 11-12, featuring local dancers from tri-county area, and New York City ballet soloist Arch Higgins. Kimball High School Auditorium, east of Crooks, north of 13 Mile Road, Royal Oak. (248) 641-9063.

■ Livonia Civic Ballet, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Clarenceville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt Road, Livonia. \$13, \$10 seniors/students, \$8 ages 5-9. (734) 427-9103.

■ Livonia Symphony Orchestra with Dearborn Ballet Theatre, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh, north of Joy Road, Livonia. \$15, \$10 students/children. (734) 421-1111/(734) 464-2741.

■ Plymouth Symphony Orchestra with Plymouth Can-

ton Ballet Company, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road and Canton Center, Canton. \$17 adults/seniors, \$10 students K-12, and \$5 Sugar Plum Teas that follow Saturday-Sunday matinees. (734) 451-2112.

The following is a list of current performances of Handel's Messiah.

■ Fort Street Chorale - 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort St., Detroit. (313) 961-4533.

■ The UMS Choral Union performs 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 at Hill Auditorium, 825 North University Ave., Ann Arbor. (734) 764-2538.

■ The Detroit Symphony Orchestra with the University of Michigan Chamber Choir and select vocalists - 3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5, Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$15 to \$68, call (313) 576-5111.



Varlation: Choreographer Donald Byrd has transformed the holiday ballet classic into a celebration of African-American culture, featuring Duke Ellington's arrangement of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*.

Hoo-Ha from page E1

anyway and the chance to play Barbra Streisand and Tiny Annie, whom she recreates for this show, along with Doris Day, Mary Martin as Peter Pan, Judy Garland, Liza Minnelli, Kathie Lee and Pokemon - that round, huggable barrel of yellow felt and foam, Pikachu.

Got bless you everyone.

Favorite character

"Tiny Annie is my favorite character because she's so ridiculous. I'm shameless," said Willinger. "Usually as an actress, you have to be truthful, honest and in the moment, but here, I make it broad and over-the-top."

"Sometimes, when I come off stage after being Pokemon or

Tiny Annie, I joke to myself, 'I'm so glad I went to graduate school for this.' But it's truly a lot of fun. It's a great exercise in concentration."

Super-quick costume and character changes (more than 15) could cause deja vu for Willinger, who learned to appreciate the miracle of Velcro when she opened the Gem season in "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" in its new location at 333 Madison Avenue.

When Willinger first performed in "Forbidden Broadway," it was at the original Gem location at 62 East Columbia. In October of 1997, the Gem Theatre embarked on a five-and-a-half-block move which resulted

in being entered in the Guinness Book of World Records as "the heaviest building moved on wheels."

Was it weird performing in the same theater but a different location?

"At first it was bizarre," Willinger remembers. "I kept heading for the dressing room, but ended up at the wall. There was no door where there used to be doors."

Understudy

Performing at the Gem has opened new doors for Eric Gutman who, along with his parents, Howard and Karen Gutman, petitioned to bring back the dormant musical theater program

at Harrison High School in Farmington when Gutman was a student there. After graduating with a bachelor of fine arts degree in musical theater performance from Western Michigan University in April 1999, Gutman was all packed and ready to do summer stock in Indiana before relocating to Chicago. Then he got the call from a friend who had recommended Gutman for an understudy role in "Forbidden Hollywood."

"My whole life got flipped upside down in a matter of six days," recalls Gutman, who turned 22 on Nov. 23. "I graduated on April 24, 1999, saw 'Forbidden Hollywood' on the 28th and got hired on the 30th."

As the understudy in "Forbidden Hollywood" and "Forbidden Christmas," Gutman covers for both male roles (currently played by Lance Roberts of Los Angeles and Kevin McGlynn of New York) and gets to play Whoopi Goldberg, Frank Sinatra, Louie Armstrong and even Teyve from "Fiddler on the Roof," who longs to get into the Christmas act by singing "If I Were a Gentile" (a role that the nice Jewish Gutman is sure to have down pat).

Though he's already gone on 42 times, Gutman is required by contract to watch the show two times a week and be on call.

Have cell phone, pager and home phone, will travel. As should you, straight to "Forbidden Christmas." Bah humbug.

HOLIDAY ART SHOWS

ANNUAL HOLIDAY ART FAIR

The 29th annual fair takes place 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at Oakland Community College, Building H, Farmington Hills. (734) 662-3382.

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD ART CENTER

Weekends of special holiday sales. The "Small Works" fine art sale runs through Thursday, December 30 in the DeSalle Community Gallery with more than 200 works priced under \$300. The pottery sale is Thursday to Saturday, Dec. 9 to 11. Hours are Monday to Thursday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. in December. 1516 South Cranbrook Road, Birmingham. (248) 644-0866.

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Pablo Picasso, *Woman with Hairnet*, September 1956

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This exhibition has been organized by the Norton Simon Museum and the Iris & B. Gerald Center for Visual Arts at Stanford University. This exhibition has been made possible by a generous grant from J&J and John Friedland.

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A Christmas classic takes George Bailey to the stage

Plymouth Theatre Guild presents a stage version of the holiday classic "It's A Wonderful Life" 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3-4, at the Watertown Theatre on the campus of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 21001 W. Seven Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. Tickets \$10, \$7 students ages 18 and under. Call (248) 349-7110 or visit their Web site at www.causeway.com (htg).

By SUE SUCHYTA
SPECIAL WRITER

The Plymouth Theatre Guild's production of James W. Rodgers' holiday classic, "It's A Wonderful Life" is an adaptation of the Frank Capra film, based on the story by Philip Van Doren Stern. It follows the film closely, with simpler sets, but the immediacy of live theater.

It's Christmas Eve 1945, and George Bailey, the owner of a small-town savings and loan devastated by an impending financial disaster, is on the verge of taking his life. As he crouches on a bridge ready to jump, Clarence, an angel intent on earning his wings, reminds him, through a series of flashbacks, how different life would be if he had never lived.

First-time director Kristin Curle has assembled a large and enthusiastic cast. The chorus made the most of their roles, and in every crowd scene each person was in character, lending their own individual vignette to the overall mood of the production. The opening scene of carolers

lent a festive touch to the production, as did their closing song "Auld Lang Syne."

Dennis Hubel is a wonderful George Bailey. Jimmy Stewart is a hard act to follow, but Hubel captured the character's affability and down-home charm. He was likable without being slick, humble without being deprecating. Hubel's Bailey moved easily from being a young man to a father.

Hubel created a strong chemistry with Marlene Landry, who played Mary, his girlfriend, then wife. Landry made Mary her own, and filled the stage with her effervescent presence during her scenes. She gave her character grace and a loving, forgiving heart — characteristics which attracted George Bailey and established her as a woman of poise and compassion.

Delores Pearson is wonderful as Mother Bailey, a Midwest patriarch with common sense and homespun charm. Her quiet presence captured the character's essence and brought warmth to her words.

Dennis Brunzell as Clarence, George's guardian angel, captured the enthusiasm of the role but seemed impatient to get through some of his longer speeches, rattling them off as if they were difficult to endure. At times he was right on target with his characterization, but at times he lost his commanding presence and merely delivered his lines.

Chris Dorais is a very convincing Henry Potter, and one wouldn't know he wasn't as old as his



Holiday tradition: The Plymouth Theatre Guild rehearses a scene from "It's A Wonderful Life," the James W. Rodgers' story about a man who gets his wish to have never been born.

character until the stage make-up came off. Potter, the conniving and wealthy power broker in George's hometown, wheels and deals to either control or destroy Bailey Savings and Loan. Dorais played the unscrupulous business mogul with ruthlessness and finesse.

Mr. Potter's serious scenes with George Bailey, however,

were compromised by the mugging and fidgeting of his nurse, played by teenager Vanessa Hubel (whose father plays George Bailey). Hubel obviously inherited her father's acting talent, but — lacking a role to showcase it — overacted in her part, playing with her stethoscope,

snapping gum, reacting with exaggerated facial expressions. She'll be wonderful in a larger role, but as the nurse she should have quietly faded into the background during the intense scenes of conflict between Bailey and Potter. Director Curle made a bad call instructing the nurse to

provide distracting comic relief.

The children in the cast were enthusiastic and full of energy, especially George's and Mary's children, played by Paul and Erik Luoma, Sara Curle, and Katie Schremser.

Technically, the production staff needs to smooth out their routine. The lighting crew, which is unable to gradually dim the houselights, needs to flick the lights or warn the audience of the impending plunge into darkness.

The sound system was inconsistent and echoing. Suspended microphones picked up the character's voices intermittently and only some of the characters on stage, creating a weird echoing effect, especially during the first act. While George Bailey's voice was booming from the speakers, the voices of other characters came from the stage unamplified. The characters really didn't need amplification.

The costumes were well done and authentic to the era, right down to the seam in the ladies' stockings. The old-fashioned telephones were a nice touch, as was the wicker wheelchair. The "Bailey Savings and Loan" sign, though, appeared to be hastily painted, a sloppy afterthought to an otherwise well-executed set.

Sue Suchyta is a Dearborn resident who writes about community theater for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

New Web site shows off Detroit music

PRNewswire — You've experienced Motown jazz and rock 'n' roll, now try the sights and sounds of the most up-to-date music scene that Detroit has to offer without leaving home.

Matthew Martin, a University of Michigan School of Information graduate student, assembled the "Live IO" exhibit (www.ipl.org/exhibit/io/) about IO, a modern music venue in

downtown Detroit. Martin, a photographer and musician himself, was able to bring the sights, sounds, and people of IO together into a vision as unique as the venue itself.

"Live IO" is a new type of documentary that exploits the robust, multimedia nature of the Web and lets the user decide how to experience it. The same information is displayed in several

ways, allowing users to navigate easily and to create their own path through the exhibit.

"Live IO" offers not only the music but the images and words of the artists, plus a history of IO. Web site visitors can easily hear songs of the bands, view images of the performers, and read what performers have to say about the music experience.

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NOV. 29 OPEN 12-9	NOV. 30 OPEN 12-9	DEC. 1 OPEN 12-9	DEC. 2 OPEN 12-9	DEC. 3 OPEN 12-9	DEC. 4 OPEN 10-9	DEC. 5 OPEN 10-6
MONDAY DEC. 6 OPEN 12-9	TUESDAY DEC. 7 OPEN 12-9	WEDNESDAY DEC. 8 OPEN 12-9	THURSDAY DEC. 9 OPEN 12-9	FRIDAY DEC. 10 OPEN 12-9	SATURDAY DEC. 11 OPEN 10-9	SUNDAY DEC. 12 OPEN 10-7
MONDAY DEC. 13 OPEN 10-9	TUESDAY DEC. 14 OPEN 10-9	WEDNESDAY DEC. 15 OPEN 10-9	THURSDAY DEC. 16 OPEN 10-9	FRIDAY DEC. 17 OPEN 10-10	SATURDAY DEC. 18 OPEN 9-10	SUNDAY DEC. 19 OPEN 9-7
MONDAY DEC. 20 OPEN 9-10	TUESDAY DEC. 21 OPEN 9-10	WEDNESDAY DEC. 22 OPEN 9-10	THURSDAY DEC. 23 OPEN 9-10	FRIDAY DEC. 24 OPEN 9-5	CLOSED Merry Christmas	SUNDAY DEC. 26 OPEN 10-6

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THEATER

CENTURY THEATRE

"Forbidden Hollywood," through Dec. 31, 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. Fridays, 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 5:30 p.m. Sundays, at the Century Theatre, 333 Madison Avenue, Detroit. \$24.50-\$34.50. (313) 963-9800

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE

"Revival at Possum Kingdom Community Church," through Dec. 31, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. \$15. (313) 868-1347

FISHER THEATRE

"Martin Guerre," opens Wednesday, Dec. 1 through Sunday, Dec. 19, at the theater, Detroit. (248) 645-8666

GEM THEATRE

"Escanaba In da Moonlight," a comedy by Jeff Daniels, through Feb. 13, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, 33 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

COLLEGE

EMU THEATRE

"A Woman Called Truth," 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Quirk Theatre, on the Ypsilanti campus. \$8 Thursdays, \$13 Fridays-Saturdays, \$11 Sunday matinee. (734) 487-1221

UD-MERCY

"Skylarks," 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through Dec. 5, (313) 993-1130

U-M THEATRE

"The Tempest," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 9-11, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Power Center for the Performing Arts, Huron and Fletcher streets, Ann Arbor. \$18. \$14. \$7 students. (734) 764-0450

WSU BONSTELLE

"Romeo and Juliet," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 2-4, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the theater, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 577-2960

WSU HILBERRY

"Laughter on the 23rd Floor," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 2-4, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, "Some Americans Abroad," through Feb. 5, at the theater 4743 Cass, Detroit. \$11-\$18. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATER

PLANET ANT THEATRE

"Sexual Perversity In Chicago," through Sunday, Dec. 19, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 7 p.m. Sunday, at the theater, 2357 Canfield, Hamtramck. \$10, \$35 season tickets available until Dec. 19. (313) 365-4948

PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD

"It's a Wonderful Life," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, Water Tower Theatre, on the campus of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. \$10, \$7 students ages 18 and under. (248) 349-7110

PTD PRODUCTIONS

"Our Town," 8 p.m. Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 9-12 and Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 16-18, at the Riverside, Ypsilanti. (734) 761-5202/(734) 482-8666

DINNER THEATER

BACI THEATRE

"Flanagan's Wake," 8 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays (\$25 Thursdays and Sundays, and \$30 Fridays-Saturdays), and "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sundays, at 40 W. Pike, Pontiac. (248) 745-8668/(248) 645-6666

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

"AESOP'S FABLES"

Starring Jim West who introduces the fables through classical music, puppetry and storytelling, 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. \$10. (734) 763-7175

AVON PLAYERS YOUTH THEATRE

"Wind of a Thousand Tales," a magical, musical journey of folk tales from faraway places, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Avon Playhouse, 1185 Tienken Road, east of Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. \$7. (248) 608-9077

MARQUIS THEATRE

"Jack in the Beanstalk," through Sunday, Jan. 16, at the theater, 135 E. Main, Northville. \$7. (248) 349-8110

MATRIX THEATRE COMPANY

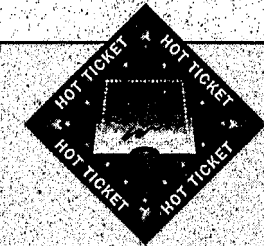
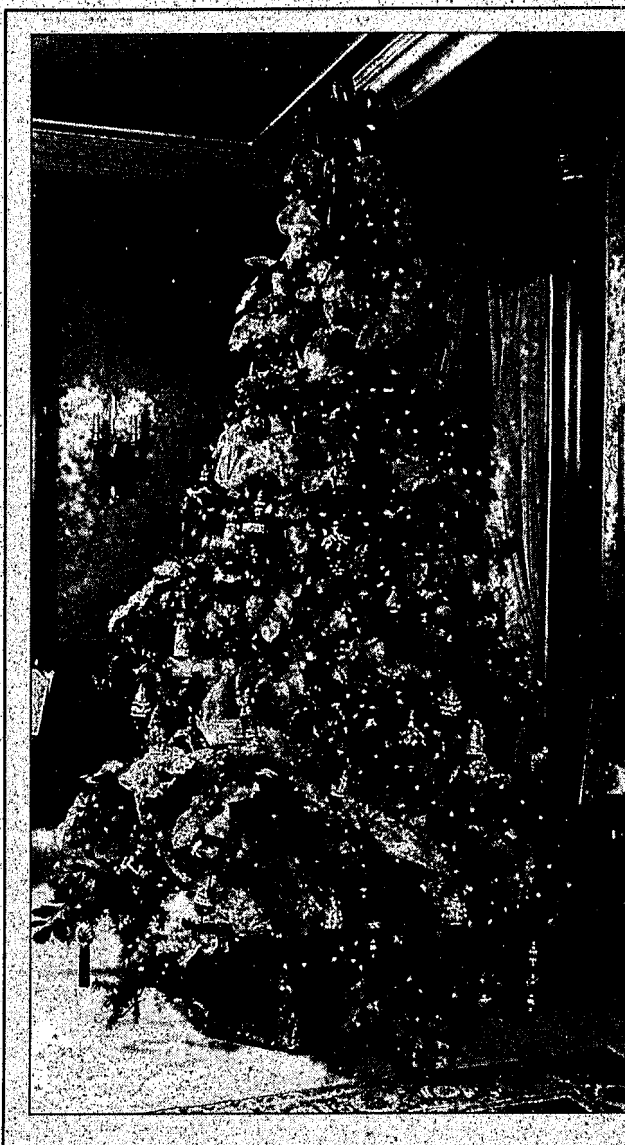
Workshop and performance of "Woman Who Outshone the Sun," based on a Mexican folk tale, the play features a 10-foot puppet played by Cara Graniger who walks on stilts, at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren, Detroit. (313) 967-0999

NOVI THEATRES

"A Christmas Carol," 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 10-12 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile, Novi. \$10, \$8 advance. (248) 347-0400

STAGECRAFTERS' YOUTH THEATRE

"Jack & the Giant," 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 9-10, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. \$7, \$5 ages 17 and under. (248) 541-6430



On Christmas tree: Holiday decorations with a French accent are the highlight of this year's Holiday Walk at Meadow Brook Hall through Sunday, Dec. 5. Titled "The French Collection," the walk features works of fine and decorative art by French artists and makers displayed among holiday decorations throughout the elegant mansion on the Oakland University campus. Admission \$12 adults, \$6 children age 12 and under, no charge for children age 2 and under, \$6 for OU students, staff and faculty with ID. Knole Cottage admission \$1 for adults and children. Meadow Brook Hall is off Adams, south of Walton. Call (248) 370-3140 for information. All proceeds from the holiday walk go to the preservation and educational programming of Meadow Brook Hall.

WHISTLE STOP PLAYERS

The Plymouth Community Arts Council's youth theater presents two holiday classics-- "Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates" by Mary Mapes Dodge and "The Bird's Christmas Carol" by Kate Douglas Wiggin 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 at the arts council, 774 N. Sheldon at Junction, Plymouth. \$5. The arts council is also hosting a luncheon with Santa noon Wednesday, Dec. 8, \$10 per person. Seating is limited so call early. (734) 416-4ART

SPECIAL EVENTS

ARTRAIN USA

The nation's only traveling art museum on train, Artrain USA, returns with the "Artistry of Space" featuring artworks from NASA and the National Air and Space Museum art collections 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 4-5 and 11-2 at 1100 N. Main, Ann Arbor. (734) 747-8300. Admission free but donations encouraged. Children are invited to make their own artwork 1-5 p.m. in the Creation Station art center located in the NEW Center. \$1.

CANDLELIGHT HOME TOUR

4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, to gather at First United Methodist Church, 128 Park Street, Chelsea. \$15. (734) 475-2244/(800) 265-9045

COBO CARNIVAL

Through Dec. 5, in Oakland Hall at Cobo Center, Detroit. Free. (313) 923-7400

HOLIDAY PARADE/SNOW CARNIVAL

11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 (parade), noon to 2 p.m. Snow Carnival, from Wisner Stadium on Oakland Avenue to the Phoenix Center on Saginaw Street, Pontiac. (248) 209-2621

LIVING NATIVITY

6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Dec. 10-12, in the Lower Public Courtyard of First Baptist Church, Willets and Bates, Birmingham. Free but donations encouraged. (248) 644-0550

METRO DETROIT WOODWORKING SHOW

Noon to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Drive, Novi. \$8, children under age 12 free. (800) 826-8257

"NOEL NIGHT"

The 27th annual event rings in the holidays with carols, street theater, handbell ringers, choirs, a tree-lighting ceremony, sing-a-long, and horse-drawn carriage rides, 5-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Detroit's Cultural Center (bounded by Ferry Street on the north, Forest on the south, Brush on the east, and Cass Avenue on the west). Parking in the Cultural Center and Detroit Science Center lots on John R. and underground garage on Farnsworth east of Woodward. Free shuttles run continuously throughout the evening. For information or a schedule of events most of which are free, call (313) 577-3088

RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

Starring the Rockettes Friday, Nov. 26 to Friday, Dec. 30, at the Fox Theatre, Detroit. \$20-\$55. (248) 645-6866/(248) 433-1515

"WILD LIGHTS"

Continues through Sunday, Jan. 2, 5:30-8 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, until 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, at the Detroit Zoo, Woodward and I-696, Royal Oak. \$3 members (\$2 ages 2-12), \$4 non-members (\$3 ages 2-12). (248) 541-5835

FAMILY EVENTS

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The holiday celebration for families features the breakfast, Hanukkah songs by Janet Pout and a Kwanzaa program by Orma Bradford, the Music Lady will do an interactive singing and puppets program, each child also receives a small favor bag and a list of kid-friendly paintings in the museum that are holiday or celebration centered so they can browse through the galleries after the event, 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, in Prentiss Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue. \$25, \$15 children ages two and over. (313) 833-0247

KINDERMUSIK STORYTIME

Interactive program of seasonal storytelling, music and movement 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the Little Book Shoppe, 380 S. Main, Plymouth. (734) 455-5220; 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7 at the Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Penniman, Plymouth. (734) 454-0178, and 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14 at Baby! Baby!, 153 E. Main, Northville. (248) 347-2229

POLISH CHRISTMAS EVE

Wigilia features performance by the Radomian Polish Folk Dance Ensemble, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Stitt Post No. 232, 23850 Military Road, Dearborn Heights. \$19, \$13 children age 12 and under. (734) 427-8640

POLISH CHRISTMAS OPLATEK

Wigilia features PRUCA Wieliczka Dancers, 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Tom Dooley K of C Hall, 28945 Joy Road, between Middlebelt and Inkster. \$12, \$10 ages 7-12, \$6 ages 6 and under, deadline for tickets Dec. 7. (734) 591-2079/(313) 531-6986

WIGILIA

Christmas vigil supper features ancient ritual meal of pierogi and mushroom soup, traditional carols, 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, on the campus of Orchard Lake Schools, Orchard Lake and Commerce roads, Orchard Lake. \$26. (248) 683-1748

BENEFITS

CELTIC RHYTHMS CONCERT

An evening of music, poetry and dance 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at Christ Church Cranbrook, Lone Pine and Cranbrook roads, Bloomfield Hills. Free, but donation is asked to help the Ulster Project of Metro Detroit build "Peace by Piece" in Northern Ireland. (248) 851-1287

RACING COLLECTIBLES SHOW

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Harris-Kehrer VW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. \$2, ages 12 and under free, proceeds for Michigan Vietnam Monument. (617) 467-2376

"ROCKIN' AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE"

An evening of dinner, a silent auction, dancing and live music by The Earth Angels, 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Southfield Centre

for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road, south of 10 Mile. \$25, to benefit the annual Southfield Ice Company show. (248) 354-9357

ST. NICHOLAS WALK FOR CHARITY

2 p.m. (registration begins at noon) Sunday, Dec. 5, in the EBA Club, Lobby G, at Domino's Farms, 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Drive, Ann Arbor. (734) 930-3188

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE MADRIGAL DINNERS

7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 9-11, entertainment by Good Neighbors All and the college's Madrigal Singers, in the Waterman Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile roads, Livonia. \$35, proceeds go to the student scholarship fund. (734) 462-4417

WALK THROUGH VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Carolers, hot cider and homemade cookies 5-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 10-11, at the Irish Lake Bed and Breakfast, 1073 Penniman, Plymouth. \$5, to benefit AAA Crisis Pregnancy Center.

CLASSICAL

BIRMINGHAM MUSICALE

1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at the Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Road at Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 335-7160

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Bach and Handel, with soprano Christine Brandes and mezzo-soprano Marletta Simpson, 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Dec. 2-3, 10:45 a.m. Friday, Dec. 3 and 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 576-5111; "The Nutcracker" with Ballet Internationale Thursday, Dec. 9 to Sunday, Dec. 19, at the Detroit Opera House. (313) 576-5111/(313) 874-SING.

LIVONIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Dearborn Ballet Theatre dances "The Nutcracker" with orchestra 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh, north of Joy Road, Livonia. \$15, \$10 students/children. (734) 421-1111/(734) 464-2741

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

With the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company present "The Nutcracker" 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy Road and Canton Center, Canton. \$17 adults/seniors, \$10 students K-12, and \$5 Sugar Plum Teas that follow Saturday-Sunday matinees. (734) 451-2112

SCHOOLCRAFT WIND ENSEMBLE

Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 as well as seasonal music; 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, in the Radloff Center Community Room, Garden City. Free. (734) 462-4400

POPS/SWING

JIM PARAVANTES & COMPANY

"Frank Sinatra Tribute," 8:30 p.m. to midnight, Fridays-Saturdays through December, at Andiamo Italia West, 8676 Telegraph Road at Maple, Bloomfield Hills. (248) 865-9300

ALTURO SHELTON

The musical impressionist sings "A Motown Tribute," voices include Stevie Wonder, Sammie Davis, Jr., Redd Fox and Nat King Cole, 9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Ponchatrain Hotel, Washington Blvd. and Jefferson, Detroit. No cover. (313) 965-0200/(248) 354-1194

BRASS

MOTOR CITY BRASS BAND

8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at St. Mary's Church, Greektown. \$15. (248) 424-9022

TODAY'S BRASS QUINTET

"Y19K: Music from the Previous Turn of the Century," 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth, Ann Arbor. \$12, \$9. (734) 769-2999 or kch@ic.net

TUBA CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Tuba, sousaphone, baritone and euphonium players are invited to perform in the annual concert 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, on Maynard between William and Liberty, Ann Arbor. Preceded by an indoor rehearsal at 4 p.m. at the University of Michigan School of Music on North Campus. Wear colorful clothing that can be adjusted for the temperatures. (734) 763-0128

AUDITIONS

NOVI THEATRES

Auditions for "Fiddler on the Roof," 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 15-16, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile. (248) 347-0400

STAGECRAFTERS' 2ND STAGE

Auditions for "Forever Plaid," Monday-Tuesday, Dec. 13-14, at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. For performances Feb. 25-27, March 2-5 and 10-12. (248) 541-4832

THEATRE GUILD OF LIVONIA

REDFORD

Is searching for directors, choreographers, musical directors, and all others interested in musical comedy theater. Call (313) 531-0554 for information, or deliver resumes and letters of interest to the Theatre Guild, 15138 Beech Daly, across from the Township Hall in Redford.

YOUTH COMPETITION

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra is looking for contestants for its Youth Competition to be held in December at Evola Music of Canton, in addition to orchestral instruments, piano contestants are also being sought, winners will perform on the youth concerts in February of 2000. (734) 451-2112

CHORAL

ARBOR CONSORT

With the Dodworth Saxhorn Band in a Victorian Christmas: A Celebration in Brass and Voice, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at Concordia College Chapel, 4090 Geddes Road, Ann Arbor. \$10, \$7 seniors/students. (734) 665-7823

FORT STREET CHORALE

"Messiah," 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort Street, Detroit. \$12. (313) 961-4533

MADONNA UNIVERSITY CHORALE

Sing Benjamin Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 in the Felician Sisters' Motherhouse Chapel at I-96 and Levan Road, Livonia; and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at historic St. Paul's Church in Grosse Pointe Farms. \$10, proceeds go towards the choral's tour to Ireland in June. (734) 432-5708

NORTHVILLE CONCERT CHORALE

Handel's "Messiah" parts I and II, 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main, Northville. \$10 advance (\$12 at door), \$35 family in advance (\$40 at door). (248) 349-0911

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS

Presents a "Holiday Greetings" concert, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4 and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Plymouth Salem High School, 46181 Joy Road, Canton. (734) 455-4080

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE COMMUNITY CHOIR

Holiday concerts featuring Mozart's "Regina Coeli" and Rachmaninoff's "Ave Maria" as well as other seasonal favorites, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward, between Warren and Hancock, Detroit. Free; 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, between Merriam and Middlebelt, Livonia. Donations will be accepted. (248) 349-8175/(734) 462-4435

UMS CHORAL UNION

Handel's "Messiah," 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University, Ann Arbor. \$10-\$18. (734) 764-2538

VANGUARD VOICES

Presents two Advent concerts 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 at Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church, 24110 Cherry Hill at Telegraph, Dearborn. \$10, \$7 students/seniors/groups of 10 or more. (313) 317-6566

JAZZ

ANSON FUNDERBURGH

And the Rockets, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. (734) 763-8587

GEM JAZZ TRIO

Performs 7-11 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at the Century Club Restaurant, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. (313) 963-9800

BILL HEID

8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at Edison's, 220 Merrill, Birmingham. No cover. (248) 645-2150

JOHNNY & AL

Tuesday, Dec. 7, at Sweet Lorraine's, 29101 Greenfield, Southfield. (248) 659-5985

RICH K. TRIO

8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, at Big Fish, 700 Town Center Dr., Dearborn. (313) 336-6350

MATT MICHAELS TRIO

With saxophonist George Benson 8 p.m. Wednesday/Dec. 8, with vocalist Judi Cochill 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at Ron's Fireside Inn, 28937 Warren, east of Middlebelt Road, Garden City. \$5 cover. (734) 762-7756

8 days a week

Making contact: Please submit popular music items for publication to Stephanie Casola; all others to Linda Chomin, two weeks in advance to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

Continued from previous page POLISH ALLIANCE DANCERS OF DEARBORN

Dance and language classes for ages 3 to adult have begun Saturday mornings at Prince of Peace Church, on Altar Road, Dearborn, (313) 581-3181

STARDUST BALLROOM

Dance parties 9 p.m. Fridays, lessons also available, at the dance studio, 28651 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, (248) 356-5678

WATERFORD-OAKS BALLROOM

DANCE
8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at 2800 Watkins Lake Road, Waterford. (248) 673-4764

COMEDY

ELDORADO COUNTRY CLUB

Ruebin Ruebin with Pauline Navoy and Dee Proffitt, 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, on Pontiac Trail, west of Haggerty Road. (248) 624-1050

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

John Joseph through Saturday, Dec. 4, also Johnny B and Rich Higginbottom; Steve McGraw Wednesday-Saturday, Dec. 8-11, at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S

Blair Shannon, Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 2-5, Leo Dufour Dec. 9-12, at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

MAINSTREET COMEDY SHOWCASE

314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-9080

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

at the club, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Thursdays, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. (248) 542-9900 or http://www.come-dycastle.com

SECOND CITY

"Phantom Menace to Society" Wednesday-Sunday, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Mainstage comedy acts: \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays, \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. (313) 965-2222

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

ANN ARBOR HANDS-ON MUSEUM

Re-opened its door Oct. 19, the celebration continues with more than 250 interactive exhibits intended to make science fun, at the museum, 220 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. \$6. \$4 children/seniors/students. (734) 995-5439

CANTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Open house and bake sale, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, on Canton Center Road and Heritage Drive. (734) 495-0811

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Free celebration includes traveling exhibit "Turbulent Landscapes: The Natural Forces that Shape Our World," science demonstrations, Planetarium and Lasera shows (11:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.), also long term exhibit featuring Michigan's only full-size Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. (877) 462-7262

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Book signing by David Carson, author of "Rockin' Down the Dial: The Detroit Sound of Radio from Jack the Bellboy 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5; New On the Air exhibit allows visitors to walk through time and the area's radio and TV broadcast industry; "Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901," formerly known as "Furs to Factories," with a new Land Office, a "Wheel of Fortune" style land acquisition interactive, three new video screen interactives, a documentary video, a new Heavy Industry section and a display explaining Detroit's move from "Stove Capital of the World" to the Motor City, automobile capital of the world, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805 or http://www.detroithistorical.org

DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER

IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest" at 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, "Thrill Ride: The Science of Fun" at 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" and "Whales" multiple showings seven days a week, at the center, noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 7 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sundays, at 5020 John R (at Warren), Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4 (313) 577-8400

DETROIT ZOO

The exhibit, "Inside/Outside: The Art of Caring" continues through Jan. 2, in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at the zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile, Royal Oak \$7.50, \$5.50 seniors/students, \$4.50 ages 2-12. (248) 398-0903

DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM

Visit the newest exhibition "Folk Art of the Great Lakes" or "Racing on the Wind: Sailing on the Great Lakes,"

also a temporary exhibit on the construction and launch of the S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald, at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle, Detroit. Regular admission \$2, \$1 seniors/children ages 12-18 during the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday.

HENRY FORD ESTATE-FAIR LANE

"The Spirit of Christmas" continues through Dec. 31, enjoy guided historic tours of the estate festively decorated for the holidays, special events include Breakfast with Santa Saturday, Dec. 4; Tea, Tour and Treasure, Thursday-Friday, Dec. 9-10 and Monday, Dec. 20, Holiday Luncheon Concerts Dec. 9-10; Santa's Workshop Fridays, Dec. 10 and 17; Candles and Carols Dinners Sundays, Dec. 5 and 12, and Candlelight Tours Sunday-Monday, Dec. 26-27, at 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. (313) 593-5590 or www.umd.umich.edu/fairlane

HENRY FORD MUSEUM/GREENFIELD VILLAGE

"The Magic of Flight" IMAX film continues through Friday, Dec. 31 on the hour 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday (\$7.50, \$6.50 seniors and children ages 5-12, \$6 members and children under age 4), (313) 271-1570; at the museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, \$12.50, \$11.50 seniors, \$7.50 kids 5-12, members and children under 5 free. (313) 271-1620

MEADOW BROOK HALL

Holiday Walk features French treasures in the 110-room historic mansion built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto pioneer John Dodge, and her second husband Alfred G. Wilson, beginning Friday, Nov. 26 through Sunday, Dec. 5 the 110-room historic mansion built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto pioneer John Dodge, and her second husband Alfred G. Wilson, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, until 8 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester. \$12, \$6 children ages 3-12, (248) 370-3140

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

"I Made This Jar..." the life and works of the enslaved African American potter, Dave continues through Jan. 2, at the museum, 315 E. Warren, Detroit. (313) 494-5800

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

"Celebrate the Century" exhibit continues at the museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth. \$2, \$5.00 kids, \$5 family. (734) 455-8940

SPIRIT OF FORD

Interactive automotive science and technology experience with exhibits and theaters for all ages, NASCAR Pit Stop Challenge, Turbo Tour full-motion simulator ride, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, at 1151 Village Drive, across from Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, Dearborn. \$6, \$5 seniors, \$4 ages 5-12. (313) 317-7474

POPULAR MUSIC

ALBERTA ADAMS

7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

THE ALLIGATORS

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty, Plymouth. Cover. 21 and over. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

GREG ALLMAN

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$28.50, \$24.50. All ages. (248) 645-6666

ANN ARBOR SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMANCE ART SHOWCASE

7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-8310 (jazz)

BARENAKED LADIES

With Tal Bachman, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 1, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$50 and \$35 reserved. (248) 645-6666

THE BEACH BOYS

8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$25, \$15 for general admission. (248) 645-6666

BLUE HAWAIIANS

7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 17-18, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Tickets \$17 on sale now. All ages. (248) 645-6666

THE BLANKS

With Criminals, LES Stiches, Ducky Boys, 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. Tickets \$8. (313) 961-MELT or www.961melt.com

THE BOTTLE PROPHETS

With Meropolis, 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$3. (734) 996-8555

CHISEL BROTHERS FEATURING CHEF CRIS

10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main Street, Royal Oak. (248) 543-4300 (blues)

CROSBY, STILLS, NASH AND YOUNG

8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 24, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$76, \$51, and \$40.50 reserved. Eight ticket limit per person. (248) 645-6666 or (248) 377-0100

DEATHGIRL.COM

With SweatySedlups, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. \$5. (313) 961-MELT

DEEP SPACE 6

9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, Karl's Cabin, 9779 Gotfredson Road, Plymouth. (734) 455-8450

DETROIT SOUNDS

Featuring Hell Loose In Nation, Self-Inflicted, Flowmind, Rotation, Powertrip Flomojo, Mind Circus, Hydro Heelquin, Liquid Chicken, All Creations Wept and Wound, 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. \$12 advance. \$12 day of show. (313) 961-MELT

DISCIPLINE

10 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, Lilis 21, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck. 21 and older. (313) 875-6555

DJ VADIM

With Mr. Thing, Blu Rum 13, Killer Kela, 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. \$12 advance, \$15 day of show. (313) 961-MELT

DOMESTIC PROBLEMS

With The Velvet Beat, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555

FRED EAGLESMITH

8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, The Ark, 316 S. Main Street, Ann Arbor. \$11. All ages. (734) 761-1451

GLEN EDDY BAND

Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4, 17-18, Allib, Farmington Hills. (248) 478-2010; Friday, Dec. 10, Music Menu, Detroit. (313) 964-6368; Saturday, Dec. 11, Lower Town Grill, Plymouth. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

EKOOSTIC HOOKAH

8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 17-18, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$12 advance. (248) 544-3030

ELECTRIC BOOGALOO

With Clovis Minor and Giant, 9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555

WDRQ ELECTRIC KRINGLE JINGLE

Starring Sugar Ray, Blessid Union of Souls, Enrique Iglesias, Lou Bega, Jessica Simpson, LFO, Shaggy, Amber, Len, Mandy Moore. 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, Joe Louis Arena, Detroit. Tickets \$39.31, \$29.31. Call (248) 645-6666

EL VEZ

9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, 7th House, 7 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. (248) 645-6666

ESHAM AND NATAS

With Workhorse Movement, Friday, Dec. 19, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron at Mill Street, Pontiac. Tickets \$12. (248) 645-6666

FACE

With Nailing Betty and 500 Feet of Pipe, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$6. (248) 544-3030

FAN MAIL TOUR

With TLC, Christina Aguilera, Destiny's Child, 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 16, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$39.50 and \$29.50 on sale. (248) 645-6666

FANTOMAS

Featuring Mike Patton, Buzz Osbourne, Trevor Dunn and Dave Lombardo, With Kid 606. 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 6, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$15. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

FREED

With I Hate Mars, Red Dye 9, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 23, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

FREESTYLERS SOUND SYSTEM

10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$6. 18 and over. (313) 961-MELT

FULLY LOADED

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, Ford Road Bar and Grill, 35505 Ford, Westland. Free. 21 and over. (734) 721-8609 (blues)

FUNKINTELLIGENCE

9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$15. (734) 996-8555

THE GADGETS

With My Superhero, 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. \$6. (313) 961-MELT

KATIE GEDDES AND THE USUAL SUSPECTS

With Dell and the Rough Cuts, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia. \$12, \$10 for members. (734) 464-6302 (folk)

GHETTOBILLIES

With Colonel Sun perform for Owner Roy Goffett's Birthday Bash, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555

ED GOOCH QUARTET

9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 10-11, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. \$5 cover. (734) 662-8310 (jazz)

GUTTER-PUNK

With Unity, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$5. All ages. (313) 961-MELT

J. GELI'S BAND

With The Romantics, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$99.50, \$79.50, \$59.50, \$19.99 includes parking cover. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

HARRINGTON BROTHERS

7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

ROY HAMILTON JR. & THE GOLDEN BOYS

7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, 9, 16, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

JULIANA HATFIELD

With Six Clips, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$8/\$10 day of. (734) 996-8555

HELLO DAVE

With Smokestack, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

HOWLING DIABLOS

With The Still, 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 996-8555; With Face, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. \$20, 21 and over. (248) 544-3030

ICP BIG BALLER CHRISTMAS PARTY

With The Psychopathic Rydas, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, The Shelter, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. All ages. Sold Out.

ALAN JACKSON

With Lonestar, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5, The Palace of Auburn Hills. Tickets \$32.50 and \$25.50. (248) 645-6666

JARS OF CLAY

9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. All ages. Tickets \$15 advance. (248) 645-6666

BETTY JOPLIN AND FRIENDS

9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 17-18, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. \$5 cover. (734) 662-8310 (jazz)

BB KING

With Bobby "Blue" Bland, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 12, Royal Oak Music Theatre, Royal Oak. Tickets on sale \$55. (248) 645-6666 or www.ticketmaster.com

KNEE DEEP SHAG

With Bambu, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

KRESCENT 4

With Small Craft Sighting, 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 22, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$3. (734) 996-8555

Jan Krist

With Jim and Randy Bizer and Alan Finkbeiner 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia. \$12, \$10 for members. (734) 464-6302

EUGENE MANN

8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, Borders Books and Music, 1122 S. Rochester Road, Rochester Hills. (248) 652-0558 (saxophone)

MAZINGA

With Sublimation and 12 Angry Steps, 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, Blind Pig, 208 S. First Street, Ann Arbor. \$4. (734) 996-8555

MEATLOAF

6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, State Theatre, Detroit. Tickets \$58.50, \$49.50. (248) 645-6666

JOHN MELLENCAMP

"Rural Electrification Tour 1999" 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28, The Palace of Auburn Hills. \$45, \$35. (248) 645-6666

MEMORIAL JAM SESSION FOR TED HARLEY

2:40 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 662-8310 (jazz)

DAVID MILES

MOVIE

'Sleepy Hollow' brings spooky tale to life

BY VICTORIA DIAZ
SPECIAL WRITER

Don't go to Tim Burton's "Sleepy Hollow" hoping to see a cinematic version of Washington Irving's short story, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow." If you do, you may be disappointed.

On the other hand, if you yearn to experience Burton's visual virtuosity, perhaps you should drop everything and head out now for this off-kilter rendition of the classic American tale.

As you will remember, Irving's horror story, written in 1819, centers around that ultimate villain, the Headless Horseman. Said Horseman had a nasty habit of terrorizing Sleepy Hol-

low, his reputation no doubt bolstered by the villagers' practice of telling fireside ghost stories on long winter nights.

Though you might think village schoolmaster, Ichabod Crane, would try to impose some reason on the little community, he was as superstitious as the next guy.

One night, after suffering rejection at the hands of his only love, Katrina Van Tassel, he apparently encounters the dreaded Horseman as he winds his way home through the woods. Does Ichabod's imagination run away with him as he takes flight? We don't really know. Though his broken-down horse is found the next morning,

the schoolmaster is never seen again in the little community on the Hudson.

Irving leaves him, instead, to haunt our imagination.

In this screenplay by Andrew Kevin Walker, Ichabod (played by Johnny Depp) is a ruled-by-reason constable, dispatched by his New York City superiors to solve a string of murders that have recently occurred at Sleepy Hollow.

The villagers insist that the killings (all decapitations) are the work of the legendary horseman.

No way, proclaims Constable Crane, emphasizing that he believes "in sense and reason." With his handy-dandy detective

kit in tow, he sets out for Sleepy Hollow, determined to find the flesh-and-blood criminal and bring him to justice.

As the film progresses, we witness a hodgepodge of witchery, some peculiar dream sequences that seem slightly out of place here, and, eventually, enough fiery special effects to do the likes of Bruce Willis, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Mel Gibson proud. We also witness enough gore and carnage to paint the screen, the theater and the town. Finally, there's a Hollywood-ish ending that veers away completely from Washington Irving's memorable conclusion.

Still, this "Sleepy Hollow" makes up in high visual style some of what it is lacking in depth and subtlety.

This comes as no real surprise, of course, in a picture directed by Burton, whose movies so often feature foreboding architecture, moody lighting, bizarre colors, and characters whose physical appearance is, to say the least, arresting ("Beetlejuice," "Batman," "Edward Scissorhands").

In "Sleepy Hollow," Burton digs into a ragbag of grotesqueries. We meet a crooked little man with a clouded eye. We encounter scarecrows, grinning madly in the moonlight. There's a windswept, spectral hayfield and a looming Dutch windmill, its batwing sails fluttering like ghosts.

The haunted woods are filled with twisted trees that seem shrouded in perpetual mist. The village seems awash in eerie light, and aren't its houses and buildings just a little cockeyed? And the caped Horseman, himself, always riding by night and always huge and monstrous,



CLIVE COOTE

Here comes Ichabod: Johnny Depp stars as Ichabod Crane in "Sleepy Hollow." The film, directed by Tim Burton, was inspired by Washington Irving's classic tale of *The Headless Horseman*.

brandishes his mighty sword, lopping off heads as if he were reaping so many ripe pumpkins. Photographer/director Emmanuel Lubezki has made the film appear almost as if it has been shot in "Bible-black" and white, infused with cyanotic blues and moldering greens, and, of course, the aforementioned glistening scarlet.

"Sleepy Hollow" is bolstered considerably by supporting players Miranda Richardson, Michael Gambon, Casper Van Dien, Jeffrey Jones, Ian McDiarmid, Michael Gough, and Marc Pickering. All play inhabitants of the haunted village, and though we don't get to know any of them as much as we'd like, they are

nevertheless fascinating to watch as they fill their own rather shadowy niches in the drama. Christopher Walken is the Horseman, although his stunt doubles Ray Park and Rob Ince actually stir up more delicious terror than does the actor, himself.

Christina Ricci's Katrina looks like a heavenly apparition, and her golden good looks make an engaging foil for Johnny Depp's dark intensity. Unfortunately, though, if you've read the short story, you may have difficulty accepting the handsome Depp as Irving's gangly, snipe-nosed "hero," especially when it comes to this picture's comedic moments.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Tuesday, Dec. 7

"THE LEGEND OF 1900"

Drama recounts the life of a gifted piano player who is abandoned at birth on a Trans-Atlantic ship. His talent culminates in a rivalry of mythic proportions with jazz legend Jelly Roll Morton. Stars Tim Roth, Pruitt Taylor Vince and Clarence Williams III.

Scheduled to open Friday, Dec. 10

"THE GREEN MILE"

Remarkable story of a guard in a Southern prison's death row in 1935 and one of the inmates over which he has charge. Based on the 1996 serialized novel by Stephen King. Stars Tom Hanks.

"ANNA AND THE KING"

Set in 19th century Thailand, the true story of the relationship between a British schoolteacher and the King of Siam. Based on historical information. Stars Jodie Foster and Chow Yun-Fat.

"CIDER HOUSE RULES"

Classic story of a young man's extraordinary journey: leaving home, finding love and finding his place in the world. Based on the best-selling novel by John Irving. Stars Tobey Maguire.

Scheduled to open Wednesday, Dec. 22

"ANY GIVEN SUNDAY"

Drama about a an aging star quarterback who is induced to play hurt because a gifted and unprincipled young talent is seeking to replace him. The coach who struggles to remain true to the ideals that drew him to his career, and the ambitious young owner of the team. Stars Al Pacino, Dennis Quaid.



ANDREW COOPER

In *Slam*: Jodie Foster stars as Anna and Chow Yun-Fat as King Mongkut in "Anna and the King," the Fox 2000 Pictures release.

Scheduled to open Saturday, Dec. 25

"LIBERTY HEIGHTS"

A dramatic look at the life and times of a Baltimore family in the mid 1950s which focuses on issues of religion, race and class distinction written and directed by Barry Levinson. Stars Adrien Brody, Bebe Neuwirth and Joe Mantegna

"MANSFIELD PARK"

Based on the book by Jane Austen, the story of a young woman from a poor family, sent to live with her wealthy cousins at their estate. The plan is to arrange a marriage that will assure her place in society, but her high spirited nature and ideas about love will make it a difficult proposition. Stars Frances O'Connor and Jonny Lee Miller.

Movie has its own Y2K ideas

CARRIE COOPER
SPECIAL WRITER

5...4...3...2...1...Happy New Year! Or so you think. If you are one of those people who thinks that Y2K isn't going to be a problem you're probably focusing on your celebration, what you should wear, where you will go, and what you will do to ring in the New Year.

If you are one of those people who thinks when the clock strikes midnight mass chaos will erupt and the world may end, then you're probably preparing for the worst. What will really happen? Will it be the "End of Days?"

Universal Pictures and Beacon Pictures thriller "End of Days," starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, Gabriel Byrne, Kevin Pollak ("A Few Good Men"), Robin Tunney ("The Craft"), and Rod Steiger, addresses the present day topic that the world is consumed with...the end of the millennium.

Director Peter Hyams, producer Arman Bernstein, Bill Borden, and writer Andrew W. Marlowe, explore the idea that evil will be free to walk the earth and bring about the end of the world.

The setting is New York City, 1979: In a hospital where a newborn baby, Christine York (Tunney) is born. Christine's birth has been feared for all time because she bears the mark of the anti-Christ. Now the countdown to

doomsday has begun.

Twenty years later, four days before the new millennium, Satan is unleashed upon the world in search of Christine. He uses the body of a man (Byrne), so he can walk among the people of New York. He must find Christine and join with her in an unholy union before midnight on Dec. 31. Once the union takes place, Christine will bear Satan's child and will be doomed to reign with him for all eternity, bringing about the end of the world.

The only man who can stop this evil is ex-cop Jericho Cane (Schwarzenegger). Jericho, whose wife and daughter were brutally murdered, feels alone and betrayed by God. He lost his faith and feels his life is meaningless. His job as a security specialist, alongside his partner Chicago (Pollak), throws him into this bizarre prophecy that has come true.

Meanwhile, there are several religious people who feel they need to sacrifice Christine for the world in order for the evil not to prevail. Jericho rescues Christine from these people who want to kill her before Satan can get to her. The chase is on.

Christine has had visions and dreams of a man coming for her and is afraid she won't be able to resist him. She asks Jericho to help her. But how do you stop someone of pure, concentrated evil, someone with uncontrollable

power, someone who is not of this earth?

Now with the end of the millennium approaching fast, Jericho must do some soul searching. He must learn to have faith again if he is going to protect Christine and all of mankind from suffering the "end of days."

For Schwarzenegger, this film gives him a chance to fight something bigger than he has ever had to fight on screen. He plays a "real" person who has to struggle with his inner demons, as well as the supernatural.

Many people have similar ideas of what Satan is or how he should look. But, Byrne plays the part in an unbiased and non-stereotypical manner. Tunney has a very challenging role to play because she represents the "fate of humanity." She struggles with the urge to fulfill her chosen role and the need to change the prophecy by preserving her innocence.

As the world stands on the brink of the millennium, many are questioning what will happen. Could the world really end? Will it be just a small blackout?

Or will anything happen at all? One thing is for sure, you may want to reaffirm your faith and be prepared for whatever does happen when that clock strikes midnight. Don't expect Arnold to save us. Although the special effects are great, it is — after all — just a movie.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Showcase
Auburn Hills 1-14
2150 N. Opdyke Rd.
Between University & Walton Blvd
248-373-2660
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat.
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP END OF DAYS (R)
NP TOY STORY 2 (G)
NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)
NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13)
DOGMA (R)

THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R)
POKEMON (G)
THE BONE COLLECTOR (R)
HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R)
BEST MAN (R)
THE SIXTH SENSE (PG13)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Showcase Dearborn 1-8
Michigan & Telegraph
313-561-3449
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat. & Sun.

NP DENOTES NO PASS
NP END OF DAYS (R)
NP TOY STORY 2 (G)
NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)
NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13)
POKEMON (G)
THE BONE COLLECTOR (R)
BEST MAN (R)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Showcase Pontiac 1-5
Telegraph Sq. Lake Rd. W Side of
Telegraph
810-332-0241
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP TOY STORY 2 (G)
NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13)
THE BONE COLLECTOR (R)
DOGMA (R)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Showcase Pontiac 6-12
2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of
Telegraph
810-334-6777
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat.
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP END OF DAYS (R)
NP FLAWLESS (R)
NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)
POKEMON (G)
MUSIC OF THE HEART (PG)
THE INSIDER (R)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Quo Vadis
Warren & Wayne Rds.
313-423-7700
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.

NP SLEEPY HOLLOW (R)
NP THE MESSENGER: JOAN OF ARC (R)
LIGHT IT UP (R)
THE BONE COLLECTOR (R)
THE HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (R)
ELMO IN GROUCHLAND (G)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Showcase Westland 1-8
6600 Wayne Rd.
One blk S. of Warren Rd.
313-729-1060
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. & Sat.
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP THE WORLD IS NOT ENOUGH (PG13)
NP DOGMA (R)
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Stereolab's subtle sounds to fill Clutch Cargo

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

When it comes to atmospheric music, Stereolab certainly knows how to bask in obscurity.

In its own almost indefinable way, the London-based band blends experimental electronic techniques with a stylish, ever-somewhat element to produce the scatty bleeps and chimes that's come to be called Stereolab.

In its latest Elektra release, "Cobra and Phases Group Play Voltage in the Milky Night," Stereolab takes listeners back to that subdued, sub-surface place, creating something like the musical score for a futuristic silent film. The first track, "Fuses," gives off a dizzying array of chimes and horns that concoct a sort of modern Christmas Carol when accompanied by the jazzy "do dee doo dah" vocals.

With "Infinity Girl" Laetitia Sadier's ethereal voice floats atop rich streams of music, as if she's got a secret message to tell. In "Velvet Water" Stereolab takes it down a notch, testing whether listeners are paying attention. Smooth French lyrics slide into the mix, creating a dreamy, other-worldly air. Pick any of the 15 tracks on "Cobra" and try not to fall into the subtle sweetness.

Tim Gane teamed with Laetitia Sadier in 1991 and the founding pair put out Stereolab's first album. Rounding out the spacey sounds are guitarist Mary Hansen, keyboardist Morgan Lhote and newcomer Simon Johns on bass. Toss in guests to play the marimbas, vibes and coronets and listeners hear that "back to

basics" strategy on this latest musical effort.

On Wednesday, Nov. 24, Laetitia Sadier phoned in from San Francisco, Calif., to chat with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers about the new album and tour, which began in Europe and hit the U.S. less than a month ago. Here's her story:

O&E: After almost 10 years together, what drives you to continue making music and how has the music changed over time?

LS: "There is no shortage of ideas. The more you do it, the more ideas come to you. It's not like a pocket of petrol that runs out. It gets re-filled as you take it out."

"(The new material) is a continuation. You can feel the thread that was there right in the beginning. We're more mature, more comfortable, focused on what we want to do. We have found our sound."

O&E: How do you describe that sound?

LS: "I couldn't really describe it in words. You express feelings through music because you can't express them through words."

O&E: Who are some of your musical influences?

LS: "We have plenty of musical influences... The Beach Boys are very melodic with weird chords, but it still gets to people. It proves you don't have to play in E's and B's. There's a long list of wonderful musicians making music from Brazil, which was sophisticated, very melodic and exclusive... very open, very rich. Jazz, we like jazz."

O&E: Tell me about record-

ing "Cobra and Phases Group Play Voltage in the Milky Night." How do you go about creating music?

LS: "Recording, with two people: John McEntire (co-producer of the band's last two albums) who we've worked with in the past, and Jim O'Rourke - from Chicago - also a musician and a very funny man. We'd never worked with him before."

O&E: Tell me about the album title.

LS: "It doesn't mean anything. Surrealistic groups of the '20s. (It's meant) to give a certain flavor to the record, to condition you to listen in such a way. It's up to you to come up with. Free interpretation."

O&E: How is touring in the states different from touring in the U.K.?

LS: "Every state varies so much. From the Texans completely buzzing away, to last night in San Francisco (the crowd looked like they were) watching television. It can be so different. Overall we've had very good audiences. I believe they enjoy music, like music. They're coming to listen to the music. Dancing is an option."

O&E: Where are the most energetic audiences?

LS: "In London are our best audiences. They're really effervescent, really great. It's our hometown."

O&E: Describe a live Stereolab show.

LS: (Sighing) "We can't recreate the album the way it was on the record. To be honest, there's no point. It's more raw, the new



DAVID COWLAND

Stirring and Surreal: Tim Gane, Mary Hansen, Laetitia Sadier, Simon Johns and Morgan Lhote are Stereolab, who brings its unusual atmospheric sounds to Clutch Cargo Dec. 9.

songs - I think - because it's not weird pieces of music. It's much more song-like, more live-friendly. They lend themselves to being played live much better (than previous material)."

O&E: Anything else you'd

like to add?

LS: "We're looking forward to Detroit, to Pontiac. It's been such a good city to us from the start. We sold the most T-shirts ever in Detroit. Sixty T-shirts. Champagne! Celebrate!"

It's time to celebrate once again. See Stereolab Thursday, Dec. 9, at Clutch Cargo, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac. Tickets are \$12 now and \$13 on the day of the show. 18 and older are welcome. Call (248) 645-6666.

Local man's story a step away from silver screen



STEPHANIE A. CASOLA

It's a classic coming of age story, really. You can't help but become attached to the idea: An inner-city, blue collar boy, age 14, grows into a golf phenom with the help of his coach and despite all odds. What starts out as a recreational sport to keep him off the streets becomes a talent, a true passion.

Imagine the Bad News Bears carrying golf clubs.

"The Mark Harris Story," set in Detroit and Redford, is based on one young man's ambition and drive, and his constant battle to follow his dreams. Mark Harris saw the message and humor in his story and decided to share it Hollywood-style.

Now a 31-year-old Livonia resident and the father of three, Harris still shows the same ambition he had as a young golfer as he attempts to take his story to the silver screen. When talking about the would-be film, he shuffles through a briefcase full of notes, some scrawled on tattered paper. He's saved everything from old golf photographs to a journal of the very steps he's taken to realize this dream thus far. More than anything he believes in himself, which is one reason he's gotten this far.

His story

Harris admits everyone has a story. What sets his heartfelt tale apart from others, one might ask? The main characters of the story are an unlikely pair, a small-for-his-age golf hopeful from the city and a soft spoken 350-pound African American golf professional who share a passion for the game. Harris fondly

remembers his mentor, former Detroiters Dennis Williams, as instrumental during his early years in the game.

Harris never wanted to be in movies. He and his wife Jacqueline are raising their children, Avery, 5, Austin, 4 and Abigail, 1. He works in the landscaping business. In 1993, when he saw an "Entertainment Tonight" profile of Rudy Ruettiger - a boy from Indiana who wanted nothing more than to play football for Notre Dame - he noticed parallels to his own story.

He saw the film "Rudy" as similar to his own vision. Harris embarked on the journey.

Making things happen

It began with a phone call to South Bend, Ind., where he spoke to Ruettiger himself about his life experiences and making the film. Harris' idea then gained momentum. He was convinced if a regular guy from Indiana could make this happen, he could too. Harris began seeking out writers who would set his story out on paper.

"It just began snowballing," said Harris. "I started from ground zero. I'm trying to make it into a finished product."

Several writers expressed an interest in his idea, but it was a boost from Jim Burnstein, a Plymouth resident and the head of the screenwriting program at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, that set the gears in motion. Burnstein is known for his work on "The Mighty Ducks 3" and "Renaissance Man." Burnstein connected Harris with Garrett Schiff, a writer in Encino, Calif.

"It's a fascinating story about golf and kids," said Burnstein. "I liked the idea of the African-American professional golfer. I thought that had real potential. I put him in

touch with a writer who had just sold a script involving an ex-Negro League baseball player and a young white girl called 'The Finest in the Field.'"

Pen to paper

After speaking with Harris on the telephone, Schiff showed immediate interest in the project and flew to Livonia to meet with him, interview the people his characters were based on, and see the places where the story actually unraveled. By late February 1995, Harris' story began to take shape. Even Oprah Winfrey took a few minutes to listen to Harris' idea in person.

Schiff wrote a film treatment for "The Mark Harris Story," or "A Diamond in the Rough." After more than six years, Harris finds himself at something of a standstill.



His story: Livonia's Mark Harris is trying to get a movie made about his start in golf.

"The goal is to find a producer and director to take the film treatment to a major motion picture level," said Harris. "With the proper commitment and dedication, it can be

done."

His statement reflects the message of the film, which is one of hope geared toward a young adult audience.

Burnstein commended Harris' efforts. "If you're not a writer yourself, you can't do it unless you learn. It's a very difficult art to learn. He did the wise thing in finding someone who could write."

Taking time

Persistence is key when trying to get a film made. "It's never easy to get a movie made," said Burnstein. "Shakespeare in Love" took something like nine years to get made. That's normal. You have to go into it with your eyes wide open."

Harris intends to have the movie filmed in the Metro area. He is seeking local contacts who will assist him in making that happen.

Burnstein, speaking as someone whose film "Renaissance Man" opened in Detroit, said when films are made locally, it may make local residents "feel good about themselves." Familiar scenes have meaning to metro Detroiters, even if the overall impact doesn't alter the way viewers on a national scale look at the city and its surrounding areas.

The best advice Burnstein can give to Harris, or anyone working on a film, is to keep looking ahead. For those who've surpassed the production process, the next hurdle may involve distribution. "You can make a great movie, but can you get the movie distributed?" he asks. "You have a shot, but it's a very risky step."

Harris is ready and willing to make it happen.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola can be reached at scasola@oe.homecomm.net.

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NO PASSES OR COUPONS ACCEPTED

Searching for the perfect holiday gift for the Blues fan in the family? Dearborn's **Venture Records** is releasing "Uncut Detroit II" featuring six of best local blues artists: **Alberta Adams, The Alligators, Al Hill and the Love Butlers and Mystery Train** featuring Jim McCarty, just to name a few.

It's like Ben Folds Five once said, the "mixed tape's a masterpiece." England's electronic export, the **Lo Fidelity All Stars** have completed a second volume in a series of mix albums for Skint's Big Beat Boutique in the U.K. Following in the footsteps of Fatboy Slim, the Lo-Fi's will release "On The Floor At The Boutique" January 4. For a Lo-Fi fix in the meantime, check out "How To Operate

With A Blown Mind," on Columbia Records.

Can you say "collection?" The holiday season seems to spark a demand for "Best of" CDs and chart-topping collections. Here's a few sure bets to spur a family sing-a-long after dinner: "The Best of Simon and Garfunkel" features favorites like "A Hazy Shade of Winter" and "Bridge Over Troubled Water," reggae master Jimmy Cliff's "Ultimate Collection," spotlights "I Can See Clearly Now," and "The Harder They Come," and "The Neil Diamond Collection" has hits like "Sweet Caroline." Steely Dan, Steppenwolf, The Commodores and The Four Tops also have "best of" compilations.

La Villa Ristorante puts diners in an Italian mood

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Stepping inside a replica of an Italian villa is heartwarming any evening, but as our weather gets colder, there's even greater charm. This is the ambiance greeting diners at Clarkston's La Villa Ristorante that opened mid-June this year.

Seating 118 people at booths and tables, replete with table cloths and black-tie servers, the mood is sophisticated yet comfortable.

In an ideal Clarkston location close to Pine Knob and at the heart of the Golden Mile, between Sashabaw Road and I-75 to Maybee Road, La Villa is easily accessed.

It has been suggested by some that metro-Detroit does not need another Italian restaurant. Yet, when dining surveys are made, what's in first place? Italian cuisine. However, someone at La Villa should clean up the glaring misspellings on the menu and reprint it.

Owner Don Tocco has given executive chef Zog Vulaj full rein in the kitchen to dish up tasty regional Italian specialties.

Regular diners consider three antipasti as standouts. Calamari Arrabiata, squid dusted in seasoned flour, then deep fried to a golden brown and served with a spicy tomato sauce; a rustic, authentic Bruschetta topped with vine-ripened Roma tomatoes, pesto, and grated Romano cheese; and Shrimp Villa where jumbo gulf shrimp are lightly breaded then deep fried and served with garlic and lemon in a white wine sauce.

Minestrone is the flagship soup, but Zuppa Del Giorno can range from Pasta Fagioli to northern Tuscan bean or salt cod.

Among top pasta entrees are Lasagna Bolognese al Forno with layers of lasagna noodles baked

La Villa Ristorante
Where: 6397 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston (248) 922-1700.
Open: For dinner 5-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, until 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 4-8 p.m. Sunday.
Menu: Regional Italian cuisine featuring veal, pasta, steaks, fresh fish, and house-made sauces.
Cost: Entrees range \$11-23 and include potato, vegetable, side of pasta, and choice of soup or salad.
Reservations: Accepted.
Credit cards: All majors accepted.
Details: Full service bar. Kid's menu: half portion at half price.

La Villa Uncorked

Here are some recommended wine and food pairings.

- 1994 Michele Chiarlo Barolo with Lasagna Bolognese al Forno
- 1998 Pighin Pinot Grigio with trendy Chilean Sea Bass
- 1996 Ceretto Barbaresco "Asij" with Vitello Parmigiano

in a rich meat ragu and béchamel sauce, then topped with fresh grated Parmesan cheese. It must be the Bolognese sauce because Spaghetti alla Bolognese is also a hit.

Gnocco Sardo con Salsiccia is a twist on traditional gnocchi made from potatoes. Sardo refers to Sardinia where potatoes are not grown.

Gnocco Sardo is a semolina pasta, shaped like gnocchi and served with sautéed Italian sausage with sundried tomatoes, garlic, and shiitake mushrooms. Typically called Puttanesca, at La Villa it's Spaghetti alla Buttanese. It has traditional spicy, lively ingredients including garlic, capers, anchovy paste, crushed red pepper flakes, and Kalamata olives.

The chop house-size menu offers four or five dishes in the categories of Pesce (fish), Pollo (chicken), Vitello (veal), and Carne (meat). All are served with potato, vegetable, side of pasta and choice of soup or salad.

When inclusions are considered, the price range of \$14-23 in these categories is quite moder-

ate.

Try the Chilean Sea Bass steamed in Champagne and served over potatoes, leeks, and shiitake stuffed with garlic confit. Among chicken dishes, the most creative flavors are in Pollo Marsala and Pollo Piccata.

The biggest seller among veal dishes is the Vitello Parmigiana, veal scaloppini lightly breaded, sautéed and baked with tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese.

The signature veal dish is Vitello Filletto where medallions of veal tenderloin are sautéed with wild mushrooms, shallots in Madeira wine, and demi-glace. It is served with risotto Milanese and asparagus.

A dessert tray presents Dolce (desserts) which always includes house-made Tiramisu, Crème Brûlée and New York-style cheesecake, along with a special or two.

Eleanor Heald is a Troy resident who writes about dining, food and wine for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. To leave her a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864.



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Signature dishes: Executive Chef Zog Vulaj presents some of La Villa Ristorante's signature dishes including Chilean Sea Bass, House Antipasto, lobster and saffron risotto with morel mushrooms and asparagus, Veal Tosca, grilled portabella mushroom, and Tiramisu.

WHAT'S COOKING

■ **Andiamo Italia Restaurants** — Andiamo Italia West, strolling musicians 7-10 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7; Median plays pop and ballads, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8; Thique plays light jazz 8:30 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Dec. 9; Jim Paravantes & Company, "Frank Sinatra Tribute," 8:30 p.m. to midnight, Friday-Saturday through December, 6676 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 865-9300; Strolling musicians 7-10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at Andiamo Osteria-Rochester, 401 Main St., Rochester, (248) 601-9300. The Warren Commission plays light jazz 7-10 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8

at Andiamo Osteria-Royal Oak, on Main Street, (248) 582-9300. Mark Randisi presents Sounds of Sinatra 8-11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9.

■ **Holiday Tea** — At the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham, 3-5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10. Sample appetizers and sweets while shopping the silent auction for holiday gifts. Cost is \$25 per person, benefits the Women's Survival Center of Oakland County. Call (248) 335-2685.

■ **Golden Mushroom** — Is offering two New Year's Eve cele-

bration menus and seatings in two dining rooms on Friday, Dec. 31. New Year's Eve celebration, first seating begins at 5 p.m. in the main dining room, cost \$95 per person; second seating begins 6:30 p.m. in the Mushroom Cellar, cost \$90 per person. Millennium Celebration, first seating in the main dining room 10 p.m., cost \$150 per person; Mushroom Cellar first seating begins 9:15 p.m., cost \$145 per person. Call (248) 559-4230 for

more information.

■ **Millennium Celebration** — Friday, Dec. 31 at Morels, 30100 Telegraph Road, Bingham Farms. Cost is \$250 per person, plus tax and gratuity, evening dress suggested, black tie optional. Call (248) 642-1094, Ext. 3 for reservations. Menu features Ahi Tuna Carpaccio, Maine Lobster Ravioli, Pan-seared Palmetto Squab, slow-roasted prime tenderloin and Calibaut bittersweet chocolate soufflé.

SEARCHING FOR MEANING?

A T P X Z J O B S T N
S P O U S E C F I L B
W G K I D S K T X Q C
E A O Y B U S Y W P W
N P R K P S T R E S S

FIND JESUS

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A Christian Celebration

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Sundays, 4:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
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pfumc@wnet.org

L930405

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BUTON MANOR
New Year's Eve Party

You Could WIN!
8 Days, 7 Nights at
Beachside Villas
Caribbean Resort
on St. Maarten and
round trip airfare!

Sponsored by The Hearts of Livonia

Party Includes:
• Luxury Cruise Ship Theme
• Continuous Music by 2-
Bands Steve King
and The Ditties and
Kaleidoscope
• Prime Rib Dinner
• Premium Bar Package - 6

\$150.00
per person (*175 at the door)
Limited Seating
(must be 21 Years
of age or older)

27777 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia
(734) 427-9110

Millennium New Year's Eve Party

Roma
BANQUETS **\$75.00**
per person
Limited Seating

32550 Cherry Hill • Garden City
(734) 422-4550

• Channel 6
Band & DJ
• Premium Bar
Package - 6
• Prime Rib
Dinner

Mama Mia
BANQUETS 25-300 people
Livonia only

LIVONIA REDFORD ALLEN PARK

27770 Plymouth 19385 Beech Daly 15606 Southfield
11111 W. of Redford Rd. Just East of Grand River at Allen Rd.
(734) 427-1000 (313) 537-0740 (248) 383-9900

DINNER FOR 2
\$13.99

CHOICE OF:
VEAL PARMESAN CHICKEN SCALLOPINI
BROILED SCROD TENDERLOIN STEAK

ABOVE INCLUDES: Soup or tossed salad, potato
or pasta, fresh garlic sticks, bread & butter
With Cinnamon Express 12:15-9:00 Holiday Excluded O&E

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TICKETS
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Celebrate New Year's Eve at
MITCH HOUSEY'S
From 10 pm to 4 am
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\$100 per person
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Includes tax & gratuities.
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• Dancing
• Premium Bar
Package
• Breakfast (served after 2 am)

Early Dinner Also
Available from 5-7:30 pm
(only by 9 pm)

Real Estate

THE
Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

NO Page 1, Section F

Barry Jensen, editor (734) 953-2125 bjensen@oe.homecomm.net

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

Thursday, December 2, 1999

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HOME SEEKER'S CHECK LIST

- ☒ SELLER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(REQUIRED BY LAW)
- ☒ LEAD DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(REQUIRED BY LAW)
- ☒ HOME SUMMARY FEATURE SHEET
(ROOM DIMENSIONS, ETC.)
- ☒ SCHOOL DISTRICT SERVING
NEIGHBORHOOD (WHERE EXACTLY
ARE BUILDINGS, BUS STOPS)
- ☒ AGE OF MAJOR MECHANICAL/STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS (FURNACE, WATER
HEATER, SHINGLES, WINDOWS,
ETC.)
- ☒ APPLIANCES INCLUDED?
- ☒ PROPERTY TAXES (BASED ON
SELLING PRICE, NOT CURRENT
RECORDS)
- ☒ MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDED
(TRASH COLLECTION, LEAF PICK-
UP, SNOW REMOVAL, LIBRARY)
- ☒ CONDITION OF NEIGHBORING
PROPERTIES

Damage by pet must be proved

REAL ESTATE QUERIES



ROBERT M.
MEISNER

We bought our home in August 1998. I was aware that the owners were smokers, even though they had three potpourri pots steaming away.

Before moving in, I had the entire house washed and carpets cleaned. This took care of the smoke smell, but when I moved in, I found out that their cat used the living room and den quarters for its

litter box. The carpet padding and subfloor need to be replaced. The living room was so bad, it seeped into the basement cold air return vent and had become crystallized. I am sure that they were well aware of this condition because I can smell vinegar that was used to try to get rid of the smell.

I would like to know if taking them to court would get me anywhere?

Please refer to my recent column in the Observer & Eccentric discussing silent fraud. In it I discuss the recent court of appeals decision that outlines the requirements for obtaining relief for silent fraud. These cases are fact intensive, and it would be dependent upon whether, in fact, any representations were made to you concerning the condition of the subfloor and living room and/or matters in that regard.

It would also depend on whether you can prove that the sellers had reason to believe that the cat litter issue had caused damage to the physical structure and whether you could have discovered the condition by reasonable inspection.

You are best advised to consult with an attorney who can provide you with advice based on the particular facts of your case.

Robert M. Meisner is an Oakland County area attorney concentrating his practice in the areas of condominiums, real estate, corporate law and litigation. You are invited to submit topics that you would like to see discussed in this column, including questions about condominiums, by writing Robert M. Meisner, 30200 Telegraph, Suite 467, Bingham Farms MI 48025. His e-mail address is bmeisner@mich.com, and his Web site is <http://www.meisner-law.com>. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.



Bollan Builder of the Year

John Bollan Jr., a third-generation builder, hasn't really wanted to do much with his working life other than build houses.

So that's what he's done, following in the footsteps of his dad and grandfather, both named John, also.

Bollan Jr. will be honored next week by the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan as its Builder of the Year for service to the association and contributions to the industry.

"I was already working part time in lower-level miscellaneous jobs sweeping houses and spreading pea stone," Bollan Jr. said of his modest beginnings.

"I did go to college a little bit ... but I stayed full-time with the business. It became such a part of my life - no question a strong pull. It was my decision to stick with it. I enjoy it so much.

"I enjoy working with people - working with contractors and working with customers - to help customers create the vision of what they want," Bollan Jr. said. "Nothing beats the satisfaction of seeing people move into their first new home, their pleasure."

He's especially drawn to sales, marketing and product selection now.

Bollan Jr., 46, completes upwards of 20 houses a year ranging in price from \$240,000-\$265,000. He's currently active at Glenpointe in Shelby Township.

"We're not really a custom builder but do a lot of customizing," he said. "Our business has a tendency to be a great deal of referral and repeat business. That's a nice feeling, too. It shows you've built a nice relationship."

Bollan Jr. is chairman of BIA's New Generation Builders Council and chairman of the Convention Connection for the National Association of Home

Builders.

He's a director for the local association and the Michigan Association of Home Builders and an alternate director for the national association.

He was BIA's Young Builder of the Year a decade ago.

"The association is a big part of who I am," Bollan Jr. said. "Through the association, I've been able to develop a great number of contacts, friendships, relationships."

"It offers a lot of educational opportunities. No question being a member, being active, makes the association stronger ... and increases our political clout. Hopefully, that clout embraces our buyers' lifestyles. That's what the goal is."

Bollan Jr., who admits to enjoying gardening and fix-it jobs around his Bloomfield Township home, is married to Sherry Hinsperger.

"I guess one of the things I kind of watched over the years is to be cautiously creative," he said. "You don't want to step out too far. But you don't want to step back. We've built a reputation for traditionally designed homes."

Bollan Jr. believes he's earned his own stripes on the local building scene.

"Being the son or daughter of a boss or builder isn't the easiest job in the world," he said. "You're always looked on as that favored person. From that standpoint, you have to earn a little more respect. After that, it's very gratifying."

"As I worked with my mother and father over the years, they became my very best friends," Bollan Jr. said. "You work so closely together, share so much."

Decisions always evolved without acrimony and often without anyone

verbally acknowledging that a decision actually had been made, he recalled.

"As soon as you reach the end of a discussion, you put it aside and go on and enjoy the rest of the day," Bollan Jr. said.

Bollan Sr. is thrilled with his son's honor.

"I'm biased. I think he's a great person, not just a great son, and a super builder. He does a great quality job. He'll do whatever it takes."

"In the last 10 years or so I was active, he was an actual partner," Bollan Sr. said. "I never remember a discussion that was so heated we couldn't make a decision. That's when I knew it was time to retire - he was always ahead of me."

Richard Cherkasky, president of the Richard Group, has known Bollan Jr. for 25 years.

"The interesting thing about the Bollans - he's third generation - is there is no dirt," Cherkasky said. "They are very concerned about doing things right and proper."

"He's not the kind of guy to figure out how to cut corners," Cherkasky added. "He's very involved in product research. He's kind of a hands-on guy who has a personal relationship with his tradesmen, customers and employees on a daily basis."

Mary Olk of Design Interiors has decorated many of Bollan Jr.'s models over the years.

"He really cares," she said. "He cares about the quality of his homes and cares that people feel good about them."

"He's so generous with his knowledge and information as far as new builders and associates are concerned," Olk added. "It's just the kind of person he is."

On the
Job: John
Bollan Jr.
has been
selected
Builder of
the Year
by the
Building
Industry
Associa-
tion of
South-
eastern
Michigan.

State activity

Residential units - houses, condos and apartments - permitted January through September - in selected states:

STATE	TOTAL	1-YR. CHANGE
Florida	124,337	+13%
Texas	112,351	-7%
California	102,972	+12%
Georgia	68,810	+3
Arizona	50,255	+5
Ohio	41,751	+12
Michigan	41,232	+3
Illinois	39,790	+15
Indiana	31,130	+5
Wisconsin	25,990	+6
Minnesota	25,253	+15

Source: U.S. Housing Markets

Reverse mortgage for you?

MORTGAGE SURVEY.COM



DAVID C.
MULLY

More and more seniors are house-rich and cash-poor. Reverse mortgages are growing in popularity with these people. A reverse mortgage is a loan where the borrower receives money from the lender, instead of paying money to the lender.

With a reverse mortgage, the borrower can use the equity from his home any way he wishes and never have to make a monthly payment.

Homeowners must be at least 62. There are no credit qualifications.

The equity can be distributed in a lump sum, in a line of credit, monthly or any combination of the above. You may spend the money as you please. The borrowed money is tax-free (because it's not income, it's a loan) and does not affect the borrower's eligibility for Social Security or Medicare. Medicaid, food stamps or SSI may be affected, depending how the money is disbursed.

The size of the reverse mortgage depends on the borrower's age, the property value and current interest rate. The older the homeowner, the greater the value of the home. The lower the interest rate, the greater the amount that can be borrowed.

The home must be the primary residence. Homes must be single-family, one- to four-unit dwellings. Condominiums need HUD approval, but most units are already qualified. Mobile homes are ineligible.

The home must be in good condition and have a low mortgage balance. Repairs can usually be paid for out of the loan proceeds. Liens against the property can be paid out of loan proceeds at closing.

Reverse mortgages are made possible through the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) and the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae). Because of this, they are considered safe. Still, each applicant must attend a free, confidential counseling session with a local independent housing agency approved by the FHA. These counseling agencies help borrowers understand their options and help them calculate the costs and feasibility of a reverse mortgage. Relatives and friends may attend counseling.

Repayment is not required as long as the borrower owns and lives in the home. The FHA and Fannie Mae guarantee that the borrower will never owe more than the value of the home.

Since reverse mortgages are relatively new, not all lenders offer them at this time. One lender that is offering reverse mortgages is First Financial Mortgage Corp., 200 N. Center St., Northville. The telephone number is (248) 347-7440.

For more information about reverse mortgages, you can call First Financial Mortgage

David Mully's company, Mortgage Search Services, surveys lenders and provides updates on mortgage rates for homeowners. His survey and weekly column can be accessed online at www.MortgageSurvey.com. The survey report appears inside Thursday's Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. The company provides consumers with a Mortgage Search Hot line at (877) MTG-SHOP (684-7467). You can contact Mully at (248) 305-7337 or e-mail dmully@mtgsearch.com

Veteran builder going to Hall of Fame

Fred Greenspan's advice to people just getting into the residential building business today: "You've got to get down to the grass roots - watch, listen, learn, do it."

He speaks from experience. Greenspan, a member of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan for 50 years, will be inducted into its Hall of Fame during the organization's annual Leadership Recognition and Awards banquet next week.

He's built houses and apartments - "maybe in the thousands" - in Detroit, Royal Oak, Beverly Hills, Southfield, Birmingham, Oak Park, Ann Arbor, Redford, Plymouth, Northville, Novi and Milford.

Greenspan remains active on a part-time basis at age 76 as president of Fred E. Greenspan Builder in Southfield, keeping an eye on his company's rental properties.

Changing the housing landscape and forging relationships over the years are among his fondest memories.

"Part of it is the creative end of it, houses going up, looking back and saying, 'That's something we did.' The people you meet - other builders, other developers - you always learn something. The camaraderie. It's an education. A profession," Greenspan said.

"Generally speaking, builders are people with individual spirit, and that give the person an ability to do their own thing, be successful and have



Fred Greenspan

something to show for it," he said.

Greenspan went to work with his father, Harry, after spending some time at Central Michigan University and serving in the Army during World War II.

He went out on his own three years later.

Greenspan and his wife, Elayne, live in Franklin and winter in Florida. He enjoys golf and reading business periodicals.

Robert Brody, a developer/builder, is

a contemporary of Greenspan and a Hall-of-Famer himself.

"He's knowledgeable, thorough, has the ability to foresee, to see opportunities," Brody said. "He's conscientious. Putting all those together makes for a successful entrepreneur."

"I love the man for what he is and what he stands for - truth, integrity, honesty," Brody said. "He treated all his suppliers and contractors fairly. He's a very competent individual."

"And he used to be a good golfer," Brody added with a chuckle.

Donald Van Every, another developer and Hall-of-Famer, started in the business working for Greenspan's father.

"Fred is a man of principle, a hard worker. I think that's what it takes to win any race," Van Every said.

Greenspan's daughter, Jan Dunn, is now executive vice president of the company.

"He certainly had an uncanny ability to find good locations for property years and years back when he bought quite a bit of farmland in Plymouth and Northville townships," she said of her father. "He understood the market - what people wanted."

"It was more than just making money for him," Dunn added. "I think he really took pride in homes that made an impact on peoples' lives and made an impact on society."

Jill Gun, another daughter, handles public relations for the firm.

HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric's residential real-estate closings recorded the days of July 28, 29, 30, Aug. 2, 1999 at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office and compiled by Advertising That Works, a Bloomfield Township company that tracks deed and mortgage recordings in southeastern Michigan. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Auburn Hills	
4262 Arcadia Dr.	\$380,000
806 Bloomfield Vill. #A	\$55,000
833 Bloomfield Vill. #B	\$73,000
3017 Carly Ct.	\$99,000
3058 Debra Ct.	\$101,000
3188 Hibi Rd.	\$21,000
743 Huntclub Blvd.	\$204,000
3037 Lincolnview St.	\$150,000
3127 Margaret St.	\$93,000
118 N. Squirrel St.	\$107,000
2284 Old Salem Rd.	\$143,000
Clarkston	
5566 Alderstone Dr.	\$228,000
6201 Brookstone Ln.	\$450,000
6021 Cedar Bend Dr.	\$244,000
6029 Dawingburg Rd.	\$18,000
8935 Deerpark Dr.	\$101,000
4350 Elmwood Ave.	\$141,000
7085 Hickory Hollow Cir.	\$317,000
4904 Highland Ct.	\$377,000
2520 Mann Rd.	\$172,000
5267 Mary Sue Ave.	\$88,000
5385 Milane Cir.	\$187,000
79 N. Holcomb Rd.	\$270,000
5306 Oak Park Dr.	\$116,000
8613 Park Valley Dr.	\$230,000
5985 Rockcroft Blvd.	\$162,000
6631 Scenic Pines Ct.	\$240,000
4860 Spring Meadow Dr.	\$248,000
6975 Tappan Ct.	\$174,000
9278 Villa Crest Dr.	\$114,000

6470 Waterford Hill Ter.	\$216,000
9600 Yale Ave.	\$140,000
Commerce Township	
2098 Applebrook Dr.	\$298,000
2202 Applebrook Dr.	\$363,000
1882 Ashland Dr.	\$230,000
4612 Benstein Rd.	\$150,000
1965 Blue Stone Ln.	\$260,000
8781 Buckskin Dr.	\$176,000
8484 Buffalo Dr.	\$156,000
5000 Fairgrove Ln.	\$258,000
9510 Garden Ter.	\$120,000
4889 Greenview Ct.	\$270,000
5221 Hiron Hills Dr.	\$245,000
3166 Kemco Dr.	\$195,000
8429 Pine Cove Dr.	\$315,000
850 Poliviera St.	\$136,000
4651 Sundew St.	\$152,000
1845 Twin Sun Cir.	\$257,000
2065 Waldo Dr.	\$214,000
122 Winding Bk.	\$182,000
162 Winslow Cir.	\$207,000
333 Winslow Cir.	\$199,000
170 Wise Rd.	\$78,000
Davison	
12540 Blueberry Ln.	\$240,000
8582 Ridgeview Dr.	\$195,000
6890 Tappan Dr.	\$238,000
Farmington	
23036 Frederick St.	\$140,000
33712 Grand River Ave.	\$185,000
32719 Grand River, #C6	\$59,000
30070 W 12 Mile #126	\$200,000
30042 W 12 Mile #50	\$180,000
32440 W 8 Mile Rd.	\$215,000
24135 Watercrest Ct.	\$262,000
24180 Watercrest Ct.	\$256,000
21200 Whitlock St.	\$164,000
Franklin	
25775 Franklin Park Ct.	\$680,000
24455 Tudor Ln.	\$227,000
Keego Harbor	
1605 Cass Lake Rd. #C	\$90,000
1633 Cass Lake Rd. #C	\$119,000
2301 Fordham St.	\$121,000
29975 Barwell Rd.	\$210,000
25263 Branchester Rd.	\$235,000

27555 Bridle Hills Dr.	\$265,000
35273 Caryn St.	\$183,000
20736 Cass St.	\$141,000
29594 Colony Circle Dr.	\$220,000
33629 Colony Park Dr.	\$303,000
27870 Copper Creek Ln.	\$365,000
31141 Country Blf.	\$133,000
30343 Essex Ct.	\$147,000
25179 Dugham Ct.	\$293,000
29940 Fox Grove Ct.	\$259,000
24565 Glen Orchard Dr.	\$121,000
29901 Harrow Dr.	\$425,000
23754 Haynes St.	\$142,000
37058 Kirkshire Ct.	\$167,000
23611 Larkshire St.	\$305,000
38370 Lowell Dr.	\$168,000
30759 Misty Pines Dr.	\$250,000
29735 Nova Woods Dr.	\$133,000
30594 Orch. Lake #55	\$104,000
21331 Oxford Ave.	\$104,000
28704 Petersburg St.	\$265,000
21806 Power Rd.	\$225,000
22780 Purdue Ave.	\$73,000
26320 Regents Pointe	\$162,000
26229 Rockcastle St.	\$176,000
38158 Saratoga Cir.	\$199,000
23878 Scott Dr.	\$230,000
29247 Summerwood Rd.	\$233,000
30943 Sutters Hill Ct.	\$280,000
24131 Tana Ct.	\$185,000
29830 W 12 Mile #311	\$73,000
30078 W 12 Mile #101	\$70,000
32005 W 12 Mile #109	\$71,000
30070 W 12 Mile #126	\$200,000
30042 W 12 Mile #50	\$180,000
32440 W 8 Mile Rd.	\$215,000
24135 Watercrest Ct.	\$262,000
24180 Watercrest Ct.	\$256,000
21200 Whitlock St.	\$164,000

1123 Abseguam Trl.	\$360,000
2871 Armstrong Dr.	\$187,000
691 Highview Dr.	\$145,000
465 Hoag Dr.	\$143,000
947 Holiday Dr.	\$135,000
606 Joslyn Rd.	\$132,000
3329 Millicent Dr.	\$160,000
347 Parkway Blvd.	\$190,000
917 Ridgeview Cir.	\$150,000
1191 Ridgeview Cir.	\$137,000
710 Rochester St.	\$257,000
516 Sherry Dr.	\$95,000
386 Summit Blvd.	\$250,000
Lathrup Village	
27371 Eldorado Pl.	\$169,000
18512 Glenwood Blvd.	\$189,000
Novi	
22481 Alton Ct.	\$235,000
22766 Autumn Park	\$604,000
43475 Bennington Dr.	\$356,000
41628 Borchard St.	\$158,000
30858 Centennial Dr.	\$178,000
41670 Chesterfield Ct.	\$450,000
42977 Clay Ct.	\$246,000
22145 Daleview Dr.	\$403,000
26600 Heather Woods	\$190,000
44531 Midway Dr.	\$325,000
23412 Mystic First	\$320,000
170 New Ct.	\$137,000
47240 Northumberland	\$435,000
24655 Old Orchard St.	\$105,000
45195 Roundview Dr.	\$274,000
1155 S Lake Dr. # 69	\$110,000
1155 S Lake Dr. # 71	\$110,000
25928 Sierra	\$165,000
23675 Stonehenge Blvd.	\$95,000
23707 Stonehenge Blvd.	\$66,000
22246 Sunrise Blvd.	\$250,000
24889 Sutherland Dr.	\$260,000
43100 12 Oaks Cres/60	\$245,000
39708 Village Wood Cir.	\$90,000
23455 Whitehall Dr.	\$410,000

3782 Rolling Hills Rd.	\$260,000
Oxford	
114 Brookfield Ct.	\$205,000
438 Cherry Hills Ct.	\$240,000
378 Cypress St.	\$46,000
1563 Deer Path Trl.	\$123,000
1574 Deer Path Trl.	\$68,000
801 Dorset Dr.	\$180,000
34 Hill St.	\$50,000
444 Pine Valley Ct.	\$206,000
145 Pine Valley Ct.	\$227,000
3470 Ray Rd.	\$365,000
1640 Seymour Lake Rd.	\$258,000
1132 Somerset Dr.	\$180,000
21 Stanton St.	\$124,000
278 Tanview Dr.	\$225,000
Rochester	
4613 Amberwood Ct.	\$202,000
430 Baldwin Ave. Apt. 74	\$85,000
4890 Carrington Dr.	\$195,000
519 E University # 1408	\$67,000
523 E University # 906	\$94,000
3554 Inverness Dr.	\$299,000
5766 Lochmoor Ct.	\$745,000
4699 Milligan Ct.	\$475,000
408 Miller Ave.	\$112,000
3600 Normandy	\$246,000
Rochester Hills	
1985 Avoncrest Dr.	\$248,000
1996 Blue Grass Dr.	\$429,000
614 Bucknell Ct.	\$239,000
1477 Carriage Ln.	\$149,000
1471 Downing Place	\$321,000
4297 Carriage Ln.	\$237,000
781 Dressler Ln.	\$188,000
966 E Tienken Rd.	\$163,000
2561 Eastlawn Ave.	\$127,000
848 Grace Ave.	\$136,000
822 Hadley Rd.	\$180,000
1009 Hickory Hill Ct.	\$240,000
3677 John R Rd.	\$174,000
4973 Lake Forest Rd.	\$340,000
2650 Lambeth Park.	\$355,000
565 Lexington Dr.	\$248,000
1659 Lodge Pole Ln.	\$195,000
1670 Morley Ave.	\$109,000
761 Oakbrook Rdg.	\$134,000

1870 Oakpointe Dr.	\$800,000
6552 Orion Rd.	\$212,000
522 Oxford Ct.	\$144,000
4499 Hedgewood Dr.	\$244,000
3255 S Adams Rd.	\$172,000
1218 Sandy Ridge Dr.	\$274,000
818 Timberline Dr.	\$263,000
2700 Weavertown	\$177,000
2690 Winter Park Rd.	\$277,000
2935 Woodford Cir.	\$290,000
Southfield	
23145 Almina St.	\$157,000
20395 Brookshire Dr.	\$142,000
29810 Evergreen Rd.	\$219,000
30832 Fairfax St.	\$219,000
21351 Frazer Ave.	\$90,000
25355 Flier Ln.	\$230,000
15908 Hillon St.	\$162,000
20395 Brookshire Dr.	\$179,000
18205 Lincoln Dr.	\$150,000
21219 Mahon Dr.	\$119,000
28524 Pierce St.	\$17,000
24760 Plumridge Ln.	\$140,000
27637 Shagbark Dr.	\$93,000
26070 Summerdale Dr.	\$133,000
20081 Summerdale Dr.	\$151,000
5000 Town Crk.	\$151,000
21709 Virginia St.	\$188,000
25205 W 9 Mile Rd.	\$109,000
23763 Wendy Ln.	\$155,000

1104 Fairways Blvd.	\$216,000
5204 Federal Dr.	\$205,000
5811 Firwood Dr.	\$230,000
4499 Hedgewood Dr.	\$230,000
5533 Invertoe Dr.	\$228,000
2688 Kenwick Dr.	\$199,000
2698 Kenwick Dr.	\$182,000
6931 Killarney Dr.	\$290,000
3254 Kilmer Dr.	\$181,000
1523 Merryweather Dr.	\$316,000
6725 Montclair Dr.	\$227,000
4894 Moonlight Dr.	\$335,000
2960 Norton Dr.	\$325,000
2752 Orchard Trail Dr.	\$395,000
2695 Santa Ct.	\$270,000
360 Trombley Dr.	\$153,000
510 Woodway Dr.	\$130,000
3180 Upton Dr.	\$215,000
5528 Whitfield Dr.	\$435,000
5515 Winchester Dr.	\$217,000
2951 Winter Dr.	\$160,000
3610 Wilberthee Dr.	\$280,000
3173 Wolverine Dr.	\$165,000

556 Hillcliff Dr.	\$177,000
942 Hogarth St.	\$130,000
4421 Lamson Dr.	\$120,000
7070 Lanore St.	\$135,000
5011 Librest Dr.	\$117,000
5763 Lockwood Dr.	\$159,000
2088 Lone Birch Dr.	\$50,000
3539 Oakshire Ave.	\$133,000
2966 Otisgo St.	\$115,000
7435 Pineland Ct.	\$45,000
3585 Richmond St.	\$120,000
2859 Riverside Dr.	\$35,000
4125 Rural St.	\$183,000
400 S Pinegrove Ave.	\$145,000
3143 Schoolhouse Dr.	\$182,000
892 Scott Lake Rd.	\$113,000
4944 Shoreline Blvd.	\$245,000
2270 Silver Lake Rd.	\$155,000
3255 Warren Dr.	\$105,000
4357 Waterloo St.	\$146,000
2895 Watkins Lake Rd.	\$115,000
6310 Williams Lake Rd.	\$216,000
2790 Winsler St.	\$187,000
545 Woodbridge Cir.	\$139,000
225 Woodstone Rd.	\$126,000

5604 Heymeadow Dr.	\$195,000
9439 Heather Heath Ln.	\$185,000
6575 Haron Pl.	\$275,000
5469 High Court Way	\$268,000
4066 Inverness Ln.	\$223,000
3343 Lone Pine Rd.	\$638,000
3875 Lone Pine #300	\$97,000
2159 Mapesbury Dr.	\$158,000
1904 Midchester Dr.	\$333,000
4272 Middledale Ave.	\$126,000
4260 N Menay Ct.	\$290,000
1575 Naylor St.	\$118,000
4502 Northridge Ct.	\$105,000
4538 Northridge Ct.	\$115,000
7887 Pinewood Dr.	\$135,000
6819 Ridgeland #101	\$133,000
6540 Ridgeland #201	\$140,000
5160 Rock Run St.	\$140,000
2112 S Hammond Lake	\$380,000
1165 Stoddard St.	\$325,000
7871 Sunset Ln.	\$159,000
6753 Tamarlane Dr.	\$192,000
6794 Tarybrook Cir.	\$368,000
5531 Walnut Cir.	\$205,000
2311 Walnut Lake Rd.	\$240,000
7298 Ward Eagle Ln.	\$175,000
6776 Windmill Ln.	\$240,000
7368 Woodbridge	\$400,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real estate briefs features news and notes on professional associations, office activities, upcoming meetings and seminars, new services/products and consumer publications. Write: Real estate briefs, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150. Our fax number is (734) 591-7279.

PROPERTY INVESTORS

The Real-Estate Investors Association of Wayne County meets 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at the Southgate Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline, one block east of I-75.

Cost for non-members is \$15. Beginning landlords interested in a free newsletter should call Wayne Koehler, president, at (313) 386-7228.

DISABILITIES SEMINAR

The Troy Chamber of Commerce presents a workshop on the Americans with Disabilities Act in the workplace 8:30-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, at the SOC Credit Union Building, 4555 Investment Drive at Crooks, Troy.

Cost is \$10 for Troy chamber members, \$15 for Southeast Michigan Chamber Alliance members. For reservations, call (248) 641-1750.

INVESTORS II

The Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland hosts a dinner/program, "Buying and Selling Lease Options," Friday, Dec. 10, at the Stephenson Haus, 25000 N. Chrysler Drive, Hazel Park.

The dinner, at 7 p.m., is \$14 for everyone.

The program, at 8 p.m., is free for members, \$10 for non-members. For reservations, call (800) 747-6742.

CONSTRUCTION AWARDS

The Washtenaw Contractors Association will accept intention to nominate forms for its annual Pyramid Awards (outstanding performance of firms and individuals in the construction industry) through Dec. 10.

For information, call (734) 662-2570.

MORTGAGE BANKERS

The Young Mortgage Bankers Committee, affiliated with the Mortgage Bankers Association of Michigan, hosts a holiday party 5:30 p.m. to midnight Tuesday, Dec. 14, at San Marino Club, 1685 E. Big Beaver (on the north side of the street), Troy.

Cost, which includes dinner, is \$60 for members, \$75 for non-members. For reservations, call Joanne at (248) 945-3875.

HOBBS+BLACK

A grand opening ceremony was held for

the Hobbs+Black-designed Michigan State House of Representative Building in downtown Lansing.

The 295,000-square-foot, 14-story, stone-clad complex consolidates five separate office locations.

HOME INSPECTIONS

Consumers may obtain materials describing the importance of a reputable home inspection or receive a copy of the National Association of Home Inspectors Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics.

For information, call the NAHI hot line at (800) 448-3942.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Fair Housing Center of Metropolitan Detroit, whose goal is to promote and monitor fair housing practices and laws, has

launched a membership drive.

Individual membership (\$10), family (\$20), organizational (\$35), supporting (\$50) and sustaining (\$100) are available. For information, call (313) 963-1274.

HOME EQUITY LOANS

Michigan National Bank offers a free pocket-sized consumer handbook, House Smarts: The Owner's Guide to Making Sense of Home Equity Loans. Phone (800) CALL-MNB for a copy.

SALES WEB SITE

Curious as to what houses are selling for in your neighborhood?

Check out the maps on a community-by-community basis with that information on the Internet. And it's free.

Just dial up www.homeval-uemap.com

LAKE ORION WATERFRONT \$274,900

OPEN SUNDAY, DEC. 5, 1-4 p.m., 748 King Circle. Motivated sellers are offering immediate possession on this Lake Orion Waterfront. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath soft contemporary. You must see this great value at \$274,900, Take M-24 (Lapeer Rd) to Heights West to King Circle.

3604 CLARKSTON RD. ORION TWP. (248

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For Placing, Canceling or Correcting of Line Ads.

Publication Day: SUNDAY REAL ESTATE
SUNDAY ISSUE: THURSDAY
Deadline: 5:00 P.M. THURSDAY
5:00 P.M. FRIDAY
6:00 P.M. TUESDAY

Walk-In Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5 pm
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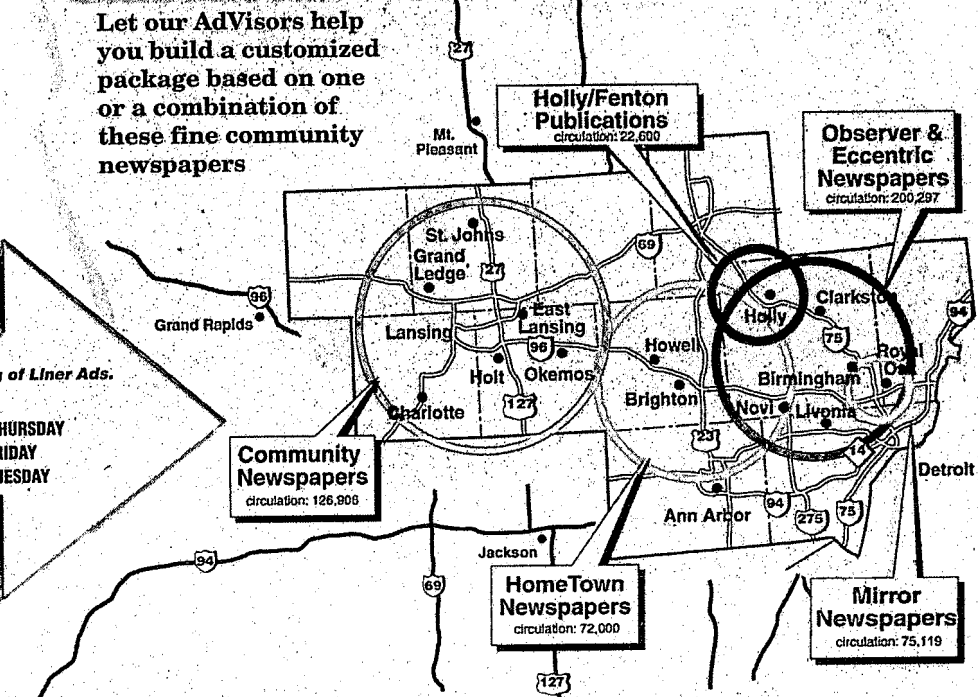


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THE Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

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HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

Important Deadlines for Classifications #300's and #400's

SUNDAY ISSUE:
• Real Estate & Apartment Display
ads 3:00pm Thursday

• Real Estate & Apartment Liners
5:00pm Thursday

THURSDAY ISSUE:
• Real Estate Display
3:00pm Monday

• Apartment Display
3:00pm Monday

• Real Estate & Apartment Liners
5:00pm Tuesday

Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

303 Open Houses

FARMINGTON HILLS By Owner. Brick ranch, 3 bedroom, 2 full baths, 1 w/ jacuzzi tub, hardwood floors thru-out. New roof/windows. Open Sat. & Sun. 1-6, 21940 S. Brandon, 9 & Inter. \$149,000. 248-471-2023

MILFORD OPEN Dec. 5th, 1-4, 795 Forest Berry Ct. 1 1/4 mile S. of GM Rd. W. side of Millard Rd. Full finished basement, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath colonial, 1715 sq. ft., 2 car attached insulated garage. (Immediate occupancy) \$224,900. Owner/Broker Glenview Realty (248) 676-9958

SOUTH LYON-OPEN Sunday, Dec. 5, 1-4pm. 115 Eagle Way (Eagle Pointe Sub) 3 bedroom colonial, central air, appliances, sprinkler system, deck, 2 car insulated garage. Priced to sell \$187,900 (248) 437-6199

SOUTH LYON - Open Sun. Dec. 5, 1-3pm. 12464 Cambridge Blvd. Centennial Farm coop 3 bedroom end unit S of 10 W. of Rushton

WATERFORD - Built 1998 3 bedroom/2 1/2 bath master down, walk-out, 2782 Greekside Ct \$180,000

305 Birmingham/Bloomfield

BIRMINGHAM-SHEFFIELD ESTATES
Updated brick ranch, 3 bedroom, 2 full bath, Florida room, finished basement, deck, 2 car garage, just listed. \$197,500. CALL SHIRLEY MEDVED (248) 510-3242
Real Estate Bro...

305 Birmingham/Bloomfield

BLOOMFIELD DRAMATIC 5 BEDROOM MANOR
Located on a private quiet, cul-de-sac, hilltop setting. Featuring limestone, marble, hardwood floors, leaded doors & much more. \$849,000.
Call Bernie 248-901-1259
REAL ESTATE ONE

Bloomfield Hills, on Oakland Hills Golf Course, large detached townhouse, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths \$249,000

BUILDERS CLOSE OUT - in desirable Bloomfield Twp. with Bloomfield schools. Two new homes, each with 4 bedrooms, multiple baths, basement, 3 car garage, and much more. In a sub of 20 new homes, priced from \$670,000 to \$762,810. Immediate possession. Only 4 available building sites left. Call for details 248-642-6833
THE BENECKE GROUP

JUST LISTED WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY
A home with an adjoining building lot. Enlarge, add on or fix up the house a sell off the lot. House has new roof & some new windows. Needs updating to be reinvented for the new millennium. \$249,000
ECH-25RUF 973063
MAX BROOK REALTY (248) 646-1400

306 Brighton

GORGEOUS 1990 built Cape Cod on 2.5 acres, 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths, basement & 3-car attached garage. \$239,900. Call 1-800-437-6280 #3001 for more details.

AWESOME 1996 BUILT Colonial with all the amenities. Plymouth-Canton Schools, oversized lot, private cul-de-sac location in rare wooded sub! Asking \$304,900. 734-451-9400
CENTURY 21 GOLDHOUSE

BETTER THAN NEW CALL DAN MULLAN
Newer Built Brick Colonial in newer sub. featuring private wooded park. Master bedroom with full bath family room and living room w/fireplace. 2 1/2 baths full basement. Mint condition. Spacious open floor plan. Competitively priced at \$195,900. Mayfair Realty (734) 522-8000

Canton 1375 Elmhurst
4 bedroom 2 bath brick ranch home country kitchen w/ walk-in pantry, finished basement w/ rec room. \$159,900
HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

Canton - 6802 Devonshire. Bring your offer! Beautiful 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath colonial features finished basement and Florida room. Motivated seller! \$164,900. HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

HOMES FROM \$199/MO. REPOS! 4% down, OK credit. For listings & payment details 800-319-3323, ext. H091

308 Canton

IMMACULATE
3 bedroom ranch featuring a completely remodeled kitchen, newer window, neutral decor, hardwood floors, fireplace in family room, and more. \$179,900 (ACAHA)
Call Bernie 248-901-1259
REAL ESTATE ONE

REMERICA
HOMETOWN (734) 459-6222

JUST REDUCED
Gorgeous almost new 4 bedroom 2.5 bath colonial, beautiful 2 story open oak foyer, study w/french doors, spacious island kitchen w/many cabinets, master bath, basement, 2 car garage & so much more. Hurry - will not last at \$281,900
FAIRWAY'S WEST - awesome 4 bedroom 2.5 bath colonial, gourmet island kitchen, spacious master suite w/lanette extras, family room w/fireplace, basement, deck & professionally landscaped lot, garage & much more \$384,900

CASTELLI & LUCAS (734) 453-4300
45500 FORD RD. - CANTON

PREMIUM LOT.
Premium Elevation, w/ custom landscaping plans. This features 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and over 2200 sq ft. Enjoy the great room's cozy fireplace, the upgraded island kitchen, and the park-like lot. \$269,900 (AKMAZ)

REMERICA
HOMETOWN (734) 459-6222

308 Canton
NEARLY 2 ACRES, 2000+ sq ft. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Oak and new carpet and vinyl throughout. 2 car attached & detached. Entertaining offers from \$175,000-\$188,000. Christina Yeager REMAX Elite 248-684-6655

309 Clarkston
NEARLY 2 ACRES, 2000+ sq ft. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Oak and new carpet and vinyl throughout. 2 car attached & detached. Entertaining offers from \$175,000-\$188,000. Christina Yeager REMAX Elite 248-684-6655

311 Dearborn-Dearborn Heights
Dearborn Heights - 5172 Glens. Completely remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. 1st floor master bedroom, and fenced yard. \$88,500
HELP U SELL (734) 454-9535

DEARBORN HTS.
District 7 2200 sq ft 4+ bedrooms, 2 baths. Lease to own Call Debbie, toll-free, 877-809-4634

DEARBORN HTS.
1500 sq. ft. brick bungalow, 2 car garage, Crestwood schools. \$109,900. MBR, Toll free 877-809-4634

DEARBORN
Reduced By \$10,000!!! 1998 Brick cape cod, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, basement, garage. \$174,900. MBR, Toll free 877-809-4634

314 Farmington/Farmington Hills

BEAUTIFUL HOME for sale by owner, 3082 sq. ft., 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, kitchen w/nook, finished basement, family room w/cathedral ceiling, fireplace and built in wall unit, jacuzzi in master suite, deck, 2 plus car garage. \$359,000. Open Sun 12-4. Call (248) 553-8552

BUILDER'S SPEC
4 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, gourmet size kitchen, family room w/fireplace, 2 car side entry garage, 100x135 lot. Priced at \$303,935. Call 248-476-7561

BUILDER'S SPEC
1st floor master, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, open floor plan, sky light & volume ceiling in kitchen. Available immediately. Priced at \$305,455 includes upgrades. Call 248-476-7561

ELEGANT AND CHARMING
3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch situated on a large lot overlooking pond. Spacious open floor plan with 2 fireplaces, finished basement and 2 car attached garage. Updates galore, including windows, siding, bathrooms, kitchen and more. A warm comfortable home. \$324,900. (984666)
MARY McLEOD Re/Max Classic Realty (734) 432-1010, ext. 219 PAGER: (313) 990-7649 www.marymcleod.com

BUILDER CLOSE OUT
Farmington Hills, 3 homes left, available immediately. Priced from \$304,900. Priced includes upgrades. Call 248-476-7561

FARMINGTON HILLS - 23090
Colgate. Charming 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick ranch. Some updates including, newer carpet, and attached garage. \$139,500. HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

FARMINGTON HILLS
By owner, 3 bedroom ranch, 1 1/2 bath, move-in condition. \$138,900. (248) 478-8177

JUST LISTED
WONDERFUL SITE CONDO. Three bedrooms with private baths & 1st floor master with Jacuzzi. Great Room with fireplace, den & 1st floor laundry. Wrap around deck overlooking pond. Must see! \$397,500. ECH-25WIN 973865
MAX BROOK REALTY (248) 646-1400

"KISS YOUR LANDLORD GOODBYE"
"CHEAPER THAN RENT" Why rent when you can own? \$2,547 moves you into this clean, well maintained and updated ranch located in Farmington Hills with Farmington Schools offering 0 down/FHA and VA Terms. Payment of only \$627.33 \$84,900. Ask for Larry Van Zandt/ Mike Searley 248-473-8200. Re/Max Great Lakes

NEW CONSTRUCTION
Victorian Reproduction. Extremely detailed 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, full walk-out basement. \$310,000. (248) 477-2811

314 Farmington/Farmington Hills

HOT! HOT! HOT!
HOMES IN THE HILLS

\$299,900
Built in 1998 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, contemporary colonial on cul-de-sac. Hardwood foyer, formal living & dining rooms, family room w/fireplace, oak kitchen w/breakfast room, 1st floor laundry & central air. Partially finished basement w/rec room. Patio, sprinkler system, 2 car garage. All appliances including washer & dryer stay. (WA239)

\$164,900
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY
On large wooded lot, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath brick colonial has family room w/fireplace, finished basement, central air, patio, 2 car garage & more. All appliances stay. Many updates including newer carpet. (HA233)

\$152,500
Sharp 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath brick ranch has living room w/Anderson bay window, new kitchen w/wood cabinets, finished basement, 2 car garage & more. Swim club in sub. (MA217)

\$130,000
Adorable 3 bedroom brick ranch on large wooded lot offers country living in the heart of Farmington Hills! Spacious living room, deck, 2 car garage w/workshop, fenced yard. (BA287)

\$124,500
Country style 2 story colonial on nearly an acre has 2 bedrooms, living & dining rooms, kitchen w/dining room, hardwood floors, full finished basement. Spacious floor plan. Central air, 2 car garage. Just listed \$159,900. MAYFAIR REALTY (734) 522-8000

ALLURING HOMES HOLIDAY HOME
Large 4 bedroom home remodeled to perfection. Great kitchen, bay windows, formal dining room, plus Great Room, 3 car attached garage & much more \$169,900 (FA143)

\$184,900
Beautiful 1986 built 3 bedroom brick ranch. Great open floor plan with family room and natural fireplace. Sharp kitchen, lovely finished basement and attached 2 car garage. Popular location. (ME274)

HOT! HOT! HOT!
Gorgeous 5 bedroom brick 2 story home. 2 1/2 baths, family room, w/whirlpool, large kitchen w/ granite counter, 3 car garage. Call for details. \$249,900. (S143)

Century 21
CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000
www.century21today.com

316 Fowlerville

NEW CONSTRUCTION ranch 1400sq ft, 3 bedroom 2 bath. New country sub 2 car attached garage 1st floor laundry, cathedral ceilings, bay window, oak cabinets. \$156,000. (517) 223-3083

Century 21
CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

317 Garden City

GARDEN CITY - 1814 Drexel
3 bedroom bungalow, completely remodeled, new drywall, updated kitchen, huge master w/full bath and balcony deck, and double lot \$125,900. HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

GARDEN CITY
OPEN SAT. SUN. 12-4 33421 Alta, north of Cherry Hill, west of Farmington Rd. 3 bedroom ranch with finished basement. A must see - \$114,900. Red Carpet Keim Reliable 248-476-0540

Century 21
CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

APPROXIMATELY 2150 sq ft
on this 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath Colonial, full finished basement, hardwood floors, quick occupancy & more. Call Ken Gentile, (248) 473-8200, Pager (810) 667-8008. Re/Max Great Lakes \$228,900

317 Garden City

LOOKING FOR A LOT OF HOUSE?
Lovely 4 bedroom 1.5 bath home has updated kitchen & bath, new vinyl siding/windows, roof. Huge family room, library, central air, some hardwood floors. 2.5 car garage & more. \$299,900. (810) 704-6377

CHARLOTTE JACUNSKI
CENTURY 21 ROW (734) 464-7111/pg(B1)704-6377

NEWLY LISTED
4 bedroom ranch w/large family room, gas log fireplace, 1.5 baths, central air, finished basement, 2.5 car garage, newer windows, and roof. \$130,900

Century 21
CASTELLI 734-525-7900

323 Howell

FOUR BEDROOM Cape Cod, 2 1/2 baths, 2,100 sq ft. full finished basement, 2 car garage, hot tub. On 3 1/2 acres \$299,900. Will pay closing costs. (517) 546-5853

RANCH 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage, large deck, air conditioned ceilings, lake access, built 1993. No agents \$156,900. (517) 548-7963

325 Livonia

ABSOLUTE MINT ALL BRICK RANCH
Broadfront Brick Ranch in prime area in sparkling clean condition. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, air conditioning, hardwood floors, full finished basement. Spacious floor plan. Central air, 2 car garage. Just listed \$159,900. MAYFAIR REALTY (734) 522-8000

Century 21
CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000
www.century21today.com

325 Livonia

LIVONIA - 9047 Henry Rd
Updated 3 bedroom brick ranch 1 1/2 baths possible 4th bedroom in finished basement. 2.5 car garage and fireplace. \$145,000. HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

LIVONIA OPEN SUN 1-4
JUST LISTED 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath Colonial offering 1746 sq ft w/new thermal windows, new vinyl floor, 18x12 year round finished room, natural fireplace, family room, newer furnace & central air & more. Call Ken Gentile, (248) 473-8200, Pager (810) 667-8008. Re/Max Great Lakes \$149,900

LIVONIA - 1486 Sutherland
1486 sq ft bungalow family room central air 2 car garage 2 full baths, almost 1/4 acre lot \$168,500. HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

STEVENSON SCHOOLS!
Quality best describes this 3 bedroom brick ranch w/family room, fireplace highlights living room. Many updates include roof, windows (except front), kitchen, furnace & a gorgeous 1/4 acre treed lot \$168,500. Karen Camilleri, Century 21 Row, 734-464-7111 ext 246

325 Livonia

3 bedroom brick bungalow, 1 full/2 half bath, 1850 sq ft., appliances, treed, immediate occupancy \$175,000 248-426-8964

DON'T CRAMP YOUR STYLE
Super location! Good construction! Well maintained! Easy family living all wrapped up in this Woodbrooke traditional colonial with 3 spacious bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, basement and 2 car side entry garage. \$290,000 (#984616)

MARY McLEOD
Re/Max Classic Realty (734) 432-1010, ext. 219 PAGER: (313) 990-7649 www.marymcleod.com

FABULOUS HOMES
Three bedroom ranch features dream kitchen w/oak cabinets, family room w/fireplace & skylights, master bedroom w/large closet & bath. Finished basement. 2 car garage. \$209,900

N.W. Livonia colonial w/4 bedrooms, huge family room w/fireplace completely updated kitchen, formal living room & dining room, 1st floor laundry, basement deck & 2 car garage. \$259,900

Century 21
ROW (734) 464-7111

KIMBERLY OAKS Colonial 1800+ sq ft 4 bedrooms 2 1/2 bath family room w/fireplace \$199,900. Call 734-261-9169

LARGE COLONIAL on acreage in the heart of Livonia. Beautiful up-north feeling. W/ of Meridian \$410,000. 734-427-1360

BEST BUY OPEN SUN 1-4
Is this sparkling brick beauty offers 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, central air, lovely landscaped 160 ft lot, big deck, 2 car garage, basement, sprinklers, immediate occupancy. Call today

HAL ROMAIN
734-367-8161
Century 21 Hartford North

LIVONIA - 9047 Henry Rd
Updated 3 bedroom brick ranch 1 1/2 baths possible 4th bedroom in finished basement. 2.5 car garage and fireplace. \$145,000. HELP-U-SELL (734) 454-9535

LIVONIA OPEN SUN 1-4
JUST LISTED 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath Colonial offering 1746 sq ft w/new thermal windows, new vinyl floor, 18x12 year round finished room, natural fireplace, family room, newer furnace & central air & more. Call Ken Gentile, (248) 473-8200, Pager (810) 667-8008. Re/Max Great Lakes \$149,900

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| 306 Brighton | Westland Wayne |
| 307 Canton | Wyom. Walled Lake |
| 308 Clarkston | Commerce |
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| 312 Farmington | 354 Oakland County |
| 313 Farmington Hills | 355 Wadsworth County |
| 314 Garden City | 357 Wayne County |
| 315 Grosse Pointe | 358 Lakefront/Waterfront Homes |
| 316 Hamtramck | 359 Other Suburban Homes |
| 317 Highland | 360 Out of State Homes/Property |
| 318 Holly | 361 Country Homes |
| 319 Howell | 363 Farms/House Farms |
| 320 Livonia | 364 Real Estate Services |
| 321 Midland | 370 New Home Builders |
| 322 New Hudson | 371 Apartments For Sale |
| 323 Northville | 372 Condos |
| 324 Novi | 373 Duplexes & Townhouses |
| 325 Oak Township | 374 Manufactured Homes |
| 326 Lake | |



SHARP! Move-in condition. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath ranch. New paint & carpet, white Formica kitchen with all appliances, huge family room, finished basement with additional bedroom, newer windows & huge shed. \$129,900 (23GAR) (248) 626-8800



COMPLETELY UPDATED 3 bedroom bungalow with 1 car garage. Freshly painted. Neutral interior. All appliances included. Newer oak kitchen cabinets & ceramic flooring in kitchen. Farmington schools. \$134,900 (21TUL) (248) 626-8800



SPACIOUS - Sharp 3 bedroom/2 bath brick bungalow with family room, dining room, den 3 fireplaces, finished basement, garage and much more. Must see! \$218,000 (18BUN) (248) 626-8800



DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM custom ranch condo. 2 bedroom/2 baths, professionally decorated. Hardwood floors, updated kitchen & baths. Custom lighting, window treatments and much much more. \$247,000 (44CHE) (248) 626-8800.



PRIME SITE, NEWER HOME! 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 lavs. Fireplace in family room. Dining room & Foyer with hardwood floors. Cathedral ceiling. Finished basement. Cul-de-sac, backing to nature preserve. \$279,900 (22PHO) (248) 626-8800



LOVELY 3 BEDROOM, 2.5 bath tri-level home with many updates. Family room with fireplace. Hardwood floors in kitchen. Costly landscaping. Plus Pine Lake privileges. Must see! \$275,900 (41NOR) (248) 626-8800.



GREAT HOME WITH YESTERDAY'S QUALITIES 6 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, plus 3rd room in-law apt., formal dining room, formerly a nursing home. \$199,999 (60OXL) 363-1200



294 E. Brown, Birmingham
(248) 642-8100



GREAT HILLY WOODED LOT Three bedroom, 2 1/4 bath with a finished walkout, natural fireplace in family room with doorwall leading to deck. \$194,900 (15RAM) 363-1200



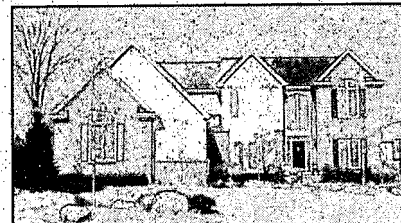
APPROX. 40 FT. LAKEFRONT ON ALL SPORTS SUGDEN LAKE. Lakefront living, many updates, newer roof, windows, carpet, siding and paint! 2 car attached garage. New well in 99, newer engineered septic field! A must see for the all sports enthusiasts! \$184,900 (43CAS) (248) 363-1200



ROOM & ROAM Private retreat, newer roof, 3 bedroom, 2 car attached garage, all appliances included. This one is calling your name, \$159,900 (25WIS) (248) 363-1200



COMMERCE RANCH 3 bedroom, 2 bath with newer kitchen, bath, windows, roof. Finished basement, 2 1/2 car garage, Lower Straits Lk. \$139,900 (06CHE) (248) 363-1200



ROCHESTER HILLS Fabulous designer decorated home with 2 story foyer and gourmet kitchen. Living room, family room, and master bedroom suite all with fireplaces. Separate den, 3 additional bedrooms, 3 car garage located on wonderful lot. Four years new! \$449,000 (34BLU) (248) 642-8100



WEST BLOOMFIELD Wabeek 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 lav contemporary with loads of updates. Finished walk-out, newer roof, central air. Hot water heat and fabulous pool setting. \$429,900 (74TAN) (248) 642-8100



BEVERLY HILLS Country living with city convenience! 3/4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths brick ranch on 1.5 acres. Family room with fireplace, living room, formal dining room, sun room and more. Birmingham Schools. \$339,900 (80HAM) (248) 642-8100



4820 Rochester Road, Troy
(248) 524-1600



ROCHESTER HILLS Executive caliber Colonial with formal living room/dining room, butler's pantry. Elegant master bedroom suite. Large island kitchen. Great Room, library, basement, three car side entry garage. \$524,900 (63GRE) (248) 524-1600.



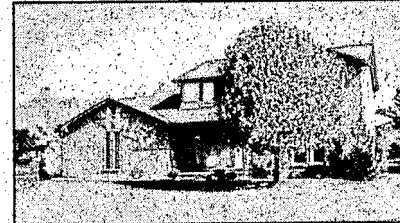
ROCHESTER Beautiful 1995 built brick colonial with two-story foyer and Great Room. Hardwood and Pergo floors throughout. Master suite with whirlpool tub and shower. Library with French doors. \$289,900 (51SKY) (248) 524-1600.



BLOOMFIELD HILLS Gorgeous Townhouse with three bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2 car attached garage, finished basement. Fireplaces in living room and master bedroom. Professionally remodeled. Home warranty. \$192,900 (76SOU) (248) 524-1600.



TROY - Four bedroom former Bing model home in beautiful Oak River sub. Two full and 2 half baths, side entry garage, professionally finished lower level. Four season garden room. Immed. possession. \$574,900 (79KIN) 248-524-1600



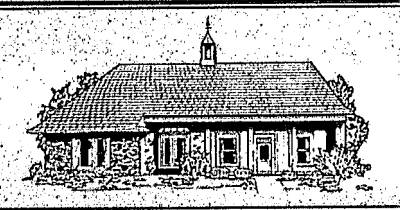
COLONIAL ON CUL DE SAC - Well maintained and backs to commons. New roof '99, exterior painted '97, updated baths and lavs, ceiling fans in all bedrooms. Family room with neutral fireplace, open floor plan. Home warranty. \$234,900 (82WIL) (248) 652-8000



JUST THE FINEST! Grand Colonial full of Palladium windows. Elegant living room, with gas fireplace. Mom's kitchen full of oak cabinets. Lavish master, landscaped to a "T". Sub features lakes, tennis, parks and more. \$225,977 (41THO) (248) 652-8000



HILLTOP HEATHERWOOD COLONIAL - Full brick front, pillared, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths. Backs to trees, commons and sits high on the hill. Neutral decor, 6 panel doors, master suite with walk-in-closet and private bath. Home warranty, quick possession. \$214,900 (21ARL) (248) 652-8000



4310 14 Mile Rd., Sterling Hts.
(810) 939-2800

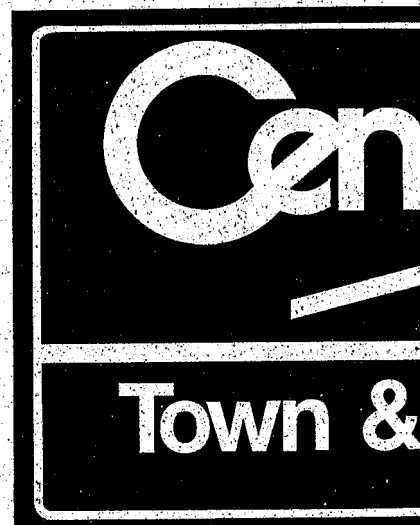
CENTURY 21 To Americ CENTURY



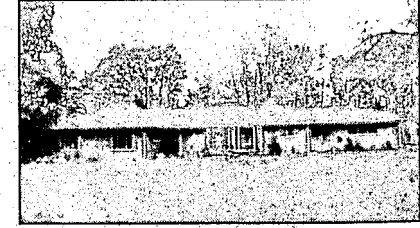
HOMES OF DISTINCTION - LAKEFRONT - Unique 3 bedroom, 3 bath. Soft contemporary. All Sports Voorhees Lake. Beach association, full finished walkout. 3 fireplaces. Cherry kitchen. Home warranty. \$575,000 (84BRO) (248) 652-8000



LAKEFRONT BRANCH NEW DETACHED CONDO - In premier Harbour Point on The Lake. Views second to none with lifestyle of the rich and famous! \$436,575 (57HAR) 363-1200



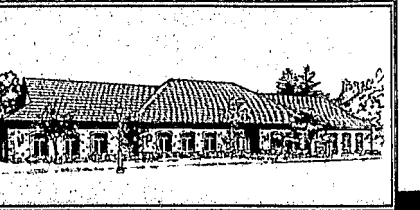
WOW!! Lathrup Village jewel. 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths. This home sets the standard for ownership with over 70k worth of updates including: newer kitchen with custom cabinets, granite countertops, roof, furnace & windows. \$305,000 (18ROS) (248) 626-8000



ALL BRICK RANCH situated on approximately 4 acres. 3 bedrooms up and 2 down plus 2 1/2 baths. Open floor plan. 2 kitchens, fabulous decking, screened in porch and much more. A slice of heaven right here!! \$325,000 (24FAR) (248) 626-8000



DREAMS CAN COME TRUE! You must see this newer 2 story contemporary home! You'll love the impressive circular foyer, spacious white kitchen, high vaulted ceilings, 1st floor laundry, library, 3 car side entry garage. \$368,500 (29MAR) (248) 626-8000



722 W. University, Rochester
(248) 652-8000

wn & Country a's #1 21 Firm!



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Custom built by Lorimer offers 4 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths and magnificent pond views. LR/FP, formal DR, kitchen with island and sub zero and double oven. MBR, unique FR and finished walkout LL. \$619,900 (09BLO) (248) 642-8100



ENJOY WELL LANDSCAPED and treed premium lot. 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial w/marble foyer and spacious 2 story ceilings. Large family room with fireplace and separate formal dining room. Oak River sub. Troy schools. \$579,900 (16HAL) (248) 626-8800

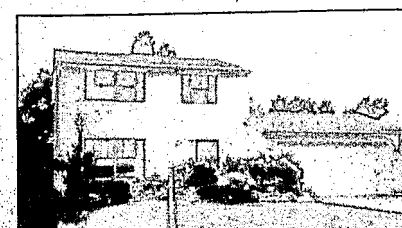
Century 21 Country



TROY - This beautiful home has it all! Custom Gunite inground pool, professional landscaping. Two-story foyer, library, oversized master bath with vaulted ceiling. Cedar deck, sprinklers. Troy schools. \$374,900 (01DOR) (248) 524-1600



RANCH CONDO - Lovely two bedroom, two bath Ranch condo in Southfield. Newer windows, furnace, garage door, kitchen floor. Two decks, master suite, private courtyard, great room with fireplace. Home warranty. \$214,900 (14CHA) (248) 524-1600



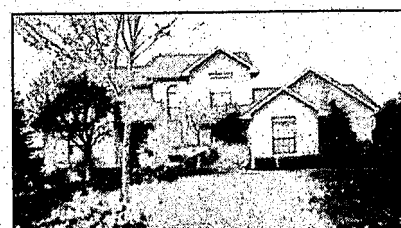
ROCHESTER HILLS - Three bedroom Colonial with two car attached garage and partly finished basement with glass block windows. Hardwood floors in living room and dining room. Sprinklers and security system. \$179,900 (36DAN) (248) 524-1600



TROY - Updated four bedroom, 2 1/2 bath quad in Stoneridge sub. Newer roof, furnace, A/C, updated baths. Oak kitchen with wood flooring. Paver porch and walkways. Private yard. Home warranty. \$219,900 (91PAT) (248) 524-1600



SHELBY - This stunning Shelby Colonial is a former builder's model, loaded with quality extras. Four bedrooms, three full baths. Great room with stone fireplace and skylights. Beautiful wooded lot. \$298,000 (29SHE) (248) 524-1600



ROCHESTER HILLS - Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath. Great room Colonial with cul-de-sac setting. Modern lines. Lots of hardwoods, Berber and ceramics. Partly finished basement, side-turned garage. \$249,900 (22OAK) (248) 524-1600



SPRINGFIELD TWP - Sharp three bedroom, two bath Ranch with Clarkston schools. Great country-like setting with almost an acre of land. Living room with gorgeous stone fireplace, large kitchen. \$205,000 (30CRO) (248) 524-1600



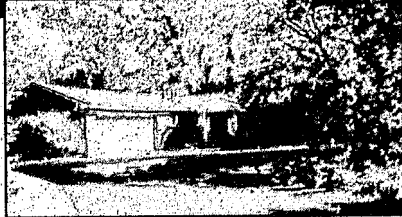
BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Luxurious Contemporary with finished walk-out lower level and views of Upper Long Lake. Great room with floor to ceiling windows. Library, exercise room, billiard room with wet bar. \$795,000 (22LON) (248) 524-1600



BIRMINGHAM - Fantastic 3 bedrooms, 2 baths Bungalow! Lots of updates. Features include master bedroom suite with vaulted ceilings and skylights, hardwood floors and enlarged kitchen, finished base. with exercise room. \$299,900 (40VIL) (248) 642-8100



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Traditional Colonial in Deerfield Village. 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, formal living room & dining room w/ fireplace newer kitchen overlooking pool setting. Updated baths, newer windows and finished base. \$274,900 (25CEN) (248) 642-8100



BLOOMFIELD - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths Ranch. Family room and fireplace and vaulted ceilings, master bedroom with bath and newer windows throughout. Many updates. Birmingham schools. \$234,900 (73LAH) (248) 642-8100



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Great location! Custom built 3 bedrooms, 2 full bath Ranch w/basement & 2 car garage. Park like setting. Ease to double sq. ft. by adding second floor. \$199,900 (90MAR) (248) 642-8100



CLARKSTON'S BEST! HILLTOP SETTING ACROSS FROM DEER LK. Prvt approx. 5 acre, boat/beach access steps away from breathtaking 4 bedrm, 3 bath home. Open to nature views. Modern kitchen, w/dining area, fin. w/o LL, 2 FP, leaded glass, moldings, white oak trim. \$319,900 (84DEF) 363-1200



COMMERCE SPRAWLING RANCH ON GORGEOUS TREED LOT! 2 yrs. old and just completed to owners delight. Transfer means this 3 bedroom, 3 bath home w/numerous upgrades is available to the buyer wanting the best! Cathedral ceilings, spacious rooms and office area. \$269,900 (55SCOM) 363-1200



JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS IN FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE - Of new Harbour Pointe On The Lake. New detached condominium home includes 1st floor master suite, all flooring and lighting, sod yard, sprinklers and weekly lawn cutting! \$245,900 (14HAR) 363-1200



ENTERTAINERS DELIGHT - Updated everywhere, fabulous open floor plan. Features 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, C/A, 2 car attach garage. Top of the line amenities thru-out. Welcoming large tiered deck to a lovely private yard, natural fireplace in family room. \$219,900 (87HOR) 363-1200



GOLF COURSE COMMUNITY - OXFORD - New construction - Paint Creek C.C. Ranch, granite counters, ceramic tiles, 3 car garage, 9' ceiling, cherry cab. Master suite with whirlpool. Crown moldings, library with wood floor CA, full basement. Orion schools. \$414,900 (46TUR) (248) 652-8000



EXECUTIVE RETREAT ON LAKE HURON - Custom home on private 6 acres (approx.) setting. Open design takes advantage of the view. 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, 3 fireplace, deep basement, Anderson windows. Only 2 hours north of Detroit. \$444,900 (00LAK) (248) 652-8000



ORION TWP. SCENIC NEW COLONIAL - 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, new Colonial situated on scenic wooded property backing to Paint Creek Trail, 2nd floor laundry, 2 story foyer, walk-out basement, 3 car garage, formal dining room. \$299,900 (33RID) (248) 652-8000



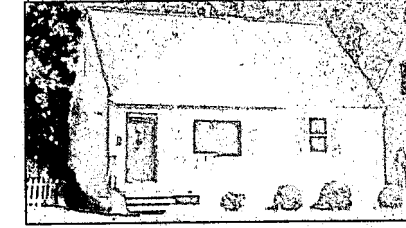
FABULOUS HOME ON WOODED LOT - Out of "Better Homes & Gardens" Totally updated and meticulously maintained inside and out. Set on a large, private, park-like lot. Huge master, very neutral, newer roof, windows, sprinklers, air, alarm, etc. \$249,900 (62POW) (248) 652-8000



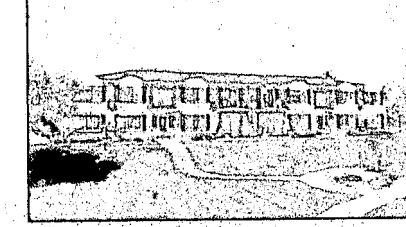
ROCHESTER HILLS - Hardwood floors in foyer and new kitchen. 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths. Newer windows, baths, carpeting. Family room with fireplace. Partially finished basement, 2 car garage. (64HAC) \$254,000 (248) 652-8000



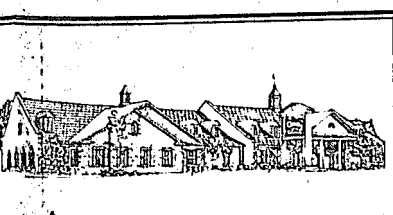
SHARP COLONIAL with premium setting. 4 bedrooms plus partially finished basement. Family room with wet bar and fireplace. Newer carpet and C/A. Large lot backs to nature trail, formal dining, 1st floor laundry, large deck and more! \$249,900 (69SCO) (248) 652-8000



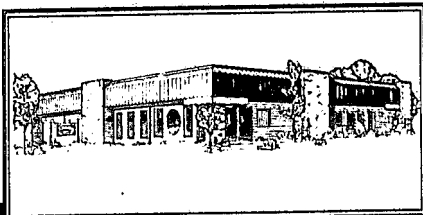
BIRMINGHAM - Great price in Birmingham! 3 bedroom, updated kitchen and bath, neutral decor and all appliances included. Cute and clean! \$121,900 (03FOU) (248) 642-8100



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Quiet 2 bedroom condo with fresh paint, newer carpet and tile. Porch overlooks scenic courtyard. \$89,899 (00HIC) (248) 642-8100



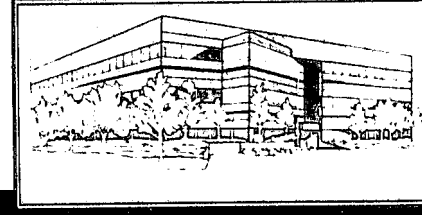
39750 Garfield, Clinton Twp.
(810) 286-6000



2600 Union Lake Road, Commerce Twp.
(248) 363-1200



48680 Van Dyke Avenue, Shelby Twp.
(810) 731-8180



7125 Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield
(248) 626-8800



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OAKLAND HILLS Memorial Gardens, Novi Rd. at 12 Mile, 2 lots, 2 vaults & marker, \$3,000/best, (248) 349-5374

ROSELAND PARK Cemetery - 3 side by side gravesites in prestigious suburban cemetery, \$900 each, (313) 441-5598

Commercial Industrial Sale or Lease

#389-398

392 Comm/Retail Sale/Lease

FARMINGTON HILLS RETAIL SPACE On 10 Mile, btwn. Halstead & Haggerty, Excellent Exposure, 1700 sq.ft. CERTIFIED REALTY, INC. (248) 471-7100

WATERFORD AIRPORT SHOPPING CENTER 1400 to 5600 Sq. Ft. Retail Space Available Award Winning Development M-59 at Pontiac Airport AL MONTALVO 248-668-2422 Or call your Broker

394 Int./Warehouse Sale/Lease

ATTRACTIVE, VERY CLEAN! TROY: For Lease - 3200 Sq. Ft., 2 Offices, 14' Living Room, Paul (248) 362-6115

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL Farmington Hills, 5500 sq.ft., w/showerroom, Eight Mile Rd. frontage, immediate occupancy. Call Livonia Trade Center: (734) 261-4887

OFFICE & WAREHOUSE FOR LEASE • 3 Mos. FREE RENT • Immediate Occupancy Canton & Novi areas. For more info call: (734) 454-2460 Evenings (248) 348-1833

395 Office Business Space Sale/Lease

ANNOUNCING: EXECUTIVE SUITES IBC has instant offices (from 150 sq. ft.) in Farmington Hills, Novi, Troy, Sterling Heights, Livonia, Ann Arbor and Detroit. Complete office services. Call Tamara (248) 244-9510 International Business Centers

EXPRESSWAY EXPOSURE 480 sq.ft. to 1800 sq.ft. Month-to-Month Available I-275 Expressway J. A. BLOCH & CO./Gach Realty (248) 559-7430

FARMINGTON HILLS 600 Sq. Ft. office space available on Orchard Lake Road (South of Ten Mile). Rent includes all utilities. Call today to schedule an appointment CERTIFIED REALTY, INC. (248) 471-7100

GARDEN CITY - Clean, well maintained, up to 1400 sq.ft., elevator, immediate occupancy. (248) 354-7474

PLYMOUTH: Unique 3 room office suite in Old Village, Oak floors, stained glass doors, \$725/mo. (734)591-6530 (734)455-7653

500 SQ. FT. 14 & Coolidge area. Private entrance & bath, all utilities included, \$600/mo. Leave message: (248) 969-2362

TROY AREA Space available, 18/Coolidge, 2100 sq.ft., 248-620-6668

397 Investment Property

CANTON - 1.7 acres w/2 family farm house, 24x36 garage w/office. Building needs rehab or teardown & build new. Great location \$165,000 734-453-5977

Real Estate for Rent

#400-498

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

ADAMS SENIOR VILLAGE Attention Seniors 55 and Older. New beautiful apartments in Westland just a few miles from 12 and 360. From \$469-648 Call for appointment. (734) 722-9440

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

AUBURN HILLS Westbury Village FABULOUS TOWNHOUSES OPEN WEEKENDS \$799 MOVES YOU IN

Luxury 2 & 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 1500 Sq. Ft. All appliances, including washer/dryer/blinds. Health Club/spa/pool/tennis. Kiddie playlot. Near Chrysler Tech Center. Executive Leases Available. From \$1120 (248) 852-7550 Squirrel Rd., between Auburn & M-59 www.rent.net/westburyvillage.com

BIRMINGHAM - Downtown studio apts. New renovations. Security deposit required. No pets. \$645. Call Mon.-Sat, 10-6, (248) 258-0226

BIRMINGHAM - downtown, 1 bedroom, hardwood floors. Heat & water included. No pets. 1 yr lease. Available Jan 1st. \$625/mo. After 6pm: 248-643-0582

BIRMINGHAM - Oak/Woodward area. Large, 1 bedroom, dishwasher, hardwood floors, heat & water included, no pets. \$550/mo. Ask for Leo or Rachelle 248-646-7400

FARMINGTON HILLS Luxury one and two bedroom Apartments Available. Call: 248-477-7774

FARMINGTON HILLS - River Valley Apts. 2 Bedroom, \$680/mo. Rent includes water & carport. 248-473-0035

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM Brookside Terrace Apartments

MOVE-IN SPECIAL \$1400/MO IF YOU MOVE IN BY JAN 1ST 2 Bedroom Townhouses. Hardwood floors, fireplaces, garage, washer/dryer in apt. beautiful view. Short Term Leases Available. Limited Availability! Old Woodward Ave. Lori Barron 248-352-3800 ext. 1237.

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

Best Apartment Value FARMINGTON HILLS (N. on Truck Rd. off 8 Mile between Middlebelt & Orchard Lake Rd., corner of Folsom).

TIMBERIDGE DELUXE 2 Bedroom Units From \$620. Includes appliances, vertical blinds, carpeting, pool, close to Farmington Hills location. Model open Mon-Fri, 9-5 (248) 478-1487

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BEST VALUE IN LIVONIA WOODRIDGE APARTMENTS (Middlebelt between 6 & 7 Mile) (248) 477-6448 www.rent.net/direct/woodridgelivonia

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PLYMOUTH - St. Citizens, Holiday Specials. Affordable, adult community, 1 & 2 bedroom apts. quiet community, walk to shopping, C/A, dishwasher, vertical blinds, carport, available to qualified applicants, 9-5pm 453-8811

ROYAL OAK 1 bedroom loft apartment, \$615/mo. with heat. 248-549-2626

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Novi Fall into the CHARM, ELEGANCE AND STYLE of Novi at

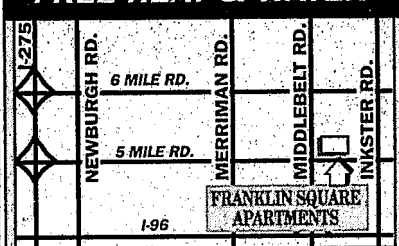
Novi Ridge Apartments & Townhomes (10 Mile between Novi Road and Meadowbrook) • Sensational 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms • Park like setting • Pet friendly atmosphere • Novi Schools and MUCH, MUCH MORE (248) 349-8200 e-mail: noviridge@bleznak.com www.rent.net/direct/noviridge

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400 Apartments/Unfurnished

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Features: • Storage in each apartment • Fully equipped kitchen with dishwasher & disposal • Fully carpeted • Cable TV available • Laundry on each floor • Central air • 24-hour emergency maintenance • Lighted carports • Intercom entry system • Elevators

DIRECTIONS: We are located at 14 Mile and I-75, next to the Abbey Theater and directly across from Oakland Mall.

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CANTON/PLYMOUTH FRANKLIN PALMER APARTMENTS On Palmer between Lilley & Sheldon Spacious 1 & 2 bedrooms STARTING AT \$525 FREE HEAT 734-397-0200 M-F 9-5, SAT 10-2, SUN 11-3

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NOVI WESTGATE VI On Pontiac Trail between West and Beck Roads HUGE 2 Bedrooms With Lots of Closets 248-624-8555 M-F 9-5, SAT 10-2, SUN 11-3

FARMINGTON CHATHAM HILLS On Old Grand River between Drake & Hartwood 162 Bedrooms SOME WITH DEN'S "GARAGES AVAILABLE" FROM \$625 248-476-8080 M-F 9-5, SAT SUN 11-4

DEARBORN DEARBORN CLUB APARTMENTS Apartments & Townhouses FREE HEAT AND WATER 313-561-3593 M-F 10-5, 30

WESTLAND HAWTHORN CLUB 7560 Merriman (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Warren) Apartments Starting at \$535 Dishwashers Available Free Heat 734-522-3364 M-F 9-5, SAT/SUN 11-4

WESTLAND HUNTINGTON ON THE HILL On Ann Arbor Trail W of Inkster 1 and 2 Bedrooms from \$540 Free Heat 734-425-6070 M-F 9-5, SAT/SUN 11-4

MORE LOCATIONS! 248-569-8880

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

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2 or 3 bedroom spacious townhouses, elegant formal dining room & great room, natural fireplace, 2 1/2 baths, master bedroom suite, full basement, 2 car attached garage. WEATHERSTONE TOWNHOUSES (248) 350-1296 Franklin Rd., S. of 13 Mile www.rent.net/direct/weatherstonehills.com

SOUTHFIELD - 1400 sq.ft., 2 or 3 bedroom, own entrance, appliances, blinds, air, carport, etc. No pets. 248-356-0780 / 734-251-4740

This Classification Continued on Page 4C.

400's Real Estate For Rent

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 400.....Apartments/Unfurnished | 420.....Halls/Buildings |
| 401.....Apartments/Furnished | 421.....Residence To Exchange |
| 402.....Condos/Townhouses | 430.....Garage/Mini Storage |
| 403.....Duplexes | 440.....Wanted To Rent |
| 404.....Flats | 441.....Wanted To Rent |
| 405.....Homes | 450.....Resort Property |
| 406.....Lakefront/Waterfront | 450.....Furniture Rental |
| 407.....Homes Rental | 456.....Rental Agency |
| 408.....Mobile Homes/Rentals | 457.....Property Management |
| 409.....Southern Rentals | 458.....Lease/Option To Buy |
| 410.....Time Share Rentals | 459.....House Sitting Service |
| 411.....Vacation Resorts/Rentals | 460.....Convalescent/Home |
| 412.....Living Quarters To Share | 461.....Foster Care |
| 414.....Rooms | 464.....Misc. To Rent |

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The Reserve
AT ALDINGBROOKE

- Master suite with cathedral ceiling, bay window and see-through fireplace
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- 24-hour monitored gatehouse

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APARTMENTS OF THE MONTH

- 3 Bedroom Townhome
- 1567-1680 Sq. Ft.
- First Floor Utility Room
- 2 Car Attached garage with Automatic Opener
- Private Entrance and Patio

THANKSGIVING SPECIAL
Starting at \$980

Entree

Old Fashioned Roast Turkey With Dressing

...this is enough for an 8 lb turkey.

• 5 cups cubed bread	• 1/4 cup melted butter
• 1/4 cup onion	• 1/2 cup celery
• 1/2 teaspoon salt	• 1/4 teaspoon sage
• 1 teaspoon sage	• 1/4 cup cold water

Mix all ingredients, loosely stuff turkey and bake according to instructions that come with turkey. This recipe may be doubled or tripled.

Open for your convenience 6 days a week. M-F 9:00 am-5:30 pm • Sat. 10:00 am-4:00 pm

Located on Maple Road between Halstead & Haggerty in West Bloomfield **624-3388**

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SHOAL CREEK Ryan at 14 1/2 Mile Rd STERLING HEIGHTS, from \$724 **810.978.3710**

OAK HILL West Utica W of Mound UTICA, from \$634 **810.731.2111**

PINE RIDGE Livernois N of Auburn ROCHESTER HILLS, from \$709 **248.853.4160**

HIDDEN LAKES Sashabaw Rd. W of I-75 CLARKSTON, from \$685 **248.620.2960**

WOODLAND MEADOWS Moravian btwn Utica & Hayes CLINTON TOWNSHIP, from \$705 **810.790.1627**

Special Low move-in costs on select apartments, variable lease terms. Call for more details.

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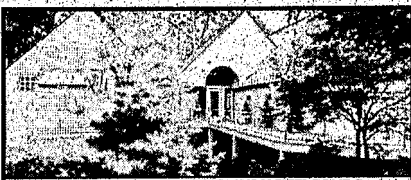


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• Hardwood floors, vaulted ceiling, large rooms
• Extensive use of glass. Pond & waterfall!
• Immaculate and move-in ready. (K1458)
\$1,290,000 • Gwen Williamson • 248 646-6089



WEST BLOOMFIELD - PRESTIGIOUS ROYAL POINTE
• Over 5,000 sq. ft. with soaring ceilings and windows
• Five bedroom suites, including incomparable master
• White gourmet kitchen with marble flooring
• Pond view, circular drive. The epitome of elegance. (OA619)
\$879,000 • 248 851-4400



ORCHARD LAKE - CASS LAKE VIEWS
• Rare opportunity - beautiful shorelines
• Freshly painted Colonial with old world charm
• Spacious rooms, two Florida rooms, four bedrooms
• Fabulous sunset views! (WA367)
\$680,000 • 248 624-3015



OAKLAND TWP. - ROLLING WOODED SETTING
• Fabulous Paint Creek Valley setting with 7.4 acres
(2 parcels - 1 vacant, 1 with home)
• Spacious walkout ranch with sweeping views
• Very private yet minutes to Rochester. (OR375)
\$580,000 • 248 641-1660



DRAMATIC CLARKSTON CLASSIC TUDOR
• Four bedrooms, 3.5 baths, first floor master suite
• Beach & boat privileges on all sports lake
• Large rooms, quality and luxury throughout
• One visit and you will love this home! (SO853)
\$369,900 • 248 651-8850



WEST BLOOMFIELD
• Main lake frontage! Remodeled entry level home
• Hardwood floors, white kitchen, ceramic baths
• Cathedral ceiling, two bedrooms, washer & dryer
• Close to park. ENJOY your summer! (DO232)
\$325,000 • 248 851-4400



NEW CONSTRUCTION IN SOUTHFIELD
• Over an acre in Birmingham School District
• Four bedroom, 2.5 bath Colonial
• Large kitchen, master suite with whirlpool tub
• Second floor laundry. (EL191)
\$259,921 • Ellen Ehrlich • 248 647-8047



INDEPENDENCE/CLARKSTON
• Wonderful Colonial on prime 1/2 acre lot
• Large master suite, island kitchen with upgraded appliances, first floor laundry
• Family room with fireplace, full basement. (MO870)
\$224,900 • 248 647-6400



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - GREAT LOCATION
• Beautiful 2 story Colonial near Bloomfield Schools
• Neutral decor throughout with open floor plan
• Full basement, formal dining room, and first floor bath
• Two car attached garage, porch, and central air. (AL250)
\$174,900 • 248 647-6400

VISIT WITH SANTA
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1999
A complimentary photo of your child will be taken with Santa by Mrs. Claus!
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED!
12 NOON - 3 P.M.
27100 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak
(248) 547-2000
(East Side of Woodward, 1 Block North of 11 Mile)
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.
4850 Investment Dr., Troy
(248) 641-1660
(S. of Long Lake, W. off Crooks)

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THAT'S NORTH FEELING
• Over one acre of privacy, trees, and your own pond!
• Newer 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath Tudor with 2 fireplaces
• Family room, library, professionally finished lower level
• Sprinklers & security, 3 car garage, Bloomfield Schools. (WE121)
\$638,000 • 248 647-6400



HUNTINGTON WOODS - MOTIVATED SELLER!
• 3,200 sq. ft. custom contemporary on Hendrie Blvd.
• Open floor plan, great kitchen, and large family room
• 4 bedrooms, master with walk-in closet & spa. Decks
• Florida room, perennial gardens, in-ground pool. (HE241)
\$530,000 • 248 647-6400



WALLED LAKE - LAKEFRONT
• Two story Cape Cod on east side of lake
• Sandy beach and many updates! Three bedrooms, breakfast room, and natural fireplace in living room
• Great western views & walkout to stunning sunsets. (LA125)
\$365,000 • 248 624-3015



CLARKSTON COLONIAL - PARK-LIKE SETTING
• Beautiful 4 bedroom home, 1 acre lot, 3 car garage
• Formal dining, large kitchen, large master suite
• Great home with finished family room in lower level, Close to I-75, schools, golf. (AL517)
\$289,900 • 248 625-5700



WEST BLOOMFIELD - CROSS LAKE COLONIAL
• Beautiful views of lake from balcony off master suite, partially finished lower level with walkout
• Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths, numerous updates throughout
• Water frontage with boat facility. (WE205)
\$249,789 • 248 851-4400



ROCHESTER HILLS - DESIGNATED HISTORICAL
• Enjoy the charm of yesteryear, mixed with today's comfortable amenities! Never furnace & central air
• Large country kitchen, 2 staircases, paver patio
• Beautiful & large treed lot near downtown. (AV163)
\$214,900 • 248 651-8850



HISTORIC DISTRICT - VINTAGE COLONIAL
• Filled with warmth, charm, and character - updated
• 2 large bedrooms, 2 full baths, bright & sunny kitchen
• Beautiful treed lot, extensive decking, 2.5 car garage
• Hardwood floors, arched entry doors, front porch! (TH100)
\$174,900 • 248 641-1660



ROCHESTER
• Classic in-town home on 2 lots, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths.
• Three fireplaces, beveled glass doors, wet plaster
• Sculptured moldings, hardwood floors, tile roof, copper gutters. Updated to fit your 1999 lifestyle! (MA131)
\$550,000 • Cecelia Brown • 248 656-4401



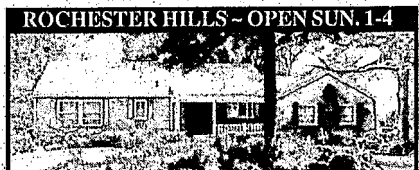
WHITE LAKE - PREMIUM LAKE FRONTAGE
• Enjoy waterfront views from this meticulously landscaped Colonial situated on two acres!
• Master bath with jetted tub & separate shower
• French doors, walkout lower level, multilevel deck. (TE234)
\$490,000 • 248 624-3015



STERLING HEIGHTS - AFFORDABLE ELEGANCE!
• Newer 4 bedroom Colonial - 2 full & 2 half baths
• Grand 2 story entrance with spiral staircase
• Extra large lot
• Huge kitchen with cabinets galore! (PO428)
\$329,900 • Mary Bann • 248 267-1106



FARMINGTON HILLS - OPEN SUN, 1-4
24205 Farmington Rd. - N. of 10 Mile, W. side of Farmington Rd.
• High on hill! Three bedroom tri-level with private woods backing to upper River Rouge - almost one acre!
• Dramatic marble foyer, sunny living level with soaring ceilings
• 2.5 baths, 2 car garage, finished basement. (FA242)
\$269,900 • Mira Fante • 248 647-8056



ROCHESTER HILLS - OPEN SUN, 1-4
620 Lake Forest - Off of Old Perch, on Campus to L. on Lake Forest to Ct.
• Charming four bedroom ranch offers finished lower level walkout to decking w/ water garden & large yard
• Canopied porch off living room, island kitchen
• Great location within walking distance to schools. (LA620)
\$244,900 • 248 651-8850



SPRINGFIELD TWP. - BEAUTIFUL RIDGE RUN
• Three bedrooms with 2.5 baths - first floor master
• Maintenance free brick and wood exterior
• Backs to magnificent forest
• Central air, sprinklers, and daylight basement. (OR997)
\$214,900 • 248 625-5700



HOT TEST HOME BUY TODAY... TROY RANCH!
• Three bedroom home nicely located in popular subdivision with Troy Schools!
• Updated windows, roof, & furnace. Full basement, open kitchen/family room, attached garage, fenced yard. (HA180)
\$153,900 • 248 641-1660



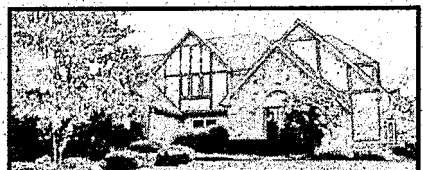
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
• Dynamite contemporary ranch, approx. 6,400 sq. ft.
• Nestled on a private treed site
• Three steam showers and jetted tubs
• Thermador appliances, exercise room. (WA457)
\$1,049,000 • 248 324-3800



WEST BLOOMFIELD - WALNUT LAKE
• Celebrate 76' frontage on the lake year round!
• Plenty of room to expand this three bedroom home
• Firelit living room, sitting room, dining with bay window
• Garage for boat storage. Walkout basement. (WA245)
\$699,000 • 248 851-4400



NOVI
• Stately four bedroom Colonial in dynamite cul-de-sac setting
• Hardwood floors, dramatic ceiling lines, dual staircase
• Three full baths, family room with fireplace
• Attached 3 car garage. Security alarm. (DU416)
\$548,800 • 248 324-3800



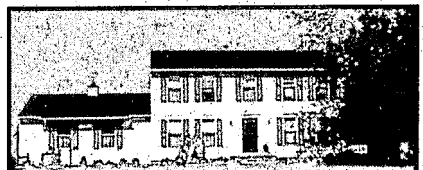
ROCHESTER HILLS - 4 BEDROOM TUDOR
• Private first floor master suite with fireplace, wood paneled den, and walk-in closets
• Island kitchen w/ bay window in breakfast area, doorwall to huge deck, 3.5 baths. Great neighborhood. (QU319)
\$369,900 • JoAnn Cacciarelli • 248 646-3524



BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED NORTHVILLE HOME
• Captivating ranch with gorgeous park-like yard
• Three bedrooms, 2,000 sq. ft., 2 full & 2 half baths
• Pond & gardens to the side overlooking woods
• Enjoy the numerous updates. (MA473) MUST SEE!
\$299,900 • 248 324-3800



ROCHESTER HILLS CLASSICAL COLONIAL
• New kitchen cabinets, appliances, and flooring
• All new carpeting, foyer accented by Wilson-Art tiling
• Enclosed sun room & deck face private yard
• Excellent value. (W1276)
\$269,000 • 248 651-8850



CLARKSTON SCHOOLS - PRICE REDUCED!
• Immaculate Colonial on 1.97 acres
• Natural fireplace with mantel in family room
• Multilevel deck, gazebo, above ground pool
• Shed and 2 car attached garage. (SP651)
\$239,900 • 248 625-5700



ROYAL OAK - OPEN SUN, 1-4
221 Orchard View Dr. • S. of 13 Mile, W. off Main
• Wonderful 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home in Vinsetta area
• Refinished hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen
• Super finished basement adds additional 1,000 sq. ft.
• Two car garage. (OR221)
\$175,900 • 248 647-6400



STERLING HEIGHTS CONDO - UPDATED IN 1997
• Perfect location for those on the go! Close to Metro parkway!
• Beautiful, newer oak kitchen cabinets, updated flooring, two bedrooms. Private fenced patio. (ME141)
\$104,900 • Eleanor Feeley • 248 656-4404

VRM - Value Range Marketing
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