

Thursday
December 23, 1999

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Your community newspaper

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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IN THE PAPER
TODAY



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VINTAGE



CLARKSTON

We have explored our own country's Christmas traditions in this column, but what about Christmas around the world?

In Iceland, 13 "santas" come to visit. They are said to be descendants of a mythological figure named Gryll the Ogre. They come down from their mountain home one by one beginning on Dec. 6 and by Christmas Day, each one has visited. They are mischievous little creatures, causing trouble and leaving presents behind. "Door Slammer" wakes everyone by slamming doors in the middle of the night, and "Candle Beggar" steals candles while everyone is sleeping. The children open all their presents on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas Day, all the little "santas" begin returning to the mountain one by one. By Jan. 6, known as the "Thirteenth" in Iceland, all the "santas" are gone, and everyone takes their Christmas decorations down that day.

Gledileg jol (Merry Christmas)!

In Australia, Christmas is much like here, but with a more casual attitude and an English flavor. Christmas in Australia falls in the middle of summer, and anyone near a beach or a pool goes swimming on Christmas. Presents are opened Christmas morning just as they are here. The big meal of the day seems to be lunch, and most lunches feature lots of seafood. English traditions such as plum pudding and rum cake are part of the meal. By afternoon, everyone is so full they take a nap, then go to the beach or the park for a swim. Dec. 26, Boxing Day, is also a holiday in Australia, and everyone has the day off. Australians say it's just like Christmas but without the presents.

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



Rudy's founder was community 'pillar'



Elsa Schwarze

By SUSAN B. TAUBER
STAFF WRITER
stauber@oe.hometown.net

Elsa Schwarze, 85, lost her life Saturday in a fire that also destroyed her house, but her legacy will linger in the Clarkston community for years to come.

Mrs. Schwarze and her husband, Rudy, who died in 1992, opened Rudy's Quality Market in downtown Clarkston in 1933. It was housed in three locations on Main Street—two destroyed by fire—before it moved to its current location at 9 S. Main St. in 1954.

Her son, Fred Schwarze of Spring-

field Township, remembers what it was like for him and his older brother, Robert, to grow up with parents who worked seven days a week, 12 hours a day, at their own store.

"I started going down to the store when I was a baby," he recalled. "When I was in school, my brother would pick me up and we would go there to grind hamburger and clean chickens."

The brothers took over the family business and later sold it in 1990 to Robert Esshaki and Chris Thomas.

"She was very industrious," Fred said of his mother. "She liked to make quilts. She was a soap opera fan forever. She liked to take vacations when

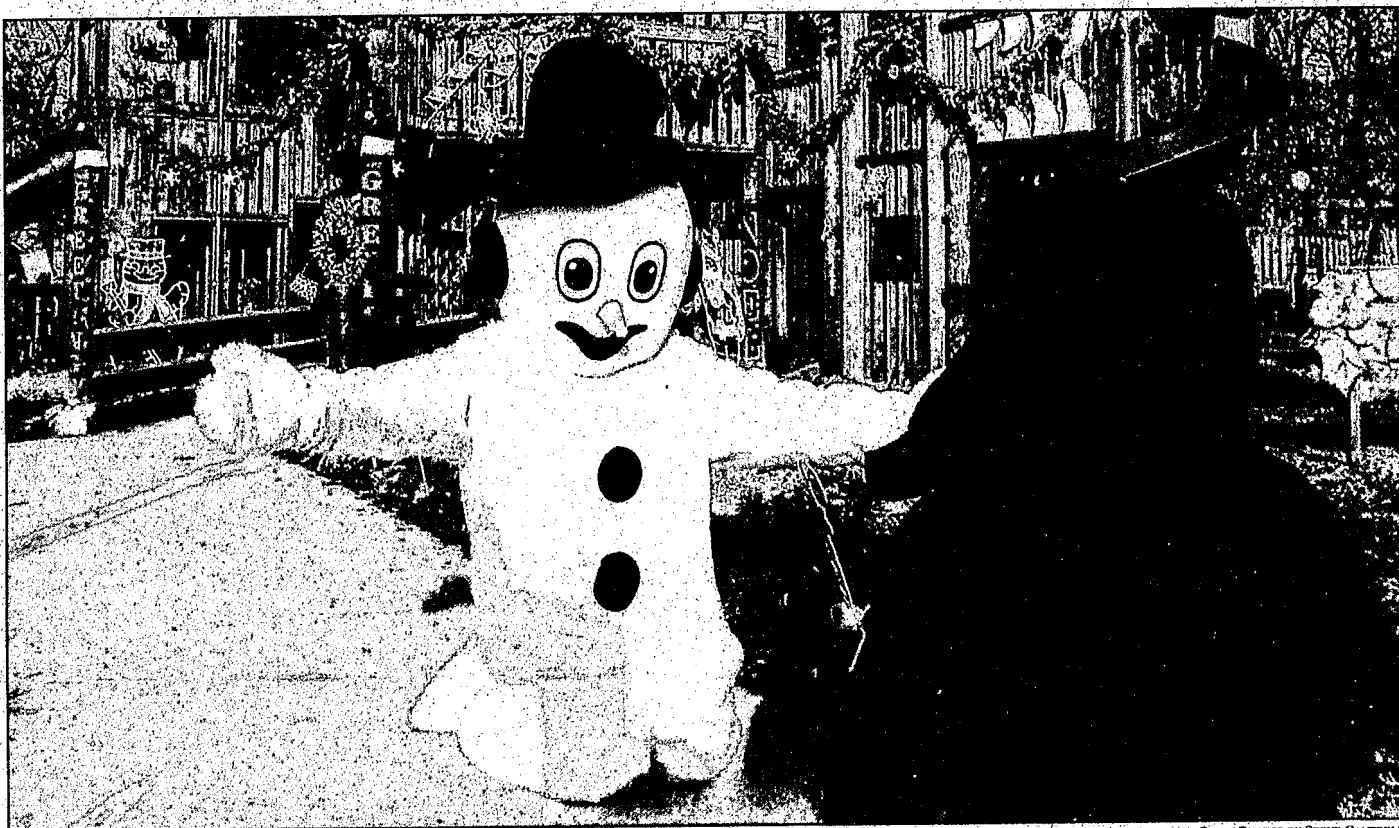
she was healthy enough to work."

Rheumatoid arthritis kept her housebound in her later years, but that's not what Fred remembers.

"She was a good mom—she was the best," he said. "We have so many wonderful memories but the other things—the pictures from the early years, the quilts she made—everything else is gone from the fire."

"My sister was really nice to everybody," said Mrs. Schwarze's sister, Rosa Fenstermaker of Clarkston. "She would give anything away that anyone needed."

Please see **SCHWARZE, A8**



STAFF PHOTOS BY STEVE CANTRELL

Holiday greeting: Frosty the Snowman, aka Brooke Turk of Clarkston, greets children as they gravitate toward a holiday festooned playscape. Bay Court Park was transformed for The Family Holiday Fest over the weekend.

Spirit of the season

Holiday Fest is biggest ever



Elf hello: One of Santa's helpers, Justine Morris, welcomes visitors.

Independence Township's Bay Court Park was filled with the happy sounds of the holiday spirit over the weekend.

Approximately 1,300 people enjoyed The Family Holiday Fest, sponsored by the township Parks and Recreation Department. Director Ann Conklin said attendance was way up this year. It compares to about 500 people last year. Chilly, but beautiful weather only enhanced the feeling of good cheer.

"They all saw Santa. They all seemed to enjoy the entertainment," Conklin said.

The Holiday Fest started out as a Sunday-only event. Last year Saturday evening was added, and this year Friday was tacked on. Conklin said about 300 people came on Friday but Saturday evening was the most popular time.

Residents took in food and carriage rides. Entertainment included magic shows, a puppet show and music from local vocal and instrumental groups. Of course, Santa Claus and his helpers were a big hit, too.

There was a charge to get into the Holiday Fest and Conklin said any money left over goes back into the Fest.



A right jolly old elf: Mason Van Gieson of Clarkston visits Santa on Sunday, the final day of the three-day Holiday Family Fest.



Songs of the season: Kevin Finke, Jennifer Combs, Heather Bell and Rob Stalder sing carols.

Young volunteer assists AIDS patients

By SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER
sslaughter@oe.hometown.net

Each Wednesday for the past two years, Melissa Zuccarini of Independence Township has driven to Detroit to make sure AIDS patients have a hot meal.

Zuccarini, 22, fits in her weekly trip between her job at Clarkston Big Boy and a full load of classes at Oakland University. She just finished her bachelor's degree in social work last week. In the fall she plans to start her master's program. It was through school she became interested in the hot meals program.

A former volunteer from AIDS Partnership Michigan spoke to one of her classes and encouraged people to help out.

"I thought I haven't done something like this in awhile. I'd like to do something like that," Zuccarini said.

A 1995 graduate of Waterford Kettering High School, Zuccarini was involved in volunteer work there and wanted to resume it. She said delivering the meals did not require training so she could start right away. Now it is a job she simply loves.

"Once you get into the community (of people who work for AIDS Partnership) it's kind of hard to leave," she said.

AIDS Partnership Executive Director

Barbara Murray said the organization serves about 1,500 people annually, mostly in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. The non-profit organization has about 35 paid staff and 250 volunteers, who fit all descriptions.

"The pattern is they are people who care," Murray said.

AIDS Partnership offers many services, including prevention and counseling for clients. Murray said the meals program takes the most volunteers. It is an important service because it allows people who have too little energy to cook to stay at



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL
Helping hand: Melissa Zuccarini delivers meals to AIDS patients.

Please see **VOLUNTEER, A8**

Clarkston High School Honor Roll, 1st Quarter, 1999-2000

Freshmen

4.0

Audette, Emily
Bauer, Christina
Bolten, Casey
Broadwater, Ida
Bukoski, Jessica
Carpenter, Jessica
Crane, Julia
Freed, Christopher
Glover, Jessica
Kast, Jenna
Knoebel, Ronald
Kosbab, Benjamin
Kuhla, Teresa
Marks, Paul
Osterhage, Kathryn
Randall, Elizabeth
Red, Lance
Richard, Adam
Robinson, Courtney
Rosengren, Brandon
Surapaneni, Bharath
Terry, Christine
Terry, Jessica
Tigue, Lindsay
Tolbert, Matthew
Trager, Lauren
Ufer, Caitlin
Zarzycki, Emily

3.9-3.7

Abney, Nolan
Aehle, Michele
Albarkat, Colby
Allen, Christopher
Andary, Robert
Anderson, Megan
Badgley, Kristina
Baker, Carolyn
Baker, Christopher
Baker, Matthew
Barworth, Cameron
Barker, Courtney
Bendes, Lauren
Berden, Breana
Boissonneau, Peter
Bokuniewicz, Nicholas
Boose, Emily
Brabandt, Joshua
Brady, Matthew
Browe, Erin
Brown, Andrew
Brown, Marley
Callaway, Jade
Cantu, Nicholas
Carlson, Jennifer
Clark, Emily
Claus, Michael
Clements, Adam
Coatney, Derek
Collier, Jamie
Collins, Sean
Combs, Marissa

Cook, Courtney

Cooper, Benjamin
Crane, Zachary
Craner, Julia
Curdy, Nicholas
Cushing, Emily
Damico, Kimberly
Dearing, Matthew
Deas, Garrett
Defrayne, Donald
Denz, Alexis
Dew, Regina
Dresselhouse, Joseph
Driscoll, Jeffrey
Einken, Emily
Forst, Andrea
Freiwald, Stephanie
Garavaglia, Joseph
Gentry, Kallia
Green, Amanda
Hanna, Kirk
Harlow, Blake
Havens, Rebecca
Haywood, Emily
Hills, Lindsay
Hopcia, Jennifer
Horne, Elyse
Houston, Amy
Howard, Daniel
Hunt, Elizabeth
Hunter, Alexander
Hunter, Elizabeth
Johnson, Joshua
Kammeyer, Erik
Karlstrom, Kira
Kay, Nicole
Kittle, David
Klotz, Jason
Knack, Joseph
Kobe, Kyle
Kolano, Bryan
Kuhn, Matthew
LaForge, Jacqueline
LaHousse, Derek
Larson, Christina
Lauer, Melanie
Lauzun, Heather
Littleton, Amanda
Manvel, Kathleen
McGregor, Michael
McLean, Courtney
Mehaffey, Sarah
Meltner, Kristin
Melvin, Joshua
Miller, Randi
Morris, Chase
Morrison, Jamie
Munchiendo, Nicholas
Munoz, Erika
O'Keefe, Meaghan
Parrott, Ryan
Parsons, Melissa
Portela, Danielle
Ranck, Derek
Reed, Daniel
Roby, Laura

Rollin, Kristyn
Rosso, Steven
Saparamadu, Shawn
Schulte, Carl
Seabert, Nicole
Shanks, James
Siddall, Aman

da

Sitko, Mark
Smith, Andrew
Smith, Jacob
Soltes, Adam
Southwell, Jency
St. Peter, Sabrina
Stapleton, Timothy
Sulecki, Keegan
Sullyan, Erin
Swindlehurst, Elton
Talbott, Ryan
Tatu, Jennifer
Terryah, Samantha
Traver, Rachael
Tyler, Rachel
Uhley, Rachel
Vanchina, Enrico
Walsh, Amanda
Williams, Meghan
Wisniewski, Mary
Wojciechowski, Rachael
Woloson, Katherine
Wyllie, Pamela
Zimmerman, Siri
Zito, Jeremy

3.6 - 3.0

Abbott, Jesse
Acosta, Elise
Aldrich, Andrea
Alee, Jeanie
Baetens, Victoria
Barr, Matthew
Barrow, Jennifer
Baumgardner, Patrick
Blough, Ryan
Booth, James
Bowman, Karl
Breen, Andrew
Breitfeld, Bridget
Brewer, Jessica
Broughton, Christopher
Brown, Karl
Buch, Matthew
Burchick, Roselyn
Burton, Brandon
Butora, Amber
Byrd, Barbara
Canterbury, Danielle
Carroll, Rachel
Chojnowski, Heather
Clark, Stephanie
Cole, Tosha
Coleman, Ryan
Contreras, David
Cunningham, Adam
Curry, Brian
Czar, Amber
Cziwey, Tina
Dolzynski, John
Dorri, Russell
Drangin, Kelly
Drost, Kristine
Dudash, Blake
Eaton, Lindsey
Ellis, Lena
Ellsworth, Michael
English, Leah
Falck, Richard
Fante, Elizabeth
Fields, Scott
Figuerola, Alicia

Fischer, Gwendolyn
Fitzgerald, John
Fitzpatrick, Shaun
Gaines, Megan
Garcia, Veronica
Genord, Monique
George, Derek
Getty, Bradley
Gibson, Kate
Giegler, Stephanie
Giles, Kristy
Goltry, Norman
Gorz, Joseph
Gove, Jamie
Grech-Cumbo, Edgar
Green, Jeffrey
Haffner, Sarah
Hall, David
Hall, Michael
Harding, Jayne
Hardy, Stephen
Haywood, Amanda
Heinrich, Alexandra
Hendershot, Nicole
Hendren, Andrew
Henry, Jessica
Hereford, T. Tyler
Herr, Adam
Herr, Justin
Herzog, Joshua
Hicks, Braxton
Hoffman, Ahren
Hooton, Jeffrey
Hoover, Christina
Hotchkiss, Joshua
Houston, Erik
Hubbard, Andrea
Hurd, Eric
Jalkins, Jacquelyn
Jalkins, Todd
Jennings, Jessica
Johnson, Jennifer
Johnson, Kathleen
Kaczmar, Dawn
Katnik, Kelly
Kerby, Martin
Kinsey, Joseph
Kouri, Chad
Kozlarski, Christina
Kraut, Charles
Krull, Carrie
Lambert, Ashley
Lamonda, Katherine
Lamphere, Samantha
Langdon, John
Larsen, Christopher
Larson, Johanna
Lattanzi, James
Lemus, Jose
Licata, Lisa
Lichty, Brian
Lima, Guy
Lukovich, Ryan
Lum, Nicholas
MacEachern, Elizabeth
Manojlovich, Kathryn
Marino, Anthony
Martello, Jay
Martin, Brittny
Matkosky, Jessica
Mazwell, Derek
McEvoy, Stephanie
McMillen, Dustin
Medjen, Jayson

Meler, Travis
Melke, Rachelle
Metzger, Katherine
Miller, Lindsey
Mitchell, Kerry
Mould, Ashley
Moyer, Timothy
Murdoch, Emily
Mutz, Megan
Myts, Olga
Nini, Maria
Nowak, Matthew
O'Brien, Kelly
Oldenburg, Nicholas
Olson, Bryan
Oltman, Brian
Papadellis, Nicole
Peck, Marilyn
Pennington, Jessica
Perkins, Melissa
Plechura, Jody
Pistonetti, Jillian
Place, Brenton
Pritchard, Derek
Purdy, Myles
Raab, Stephen
Reatherford, Luke
Reitano, Stephanie
Renda, Megan
Rendell, Jacob
Richards, Laura
Roberts, Alexis
Roberts, Sara
Robinson, Kristy
Robinson, Richard
Rose, Jessica
Ruggirello, Michael
Sadowski, Corey
Samulow, Nicole
Sawyer, Amanda
Schmidt, Megan
Schneider, Ashlee
Schwarz, Amy
Seaman, Louis
Seery, Matthew
Sellers, Ryan
Shaw, Michael
Sherman, Kevin
Sibel, Lindey
Simpson, Leah
Slaughter, Robert
Smith, Susan
Sommers, David
Stevens, Alicia
Szilvagi, Jonathan
Taylor, Amber
Taylor, Drew
Thomas, Jenna
Thompson, Christopher
Timmerman, Lauren
Tippett, Gabrielle
Trapp, Carrie
Valenti, Joshua
Vander Meer, Emily
Vanicell, Danielle
Vercauteren, Mark
Walkowski, Jay
Way, Kevin
Webb, Jeffrey
Webster, Samuel
Weiss, Tahnee
Wells, Ryan
Whetstone, Justin
White, Lauren

Wickline, Jennifer
Williams, Kirk
Wilson, Kimberly
Witkowski, Christine
Wood, Joseph
Wood, Robert Andrew
Zerba, Sara
Zielinski, Megan

Sophomores

4.0

Arndt, Rachel
Davenport, Matthew
Delvecchio, Carla
Griffith, David
Mercado, Stacey
Nowakowski, Jessica
Okopny, Lissie
Smith, Raymond
Stapp, Samuel
Sweeney, Eric
Weiss, Peter

3.9-3.7

Arpke, Laura
Barnett, Laura
Bassett, Sydney
Bennett, Shane
Benson, Sarah
Bolt, Robert
Borohers, Caleb
Burder, Devon
Catanese, Mark
Cholette, Michael
Clark, Elizabeth
Curtis, Amy
Denstaedt, Scott
Dougherty, Sean
Englund, Mark
Fischer, Michael
Flores, Nina
Flury, Teasha
Gibson, Andrea
Gilbert, Devon
Goodman, Stacie
Harding, Jessica
Harlow, Kendra
Harris, Megan
Hart, Cassandra
Henderson, Grant
Hopcia, Lisa
Jenkins, Brian
Kellay, Kate
Kieras, Eric
Kinney, Amy
Kraus, Mark
Lauzun, Victoria
Maclejewski, Keith
Mahrie, Matthew
McGeogh, Megan
McIntyre, Maureen
Moniac, Kathleen
Moore, Christopher
Moran, Sheena
Samuel, Brian
Shook, Zachary
Simpson, Michael
Sitar, Kaitlyn
Sloan, Robert
Spinwebber, Allison
Steele, Jeffrey
Tatu, Carly
Thompson, Nicolas
Vander Weel, Ashley

Webster, Clara
White, Jennifer
Wiegand, Kathleen
Wilson, Ashley
Wood, Michael

3.6-3.0

Abrams, Michael
Arnold, Annette
Arsenault, Jessica
Baker, Kayla
Bannaschi, Case
Barnett, Paul
Beebe, Russel
Bergkoetter, Alyssa
Bernard, Bryan
Bilcher, Michael
Blue, Derek
Braddock, Colleen
Brown, Daniel
Brownell, Kyle
Bryan, Chelsea
Bucinski, Jessica
Burke, Julie
Bursteln, Adam
Butzine, Emily
Buzzo, Danielle
Cantlin, Lauren
Carnwath, Drew
Cerniglia, Michele
Champagne, Sarah
Clark, Kristen
Coburn, Stacy
Coccolone, Ryan
Coe, Derek
Cook, Michael
Cook, Todd
Cornelius, Nicole
Crandall, Andrew
Crisiger, Erin
Cummings, Casey
Cusumano, Jennifer
Daher, Suzanne
Dashe, Evan
Depouw, Mason
Dickie, Sara
Dixon, Amber
Dockett, Marcus
Douglas, Shane
Doyle, Diana
Duddles, Lynn
Dunlavey, Sara
Eaton, Jane
Eby, Stephen
Edgar, Bonnie
Edwards, Sarah
Eley, Sean
Ellsworth, Timothy
Fauza, Rafael
Felt, Miles
Ferguson, Jane
Florkey, Helen
Fredericksen, Jennifer
Fritz, Scott
Garcia, Nathan
Gilmore, Amber
Giroix, Stacie
Gleyre, Robert
Godziewski, Michelle
Goebel, Carrie
Golden, Janine
Gozdzalski, Bethany
Graham, Rachel

Grant, Michael
Gray, Alyson
Gray, Dustin
Grix, Jason
Groh, Adam
Grusnick, Jeffrey
Guelde, Jordan
Hall, Kevin
Hamilton, J. Ross
Harris, Kristen
Hartz, Cara
Henneman, Cory
Horton, Erin
Hunt, Casey
Hyatt, Jessica
Jackson, Anne
Jackson, Joseph
Kaczor, Sandi
Karstensen, Jennifer
Kerby, Benjamin
Kessler, Sandra
Kluwe, Gillian
Knott, Laura
Kobinski, Elizabeth
Lambert, Carl
Lang, Nicole
Lara, Claudia
Larsen, Brian
Leonard, Kelly
Lowrie, Olivia
Mack, Kathryn
Mackinder, Jessica
Majszak, Samuel
Makowski, Amanda
Malugin, Megan
Marchio, Alan
Masterson, Robert
Mauti, Joseph
McClure, Aaron
McDonald, Erin
McGinn, Meghan
McKay, Maegan
McKnight, Eric
McLeod, Brittany
McLeod, Nicole
Miller, Joseph
Miller, Steven
Minando, Laura
Miracle, Justin
Moore, Bradley
Mueller, Paul
Neff, Nicole
Ness, Margaret
Newlon, Kristen
O'Connor, Paul
Olinger, Oliver
Ostrom, Jared
Ouellette, Caitlin
Parkin, Lindsey
Pascoe, Jennifer
Pawlik, Lindsay
Perry, Silva
Petuili, Jennifer
Plante, Eric
Propst, Kelly
Pruente, Michael
Pullen, Sharon
Raess, Ryan
Raetzke, Rachel
Rashid, Michael
Rathbun, Ryan
Rathsbun, Amy
Rea, Almee
Regiani, Joseph
Reinke, Eric
Rigg, Adam
Risdon, Amber
Ritzema, David
Roche, Patrik
Rose, Meredith
Sahlin, David
Schneider, Kathryn
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Turner, Nicholas
Vincent, Angela
Walt, Cassidy
Walker, Justin
Warner, Andrea
Waterbury, Aaron
Weiss, Ryan
Welbourn, Lauren
Wilber, Michael
Wims, Timesha
Woolley, Holly

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Bartley, Keith
Blower, Shayla
Bolten, Christopher
Dodich, Marcia
Flores, Rebecca
Holody, Daniel
Karnes, Christopher
Kosbab, Kevin
Lynch, Allison
Marks, Rebecca
Murphy, Heather
Phillips, Chelsea
Sampson, Christie

3.9-3.7

Arremoy, Melodie
Bahworth, Benjamin
Barnett, Rachael
Barnett, Scott
Brandt, Lindsay
Caldwell, Aaron

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Tues. 7:30 p.m. Bible Study
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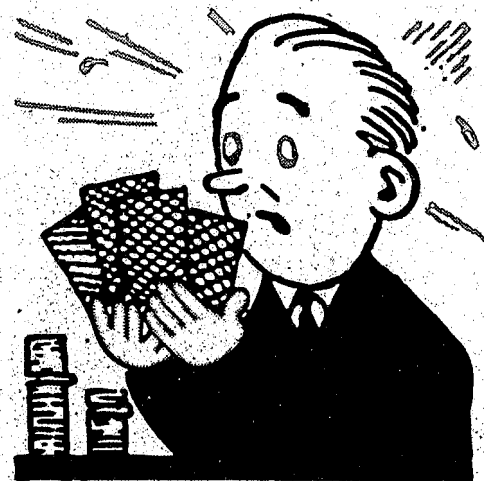
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POLICE NEWS

Following are some incidents recently reported to police and fire agencies in Independence and Springfield townships and the City of the Village of Clarkston.

Independence Police

Assault-beer bottle

On Dec. 19, a man was struck by beer bottles in a fight outside Cherry Hill Lanes, 6697 Dixie

Highway. The victim said someone asked him if he wanted to fight another man, who was involved in a traffic accident involving the victim's sister last year. The victim stepped outside to fight and was hit with beer bottles by people he didn't see, according to the police report. Two of the witnesses also received citations for under-age consumption. An 18-year-old Davisburg man had

a preliminary breath test of .075 and an 18-year-old White Lake woman had a preliminary breath test of .082. There is a zero-level tolerance for anyone under the age of 21.

Disorderly person/possession of drug paraphernalia

On Dec. 18, police issued appearance tickets to a 33-year-old Oxford man in the parking lot of Pete's Coney Island at 6160 Dixie Highway. Some-

one called police after the man tried to cash a personal check and had parked illegally in a handicap parking space. Police found a glass tube crack pipe in the passenger front seat and the man said he had been smoking crack earlier in the night, according to the police report.

Springfield Police

Auto theft

On Dec. 17, someone removed

a 1997 Chrysler LHS from the used car lot of Clarkston Chrysler Plymouth Jeep Eagle at 8105 Big Lake Road.

Larceny from vehicle

On Dec. 17, someone gained entry through the soft top of a 1994 Jeep Wrangler and removed the radio. The car was parked at the used car lot of Clarkston Chrysler Plymouth Jeep Eagle at 8105 Big Lake Road.

Clarkston Police
No reports.

Independence Fire

Fire calls

Independence Township Fire Department responded to 12 calls Dec. 17-19. These included seven medical calls, three building fires, one personal-injury call and one automatic alarm call.

Stardust

message on a bottle

Send a message to someone you love. The limited-edition Stardust millennium bottle, engraved with a special year 2000 message, is now available in a 3.4 oz. Eau de Parfum, exclusively at Jacobson's. \$135.

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Dr. Janet Hestley

SIMPLE MATH

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Administrative expenses:	Administrative expenses:	\$0
Net collection:	Net collection:	\$35
Overhead:	Overhead:	\$30
Net to doctor: minus	Net to doctor:	\$5

Source: SimpleCare

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Honor roll from page A2

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More teddy bears ready for sheriff's duty

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER
pmurphy@oe.com

During the year or so he's been in office, Oakland Sheriff Michael Bouchard has made some substantive changes such as reinstituting the K-9 corps, putting some deputies back on motorcycles and assigning an officer to track sexual predators on the Internet.

One of his lesser publicized changes involves teddy bears. Squad cars, at Bouchard's insistence, have been carrying teddy bears for use at homicide scenes, car crashes or on domestic violence calls.

Those calls often involve small children, of course. And a teddy bear might bring a touch of reassurance to them at a time their world seems to be falling apart, said the sheriff. "I carry teddy bears in my car," he said.

What's more, Bouchard over the last year has had occasion to give a teddy bear to a small child at a time of extreme anxiety. "I was at a hospital," he explained, "and this little girl was waiting for her mom who was in surgery."

"It (the teddy bear) seemed to help," he said. "She seemed less anxious."

The sheriff's department doesn't keep statistics on the number of teddy bears given out. Bouchard said he has no reports about deputies giving teddy bears to stressed out youngsters. "So, we have no idea whether the teddy bears are useful," he said.

One thing is certain, however. The department will experience

no shortage of teddy bears.

This month the department will get hundreds of teddy bears collected by various groups around Oakland County. "We literally have bags and bags of teddy bears," said Rochelle Heyniger, a Rochester Hills resi-

dent who is vice chair of the Oakland County Republican Party. "And we can get more if there's ever a shortage," she said.

The GOP headquarters in Birmingham has been one drop off point for the various clubs

and neighborhood groups collecting teddy bears to duty in patrol cars.

"One woman gave us bags and bags of teddy bears, without identifying herself or her group," said Heyniger. "The response is tremendous."



Ready: Rochelle Heyniger with two of the hundreds of teddy bears donated to the sheriff's department.



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Resignation may start scramble for GOP posts

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER
pmurphy@oe.com

The pending resignation of Oakland county commissioner Dan Devine Jr. will undoubtedly touch off two scrambles — one to fill his post as chair of the Republican caucus and another to replace him as representative of the 14 District which includes Bloomfield Hills and part of Bloomfield Township.

Both posts will likely be filled in January, if — as expected — Devine is appointed treasurer of Bloomfield Township. He is expected to replace current treasurer David Payne, who is reportedly in line to succeed township Supervisor Fred Korzon, who was to announce his resignation at Monday's town board meeting.

Devine told his colleagues on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners of his pending appointment Thursday at the GOP caucus prior to the regular board meeting. "I didn't intend to say anything that early," he said. "But news (of the pending appointment) was out, and I wanted my colleagues to know."

"I've enjoyed my tenure as commissioner, and I respect the institution," Devine said.

While the news caught some Republicans off guard, Devine said the surprise probably didn't last long. "I'm sure people are lining up support (to be the next caucus chair) right now," he said. "There are no vacuums in politics."

The new caucus chair will be selected by Republican commissioners — in caucus — probably by the end of January.

Selecting a new county commissioner will be a more public process. Residents interested in being appointed must submit resumes and, quite likely, submit to an interview by GOP commissioners.

The successful candidate would be commissioner until August, when he or she would run in the Republican primary. He or she should also be ready for a possible Democratic challenge in November.

The option would be a special election, something commissioners believe would be too expensive.

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Springfield makes Dixie turn lane a priority

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER

sslaughter@oe.hometown.com

A stretch of Dixie Highway could be eligible for widening using federal money, but Springfield Township doesn't want to wait.

"It's not about saving money, it's about saving lives," Springfield Supervisor Collin Walls said.

The township's main artery

between I-75 and Davisburg Road is on the SEMCOG long-range plan for road improvements, but that doesn't mean it will get funded and it doesn't guarantee it will be anytime soon. Actual funding for the project would likely not be discussed until early next year, said Brian Blaesing of the Road Commission for Oakland County. He said funding wouldn't be coming until at least 2003. He said which projects get funded

depends on traffic patterns, accidents and how high a priority the project has in the community.

But Walls said paving Holcomb Road has been a priority for about 10 years and no money has been forthcoming.

Now installing a turning lane on Dixie Highway is "number one, two and three," Walls said.

Between 25,000 and 28,000 cars per day go through that stretch, and he said there is an

"extreme" number of near misses as well as accidents.

The approach Springfield plans to take is to widen the road as development occurs. The road commission has gone along with the idea, Walls said.

"We finally convinced them (the road commission) if we don't have a plan, we'll never get the money," Walls said.

Under the federal guidelines, the township would be able to get about \$4 million for the

improvements. The township and road commission would have to pitch in \$500,000 each for a total of \$5 million. Walls said he doesn't think making a turning lane will cost that much.

"We're going to go ahead with improvements," he said.

And he said how they are going to do it is work with the people who are going to develop the area. He said Cedar Crest Academy already installed a turn lane when it opened.

■ **'It's not about saving money; it's about saving lives.'**

Collin Walls
Springfield Twp. Supervisor

"They were committed to the safety of their students and their students' parents," he said.

A final site plan for Kingston Point subdivision was to go before the Springfield Planning Commission on Monday. George Mansour, president of Pace Development, said his project on Dixie just south of Davisburg Road will include adding a lane. He hopes the final plan will be approved by the Township Board in January so construction on the 56 single-family homes and 31 attached condominiums can begin in the spring.

The 65-acre development is on the west side of Dixie. Across the road the land drops off and there is no room to put another lane. Mansour, a township resident, said he was happy to take some of his property and add the lane as part of the construction process. It is a \$50,000 investment for his company, he said.

Volunteer

from page A1

home.

"That is the A1 most important thing," Murray said. "People do better in their home environment."

She said the volunteer coming to the home each day is important for people who are often isolated. It also serves as a way to check to make sure everything is OK. Murray said volunteers like Zuccarini are invaluable.

"That's a heck of a commitment. That speaks very highly of her and her values," she said.

Zuccarini said she likes visiting the clients. She also trained as a co-facilitator for an AIDS support group that meets on Monday evenings in Pontiac. The most difficult part of her volunteer efforts is watching the disease progress in people. She remembers a tall, hulky young man who began coming to the support group. She watched as he lost weight, then couldn't walk and finally died.

"It's hard to see," she said.

Even though she deals with people who have a terminal illness, the fact she is able to help in even a small way is gratifying, she said. Each day meals are delivered to people. One hot meal and one brown-bag lunch are taken along with a few staples. On Fridays, frozen meals also are brought to get them through the weekend. Murray added that when necessary, meals for dependent children of clients also are included. She said keeping families together is paramount.

But Zuccarini said it is sad that some people have no support system. She recalls one man who was crabby all the time. He wouldn't even come to the door when they dropped off his meals. They started calling him the "box man" because he would yell through the door to leave the meal in the box outside.

Zuccarini had a class where they were asked to do a random act of kindness. She thought of the box man.

"I thought, box man sure is bitter; I'll take him some flowers. And that week the box was gone," she said.

She was surprised when as she stood at his door with a bunch of purple daisies, he actually answered the bell. He took the flowers and thanked her.

A couple of weeks later, he was dead.

"I took that pretty hard," she said.

But one thing her experiences have taught her, she said, is that no one can see into the future.

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Legislators eye Y2K protections for business, governments

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWNS NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

"If the world ends, this legislation is null and void," Amy Rittenhouse said of a set of bills aimed at protecting small businesses and local governments from frivolous Y2K-related lawsuits.

If on the other hand civilization survives the computer glitch heard 'round the world, then the legislation would provide protection against suits and put limitations on damages that can be awarded as a result, explained Rittenhouse, chief of staff to state Rep. Janet Kukuk (R-Macomb).

"Her (Kukuk's) point in sponsoring this legislation was that she does not want to see anyone going out of business because someone is trying to take advantage of Y2K," Rittenhouse said.

Lawmakers have passed a series of five bills — Bill 4424 by Kukuk, House Bill 4588 by Rep. Marc Shulman (R-West Bloomfield), as well as House

■ ... the lawsuits have already started. The state estimates 80 cases have already been filed against companies nationally.

Bills 4469, 4487 and 4737 — to limit "computer date failure" lawsuits.

The bills have been presented to Gov. John Engler for his signature, which he must do before the end of year if the bills are to go into effect Jan. 1. Without a signature, the bills would take effect but not until March 1, too late to have any impact, Rittenhouse explained.

She said she expects the governor will sign, but has not yet heard when.

Federal model

The bills are modeled after laws already put in place at the federal level. So far, Rittenhouse said, 20 to 23 states have adopted similar verbiage.

The problem of course is that

some computers and electronic devices note the year with only two digits, so the year 2000 will read as 00. And those devices may misinterpret that as 1900. That could affect performance of financial institutions, medical facilities, small businesses and governments.

Much has been spent already correcting the problem. A Senate Legislative Analysis estimated the state will spend a total of \$55.6 million correcting the problem in its computers. Nationally, city governments are expected to rack up a bill of \$31 million fixing the glitch. For business, the cost is expected to run to \$1 trillion nationally.

But the lawsuits have already started. The state esti-

mates 80 cases have already been filed against companies nationally.

The bills would limit damages in lawsuits resulting from computer date failure to actual damages — eliminating the possibility of punitive damages — but only if the business has made some effort to be "Y2K compliant."

If no effort was made, the protections would not apply.

Damages limited

Those damaged by a Y2K failure, either financially or as the result of some injury, could still go to court. The damages would be limited to actual costs.

Similar protections would be given to local governments, if they've made attempts to correct the problem. The bills also prohibit governments from collecting fees as a result of computer date failure, such as a late charge. Mortgages could not be foreclosed if late payments resulted from the com-

puter glitch.

"It (lawsuit protections in the bills) could apply to all businesses," Kukuk explained, "but my concern was greatest for the small businesses. I would not want to see them involved in protracted legal fights that could put them out of business, or perhaps because one of their vendors did not take care of it correctly."

"Local government did not cause this problem," Shulman said, explaining his bill to protect municipalities similarly, "and they have been doing all they can to keep residents from being affected by it. In order to prevent a rash of lawsuits, it is necessary to extend this immunity. Otherwise, we risk the possibility of some governments being so wrapped up in frivolous lawsuits, they will be hard-pressed to help people."

■ A Senate Legislative Analysis estimated the state will spend a total of \$55.6 million correcting the problem in its computers. Nationally, city governments are expected to rack up a bill of \$31 million fixing the glitch. For business, the cost is expected to run to \$1 trillion nationally.

2000 will be volatile year for politics

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

The year 2000 promises to be a politically volatile year.

The nation will select a new president, and voters in Michigan will be faced with a number of important decisions, including a key race for the U.S. senate.

But local politics — particularly at the Oakland County level — could be equally volatile, if early musings of county commissioners are any indication.

If the term "musings" seems out of place, consider this:

■ Commissioner John P. McCulloch (R-Royal Oak) this week said he is running for Oakland County Drain Commissioner. "It's an important position, and a county-wide race," McCulloch said Tuesday. "I'm getting ready now."

■ Commissioner Dan Devine (R-Bloomfield Hills) is apparently in the running to become treasurer of Bloomfield Township. "I can't confirm (or deny) anything," Devine said Tuesday when asked about unconfirmed reports about his reported move. "But if the opportunity arises, I would be proud to be township treasurer," said Devine.

The term "musings" seems appropriate because neither of those statements are announcements, per se, at least in the traditional political sense.

Furthermore, neither of those positions — Oakland County drain commissioner and Bloomfield Township treasurer — are scheduled to be vacant.

As of this week George W. Kuhn is the incumbent drain commissioner and David Payne is township treasurer. Neither has announced they are leaving, publicly anyway.

Things can change rapidly, of course. But when two relatively important commissioners — McCulloch is county chair and Devine is chair of the Republican caucus — publicly acknowledge their political ambitions this early, 2000 promises to be volatile indeed.

Kuhn has repeatedly stated he intends to seek his 8th consecutive term next year. He reiterated that contention this week.

He said enjoys the challenge of overseeing a \$100 million budget and dealing with the extensive water and sewer projects in the county.

Retirement is tempting, he said. But Kuhn said he enjoys the job and has no intention of retiring.

McCulloch — who, as a member of the county drain commission, works with Kuhn — said he respects the incumbent and recognizes his expertise.

"I just don't think he will run (in 2000)," said McCulloch. "So I'm organizing my campaign now."

McCulloch, 43, is an attorney and a CPA. He was elected to the commission in 1990, and has been in positions of leadership — as county chair or chair of the finance committee — for most of tenure on the county board.

Earlier this year McCulloch said he would not challenge Kuhn in the GOP primary. Besides being highly knowledgeable about the office, Kuhn is

■ 'I just don't think he (incumbent George Kuhn) will run. So I'm organizing my campaign now.'

*John McCulloch,
Oakland county commissioner*

be Edward Hamilton of Troy who has already filed preliminary papers with the county's elections division indicating he's preparing to run for drain commissioner.

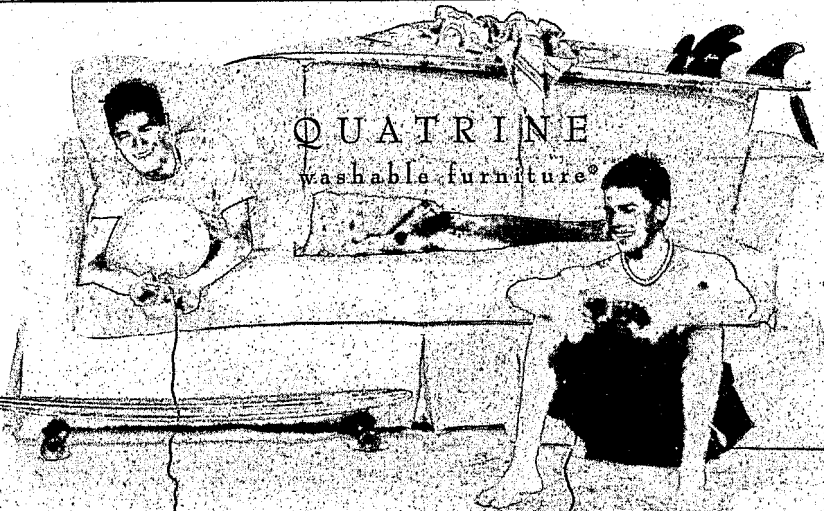
Democrats, of course, view this as a possible opportunity. "Next year will be interesting," said commissioner Eric Coleman (D-Southfield). "There will undoubtedly be a number of good races, and it's quite possible we will win a few seats on the board."

highly regarded. Challenging an official of his stature would be difficult, if not futile.

When reminded of his reluctance to challenge Kuhn in the primary, McCulloch said, "I just don't think he will run."

A wildcard in that race could

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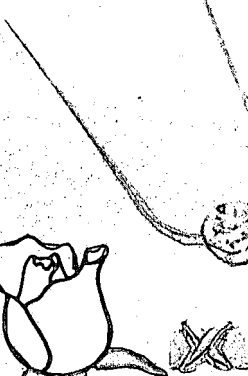
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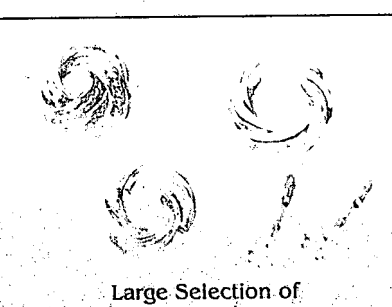
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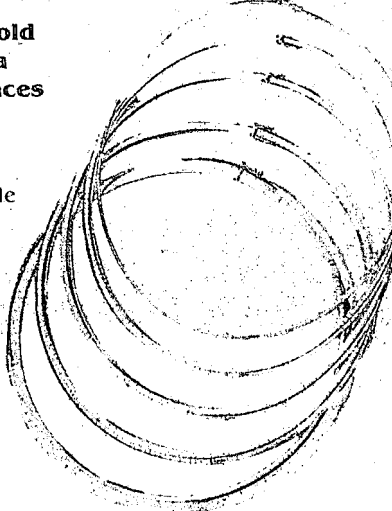
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Fatal fire was first this year for Independence Township

BY SUSAN B. TAUBER
STAFF WRITER

stauber@oe.hometown.com

Independence Township Fire Department responded to three residential fires during the weekend, one of which resulted in the first fatality from a fire in the township this year.

Elsa Schwarze, 85, who with her husband, Rudy, opened the grocery store that still bears his name, died Saturday from smoke inhalation in a fire that

destroyed her home.

Schwarze lived alone at 6014 Pinhurst Court in Independence Township. Rudy Schwarze died in 1992.

Captain Robert Gohl of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department fire investigation unit said the cause of the fire remains under investigation.

"The destruction was quite extensive," he said. "We haven't been able to make a determination of the cause of the fire."

Schwarze lived mainly in the

kitchen and living room areas of the house. She suffered from rheumatoid arthritis and was unable to navigate to other parts of the house, according to her son, Fred Schwarze.

Independence Township Fire Department was dispatched to the fire at 7:20 a.m. Saturday. Brandon Township and Springfield Township fire departments assisted.

Because there aren't any hydrants in that part of the township, the department first

used water from tankers until firefighters were able to get water from Cemetery Lake, Olrich explained.

"The fire had a head start on us," Olrich added. "It was already a heavy fire by the time the department was called. They could see columns of smoke as they responded to the call."

Captain Steve Ronk was in command at the scene.

In another weekend fire, a couple is lucky to be alive after a fire broke out in an attached

garage on Seneca Sunday around midnight, according to investigator Robert Cesario.

The alarm from smoke detectors in the house woke the woman, who then woke her husband. They both got out of the house safely.

"It's a good thing the smoke detectors did their job," Cesario said. "I credit them with saving that family."

"The house remains intact," he said. "There is smoke damage to the house. The major portion of

damage from the fire was contained to the garage."

Investigation into the cause of the fire continues.

Eggs left to cook on a stove is believed to have caused a fire on Golden Aspen Friday. Firefighters had to force the front door open after observing smoke coming from the dwelling.

Firefighters found a pot with eggs that had been left cooking on the stove. Water had boiled out of the pot and the eggs had started to burn. The top of the pot blew off and landed on the kitchen floor, where it left a burn mark.

The 68-year-old resident wasn't home at the time of the fire.

Schwarze

from page A1

Dr. James O'Neill recalls how the Schwarzes carried many people in the community from paycheck to paycheck during the Great Depression.

"They took care of the people in the community," he said.

"The community also took care of us from paycheck to paycheck," Fred added. "When our stores were destroyed from fire the two different times, people would come in from the community and buy the burnt canned goods from the store. That way they gave us money instead of giving us charity," he said.

Fenstermaker said when she was working as a cashier in the store, she knew there were certain people who she was supposed to put in the credit book instead of asking for cash.

"If my sister and her husband knew someone who needed something, they made sure they got it," she said.

"Mrs. Schwarze was probably one of the nicest people I've ever known," said O'Neill. "She was so caring. They were both pillars of the community. If kids picked up something in their store they shouldn't, they took the time to teach them about honesty. They were so family- and community-oriented."

Other survivors are Fred's wife, Doreen; son, Robert (Pam) of Arizona; granddaughters, Rudi, Casey and Erika; and niece Mary (Ray) Pendergrass of Waterford Township.

Mrs. Schwarze was a member of Clarkston United Methodist Church and Clarkston Rotary Annex.

Funeral services were Wednesday at the Lewis E. Wint and Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home. The Rev. Trebilcock officiated. Interment is at Lakeview Cemetery.

The family requests memorial contributions be made to the family for the granddaughters' college education fund.

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TOY STORY 2 (PG)

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THURS 12:30, 3:00, 5:10, 7:10, 9:15

END OF DAYS (R)

WED 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

THURS 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

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Some Oakland County road projects are still in the works, including these:

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 June 2000.

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. The road will then be re-opened for the winter, but will close again in the spring for the completion of the project. 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.

pletion date unknown.

MILFORD ROAD

From: Davisburg to the railroad tracks north of Rose Center Road

Community: Rose Twp.

Details: This section of road is closed for resurfacing. The detour route during the closure is M-59, Hickory Ridge and Fenton Road. Completion date is mid-December.

ORCHARD LAKE ROAD

From: At Northwestern Highway

Community: West Bloomfield Township

Details: A developer is adding a northbound left-turn lane to provide access to a new shopping center. Completion date Dec. 31.

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.

Democrats still fuming on residency rule

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

City governments will no longer be able to require their employees live in town, under a settlement reached last week by Michigan lawmakers.

But municipalities can limit the distance workers reside from their city of employment to no more than 20 miles.

State lawmakers accepted the 20-mile-radius compromise Wednesday, Dec. 8, in a 66-44 vote in the House and a 26-9 vote in the Senate.

The bill was presented to the governor Friday, Dec. 10. Gov. John Engler has said he will sign the bill.

Petition drive promised

But debate over the issue may not be over. Democrats who oppose the bill have promised to launch a petition drive to overturn it. Rep. Mike Hanley (D-Saginaw) and Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) said they'll work with groups like the Michigan Municipal League to reverse the new law.

"This will be on the ballot. This will be a vote for which you will be held to account,"

'This will be on the ballot. This will be a vote for which you will be held to account.'

Rep. Mike Hanley

—Dem., Saginaw

Hanley told Republican supporters of the bill.

Smith, who argued the state ban on residency rules will cause further deterioration of the city of Detroit as employees there seek to leave town, said the bill would result in a \$20 million loss for that community in the coming census count.

Noting that 90 communities throughout the state have some type of residency rule for employees, Smith promised to put the issue on the ballot next fall.

"This is about civil liberties in the state of Michigan," Sen. Loren Bennett (R-Canton), primary sponsor of the bill, said. "This is about the rights of individuals to live where they want to live. It's about putting the interests of people ahead of

the interests of government, as our founding fathers said they should be."

Senate Bill 198 initially was written to ban residency rules altogether, but when the House watered the bill down to make residency requirements a subject of collective bargaining, the legislation was thrown into conference committee.

Marriage exemption

The version produced by the committee would block cities from having rules about residency other than requiring that employees live within a 20-mile radius of the city limits. No residency rules could apply to married couples when both spouses work in cities which have residency rules. The couple would be required to live within 20 miles of only one of those two towns.

Here's how area legislators voted on the measure:

Yes: Reps. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester), Bob Gosselin (R-Troy), Ruth Johnson (R-Holly), John Pappageorge (R-Troy) and Marc Shulman (R-West Bloomfield).

No: Reps. Patricia Godchaux (R-Birmingham) and Nancy Quarles (D-Southfield).

OAKLAND COUNTY NEWS BRIEFS

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■ Prepare for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) with a workshop offered by Oakland University College of Arts and Sciences/Continuing Education. The workshop meets on Saturdays for three weeks, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., starting Jan. 15 on the Oakland University campus in Rochester. Cost is \$325 which includes books.

For a brochure and to register, call (248) 370-3125.

Dems slate school forum

■ The Oakland County Democratic Party will sponsor an education forum at 7 p.m. Jan. 11 at the Commissioners Auditorium (courthouse complex of Oakland County Service Center), 1200 N. Telegraph Road, in Pontiac. Speakers will be State Repre-

sentative Hubert Price Jr., Kathleen Straus of the State Board of Education and Wendy Wagenheim of the American Civil Liberties Union. They will address education issues from early child development to the current status of education in Michigan to the proposed voucher system and charter schools.

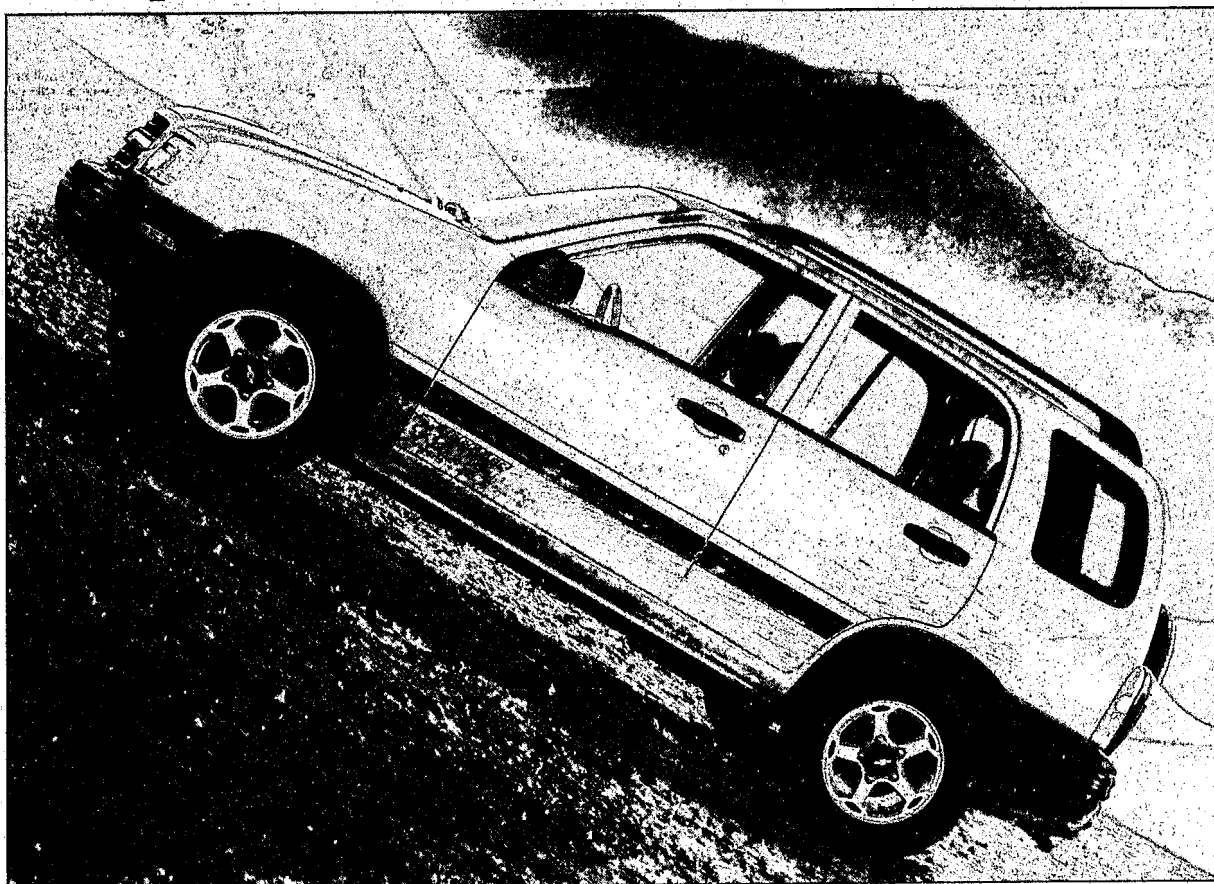
"This is a critical issue for next year's election," said Gary

Kohut, chair of the Oakland County Democratic Party.

Kohut is critical of Republican proposals concerning vouchers and charter schools, which he said will "destroy" public education.

The Democratic forum, Kohut insisted, will present a "realistic view" of the educational priorities needed to meet the challenges of the coming century.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1999

Leaders to follow 2 citizens set example for next century

Within the span of less than a week, Clarkston lost two of its most exemplary citizens of the past century.

Elizabeth H. Ronk, former postmistress of Clarkston for 36 years, died Dec. 14 at age 95. Widowed at a young age, Mrs. Ronk raised two boys from infancy to adulthood by herself. One of the boys, Frank or "Tink" as he is called, grew up to be supervisor of Independence Township. Mrs. Ronk was a member of Clarkston/Waterford Business and Professional Women and also was a lifetime member of Clarkston United Methodist Church.

Elsa K. Schwarze, former owner of Rudy's Market, died Dec. 18 at age 85. Mrs. Schwarze and her late husband, Rudy, founded the Main Street grocery store named after him in 1933 and operated it until 1990 when they sold it. Like Mrs. Ronk, Mrs. Schwarze was also a member of Clarkston United Methodist Church.

Both women were remembered for being caring and community-minded. Mrs. Ronk was loved for her warm personality and mothering manner, which made the post office a favorite place for Clarkstonites to congregate. Mrs. Schwarze was remembered for teaching

■ As we approach the beginning of a new millennium, where Clarkston's future leaders are yet to emerge, we hold these two women — Elizabeth H. Ronk and Elsa K. Schwarze — up as examples to follow. Caring attitudes, commitment to community and good values never go out of date.

values to children who tried to sneak something out of her store without paying for it and for helping families have enough to eat during the Great Depression.

We commend both women for their contributions to Clarkston. Both helped it maintain the small-town, family-oriented atmosphere it has today.

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Sharing goodwill epitomizes season

In Beatrice, Neb., this year, two elementary schools presented a holiday music program called "Celebrate the Seasons." A school official said the program, which makes reference to Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa, fits a 1993 state mandate to bring multiculturalism into schools.

But three sets of parents have pulled their children out of the music program, claiming that it goes into detail about the origins of Hanukkah and Kwanzaa, but does not mention the religious origins of Christmas.

In Somerset, Mass., last year, the ACLU and the American Atheists Inc. sued the town over a display of a Nativity scene and a menorah on government property. This year the city surrounded the crèche and the menorah with an 18-foot-high Santa, two glow-in-the-dark reindeer and a flashing "Season's Greetings" sign.

They were relying on a 1984 Supreme Court decision that said such mixed displays were legal.

But earlier this month the officials were again asked to remove the crèche and the menorah — this time by a group of Catholic, Jewish and Protestant religious leaders who said surrounding those items with secular symbols produced "a mishmash that offers nothing of substance to any one faith, and instead trivializes highly meaningful religious displays."

And in Cincinnati last year, a lawyer sued the federal government to keep it from enforcing a statute that declares Christmas a legal holiday and gives government employees the day off. He argued that the law violated the establishment clause of the First Amendment.

We are reminded, nostalgically perhaps, of two families we used to know — one Christian, one Jewish — who annually exchanged holiday cards in December. The cards — the "Season's Greetings" type of thing — symbolized a spirit of sharing and caring.

It was that spirit that prompted another Jewish family of our acquaintance to send a plate of potato latkes to their Christian neighbors during Hanukkah. The neighbors would respond with a plate of Christmas cookies and fruitcake.

Quite likely, that kind of thing — families sharing holiday good will despite different religious backgrounds — happens quite regu-

larly in Oakland County. People are, after all, motivated by the spirit of their religious beliefs.

We recall a Hadassah chapter that used to set up a gift-wrapping booth inside a shopping mall every December — just steps away from the Salvation Army's red kettle station.

And then there were those members of a Jewish congregation who would take over a Christian soup kitchen on Christmas day, so the kitchen could stay in operation while the workers spent Christmas with their families.

Such acts epitomize the spirit of the season, not complaining that a Nativity scene or a menorah on government property "endorses" a particular religion, that surrounding such items with secular exhibits "trivializes" the religious symbols or that Congress violated the Constitution by giving government workers a Christmas holiday.

And speaking of that lawsuit — earlier this month a federal judge dismissed it. She prefaced her formal decision with a poem that, while it may not become a Christmas classic, seems to put this holiday bickering into perspective:

"The court will address/ Plaintiff's seasonal confusion/ Erroneously believing Christmas/ Merely a religious intrusion."

"Whatever the reason/ Constitutional or other/ Christmas is not/ An act of Big Brother."

"Christmas is about joy/ And giving and sharing/ It is about the child within us/ It is mostly about caring!"

"One is never jailed/ For not having a tree/ For not going to church/ For not spreading glee!"

"The court will uphold/ Seemingly contradictory causes/ Decreeing 'the Establishment' and 'Santa'/ Both worthwhile 'Claus(es)!' "

"We are all better for Santa/ The Easter Bunny too/ And maybe the Great Pumpkin/ To name just a few!"

"An extra day off/ Is hardly high treason/ It may be spent as you wish/ Regardless of reason."

"The court having read/ The lessons of 'Lynch'/ Refuses to play/ The role of the Grinch!"

"There is room in this country/ And in all our hearts, too/ For different convictions/ And a day off, too!"

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

What is your New Year's resolution?



"I haven't made one."
Henry Austin
Clarkston



"To be more caring and to take care of myself better."
Nancy Rodda
Independence
Township



"Having fun."
Beth Fouchey
Independence
Township



"Everybody stay healthy for Christmas and have a happy New Year."
Tara Michaels
Independence
Township

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

LETTERS

Businesses helped to make holiday happier for needy

Each year, employees of the Administrative Offices at Clarkston Community Schools "adopt" a local family to help out during the holidays. We collect a dollar from staff members every week to participate in *Dress Down Fridays*, with proceeds going to our needy family fund. We also individually cruise the malls and pick out gifts for the children and their parents.

But, in order to really make their holidays extra special, we also welcome the generous contributions of gifts and monetary donations from our local business owners. So, we'd like to extend a heart *HO! HO! HO!* to:

Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST Funeral Home, Thomasville Home Furnishings, Pepsi Cola, Harvey's Office Supplies, Eby Express, Statewide Communications, Salomon Smith Barney, Red Carpet Keim Real Estate, Dick's Collision, RT Specialist Corp., Engan-Tooley-Doyle & Associates, Waterfall Jewelers, Gregg's Gourmet Cafe, Clarkston True Value Hardware and The Parsonage.

Thanks to all! Enjoy your holidays. Because of you, this year we were able to make two families' Christmas a little bit brighter!

Clarkston Community Schools
Central Office Staff

Goodfellows Newspaper sale a big success again this year

The 49th annual Clarkston Rotary Goodfellow Newspaper closes the 20th century with a big success. The spirit of the donors this year was at a high, not only in contributions but in their expressed support and appreciation for the program itself. Donations for the edition paper and the contribution from Machine Engineering and its employees totaled \$13,531.

This money is used to purchase shoes and boots for any area children in need. We also supplement the donations from the area churches (listed below) by purchasing stockings and gloves and hats as needed.

The Clarkston Rotary Club expresses its gratitude and appreciation by acknowledging the following for the success of this year's program:

■ Jim Sherman, publisher of The Clarkston News, for the preparation and publication of the Goodfellows Edition. This year 5,800 copies were donated. Sherman has donated the papers for 10 years.

■ Charles McMichaels, owner of Machine Engineering Co., and his employees for their support of selling papers and the company's and employees' contributions. They have been a major support to this program and its success for the past 10 years.

■ Jason Riegle of Mr. Alan Shoes and his

employees for bringing the shoes and boots to Clarkston for distribution.

■ The parishioners of Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection for their assistance with the shoe program and their donation of hats, mittens and gloves.

■ Cub Scout Pack No. 314 and Scout Troop No. 199 and their leaders for selling papers at the food markets.

■ The friends and wives of the Clarkston Rotary members.

■ Finally, thanks to all who gave donations for the paper, especially those who gave so generously.

Don Ernst and Mary Sloan
Goodfellow Co-Chairs, Clarkston
Rotary

Election of judges works if they uphold public trust

Phil Power's view that the "state has [a] truly screwy method of selecting supreme court justices" (Dec. 9) is an overstatement. Since the 1850s, the citizens of Michigan have reserved the right to elect their judges, including justices of the high court. In the mid-1930s the election was changed from a partisan ballot to a non-partisan ballot.

Efforts to achieve an appointive system of selection, periodically proposed, have failed miserably. There has been nothing shadowy about the lack of success. Straightforwardly, legislative and petition efforts to put an appointive proposal on the ballot have simply not gained sufficient support.

What is happening now is that judicial candidates, including incumbents, have bent, if not broken, standards of rectitude and civility, and are not only embarrassing themselves but demeaning the trust placed in them by the citizens of Michigan in their manner of campaigning and raising money. The system will work if candidates, including incumbents, exercise restraint in the level of their rhetoric, stick to the truth in their campaign statements and eschew taking money from people and organizations patently having something to gain from decisions of the judges they support.

Judge Avern Cohn
Detroit

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, as do your neighbors. That's why we offer this space on a weekly basis for opinions in your own words. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you sign your letter and provide a contact telephone number.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Clarkston Eccentric, 7073 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346. Or e-mail to: ksmith@oe.homecomm.net

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HOMETOWN COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, INC.

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OUR MISSION: "Because we publish community newspapers, we think about community journalism in a fundamentally different way than our bigger competition. They consider themselves to be independent from the stories and communities they cover, swooping in to write the unusual or sensational and then dashing off to cover something else. We regard ourselves as both accurate journalists and as caring citizens of the communities where we work."

— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Set example for next generation on how to forgive, forget wrongs

Children are amazingly perceptive. Their eyes observe, their ears listen, and their minds process the messages they absorb. That's why we have to be good teachers so children absorb the right messages. Hating someone is not the message we want them to absorb.

Some say that hate consumes the heart. It's true in my opinion; your heart loses its strength when it has hate filling it. One way to release the anger is to forgive.

"Forgive and forget" as some people would say, but it's not as easy as it sounds.

Almost all families fight and dispute things. It's natural to have disagreements. We aren't all the same. That's where the compromise comes in.

Let's say a couple has a fight. They won't compromise. They both stick to their sides of the story. Do you honestly think that one fight is going to ruin the marriage? No, but add up all of those fights, and the relationship will start to dissipate.

I have a 13-year-old sister. We fight all of the time. It's usually over the stupid things that really don't matter 10 minutes later. We argue about it, my parents will step in, and a little bit later we can't even remember what we were fighting about. I don't think that fighting over AOL or the phone is worth ruining our relationship. It doesn't make any sense.

Being a 16-year-old junior in high school, I know what it's like to fight with your friends. You fight about guys/girls, who started the new rumor, stupid stuff like that. Half of it's not even going to be true. I've lost a few friends in my life because of fights that really didn't mean anything. We couldn't compromise so we lost a friendship.

Harry Emerson Fosdick once said, "Hating people is like burning down your house to get rid of a rat." When I heard that, I laughed. Most people do that. They let their relationship burn down because they didn't think to find a different way to get rid of the problems.

Everyone has a different perspective for every situation. Two people could hear about the same situation and each have a different view on it. In high school everyone argues, and I wanted to know what people really thought about hate and forgiveness. I asked them if they thought that people should forgive and forget.

Matt Mulherin, a Clarkston High junior, said, "Absolutely, because why bother with the stress? Life goes on."

Sabrina St. Peter, a Clarkston High freshman, said, "Yes, you should forgive people because otherwise hate will consume your heart."



JAIME GREEN

Melodie Arremony, another Clarkston junior, said, "Humans are capable of forgiveness, but only God can forget when forgiveness is asked for."

Forgiveness is part of the healing process within relationships. Part of the give and take in a relationship is giving forgiveness when asked for, so it will be there for you when you need it.

My goal in writing this is to make people understand that hate consumes your heart. There is no way around it. Grudges make you angry inside; they make you bitter, and I personally know that I never want to feel that way.

Right now it's the holiday season. Most people are gathering with their friends and families to exchange gifts and to celebrate Christmas. God forgives us for all our sins, if we ask. Why can't we forgive everyone else, or even forgive ourselves? If our maker can forgive us, then we should do the same — especially around the holidays.

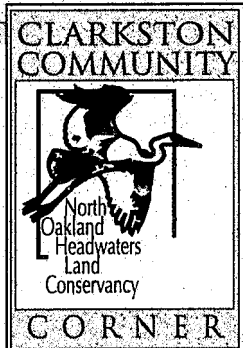
When you make a mistake, you want to be forgiven also. That's one reason to forgive. Then maybe when you make the mistake, you will be forgiven.

At the beginning of this article I said that children absorb everything, and it's true. If the children grow up seeing the people around them hating each other, being mean and spiteful, then that's the way they'll be when they grow older. Do we really want the future generation to be like that? Do we want our kids to hate us? No, so we need to set a good example by forgiving.

Life is too short to spend it hating each other. Forgive, because otherwise hate will consume your heart, and that is no way to live.

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.

Preservation of land is a gift that keeps on giving for generations



It is the season of generous deeds and important needs, the season for acknowledging gifts and encouraging giving.

The North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy ends 1999 by announcing the donations of two precious parcels for preservation totaling nearly 100 acres, and the initiation of Millennium Funds for the preservation of properties in each of the townships in northwest Oakland County.

A gift of a beautiful 80-acre tree farm located in Holly Township is an NOHLC first in several respects. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Haddon, owners of the farm for the past 51 years, have donated a conservation easement on the property, preserving its beauty and integrity forever. It is the first donation to NOHLC of a working farm, and the first donation to NOHLC of property in Holly Township. Russell Haddon, only the third owner, acquired the property from his father.

The second gift consists of 13 acres, heavily wooded with mature hardwoods, adjacent to wetland areas and a small pond, and covered by an abundance of native plants. Mr. and Mrs. Alan Schwartz donated the property to NOHLC, while retaining a life-estate, and they have given a conservation easement on it to the Oakland Land Conservancy (OLC). It is the first donation to NOHLC in Groveland Township, and the first property jointly protected by NOHLC and OLC.

Such preservation deeds are possible because of the generosity and caring of the donors, the diligence and dedication of NOHLC volunteers, and the support of resources such as a paid executive director and a permanent office. Such deeds highlight needs.

The North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy has initiated Millennium Funds for each of the townships it services in northwest Oakland County. They represent fund-raising goals of \$500,000 each for the preservation of

additional properties in such townships as Brandon, Groveland, Holly, Independence, Springfield and Rose.

The North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy works to preserve wetlands and other forms of open space in this community. Indeed the NOHLC mission is to protect the rural character and quality of life in Northwest Oakland County by conserving the woods, fields, streams and other natural resources in the headwaters area of the Clinton, Shiawassee, Huron and Flint rivers.

The North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy partners with individuals, neighborhoods, organizations, municipalities, developers and planners in a continuing effort to preserve the best of today's natural environment so that future generations can enjoy a better tomorrow in our community.

Incorporated in 1972 as the Independence Land Conservancy, the NOHLC has worked in and for the community for about 27 years. Currently, the Conservancy has stewardship of 28 parcels of land comprising about 610 acres, some properties totally owned and some protected by conservation/scenic easements.

NOHLC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt corporation, receiving tax-deductible gifts of all kinds. The Conservancy invites all persons interested in conservation to make a contribution and to join as members. Various membership donation categories exist, such as a renewable Life-Membership donation of \$100 and an annual Family Membership donation of \$25.

Questions for the Conservancy may be directed to North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy (NOHLC), P.O. Box 285, Clarkston, MI 48347; e-mail at NOHLC@hotmail.com; or by calling 248-620-4700.

This column space is shared by local community groups.

O&E letters policy has obligations

I've always felt that letters to the editor are an essential vital part of a home town paper. As a columnist, I consider it an obligation to print reader reactions to what I write. Moreover, running letters to the editor, especially if there is a heavy community issue up for debate, helps make the paper an open forum of community opinion.

So over the years I've tried to make sure our editors welcome letters to the editor and tell readers how best to submit them for publication. Our policy has been to print as many letters as we can, subject only to making sure that letters we receive are in fact written by the person who signs them and checking them for libel, slander and other considerations of good taste.

Imagine my surprise, then, at receiving the other day a letter unlike any I have received in my entire 35 years in this business.

"Apparently, the policy of your newspaper is to print all letters to the editor short of the use of blasphemy or false accusation. ... I find it extremely unusual that any newspaper would print all letters to the editor. I am not aware of any other newspaper with this policy. ...

"My father used to write letters to the Bay City Times and Detroit Free Press and would occasionally have one printed. However, 80 percent of whatever he wrote ended up on the floor of the editor's office."

My correspondent is absolutely right. In most of the big city papers, something like 80 percent of the letters to the editor that are submitted wind up on the floor of the editor's office. That's one of the things that distinguishes a home town community newspaper like this one from our big city brethren.

As set out in our mission statement, one of our fundamental business purposes is to "nurture the communities we serve." As we understand it, nurturing a community involves doing everything we can to make the home towns we serve good places for folks to live. We consider our newspapers to be part of the community rather than standing apart, and so we feel that printing as many letters to the editor as we can helps the paper perform a useful function as a community forum.

But the letter I received went on to make another point.

"The problem that this (printing all letters received) causes is that community malcontents can be extremely abrasive and counter-



PHILIP POWER

productive to the operation of a city. It is very difficult to maintain staff morale when the newspaper continually allows the proliferation of personal attacks and insults to become weekly reading. ... I would think that the newspaper has some responsibility to limit the access of chronic complainers to the letters page."

I've got to admit here my correspondent has a point. In any community, there are always a handful of people who are regularly sore about one thing or another. Some people call them gadflies; others style them as "community malcontents." Such people are often regular — some would say "obsessive" — letter writers, often repetitively on the same subject.

Here's where the nuanced understanding and judgment of a home town newspaper editor comes in. Most editors believe — rightly, in my view — that community gadflies may be a pain in the butt, but providing them a forum is an important aspect of nurturing a community. And most editors know there's a difference between a gadfly and a chronic troublemaker who has an axe to grind.

That's why we try regularly to print gadfly letters and to refrain from printing troublemaker letters that insult or slander individuals. A good home town editor knows the people involved and is in a position to make informed judgments about the kinds of letters that deserve publication and the kinds that do not.

Editors on big city papers simply cannot have that kind of intimate understanding of individual home towns and the folks that live there. That's why it's so satisfying to publish the kinds of newspapers we do: To nurture the home towns we serve.

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@hometown.net

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Detroit economic luncheon hears exec predict 'mild pullback'

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE

After nine years of economic expansion — one of the longest periods of growth in U.S. history — a slowdown could actually provide some welcomed relief.

"There is going to be a mild pullback, there is no question," Larry Yost, Chairman and CEO of Meritor Automotive, told members of the Detroit Economic Club Dec. 13, during its annual Economic Outlook Luncheon.

"For those of us that are in the (auto) industry, it is expected. Not only expected, it is welcomed ... We look it as an opportunity to get some breathing space ... It is time for us to get back to basics. There are a lot of things we need to work on, time to market, time to customer. And given all the overtime that we have all been putting in, it is really important that we get back into balance our work and families, because people have been spending too much time at work."

Still, that "pullback" won't necessarily be recessionary. Yost explained that while initial projections for the year 2000 had been that the economy would see at least one quarter of "negative numbers," the belief now is that overall the economy will grow 3 percent for the year. He said he could only describe that as "robust."

That was the consensus of the remainder of the panel, selected by the Economic Club to give a look ahead at business, jobs and spending for the coming year ... at least one more year of growth before any slowdown is anticipated.

In fact, Eugene Miller, Chairman and CEO of Comerica Bank, said the biggest danger to the U.S. economic outlook is that "federal spending is accelerating in anticipation of the election next year. The markets no longer look kindly at election year."

Tim O'Brien, of O'Brien Waterford Construction in Pontiac, told the Economic Club he foresees a 7 percent growth in the construction industry in the Detroit area, surpassing the national expectations for the building industry. In the Detroit area, construction will continue to be dominated by "mega-projects," like casinos and sports stadiums in Detroit, he said. Housing starts will likely decline by about 7.5 percent. Despite that drop, the decline in units represents a number similar what was the entire market only

a few short years ago.

The biggest obstacle to construction is a shortage of labor, O'Brien said.

Floyd Hall, Chairman, President and CEO of the Troy-based Kmart Corp., said that even if there is a slow down in the economy generally, an anticipated increase in the population in the Detroit metropolitan region will bring retailers here more customers.

The real challenge to retailers, he said, will be the growth of e-commerce, purchases made over

the Internet. It won't be additional spending, he concluded. The money spent on purchases made over the World Wide Web will be money transferred from more traditional "bricks and mortar" retailers. But, he predicted, as more traditional retailers enter the e-commerce arena, there will likely be a shakeout of companies doing business on the Web. Kmart, for instance, plans to jump into sales over the Web in the coming year, he said.

Growth in e-commerce was a theme echoed by the panelists.

And Yost suggested that while business-to-consumer e-commerce is generally acknowledged to be a hot-potential growth market, business-to-business e-commerce will have even greater growth potential in the future.

Miller said he believes the current booming economy can be sustained into the next century, as long as business and political leaders remember what brought us to this point.

Miller said the Federal Reserve's "focused resolve" at keeping fluctuations in interest

rates down has had much to do with that growth.

Additionally, four factors have contributed to the length and strength of the current economic boom — declining inflation and a strong dollar; streamlining of businesses, both through mergers and internal cost cutting; waves of new technology; and increased globalization of trade.

If businesses and political leaders remain focused on those areas, Miller said, it should be "more of the same" for the economy in the future.

■ **'... It is welcomed ... We look it as an opportunity to get some breathing space ...'**

Larry Yost,

—CEO of Meritor Automotive, Inc

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- Girls' Tops & Bottoms
- Boys' Tops & Bottoms
- Outerwear
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shoes

- Athletic Footwear
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Auburn Hills campus at OCC gets new chief

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
mmalott@homecomm.net

Dr. Norman Stephens, a Chicago native and president of a community college in Illinois for the past six years, has been selected as the new president of Oakland Community College's Auburn Hills campus.

Named to the position Dec. 13, by the OCC Board of Trustees in a 6-0 vote, Stephens will take over the post effective Jan. 4. He will take over from Gordon May, who has served as the interim president for the past year and half. May will take a sabbatical to pursue his doctorate at Wayne State University.

Stephens, 56, has been president of Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, Illinois since 1993. Prior to that, he was the vice president of academic services.

Additional experience includes three years as the campus provost and vice president at Hillsborough Community College in Florida and nine years as a science instructor, dean and vice president at St. Petersburg Junior College in Florida.

Stephens has an Ed.D. degree from the University of Florida, which he received in 1971. He earned his masters and bachelor's degrees at the University of Florida in 1967 and 1965 respectively.

He has won numerous honors from civic organizations, including the Outstanding Community Service Award in 1977, '78 and '79 from the United Way of Pinellas County in Florida and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's Leadership Award in 1998.

Auburn Hills is the largest of OCC's five campuses with 9,000 students enrolled there.

Clarkston Life

The Eccentric®

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Calendar, B3

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Karen Hermes Smith, Editor 248-625-1900

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

Thursday, December 23, 1999



CAROLYN WALKER

Faithful provide good example for new millennium

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.
— Luke 1:38

It was at about the same time as St. Therese's relics were brought to Michigan a few weeks ago that I had a conversation with an acquaintance of mine.

We were sitting in the most unlikely of places — a set of wooden bleachers, in the cold of an ice arena — when we had our conversation.

As we watched our children skate, we somehow segued into a discussion about the aforementioned Catholic saint and the faithful who had traveled to see those relics.

Our conversation was one of great intensity. One in which we concentrated on our topic and ceased to hear the noise about us. It was one in which we became unaware of the passage of time. That elusive, formless element sped faster than the skaters on the ice as I listened while my friend explained to me, a Protestant, some of the Catholic doctrine regarding saints, miracles and, especially, Mary, the mother of Christ.

I have had conversations that have

Please see WALKERS, B3

New Moose Lodge has charitable focus



■ Clarkston's new Moose Lodge, begun in March, already has 364 members.

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER

sslaughter@oe.homecomm.net

Some Clarkston-area residents are using some of their free time to make sure children have an education and senior citizens live out their years in dignity.

Members of Clarkston Moose Lodge 2512 can boast that at 201, their charter group is one of the largest in recent memory.

"Two hundred and one is the most we've had seated in some time," said Dick Diederick, assistant director of the membership department for Moose International.

The Moose is a charitable and social fraternity. About 2,000 lodges and 1 million members support an entire city for orphaned children called Mooseheart. It's located about 35 miles from Chicago. Children who have no place else to go live at Mooseheart. They are educated all the way through college.

"It has everything you could possibly need to raise a child," said Mike Maybee, administrator for the local lodge.

Moosehaven, a retirement community for senior citizens, is in Florida.

The Moose also help out local causes. A primary goal for the Clarkston group that began in March is to build a lodge of their own. Now they hold their monthly meetings at either the Clarkston Eagles or Chief Pontiac American Legion Post 377 in Clarkston. Bill Mann of Clarkston said many of the Moose also are members of those two groups. Many belong to the Masons as



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Generous guys: The Clarkston Moose Lodge started out with 201 members in March and already, membership is up to 364. Some of the charter members instrumental in recruiting others are Larry Flanigan, Skip Flanigan, Mike Maybee, Ellix Okkonen, Bill Mann and Ken Karns.

well. Mann is largely responsible for Clarkston's Moose Lodge. Although he has lived in Clarkston for years, he belonged to Moose lodges in the Flint area. He thought to start one locally and soon Maybee, Ken Karns, Skip Flanigan and others became involved. One hundred men are needed to charter a lodge and it took only a couple of

months to get twice that number signed up.

"A lot of enthusiasm of the members recruiting," is how Maybee explained the group's success. "It's for children; it's for senior citizens."

Diederick said Moose membership is on the rise nationwide. The Moose organization is actively recruiting people to begin new lodges. They target

areas with a good population base that have no lodge nearby.

Clarkston's lodge draws members primarily from the Clarkston area, Waterford and Lake Orion. Although many members are retired, about half are in the 35 and younger age group, Maybee said.

Karns, who is the lodge governor or

Please see MOOSE, B3

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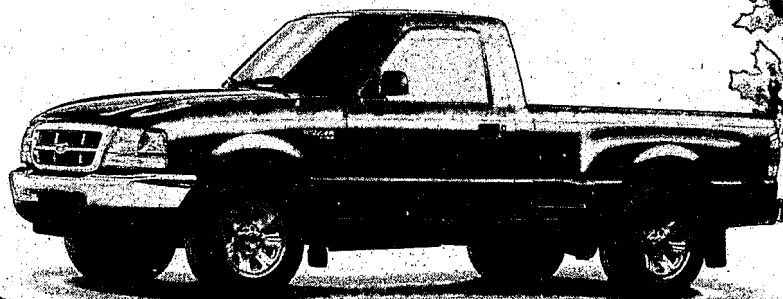
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ASHBY, LYNN
AVERY, KRISTINA
BABCOCK, CHRISTINA
BAIBAK, MATTHEW
BAILEY, ERIC
BAILEY, KATHERINE
BARNES, KRISTINE*
BEATTIE, THOMAS
BELL, BRIDGET
BENNETT, SARA
BENNINK, NATALIE
BENO, JENNA
BENSON, JUSTIN
BINASIO, ANDREW*
BLAND III, COBURN*
BOKUNIEWICZ, ERIN*
BOKUNIEWICZ, LINDSAY
BOLLMAN, SHAWN
BOOZER, BRANDON
BORCHERS, ANNA
BOURDON, CHAD
BRADY, MARK
BRICELAND, DAVID
BROWN, JONATHAN
BROWN, ROSS
BUCHI, ERICA*
BUKOSKI, JILL*
CADEAU, DONALD
CANTIN, JULES
CESARIO, NOLAN
CHAFEE, CARRIE*
CHALKER, TAYLOR
CHASE, CHRISTOPHER
CLAVETTE, JAMIE
CLEGG, LANE*
CONLEY, CHELSEA
COOLEY, SCOTT
COX, BRENT
COX, CHRISTOPHER
CRAFT, MARCUS
CROLL, ROBIN
CROSS, ADRIENNE
DABROWSKI, MARINA
DAUKAS, JESSICA
DAVENPORT, SARAH*
DAVIS, FRANK*
DEDOW, LAUREN
DEMONACO, PHILIP
DEVAULT, NICHOLAS
DONAHOO, SEAN
DOTY, ASHLEY
DOUGHERTY, EVAN
DUBATS, ANDREW
DUNCANSON, CAITLIN
DUNFORD, PAIGE

EDMUNDS, JANELLE
ELIAS, LAUREN
EMERICK, KATHRYN
ENTREKIN, MELANIE
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FACCIOLLA, ALLISON
FACELLO, PAIGE
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FOGLEMEN, SARA
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GAMBLE, DEXTER
GARCIA, SARAH
GAUCHE, SCOTT
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GIROUX, AMBER
GIROUX, MARC
GOHLKE, GEOFFREY
GRAHAM, KIRSTEN
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HALLMAN, DAYNA
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HORN, NICHOLAS
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HRESKO, MICHAEL
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HUBER, SCOTT
HUGHES, TRAVIS*
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JOHNSON, CHELSEA
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KLEBER, GABRIELLE*
KLEINEDLER, KATHRYN*
KOTCHER, CHRISTOPHER*
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KRASS, BRITTANY
KRAUS, KIMBERLY
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KUPE, LAURA*
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LALIBERTE, DANIEL
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LIVEZEY, JESSE
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LUIBRAND, NICHOLAS*
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MAIER, NICOLE
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MCGREGOR, DANIEL*

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MOISAAC, STEPHEN
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MERKLE, JASON*
MIKOLA, KATHLEEN
MILLER, BRETT
MILLER, RACHEL
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MORGAN, SAMANTHA
MORRA, COURTNEY
MOZER, CAITLIN
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OPIE, MEGAN*
ORLANDO, KELLY
PETERSEN, JAMES
PIERCE, EMILY
PIEROTTI, DOMINIC
RAETZKE, MICHELLE
RANKIN, SARAH
RAZI, SAM
REAS, REBECCA
REHM, LINDSAY
REID, JESSICA
REINKE, RYAN
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RODEBACH, COLLIN
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SPIRIS, JONATHAN
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STONE, SCOTT
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TIGUE, ALYSSA
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TUCKER, LEAH
ULLRICH, MATTHEW
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VANDERHEYDEN, STEPHEN
VERMEULEN, ALYSSA*
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WARD, DANIELLE
WASHINGTON, MARK
WEISS, GRETCHEN*
WELCH, SEAN
WENDLAND, DANIELLE
WHITE, ERIC
WHITEFORD, NICOLE

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ZETTEL, ASHLEY
ZITO, BENJAMIN*

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ANDARY, LINDSAY
ASHBY, SAMANTHA
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BAILEY, CHRISTINA
BAKER-DEW, BLAKE
BEDOR, AARON*
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BERGQUIST, TREY
BERNIER, KYLE
BEUTER, CHAD
BLAUVELT, ERIN
BONK, MEGHAN
BOOTH, EMILY
BOULOS, GEORGE
BOWMAN, HEATHER
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BROUGHTON, ROSS
BROWE, AMANDA
BROWN, THERON
BRYAN, ERIC
CARLINE, JOSEPH
CARNWATH, GLENN
CHALMERS, JOHN
CLARK, MATTHEW
CLARK, ROBERT
COIN, ALYSON
COMPAGNONI, ANGELA
COOK, MARIE
CRAIG, MATTHEW
CRANDELL, MAREN
DAVIS, BRYAN
DEARING, STACEY
DEMOPOULOS, CON-
STANTIN
DEMSTER, STEVEN
DEVAULT, JOSEPH
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DREW, LISSA
DUNLAVEY, LEANNE
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ESSIAN, MELISSA*
ESTERLINE, HEATHER
EVANS, CONSTANCE*
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FOX, IAN*
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GLEIRE, DANIELLE
GOODMAN, BRADLEY
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GRAPPIN, BRADLEY
GUNCKLE, PAUL
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KRAUS, NICOLE
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MAYER, DANIEL
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PABST, MONICA*
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PEIRSEL, MELODIE
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SULLIVAN, PAIGE
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SWINTER, KYLE
TANNER, JUSTIN
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TOMKIEWICZ, MEGAN
TRAGER, HANNA*
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TROWBRIDGE, BROOKE
TUDOR, JASON
TUSON, KATIE
TYLER, ANNA
VANDERKOLK, JOHN*
VARNAU, BETSY
VERROS, REGINA*
VINCENT, KIMBERLY
VO, MATTHEW
VOSS, JOSHUA
WALKER, LINDSAY
WALKOWSKI, KYLE
WALLACE, THELTON
WEADLEY, DANIELLE*
WEGNER, MEGHAN
WHITE, JOSHUA
WHITNEY, MICHAEL
WIGHT, ADAM
WILKE, LISA*
WILLIAMS, JOHN
WILMOT, KATIE
WISCHMEYER, BRANDON
WOLLMAN, CAITLIN
ZAK, MICHAEL
ZAMORA, JULIANNE
ZIELINSKI, MICHAEL
ZITO, ANGELA

EIGHTH GRADE

ALLINGHAM, ANAMARIE
AMOR, KATHLEEN
AMUNDSON, KRISTINA
BAIBAK, JENNIFER
BAILEY, KATIE*
BAKER, MALLORY
BAKER, WHITNEY
BALLOUGH, JENNIFER
BARGET, ANDRA
BAYLISS (HAFFEY), AMY
BIGGER, BRIAN
BIGGER, SCOTT
BINASIO, HEATHER*
BLAKE, RHEANNON
BLANCHARD, JENNIFER
BLAND, JACQUELINE
BOKUNIEWICZ, GORDON
BOLLMAN, COURTNEY
BOSKEE, KELLY
BOZEMAN, TREVOR
BRAMBLE, ASHLEY
BRAMBLE, LINDSEY
BREHMER, BRITNI
BUCINSKI, MEGAN*
CATANESE, AARON
CHESTER, ELIZABETH
CHOJNOWSKI, HOLLY
CLARK, EMILY
CLAVETTE, JENNA
CLOUTIER, JENNIFER
COCCIOLOONE, ANTHONY
COLE, HEATHER
CORYELL, STEPHEN*
CRANE, ANDREW
CROFTON, KEVIN
CURRY, HEATHER
CURTIS, ANNEMARIE
CUSAMANO, MICHELLE
CZIEWY, ANNETTE
DEMPSEY, COLLEEN
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CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Clarkston Eccentric publishes calendar items free of charge. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing 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) 625-6712, E-mail to mwengrow@oe.homecomm.net. The deadline is noon Friday for the following Thursday.

623-4040.

EVERY 2ND AND 4TH TUESDAY MORNING

MOPS (MOTHERS OF PRE-SCHOOLERS)

9:30 a.m. St. Trinity Lutheran Church, 7925 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston. For further information contact Nancy Schutt (248) 922-9460.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

NORTH OAKLAND COUNSELING ASSOCIATES - STRENGTH IN NUMBERS: A WOMAN'S

PREVENTION GROUP

7-9 p.m. Wednesday evenings, North Oakland Counseling Associates, 6401 Citation Drive, Clarkston (248) 620-1019. This free 10-week educational group will focus on issues such as building self-esteem, developing communication and conflict management skills, learning about alcohol and other drugs

and practical ways to develop a healthy, happy lifestyle. Enrollment is still open.

1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

PEDS PLUS IBD SUPPORT GROUP

7-9 p.m., Beaumont Royal Oak Administration Building. This group is sponsored by Crohns and Colitis Foundation of America and Michigan Chapter will begin meeting Jan. 5. All pediatric patients to college age plus siblings and parents are welcome. For more information call (248) 625-8621 or 737-0900.

3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

NORTH OAKLAND COUNTY LYME DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP

7 p.m. Independence Township Library, Clarkston. There will be no December meeting. For information, call Carol 625-5275 or MLDA 1-888-784-LYME.

THURSDAY, JAN. 13

FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

7 p.m., Clarkston High School, large-group instruction room. Clarkston High School will host an information session on college financial aid for parents of seniors who will be attending college the fall of 2000. The program will focus on filling out the financial aid form (FAFSA) and financial aid programs. The speaker for the meeting will be Cliff Levitt from the Baker College's Financial Aid Office. For further information please call:

Walker from page B1

moved me before. This one, however, left me thinking deeply about what the woman Mary, and her life, must have been like.

Imagine: An angel appearing to you, announcing that you will bear the child of God.

...

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother ... When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother."

— John 19: 25-26

Sometimes I think it is a good thing that Christ's birth took place before the advent of cameras. Not having a directly recorded image of Him or the

Moose from page B1

head, said the family nature of the group also attracts younger members.

Women of the Moose is the other half of the organization. The Clarkston group has 35 women signed up and needs 15 more to get a charter.

"They're the backbone of the Moose," Maybee said. "They take on the charity parties, the fund-raisers. They are the organizers."

His wife, Chris Maybee, is working on membership for Women of the Moose.

The two groups work together to help the community. Since March, the men's group has grown to include 364 active members. Fund-raisers are planned not only as a way to build a hall, but to donate to Moose charities and give back to

holy family allows us to more easily imagine them as one of us. We can bypass concerns about race or age or physical appearances — or other notions that divide humanity — and need only consider their faith, their actions, their hearts, indeed, their loyalty to God.

Think of what Jesus said, as he was near death on the cross, when he told his mother, in so many words, to look upon the disciple as a son, and for the disciple to look after Mary.

They were to care for one another.

As we look toward Christmas and the next millennium, it seems appropriate to me that we take time to consider these important and selfless lives and the events that surrounded them and changed our world so long ago.

Please join me in thinking

about what it must have been like for this young mother to watch while her son was put to death on our behalf. Surely, her sacrifice was exceeded only by that of her son.

We do not need to enter the next millennium full of fear and dread. We can, instead, enter it devoutly and with appreciation, strengthened by the example of the brave and humble woman who gave birth in a manger.

If we silence our guns and our road rage and our prejudicial slurs, our diatribes and our rhetoric long enough, we will, I'm sure, hear the gentle rhythms of Mary's heart leading the way.

Merry Christmas.

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

Driving in winter requires extra care

Driving in Southeast Michigan in the winter can be tricky, even for experienced drivers and especially during the first several snow falls of the year. Because motorist safety is the No. 1 priority of the Road Commission for Oakland County, the agency offers the following guidelines for safe winter driving.

■ Always wear your seatbelt (not just in the winter).
■ Always assume the road is slippery and use caution. Icy patches are not always readily visible, and road conditions can change within a few feet due to shade, drainage, road surface, etc.

■ Keep your windows clear of snow and ice. Do not begin driving until you've scraped all your windows and/or defrosted them.

■ Drive slower in the winter

■ Drive slower in the winter and increase the distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead of you. There may be icy patches that you can't see...

and increase the distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead of you. There may be icy patches that you can't see that may cause you or other drivers to lose control, or you might need more space to stop than you would on dry pavement.

■ Use extra caution on bridges. Because bridges are suspended in the air with cold air

above and below them, they tend to freeze more quickly and more frequently than a typical road surface. This means that while the road leading to a bridge may be clear and dry, the bridge itself may be icy.

■ Use extra caution in underpasses. These areas typically do not receive direct sunlight and are more likely to have ice.

■ If the pavement is snow- or ice-covered, start slowly and brake gently. Begin braking early when you come to an intersection.

■ Give snow plows and salt trucks plenty of room. These are large, heavy trucks and they require more space to stop and turn than most cars, and they need room to adequately do their job.

Honor roll from page B2

EMERICK, TARYN
ENGLUND, MELISSA*
FAHEY, TERRY*
FAUST, HEATHER*
FELT, MARIA
FERGUSON, BESS
FITCH, JAMI
FLEISHANS, AARON
FUGITT, JAIME
FULLER, DEVIN
GARLAND, MARK
GAUCHE, NICOLE
GAUTHIER, ERIC*
GIROUX, HEATHER
GIROUX, SUZANNE
GREEN, LINDSAY
HAMPTON, BRANDON
HART, JENNA*
HART, LYNDEY
HELMS, JODY
HENNEMAN, CARY
HERRON, MATTHEW
HERTZLER, KRISTINA*
HILLMAN, ALLISON
HOWSE, ERIC
HUDSON, ASHLEY
HUNDLEY, JENNA
HUSEREAU, JENNIFER
JACKSON, MARK
JAMES, BRIAN
KARNES, MATTHEW*
KEESLING, JAMIE
KELLAM, SCOTT
KEUSCH, BRADLEY*
KIERAS, KAITLIN*
KIESTER, STEPHEN
KINSEY, JACK*
KLEIN, BRYAN
KLEINEDLER, MEGAN
KNAPPE, ELIZABETH

KOVACIC, LAURA
KRAS, AMANDA
KUHTA, MAUREEN*
LAHOUSSE, GREYSON
LEUTERIO, RONALD
LEVASSEUR, ALEX
LININGER, KENDRA*
LININGER, KYLE
LOWRIE, JEFFREY
MACKINNON, MATT*
MAESCH, SARAH
MAHRLE, SARAH
MANGUS, KENNET
MARCHELLETTA, ASHLEY
MARTIN, DANIEL
MAXWELL, JOHN
MCCALLUM, MATTHEW
MCGINNIS, SARAH
MCINTOSH, KEITH
MCLEOD, CHRISTOPHER
MCNEW, JOHN*
MEAD, COLLEEN*
MERZ, TODD
MILLER, AMANDA
MOEHLIG, JONATHAN
MORTON, SEAN
MOZER, LINDSAY
MURPHY, MARY
NAPIER, SARAH*
NICHOLS, AMANDA*
O'ROURKE, BRENDON
OPIE, KATE
PAWLIK, BRENDAN
PIEROTTI, VINCENT
PRUENTE, MATTHEW*
PRZYBYLSKI, MALLORY
RAAB, RACHEL
REGIANI, ANGELA
REID, CAITLIN
REPPUHN, WHITNEY

REUTER, CHRISTYN
RIEDEL, NICHOLAS
ROMBACK, MATTHEW
RYBARCZYK, RYAN
SAFRAN, KRISTA
SCHNEIDER, EVAN*
SCHULTZ, AMANDA
SCHWARZBERG, AMANDA
SCHWEITZER, PETER
SECORD, STEPHANIE
SHAGENA, SUZANN
SHARKEY, KEVIN
SHIEL, STEVEN
SICKMAN, KYLE
SINCLAIR, COURTNEE
SMITH, ALEXANDRA
SMITH, C. JUSTIN
SMITH, MATTHEW
SMITH, PAUL*
SORISE, ANTHONY
SPENCER, DANIEL
SPURLOCK, FAITH
STAPP, KATIE
STRNAD, PAUL
VERLINDEN, AARON
VERMEULEN, MARIA
WALKER, JACOB
WEBER, AMY
WELLMAN, ASHLEY
WHITEFORD, ABBY
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Observer & Eccentric

(No) Page 4, Section B

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

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

Thursday, December 23, 1999

THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



"The Radio City Christmas Spectacular" features the Rockettes and Santa, 2 p.m. at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. Tickets \$10 to \$55.50, call (248) 433-1515. For more information, call (313) 983-6611.

SATURDAY



Jason Nesmith (Tim Allen) tries to defend himself from an alien Pig Lizard when he becomes stranded on a hostile planet in "Galaxy Quest," a science fiction action comedy opening today at metro Detroit movie theaters.

SUNDAY

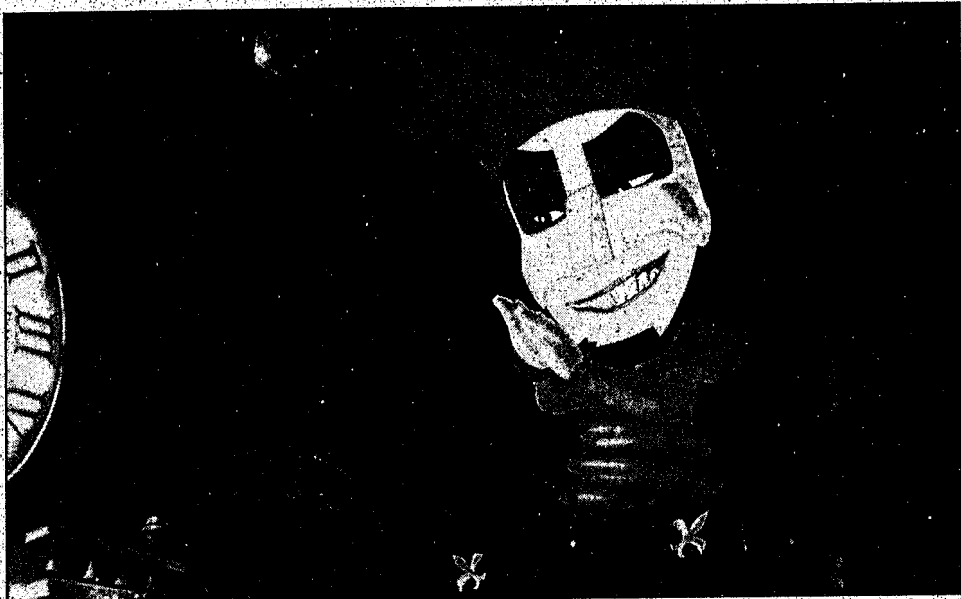


Debbie Lannen, (back row, left to right), Joe Lannen, Ken Haering, Betsy the Cow and Kate Weiss (front center) star in "Jack and the Beanstalk," 2:30 p.m. at the Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main Street, Northville. Tickets \$7, call (248) 349-8110.

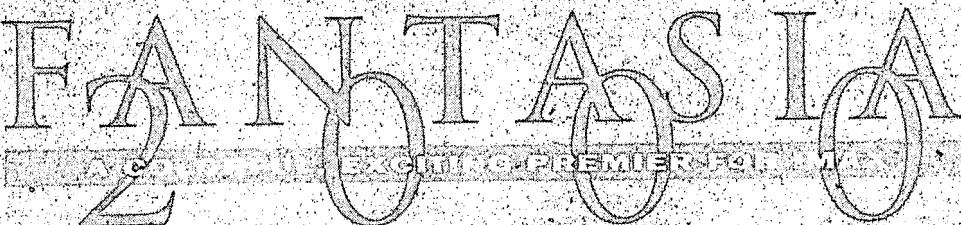
HOT TICKET



Hot Ticket Item: Stroll through the "Wild Lights," a colorful holiday display of over 400,000 lights and 70 animal sculptures, 5:30-8 p.m. Sunday-Thursday through Jan. 2 at the Detroit Zoo, intersection of 10 Mile Road and Woodward Avenue, just off I-696 in Royal Oak. Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Admission \$4 adults, \$3 children ages 2-12. All children under age 2 admitted free. Discount for Detroit Zoological Society Members. Parking is free. Call (248) 541-5835 for more information.



Bravery: One of seven new segments in "Fantasia 2000," "The Steadfast Tin Soldier" tells the story of a brave toy soldier who saves a beautiful ballerina from the evil clutches of a Jack-in-the-box.



BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@oe.homecomm.net

Remember Etch-a-Sketch? While that shake-and-erase board was a beloved toy for some, it proved to be an object of fleeting artwork for all.

Not only does the technique serve as an opening sequence in one piece of "Fantasia 2000," it gives permanence to a project that seemed to have faded away. More than 60 years after work began on the original "Fantasia," this film proves that Walt Disney certainly does keep his promises.

In 1941, after the release of "Fantasia," he announced, "It is our intention to make a new version of 'Fantasia' every year. Its pattern is very flexible and fun to work with — not really a concert, not a vaudeville, not a revue, but a grand mixture of comedy, fantasy, ballet, drama, impressionism, color, sound and epic fury."

Roy E. Disney, vice chairman of the Walt Disney Co., has breathed new life into this work-in-progress Walt Disney referred to as a "concert film."

From the first blast of bright blue and the sight of that Disney symbol, viewers are drawn into the experience. "Fantasia 2000" caught the attention of celebrities such as Steve Martin, Bette Midler, Itzhak Perlman and James Earl Jones, who make appearances and introduce segments of the film with concise humor and intelligence.

Nine years in the making, "Fantasia 2000" marks the return of director James Algar's "The Sorcerer's Apprentice." Serving as the genesis of the original version, Algar's segment of magic-gone-awry remains just as relevant as ever, while pro-

viding a visual throw-back to animation efforts of the past. Seven new animated segments have been added to this, the first full-length IMAX feature film. Running 75 minutes, "Fantasia 2000" is also the first Disney film to be made in IMAX (meaning "maximum image") format.

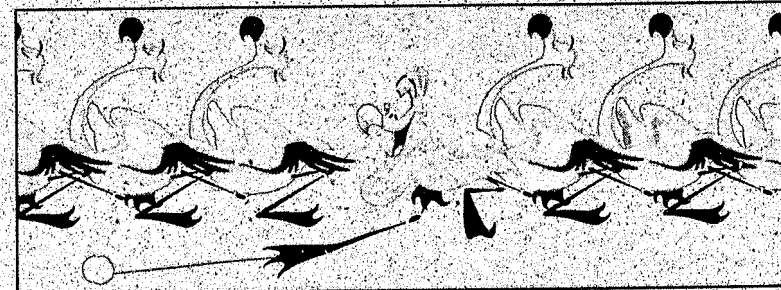
"Fantasia" premiered on Nov. 13, 1940, marking not only a partnership between music and animation, but also a much-improved sound system that required multiple speakers. "Fantasia 2000" is in IMAX, which shows an image 10 times larger than the conventional 35 millimeter frame, for sharpness and clarity, and a six-channel, multi-speaker sound system. The screen is eight stories wide and six stories high.

Highlights of "Fantasia 2000" include "Rhapsody in Blue," with animation directed by Eric Goldberg. In a style reminiscent of caricaturist Al Hirschfeld, viewers see that Etch-a-Sketch-style of Manhattan's cityscape and then are whisked into the lives of several characters leading separate lives during the Jazz Age.

Viewers meet a hurried construction worker, a downtrodden, unemployed man, a little girl who is inferior at every sport, and a wealthy man stifled by his overpowering wife. Following the be-bopping beat of George Gershwin's music, viewers watch as their individual dreams are achieved.

The familiar graduation march, "Pomp and Circumstance," is coupled with the story of Noah's Ark, starring Donald Duck. The story sets Donald in charge of herding all of the animals onto the ark — in procession — but he seems to lose track of the

Please see FANTASIA, B5



"The Sorcerer's Apprentice"

WHAT: Walt Disney Pictures presents "Fantasia 2000"

WHEN: Saturday, Jan. 1 through Sunday, April 30

WHERE: At the IMAX theater at Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in Dearborn.

SHOW TIMES: Every day at —

- 10 a.m.
- 11:50 a.m.
- 1:40 p.m.
- 3:30 p.m.
- 5:20 p.m.
- 7:10 p.m.
- 9 p.m.

Tickets: \$10 adults, \$8 senior citizens and children. Discount for members. For more information call (800) 747-IMAX (4629) or (313) 271-1570. To purchase tickets, call (313) 982-6001.

Laughs: Director Eric Goldberg delivers a light-hearted romp and answers the age-old question: "What would happen if you gave a yo-yo to a flamingo?" in the "Carnival of the Animals."

Funny man: Ron Gallagher, also known as Gallagher II, will present two shows on New Year's Eve at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit.



Ron Gallagher swears he's 'gonna make you laugh,' too

Ron Gallagher, also known as Gallagher II, presents his "Living Sequel Show" at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 31. Tickets \$29.50, \$39.50 and \$49.50, available at the Fisher box office, (313) 872-1000, and all Ticketmaster outlets (248) 645-6666.

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

"My thing is, I'm gonna make you laugh every five seconds, and if I don't, I've failed."

Ron Gallagher, AKA Gallagher II, plans to make good on his self-challenge when he plays two New Year's Eve shows at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit. The jovial and genial comedian, who combines intelligent observational humor with outrageous acts on food products, also plans to have considerable help.

"With my show, the whole audience is the stage," he said before a recent appearance at Western Michigan University. "The show spills out into the audience — literally — so they become a part of the show. They all bring plastic, they look at everybody else with their plastic and they all get Gallagherized."

Hold on there. Doesn't that sound like the last-name-only Gallagher from the cable specials, the funny-in-a-weird-way guy with the floppy cap, mustache and stringy hair who ends each act with a very interactive — and

■ Ron is the younger (by six years) brother of the "original" Gallagher. He looks remarkably like his brother, talks like his brother and for the past ten years has been doing his brother's act.

messy — pitch for Sledge-a-Matic? So who's this Gallagher doppelganger? The question opens an old wound, exposing a sibling rivalry perhaps matched only by Cain and Abel. Ron is the younger (by six years) brother of the "original" Gallagher. He looks remarkably like his brother, talks like his brother and for the past ten years has been doing his brother's act. Until recently, he's been doing it with his brother's blessing. Today, the blessing has been removed and a blood feud has ensued.

"I idolized my brother," Ron muses. "I would watch all his tapes and I knew all his routines. He encouraged me to take some of his older stuff and go out on the road with it. I discounted that because at the time I was a successful equipment salesman in Florida, where we grew up."

But Ron got the bug and big brother got him booked. "It was my brother's idea to come up with Gallagher II. It was a joke, like I'm Gallagher, too." He gave me a start and he gave me the act. It really is a great story, unprecedented in show business.

Years of one-nighters in small clubs

Please see GALLAGHER II, B6

MUSIC

It's not Christmas without Opera Lite

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER
scasola@oe.homecomm.net

David Pulice claims he was singing before he was talking — at least that's what his mother told him. It's a good thing that music is his life.

Whether he's wearing a dragon kimono or festive 1850s-style Christmas regalia, performing Gilbert and Sullivan songs or traditional Christmas carols, he feels right at home. Pulice, a Farmington Hills resident, founded Opera Lite in 1986, as a company of singers actors and dancers from the Metro area and mid-Michi-

gan. Since its start, the group has provided seasonal music for the holidays.

Pulice, a Michigan State University graduate, has performed with the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony, Plymouth Symphony and Detroit Symphony Orchestras, as well as acted in commercials, industrial films and television. He landed a lead role in an episode of "Unsolved Mysteries" and appeared in the films "Something in Common" and "Hoffa."

Now president and artistic director of Opera Lite, Pulice took time out of his hurried schedule, Dec. 14 to talk about his work. Just before taking the stage

with his troupe for a show at Livonia's Laurel Park Place mall, he said it "takes a lot of work to keep it going."

From a group of about eight performers, Opera Lite has grown to 45 participants. The group focuses on private or corporate parties and holiday engagements, but also offers programs to area schools. It is all run from an office in Pulice's home.

Perhaps Opera Lite gets most exposure during this, the most festive time of year. The troupe provides entertainment at the Eagle Tavern's holiday din-

Please see OPERA, B6



Opera Lite

Fantasia from Entertainment front

most important one of all, Daisy. As the lovebirds almost lose hope thinking they might never see each other again, a true Disney ending prevails.

The film shows a light-hearted look at man's relationship with nature in "Carnival of the Animals" by Camille Saint-Saens. Viewers meet a group of flamingoes — one of which develops his skills with a yo-yo. The segment also is directed by Goldberg, using vibrant watercolor.

But the most heart-warming portion of the movie comes from the partnership of Shostakovich's "Piano Concerto No. 2, Allegro, Opus 102" and Hans Christian Andersen's story, "The Steadfast Tin Soldier." Viewers become captivated by the lengths a toy soldier goes to to save his love, a ballerina, from the clutches of an evil Jack-

■ The film shows a light-hearted look at man's relationship with nature in "Carnival of the Animals" by Camille Saint-Saens.

in-the-box. Director Hendel Butoy brings the beloved toys to life in a way that causes viewers to hang on the edge of their seats.

Not all of the segments tell a specific story, "Beethoven's Symphony No. 5" and "Pines of Rome" were made to evoke a feeling — and brilliantly animated to give visual elements to those emotions.

Walking out of the grand theater, it's almost impossible to hear any music without visualizing the elements that might

accompany it. The relationship between music and animation is clarified when the camera focuses on the orchestra pit, between segments. It's become a place where the animator's drawing board sits among the musical instruments. Disney used pictures just as Beethoven, Gershwin and many others used musical notes.

"Fantasia 2000" takes Walt Disney's dreams into the new century, the new millennium, in unparalleled style and sophistication.



WALT DISNEY PICTURES

City life: Eric Goldberg brings Manhattan's Jazz Age back to life with "Rhapsody in Blue," set to music by George Gershwin.

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Gallagher II from Entertainment front

followed. "As soon as I hit the stage dressed like my brother I was accepted, so I started putting some of my own stuff together. His show is now different than mine because he's gone off in a different direction from what his cable specials were. He does more of a lecture-based show."

As a result, Ron maintains that "I'm more the Gallagher the audience wants to see. Anybody who loves Gallagher will love my show. I do 'The Best of Gallagher.'" He doesn't consider himself a pretender to the throne

but an inheritor of it. The problem is, big brother's not ready to abdicate.

"When I was doing smaller clubs I wasn't a threat to him," says Gallagher the Younger. "The minute he heard that I was doing the Fisher Theatre he went completely nuts. He said 'I don't want the competition; you're invading on my territory.' And I said, 'You created me, why can't you take credit for me? We're two brothers out there who love each other; let's collaborate, let's do shows together, let's have fun.'"

'We just look at the world with Gallagher eyes. The audience laughs not only at the joke but for not seeing it that way in the first place. The Gallagher humor is to whack you in the brain, to throw things at you so fast you're going to still be laughing at the last joke while I tell you the next one.'

Ron Gallagher
Comedian

That's unlikely to happen for now. Meanwhile, Gallagher II seems genuine in two things: an admiration for his brother and a

pride in himself. "I use a lot of my brother's old stuff that he doesn't use anymore because it's classic," he says. "But I do it in my vein. I encourage everyone to see his show and then see my show and see if it's the same. It's not."

No matter which sibling delivers it, the Gallagher humor is a hybrid of George Carlin without the language and Jerry Seinfeld with props.

"We just look at the world with Gallagher eyes," Ron explains. "The audience laughs not only at the joke but for not seeing it that

way in the first place. The Gallagher humor is to whack you in the brain, to throw things at you so fast you're going to still be laughing at the last joke while I tell you the next one."

What can audiences expect on New Year's Eve at the Fisher? "We're going to have our own indoor fireworks," Ron promises. "But instead, it's food flying through the air. New York City has the ball; I've got the hammer. And the hammer will drop at midnight." Protective covering is strongly suggested.

Opera from Entertainment front

ners in Greenfield Village. Everything from the lack of electricity to the authentic seven-course meal offers the experience of a special Christmas Dinner at the former Inn which was built as a stagecoach stop in 1830.

Opera Lite acts as performers who must sing for their bed and board. A guitarist, pianist, magician and musical quartet are all part of the show, which varies from one year to the next.

This year, Pulice took it one step further. He gave the green

light to 33 1/3 records to create a CD of music from the Eagle Tavern show. Al Jacquez, partner at the Ann Arbor-based label, worked on the album. "I felt it deserved to be documented. The songs are great; it's an interesting niche, 1850s style."

The CD offers a true live performance, without overdubbing of any kind, he added.

"Everyone doing this enjoys the holidays," said Pulice. "They're in good spirits."

Suzanne Robb, a Redford resident and vocalist with Opera Lite, agreed and said it's her business.

"I can't imagine Christmas without it," she said. "Being part of the music really does make Christmas."

Opera Lite has captured the sound of good cheer on the holiday CD titled "Christmas at the Eagle Tavern," a 33 1/3 Records Release. Buy it at any Harmony House or Desirable Disc location, or Dearborn Music in Dearborn

or Canton. Call (734) 761-1920 or visit www.amazingmusic.com.

See Opera Lite perform Tuesdays through Sundays in December at Eagle Tavern, Greenfield Village in Dearborn, or catch daytime caroling: 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Dec. 24, 27-31 at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, and 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in December at the Southfield Town Center. Call (248) 888-7640 for information or booking.

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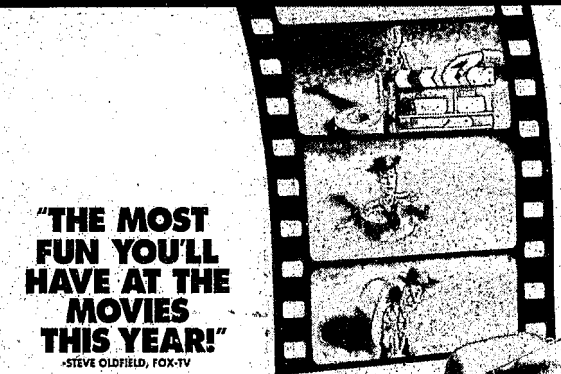


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INSIDE:
Prep Scoreboard, C3
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DANIEL STICKRADT

It's always the thought that counts, right?

There is an old saying that it is often better to give than receive. That's the spirit I have each an every year when Christmas rolls along because I really like to give.

Although I have already emptied my wallet for way too many expensive Christmas gifts for my family than my normal budget allows, I still have much more to give from the heart.

Each and every year I use this space to grant some wishes to coaches, athletes and others involved in the North Oakland sports region — even though virtually all of them are out of my power and in the hands of either God himself or Santa Claus.

But hey, it's the thought that counts, right?

Anyway, here we go:

To Lake Orion boys basketball coach Jim Manzo and his staff: some much-needed volleyball skills. I know coach, you were largely out-numbered on Monday ... To Oxford boys basketball coach Jesse Heck and his players: an injury-free season and a string of games where you play unbelievable in the fourth quarter, which should help you win your first Flint Metro League title in years ... To Lake Orion competitive cheer coach Kelli Mathes: a higher finish than fourth at the state finals (OK, I know I promised you a

Please see STICKRADT, C2



Even with several freshmen in its starting line-up, Clarkston was impressive at the 40th annual Oakland County Wrestling Championships, finishing third behind individual champions Pat DeGain and Jon Robinson.

BY DAVID SAUNDERS
STAFF WRITER

Perennial wrestling power Troy has faded in recent years, but Saturday's performance indicated that the Colts are back on the top of the heap of Oakland County high school wrestling teams.

The Colts proved that over the weekend by finishing in second place at the 40th annual Oakland County Wrestling Championships at Lake Orion High School. The Colts finished with 248 points — 17 points behind county winner Novi, in one of the most closest tournaments in recent years as six teams scored at least 200 points.

Strong showings in the upper weight divisions in the finals propelled an always-strong but youthful Clarkston team to tie Walled Lake Western for third with 215 points. Oxford came in fifth with 211 points, while Milford (200), South Lyon (177.5), Lake Orion (171.5), Birmingham Seaholm (158) and two-time defending Rochester Adams (150.5) rounded out the top ten team scores, where 41 of the county's 44 teams showed up and scored points.

Troy finished an uncharacteristic-like 17th at the county meet last December, but with coach Gary Harlan back after a two-year absence, the Colts have reloaded quickly.

"We got bodies back last year, but we were relatively inexperienced. They've worked real hard and are reaping the benefits," Harlan said. "They've wrestled a lot in the off season and it's a good group of kids."

Harlan was pleasantly surprised with his team's 15-place leap from a year ago.

"We're very happy with our finish here," he said. "For us to be there out of nowhere, we're happy. It was one of the goals the kids had."

Troy sent four wrestlers to the finals, where they finished with runner-up medals: sophomore Nick Best at 103, Jimmy Mason at 125, senior Jamie Mitchell at 215, and sophomore Ruben Baraiac at 140, who wrestled Angelo Vettese of Auburn Hills Avondale, last year's state runner-up in Division II.

Baraiac and Vettese had wrestled twice before and Baraiac lost by one and two points, respectively. Vettese won the county match by a 5-3 decision.

"It was a tough match. I controlled it, but I couldn't really do anything," said Vettese, who is 14-0 this year and has only nine losses and over 100 career victories. "Baraiac is a tough guy and really strong, and it's hard to just take him down. I had him for a second but not good enough."

At 215, Troy's Mitchell, weighing only 186 pounds, went against two-time state champion Pat DeGain of Clarkston, who recently signed with Indiana. Both were undefeated, but DeGain — who guaranteed a victory before the match — had the only pin of the finals in just 47 seconds.

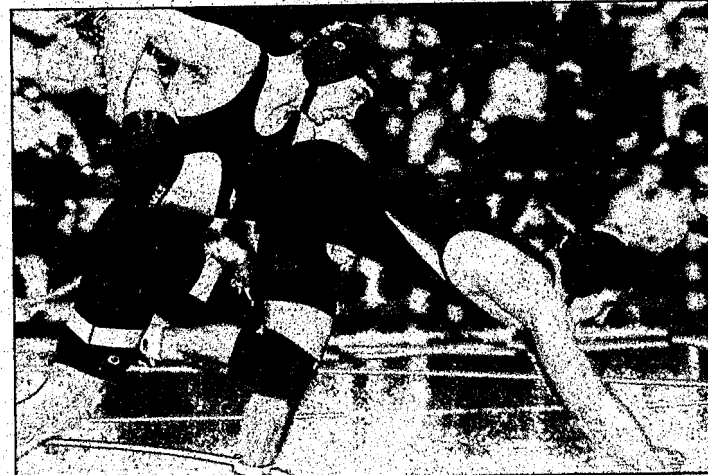
"We're pleasantly surprised things worked out well for us," Harlan said, whose team is 3-0 in duals and won the Eccentric and Gladwin tournaments.

Adams coach Pat Milkovich, who was recently inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Oklahoma, called it "quite an honor," about the surprise announcement.

"You do stuff for 30 years ago and you don't realize the standard you set until it's been that far down the road and all of a sudden you go, 'I've done something that was really unique according to my peers.'"

Milkovich said he was inducted due to his accomplishments as an athlete.

Please See COUNTY, C2



PHOTOS BY BILL HANSON

Laying down the law: Clarkston's Nate Parker (above, top) has a stranglehold on Birmingham Groves' Sam Wilson in Saturday's 130-pound quarterfinal match. Meanwhile, Clarkston 152-pounder R.J. Booker (below, left) has Farmington's Mark Ostach in a bind.

Marysville ousts Oxford netters in quarterfinals of Goodrich tourney

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

Lori Campbell knew that her Oxford volleyball team would eventually run into Class B state powerhouse Marysville at the Goodrich Invitational. Unfortunately for the Wildcats, that meeting came a little too early for Campbell's wishes.

Oxford advanced to the quarterfinals of the 17-team tournament Saturday at Goodrich, but that's where Marysville's roadblock ended the Wildcats' run in the form a 15-4, 15-5 decision.

"I knew we would end up playing them, it was just a little early," said Campbell. "I was hoping we could have faced them in the semifinals or finals, but that's how it goes."

Oxford (9-3-1) finished the day 3-2-1, including 2-1-1 in pool play, before being ousted by the defending Class B state champions.

"We actually played good against Marysville, a lot better than the scores indicated," said Campbell. "We served a lot against them and we played aggressive. They are just a strong team."

Oxford began the day with the early-morning blues as they dropped their first match of pool play to Saginaw Swan Valley (15-7, 15-13), followed by a split with Flushing (15-17, 15-7).

Then the Wildcats started to heat up.

Oxford rebounded with a convincing 15-2, 15-0 triumph over Burton Bentley before concluding pool play with a win over Marine City (15-5, 15-8).

Oxford also got past Swartz Creek (15-12, 15-8) in the opening round of the playoffs, which set up the match with Marysville.

In the win over Bentley, Oxford senior Sadie Ball served up 15 straight points.

"It's been a long time since I've seen someone at the varsity level do that," said Campbell of Ball's sterling serving performance. "And as a team, we served very well."

The Wildcats served at an impressive .930 clip, led by Ball, who was 61 of 67 serving with 44 service points — 12 which were aces. Senior Shannon Bunker was 33 of 34 serving with three aces, junior Dana Millard was 42 of 45 serving with 26 service points, including 11 aces, and Jill Stork was 32 of 36 serving with 14 service points.

At the net, senior Bethany Pruetz was 50 of 62 attacking with a .452 kill efficiency, 40 kills and 28 blocks. Millard was 74 of 92 attacking with 33 kills and 17 digs, Stork had 18 kills, junior Andrea Moncrieff had 13 blocks, Ball collected 33 assists, and junior Katie McKinnon collected 39 assists.

Pruetz's performance raised Campbell's eyebrows.

"She had another strong outing," Campbell said of Pruetz. "She had 40 kills and recorded a .452 kill efficiency. Anytime you have that above .3, you're doing quite well."

The Wildcats, who are idle until January 5,

Please see VOLLEYBALL, C2

Panthers cage Oxford in OT

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

Over the years, the Detroit Lions have recorded a long history of struggles when it comes down to the fourth quarter. The Lions can't seem to finish opponents off after building a lead.

Oxford's boys basketball team is having the same troubles.

For the third straight game, the Wildcats faltered down the stretch, this time in their Flint Metro League opener Friday against Mt. Morris.

The Wildcats held a four-point lead over the Panthers with 41 seconds left in regulation, and then were up 56-55 with 1:58 in overtime, but couldn't keep Mt. Morris from coming up with the big shots.

Mt. Morris senior guard Stephen Sumpter hit an off-balance three-pointer from the corner at the end of regulation, and then classmate Kirk Hilton connected on his only field goal of the game as time expired in overtime, helping the Panthers pull the plug on the host Wildcats with a dramatic 61-59 triumph.

"We can't finish anyone off," said Oxford assistant coach Phil Dawson. "We had them twice but still gave it away."

Hilton was 0-for-8 from the field during the

game, but found nothing but net on his ninth attempt — a 15 foot shot from the right wing — as the final buzzer sounded.

"We scouted them and we knew (Hilton) wasn't a shooter, but he came up with that miracle 15-footer," said Dawson. "But we should have never let them get into that situation."

Three times during the fourth quarter, Oxford had the Panthers in a four-point hole, the last following a short-range jumper from junior forward Joe Gallo with under a minute to play.

But Mt. Morris answered with two late triples. Junior guard Kenny Radford connected from long range with 30 seconds to play followed by two free throws by Oxford senior forward Dave Inman and Sumpter's buzzer-beater from downtown.

Oxford 6-foot-5 junior center Mike Spencer had a chance to put the Wildcats up by four points one last time with six ticks left, but missed the front end of a one-on-one.

Overtime featured seven ties or lead changes. Mt. Morris led 59-56 with 31 seconds remaining, but Oxford junior forward Jeff Mutch earned his fourth three-pointer with 16 seconds left which knotted the score at 59-59.

However, Hilton still got his game-winning shot off in traffic to keep Mt. Morris (2-1, 1-0) perfect on

Please see BASKETBALL, C2

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County from page C1

But his Highlanders, last year's county champs, who scored more points than any other team in the history of Oakland County tournament, has seven sophomores and one freshman on this year's team.

"We're having our turnover year," he said. "It's a young team. They just need to mature and be tested some more and be challenged. They learned some lessons today."

"It's a good young team. I really wouldn't want to wrestle us the next two years, because we're going to be very good next year," he added. "We're going to challenge again for a state title, as long as they have the same lousy coach."

One of the most classic matches was the heavyweight engagement, where Clarkston senior Jon Robinson outlasted Oxford senior Eric Ghiaciuc 5-3. Ghiaciuc had edged Robinson in last year's title match by an identical score.

"It felt good," said Robinson, who placed seventh at the Division I state finals last year. "It was tough, he's a good wrestler. I just had to wrestle smarter and get in better shape. I was

still in football shape. I had to build up my wind."

Clarkston coach Mike DeGain knew his team had a shot at third, but the Wolves were fifth going into the finals.

"We're starting like seven first-year wrestlers, sometimes eight, but it's nice to have them still compete and finish in the top three in county," said DeGain, whose team finished second the past two years and third in 1996. "The top three in county is not that bad of a slip. We started seven freshman."

"I'm pleased wherever we finished. I'm happy with their performance," DeGain added. "We have some guys that could be there when March comes around. We have a lot of things to look forward to, especially the young guys."

Walled Lake Western needed both of their finalists to record victories in order for the Warriors to finish third and coach Dick Watson's team rose to the occasion.

"We still need to improve. I'm still pleased we're in the top five, but a couple guys had a rough day," said Watson, whose team finished third last year as well. "We have some

seniors, but the two in the finals are underclassmen."

Oxford 14th last year, but the Wildcats shot up the charts with a bullet this year.

"We had high expectations this year," said Oxford coach Paul McDevitt. "We were going to try to win this. We didn't have a real good tournament. We had some kids make some mistakes. Four or five times they were winning in the third period and they got pinned. You can't do that in a tournament and win. We're still a pretty young team, hopefully we'll learn from it."

The fifth-year coach at Oxford gave his team the toughest schedule ever. "We haven't come together as a team yet. If we keep working, by the end of the season, we'll be a formidable opponent."

Like Oxford, Seaholm has a young team which had one of its highest finishes ever.

"We had a lot of injuries," said Seaholm coach Mike Hessling, who was missing four starters. "We thought we could have done a lot better, but hey, it's early in the year and we're happy with our finish with the kids we brought here."

Lake Orion coach Doug Kline saw his team finish eighth.

"I was pleased in some areas. We had a surprise at 103, (Josh Bullock) placed sixth and was unseeded. We had a few disappointments down the road, but whether we could have gotten higher than seventh, I don't know," said Kline, whose team finished seventh last year. "This is a very tough tournament. Any team that finishes in the top 10 should be pleased. Obviously, Novi is the cream of the crop, but we're improving. We're very young."

DeGain and South Lyon Mike Chandler (152) were the only two individuals to repeat as county champions.

Other winners included Ferndale's J.P. Morgan at 103, Walled Lake Western's Ryan Beach (112) and Jacob Pattenau (130), Novi's Dan Jilg (119) and Harry Durbin (135), Seaholm's Jim Gotshall (125), Birmingham Groves' Ian Brodie (145), Hazel Park's Derrick Keasley (160), Oxford's Willie Breyer (189) and Holly's Robert Aikens (171).

Basketball from page C1

the year.

"We had a lot of chances to put it away in the fourth quarter," said Dawson. "We had them on the ropes and could've went up by four if Spencer could have made his free throw. But we had a lot of mental lapses in this game. And we couldn't make the plays when it counted."

"Last year they came into our gym and celebrated (with a win) afterwards and they were able to do it again," he added. "It's very frustrating because they are a team we can beat."

Mt. Morris led 19-15 after the first quarter behind 13 points in the period from Radford, but Oxford (0-3, 0-1) was able to turn the tables with a 17-5 run in the second quarter, which gave the Wildcats a 32-22 cushion at halftime.

Much like the first quarter, the Panthers owned the third as they outscored Oxford 15-6, which gave them a narrow 39-38

advantage heading into the wild fourth quarter.

"We have a lot of work to do," added Dawson. "We'll just work hard over the break and go from there. We're better than this."

Radford paced Mt. Morris with a game-high 20 points on 8 of 11 shooting, to go along with six steals and three assists. Jason Hollis, a 6-7 senior center, chipped in 17 points, 16 rebounds and five blocked shots. Sumpter contributed seven points and three assists, and junior forward Justin Massey had six points and four assists for the Panthers.


Mutch had 14 points with three rebounds and three assists, and Gallo also scored 14 with four rebounds to pace Oxford. Spencer added 13 points, six rebounds, five steals and four blocks, and senior guard Frank Boni supplied six points, five rebounds and four assists for the Wildcats.

Stickrad from page C1

win over Rochester last year and you're still waiting. Let's take one step at a time) ... To Clarkston volleyball and girls track coach Gordie Richardson: a victory at the 28-team Oakland Activities Association volleyball tournament and a transfer that becomes and all-state sprinter on the grand oval ... To Lake Orion boys soccer coach Deepak Shivraman: a pure goal-scorer that will help your Dragons

escape these close one-goal games ... To Oxford wrestling coach Paul McDevitt: the return of your wrestling mats from your neighbors ... To Oxford volleyball coach Lori Campbell: a supersonic-upset win over Marysville the next time you play them — even if it comes next season ... To Oxford Christian athletic director and boys basketball coach Jeff Alexander: a school year with no athletes moving away and an incoming basketball transfer who stands over 6-foot-1 and can shoot ... To Springfield Christian sophomore pitcher Ben Munce: a 90-mph fast ball and a spot on a premiere summer club team ... To Clarkston senior guard Ryan Marino: the 1999-2000 Oakland County scoring title ... To former North Oakland Sports Editor Brad Kadrich: the best of luck as News Editor of the Plymouth Observer (hey, I had to put that in here) ... To Clarkston senior 215-pounder Pat DeGain: a third-straight unbeaten season with an individual state title ... To Lake Orion Shalom Baptist boys basketball coach David Carr: enough students to start a middle school program and a MACS Division III state title ... To both Oxford Christian and Shalom Baptist: your very own gymnasium ... To Lake Orion boys swimming coach Paul Fairman: an OAA Division II title in only the program's second year (Hey, the Dragons' girls team pulled the trick this past fall) ... To Oxford competitive cheer coach Natalie Coronado: a region without Lake Orion and a trip to the Class A state finals ... To all of the athletic secretaries: less paper work and far less phone calls from a certain reporter asking for coaches' phone numbers all of the time ... To Oxford football coach Bud Rowley: a rematch with Flint Powers Catholic in next year's Division II state play-offs ... To Lake Orion football coach Chris Bell: simply a win over Troy next season ... To Clarkston softball coach Al Land: two wins this upcoming season over Waterford Kettering ... To Lake Orion softball coach Dennis Davis: the same gift that that Al Land is going to receive — I feel it ... To Oxford girls soccer coach David Summers: a big-time win over Lapeer East this spring in the FML tournament finals ... To Springfield Christian girls soccer coach Dennis Hopkins: a win over Davison Faith Baptist — via shutout, of course ... To Clarkston 7-foot-1 senior Pete Ritzema: a game-winning dunk against Pontiac Northern later this season ... And to everyone else out there that I didn't mention in this cramped little space — from myself and the rest of sports department at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers ... The happiest of holidays. We'll see you in 2000.

Daniel Stickrad is sports editor for the communities of Clarkston, Lake Orion and Oxford. He will be on vacation until January 3.



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Outdoor Calendar

(To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric's Outdoor Calendar send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to (248) 644-1314 or send E-mail to bpark-er@oe.homecomm.net)

SEASON/DATES

BASS
Bass season closes Dec. 31.

DEER

The late archery season runs through Jan. 2 statewide. A late antlerless-only firearms season runs through Jan. 2 on private and public land in Deer Management Unit 452. A late antlerless-only firearms season runs through Jan. 2 on most private land in the Lower Peninsula.

GROUSE

A special late grouse season runs through Jan. 1 in the Lower Peninsula.

RABBIT

Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

SQUIRREL

Squirrel season runs through Jan. 1 statewide.

CLASSES/CLINICS

FLY TYING

Hook Line & Sinkers bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fly tying classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

ROD BUILDING

Hook Line & Sinkers bait shop in Lake Orion will hold fishing rod building classes every Wednesday and Thursday until the beginning of ice fishing season. Call (248) 814-9216 for more information.

FLY TYING

Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tyers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

MORE FLY TYING

River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tyers. Classes will be held at various times. For more information and to register call (248) 860-8484 or (248) 591-8474.

SHOWS

SILVERDOME BOAT, SPORT AND FISHING

The 17th annual Silverdome Boat, Sport and Fishing Show will be held Feb. 2-6 at the Pontiac Silverdome. The show features over 300 boats from more than 75 manufacturers, fishing tackle, fishing trips, charter captains, virtual fishing, trout ponds, seminars, casting demonstrations and more. Show hours are 3-9:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 2 and 3; 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4; 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5; and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 6. Admission is \$7 adult, \$3 for children ages 6-14 and children under five will be admitted free.

DETROIT BOAT, SPORT AND FISHING SHOW

The 42nd annual Detroit Boat, Sport and Fishing Show will be held Feb. 12-20 at Cobo Center. The show features the 2000 premiere showing of new model boats, motors, trailers, accessories and more. Some 1,000 boats will be available for viewing including fishing boats, ski boats, pontoons, cruisers, inflatables, personal watercrafts, canoes and kayaks.

SPORTFISHING EXPO

The 12th annual Greater Detroit Sportfishing and Travel Expo is set for Thursday through Sunday, March 2-5, at the Palace of Auburn Hills. An all-star lineup of seminar speakers is already scheduled. The show also features exhibitors, merchandise booths, casting and fishing activities and more. Show hours are 4-9:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 2-3; 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 4; and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, March 5. Admission is \$7.75 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages 6-12 and children age 5 and under will be admitted free.

SPRING BOATING EXPO

The 8th Annual Spring Boating Expo is scheduled for March 16-19 at the Novi Expo Center. The show features some 200 exhibitors with new boats and watercrafts, motors, trailers, docks, accessories and more.

ARCHERY

LIVONIA RANGE

The Livonia Archery Range is open to the public. The range features seven field lanes and one broadhead lane and is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The range is also open

Tuesday's and Thursday's by appointment only through the end of November. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Livonia residents shoot free of charge. The range is located on Glendale Ave., east of Farmington Road. Call (734) 466-2410 for more information.

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

JUNIOR ARCHERS

A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. the first Saturday in November at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 885-2110 for more information.

ACTIVITIES

INDIAN SPRINGS HIKE

Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a 4.5-mile hike at Indian Springs Metropark during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 26. Call (248) 280-4975 for directions and additional information.

POTLUCK HIKE

Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club and ring in the new year for a potluck lunch followed by a hike at the Brighton Recreation Area during this program, which begins at noon Saturday, Jan. 1. Call (517) 552-9121 for directions and additional information.

CLUBS

CLINTON VALLEY BASS

Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club

meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Middle School, located on Middlebelt Road between Seven and Eight mile roads. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843 for information.

FISHING BUDDIES

Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. Meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and non-boaters). Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS

The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Rd., Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

PREP SCOREBOARD

1999 OAKLAND COUNTY WRESTLING TOURNAMENT (Dec. 17-18 at Lake Orion)

TEAM SCORES — 1. Novi, 265; 2. Troy, 248; 3. Clarkston, 215; 4. Walled Lake Western, 215; 5. Oxford, 211; 6. Milford, 200; 7. South Lyon, 177.5; 8. Lake Orion, 171.5; 9. Birmingham Seaholm, 158; 10. Rochester Adams, 150.5; 11. Holly, 141; 12. Rochester, 131; 13. Farmington, 123; 14. Hazel Park, 122; 15. West Bloomfield, 120; 16. Birmingham Groves, 109; 17. Auburn Hills Avondale, 103; 18. Royal Oak Kimball, 83.5; 19. Southfield, 83; 20. Walled Lake Central, 78; 21. (tie) Troy Athens, Ortonville-Brandon, 76; 23. Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 75; 24. White Lake Lakeland, 72; 25. Ferndale, 70; 26. (tie) Oak Park, Waterford Kettering, 69; 28. Waterford Mott, 65; 29. Berkley, 49; 30. North Farmington, Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 47.5; 32. Madison Heights Madison, Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 42; 34. Pontiac Northern, 38; 35. Bloomfield Hills Andover, 31; 36. Southfield-Lathrup, 26; 37. (tie) Royal Oak Dondoro, Pontiac Central, 25; 39. Notre Dame Prep, 16; 40. Farmington Harrison, 14; 41. Birmingham-Detroit Country Day, 11.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

275 POUNDS — 1. Jon Robinson (Clarkston) dec. Eric Ghiacuc (Oxford), 5-3; 3. Tony Henry (WL Western) dec. Jack Gitler (Berkley), 2-1 (OT); 5. Jim Lenihan (Seaholm) dec. Jason Moore (Novi), 7-2.

103 POUNDS — 1. J. P. Morgan (Ferndale) dec. Nick Best (Troy), 6-2; 3. Josh Churella (Novi) dec. Harry Liepsitz (North Farmington), 4-1; 5. James Campbell (Rochester) pinned Josh Bullock (Lake Orion), 2:30.

112 POUNDS — 1. Ryan Beech (WL Western) dec. Corey Nobach (Novi), 12-8; 3. Tim Bragg (Lakeland) dec. Kirk Cleland (Foley), 2-1; 5. Matt Zimmer (Seaholm) pinned Eric Stratemier (Athens), 1:31.

119 POUNDS — 1. Dan Jilg (Novi) major dec. Harry Durbin (RO Kimball), 12-0; 3. Mike Quigley (Lake Orion) dec. Andrew Dixon (Troy), 8-5; 5. Brian Van Eman (Rochester) major dec. Jon Simmons (Farmington), 12-4.

125 POUNDS — 1. Jim Gotshall (Seaholm) dec. Jimmy Mason (Troy), 10-7; 3. Adam Shoger (West Bloomfield) pinned Ben Lawrence (Milford), 4:28; 5. Chris Barnes (South Lyon) major dec. Trevor Roelfs (Lakeland), 11-0.

130 POUNDS — 1. Ryan Churella (Novi) major dec. Ricky Kallis (Lake Orion), 18-6; 3. Charlie Myer (Oxford) major dec. Mike Holtz (Adams), 11-1; 5. Sam Wilson (Groves) major dec. Dave Edwards (South Lyon), 8-0.

135 POUNDS — 1. Jacob Pattenau (WL Western) dec. Tom Stanley (Milford), 8-4; 3. Jon Barkham (Adams) dec. Mike Matkovich (Foley), 5-3 (OT); 5. Andy Golden (South Lyon) dec. Pat McCabe (Brandon), 8-3.

140 POUNDS — 1. Angelo Vettese (Avondale) dec. Ruben Baraiac (Troy), 5-3; 3. Dave Welanko (Clarkston) major dec. Joe Petkus (Milford), 8-0; 5. Cameron Stiles (Oxford) major dec. Arash Ansari (W. Bloomfield), 8-0.

145 POUNDS — 1. Ian Brodie (Groves) dec. Jesse Grenillo (Holly), 4-2; 3. Bret Gove (Clarkston) dec. Mike Soave (Hazel Park), 5-4; 5. Patrick Lemay (Troy) technical fall Dave DeSteiger (Adams), 21-4.

152 POUNDS — 1. Mike Chandler (South Lyon) pinned Jeff Brown (Hazel Park), 3:36; 3. Eddie Gonzales (Kimball) dec. Jason Malone (Oak Park), 7-3; 5. Mark Ostach (Farmington) default over Derek Smith (WL Western).

160 POUNDS — 1. Derrick Keesley (Hazel Park) dec. Justin Lambert (Milford), 8-3; 3. Clint DeGain (Clarkston) pinned Andy Emmitt (Holly), 2:03; 5. Josh Bagalay (WL Western) dec. Steve Walter (Lake Orion), 7-1.

171 POUNDS — 1. Robert Aikens (Holly) dec. Chris Avery (Waterford Mott), 9-5; 3. Jake Shagena (Oxford) pinned Scott Kortlandt (Novi), 2:01; 5. John Elliott (Troy) dec. Dave Boyd (Adams), 9-8.

189 POUNDS — 1. Willie Breyer (Oxford) major dec. Jesse Navarre (Rochester), 14-2; 3. Adam Borashko (Novi) dec. Scott Ferstle (Troy), 6-2; 5. Travis Simmons (Lake Orion) dec. Chris Legg (Hazel Park), 3-1.

215 POUNDS — 1. Pat DeGain (Clarkston) pinned Jamie Mitchell (Troy), 4:47; 3. Nick Sloan (Novi) major dec. Vernon Burden (Southfield), 13-2; 5. Tim Zemaitis (South Lyon) pinned Rick Tyzo (West Bloomfield), 2:30.

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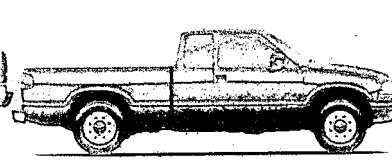
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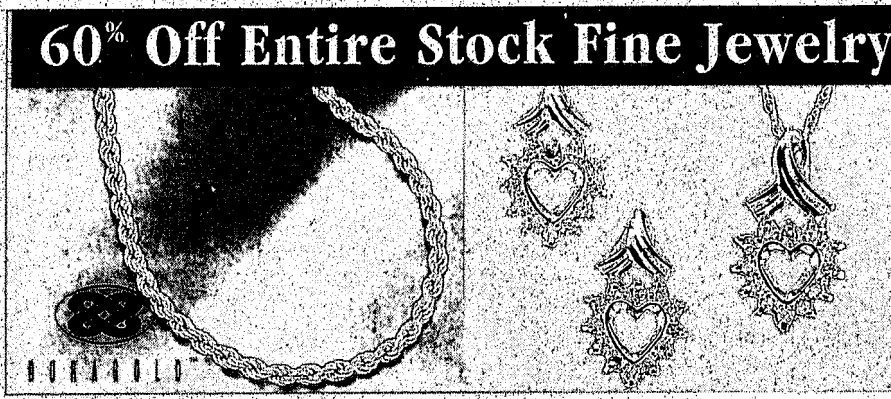
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Last Minute Gifts

Dec. 22 & 23, 7am-Midnight • Christmas Eve, 7am-6pm



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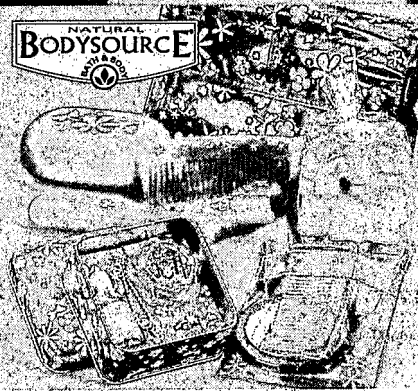
Family Slippers and Tights & Socks for Her Reg. 2.50-36.00, sale 1.62-23.40
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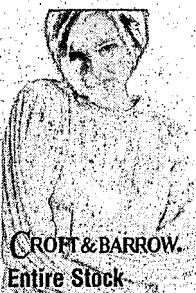
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40% off entire stock framed art, sale 7.79-101.99



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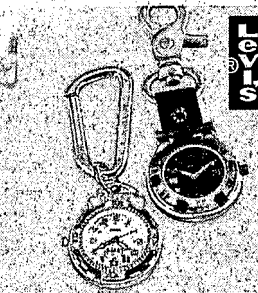
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Croft & Barrow® sweaters and knit tops. For misses, petites and plus size. Reg. \$16-\$78, sale 9.99-49.99



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Juniors' sweaters, knits & woven tops. Reg. \$12-\$40, sale 8.04-26.80



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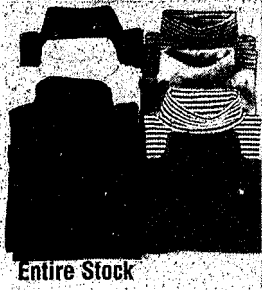
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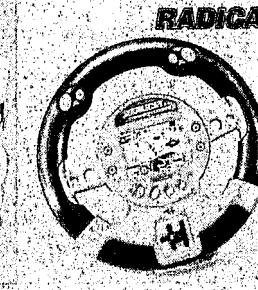
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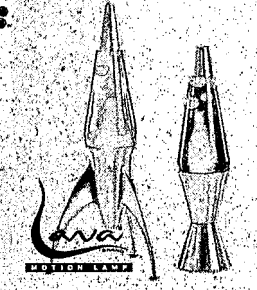
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Grand Home Designs bath gift sets. Reg. 24.99
All other Grand Home Designs bath gift sets, sale 9.99



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Gourmet food gifts. Reg. 3.99-39.99, sale 1.99-23.99
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17.99
NASCAR® Speedzone virtual reality game. Reg. 43.99
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34.99
LAVA® brand motion lamp. Reg. 59.99
40-60% off stationery gifts. 4.99-79.99, sale 2.99-47.99



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The Back Therapist® massager. Reg. 49.99
20-40% off all other massagers. 24.99-129.99, sale 19.99-103.99

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Females Seeking Males**FOR FOREVER**

This shy and reserved SWC mom, 37, 5'5", with brown hair and green eyes, is seeking a SWCM, 35-45, to enjoy quiet times at home, great conversations, long park walks, and more with. Ad# 4455

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

LONG-TERM

Enter a new dimension of life with this educated DWCF, 52, who enjoys the theater, dining out and youthful activities. She hopes to spark the interest of an educated SWCM, 52-60, N/S, with similar values. Ad# 1024

NEW HORIZONS

Employed, family-oriented SBF, 26, 5'7", who likes long walks, outdoor activities, movies and is seeking a SBM, 23-38, for a long-term relationship. Ad# 2218

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

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

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

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 DWCF 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 DWCF 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

REBUILDING HER LIFE

Catholic DWCF, 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

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 DWCF 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

END MY SEARCH

Creative, educated and Jewish, I am a DWCF, 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

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

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

GOOD COMPANY

Here's an active, fun-loving DWCF, 65, 5'4", 135lbs., who wants to share her time, her interests and friendship with a kind, considerate SWM, 60-70. Ad# 9438

HERE SHE IS...

This caring DWCF, 51, 5'1", is a lady who enjoys church activities, her work, and would like to meet a similar SWCM, 49-62. Ad# 1665

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

SHARE MY FAITH

This churchgoing SWCF, 57, 5'7", wants to meet a tall, caring, sincere SWCM, 57-69, who enjoys hiking and the outdoors. Ad# 7575

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

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

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

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

LET'S CUDDLE

Catholic DWCF, 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

A RARE FIND

Sincere, compassionate SWF, 58, 5'4", full-figured, who enjoys music, Bible studies, traveling, movies, long walks, and more, is looking for a caring, compassionate SWM, 54-62. Ad# 7141

A RARE FIND

Compassionate DWPC mom of one, 47, 5'3", with reddish-brown hair and green eyes, who enjoys movies, concerts, walking, biking, travel, dancing and dining out, wants to meet a family-oriented SWCM, 42-52. Ad# 8317

Males Seeking Females**VERY LOVING**

Laid-back WWCB dad of two, 49, 6'4", who enjoys cooking, reading and movies, is interested in meeting a SBF, 35-50, who puts God first in her life. Ad# 7999

DESERVING

This outgoing and friendly SWM, 29, 6', 165lbs., with brown hair/eyes, who enjoys dining out, traveling, shopping and more, is seeking a romantic, slender and attractive SWF, 24-32, for casual dating. Ad# 3639

GIVE DAD A CALL

Good-looking, fit, laid-back SWM, 41, 5'8", who enjoys cooking, sports and music, is hoping to spend time with a SWF, 35-42, with similar interests. Ad# 2222

AGED TO PERFECTION

Always having integrity and style, this handsome DWCM, 49, 5'10", knows how to entertain. He's searching for an attractive, sincere SWCF, 39-53, to share love with. Ad# 5454

Outgoing, friendly, attractive Catholic WWWPM, 31, 6'1", who enjoys sports, ball games and a variety of other activities, is seeking a WWAW/BCF, 18-55, with no children. Ad# 1965

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 DWCF 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

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 her 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

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

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

GOD IS FIRST

Outgoing, honest DWCF dad, 42, 6'1", 165lbs., who enjoys golfing and the outdoors, is hoping to meet a SF, 32-42, for a possible relationship. Ad# 9559

WORTH A TRY

Friendly, spiritual SWM, 43, 5'9", who enjoys nature, flea markets and movies, is looking for a kind-hearted SWF, 29-49, to share interests with. Ad# 4500

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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To listen to messages, call 1-800-739-3639, enter option 2, once a week for FREE, or call 1-900-933-1118, \$1.98 per minute, enter option 3, to listen to responses left for you and find out when your replies were picked up.

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This Classification Continued from Page 8F.

500 Help Wanted General

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Canton Apartment Community is seeking a Maintenance Supervisor, responsible for managing the maintenance department. Candidates must possess a high school diploma (or equivalent), ability to pass a Level I and II Maintenance Exam within six (6) months, previous supervisory experience, excellent communication skills, and the ability to lift a minimum of fifty (50) lbs. Send or fax resume including salary requirements to: P.O. Box 9053, Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9053. Attn: Brian Fox 248-488-5536 Equal Opportunity Employer.

MAINTENANCE

We are seeking a full-time maintenance person for a Westland apartment community. Responsible for the overall upkeep of the community. Works as a team participant along with the maintenance staff to ensure the community meets the quality maintenance standards set by the company. The ability to work independently and pay close attention to detail is required. To become a candidate for this position contact Michele @ 248-569-8880

METER READERS

Immediate openings training available, paid holidays & vacations, health insurance, 401K plan, overtime available. Must have driver's license & reliable transportation. EOE. Call in Howell area 517-545-9868 Western Wayne 734-397-6394

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Looking for several qualified persons to join our growing Team. Positions are full and part-time with top pay & benefits.

PRESS HELPER - 40 Heidelberg Color

ESTIMATOR - Immediate opening for an experienced quality oriented professional. Must have some computer experience. Apply or send resume to: 12085 DIXIE REDFORD MI 48233

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Needed to run 4C process and flat color work. All Heidelberg shop. Full time and benefits. Afternoon shift available. Call now ask for John (248) 356-5005 ext. 23

PROPERTY MANAGER

To supervise expanding apt. & commercial properties. Need experience in multiple site supervision & on-site management. Reply to: Churchill Development Co., 31807 Middlebelt #103, Farmington Hills, MI 48334

500 Help Wanted General

NETWORK SALES COORDINATOR

The Eccentric Newspapers is seeking an energetic, detail-oriented sales coordinator to work part-time in our Birmingham office. Excellent customer service skills required due to daily contact with numerous departments, sales staff & major account customers. Responsibilities include preparing presentations and monthly reports, scheduling ads key-boarding, and answering phones. Two years prior work experience preferred. Excellent benefit package available. Please submit resumes via email: marya@oeonline.com or fax: (734) 953-2057 or mail to: 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Resume must include job code NSC.

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

Growing plastics company in the Ann Arbor area is looking for a Production Supervisor. The company will train a motivated candidate with a track record of achievement in education and work experience. Person must have work experience in manufacturing environment, preferably with a union shop and plastics background. Performance to be measured on safety, productivity, leadership skills, and teamwork in the respective area of responsibility. The position will be on third shift and overtime (paid) is required on a regular basis. Salary and benefits (fully paid by the company) are very competitive. Please send your resume and salary requirements to: John Nykel, Manufacturing Manager, 1500 North Territorial Rd., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189.

REAL ESTATE ASSISTANT

One of Detroit's most reputable home builders seeking a professional individual to assist in sales & administrative responsibilities. Excellent compensation, benefits and advancement opportunities. Weekends a must. Call (248) 349-6960

RESEARCH MARKETING

person needed at award-winning newspaper. Candidate must be able to perform current research methods, analyze & interpret & present data in useful, creative format. Excellent communication & customer relation skills. Bachelor's degree (marketing or business) w/ 1 year experience. Media experience a plus. Resumes to: ignacio@oeonline.com fax: (734) 953-2057 or mail: 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Include job code RMA on resume. EOE/DFW

RESIDENT MANAGER COUPLE

Wanted for Clinton Twp. apartment community. Must have experience in property management. Salary benefits, 401K. Send resume to: Paragon Properties Co., 32400 Telegraph Rd. #202, Bingham Farms, MI 48025

500 Help Wanted General

ROUTE PERSON

Customer oriented, energetic, self-motivated person for Route Sales & Delivery. Excellent expanding co., offers growth opportunity, health & retirement benefits. Kathy. (248) 347-0782

SALES ASSISTANT PART-TIME

The Selective Group, one of Detroit's leading home builders has immediate openings for part-time sales assistants. Farmington Hills, South Lyon, and Howell areas, 12:00pm to 6pm weekdays or weekends, flexible schedule. Send resume to: The Selective Group, 27655 Middlebelt Rd., Suite #130, Farmington Hills, MI 48334 or call Renee at (248) 474-8600, ext. 255 or fax to (248) 474-1650

SENIOR WRITER/REPORTER

We want someone who has curiosity, likes people, and loves to write to join our award-winning Northern Michigan daily newspaper staff. This newly created job is not for the novice, but for someone who can do in-depth writing, projects, features and help with editorials. Send a letter of introduction, writing samples and resume to: Kendall Stanley, Managing Editor, Petoskey News-Review, 319 State St., P.O. Box 528, Petoskey, Michigan 49770-0528.

SERVICE TRAINING COORDINATOR

A pivotal management position with plenty of opportunities for advancement for our rapidly growing national company. A hands-on position requiring excellent communication skills and direct customer contact. College degree preferred & previous management experience. Forward resume or apply in person to: Citrus-HR-Service Training Corp., 2244 W. Warren Detroit, MI 48209 Fax 313-698-9440 We are an EEO employer

SHIPPING/RECEIVING

Northwest suburban distributor seeks a full-time shipping clerk. Hours are 10:00 AM to 6:30 PM Monday - Friday. Accuracy, neatness and dependability must. Good working conditions and benefits. Send resume to Shipping/Receiving P.O. Box 4832 Farmington, MI 48332

WE PROMOTE A DRUG-FREE ENVIRONMENT

We promote a drug-free environment. Substance abuse testing is part of the pre-employment process. EOE

SNOW SIDEWALK CREWS

Immediate positions available TOP PAY & daily guarantee. Fullback Services 313-598-3416

VENDING MECHANIC

Vending Road Mechanic wanted. Good starting wages company truck insurance & uniforms provided. Call (248) 484-7750

VENEER STONE INSTALLERS

Great money. Be your own boss. Year-round work. Man made light weight product. Call Mr. Stanley (248) 446-8334

WAREHOUSE / DOCKHAND

Part-time afternoons Mon-Fri. 3:30-5:30 hrs wk. 1 person at 7010 Middlebelt. Romulus or fax resume to: 734-595-0106

500 Help Wanted General

Start the new Millennium with a great career.

We are a multi-billion dollar company in search of a career minded, goal oriented Maintenance Technician. WE OFFER:
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• Excellent Benefits
• Medical, Dental, Optical
• Stock Purchase Program
• 401K
• Paid Vacation, Sick Days, Personal Days
• Paid Holidays
YOU MUST HAVE:
• 1 Yr. Experience in Maintenance
• Knowledge of HVAC, Carpentry and Electrical
APPLY IN PERSON AT Country Ridge Apartments
Haggerty Road Between 12 Mile & 13 Mile or Fax Resume to: (248) 661-1812 EOE

TECHNICAL WRITER

Delta College Corporate Services has a current position open at a Wixom site for a technical writer with proven writing technology experience. Page-Maker, classroom delivery and robotics experience helpful. Must demonstrate good communication and research skills. Deadline: Open. Competitive fringe benefit package. Submit resume and list of 3 professional references to: Delta College Corporate Services, Human Resources Office, 310 Johnson Street, Suite 245, Saginaw, MI 48607 or fax to: 517-752-8570, EOE/AA/ADA/MFH Employer. Smoke / Drug Free Workplace

\$9.00/HR. **WAREHOUSE POSITIONS

• Regular Full-time, Days, Afternoons & Midnight Shift
• Due to the continued growth and new sales initiatives, The Waterford Distribution Center is seeking a full-time employees to assist with the Company's goals and objectives.
• Requires physical work and the ability to lift up to 50 lbs on a continuous basis. Fork lift experience a plus.
• 10% Pay Increase within the first year of full time regular employment.
• All Overtime (up to sixteen hours per day) is mandatory.
• Rite Aid offers a very competitive benefits package, including medical/dental/life insurance, stock options, 401(k), paid vacations, employee discounts, tuition reimbursement, paid holidays and the opportunity for growth and advancement.
• Please apply in person Tuesday Thursday & Friday from 10am to 5pm at Rite Aid Distribution 5400 Rye Drive, Waterford Center of Williams Lake Road & Dixie Highway. Follow the signs to the employment office.
• Employment drug test is required. EOE

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

For busy airport hotel. Must be able to handle multiple tasks. Aggressive benefits. Fax resume to: 734-729-6326

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

for automotive supplier located in Southfield. Must be team player proficient in Microsoft Word & Excel. Powerpoint and Access a plus. Experience required. Fast paced but fun office. Great people. Fax resume to Jan at (248) 203-0451

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Major company's new headquarters seeks professional with excellent communications and Microsoft skills. This career opportunity is with Corporate's Marketing Manager. This top company offers great benefits, bonus and fitness club membership.

DIVERSIFIED RECRUITERS

www.jobsdrc.com (248)344-6700 Fax(248)344-6704 Call For Other Openings

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

If you're ready for new levels of success, team up with CDI! CDI is seeking a full-time administrative assistant for its office in Troy. We're looking for someone with 2-3 years administrative experience working with Microsoft Office, and excellent typing and communication skills.

When you join CDI, you'll enjoy outstanding benefits including:

total health care, tuition reimbursement, a retirement plan, a team-spirited environment that inspires top achievement. If interested, please send your resume to:
Steve Pope
Fax (248) 397-5200
E-Mail: spope@cdicorp.com
CDI Information Technology Services
466 Stephenson Hwy
Troy, MI 48063
800-555-ACDI
www.cdicorp.com

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Up to \$5K/yr. PC required. No experience needed. Will train. Call toll-free 1-877-424-2800 SCA Network

AUTO BILLER

Full time Experienced Plymouth Canton Benefits \$16.00 per hour Plymouth 334-555-5566

AUTO DEALER BILLER

West side import dealer is accepting applications for new & used car biller. Applicants must be dependable and well organized and be able to handle multiple tasks. Apply in person at Plymouth Mitsubishi, 200 W. Ann Arbor Rd. ask for Linda Yates. Or fax resume 248-643-9261 Attention: Nancy

BOOKKEEPER

Full-time. Experience necessary. KASHAT ACCOUNTING (248) 352-5520

501 Computer/Info. Systems

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN

Leading computer company in Livonia is seeking a strong Computer Technician candidate with a minimum of 3-5 yrs hands on troubleshooting to board level. Knowledge of PC operating systems (DOS, Xenix, Windows) Trade school or college coursework required. Pay is based on experience. Interested candidates should call or submit resume to: McKesson Pharmacy Systems, 30881 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or fax to 734-523-8637. Competitive salary and comprehensive benefit package, including tuition reimbursement. Pre-employment drug testing required.

502 Help Wanted Office Clerical

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounting firm seeks a full-time Accounts Payable Clerk who is dependable and detail-oriented. Must have prior computer experience. Excellent benefit package. Opportunity for salary advancement. 44744 Helm, Plymouth Twp., MI 48170-6023

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Growing wage & liquor distributor seeking a detail oriented, organized and dependable individual to join our accounting team. Ideal candidate will have a minimum of year computerized accounting experience. Opportunity for growth. We offer an excellent benefit package and competitive salary. Please forward resume along with salary history to: Human Resources 373 Victor Ave. Highland Park, MI 48203 Fax 313-852-1339

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

For busy airport hotel. Must be able to handle multiple tasks. Aggressive benefits. Fax resume to: 734-729-6326

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

for automotive supplier located in Southfield. Must be team player proficient in Microsoft Word & Excel. Powerpoint and Access a plus. Experience required. Fast paced but fun office. Great people. Fax resume to Jan at (248) 203-0451

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Major company's new headquarters seeks professional with excellent communications and Microsoft skills. This career opportunity is with Corporate's Marketing Manager. This top company offers great benefits, bonus and fitness club membership.

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www.jobsdrc.com (248)344-6700 Fax(248)344-6704 Call For Other Openings

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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When you join CDI, you'll enjoy outstanding benefits including:

total health care, tuition reimbursement, a retirement plan, a team-spirited environment that inspires top achievement. If interested, please send your resume to:
Steve Pope
Fax (248) 397-5200
E-Mail: spope@cdicorp.com
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America's largest FT/PT medical billers

Up to \$5K/yr. PC required. No experience needed. Will train. Call toll-free 1-877-424-2800 SCA Network

AUTO BILLER

Full time Experienced Plymouth Canton Benefits \$16.00 per hour Plymouth 334-555-5566

AUTO DEALER BILLER

West side import dealer is accepting applications for new & used car biller. Applicants must be dependable and well organized and be able to handle multiple tasks. Apply in person at Plymouth Mitsubishi, 200 W. Ann Arbor Rd. ask for Linda Yates. Or fax resume 248-643-9261 Attention: Nancy

BOOKKEEPER

Full-time. Experience necessary. KASHAT ACCOUNTING (248) 352-5520

502 Help Wanted Office Clerical

BIRMINGHAM REAL ESTATE CO.

Requires typing, computer and phone skills. Paid vacations/No benefits/\$11.00/hr. Fax or Email Dennis J. Wolf Fax: (248) 644-2227 Email: dkn@wolf@aol.com

BOOKKEEPER FULL CHARGE

Tier 2 support seeks person experienced in all areas of accounting, unemployment & workers comp. Computers skills, should include Word & Excel. Smoke free environment. Benefits. Reply Box #2462 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

CLERICAL

Experience a plus for leasing firm in Royal Oak. Send or fax resume: 4031 Crooks Rd., Royal Oak, MI 48073 (248)549-3510

CONSTRUCTION OFFICE COORDINATOR

Fast paced team environment requires computer skills, Windows, MS Word and Excel, customer service, phone skills, ability to juggle multiple projects and people. College degree not required. Salary \$22,000 plus benefits and annual bonus. Fax resume to: 734-495-1658

Credit Support

Local Beverage Company is seeking an individual to join our accounting team. Some responsibilities include verification of all commercial and consumer credit, and submit report of daily credit card charges to the accounting department. Qualified candidates will possess a high school diploma, excellent communication skills, knowledge of Word and Excel, and the ability to handle multiple tasks and meet deadlines. We offer a competitive wage. Medical/Dental/Life Insurance, 401K Profit Sharing and more. Submit resume Credit Support PO Box 700713 Plymouth, MI 48170 Or fax to 734-416-3810 Attn: Credit Support EOE

DATA ENTRY CLERK

With knowledge of Windows. Must type 35-wpm. Flexible hours. For more information call 248-262-6809

EMERGING COMPANY NEEDS

Medical Insurance Billing assistance immediately if you have a PC you can earn \$55 annually call EMB #1881291-4683 Dept #139

EMERGING COMPANY NEEDS

Medical Insurance Billing assistance immediately if you have a PC you can earn \$25,000 to \$50,000 annually call: 800-291-4683 Dept #107 (SCA Network)

Executive or Legal Secretary

Bloomfield Hills Fax resume 248-594-1189

EXPERIENCED PATENT SECRETARY

For Farmington Hills IP law firm. Bonuses quarterly. 401k, health and dental insurance. All inquiries confidential. (248) 539-5050

FULL TIME ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

person needed for busy West Bloomfield Builder. Computer experience helpful but not necessary. Please mail or fax your resumes to: 3322 Village Square Drive, West Bloomfield MI 48322 or Fax 248-768-2710

GENERAL OFFICE

West side import dealer is accepting applications for clerical support. Duties include answering phone, data entry & filing. Accounting experience helpful but not necessary. Ideal candidates must be dependable and well organized. Apply in person at Plymouth Mitsubishi, 200 W. Ann Arbor Rd. ask for Linda Yates. Or fax resume to: 248-643-9261 Attn: Nancy

LEGAL ASSISTANT

Birmingham law firm. Contact Rebecca 248-258-7074 x214

LEGAL SECRETARY

Birmingham PI Law firm. Great working environment, free parking, excellent benefits. WP 511 salary commensurate with experience. Send your resume with confidence to 248-646-4162

502 Help Wanted Office Clerical

MEDICAL BILLING. Earn Excellent \$\$\$ Processing Claims From Home.

Full Training Provided. Computer Required. Call Heidi Pros 101 1-888-313-6049 Ext. 3128 (SCA Network)

OFFICE ASSISTANT/RECEPTIONIST

Opportunity to join growing mid-size company that offers career advancement. Opening is due to a recent promotion and requires excellent communications. Some word processing skills desired.

DIVERSIFIED RECRUITERS

www.jobsdrc.com (248)344-6700 Fax(248)344-6704 Call For Other Openings

OFFICE HELP

needed for Wixom RV dealership-Warranty department. Candidate must be self motivated and detail oriented. Casual atmosphere. Entry level, full time position offers competitive wage & benefits. Call (248)349-0900 ext. 216

OFFICE MANAGER

Electronic manufacturer has an immediate opening for experienced manager. Duties include, HR, sales and accounting administration. BBS or 10 years minimum experience, electronic component & computer knowledge required. Key employee position with excellent benefits. Send resume to: Debron Industrial Electronics 591 Executive Dr. Troy, MI 48063 or fax to: (248) 588-5236

RECEPTIONIST - Administrative Assistant, full time.

Troy based contracting firm. Call Call 248-689-9300

502 Help Wanted Office Clerical

OFFICE MANAGER

For rehabilitation clinic in Madison Heights. Computer literate; insurance billing & accounting experience preferred. Full-time. Benefits. Send resume to: Dr. Thomas Park, 4160 John R. Suite 816, Detroit, MI 48201 or Fax to: 313-832-7609

OFFICE MANAGER

Plymouth Mitsubishi has an immediate opening for an Office Manager. Candidate must have previous dealership experience with knowledge in all areas of the office. Benefits include paid vacation, paid holidays, medical, dental and 401(k) with company match. All applications will be kept in strict confidence. Fax resume to 248-643-9261 Attention: Nancy

OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE!

Personable, part-time receptionist needed for fast-paced real estate office. Evenings and weekends. Responsibilities include answering multi-line phone system, setting appointments, filing, various other office duties. Please call Gary at (734)453-0012

RECEPTIONIST - Immediate opening for entry level receptionist position in fast-paced office.

Candidate must enjoy working with the public, be organized, detail oriented and have general computer skills. Full-time position, Mon thru Fri and every other weekend. Fax to 734-455-1159 or send resume to: Box 2265 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia, MI 48150

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

Phonics, Microsoft Windows helpful. Troy. 248-344-9510

502 Help Wanted Office Clerical

PAYROLL ASSISTANT

Detail oriented individual needed for payroll department in a rapidly growing company. Must be skilled in 10key, MSWord, MEXcel. Minimum one-year payroll experience required. Ideal candidate should be team oriented, with good people skills. Send resume with salary requirements to: Job #3509-PAY, P.O. Box 307, Southfield, MI 48037-0307, fax 248-352-0018 attention #3509-PAY, or e-mail kazkow@skib.com

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RECEPTIONIST

Optical company has a receptionist position available in our Garden City location. We offer a competitive salary & benefit package including medical, prescription, dental & 401k plan. Apply in person at SVS Vision, 5932 Middlebelt, Garden City.

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY

Needed...hardworking, full time receptionist/secretary. Must have

Observer & Eccentric
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502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical

Recruiter/Placement Consultant
ACRO Service Corporation is seeking an energetic, self-starter Human Resource Technical Recruiter/Placement Consultant with 1-2 years of experience. Duties include placing engineering personnel for Fortune 500 companies including the Big Three automotive makers. Excellent compensation/benefits including paid vacation, holidays, tuition reimbursement and 401k. Must have a Bachelor's Degree. Please send resumes to:
Attn: Matthew Krolchik
ACRO Services Corporation
17187 N. Laurel Park Drive
Suite 165
Livonia, MI 48152
Or fax to:
(734) 591-1217

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

Property Management firm has immediate opening for a part time experienced secretary/receptionist. Monday-Friday 12-5pm. Successful applicant must possess excellent phone etiquette, professional appearance, and strong sense of responsibility. For immediate consideration, please call. Certified Realty, Inc. at (248) 471-7100 or mail your resume to: 23900 Orchard Lake Rd. #200 Farmington Hills, MI 48336

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Placing your one classified ad with the Suburban Classified Advertising Network allows you to reach 13 million households and more 31 million readers around the country for only \$895 per week. More than 800 newspapers are in our network. One phone call, one payment, quick results. Call our fax-on-demand service at 800-356-2061 or 312-644-6610 x4731 to speak with a sales coordinator.

504 Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Responsible: Individual with dental experience. Excellent benefits. Mon. thru Fri. Contact Sharon (313) 381-3825

DENTAL HYGIENIST - part time position available. 1 evening & Sat. in a completely renovated Dearborn Hgts office. Excellent pay & working conditions. Call 313-277-0050 ask for Barbara.

RECEPTIONIST - Full time for busy oral surgeons office. Dental medical & computer experience preferred. Rochester Hills area. 810-755-9340 ext. 105

SURGICAL ASSISTANT
With experience for oral surgery office. Full-time with benefits. Call Pat at: (248) 559-6190

506 Help Wanted-Medical

Director of Resident Health Services
Seeking a Registered Nurse to serve as Director of Resident Health Services serving older adults in an assisted living facility in West Bloomfield. Candidate should possess good organizational ability, strong people and leadership skills, takes initiative, ability to handle multiple tasks, and strong management experience. Geriatric related experience preferred. Excellent benefits and salary. Fax resume to (248) 661-1628. Attn: Beth.

DIRECTOR PM&R
TheraMatrix is seeking a Physical Therapy Director for COAHO and CARF accredited PM&R department in a Northern Oakland hospital. Please fax resume to: 248-333-0276. An Equal Opportunity Employer

GROUP HEALTH - insurance department in search of group administrator. We also market group life, long term and short term disability. For further details call Loretta at 248-357-9513 or fax resume to 248-357-9513

HOME CARE STAFF
Needed for Pontiac area. Currently seeking experienced RN, LPN's and certified Home Health Aides for visits in Pontiac/Oakland County area. Please call 248-333-2229

HOME HEALTH AIDES
\$1000 Sign On Bonus
Michigan Visiting nurses is now hiring full time and contingent home health aides for hourly shifts and visits. Days, evenings and midnights available. Certified Nurse Aides and Nursing Students welcome. Flexible scheduling and benefits with full time positions. If interested please call Maureen at EOE (734) 477-7201

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Experienced, for busy on-call office in W. Bloomfield. Pleasant surroundings. Full time. Excellent wages & benefits. Please fax resume to: 248-626-6481

506 Help Wanted-Medical

LPN or RN
Needed every weekend (Friday-Sunday), to care for elderly adults at W. Bloomfield Assisted Living facility. Some geriatric experience preferred but not necessary. Contact Tonya Herschfus at (248) 661-2999 or Fax: (248) 661-6361

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Need strong communication and professionalism, to care for elderly adults in a W. Bloomfield Assisted Living facility. Some geriatric experience preferred but not necessary. Monday-Thursday 8:30a.m.-5:00p.m. 32 hours-plus benefits. Contact Tonya Herschfus, RN, BSN. Phone: (248) 661-2999. Fax: (248) 661-6361

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Southfield/Troy. Venipuncture. X-ray experience preferred. Full time. Health insurance. Fax resume to: 248-356-0138

MED TECH
MT/MLT (ASCP certified). Full-time, afternoon shift, previous microbiology experience preferred. Rotate weekends & Holidays. Apply in person, mail or fax resume to:
Hospital Consolidated Lab
23775 Northwestern Hwy.
Southfield, MI 48075
Fax 248-358-1311

OPERATING ROOM NURSE
For plastic surgery clinic in Bingham Farms. 20-30 hrs. per week. Ongoing experience needed, supervisory experience helpful. Excellent working conditions. 248-647-5800

PEDIATRIC NURSE NEEDED
Michigan Visiting Nurses, a rapidly growing home health care agency is seeking a caring RN with very experience for day and mid night shifts for a case in Fowlerville. Excellent wages with vent premium paid. Please submit resume to: MVN, 2850 S. Industrial, Suite 75, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Personal Care Attendant
Part-time day shift 6-10 am for Licensed Home for Aged in West Bloomfield. Contact Tonya Herschfus. (248) 661-2999 ext. 302 Fax: (248) 661-6361

PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT
Needed full time, afternoons, 32 hours plus benefits, to care for elderly adults in a W. Bloomfield Assisted Living facility. Some experience preferred but not necessary. Good benefits. Contact Tonya Herschfus, RN, BSN. Phone: (248) 661-2999. Fax: (248) 661-6361

FRONT DESK/RECEPTIONIST
Full time, busy internal medicine office in Troy. Excellent benefits. Fax resume: 248-362-2216. Attn: Tracy or call 248-362-2770

506 Help Wanted-Medical

PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT
Needed full time, midnights, 32 hours plus benefits, to care for elderly adults in a W. Bloomfield Assisted Living facility. Some experience preferred but not necessary. Good benefits. Contact Tonya Herschfus, RN, BSN. Phone: (248) 661-2999. Fax: (248) 661-6361

PT/PTA/ATC/MARKETER
TheraMatrix a physical rehabilitation company with headquarters in Pontiac has a marketing position available. Position is responsible for expanding business with physicians, industries and health care institutions. Dynamic inter-personal skills and an entrepreneurial flair. Competitive salary and full benefit package available. Send resume to: HR 900 Auburn Ave. Pontiac, 48342 or fax resume to: 248-333-0276 EOE

PT TECH
Physical therapy company has part-time position available at their outpatient center in Waterford. Duties include performing ultrasounds, applying hot/cold packs, range of motion exercises, etc. Fax resume to: 248-333-0276
An Equal Opportunity Employer

RECEPTIONIST/CLERICAL
For busy Novi medical office. Mon-Thurs. 10:30am-7pm. Sal. 9:30am-3pm. Competitive wage. benefits. This is NOT a temporary position. Call Janet at: (248) 426-9900 Ext. 227

DIRECTOR OF NURSING
We are looking for a Registered Nurse with Long Term Care experience to lead us to our goal of facility of the year in 2002! Please apply:
Bloomfield Hills Nursing Center
50 W. Square Lake Rd.
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

RN/PLNS
\$2,000 Sign on Bonus
Michigan Visiting Nurses, has immediate positions available for pediatric and adult hourly cases. Will train per specific cases. \$3.00 per hour premium for vent patients as well as midnight differential. Join the employer of choice. Mail/fax resume in confidence to: MVN, Maureen, 2850 S. Industrial, Suite 75, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Fax: (734) 677-0834 Call: (734) 477-7201

ROCHESTER HILLS Veterinary
hospital seeks reliable person that loves animals and their people. We will train the right person - that is looking for a change in their career. This rewarding job can be obtained by forwarding a resume or letter to: Auburn Animal Hospital, 1619 E. Auburn Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

506 Help Wanted-Medical

SURGICAL ASSISTANT
Needed for busy office in Bloomfield Hills. Full or part-time hours available. Excellent benefits. No weekends. (248) 593-8000

VISIT RN'S
\$2000 Sign on Bonus
Michigan Visiting Nurses has Full Time and Contingent Visit positions available for days and evenings. Benefits available with full time positions. Join the employer of choice. Mail/fax resume in confidence for MVN. Attention: Maureen, 2850 S. Industrial Hwy. Suite 75, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. EOE Fax: (734) 677-0834 Call: (734) 477-7201

508 Food/Beverage-Restaurant

ASSISTANT MANAGER
Edy's Ice Cream
Great Lakes Mall
\$400/week, + bonus & insurance. Must have experience. 248-334-6651

COOKS

The Original Pancake House in Birmingham wants good cooks who wish to receive top pay with benefits (Blue Cross, Blue Shield, vacation pay, etc.) to apply Mon-Fri. 2-4pm for an immediate interview. O.P.H. 33703 Woodward Ave., Birmingham.

MACKINNON'S ACCEPTING
applications for all positions, days/nights. Top pay. Apply at: 126 E. Main, Northville or call (248) 348-1991

PREP COOK
needed at The Lark, 6430 Farmington Road, West Bloomfield. (248) 661-4466

WAITSTAFF
Days/Nights Part/Full time. Apply, Mon-Fri, at Fat Willy's, 19170 Farmington Road, Livonia. 248-615-1330

WAIT STAFF
The Original Pancake House in Birmingham wants experienced Wait Staff who wish to receive good earnings with benefits (Blue Cross, Blue Shield, vacation pay, etc.) to apply Mon-Fri. 2pm-4pm, for an immediate interview at O.P.H. 33703 Woodward Ave., Birmingham.

512 Help Wanted-Sales

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Ann Arbor Logistics Company. Excellent Organizational and Communication Skills. Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint a Plus! Call (734) 477-0460 or Fax (734) 477-0465.

512 Help Wanted-Sales

Account Executive
Outside Sales Representative needed in SE Michigan for high-tech voice data/cellular & video conferencing equipment manufactured by Toshiba. AT&T, Northern Telecom, etc. Call Dave Fisher at 248-489-0000 x202

A NEW CAREER!
Join Michigan's #1 Century 21 Firm 10 offices serving Macomb, Oakland, and Western Wayne counties. Control your financial destiny! Excellent full-time trailer to insure a fast start to your new career classes starting soon.
Call CENTURY 21 Town & Country 810-276-3434

ADVERTISING SALES
Consultant, Insider Business Journal is looking for a highly motivated outside salesperson to join our local business journal sales team. Successful applicants must possess the following:
• Past sales experience preferred
• Advertising, marketing sales skills
• Strong communication, presentation skills
• Professionalism
• Enthusiasm, motivation, self-starter
• Able to work alone and as part of a team
This position offers a competitive compensation package including base salary, commission, incentives and benefits. Please fax resume to (810) 220-1800 or send to: Attention: Sales, Insider Business Journal, P.O. Box 260, Brighton, MI 48116

KOEPLINGER'S BAKERY
an area institution for nearly 70 years, is seeking route sales people. This position requires representation by Teamsters Union. Sales position provides excellent compensation coinciding with medical, dental & optical benefits. Please submit resume either by mail or fax: (248) 967-0722, 15200 W 8 Mile, Oak Park, MI 48237

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Take control of your career and join our successful team at Weir, Manuel, Snyder & Ranke.

Our free, on-going training program will have you assisting sellers and buyers in the Rochester, Birmingham, West Bloomfield and Plymouth areas.

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Call for your private interview today.
For an appointment, call (888) 495-7400.

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512 Help Wanted-Sales

ADVERTISING SALES
Consultant, Insider Business Journal is looking for a highly motivated outside salesperson to join our local business journal sales team. Successful applicants must possess the following:
• Past sales experience preferred
• Advertising, marketing sales skills
• Strong communication, presentation skills
• Professionalism
• Enthusiasm, motivation, self-starter
• Able to work alone and as part of a team
This position offers a competitive compensation package including base salary, commission, incentives and benefits. Please fax resume to (810) 220-1800 or send to: Attention: Sales, Insider Business Journal, P.O. Box 260, Brighton, MI 48116

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(248) 347-3050

COLDWELL BANKER SCHWEITZER REAL ESTATE

GORMAN'S FURNITURE DESIGNER / SALES
Gorman's, one of America's premiere home furnishings companies, has something we almost never have - an opening for an experienced salesperson/designer. Join a company that takes great care of both its associates and its customers. If you are an experienced, career furniture person, we'd like to tell you about our fantastic company. Full benefits. For interview call Tom Lias at 248-344-0880

INTERNET SALES REP
must be creative, able to develop & maintain sales to area businesses. Service existing customers, generate new sales with unique ideas for banner ads & internet promotional programs. Associates degree or equivalent w/ 1 year sales experience. Media background a plus. Please fax resume to: i.d. mayab@oe.com or call (734) 953-2057 or mail 36251 Schoolcraft Livonia MI 48150 Resume to include job code ISR EOE/DFW

RETAIL HELP NEEDED
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872 Toyota

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AT HOME

COVER STORY

Planners
make page
of the
century,
Page 6

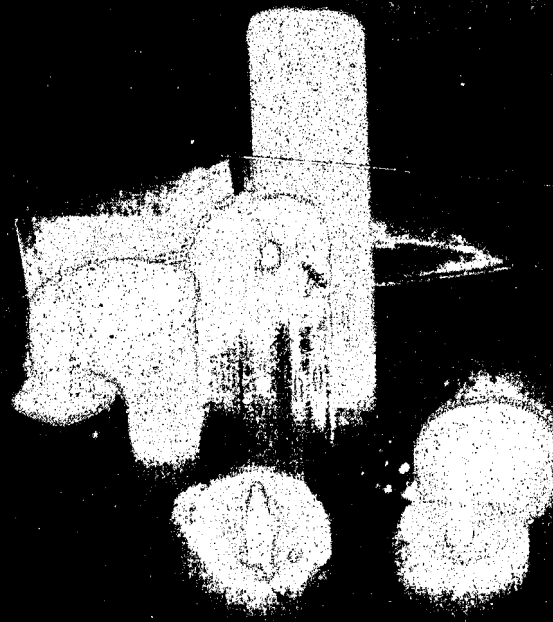
Also Inside

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Page 2

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Photography,
Page 5

• Celebrate
Family,
Page 11

Bear-y Spe
Decor, Page





Shred fresh bay leaves before use so they release more flavor. It's important

The extracted oil flavors baked goods, meats, sausages and canned soups. On the medicinal front, bay oil is renowned as a healing agent for rheumatism when rubbed on aching joints and muscles. Caution: When used in this manner it may cause dermatitis in some people.

Now here's a trick. Because it likes an acidic soil, one way to help it stay that way is to mulch the plants with wet Canadian sphagnum moss. Just put it on the top of the soil, not too close to the stem. Use a balanced houseplant fertilizer that may be designed for acid-loving plants in the summer; don't fertilize in the winter.

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.

Flavorful: The leaves of a Bay plant will flavor many culinary dishes.



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Special spheres: Four Seasons Garden Center, 14471 W. 11. Mile in Oak Park, can help you select unusual gifts for your loved ones. Recreate the beauty and magic of blowing soap bubbles on a summer day with a handblown iridescent sphere for your garden. These captivating spheres seem bound to Earth only by the graceful swirl of copper that holds them to their sturdy stake or hanging chain. Viewed from indoors during the winter, the spheres reflect holiday lights from nearby shrubs or the serene beauty of a snow-covered landscape. In summer, they add depth and color to your garden. Smaller spheres have been incorporated into copper wire sculptures of such graceful creatures as the angelfish, hummingbird and butterfly. Reflective, iridescent spheres are thick, colored glass, with a mirroring on the inside that is preserved by a sealed cap over the opening. The traditional Victorian gazing globe is modernized by solid glass accents and copper securement handcrafted from recycled copper. Wire sculptures are priced \$40 to \$50, spheres at \$100 and \$120. Call (248) 543-4400.



Relaxing reindeer

Animal attraction: Take a break and put your feet up on this adorable reindeer footstool. Festive and practical, this is one reindeer who will be welcome in any home.

(Not to worry - he doesn't eat carrots or sugar cubes.) The reindeer footstool retails for \$129.98 at English Gardens. English Gardens has five locations, including a store on Orchard Lake Road north of Maple in West Bloomfield (call (248) 851-7506). Call (800) 335-GROW for the nearest English Gardens.

Greens 'sleeves'

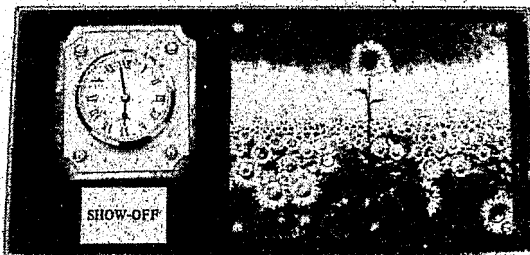
In keeping: Want to make sure your artificial wreaths don't get damaged after the yearlong storage? Santa's Best Storage Bag for Artificial Wreaths keeps wreaths clean during the months they aren't used. Made of heavy gauge, puncture-proof plastic, the bag has shoulder-length carry handles and a secure zipper closure, and can hold wreaths up to 27 inches in diameter. Save time this year - and next - by storing your artificial tree with the lights still on it in the Artificial Christmas Tree Storage Unit. Water



resistant and flame retardant, the storage unit holds up to a 9-foot tree, including wreaths, garland and stand. The storage bag and tree storage unit retail for \$6.99 and \$19.98 respectively at English Gardens' five locations, including the West Bloomfield store at 6370 Orchard Lake Road (call (248) 851-7506). Call (800) 335-GROW for the nearest English Gardens.

Telling time

Winning plaques: Half Hulls Ltd. offers a new series of 28 motivational and humorous wood plaques, great for home, office or gifts. Two sizes are available: 28 by 9 inches and 19 by 9 inches. Each mahogany plaque comes with a 4-inch diameter, battery-operated clock; a wall hanger on the back; gold trim; and a print protected by clear Plexiglas. Larger plaques also feature a thermometer. Twelve of the 28 prints are related to golf. Styles include Aspire, Courage, Discover, Success, Vision, The New Rules of Golf, and The Golfer's Dictionary. Prices range from \$24.95 to \$34.95. For a catalog, write to Half Hulls Ltd., 24568 Lincoln Court, Suite 141, Farmington Hills 48335, or call (248) 477-4628.



AT HOME • Mary Klemic, editor (248) 901-2569

We are looking for your ideas for At Home and for the Marketplace roundup of new ideas. Send your comments to:

Mary Klemic, At Home
805 E. Maple
Birmingham, MI 48009

Or e-mail at mklemic@oe.homecomm.net

Simple steps can solve problems



JOE GAGNON

On my ABC Television shopping trip in Toledo I stopped by the dishwasher department of a major appliance retailer.

There were about 8 different models, all

underneath a counter. I grabbed one and pulled it out to show the top, sides and back. Each had a small blanket of yellow cotton type insulation over the top and down the sides with a piece of tinfoil type paper on it.

I point out here, folks, the most common complaint about dishwashers is that they are too noisy. Do you stick around the kitchen on the telephone once the dishwasher has been turned on? Let me tell you, you will stick around if you follow these simple steps.

Go to the office supply store and buy yourself some cork pads and a little glue. Take these cork pads and glue them underneath the counter top, the

back wall and any side cupboards. The next stop is the home building supply store. Buy some insulation like you use in the attic and add a blanket of it around the dishwasher. With this simple job done, the difference in sound level from a dishwasher is like night and day.

Another tip is very important to proper operation of the machine. Make sure the dishwasher is level after you have it installed and make sure the brackets are secured under the counter with the screws provided.

Now, over to the side-by-side refrigerators that are so beautiful, and almost all of them have a water dispenser and ice maker through the door. It might not be too long before you have a telephone and computer screen in the door and a frost-free television on the inside.

The part that is still the same today as when they first made them is the rubber door seal. They cost a lot more today and replacing them is a real time consumer.

The hinge side of the door seal will buckle over after years of usage. This can be prevented by applying a slight coating of Vaseline petroleum jelly

down the whole surface of the door seal on the hinge side only.

Open either door on your refrigerator and take a look at what happens on the hinge side. The seal rubs across the surface of the frame and that friction causes the buckle effect that I mention.

Look at the beautiful shelves inside a refrigerator, some glass and others metal. Look for scratches that look terrible after years of wear and tear. The next few times at the kitchen table, observe your better half to see if he or she is using the salt shaker correctly. Scratches are caused by milk cartons, jars and whatever comes in contact with spilled salt.

Garbage disposers are another subject that fits into a class of their own. You'll see them in price from \$39 to more than \$200 and they basically all look alike.

The disposer in a kitchen sink can sometimes cause a lot of frustration between partners in a house. You have to be careful what you put in there and what the disposer is capable of doing. Potato peelings and the like fibrous materials will many times plug up the

■ Make shopping for major appliances interesting. Read and ask questions.

disposer and also the drain lines of your house plumbing.

The dollars that you spend on a disposer will usually dictate what kind of a job it can do, but don't make the mistake of expecting too much. Fill it with ice cubes once a week, let them sit for an hour and then turn it on. This helps clean the inside and get rid of bacteria that accumulates around the kitchen sink.

Shopping for major appliances isn't a fun time but a necessary part of our lives. Make it interesting and educational by reading and asking questions. 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.

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Ornament sales to benefit FAR

Collecting beautiful holiday ornaments by Christopher Radko just became more special, as La Belle Provence, 185 W. Maple in Birmingham, will donate partial proceeds from a select group of Radko ornaments to the FAR Conservatory of Therapeutic and Performing Arts in Birmingham.

Many Radko ornaments already benefit charities, some of which are included in the group at La Belle Provence that will benefit FAR. They are:

- The Twelve Days of Christmas - Seven Swans a Swimming
- Peace on Earth
- Dear to My Heart (Pediatric Cancer - through Radko)
- United We Stand (International Children's Charities - through Radko)
- Bonnie Maureen (Breast Cancer Charity - through Radko)
- Cubby's Rainbow (Cubby's Rainbow - through Radko)
- Little Chipper and Squeakles (Foundation for Children - through Radko)
- Matthew's Game (Matthew Berry Memorial Soccer Fund - through Radko)

"Rachel Fallert, the daughter of one of our employees, benefits from the wonderful classes offered at FAR Conservatory," said Leslie Beniser Luciani, owner of La Belle Provence. "Rachel has been taking classes at FAR for six years."

■ The FAR Conservatory of Therapeutic and Performing Arts provides creative arts instruction, arts therapy, leisure services and athletic training for children and adults with mental and physical challenges.

"When we were deciding which charity to donate to over the holidays, FAR seemed like the logical choice. I'm impressed with all they do and their work with children with special needs."

The FAR Conservatory of Therapeutic and Performing Arts is a United Way agency that provides creative arts instruction, arts therapy, leisure services and athletic training for children and adults with mental, physical and/or emotional challenges.

Degreed art therapists and trained staff offer sessions in art, music, dance/movement, drama, figure skating, ice hockey and softball. All programs have a therapeutic basis and address developmental, social-emotional and/or cultural goals.

For more information about FAR, call (248) 646-3347.

focus on photography

'Frame' photo before shooting



MONTE NAGLER

We'll all agree that a properly selected and assembled frame will add greatly to the presentation of art work, including photographs.

But did you know there's another kind of frame that can apply to your photographs, one that will make your pictures much stronger with a greater impact?

I'm referring to "framing" through the viewfinder as you compose your shot. As a compositional tool, framing can turn an otherwise plain shot into one with strength and vitality.

How do you begin to use framing techniques? Start by looking through, around, over and under a foreground object that totally or partially frames a more important subject behind.

For example, hanging branches will add interest to the sky and will give extra emphasis to the landscape or escape in the background.

An overhanging roof adds accent to a street scene. An archway will direct attention to the subject inside, and a foreground rock formation will give substance and foundation to an overall scene.

Even portraits can be made more dramatic when a window is used as an impromptu frame.

Often, framing effects are so natural that a viewer may not be aware of them in a photograph. Yet if the framing were absent, it would be missed and the picture's impact diminished.

Look for unusual frames such as a car door, an outstretched arm or a twisting river or fence. Frames that contrast with the area they surround, either in color or tonal values, will be exciting, too.

Because many of the "frames" you'll be using will be close to the camera, you will have to pay careful attention to depth-of-field. Oftentimes, a small aperture such as f-11 to f-22 will be needed to maximize depth-of-field so that foreground objects and background subjects will both appear in focus in the final print.

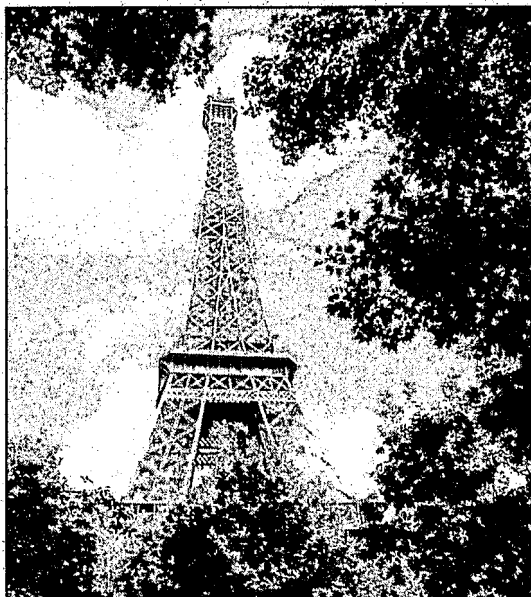
By using your camera's depth-of-field scale and depth preview button, you'll be able to attain the zone of sharpness your shot requires.

Using a wide-angle lens will increase depth-of-field even further and will help you to easily get foreground objects in the scene.

So get yourself caught in a photographic frame-up. You'll be glad you did!

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 number, 1873. His fax number is (248) 644-1314.

C'est magnifique: Talented photographer Mark Hoyer effectively used the trees as the perfect "frame" for his unusual picture of the Eiffel Tower.



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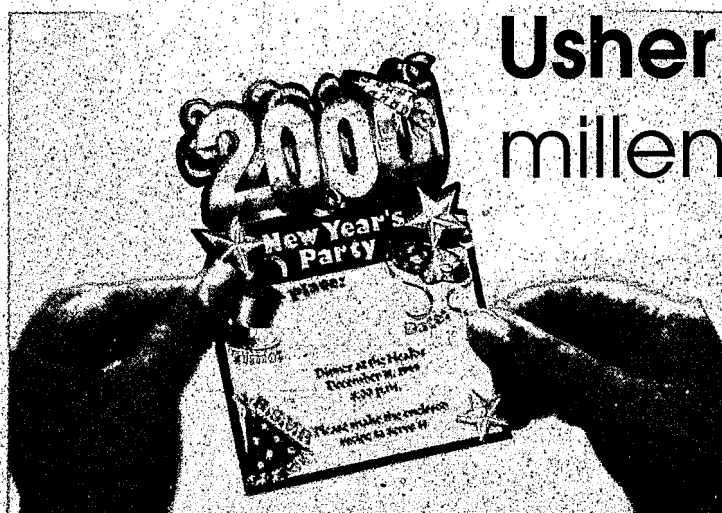
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Usher in the new millennium with ease

BY ELEANOR HEALD
Special Writer

Is a line from an old song, "What are you doing New Year's Eve?" haunting you? A survey taken by the research firm EPIC/MRA in Lansing indicates that 89 percent of Michiganders are staying in the state and 61 percent will stay at home. Of those staying put, 24 percent are going to a private party with friends.

From a survey AAA made of its agency locations statewide, it seems that fewer Michiganders than ever plan to travel over the New Year's holiday period. For those with travel plans, it's off to Florida, Las Vegas and the Caribbean, in that order.

Months ago, the latter sounded nice. A cottage in Strawberry Hill, Jamaica, tucked away in the Blue Mountains. Nightly rates \$280 for one bedroom. For three bedrooms and invited friends, \$595 per night. But we still had to put some life into greeting the new millennium.

Some thought was needed.

Hey, my husband Ray and I live in Troy's Strawberry Hill subdivision.

Why not stay home with the seeming majority? Let's have a private dinner party with friends.

Some people groan at the thought of giving a dinner party. But it's actually easiest at New Year's. Your home is already decorated for the holidays. Consider New Year's as the end of the holiday season and don't worry about New Year's decorations.

We like New Year's civilized. No silly hats. A few noisemakers are handed out in the family room for revelry as we watch the ball drop in New York's Times Square on TV. How else will America know the exact arrival of the new millennium in the eastern time zone?

Preceding "the ball drop," we serve champagne and hors d'oeuvres starting at 8 p.m., then sit down about 9:30 p.m. for a grand dinner.

But we make it easy on ourselves. We don't spend all evening in the kitchen. Why invite friends and not spend time with them?

Planning

- Create a menu (ours is for 14).
- Include three appetizers.
- Soup or salad course.
- Principal plate includes meat, potato and vegetable.
- Dessert.
- Recipes should be simple, easy to prepare, yet festive. We ask each invited couple to make one and we include the recipe in their formal invitation.
- This pattern is our belief that if you can read, you can follow a good recipe and cook well if you want to.
- Appetizers need no last-minute assembly in our home, but may need time in the oven or microwave.
- Dessert, also minimum assembly.
- We make the main course. This year, because we consider the arrival of the new millennium special, it's filet mignon, one of the easiest meats to prepare at the last minute. Roquefort sauce can be prepared ahead and warmed before serving. Potato gratin takes 20 minutes to prep and two hours to bake, and is ready-to-serve. Asparagus can be cooked ahead, served room temperature or buzzed in the microwave to warm. It's accompanied by herb drizzle, which can be made ahead and put in a squeeze bottle for use when plating.

Making it happen

■ Guests, delighted to be invited, are happy to help. Ours do. If they bring an hors d'oeuvre, it's theirs to pass. It promotes mingling.

■ For those asked to bring soup, salad or dessert, you need a place for them to store their course until time to serve. Think ahead to the laundry room or elsewhere to keep the kitchen from getting cluttered. Counters need to be clear to place dishes for each course.

■ Couples who bring courses get to serve them, clear them and add the dishes to the dishwasher.

Beverage selection

- Champagne, of course.
- Sparkling water for anyone who doesn't wish champagne.
- Red wines. For filet mignon, it's Bordeaux and great California cabernets. We're using wines from our cellar. If you don't have one, choose from the fol-

Grand plans: Guests invited to the Healds on New Year's Eve received a recipe for a dish to prepare and pass (above). Ray Heald (right) picks one of the wines from his wine cellar.



that he and Eleanor will be serving guests on New Year's Eve. Ray and Eleanor Heald (on the cover) look at a cookbook, and discuss their New Year's Eve dinner party menu. They're preparing the main course, filet mignon with Roquefort sauce.

New Year's Eve Dinner Menu Dec. 31, 1999 At the Healds

- * Passed hors d'oeuvres - Chevre, Champlignons, Trout Tassels and Sinful Spuds
- * Champagne Veuve Clicquot
- * 1988 Champagne Dom Perignon

Dinner seating 9:30 p.m.

First Course

- * Spinach, Walnut and Mandarin Orange Salad

Principal Plate

- * Filet Mignon with Roquefort Sauce
- * Potato Gratin
- * Asparagus with Lemon-Herb Drizzle

- * Bordeaux and California Cabernet Sauvignon

Dessert

- * Oranges with Sabayon
- * Nutty Napoleons
- * 1977 Vintage Porto

Welcome millennium at midnight

2000 Toast

- * Champagne Veuve Clicquot

encore

- * Gevalia Coffee

Cellar advantages

The Healds will serve these wines from their cellar with dinner New Year's Eve:

- * Champagne Veuve Clicquot
- * 1988 Champagne Dom Perignon
- * 1985 Joseph Phelps Insignia
- * 1982 Chateau Mouton Rothschild, Pauillac
- * 1977 Fonseca's Vintage Porto

Cheers:
new year

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Food, "Baba
Books 1999).



Ray and Eleanor Heald are ready to toast the new year. Staff photos by John Stormzand.

Wine bottlings: 1996 Clos du Bois Briarcrest or Marlstone, both \$30; Coastal Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, \$22; or 1996 Villa Mt. Eden, \$20.

at the table. Extra water in pitchers or carafes placed around the living room. Guests drink lots of water, they won't have the morning-after headache and their blood alcohol will be legal. A very important point.

easy, hors d'oeuvre that's great for the party. Sent by the Healds to an editor.

SINFUL SPUDS

Small potatoes, uniform in size and shape.

- 1/2 cup kosher salt
- 1/2 cup cheese
- 1/2 cup pine nuts
- 1/2 cup finely chopped green olives
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 cup dried currants
- 1/2 cup minced lemon zest
- 1/2 cup oregano
- 1/2 cup freshly cracked black pepper
- 1/2 cup olives for garnishing

1. Slice off top and bottom of each potato in half crosswise. Place in a pot of boiling water. Cover with water. Add 1/2 cup salt. Boil for 10-15 minutes until fork tender (about 10-15 minutes). Drain and pat dry.

2. Place potatoes in a small bowl. Add 1/2 cup olives, olive oil, currants, lemon zest and pepper. Mix well. Scoop out center of each potato with a melon baller, leaving a hollow in the center.

3. Fill hollows with a heaping teaspoon of feta cheese. Garnish with parsley leaf. Yields 24 servings.

Tip: Potatoes can be assembled in advance.

by Eleanor Heald from "Cocktail Recipes" by Whiteford, Narlock, (Chronicle Books)

This party counts down with disco beat

BY SANDRA DALKA-PRYSBY
Special Writer

Anne and Rick Howe wanted to do something different, something special.

After all, it is the new millennium. This, they believe, calls for something big — really big!

So the Beverly Hills couple decided a disco party would be a fun way to celebrate New Year's Eve. Invitations went out to 120 "disco ladies" and "macho macho men" calling them to "party like it's 1979" (a takeoff on the popular Prince song).

According to Anne, an advertising executive and mother of three, they chose a disco theme because it provides guests with the opportunity to have fun not only at the party, but beforehand when they are choosing their "appropriate attire" for the event.

"I've acquired a bunch of '70s scarves and classic ties that I'm offering to share with guests for the evening to help them look the part," she said.

Looking the part requires an equally appropriate party setting. To accomplish this, the Howes are turning their basement into a black and silver disco club.

"We are covering the walls with wrapping paper and we'll have a disco ball, black lights and a large curtain covered with glitter for a backdrop."

With booming music — she has bought the "hottest" disco CDs — the Howes plan to have a swinging "Disco

Inferno" for their adults-only party.

Anne is somewhat knowledgeable on disco clubs. She worked in one as a hostess when she first graduated from college.

"The most fun at the club were the disco dance contests. We, too, are going to have dance contests for our guests. We want to make the evening as authentic as possible."

According to Anne, their guests say they are excited about having a different and special way to celebrate this special new year.

"Also, many have said they're glad we are giving them the opportunity to wear the bell-bottom pants they've been saving all these years!"

Anne's tips for a successful bash

■ Pick a theme and follow it when planning activities, decorations and the menu. A theme will give you a starting place and transform your celebration from the ordinary into "something special."

■ Plan a theme that is compatible with your budget and your guests', especially if special party outfits are encouraged.

■ Accept guests' offers of help. This will make your life easier and your guests will feel good about their participation.

■ Pace yourself. Don't leave everything to the last minute. Otherwise, you'll be too exhausted to enjoy your own party.

Parties to greet millennium show creative themes

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
Special Writer

Theme parties are popular when it comes to saying good-bye to the past and looking forward to the 12 months ahead.

If you're still looking for ideas on how to greet the new millennium, here are a few:

■ This year, the owner of a Westland computer consulting company said, "The joke is that it's mandatory for my employees to be here and I'm not so sure it's a joke."

Although he asked to remain anonymous, the owner said he was giving each guest a hard hat with the company's logo emblazoned on the front. The sides of the hats show computer technicians chasing away Y2K bugs.

■ Advance Novelty Company in Livonia does a brisk business in renting Las Vegas type equipment and selling Hawaiian gear, complete with leis, grass skirts and Hawaiian shirts, according to Cheryl O'Donnell, a salesperson.

■ Others are hosting parties followed by sleepovers. This is especially convenient for hosts who don't want to worry about their guests driving home after drinking too much. Everyone is invited to bring a sleeping bag and spend the night. Breakfast is optional.

■ Connie Bias, owner of Olson Rentals, servicing Farmington and Livonia, said her business is extremely slow at this time of year, because a lot of people host quiet get-togethers in their homes.

But her own plans have been a lot more creative. Last year, for instance, she planned a New Year's Eve party with a Motown theme. The party-goers, without

prior warning, were called up on-stage to do impersonations.

■ Some people plan to visit Detroit and Windsor casinos in hopes of ringing in the new year to the sounds of coins pouring out of their machines.

■ Others are getting married Dec. 31 and letting their receptions dub for New Year's Eve parties. Fox Hills Country Club in Plymouth is hosting two wedding parties — one will be a traditional reception and the other will feature a pool table and cards, according to Kathleen Keeler, Fox Hills catering sales manager.

While plans hadn't been finalized by the time this article was written, a chaperoned party was being considered for a group of 17-year-olds.

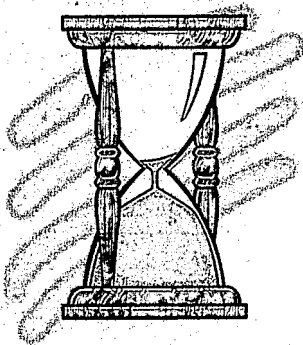
■ Singles from all over metropolitan Detroit will greet the new millennium with Single Point Ministries from Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville.

The group is planning a New Year's Eve celebration in the building it recently moved from on Six Mile and Farmington roads in Livonia. A slide show of this year's activities will be shown. The event is alcohol-free and includes dinner and live entertainment.

Tickets are sold out, but there is a waiting list in case of cancellations. Call (248) 374-5920 for more information.

The majority of people we asked said they were looking forward to spending a quiet night at home — away from people who drink too much and expect too much from New Year's Eve parties.

So, you'll be in the majority if you plan to watch the Times Square revelers on television and at 12:02 a.m. Jan. 1, 2000, turn off the lights and rest up to face the next century.



inviting ideas

Enjoy sharing holiday quick fixes



RUTH MOSSOK JOHNSTON

With deadlines looming and home holiday preparation on the forefront, there is just no more time to go out and hit the malls. Time to put on my thinking cap and make some quick holiday food treats, or rely on other food professionals for some new suggestions.

Earlier this season, I got a great idea from Susan Weber, sales associate at the West Bloomfield Kitchen Glamor store: making white chocolate and peppermint bark (candy).

"This is so easy," said Susan, "just two bags of white chocolate disks and one package of red and green peppermint bricke."

This cost me about \$9. Melt your disks (in a double boiler over barely simmering water) and stir in the peppermint pieces. Pour it out onto a parchment paper-lined baking sheet (or a Sil-

pat sheet lined baking pan), let cool completely and break into pieces.

I did indeed take Susan's suggestion, although I added about a cup and a half of pecan halves (an extra expense and purely optional) into that mixture. Not only is this bark super easy to make, it is colorful and festive for this time of year. Wrapping it took the bulk of the time.

Another idea I came up with this season was purely a concoction made from leftovers after entertaining.

What do you do with a partial log of herb-flavored Chèvre (goat's cheese) and a few tablespoons of really good Merlot? I placed those things along with a package of cream cheese in the bowl of a food processor and processed until smooth.

What I wound up with was a beautiful pink-colored cheese dip perfect for packing in a small crock and serving as a new appetizer. This little mixture makes for a great holiday gift.

Buy a set of ramekins, make up some wine-flavored cheese dip and fill each ramekin, cover with cellophane or plastic wrap and give individually or place in a cloth napkin-lined basket and add some imported biscuits. If giving this as a gift, keep the dip refrigerated until ready to deliver.

Nick Malgieri, noted chocolate and baking expert and author of "Chocolate: From Simple Cookies to Extravagant Showstoppers," published by Harper Collins Publishers, 1998 (hard cover edition, \$35), and numerous other books, has a great recipe for chocolate sauce. This book is also a great gift idea for anyone interested in chocolate!

HOT FUDGE SAUCE

Yield: about 2 cups

A really rich hot fudge sauce that hardens when it hits ice cream. Great to use as the sauce for a brownie sundae, topping for your favorite scoop of ice cream and quick topping for homemade

or prepared cream puffs. Package this in sterilized jars.

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup water
- 1 cup light corn syrup
- 1 1/3 cups sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 4 ounces unsweetened chocolate, coarsely chopped
- 1/2 cup alkalized (Dutch process) cocoa powder
- 4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) unsalted butter
- 1/4 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract

Directions:

1. Combine water, corn syrup and sugar in a non-reactive pan and bring to a boil, stirring often, until all the sugar crystals have melted. Boil 1 minute without stirring.

2. Remove from heat and add the salt and the chocolate. Allow to stand 2 minutes until chocolate has melted, then whisk smooth.

3. Sift the cocoa into a mixing bowl and stir in enough of the liquid mixture to make a paste, then stir the cocoa paste smoothly back into the syrup.

4. Whisk in the remaining ingredients.

5. Store the sauce in a tightly covered jar in the refrigerator. Reheat over simmering water before serving.

WHITE CHOCOLATE-PEPPERMINT SWIZZLE STICKS

From the book "Christmastime Treats: Recipes and Crafts for the Whole Family - A Holiday Celebration Book" by Sara Perry, published by Chronicle Books (\$14.95 paperback)

Yield: 12 peppermint sticks

Ingredients:

- 12 peppermint candy sticks, each 5 inches long and individually wrapped
- 1 empty baby food jar (4 ounces)
- 1/2 cup white chocolate chips
- 2 teaspoons vegetable oil
- 1 jar (2-1/2 ounces) red or green sugar crystals

Directions:

Snip a wrapper end off each candy stick and push it back to expose the candy 1-1/2 inches.

Pour hot water to a depth of 3/4 inch in a saucepan. Fill the jar with the chocolate chips and oil and set it in the saucepan. Place the pan over low heat until the chips begin to melt, about 8 minutes. Don't let the water boil, and be careful not to get any water droplets into the chocolate or it will clump. With a dull knife, stir the mixture until smooth. Remove the saucepan and jar from the heat. Keep the jar in the warm water to prevent the chocolate from cooling.

Hold the wrapped end of a candy stick and dip the exposed end into the warm chocolate, coating it well. Don't worry if it isn't smooth; the sugar crystals will cover it. Lift the stick straight up and out of the jar and immediately sprinkle with the sugar crystals. To cool and set, place the stick, chocolate end up, in a small mug. To set quickly, chill in the refrigerator for 10 minutes. Repeat with the remaining candy sticks, making sure their chocolate tips don't touch one another while in the mug.

To serve, peel off the wrappers and any maverick chocolate or sugar flecks that may stick to the candy.

Ruth Mossok Johnston is an author and food columnist who lives in Franklin. To leave her a voice mail message, dial (734) 953-2047, mailbox 1902.

at home calendar

■ The Children and Family Education Program at the University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro in Ann Arbor, has something for every member of the family.

Offerings include workshops for ages 6-12 on Scout badges related to plants and ecology; the workshops have been scheduled every month, January to May (Scout leaders should call for available dates). Call (734) 998-7061.

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Write on to nurture relationships



DIANA KOENIG

Q: How do I sustain and build relationships with people and still keep up with life's numerous commitments?

A: The best way to build strong relationships is to spend time interacting with the people you care

about on a regular basis.

The strength of a relationship is in the foundation you build. The best building blocks are the times you spend together and the exchange of encouraging words along with listening ears.

Building this kind of time into a busy schedule can be difficult, so start with some strategic planning and follow through! How often have you promised to write a letter or call someone but it never quite happens? Nurturing a relationship requires planning.

Schedule time to write letters or notes to the important people in your life. Sometimes these will be informative, but more often they simply send the message that you care about the recipient and are thinking about him or her.

If you have difficulty expressing yourself in writing, buy some books with cute sayings or quotes that will add flavor to your notes.

Take a minute out while shopping to read greeting cards to give you great ideas and stimulate your creativity. Write quick notes to the people whom you see on a regular basis. You want to bring a smile to that special person's face as he or she discovers and reads your note.

I have written a funny or romantic message on a post-it note to my husband and put it on the steering wheel of his car. I have also used a bar of soap to write him a message on the shower stall. Words are powerful and can strengthen a relationship.

Over the years my husband and I have written messages and put them in our children's lunch boxes from time to time. I usually write a sweet message like, "Have a wonderful day, honey, and I will see you when you get home from school!" The contents of my husband's messages are typically funny. He will put extra cookies in the lunch box and enclose a note that says, "I bet you can't eat all these chocolate chip cookies!"

Modern technology has given us more options than ever for building

long distance relationships. You can type letters on the computer to send via fax or e-mail. Long distance rates are becoming less expensive every day, and some long distance calls become local with certain wireless plans.

But don't let today's technology keep you from sending a handwritten letter. Computers are fast and efficient and have great spell checkers, but they are still no substitute for your special handwriting.

Schedule a block of time once or twice a month for correspondence. Write a reminder on your calendar and keep the most recent letter from each correspondent in an accessible place so you can refer to it as you write. Use this time for writing thank you notes, sending friendship cards, filling out invitations and writing long distance letters.

Prepare birthday and anniversary cards ahead of time. Keep them in a storage container and remember to mail them at the appropriate time in the month. Take time to send baby congratulations and get well cards on the spur of the moment.

Keep an abundant supply of stationery, note cards and greeting cards.

Not only will you have them available when you need them, but by planning you can take advantage of sales. Paper products are rather expensive disposable items so you will want to shop store sales or order through mail catalogs.

Preparing holiday cards can be either a chore or pleasant experience. By planning, you can avoid the frustration of last minute preparations.

I enjoy addressing and writing notes in my Christmas cards because I create a festive atmosphere. I sip hot chocolate and eat cookies while I watch a holiday movie or listen to Christmas music. begin the process in November to avoid suffering from the "holiday rush syndrome."

Don't limit your correspondence to necessary communications, such as birthday congratulations or invitations. Send a note or make a phone call just to say, "I was thinking about you and appreciate you."

Today's refrigerator bulletin: "Written and spoken words build strong relationships!"

Send your questions and success stories to: Diana Koenig, P.O. Box 1702, Manchester, Mo. 63011.

at home calendar

■ Scandinavian holiday decorations and crafts are featured until Christmas at Galerie de Boicourt, on the second floor of the Merrillwood Collection at 251 E. Merrill in Birmingham. The items include Jobs' hand-printed textiles, Bengt Lindberg's wrought-iron works, and a great multi-ethnic variety of books on arts and crafts, interiors and related subjects. Call (248) 723-5680.

■ Master gardener volunteer training classes are scheduled on the County Campus in Waterford 6-10 p.m. Tues-

days, Jan. 4 through April 4; and 6-10 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 6 through April 6. For an information packet and application, give your mailing address to the Michigan State University Extension office by phone, (248) 858-0887; fax, (248) 858-0900; writing 1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac 48341; or e-mail, oakland@msue.msu.edu.

■ Classes in University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens adult education include "Millennium Birds," Sunday, Jan. 2. Call (734) 998-7061.

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Holiday decor is bear-y special

By MARY KLEMIC
At Home Editor

mklemic@oe.homecomm.net

When it comes to holiday decoration, you could say Jan Hunt's theme is "bear it and grin."

Hunt collects Santa Bears, and every year she puts them on display. There are so many now — 29 — that they are arranged along the balusters of the winding staircase of the Hunts' Bloomfield Hills residence. The assortment is so adorable, visitors can't help but grin.

"I just love these bears, and it is so fun collecting them," Hunt said.

The bears are lined up along the staircase, dressing it in fun, furry finery. Around the top of the railing is an arrangement of white gauze and red poinsettias.

Some of the bears are wearing a jacket, cap and scarf, but many others are in

different outfits — a marching band uniform, a pilot's leather jacket and goggles, an ensemble of top hat, vest and cane, a firefighter's coat and hat (with a little Dalmatian).

One bear is dressed as a wizard, with blue robe and pointed hat, holding a fortune-telling 8 ball in a bag. Another, from the year marking the 150th anniversary of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," wears a gentleman's Victorian style suit.

Hunt bought a talking bear in 1986. Her Santa Bear collection started the next year when she bought one from Hudson's and one from Kmart.

When the family moved to its current address in 1988, things were hectic and Hunt didn't buy any bears that year. She was later able to find one from 1988 — a woman from Wisconsin who had one called her "out of the blue," Hunt said — after her children searched on the Inter-

net. (The woman didn't want the bear to travel alone, so she sent an extra one along, Hunt said.)

A millennium bear from Kmart, not part of the collection, is dressed in a black tuxedo and top hat and seated on a sofa. When you press the bear's paw, a voice counts down from 10 and wishes you a happy 2000, and then "Auld Lang

Syne" is played. The talking bear has a special place on another sofa.

At first Hunt displayed the Santa Bears along a fireplace mantel and hanging down the sides. But there were so many they were grouped too tightly, so she moved them to the staircase.

"I thought I gotta put 'em someplace where I can see 'em all," Hunt said.

Bears on stairs:
Jan Hunt (photo at far right) shows some of the 29 Santa bears in her collection. The bears line a winding staircase to make special holiday decor in the Hunts' Bloomfield Hills home.

STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER



Remember to give houseplants plenty of light in the winter

By LEE REICH
For AP Special Features

No matter how well you care for your houseplants indoors, lack of light could cause them to languish. Yet there are steps you can take short of cutting down trees that block sunlight or installing extra windows in your home.

How about artificial lighting? Don't merely slide a houseplant underneath a reading lamp, though, because the light energy just a few feet from a 100-watt

light bulb is almost inconsequential.

Instead, buy one or more fluorescent light fixtures. Fluorescent lights don't get hot, so you can put plants within a few inches of the tube. That's how close most plants need to be to the bulb in order to benefit.

There's no need for special fluorescent tubes for growing plants. Regular "cool white" work fine. To beef up the spectral quality of the light for plants, if desired, modify the fixture to accommodate one 15-watt incandescent bulb for

each 4-foot fluorescent tube.

To coddle your plants with more light (at considerably more cost), consider high-intensity discharge bulbs.

Mercury lamps, metal halide lamps and sodium lamps are the three types of HID lamps. These lamps also are used for outdoor residential lighting, and street lamps, so they may be available at local stores in addition to greenhouse supply companies.

Sodium lamps are the best of artificial plant lights, providing the whole spec-

trum needed by plants. These lights are justifiable if you want your plants to luxuriate rather than just survive the winter.

Before you rig your house up with plant lights, be warned that although plants might like the light, you may not. Too many fluorescent lights and you will feel as if you are in a department store. Mercury lamps are so intense that, by contrast, even fluorescent lighting appears warm and cozy. And a sodium lamp will bathe a room in an eerie, amber glow.

Spread holiday customs over season



LISA LUCKOW-HEALY

According to Roget's Super Thesaurus, tradition is synonymous with words such as custom, practice, convention and habit. When holiday tradition comes to mind this time of year, I think about the Luckow family Christmas.

It began with festive holiday attire Mom would scour the stores for weeks in advance. Dad, the artist, was always very particular about how the tree was decorated. My sister, my brother and I were coached for years.

On Christmas Eve, Dad would always roll his eyes and politely scowl at the rest of the family as he stood by the door hoping that once, just once, we would arrive at one of the uncle's homes for Christmas Eve dinner — on time! Somehow we always managed to get to our destination in plenty of time to enjoy singing Christmas carols and par-

taking in a traditional Polish meal consisting of pierogi and fish.

Christmas morning we woke to Santa's delights. I think Dad still misses the years my siblings and I would come running to wake him up to get the camera.

Christmas Day was customarily spent with my mother's side of the family at my grandparents' home. Grammy would always extend the invitation to my aunt and cousins.

There was always plenty of commotion to wonder who was giving and who was receiving. Although the gifts were different from year to year, one thing never changed: We were all together for one day out of the year when nothing else mattered.

This year, my family will once again celebrate the Luckow family tradition, but the photographs from the family album have changed from those of yesteryear.

Three of my grandparents and my brother now watch over family customs from a higher plain. We light a candle in their honor. Hosting Christmas Eve is now part of a rotation among house-

holds. And my parents have assumed Grammy and Poppa's roles by opening their arms to all the family for Christmas dinner.

Welcome your own customs home for the holidays. Even if you believe you've never had any you think qualify as customs, you might be surprised when someone tells how much he or she enjoyed the same gesture that you also extended the previous year.

Create new customs with your family this season. Open up your doors and your hearts to family and friends who have nowhere to go for the holiday. Warm the heart of a child with a special ornament. Play holiday music. Sing Christmas carols. Tantalize your taste buds with traditional holiday fare. Tell your family how thankful you are to be together. Cherish the moment.

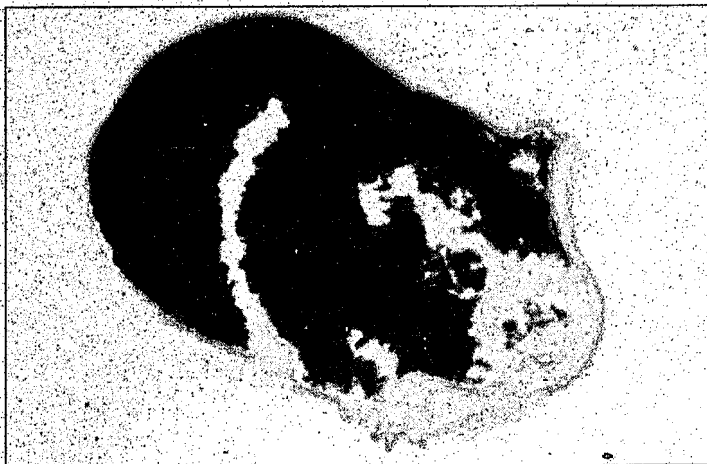
Savor the sight of a child's innocence as she leaves cookies and milk for Santa. Prepare a recipe your grandparents used to make. Build a snowman. Wish upon a star. Steal a kiss under the mistletoe. Encourage your children to write a holiday letter to a distant friend or relative. String popcorn for tree garland. Spread

■ You might be surprised when someone tells how much he or she enjoyed the same gesture that you also extended the previous year.

smiles to all those around you. Hug your spouse. Count your blessings and remember the spirit of the season.

Lisa Luckow-Healy is a graduate of the University of Michigan and a freelance writer. 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 liHealy@aol.com

Adopt-a-pet



Frederick: This is Frederick, and he's a medium-sized guinea pig looking for a new home. You see, his owners are moving and couldn't take him along. Perhaps his suitcase was too big. Frederick is a good pet for children of all ages who can help take care of him and treat him gently. For information on Frederick, or on raising guinea pigs or other small creatures, contact the Michigan Humane Society Rochester Hills Shelter, Frederick (No. RO99435) and other pets are at the Michigan Humane Society Rochester Hills Shelter, 3600 Auburn. Call (248) 852-7420 between noon and 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday.



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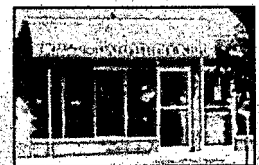
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Smart solutions online for parties

MINNEAPOLIS (PRNewswire) - Looking for ways to make your holiday party a smashing success?

Visit PartySmart.com, designed to provide smart solutions for successful parties.

Backed by nearly 20 years of retail party-planning expertise, the new e-commerce site from Paper Warehouse Inc. comes just in time for the busiest party-planning seasons of the year.

"Never before has planning a party been so easy," said Yale Dolginow, chief executive officer for Paper Warehouse. "PartySmart.com offers everything you need to throw a great party and then some."

In addition to an extensive offering of party supplies, PartySmart.com includes hundreds of free occasion-specific ideas, helpful hostess tips, party-planning assistance and interactive seasonal features for children.

■ Was the line for Santa at the local shopping mall way too long today? Take your children on a virtual trip to the North Pole this holiday season to visit Santa. They can e-mail their list of toys. By adding their name to the "nice list," youngsters earn a chance to win prizes. Also, go back in time and hear the story of Hanukkah.

■ Planning a New Year's Party to ring in the new millennium and don't know where to start? The Automatic Date-Minder will remind you and keep track of dates you enter. Skip the anxiety of last-minute party preparations - the DateMinder party feature also includes a to-do list and an automatic date-tracking and reminder system.

■ Have a birthday party to plan along with everything else this holiday season? The "quick as a click" PartySmart invitation-maker helps create and

send e-invitations that coordinate perfectly with your party supplies.

■ Did last year's celebration turn out incredibly successful? Share your ideas with others on the Idea Gallery. Send along a photograph and PartySmart.com will post it on the site.

■ Don't have time to plan your party? Just supply a theme and let PartySmart.com take care of the rest. You'll receive party supply options, hostess tips, recipe ideas and more.

PartySmart.com differentiates Paper Warehouse as the only "bricks and mortar" party retailer with a virtual storefront and enables the company to reach beyond markets currently served by its retail stores.

"Our track record of successfully building long-term customer relationships gives us a distinct advantage over virtual-only party retailers," Dolginow said. "We firmly believe that integrating the online and offline retail approach is essential to success in the marketplace."

Paper Warehouse, headquartered in Minneapolis, specializes in party supplies and paper goods. The company operates under the names Paper Warehouse and Party Universe.

Major store concentrations include the Minneapolis/St. Paul, Iowa/Nebraska, Kansas City, Denver, Oklahoma City and Seattle markets.

Paper Warehouse retail stores offer an extensive assortment of special occasion, seasonal and everyday party and entertainment supplies, including paper supplies, gift wrap, greeting cards and catering supplies.

As of July 30, 1999, the company had 143 retail locations (97 company-owned and 46 franchise stores) in major retail trade areas.

Give your tables high style

SAN FRANCISCO (PRNewswire) - This year, as the new millennium approaches, party experts at GreatEntertaining.com suggest giving your traditional holiday table a glamorous makeover using new decorating trends focused on elegance and sophistication.

Here are GreatEntertaining.com's five trend-setting ideas for creating dramatic holiday tables. To see more ideas and buy coordinating party supplies, visit <http://www.greatentertaining.com>

■ Define your place settings with chargers. These larger size decorative plates add complementary color and metallic tones to the table when placed under china or stoneware.

Traditionally, chargers have been featured on the most elegant tabletops -

from posh five-star restaurants to state dinners. Today they are being used in sophisticated homes everywhere.

■ Create drama with table runners. Runners have never been more popular, particularly in shimmering fabrics like organza or velvets. These bands of color and texture enhance your tabletop while highlighting the beauty of its natural surface, not to mention the fabulous food being served.

■ Accent with platinum, silver and gold. Glassware instantly adopts a new look with sheer metallic ribbon tied in bows around the stems.

■ Light candles everywhere. Use a variety of heights, widths, colors and styles to create a sensational effect.

■ Sprinkle confetti for added sparkle.

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NEWSPAPERS

HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

NO Page 1, Section F

Thursday, December 23, 1999

Barry Jensen, editor (734) 953-2125 bjensen@oe.hometown.com

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

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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

Tell the city you've paid rent to live in condemned property

REAL ESTATE QUERIES



ROBERT M. MEISNER

I have been living in a property which I have recently found out was condemned several years ago but was paying rent. I am extremely outraged about this and am wondering if I can recoup my rent from the landlord?

While the landlord may have been precluded from suing you for rent, I believe that you would be precluded from suing the landlord to recover rents previously paid.

This was a result of a recent Michigan Court of Appeals case which recognized that a municipal ordinance providing that if a dwelling was unfit for human habitation no rent would be recoverable, didn't give the tenant a right to recover rent from the landlord which had been previously paid.

I would suggest, however, that you contact the municipality and let them know what has happened.

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 rmeisner@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.



HELEN FURCEAN/STAFF ARTIST

Realtors remember...

'Homes I have shown'

BY NORMAN PRADY
SPECIAL WRITER

Here are some pages from real estate agents' books of 1999 memories...

Vera Oglesby of Advest Realty, Southfield:

Remembering the morning she got the first call on a newly listed house, then showed the house to that caller and made the sale that afternoon.

Marti Forrer of Prudential Chamberlain-Stiehl, Birmingham:

Remembering a bachelor she'd known for a long time. "He found someone and was getting married, and I had this house to sell."

"But the house didn't quite fit into the mold of the average home most people are looking for. It didn't have a basement, and it had some other obstacles that made it difficult to sell."

"I was so happy that he'd found somebody and was getting married, but we couldn't get the house sold."

As things turned out, Forrer reports from her vivid memory of the event, happiness came to the bachelor and his bride, as well as to the buyers who finally appeared after some stressful times.

"The purchasers were very excited. They had great plans for adding another level to the home. So everyone was happy."

"I thought he was wonderful. I always told him I was going to find someone for him. But he found her himself. She was a former classmate he met again at their high school reunion," Forrer said.

Pat Ryan of Max Broock Realtors, Rochester:

Remembering the couple who bought a house before selling the one they had. "They made double payments for three months while making their wedding plans, and we lived the crisis with them."

"Someone told the seller about the tradition of burying a statue of St.

Joseph on the property, so we did that, and the next morning there were three potential buyers lined up at the door."

Jeff McLaughlin of Century 21 Towne Pride, Westland:

Remembering the couple who had been turned down three times for home financing.

"I got them to a lender I work with who helps first-time buyers and people with credit issues, and she was able to get them approved with a conventional mortgage."

"So that made their day, along with getting a really good deal on the house they wanted. It was my feel-good story of the year."

Colin Mead of RE/MAX Classic, Canton:

Remembering two houses.

He took a customer to a house that was painted black - inside, not outside. "The rooms were all black, and they had skull heads everywhere. As soon as we walked in the door, that was it - we were out."

Mead said he's heard sometime later that the house was taken off the market, and as for any further information, "I didn't want to know."

His other 1999 memory, he said, will serve as a continual lesson for him: If you have your assistant take a customer to see a house, be sure to tell her about the dog.

"She wasn't expecting a dog and, even though it didn't bite, it was big. When she opened the door and saw it, that was enough. Boom! Shut the door. Left without showing the house. She told me to please let her know next time if there's a dog."

Kevin Cupler of Real Estate One, Livonia:

Remembering the dirty house.

"This house was so dirty there were paths through the clothes and trash that was piled in the house. A footpath about a foot wide. Some piles about three feet

"When you opened the front door you saw piles of clothes and junk - clothes and junk in heaps. Unbelievable. Never saw anything like it in my life."

"It was a two-bedroom condominium. In my wildest dreams, I couldn't imagine how anyone could get a house to look like that. There was furniture but nothing you could sit on. It was buried under the junk."

"The kitchen was piled all around with dishes and food, and there was trash all over the floor."

"Fortunately, the customer had a good sense of humor. So we followed the paths back, wound our way to the front door and left."

William Nisonger of Coldwell Banker Schweitzer/Bloomfield:

Remembering the large volume of work his company does with people moving here from Germany to work in the auto industry.

"Mostly in their country, they're renters. So they often don't know our procedures, such as checkbooks and earnest money."

"Sometimes, there's some running to the bank and getting cash, which really fouls up the bookkeeping systems. And then there was the time it was too late in the day so we, ourselves, gave the couple money to use as a deposit with their purchase offer. They got it back to us the next day."

"We have many German families we've helped buy their first piece of property."

Carol Frick of Ralph Manuel Real Estate One, Birmingham:

As her company's sales manager, she's remembering the entire year.

"Since I started in real estate, in 1971, this was a unique year. In 1999, more than ever before, we saw the greatest number of multiple offers on houses and the greatest number of houses sold for more than the asking price."

STEADY CLIMB

Here are cumulative monthly residential units permitted in 8 southeast Michigan counties including Oakland and Wayne through October of this year.

January	1,173
February	2,413
March	4,311
April	6,811
May	9,113
June	11,865
July	14,303
August	16,873
September	19,097
October	21,182

Source: Housing Consultants, Inc.

HELEN FURCEAN / STAFF ARTIST

Mortgage fraud: more common than you think

MORTGAGE DETROIT.COM



DAVID C. MULLY

Part 1 of 2

Did you hear about the \$60 billion in mortgage frauds that were supposedly committed last year and how they raised the cost of getting a mortgage?

If so, you probably want to know what's going on. While it goes without saying that mortgage fraud is happening, that figure seems high.

Nevertheless, Richard D. Ward, a former police officer who is now president of Los Angeles-based Affinity Corp., said that according to an FBI bulletin, the \$60 billion figure is correct. One-tenth of all mortgage loans are approved based on wrong or fraudulent information he said.

As many as 20 percent of all mortgage loan transactions would not be made, he said, if the lenders knew all the facts, citing material misrepresentations.

Ward's company sells a standardized universal mortgage application that can be scanned for accuracy with the goal of eliminating fraudulent information.

Nagy Henein says that the \$60 billion in fraud never happened, and his opinion is worth listening to. Aside from his 22 years of experience in the business, he is treasurer of the National Association of Mortgage Brokers, chairman of the organization's Best Business Practices Committee, and president of The Greater Mortgage Corp. of New City, New York.

Does fraud take place? "Yes! I'd be naive to say it doesn't happen," Henein admits. However, he also points out that according to some estimates, the mortgage industry does \$1.7 trillion a year in residential business - your home, your neighbors' homes, everybody's neighbors' homes. This doesn't count the commercial property business market, which is even bigger.

"How could you think there are that many imbeciles who would let \$60 billion get away like that?" he asks, adding that the mortgage business is a sophisticated industry run by professionals. It is not a mom-and-pop operation.

Yet fraud does occur. More than half of the cases involving fraud relate to mortgage application documentation, according to the Mortgage Asset Research Institute in Reston, Va. The five major areas of mortgage fraud fall under: applications, tax returns, employment verification, bank deposits and appraisal.

David Mully's company, Mortgage Detroit.com, surveys lenders and provides updates on mortgage rates for homeowners. His survey and weekly column can be accessed online at www.MortgageDetroit.com. The survey report appears inside Thursday's Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. You can contact Mully at (248) 305-7337 or e-mail dmully@mortgagedetroit.com.

Home equity

Loans against it can be tempting

Americans are sinking deeper into debt, even risking losing their homes, as banks promote home equity loans and lines of credit, warns Mirada Home Strategies, a national consumer education group for homeowners.

"Right now, banks are luring more and more homeowners into taking out home equity loans, claiming these loans are easy and smart," said Dan Lieberman, director of Mirada Home Strategies.

"To homeowners, this extra money is as tempting as getting dozens of new credit cards. But now, instead of being overextended on a \$2,000 credit limit, you have a debt of \$50,000," Lieberman said. "And if you can't pay it back, you can lose everything - including your home."

Home equity loans are used for a variety of purposes including home improvements, college education and consolidation of personal debt. Interest is tax deductible, offsetting income subject to taxation.

But you have to be careful, Lieberman maintained. Consumers can wind up paying much more than they initially expect despite advertisements of easy, low minimum payments.

"Transforming a short-term debt into a long-term debt using a home equity loan can be very expensive and dangerous," he said.

Lieberman suggests three action steps.

■ Forget the lender's repayment schedule. Set your own. Use your cred-

it line wisely. Pay off as soon as you can. By not stretching the loan out longer, you can save hundreds of dollars in interest.

■ Make your line of credit tougher to use. If your bank offers you credit card access to your credit line, don't take it. Use the loan only for what you intended. Leave the equity line checkbook at home to combat impulse spending.

■ Don't be swayed by the need for tax deductions. Given the choice between no deduction or a deduction, the deductible expense is always better. But no expense is better than both. Only when you must spend money are tax breaks important.

HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the days of Aug. 12, 16, 17, 19, 20, 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.

Clarkston
3471 Primary St. \$100,000
887 Provincetown Rd. \$123,000
3582 Riverside Ln. \$208,000
3583 Riverside Ln. \$251,000
679 Sheffield Rd. \$147,000
2682 Williamsburg Cir. \$124,000
6863 Bluegrass Dr. \$181,000
7230 Bluewater Dr #29 \$99,000
4563 Bristol Park Dr. \$328,000
7833 Brookpines Dr. \$82,000
7561 Brookwood Dr. \$77,000
5909 Chestnut Hill Dr. \$210,000
5185 Englewood Dr. \$188,000
4806 Harding Ave. \$410,000
3515 Mann Rd. \$270,000
8781 Maplewood Ave. \$425,000
228 Maplewood Dr. \$221,000
4960 Mayfield Rd. \$158,000
5415 Mayfield Rd. \$112,000
5760 Meadows Dr. \$239,000
8900 Michigamme Rd. \$233,000
4791 Mohawk Ave. \$137,000

9669 N. Eston Rd. \$118,000
5031 Rockaway Dr. \$163,000
4741 Sashabaw Rd. \$50,000
4741 Sashabaw Rd. \$70,000
6563 Sun Valley Dr. \$295,000
537 Sunrise Dr. \$75,000
7036 Tappan Dr. \$133,000
5019 Timberway Trl. \$187,000
6770 Walters Rd. \$164,000
2940 Weldmann Dr. \$305,000
4861 White Lake Rd. \$55,000
6945 Woodcrest Rd. \$337,000

Commerce Township
1990 Alpha St. \$135,000
417 Ansonia St. \$160,000
2442 Applebrook Dr. \$328,000
1928 Baylis St. \$270,000
5485 Bell Dr. \$72,000
5958 Carroll Lake Rd. \$145,000
3275 Cascade St. \$80,000
6560 Cobble Lake Rd. \$220,000
470 Crystalia St. \$166,000
4135 Cumberland Ct. \$230,000

259 E Grand Traverse St. \$140,000
5006 Foothills Dr. \$203,000
2951 Gabriel Dr. \$40,000
2959 Gabriel Dr. \$40,000
8944 Galtline St. \$340,000
4774 Halstead St. \$145,000
245 Havana St. \$130,000
3509 Heatherwood Dr. \$280,000
5300 Huron Hills Dr. \$275,000
3407 Lenox Dr. \$206,000
2707 Laurel Dr. \$159,000
1800 Lurika Ct. \$215,000
2243 Meadow Brook Dr. \$184,000
1998 Meadow Ridge Dr. \$250,000
3510 Newton Rd. \$115,000
2743 Oriole St. \$158,000
8540 Pine Cove Dr. \$50,000
5122 Surfwood Dr. \$335,000
2000 Tumberry Dr. \$386,000
2151 Tyler Dr. \$50,000
1506 Wandrei Ct. \$363,000

Daviesburg
11710 Dawlsburg Rd. \$85,000
11341 Ember St. \$160,000
6161 Nelson St. \$126,000
8965 Sherwood Dr. \$206,000
12247 Wildcat Dr. \$105,000
Farmington Hills
22611 Arden Glen Ct. \$100,000
43042 Ashbury Dr. \$450,000
24650 Bashian Dr. \$114,000
24460 Bordentown St. \$165,000
45751 Briarcliff Dr. \$350,000
31145 Centennial Dr. \$178,000
42374 Cherry Hill Rd. \$200,000
11667 Chesterfield Ct. \$485,000
42977 Clay Ct. \$290,000
23466 Cranbrook Dr. \$179,000
22705 Denby Ct. \$100,000
25848 Glenmoor St. \$334,000
41416 Glyme St. \$228,000
47530 Greenview Dr. \$350,000
28812 Heathstone Dr. \$275,000
24015 Heathergreen St. \$169,000
24051 Heathergreen St. \$169,000
22549 Heatherwoods St. \$164,000
23166 Heatherwoods St. \$190,000
41740 Hemphill St. \$475,000
41740 Hemphill St. \$57,000
31166 Kingswood Blvd. \$312,000
22329 Peachtree St. \$133,000
21802 Piccadilly Cir. \$513,000
22183 Pondview St. \$134,000
22778 Renford St. \$123,000
41890 Ridge Rd E. \$206,000
22278 Sunrise Blvd. \$255,000
24371 Sunrise Blvd. \$155,000
23694 Valley Starr St. \$164,000
39728 Village Wood Cir. \$93,000
44980 W. 11 Mile Rd. \$225,000
21260 Wheaton St. \$495,000
26020 Whipple St. \$70,000
42726 Whitelake Way. \$275,000

Oakland Township
1720 Lochinvar Blvd. \$160,000
Orion Township
3720 Arcadia St. \$260,000
4122 Gotwick Dr. \$260,000
4886 Joslyn Rd. \$50,000
2537 Mueller Rd. \$145,000
41712 Rohr Rd. \$161,000
1867 W Silverbell Rd. \$180,000
Oxford
589 2nd St. \$40,000
853 Augusta Blvd. \$46,000
1022 Clearview Dr. \$170,000
1034 Clearview Dr. \$47,000
1034 Clearview Dr. \$208,000
1034 Clearview Dr. \$193,000
1034 Clearview Dr. \$232,000
1111 Denison St. \$168,000
1648 Eagle Trl. \$73,000
799 Glaspole Rd. \$105,000
2857 Summit Springs Dr. \$211,000
56 Sugar Pine Rd. \$229,000
1228 Thames Dr. \$263,000
3432 Verdoh Dr. \$226,000
3440 Verdoh Dr. \$263,000
2244 W. Avon Rd. \$205,000
513 University #701. \$215,000
1700 Willowood Dr. \$215,000

Rochester Hills
2089 Alford Rd. \$203,000
2373 Arizona St. \$187,000
644 Ashley Cir E. \$153,000
2137 Avon Lake Ln. \$77,000
793 Baylor Dr. \$275,000
2450 Beacon Hill Dr. \$249,000
114 Belmarline Dr. \$210,000
664 Bridgestone Dr. \$185,000
4021 Bridgestone Dr. \$234,000
631 Byron Ct. \$150,000
569 Castelar Dr. \$250,000
1437 Calappa Ct. \$59,000
3300 Crooks Rd. \$100,000
3127 Devondale Rd. \$121,000
200 Diverston St. \$1,600,000
1730 Edinborough Dr. \$392,000
1111 Enfield Rd. \$430,000
289 Essex Dr. \$250,000
1835 Fair Oak Ct. \$10,000
1702 Foresthill Dr. \$279,000
60 Foxboro Dr. \$202,000
1321 Harvard Dr. \$260,000
3130 Hickory Lawn Rd. \$1,600,000
1865 June Ave. \$128,000
562 Lockport Rd. \$200,000
2649 Long Meadow Ln. \$285,000
804 Lyndale Dr. \$280,000
1989 Maple Ridge Dr. \$285,000
3265 Melvin Ave. \$133,000
3613 Mildred Ave. \$114,000
1068 Palmetto Creek Ln. \$141,000
933 Peach Blossom Ct. \$485,000
124 Calvert St. \$66,000
1852 Colonial Vlg Way. \$54,000
1852 Colonial Vlg Way. \$139,000
405 Cove View Dr. \$169,000
2340 Crane St. \$130,000
5820 Crosswell Rd. \$170,000
6304 Delwood Dr. \$93,000
2531 Driftwood Dr. \$50,000
149 Edinborough Dr. \$163,000
2219 Ellery St. \$37,000
4557 Fairway Ct. \$190,000
6735 Forestview Dr. \$127,000
327 Forestview Dr. \$160,000
1442 Glenview Dr. \$180,000
1446 Hatchery Rd. \$248,000
4193 Heatherstone Dr. \$192,000
3136 Hidden Ridge Dr. \$95,000
279 Highgate Ave. \$100,000
5299 Highland Rd #202. \$66,000
954 Hogarth St. \$136,000
2800 Keady Ct. \$160,000
4171 Kemp Ave. \$117,000
5776 Kings Arms Rd. \$144,000
5783 Kings Arms Rd. \$155,000
2416 Kishler St. \$132,000
2621 Lansdowne Rd. \$65,000
345 Lansing Dr. \$167,000
3130 Lexington Dr. \$495,000
3787 Lincolnshire Rd. \$147,000
155 Lochaven Rd. \$182,000
2125 Lome Birch Dr. \$54,000
6689 Manson Dr. \$124,000
444 Marlon Ave. \$130,000
841 Nash St. \$125,000
995 Navajo St. \$134,000
6105 Northrup Dr. \$140,000
2613 Nottingham Dr. \$183,000
240 Okenah Rd. \$154,000
2391 Oxley Dr. \$100,000

West Bloomfield
6941 Alden Dr. \$281,000
2568 Armet Rd. \$300,000
7585 Ashburn Ct. \$225,000
2950 Birchmead Cir. \$208,000
3169 Bloomfield Shore. \$244,000
2008 Bordeaux St. \$199,000
5627 Bryden St. \$215,000
6779 Chimney Sweep. \$141,000
1997 Christopher Ct. \$60,000
1997 Christopher Ct. \$65,000
4995 Clunbury Rd. \$193,000
7086 Colony Dr. \$284,000
6705 Cottonwood Knoll. \$217,000
6032 Danbury Ct. \$233,000
6843 E Dartmouth Rd. \$184,000
6784 Edwood Ave. \$224,000
2417 Empire Dr. \$156,000
2288 Forest Glen. \$224,000
4270 Foxpointe Dr. \$215,000
1768 Green Farm Rd. \$167,000
5510 Greenbrook Dr. \$280,000
2911 Greenbrook Ln. \$65,000
2911 Greenbrook Ln. \$294,000
5415 Hammersmith Dr. \$244,000
2258 Holton Ln. \$280,000
7560 Honeyuckle Ln. \$250,000
2684 Hunter Heights Dr. \$318,000
5360 Interlake Dr. \$166,000
3235 Interlake Dr. \$56,000
7585 Knoll Crest Dr. \$150,000
3805 Lone Pine #300. \$58,000
3859 McDevitt Dr. \$285,000
1545 Mercedes St. \$143,000
2903 Moon Lake Dr. \$165,000
4550 Northridge Ct. \$115,000
7176 Nottingham Dr. \$160,000
5409 Old Pond Way. \$289,000
7285 Parkview Ct. \$296,000
7114 Pebble Lake Dr. \$230,000
3514 Pine Estates Dr. \$940,000
6380 Pinecrest. \$230,000
6584 Pleasant Lake Ct. \$375,000
1785 Poplar Dr. \$205,000
5251 Potomac Dr. \$389,000
6680 Regal Cir #119. \$142,000
6620 Regal Cir #205. \$140,000
7699 Rosewood Ln. \$100,000
2120 Saint Joseph St. \$131,000
1484 Starch Dr. \$274,000
1500 Strach Dr. \$264,000
6665 Stonebridge. \$423,000
6282 Stonebridge W. \$379,000
5605 Swan St. \$214,000
6370 Timberwood S. \$392,000
7407 Verona Dr. \$92,000
7137 Ward Eagle Dr. \$172,000
3409 Wildwood Ct. \$545,000
3901 Woodland Ter. \$47,000
3611 Woodview Ave. \$177,000
7018 Yarmouth Dr. \$95,000
7103 Yarmouth Dr. \$95,000

White Lake
8780 Arlington St. \$105,000
9541 Cedar Island Rd. \$210,000
9964 Cedar Island Rd. \$143,000
10195 Cedar Island Rd. \$143,000
10573 Edmond Ct. \$359,000
9172 Holmes St. \$100,000
9474 Marina Dr. \$110,000

Wolverine Lake
2173 Shamrock Dr. \$75,000
788 Wolverine Dr. \$300,000

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Email: PRUDMort@aol.com Open 7 Days 9AM to 9PM					
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1 yr	5.000	0.000	30 day	\$0	5.000 apr
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5 yr	7.000	0.000	45 day	\$300	9.37 apr
STANDARD FEDERAL BANK 1-800-HOME-800					
www.StandardFederalBank.com or 1-800-643-9600					
30 yr	7.50	2.00	45 day	\$300	7.792 apr
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30 yr	7.75	0.00	30 day	\$290	7.875 apr
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CREATIVE MORTGAGE FUNDING 1-877-542-9600					
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5/1 Arm	7.375	0.00	60 day	\$300	8.48 apr
30 yr	8.25	0.00	60 day	\$300	8.39 apr
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5/1 Arm	6.75	0.00	30 day	\$250	8.51 apr

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White Lake

Wolverine Lake

NEW IN-TOWN CHARMER Great open floor plan with quality features throughout. Including: 2-story foyer, 2nd floor laundry, granite counter tops, custom cherry cabinets, stainless appliances, sound system, heated floors, dual showers and Jacuzzi in Master bath.
\$924,900 967412BAT

OUTSTANDING OAK RIVER EAST - TROY. Four bedroom, move-in condition. Large bright kitchen with center island and new appliances. Dramatic 2-story foyer with circular staircase. Large family room with fireplace, library, deck, 2 car garage. Seller motivated.
\$479,900 955831HAL

LUXURIOUS IN-TOWN BIRMINGHAM CONDO. 1st floor and unit w/ extra! Neutral decor ready for quick occupancy. Large great room with doorwalk to patio. Carport, 24 hr exercise room. Walk to library, park & restaurants.
\$199,400 949950COCHE

To All of
Our Customers,
Our Friends;
Cranbrook Associates
Wishes a
Safe, Happy Holiday
Season and a
Prosperous
New Year!

SPACIOUS W. BEVERLY HILLS RANCH. 3-4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Large kitchen with breakfast area. Living room with fireplace. Family room and dining room. Cove ceilings and hardwood floors. Full basement. Nicely landscaped with sprinklers.
\$334,900 964081NIX

AN OVERSIZED LOT is just one of the many features of this clean, well maintained Troy Colonial. 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, eat-in kitchen opens to family room with fireplace. Finished basement, alarm, central air and attached two car garage. Move-in condition!
\$199,900 968722ROO

ROYAL OAK RANCH. Four bedroom with newer kitchen and windows. Neat and clean, lots of fresh paint. Move-in condition.
\$114,900 971552DEW

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION on this Poppleton Park charmer! Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, updated kitchen, baths, etc. Master suite boasts a Jacuzzi. Newer garage, fenced yard. Carpeting new in Oct. '98. Newer roof.
\$299,995 967088RID

PARK SIDE SETTING. Close to downtown Royal Oak. New kitchen, updated bath, new furnace, AC/copper plumbing, fresh paint. Great flexibility for private guest/ in-law/teen suite. Everything has been done & ready for you!
\$168,000 970686RV

CUSTOM IN-TOWN BIRMINGHAM COLONIAL. New kitchen, natural fireplace, hardwood floors, 1 1/2 baths, family room, newer roof. Move-in condition. Large deck with private yard. One car garage. Walk to shopping and school. Immediate possession.
\$312,700 957059PIE

WALK TO DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM from your new home. Schools & parks down the street. Open floor plan, fireplace, hardwood floors. Just a few extras in this 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath Colonial.
\$278,000 971800PIE

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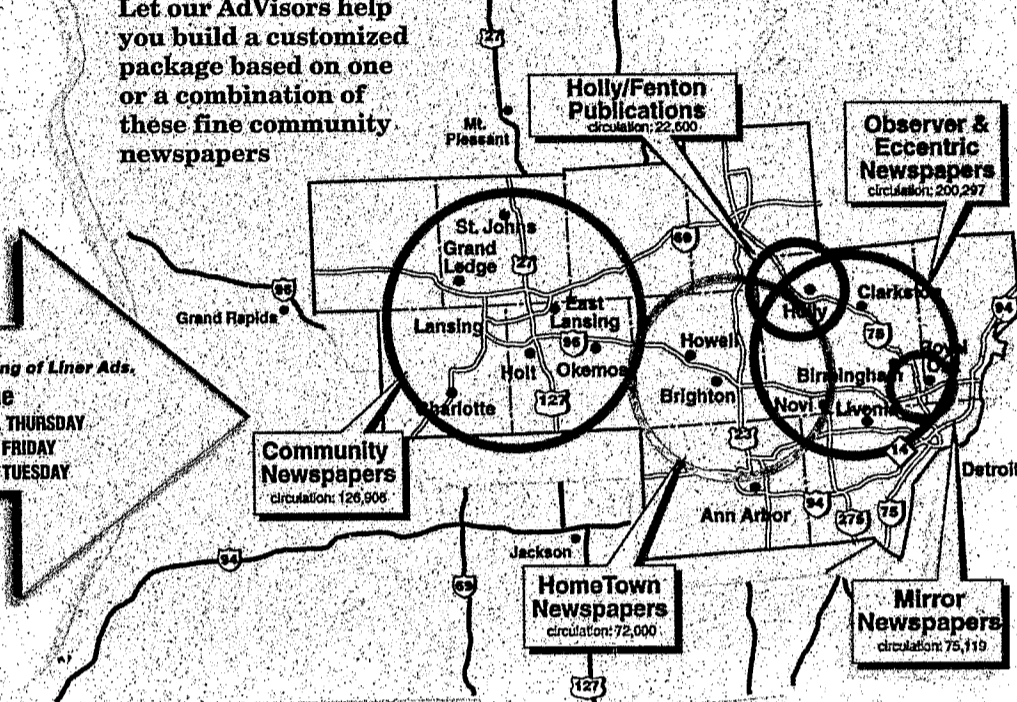
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- 314...Farmington/Farmington Hills
- 317...Garden City
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- 378...Lake/River Resort/Property
- 379...Northern Property
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390-398 Commercial/Industrial

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300 Homes



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308 Canton

BUILT 1987 3 bedroom 1600sqft ranch, 2 baths, new carpet, \$184,900. Plymouth Canton schools. (734) 416-8831

GREAT CANTON COLONIAL located on a cul-de-sac across from quiet park. Neutral kitchen opens to huge great room. Big bedrooms.

KIRK BRUCHNAK

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HOMES FROM \$189/MO. REPOS 4% down, OK credit. For listings & payment details 800-319-3323, ext. H091

JUST LISTED!

Three bedroom brick ranch w/1.5 baths, attached 2 car garage, family room, fireplace, new carpeting & flooring, huge basement, sprinklers, 2 patios (one covered) & beautifully landscaped. \$159,900

Century 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

308 Canton

NEW CONSTRUCTION. Custom built 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath Cape Cod. 1st floor master suite, hardwood floors, 9' and 11' ceilings, great room, gourmet kitchen w/cooktop island, 3 car garage and more. Plymouth/Canton schools. (ROY08) CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

DEARBORN HTS - 3 bed brick ranch, 2 car garage, finished basement, 6621 Charlesworth, \$137,000. (734) 420-2047

311 Dearborn-Dearborn Heights

DEARBORN HTS - 3 bed brick ranch, 2 car garage, finished basement, 6621 Charlesworth, \$137,000. (734) 420-2047

314 Farmington/Farmington Hills

ADORABLE COLONIAL. A must see, move in condition 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2238 sq.ft. luxurious home. Also offers library, first floor laundry & side entry garage. \$283,900. (PA212) CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

314 Farmington/Farmington Hills

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HOMES IN THE HILLS

\$269,900. Lovely 2,200 sq.ft. 2 story home w/fieldstone exterior. Living & dining room w/cathedral ceiling, kitchen w/nook, family room w/fireplace, 2 1/2 baths, central air, 1st floor laundry, basement, deck, 2 car garage, 4 bedrooms, including master suite w/walk in closet. (P1347)

\$235,900. Well built all brick 4 bedroom ranch on fantastic lot. Spacious living room, kitchen w/breakfast room, 2 full baths, basement, deck, 2 car garage & shed for extra storage. Home is in excellent condition w/Anderson windows, but needs updating. Lease/option available \$1700/mo. (CL326)

\$159,899. IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch w/2 car garage & fenced yard. Family room w/fireplace. Dining area w/den/wall to patio, new island kitchen in '99 w/state-of-the-art appliances & snack bar. Central air & ceiling fans. Owner transferred in midst of renovating home. Some projects yet to be completed. Price of home reduced \$25K. (ED353)

Century 21 CENTURY 21 TODAY (248) 855-2000 www.century21today.com

314 Farmington/Farmington Hills

LOVELY RANCH

Newly listed luxurious 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath brick ranch. Beautiful large kitchen, 1st floor laundry, huge basement, newer windows, roof & trim. Nice area of homes. \$272,900. (PA212) CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

317 Garden City

GARDEN CITY - BY OWNER. Move right into this beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick ranch. Full finished basement w/wet bar, 2 car garage, central air, fenced yard & all appliances. All financing options available. Including zero down. \$134,900. Owner is agent. 734-425-1308

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317 Garden City

INVESTOR SPECIALS

2 BEDROOM ranch home, living room, dining room, kitchen. Assume city repairs & make this house a home. Huge lot 80x130. \$69,900. 4 BEDROOM bungalow with a little paint could be a castle. Featuring living room, huge family room with wood stove, breakfast nook, basement. \$109,900.

Century 21 CASTELLI 734-525-7900

325 Livonia

A PERFECT FIT. N.W. area offers lovely 3 bedroom ranch. Newer large kitchen, family room w/skylights, 2 full baths. Attached garage, large deck, basement, move-in condition. \$209,900

6 & Newburgh Lovely 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath colonial! Family room, dining room, totally updated kitchen, central air, updates, 2 car attached garage & much more! \$259,900

Century 21 ROW (734) 464-7111

325 Livonia

COZY COLONIAL

Don't miss this 97 built 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath 2 story home. Offers hardwood floors, ceramic tile, full basement & attached garage. Beautifully landscaped yard, deck & brick pavers. \$155,000. (DE202) CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

329 Novi

HOLIDAY HOME! Beautiful wooded lot complements this quality 1996 built 4 bedroom, 2 story, includes library, gourmet kitchen, many upgrades included. Luxuriously appointed. \$375,000. (W1233) CENTURY 21 TODAY (734) 462-9800

331 Orion Twp./Lk. Orion/Oxford

ORION TWP. - 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, wooded lot, lake privileges, master suite w/whirlpool, walk-in closet. \$189,900. 248-486-2404.

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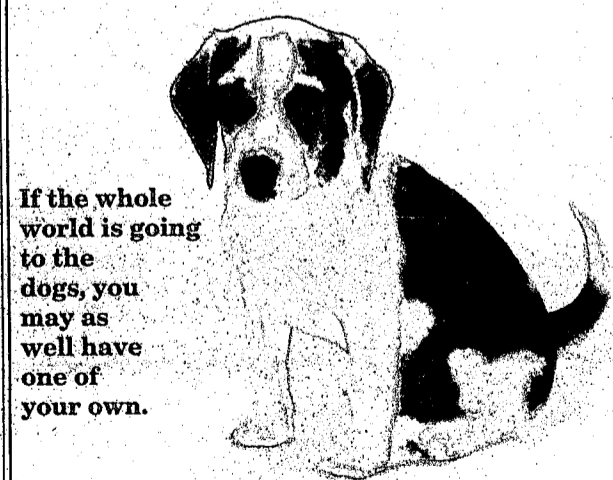
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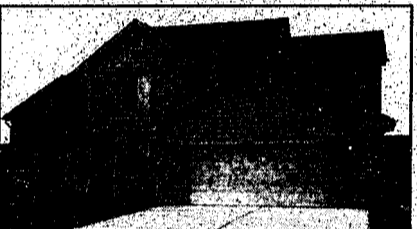
TROY - Spacious 1990 built Colonial close to schools and Somerset Collection. Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, library, first floor laundry, deck, sprinklers, deep basement, attached garage. \$329,900 (96CHA) 248-524-1600



TROY - Sharp four bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial built in 1990. Custom Gunite in-ground pool, cedar deck, professionally landscaped. Two-story foyer, library, oversized master bath. Master bedroom with vaulted ceiling. \$374,900 (01DOR) 248-524-1600



TROY - Beautifully updated lakefront Colonial in Emerald Lakes. Updates include kitchen, roof, deck, floors and windows. Finished walk-out basement. Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths and den. Neutral decor throughout. \$315,900 (54LYS) 248-524-1600



MACOMB TOWNSHIP - Exceptional four bedroom Colonial. Great room with fireplace and skylights. Huge kitchen, ceramic tile, formal dining room. Master bedroom with bath. 2 1/2 car garage. Loaded with extras! \$239,900 (42MYR) 248-524-1600



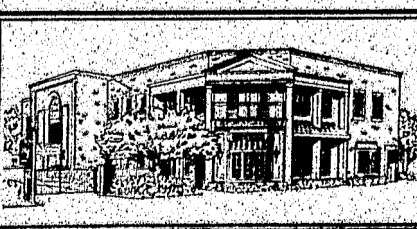
TROY - Stately 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial with newer Oak floors and professional decor. Finished basement, 2 car side entry garage. Former builder's model. Home warranty. \$299,500 (23DEN) 248-524-1600



ROCHESTER HILLS best buy! Three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath Colonial, all updated with fresh decor. Finished basement, deck. All bedrooms with walk-in closets and organizers. Appliances included. \$185,000 (84DRE) 248-524-1600



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP - Gorgeous three bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Townhouse Condo with two car attached garage and finished basement. Fireplaces in both living room and master bedroom. Home warranty included. \$192,900 (76SOU) 248-524-1600



294 E. Brown, Birmingham
(248) 642-8100



FRANKLIN - Towering trees, occasional deer on .8 acre lot. Four bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, updated contemporary John Morgan kitchen, double ovens & Sub-Zero appliances. Updated baths, windows, hardware & lighting. Family room with fireplace & great storage. \$399,900 (30SUN) 248-642-8100



ROCHESTER HILLS - Stunning 1996 four bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Tudor with neutral decor, crown moldings, island kitchen, finished walk-out lower level with recreation room & much more. \$399,900. (37GRE) 248-642-8100



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Terrific lot showcases 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial home. Library, great room with hard wood floors, 10' ceiling and marble trimmed fireplace. \$349,900 (35MIS) 248-642-8100



SPRAWLING 4 BEDROOM COLONIAL - Large family room with fireplace, formal living room and dining room, finished lower level. Great location. A lot of upgrades & first floor laundry. \$264,900 (08HAM) 248-363-1200



SPACIOUS COLONIAL - Four bedroom, great room with fireplace, two-story foyer and 2 1/2 baths. Immediately available. \$219,999 (06RIV) 248-363-1200



WATCH THE SUNSETS OVER THE LAKE - From the deck of this lovely & well maintained Ranch location in one of Commerce Townships finest neighborhoods. This Ranch features open floor plan, beautiful views from every room & quality thru-out. \$214,900 (72BOR) 248-363-1200



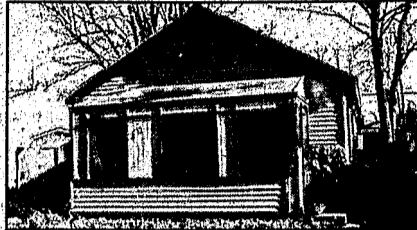
MOVE-IN CONDITION COLONIAL - Large, kitchen loaded with solid Oak cupboards! Three bedrooms, finished basement, dining room, central air, 2 car attached garage, large deck, Walled Lake schools. Everything about this home shows it's well cared for! You will love it too! \$209,900 (85OAK) 248-363-1200



4820 Rochester Road, Troy
(248) 524-1600



GREAT HILLY, WOODED LOT - Three bedroom home has 2 1/2 baths with a finished walk-out. Natural fireplace in family room with doorwall leading to deck. \$194,900 (15RAM) 248-363-1200



NEAR DOWNTOWN FARMINGTON! For the value shopper. Low taxes. Near many conveniences for the location. Large, private backyard with brick patio. One-year home warranty. Farmington schools. \$83,001 (22COR) 248-626-8800



SOUTHFIELD - Four bedroom Ranch. New vinyl siding; updated kitchen with parquet floor, living room with natural fireplace. In-law quarters also. Must see!! \$162,000 (30BRE) 248-626-8800



SOUTHFIELD - Large Ranch on almost an acre of land. Three bedrooms & 2 baths. Super sharp interior. Huge living room with fireplace & hard wood floors. Large kitchen with newer Formica cabinets. Beautiful master with walk-in closet. \$174,000 (24LOI) 248-626-8800



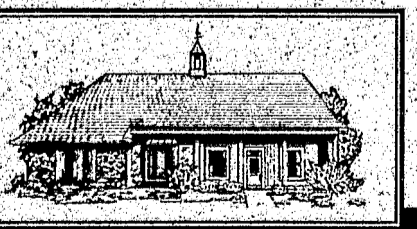
NOVI - Well maintained home! Three bedroom, 2 full bath Bi-Level. Andersen windows, Oak railings, newer roof, newer hot water heater. Painted interior & exterior in 1999. Fabulous neighborhood and more. \$174,900 (23NIL) 248-626-8800



FARMINGTON - Wonderful open view. This 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath Colonial has many updates including room & installed windows. Finished basement. Newer central air. Includes one-year home warranty. \$204,988 (27ARD) 248-626-8800



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Tri-level home with many updates. Family room with fireplace. Hard wood floors in kitchen. Costly landscaping. Plus, Pine Lake privileges. Must see!! \$275,900 (41NOR) 248-626-8800



4310 14 Mile Rd., Sterling Hts.
(810) 939-2800

CENTURY 21 American CENTURY



TROY - Former Bing model in beautiful Oak River subdivision. Four bedrooms, 2 full & 2 half baths, four-season garden room, side entrance garage. Professionally finished lower level. Immediate possession. \$574,900 (79KIN) 248-524-1600



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Fabulous all sports Walnut Lake front. Four bedroom, 3 full bath home on quiet, private lot. Many updates throughout. Quick occupancy. Priced to sell! Open floor plan. Don't Wait!! \$835,888 (24COM) 248-626-8800



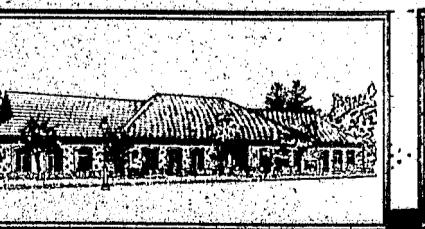
A WORLD OF LIVING - Special 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial at great location on private cul-de-sac. Open, neutral, updated floor plan. Paver brick walk way. Large deck with hot tub. \$239,900 (15HIC) 248-652-8000



ROCHESTER HILLS - On a cul-de-sac. Well maintained and backs to commons. New roof in '99, exterior painted in '97, updated baths and lavs., ceiling fans. Family room with neutral fireplace, open floor plan. \$229,900 (82WIL) 248-652-8000



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP - Beautiful brick Ranch with family room and fireplace, sun room leads to deck, hot tub, private lot with mature trees. Oak kitchen with appliances. First floor laundry. Home warranty. \$199,900 (86WIN) 248-652-8000



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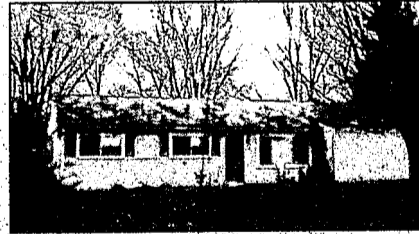
APPROXIMATELY 40 FOOT LAKEFRONT - on all sports Sugden Lake. Lakefront living, many updates, newer roof, windows, carpet, siding and paint! Two car attached garage. New well in '99, newer engineered septic field! A must see! \$184,900 (43CAS) 248-363-1200



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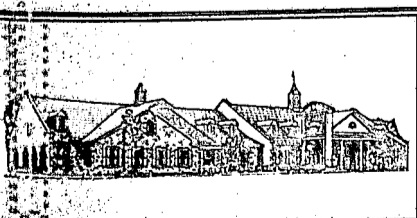
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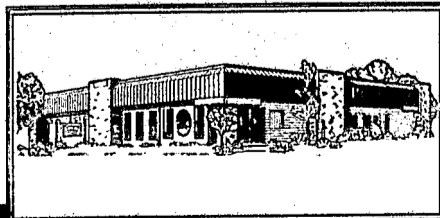
BIRMINGHAM - Cute and fresh 2 bedroom Bungalow with updated kitchen and bath. All appliances included, newer furnace, windows, hot water heater and siding. \$129,900 (71HOL) 248-642-8100



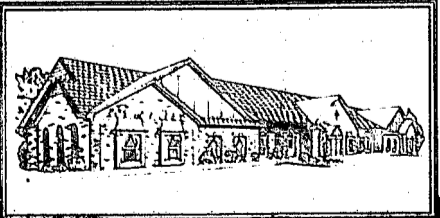
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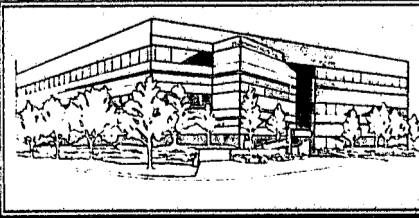
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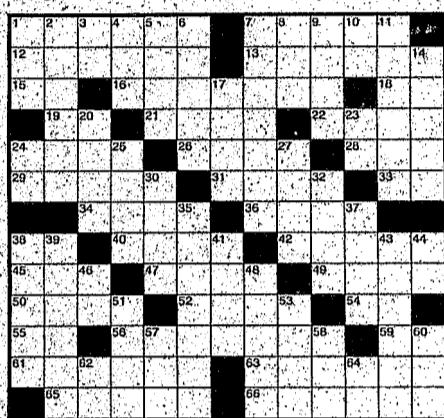
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- 36 Medicine
- 38 est.
- 40 Go by water
- 42 Playwright
- 43 Clifford
- 45 Possess
- 47 do-well
- 49 Wyatt
- 50 Urkel, for one
- 52 In of
- 54 Railway (abbr.)
- 55 Negative prefix
- 56 Attack
- 59 Vowel
- 61 Actress — Bloom
- 63 Watery
- 65 Lazy
- 66 is

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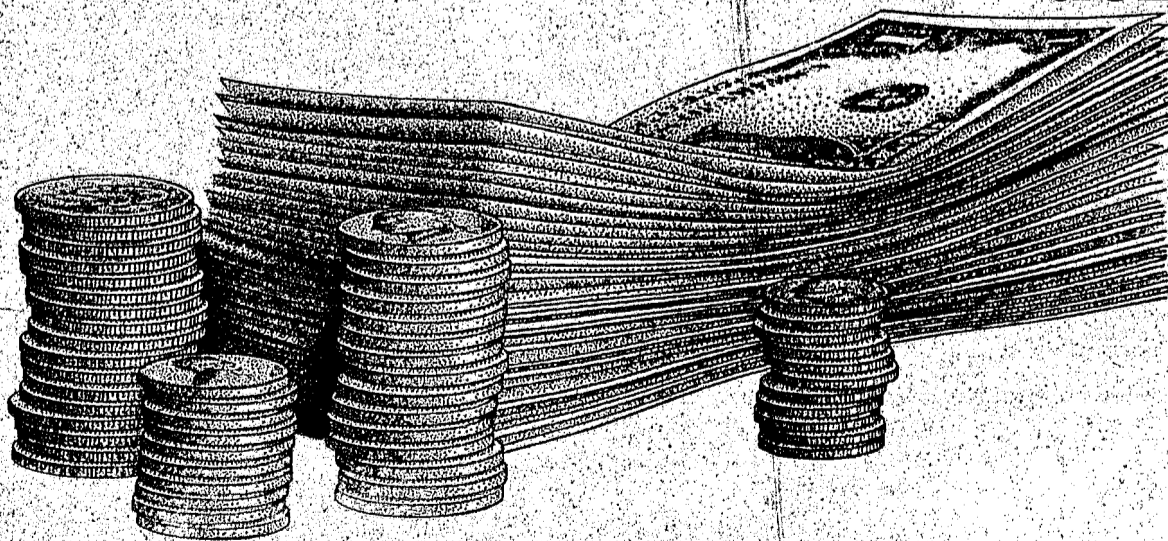
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Warm Up w/Free Heat!
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Hix & Newburgh

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Spacious 2500 sq. ft. 3 bedroom townhome with 2 car attached garage in the prestigious Aldingbrook Community. Call to schedule your private tour today! 248-681-0770
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402 Condos/Townhouses

ROYAL OAK/CLAWSON - Near 14 Mile & Crooks. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhouse. Features private entrance & yard, carpet, basement, neutral decor. only \$850.00. Sorry, NO DOGS, EHO. Call weekdays: 248-642-8688

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BERKLEY - 11 / Woodward, 4 Bedroom, 2 full baths, hardwood floors, garage, \$1000+ security. 248-362-4666

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506... Help Wanted- Food/Beverage
507... Help Wanted- Health & Fitness
508... Help Wanted- Sales
509... Help Wanted- Part-Time
510... Help Wanted- Domestic
511... Help Wanted- Couples
512... Entertainment

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Please Check Your Ad

The Observer & Eccentric will issue credit for typographical or other errors only on the first insertion of an advertisement. If an error occurs, the advertiser must notify the Customer Service Department in time to correct the error before the second insertion.

405 Homes

SANTA'S SPECIAL - Lapeer, 4 bedroom farmhouse, den, basement, 2 car, pets neg, \$800 RENTAL PROS (248) 573-RENT

SOUTHFIELD - 3 bedroom, fireplace, hardwood floors, 2 car garage, \$800 RENTAL PROS (248) 356-RENT

TROY DUPLEX - 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, basement, stove/ridge, \$900/mo. + 1 1/2 mo. security. Call Debbie, toll-free, 877-909-4634

W. BLOOMFIELD - 4 bedroom, 3200 sq. ft., library, hot tub, wetbar, MiddleStrait access, \$2500/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

W. BLOOMFIELD - 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 1/2 attached garage, freshly painted, \$1850/mo. 248-738-5080 or 248-342-8755

WESTLAND - 3 bedroom ranch, shed, utility room, shed, \$625 RENTAL PROS (734) 513-RENT

WESTLAND - 3 bedroom, new carpet, large fenced yard for pets, option to buy, \$675 RENTAL PROS (734) 513-RENT

500 Help Wanted General

AIRCRAFT INSPECTOR

USA Jet Airlines, a Willow Run based FAR 121 operator of DC-9 and Falcon 20 cargo aircraft is looking for an Aircraft Inspector to perform required inspections on aircraft engines and appliances to ensure all maintenance performed conforms to company standards and is within Federal Aviation Regulations. Valid A&P certificate required; DC-9 and Falcon 20 experience is preferred. USA Jet Airlines offers an excellent benefits package and competitive salary. Please send resume w/salary requirements to:

USA Jet Airlines, Inc.
Human Resources (GC)
2064 D Street
Belleville, MI 48111
Fax 734-483-1363
E-mail: pangott@activeaero.com

500 Help Wanted General

BANQUET/MARKETING SUPERVISOR

The City of Wayne is currently accepting applications for the purpose of establishing a Banquet/Marketing Supervisor position. The successful candidate will be responsible for developing and coordinating all marketing for the Parks & Recreation Department. The candidate must have a Bachelor's Degree in Hospitality Management and/or Marketing or a related field with experience in hospitality management and/or marketing or an equivalent combination of education and training which provides the desired knowledge, abilities and skills. Applications are available at the Personnel Department, 3325 W. Wayne Road, Wayne, MI 48184. Completed applications must be received in the Personnel Department by 4:30 p.m. January 4, 2000. Resumes without a completed application will not be accepted.

500 Help Wanted General

CUSTOMER SERVICE

16 NEEDED

No Prior Experience Required

Call 248-338-4320 EOE

500 Help Wanted General

DEALER SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Conseco Finance Servicing Corp. has an exciting opportunity in our Livonia regional office for a Dealer Sales Representative. This individual will be responsible for developing and expanding our active dealer base in manufactured housing and meeting/exceeding indirect loan production objectives (new and used) and maximizing market share by implementing the Company's marketing programs.

Conseco Finance Servicing Corp., a proven leader in manufactured housing and home improvement lending, offers a competitive salary, full range of benefits and excellent opportunities for career growth, please reply by submitting your resume and salary requirements to:

Conseco Finance Servicing Corp.
39205 Six Mile Rd., Ste 104
Livonia, MI 48152
Attn: Regional Manager
An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/V

DRIVERS: CDL-B

With air brake, over the road & physical, 2 year exp. Competitive wages, 4 day work week. Please contact Terry at 1-800-542-0201

DRIVERS: CONVENTIONAL TRANSPORT \$1,000 sign-on bonus for experienced Company drivers. (800) 441-4394. Owner operators call 1 (888) 687-3729. Bud Meyer Truck Lines, Refrigerated, Flatbed, Tank, TOL FREE (877) 283-6393. Solo drivers & contractors.

DRIVERS: DO YOU WANT GUARANTEED HOME TIME? It's Yours By: SMITH-WAY MOTOR EXPRESS. Earnings up to .39 cents a mile. COMPLETE BENEFITS PACKAGE! www.smw.com

DRIVERS-LABORERS quality driven international moving & storage co. seeking responsible individuals for Ypsilanti & Romulus locations. Excellent benefits, 401k, profit sharing, full training. Mark (734) 484-1717, ext. 1207

DRIVERS: OTR OWNERS/OPERATORS: 74% pay, CDL & 2 yrs. experience required. Also, COMPANY DRIVERS: 30% paid; 2 years driving experience, benefits included. Call Lori 1-800-673-6253

DRIVERS-SWIFT TRANSPORTATION HIRING EXPERIENCED/INEXPERIENCED DRIVERS & O/O. ASK ABOUT SIGN-ON BONUS! CDL, 2 yrs. exp. Available! Excellent Pay & Benefits, Assigned Equipment, Job Stability. 1-800-575-9487

DRIVERS-WAREHOUSE "S-10 Full Shift Pickup" Full time/part time, 4 day work week. Males/females/retirees/college students. Flex hrs., competitive wage. Benefits package. Apply in person SAF-TI Glass, 11950 Globe Rd., Livonia, 1/4 mile S. of I-96, 1 block E. of Newburgh or SAF-TI Glass, 449 Executive Dr., Troy, MI, 1 block E. of John R. EEO Employer.

DRIVERS-WE PAY for your EXPERIENCE. Home weekly or 6-10 days guaranteed, your choice. Regional. Dedicated or OTR. Joint Lease Program. M.S. Carriers. (600) 231-5209 EOE

DRIVER/WAREHOUSE Viking Supply Net, a leading distributor of fire protection equipment is looking for a warehouse worker/driver for our Troy, MI location. Must either have or be able to quickly obtain a class B CDL. Some heavy lifting involved. You must be a self starter and be able to interact well with our customers. Excellent benefits, including 401k and company paid insurance. Apply in person Monday-Friday, 7:00am-3:00pm. Viking Supply Net 2137 Helde Street Troy, MI

ELECTRICIAN Are you a Journeyman electrician going nowhere in your present job? Do you want a career with a progressive company? A/E is the right place for you? Benefits include 401K w/50% match, profit sharing, company paid health/dental, commission sales and much more! Don't miss this opportunity to grow with us and earn the \$ you deserve. Apply in person at 31015 Grand River, Farmington Hills (248) 477-3628

ELECTRICIAN Experience needed. Residential & commercial. Fax information to: 248-428-9131 Or phone: 248-471-6244

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ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

The Observer & Eccentric publishes newspapers to 18 suburban Detroit communities and is in search of a self starter proficient with electronic test equipment, for years electronic schooling, ability to troubleshoot @ the component level, maintain & repair electronic & mechanical equipment, and excellent opportunity for career growth, please reply by submitting your resume and salary requirements to:

mayab@oe.homecomm.net, fax (734) 953-2057, or mail 38251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Include job code EMT on resume, EOE

ENTERTAINMENT TOUR PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

We are a high-tech entertainment company touring to colleges & corporate events throughout the U.S. We are looking for people who are at least 21 years old with a professional appearance & attitude with a good driving record who are available for extensive travel. Knowledge of computers, videoelectronic equipment a plus! If you qualify, call Kathy at (734) 484-2060

FIREPLACE INSTALLERS

earn up to \$1,000 per week! Year-round work, full time, paid vacations & workman's comp. Must have own truck & tools. Call, ask for Mr. Franks, (248) 448-8334

FULL/PART TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Cashiers, Pantry & Stock Persons also accepting applications for full time Human Resources Manager at the Lake Orion location, 10245 Lakeside Rd. Apply at Service Desk or call Human Resources 248-693-6252. EOE

GAGE COMMUNITY MANAGER

Tool & sign gage maker &/or gage engineer with great people skills & a desire to work in a consulting role. Possible relocation & travel req. 248-474-5150, or email dbirdsall@birdsalltool.com

GENERAL ASSIGNMENT REPORTER

HomeTown Newspapers is looking for general assignment reporter in Northville/Novi. Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree or have 3+ years experience in news reporting. Our general assignment reporters gather and write news and feature stories. They attend village, township, city and school board meetings and report on what happens at those meetings. They also assign photographers, write headlines and learn how to paginate a newspaper. We are in a high growth area and anticipate additional expansion in the near future. Smoke-free environment. Strong benefit package. Please send resumes to:

NOVI NEWS
ATTN: BOB JACKSON
124 W. MAIN ST.
NORTHVILLE, MI 48167
Minorities Encouraged to Apply

"GOV'T POSTAL JOBS" Up to \$17.24 and hour. Hiring for 1999 and 2000, free call for application/examination information. Federal Hire-Full Benefits. 1-800-598-4504 extension 1025 (8-6pm c.s.t. 7 days) (SCA Network)

GRAPHIC DESIGNER needed for part-time, in-house work (16-24 hours per week). Mac based. Must have knowledge of Quark and Photo-Shop; illustration & copywriting. Send resume and examples of work to IBJ, P.O. Box 260, Brighton, MI 48116.

HAMPTON INN AUBURN HILLS

Housekeeping Manager needed. Supervisory experience required. Competitive salary & benefits package as well as quarterly bonus. Apply in person, or send resume to: 1461 N. Opdyke, Auburn Hills, MI 48326.

HARDWARE SALES

Ideal for retirees. Part time flexible hours. Mathison Hardware, 28243 Plymouth Rd., Livonia, 6130 Canton Center, Canton, MI 48105. We are in need of 2-3 skilled & motivated installers for new construction. Top dollar will be paid to qualified individuals. (734) 655-1360

JANITORIAL - Full/part-time evening positions available in Pontiac & Howell areas! Call (248) 332-0730.

500 Help Wanted General

INSTALLATION TECH

Would you like to be a part of an exciting growing alarm & electronic company? Immediate openings. Experienced or will train. Call now for App'l, 248-689-5800

INSTALLERS/WAREHOUSE PERSONS WANTED!

3 years experience in carpet, linoleum, purgo, ceramic tile, hardwood floors. All the work you want & can handle! Top pay. Busy all year round! 734-702-0030 - 248-336-8493

JANITORIAL ACO HARDWARE accepting applications for janitorial maintenance. FLEXIBLE hours and others: WELCOME. Part time hours 5:00am-8:00am Mon; thru Fri. Benefits include 401(k), paid vacation, holidays and employee stock purchase plan of interest. Attn: Human Resources/O&E/Jan, 23333 Commerce Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48335-2764 EOE

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20 POSITIONS AVAILABLE • OFFICE CLEANERS-Eves up to \$8/hr. • FLOOR SPECIALISTS-Exp. Stripping & Finishing Floors Troy, Harper Woods, Plymouth & Southfield areas (248) 449-7600

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Diamond Set/Repairs/Goldsmith Experienced position open. Top pay and benefits. (734) 525-3200

EXPERIENCED - LATHE/ MILL HAND/GRINDER/SURFACE GRINDER

BCBS, 401k, excellent benefits. Ask for John: (734) 425-5165

KITCHEN DESIGNER

Growing wholesale distributor of kitchen & bath cabinets and appliances, seeking to add a qualified Kitchen Designer. Previous kitchen design experience a must. Computer aided design experience a plus. Competitive compensation & benefits package. Send resume to: C. Davis P.O. Box 830368 W. Chester, OH 45383

LABORER FOR construction of mini-storage buildings. Must be mechanically inclined. (248) 245-4715

LEASE ACCOUNTANT

Systems/financial company has an immediate position available at its corporate headquarters in the Northern Metro Detroit area. Entails entering orders into leasing system for to rent & purchase. Reconciliation of lease transactions. Candidate should have data entry and some accounting experience. Microsoft Excel & Word a plus. Please send your resume and salary requirements to: ATTN: HR/LA, 3290 West Big Beaver, Ste. 116, Troy, MI 48064 (248) 643-0728

LEASING CONSULTANT

Part time weekends Apt community in Eastland 734-422-5411

MACHINE MAINTENANCE/GENERAL SHOP Repair or heavy industrial operations. 5 years experience helpful. Tools required. Benefits, Milford Twp. (248) 684-0555

MACHINE SET-UP/ OPERATOR

Must possess basic mechanical aptitude, and be able to work w/minimal supervision. Will train new & experienced. Assemble, set up tooling & operate die cast machines 4 DAY WORK WEEK. Full benefit package. Send resume to: M.O. #121, P.O. Box 110, Howell, MI 48843.

MAINTENANCE

General maintenance for apartment buildings. Full or part time position available. Call 248-549-5500.

MAINTENANCE PERSON.

Full time for large apartment community in Rochester Area. Must have general maintenance experience, own transportation & tools. Call (248) 852-9598 or fax resume (248) 852-6115

MAINTENANCE POSITION

Farmington Hills. Full time position with some overtime. Must have background in plumbing, electric & carpentry. Required references. Please call Larry 9am-4pm at 248-474-2131.

MAINTENANCE

Property Management company seeking off-site Maintenance Tech to assist Maintenance Supervisor with various OAK AND COUNTY sites. MUST HAVE experience in COMMERCIAL OFFICE BUILDING maintenance. Send resume with Salary Requirements to: Maintenance P.O. Box 255005 West Bloomfield, MI 48325-2054

MAINTENANCE / ZAMBONI

Full & Part-time, Flexible Schedule, Weekends Available, New Arena, Call Debbie/Doug 248-688-1400

LOAN ORIGINATORS

Best pay, all loan types. Livonia & Lansing areas. Will train. Large Company 734-525-7374

405 Homes

DEARBORN HTS.

District 7, 2200 sq. ft., 4+ bedrooms, 2 baths, Lease to own. Call Debbie, toll-free, 877-909-4634

DETROIT - W. Outer Drive beauty, Brick home, 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, cooks kitchen, dining room & garage. From \$500. Home Exchange 313-271-7447

FARMINGTON - 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, library, fireplace, basement, 2 car, \$2400/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

FARMINGTON HILLS - 2 bedroom, basement, dining room, fenced for pets, \$680 RENTAL PROS (248) 356-RENT

FRANKLIN - 3 bedroom, 1850 sq. ft. hardwood floors, updated, basement, air, 2 car \$1900/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

HOMES FROM \$189/MO.

REPOS, 4% down, OK credit. For listings & payment details 800-719-3001, ext H695

INKSTER - 3 bedroom brick ranch, basement, carpeted, fenced yard, \$825 RENTAL PROS (734) 513-RENT

LIVONIA - 3 bedroom brick, 2 1/2 baths, basement, 2 car, BBQ grill, 1531 sq. ft. \$1500/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

LIVONIA - 2 bedroom, garage, basement, appliances, fenced yard, \$700 RENTAL PROS (734) 513-RENT

NORTHVILLE - 4 bedroom bi-level, 2 1/2 bath, 1934 sq. ft., family room, 2 car deck, \$2200/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

NOVI - 1 bedroom, 2 car detached garage, large fenced lot. Pets okay, \$750 a month. 248-437-7700

OAK PARK - 3 bedroom ranch, appliances, fenced, attached garage, \$950 RENTAL PROS (248) 356-RENT

ORION TWP. - 3 bedroom ranch, appliances, ceiling fans, basement, pets negotiable, \$700 RENTAL PROS (248) 373-RENT

REDFORD - 3 bedroom, 1.5 baths, finished basement, garage, \$700 RENTAL PROS (248) 356-RENT

ROCHESTER - 3 bedroom ranch, double lot, fenced yard, finished basement, 3 car garage, mint, \$1995 mo. 248-651-4006

ROCHESTER HILLS - 4 bedroom, 2 full & 2 1/2 baths, 2573 sq. ft. located fireplace, air, \$2200/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 - 1994 colonial, 9000 sq. ft., 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, home theater, \$3200/mo. D&H Properties (248) 737-4002

ROYAL OAK - 2 bedroom, appliances, garage, pets negotiable. 248-656-8655 or 248-642-1620

409 Southern Rentals

Boca Raton, Florida - Ocean-view condo, 2 baths, king & leather queen bed, luxury, all amenities \$2500. 313-955-5352

NAPLES beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished condo, close to golf beaches. Seasonal rental. Jan. special \$2000 248-474-0927

457 Property Management

ABSENTEE OWNER

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

- Broker - Bonded
- Specializing in corporate tenancies
- Before making a decision call us
- 24 hr. Income Property

26592 Orchard Lake Rd. Farmington Hills 248-737-4002

500 Help Wanted General

APPRISING & SALES

W. Bloomfield/Farmington Office, seeks 2 people - Will train Steve Leibman, 248-851-4100, ext. 312.

Real Estate Firm

AQUATIC DIRECTOR - up to \$30,000. Excellent benefit package & career development. Must have college degree & 2-3 yrs. experience. Send resume to: Farmington YMCA, 28100 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334, Attn: R. DuRei

ARE YOU Smart, energetic & dependable? Learn to build amazing 5000 sq. ft. custom homes with one of Oakland County's best builders. Women encouraged & welcome. No experience necessary. Call Bruce (248) 693-5925

ASSISTANT OFFICE MANAGER/ JOB COORDINATOR

Highly organized self-starter with excellent customer service skills and a positive attitude to help manage all functions of a busy office, \$10-13/hr depending on experience. Royal Oak area. Call Mike Delmonico, MD Royal Oak, MI 48073

AUTO BODY TECH

Expanding 40 year old shop looking for qualified tech. Certification helpful. Excellent working environment, health insurance with no deductible or co-pays. Paid holidays, vacation, training & certification testing & uniforms.

Northville Collision 700 Doherty Dr. (248) 349-1030

AUTO DETAILERS & DRIVERS

For Troy area business. Good driving record, appearance a must. Call Jenny 248-577-5607, ext 21

AUTOMOTIVE SALES PERSON & TIRE TECHS.

Novi area. Top pay, flexible hrs. some benefits. Call 248-348-2060 or fax resume to 248-348-2081, ask for Harvey, Tom or Vicki.

AUTO PARTS COUNTER PERSON

Experienced person for fast-paced department. Must be dependable and willing to learn. Benefits include Blue Cross 401(k), life, Jaguar of Troy, call Doug Manare: 248-643-7894

AUTO PARTS TRAINEE

Some experience required. Room for advancement for right person. Must be dependable and willing to learn. Full-time days. Benefits include Blue Cross 401(k), life, Jaguar of Troy, call Doug Manare, Jaguar of Troy

AUTO TRIMMER

Experience required. Full time w/benefits. Top pay for experience. Lalind's Auto Glass & Trim. (734) 453-2599

BENCH MAN - gage maker with bench experience. Great benefits package. Working for a Farmington Hills based company manufacturing & gage manufacturing company. 248-474-5150 or email: dbirdsall@birdsalltool.com

BORING MILL/ DEVILGUE OPERATOR

Experienced, top rates, 401K, Bradley Thompson Tool Company, (248) 352-1466 or fax 248-352-7807

BRICK LAYERS/ CREWS WANTED

Top pay & fringes. (248) 437-7700

500 Help Wanted General

SEAMSTRESS & SALES POSITIONS for bridal salon, new location, Shelby Twp. 248-651-5207

CABLE INSTALLERS

Needed. Must be reliable & have own truck & tools. Great pay. Will Train-Call for more details. (248) 542-6905

CARPENTER - Must be reliable and have own transportation and tools. Deck, porch & basement work. 248-476-4655

CASHIER - Full or part-time for 2 Shell Stations in Farmington Hills. All shifts. Benefits. Up to \$9 to start. (248) 553-3166

BABYSITTING STAFF - for the Farmington Family YMCA. Flexible hours. Call JoEll 248-553-6298

CHILD-CARE PROVIDERS

For infants, toddlers & preschoolers. 248-471-1022

COLLEGE COLLISION

AUTOMOBILE TECH

Call Brighton, top pay, excellent benefits. Includes 401K, vacation pay, large shop all new equipment.

AUTO FRAME TECH

Experienced needed for Novi Location. (248) 448-2000

500 Help Wanted General

Customer Service/ CALL CENTER

The Home Depot's new centralized, Special Order Center is expanding with growth and opportunities. We need enthusiastic people to assist our customers who are calling to place special orders. Full-time evening shifts available. Great for school and/or childcare schedules.

SENIOR LEVEL

At least 1 year call center experience. Some college preferred.

ENTRY LEVEL

At least 6 months customer service experience. Above positions require working knowledge of computers, strong interpersonal skills and a strong customer service focus.

WE Offer:

- PAY BASED ON EXPERIENCE
- Excellent Benefits including tuition reimbursement
- Shift premium for evenings
- Excellent advancement
- Everyday casual dress

Our brand new state of the art call center is located in the Garden City area. Fortune 100 company. Call or fax resume with income history: PHONE: 248-351-5630 FAX: 248-204-3734

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Attention Homemakers, Students and others:

Heslop's

China & Gifts

is looking for friendly, outgoing individuals to sell and service our customers. We offer \$8 hr. to start. Benefits, 401k, and beautiful merchandise at an employee discount.

No experience necessary, we will train the right person!

Opportunity for advancement.

Novi In Novi Town Center

(248) 349-8090, ask for Sharon L.

W. Bloomfield In Orchard Mall

(248) 737-8080, ask for Halle

500 Help Wanted General

HELP WANTED

Employment/ Instruction Services

#500-598

BLOOMFIELD HILLS based law firm with office in Washington D.C. Danver & Grand Rapids is seeking a **CONTROLLER**. Candidates should be a CPA with at least 5 years of public accounting/industry experience. Full time, flexible schedule is available. Comprehensive benefits package. Please send resume w/cover letter & salary requirements to: Controller, Ad 1533 N. Woodward, Ste. 140 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

ACCOUNTANT

CPA firm requires full-time Staff Accountant. Audit experience and computer knowledge helpful. Send resume & salary requirements to: Paul Walter CPA 17338 W. 12 Mile, Suite 101 Southfield, MI 48076

ACCOUNTANT

For real estate development co. Fax resume to: 248-559-8070.

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR, HOUSEKEEPING, DIETARY & MAINTENANCE PERSON.

Full & part-time positions. Apply within: American House, 38201 Joy Rd., Westland.

AMERICAN HOUSE TROY

Grand Opening near Oakland Mall. Immediate openings for:

- Weekend Manager
- Housekeepers
- Headcooks
- Assistant Cooks
- Dietary Aides.

Please call 248-569-3555 Or fax 248-569-9949

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